

Current Affairs



2 दी (To The Point)

**Free
Monthly
Magazine**

Features:

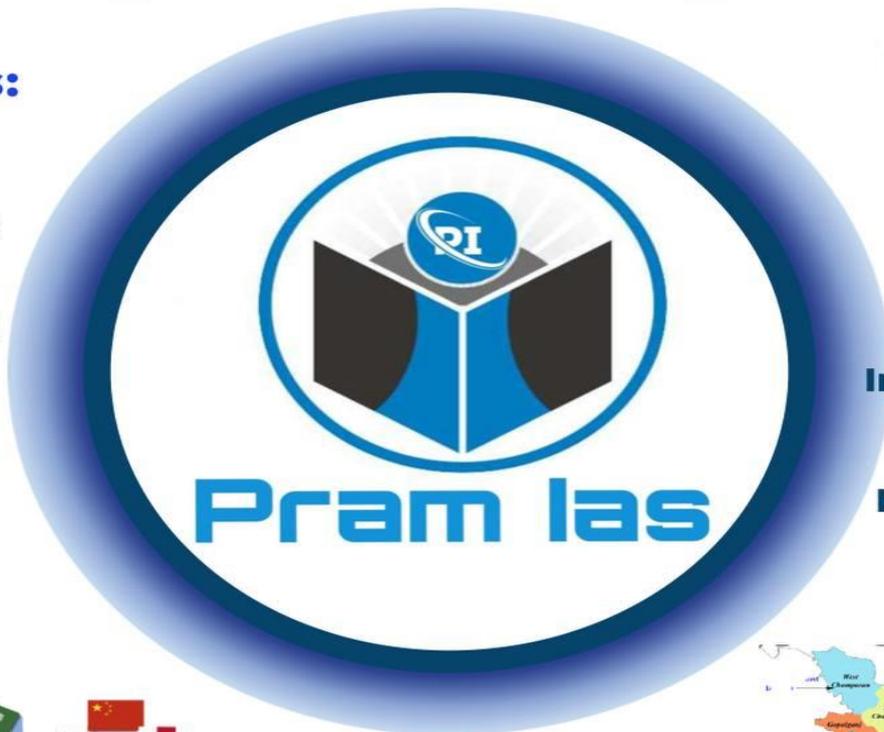
Latest
Economic
survey

January 2022
Important
MCQs

Inspirational
story

India
Budget
(2022-23)

The Hindu
Summary



**Inspirational
story of
Sweta
Priyadarshi
(65th
BPSC,SDM)**



**“Officers Making
Officers”**



**February 2022
(1st to 31st January)**

What Is Pram IAS

A Platform where student can directly have access to the selected officers who has hand on experience in clearing the exam, as well as selected officers who are willing to

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PRAM IAS (Officers Making Officers)

Core Team (PRAM IAS)

Abhijeet Sir (Supply Officer)	Abhiram Sir (Core Member)
Mohit Sir (Revenue Officer)	Divya Prakash Sir (Revenue Officer)
Ashutosh Sir (Core Member)	Rushda Mam (Section Officer)
Ujjawal Sir (District Probation Officer)	Ravi Sir (Core Member)
Manoranjan Sir (District Probation Officer)	Shruti Mam (Revenue Officer)
Abhishek kumar (Core Member)	

UPSC Selected

Ahmed Belal Anwar (IFoS)

64th BPS Selected

Nitesh Kumar	Richa Sharma (SI)	Sunita	Chanakya
Dolly Jha	Mimansha Choudhary	Adil Belal	Ranjan Kumar
Rahul Kumar	Daya Shankar	Kamlesh	Dipa
Tina	Manoranjan Kumar	Rupesh Kumar	Aditya Prakash
Umesh Kumar	Kanhaiya Kumar	Lovely Anand	Jaya
Devy	Swati	Pradeep	Aditi
Suchitra	Asif	Ranjeet	Zeba Mobeem
Shilpi	Simmi	Anamika	Mukesh
Naveen	Rahul (EPFO)	Jubly	Ranjeet
Nitesh Kumar Seth	Harsh	Abhishek	Goldy
Shubham	Gajanand	Aman	Sweta (S.D.O)
Neha	Akanksha	Nikhil	

65th BPS Selected

Gourav Singh	Abhinav Parashar	Sweeta Priyadarshi	Himanshu Kumar
Isha Gupta	Rajeev Kumar	Gaurav Kumar	Manisha Baby
Keshav Raj	Kunal Goswami	Ravi Ranjan Kumar	Subham Kausaudhan
Ravi Ranjan	Shubham Shekhar	Raj Kumar Raju	Kumkum Pathak
Ravi Shastri	Saifur Rahman	Priyanka Kumari	Shubham Aditya
Prakash	Vikram Bhaskar	Ranveer Kumar	Mayank Prakash
Ruchi Gupta	Arvind Verma	Paras Kumar	Chandan Kr. Dwivedy
Neha Rani	Ananya	Jai Prakash	Sunny Kumar
Kanishk Srivastava	Aamna Wasi	Mohit Bhardwaj	Sachin Kumar
Ranveer Kumar	Tipu Sultan	Niharika	Kumari Bibha
Amarnath Kumar	Ravi Ranjan Kumar	Kanishk Dubey	Sintoo Sah
Jay Prakash	Kundan Thakur	Abhisar Kumar	

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Pram IAS

(Officers Making Officers)

The only platform to get direct guidance from selected officers.

Join us for complete BPSC integrated preparation, with our flagship program:

- **BPSC prelims Test series**
- **Practice Test series Book in collaboration KBC Nano Publication.**
- **PRAM Brahmastra – One to One Mentorship program for 67th BPSC Prelims by selected officers.**
- **Free Mains Answer writing – Model answer framed and answers evaluated by officers.**
- **Interview guidance program by selected officers and eminent panel.**
- **Complete optional guidance by BPSC selected officers who have scored 180+ in their optional.**
- **24*7 helpline availability for Exam related, psychological and personal guidance.**

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Content	Page No
1. Economic Survey (2021-22) And Budget (2022-23)	1-6
2. National news	6-15
3. Youth Inspiration	16-17
4. International news	18-26
5. Award	27-30
6. Appointment	30-30
7. Sports	31-31
8. Bihar special	32-33
9. Important day	33-33
10. One liner (The hindu summary)	34-36
11. MCQ (January)	37-48
12. Student corner	49-49

Vision

- To make **education affordable**, so as to reach to the **economical weakest section** of the society, accessible, so as to reach to the remotest area and provide quality guidance directly by the selected officers.

Why PRAM IAS, like officers platform is needed?

- There is huge communication gap between the student and officers. And we felt that we need some kind of open platform A platform where student can directly have access to the selected officers who has hand on experience in clearing the exam, as well as selected officers who are willing to contribute can directly do SO.

PRAM initiatives till today:

- Conducted Free Mock for 200+ Students.**
- 17 out of Top 100 Selection from our Mock Program.*
- Overall 58 Selections in Final Merit List of 65th BPSC Exam.*
- Prelims Test Series @Very affordable price.

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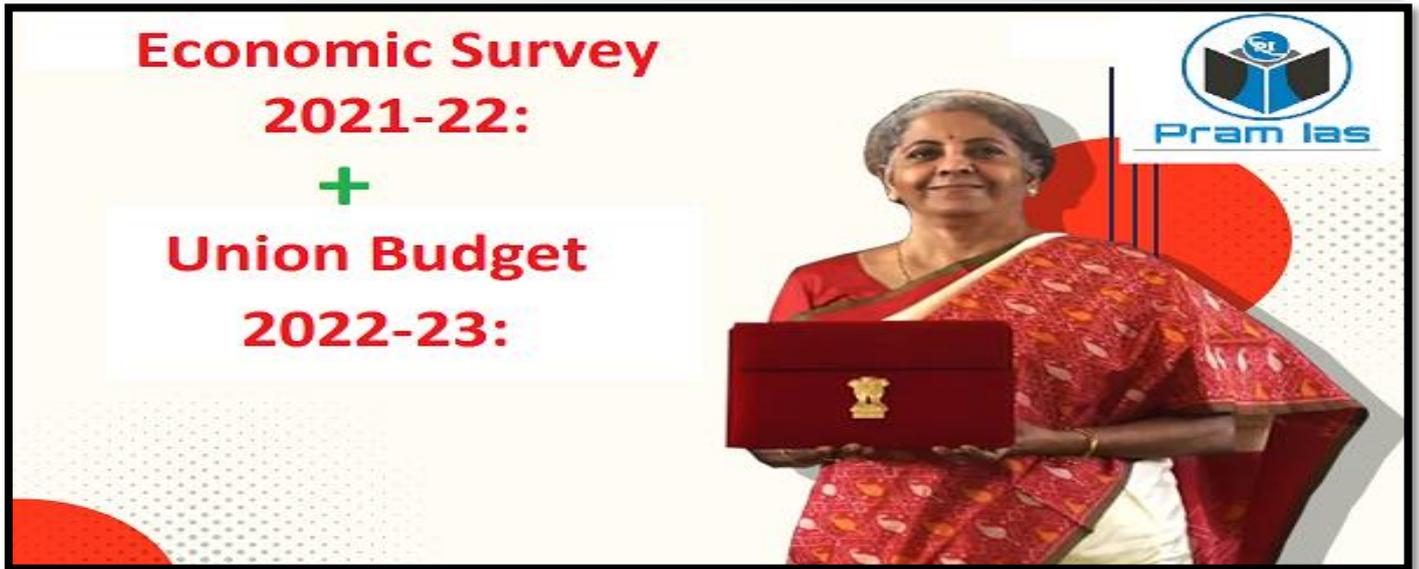
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1. Economic Survey 2021-22:

- The government sees the Indian economy growing at **8-8.5 per cent** in the financial year **2022-23 (FY23)**.
- The GDP growth rate for the ongoing financial year **2021-22 (FY22)** is estimated at **9.2 per cent**.
- In order to achieve **USD 5 trillion GDP by FY'25**, India needs to spend about **USD 1.4 trillion** over this period on infrastructure, according to the Economic Survey.
- The theme of Economic Survey 2021-22 is the **“Agile approach”**

State of the Economy:

- Indian economy is estimated to grow by **9.2 per cent** in real terms in 2021-22 (as per first advanced estimates) subsequent to a contraction of **7.3 per cent** in 2020-21.
- GDP is projected to grow by **8- 8.5 per cent** in real terms in 2022-23.
- **Macroeconomic stability indicators suggest that the Indian Economy is well placed to take on the challenges of 2022-23.**

Fiscal Developments:

- The **revenue receipts** from the Central Government (April to November 2021) have gone up by **67.2 per cent (YoY)** as against the expected growth of **9.6 per cent** in the 2021-22 Budget Estimates (over 2020-21 Provisional Actuals).
- Gross Tax Revenue registers a growth of over 50 per cent during April to November 2021 in YoY terms. This performance is strong compared to pre-pandemic levels of 2019-2020 also.
- **During April-November 2021, Capex has grown by 13.5 per cent (YoY) with a focus on infrastructure-intensive sectors.**

External Sectors:

- India's external debt rose to **US \$ 593.1 billion** at the end-September 2021, from the US \$ 556.8 billion a year earlier, reflecting additional SDR allocation by IMF, coupled with higher commercial borrowings.
- **Foreign Exchange Reserves crossed US\$ 600 billion in the first half of 2021-22 and touched the US \$ 633.6 billion as of December 31, 2021.**
- As of end-November 2021, India was the fourth-largest forex reserves holder in the world after China, Japan and Switzerland.

Prices and Inflation:

- The average headline **CPI-Combined inflation moderated to 5.2 per cent** in 2021-22 (April-December) from 6.6 per cent in the corresponding period of 2020-21.

- The decline in retail inflation was led by easing of food inflation.
- **Food inflation** averaged at a low of **2.9 per cent** in 2021-22 (April to December) as against 9.1 per cent in the corresponding period last year.
- **Effective supply-side** management kept prices of most essential commodities under control during the year.

Sustainable Development and Climate Change:

- India's overall score on the **NITI Aayog SDG India Index** and Dashboard improved to 66 in 2020-21 from 60 in 2019-20 and 57 in 2018-19.
- **In North-East India, 64 districts were Front Runners and 39 districts were Performers in the NITI Aayog North-Eastern Region District SDG Index 2021-22.**
- **India has the tenth largest forest area in the world.**
- **In 2020, India ranked third globally in increasing its forest area from 2010 to 2020.**
- In 2020, the forests covered **24%** of India's total geographical, accounting for **2% of the world's total forest area.**
- In August 2021, the **Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021**, was notified which is aimed at **phasing out single-use plastic by 2022.**
- Draft regulation on Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic packaging was notified.
- The consequent reduction in effluent discharge has been from **349.13 million litres per day (MLD) in 2017 to 280.20 MLD in 2020.**
- The Prime Minister, as a part of the national statement delivered at the **26th Conference of Parties (COP 26) in Glasgow** in November 2021, announced ambitious **targets to be achieved by 2030 to enable further reduction in emissions.**
- The need to start the one-word movement '**LIFE**' (Lifestyle for Environment) urging mindful and deliberate utilization instead of mindless and destructive consumption was underlined.

Agriculture and Food Management:

- The Agriculture sector experienced buoyant **growth in past two years**, accounting for a **sizeable 18.8%** (2021-22) in **Gross Value Added (GVA)** of the country registering a growth of **3.6% in 2020-21** and **3.9% in 2021-22.**
- **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** policy is being used to promote **crop diversification.**
- Net receipts from crop production have increased by 22.6% in the latest Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) compared to SAS Report of 2014.
- **Allied sectors** including animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries are steadily emerging to be high growth sectors and major drivers of overall growth in agriculture sector.
- **The Livestock sector** has grown at a CAGR of 8.15% over the last five years ending 2019-20. It has been a stable source of income across groups of agricultural households accounting for about 15% of their average monthly income.
- India runs one of the largest **food management programmes in the world.**
- The government has further extended the coverage of food security networks through schemes like **PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY).**

Industry and Infrastructure:

- Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew at 17.4 per cent (YoY) during April-November 2021 as compared to (-)15.3 per cent in April-November 2020.
- **Capital expenditure for the Indian railways has increased to Rs. 155,181 crores in 2020-21 from an average annual of Rs. 45,980 crores during 2009-14 and it has been budgeted to further increase to Rs. 215,058 crores in 2021-22 – a five times increase in comparison to the 2014 level.**
- **The extent of road construction per day increased substantially in 2020-21 to 36.5 Kms per day from 28 Kms per day in 2019-20 – a rise of 30.4 per cent.**

- Net profit to sales ratio of large corporates reached an all-time high of 10.6 per cent in the July-September quarter of 2021-22 despite the pandemic (RBI Study).
- Introduction of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, the major boost provided to infrastructure-both physical as well as digital, along with measures to reduce transaction costs and improve ease of doing business, would support the pace of recovery.

Services:

- India has become 3rd largest start-up ecosystem in the world after US and China. The number of new recognized start-ups increased to over 14000 in 2021-22 from 733 in 2016-17.
- 44 Indian start-ups have achieved unicorn status in 2021 taking the overall tally of unicorns to 83, most of which are in the services sector.

Social Infrastructure and Employment:

- 157.94 crore doses of COVID-19 vaccines administered as on 16th January 2022; 91.39 crores first dose and 66.05 crores second dose.
- With the revival of the economy, employment indicators bounced back to pre-pandemic levels during the last quarter of 2020-21.
- As per the quarterly Periodic Labour Force Survey (PFLS) data up to March 2021, employment in the urban sector affected by pandemic has recovered almost to the pre-pandemic level.
- According to Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) data, formalization of jobs continued during the second COVID wave; the adverse impact of COVID on the formalization of jobs was much lower than during the first COVID wave.
- Expenditure on social services (health, education and others) by Centre and States as a proportion of GDP increased from 6.2 % in 2014-15 to 8.6% in 2021-22 (BE).
- Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), 83 districts have become 'Har Ghar Jal' districts.
- Increased allotment of funds to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) to provide a buffer for unorganized labour in rural areas during the pandemic.

As per the National Family Health Survey-5:

- Total Fertility Rate (TFR) came down to 2 in 2019-21 from 2.2 in 2015-16;
- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), under-five mortality rate and institutional births have improved in 2019-21 over the year 2015-16.

Union Budget 2022-23

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while presenting the Budget, said that the country is expected to grow at 9.27 per cent.

7 focus areas:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.PM Gati Shakti, | 2.Inclusive Development, | 3.Productivity Enhancement, | 4.Sunrise Opportunities, |
| 5.Energy Transition, | 6.Climate Action and | 7.Financing of investments. | |

- ✂ This Union Budget seeks to lay the foundation & give a blueprint of the economy over 'Amrit Kal' of next 25 years – from India at 75 to India at 100.
- ✂ Startups will be promoted to facilitate Drone Shakti to make drone a service. In select ITIs in all states, courses will be started.
- ✂ Announcement of Ken Betwa river linking project worth Rs 44,605 crore to be beneficial for capital goods players.
- ✂ Govt continuously encouraging digital banking. Taking forward, 75 digital banking units will be set up in 75 districts.

- ✗ **Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme** will be extended up to **March 2023** and the guaranteed cover will be expanded by **Rs 50,000 crore** to cover an amount of **Rs 5 lakh crore**.
- ✗ Issuance of **e-passports** will be rolled out in **2022-23** to make it easier for citizens. **Ease of business 2.0** will be launched.
- ✗ **5G spectrum auctions** to be carried out in **calendar 2022** to enable the launch of services within FY22-23.
- ✗ Effective capital expenditure of the Central government is estimated at **Rs 10.68 lakh crore** in 2022-23, about **4.1% of GDP**.
- ✗ To facilitate domestic manufacturing of **280 gigawatts of installed solar capacity by 2030**, an additional allocation of **Rs 19,500 crore** for PLI for manufacturing of high-efficiency modules with priority to fully integrate manufacturing units to solar PV modules will be made.

Tax Proposals:

- ✗ Both Centre and States govt employees' **tax deduction limit** to be increased from **10% to 14%** to help the social security benefits of state government employees and bring them at par with the Central govt employees.
- ✗ Income from transfer of digital assets (**Cryptocurrency**) to be charged **30% tax, plus 1% tax** on the transaction.
- ✗ Corporate **surcharge** to be reduced from **12% to 7%**.
- ✗ Existing tax benefits for startups, which were offered redemption of taxes for **3 consecutive years**, to be **extended by 1 more year**.
- ✗ Income from **Long Term Capital Gains** will be taxed at **15%**.
- ✗ The gross **GST collections for the month of January 2022** are **Rs 1,40,986 crore** —the highest since the inception of the tax.
- ✗ Customs on polished **diamonds, gemstones** cut to **5%**.
- ✗ Deduction for employer contribution to NPS increased to **14% from 10%** earlier for State govt employees on par with central govt employees.
- ✗ Alternate Minimum Tax for **cooperative societies** to be cut to **15%**. The proposal will reduce the surcharge on cooperative societies to **7%**, for those whose income is between **Rs 1 crore and Rs 10 crore**.
- ✗ Unblended fuel to get an additional duty of **2 rupees per litre** from October 2022.
- ✗ Finance Minister announced a reduction of surcharge on unlisted shares from **28.5 per cent to 23 per cent**.

Deficit/Expenditure:

- ✗ **Proposes fiscal deficit** of **4.5% of GDP** by 2025/26
- ✗ **Projects fiscal deficit** of **6.4% of GDP in 2022/23**
- ✗ **Revised** fiscal deficit for 2021/22 at **6.9% of GDP**
- ✗ Total expenditure in 2022/23 seen at **39.45 trillion rupees**
- ✗ States will be allowed **4% fiscal deficit** to GDP in FY23
- ✗ **50 year interest free loans** over and above normal borrowing allocated to states
- ✗ Scheme for financial assistance to states for capital investment outlay to be **1 trillion rupees** in 2022/23

Financial inclusion:

- 100% of **1.5 lakh post offices** will come on the core banking system, enabling financial inclusion and access to accounts through net banking, mobile banking, ATMs, and also providing online transfer of funds between post office accounts and bank accounts.

- This will be helpful especially for farmers and senior citizens in rural areas, enabling interoperability, and financial inclusion.

Fiscal Deficit target set at 6.4% for FY23:

- FY23 total expenditure seen at **Rs 39.45 lakh crore**.
- **Total Receipts** other than borrowing seen at Rs 22.84 lakh crore.
- Revised Fiscal Deficit 6.9% of GDP in FY22 as against 6.8% in Budget estimates.
- Fiscal Deficit target set at **6.4%** for FY23.

National Telehealth programme:

- Sitharaman announced a **National telehealth programme** in Budget 2022. An open platform for the National Digital Health Ecosystem will be rolled out. It will consist of digital registries of health providers and health facilities, unique health identity and universal access to health facilities. The pandemic has accentuated mental health problems in people of all ages.

Education sector:

- States will be encouraged to revise syllabi of **agricultural universities** to meet needs of natural, zero-budget & organic farming, modern-day agriculture. One class, one TV channel' program of **PM eVIDYA** will be expanded from **12 to 200 TV channels**. This will enable all states to provide supplementary education in regional languages for classes **1 to 12**.

Indian Railways:

- **PM Gati Shakti** plans one of the four pillars of growth. **25,000 km** of national highways to be built in **2022-23**.
- **400 new-generation Vande Bharat trains** with higher efficiency and better facilities for passengers will be developed in the next three years. Over 2,000 km of the rail network to be brought under the indigenous world-class technology **KAWACH**, for safety and capacity augmentation.

India's farmers

- Procurement of wheat in Rabi season 2021-22 and the estimated procurement of paddy in Kharif season 2021-22 will cover **1,208 lakh metric tonnes** of wheat and paddy from 163 lakh farmers & **Rs 2.37 lakh crores** will be the direct payment of MSP value to their accounts.
- Chemical-free natural farming to be promoted in India
- **Use of drones** to be promoted for crop assessment, digitization of land records, spraying of insecticides and nutrients. Fund to be facilitated through **NABARD** to finance start-ups for agriculture and rural enterprise which are relevant for the farm produce value chain.

Infrastructure: PM Awas Yojana

- In 2022-23, **80 lakh houses** will be completed for identified beneficiaries of **PM Awas Yojana**; 60,000 houses will be identified as beneficiaries for PM Awas Yojana in rural & urban areas.
- **60,000 crore** allocated for providing access to tap water to 3.8 crore households. In 2022-23, 80 lakh households will be identified for the affordable housing scheme.

Defence:

- **68%** of the capital procurement budget for Defence to be earmarked for domestic industry to promote Aatmanirbharta and reduce dependence on imports.



- This is up from **58%** last fiscal. Defense R&D will be opened up for industry, startups and academia with **25% of the defence R&D budget.**

National Ropeways Development Program:

- National Ropeways Development Program, **Parvatmala** to be taken up on PPP mode.
- Contracts to be awarded in 2022-23 for **8 ropeway projects of 60 Km length.**

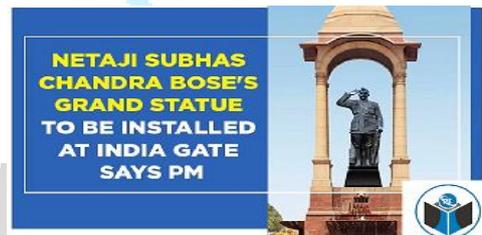
Skill Development:

- **Digital Ecosystem for Skilling and Livelihood (DESH-Stack e-portal)** will be launched to empower citizens to skill, reskill or upskill through on-line training.
- Startups will be promoted to facilitate **'Drone Shakti'** and for **Drone-As-A-Service (DrAAS).**

2.National News

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's grand hologram statue installed at India Gate

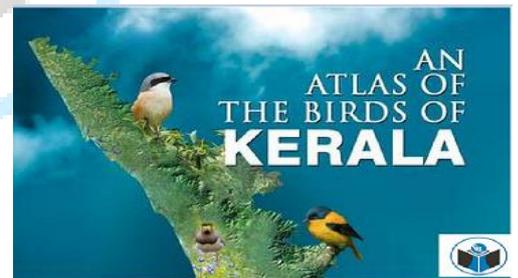
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has unveiled a grand statue of iconic freedom fighter **Netaji Subhas Chand Bose** at India Gate, New Delhi. The size of the hologram statue is **28 feet in height** and **6 feet in width.**
- A grand statue, which will be made of granite, will **replace the hologram** statue once it is completed. The statue is being **installed on the 125th birth anniversary** as **tribute to the immense contribution** of Netaji in the country's freedom struggle and would be a symbol of the country's indebtedness to him.



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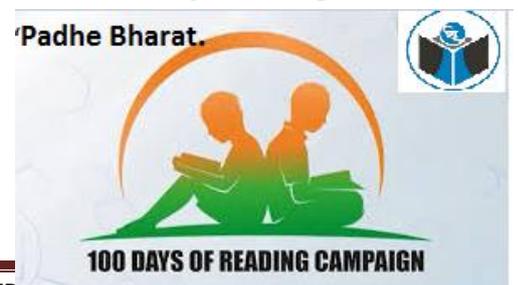
Kerala got its first-ever scientific bird atlas

- **Kerala Bird Atlas (KBA), the first-of-its-kind State-level bird atlas in India,** has created solid baseline data about the distribution and abundance of bird species across all major habitats, giving an impetus to futuristic studies
- It is being conducted as a citizen science-driven exercise with the participation of over **1,000 volunteers of the birdwatching community** KBA has been prepared based on **systematic surveys held twice over 60 days a year.**



Union Education inister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched a 100-day reading campaign 'Padhe Bharat.

- The launch of the 100 Days Reading Campaign is in alignment with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** which lays emphasis on the promotion of joyful reading culture for children





by ensuring the availability of age-appropriate reading books for children in local/mother tongue/regional/tribal language.

- **Padhe Bharat campaign** will focus on children studying in **Balvatika to Grade 8**. The reading campaign will be organized for **100 days (14 weeks)** starting from **January 1, 2022, to April 10, 2022**.
- The reading campaign aims to have the participation of all stakeholders at the national and state level including **children, teachers, parents, community, educational administrators** etc.

PM Modi laid foundation stone of Major Dhyan Chand Sports University in Meerut

- PM Modi laid the foundation stone of **Major Dhyan Chand Sports University** at **Meerut, Uttar Pradesh**.
- The University will be established at **Salawa and Kaili villages** of Sardhana town in Meerut at an estimated cost of about 700 crores.
- The University will have the capacity of training 1080 sportspersons, including 540 female and 540 male sportspersons.



Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched "India Semiconductor Mission"

- Information Technology Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** has launched the **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)** to attract large investments for setting up semiconductor wafer fabrication facilities in India.
- The companies that are interested are invited by the Centre for the development of the semiconductors and display manufacturing ecosystem in India. ISM is a specialised and independent business division within the Digital India Corporation.
- The financial support of up to **50 per cent** of the project cost (ceiling of Rs 12,000 crore per fab) will be provided for the scheme for setting up display fabs.
- Fiscal support will be provided on '**pari-passu**' basis for a period of six years from the date of approval both for semiconductor fabs and display fabs.



PM chose Puducherry as host of National Youth Festival

- **Puducherry** has been handpicked by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** to host the **25th National Youth Festival**. The 25th National Youth Festival is going to be held in Puducherry from 12th to 16th January 2022.
- The festival has been organised as part of the **Azadi ki Amrit Mahotsav** marking the 75th year of Independence, said Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports and Information and Broadcasting **Anurag Thakur**.



- The festival is likely to draw around 7000 youths in the age group of 18 to 22 from across the country. Around 500 youths from Puducherry will take part in the event.

Ayush Minister lays foundation stone of International Yoga Academy

- **Union Ayush minister sarbananda Sonowal** has laid the foundation stone of the **Heartfulness International Yoga Academy** in **Hyderabad, Telangana**. He also launched **75 crores suryanamaskar** initiative as part of the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**".
- The academy tries to reach all levels of society through training programmes and these will be overseen by an international team.



Ladakh celebrated traditional new year 'Losar Festival' of Tibetan Buddhist

- The **Losar Festival** in **Ladakh** is celebrated at the onset of the New Year in the traditional schedule of **Tibetan Buddhism**. It is celebrated by the **Buddhist Community in the Ladakh region**.
- The **Losar** is a **15 days festival**, from the start of the Tibetan Lunar calendar, marking the **1st day of the 11 month** in Tibetan Calendar. Losar is a **Tibetan word that means 'New Year'**.



Telangana topped in highest number of ODF villages

- **Telangana** stood first in the country in the list of the **highest number of open defecation-free (ODF Plus) villages** under the **Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II** programme till December 31, 2021.
- As many as **13,737** out of **14,200** villages in the State are on the ODF Plus list, which is **96.74%**. This was followed by Tamil Nadu with **4,432** villages (**35.39%**) and Karnataka with **1,511** villages (**5.59%**). Gujarat took the **17th** position with only **83** villages (**0.45%**).



Election Commission hikes expenditure limit for candidates in polls

- The **Election Commission of India** has increased the existing election expenditure limit for candidates in **Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies**, due to the rise in inflation. The new limits will be applicable in all upcoming elections in the country.
- The ceiling on parliamentary poll expenditure has been raised from **70 lakh to 95 lakh rupees** in bigger states and **54 lakh to 75 lakhs** in smaller states.
- The bigger states include Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Karnataka.
- The smaller states include Goa, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and UTs.





- The ceiling on poll expenditure in UT of Jammu and Kashmir has been raised to **95 lakhs**.
- For Assembly constituencies, expenditure limits have been enhanced from **28 lakh rupees to 40 lakh rupees** in bigger states and from **20 lakhs to 28 lakhs** in smaller states.

Rajnath Singh inaugurates Kalpana Chawla Centre For Research at Chandigarh University

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated **Kalpana Chawla Centre for Research in Space Science and Technology (KCCRSST) at Chandigarh University**.
- The Union Minister also launched Chandigarh University's Defence Scholarship Scheme, worth Rs 10 Crore, for the wards of Defence Personnel of the three services. Kalpana Chawla was the first woman of Indian origin to go to space.



India Skills 2021 competition concluded

- **India Skills 2021 national competition** concluded with more than 200 participants who were felicitated by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. As many as 270 winners of the Competition felicitated with **61 gold, 77 silver, 53 bronze and 79 medallions** of excellence.
- **Odisha** finished first out of 26 states and union territories of this year in the 'IndiaSkills 2021' contest with 51 medals. Odisha won 10 gold, 18 silver, 9 bronze, and 14 medallions.
- With 30 medals, **Maharashtra** remained in second place, while **Kerala** took third place with 25 medals.
- The winners of the India Skills 2021 competition will also have the opportunity to compete in the **World Skills International Competition in Shanghai, China**, in October 2022.
- The competitions were held at multiple locations, including Pragati Maidan and offsite locations in the National Capital Region, from 7 to 9th of this month.



PM Modi inaugurated MSME Technology Centre

- On the occasion of the **National Youth Day 2022**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** virtually inaugurated an '**MSME Technology Centre**', which will function under the **Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**, in Puducherry.
- The technology centre was built at a cost of **Rs 122 crore** with a focus on the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) Sector.
- The centre was inaugurated during the inauguration event of the 25th National youth Festival (12th & 13th January 2022) in Puducherry. He also inaugurated the '**Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Manimandapam**', a modern auditorium with an open-air theatre in Puducherry.





UJALA scheme completed 7 years; over 36 crores 70 lakh LEDs distributed across the country so far

- On 5th January 2022, the Power Ministry successfully completed **7 years** of distributing and selling LED lights under its flagship Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) programme.
- UJALA initiative is the world’s largest zero-subsidy domestic lighting programme with more than 36.78 crore LEDs distributed across the country.



World Food Programme & The Akshaya Patra Foundation partnered to enhance PM POSHAN Scheme

- The **United Nations’ World Food Programme (WFP)** in India, has partnered with **The Akshaya Patra Foundation(TAPF)**, a not-for-profit organization, to enhance the effectiveness of the Pradhan Mantri – Poshan Shakti Nirman (**PM POSHAN**) scheme (earlier known as National Programme for Mid-Day Meal in Schools).
- **Aim:** The partnership aims to enhance food safety and hygiene projects, capacity building of cooks-cum-helpers and nutritional quality of school meals.
- Under this collaboration, WFP and TAPF will share knowledge through workshops and policy and strategy dialogues with the government to enhance the quality of the school meal programme.



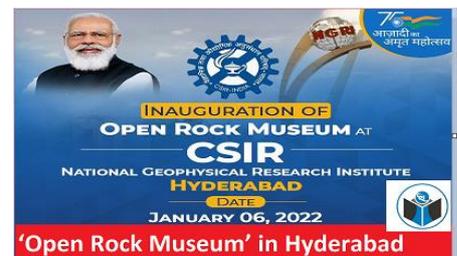
Kerala High Court became India’s 1st paperless court

- The **Kerala High Court** is all set to become **India’s first paperless court**. Supreme Court judge Justice **DY Chandrachud** inaugurated the smart courtrooms on **1 January 2022**.
- In the **1st phase six courtrooms, including the Chief Justice’s room, will be converted into smart courts**. Also, case files will be made available to the lawyers on the computer screen.



Science & Technology minister inaugurated India’s first & unique ‘Open Rock Museum’ in Hyderabad

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated India’s **first & unique ‘Open Rock Museum’** at the campus of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research – **National Geophysical Research Institute (CSIR-NGRI), Hyderabad, Telangana**.
- The Open Rock Museum displays around 35 different types of rocks from different parts of India with ages ranging from 3 Billion years to around 55 Million years of the Earth’s history.
- The Rock Museum aims at educating the masses about several lesser-known facts about the Rocks



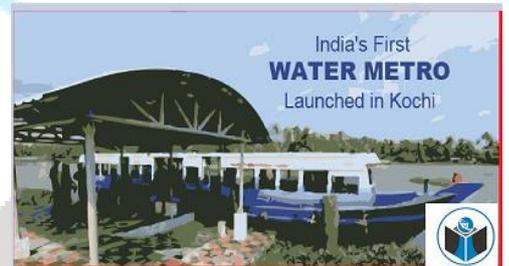
Odisha's Ganjam district was declared child marriage-free

- **Odisha's Ganjam district was declared child marriage-free** with effect from **January 3, 2022**, after collecting detailed information about all weddings that took place in 2020 and 2021.
- Ganjam district administration has increased the **reward for people informing about the occurrence of child marriage to Rs 50,000 from Rs 5,000.**
- **Ganjam is the 1st district** in the state that has been declared child marriage-free. The district has been known to be severely affected by child marriages
- Ganjam had started a programme **Nirbhaya Kadhi (Fearless bud)** to inform the administration about the occurrence of child marriage.



Kochi became India's first city to have a Water Metro Project

- **Kochi, Kerala** has become **India's first city to have a Water Metro Project** after the launch of its first boat in December 2021, namely '**Muziris**,' among the 23 battery-powered electric boats being manufactured by Cochin Shipyard Limited.
- This launch is a part of Rs 747-crore project which is operated by Kochi Water Metro Ltd (KWML). The boats will be called Water Metros.
- With a total outlay of Rs 819 crore, project's major part is financed under Indo-German Financial Cooperation through a long-term loan agreement of 85 million Euros (Rs 579 crore) with German funding agency, KfW (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau).



India's oldest sloth bear 'Gulabo' died at Van Vihar National Park, Bhopal

- **India's oldest female sloth bear, named Gulabo**, died at the **Van Vihar National Park and Zoo in Bhopal**, Madhya Pradesh.
- Gulabo was the oldest sloth bear of the country. She died at the age of 40. She was rescued from a street performer (Madaari) in May 2006, when she was 25 years.
- The Van Vihar National Park, located on the banks of Bhopal's Upper Lake, also runs a rescue and breeding centre for sloth bears.



National Parks in Madhya Pradesh:

Bandhavgarh National Park
Panna National Park
Satpura National Park

Kanha National Park
Pench National Park
Van Vihar National Park

Madhav National Park
Fossil National Park
Kuno National Park

India's 1st Heli-Hub to be set up in Gurugram, Haryana



- The government of Haryana in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Aviation is set to establish India's first-ever Heli Hub in Gurugram.
- The **first of its kind heli-hub** in Gurugram is designed to all the facilities in one place for Helicopters.
- The hub will have several aviation facilities like Heliport, Hangars, repairs and other related services. The hub will be developed in 10-20 acres of land well connected with Dwarka Expressway and National Highway (NH) 8.



Indian Railway has launched "Mission Amanat" to help passengers track their lost belongings

- The **Railway Protection Force (RPF)** of the **Western Railways zone of Indian Railways** has launched a new initiative called "Mission Amanat" to make it easier for railway passengers to get back their lost luggage.
- Under Mission Amanat, the **details of lost luggage and belongings along with photos will be uploaded on the official website** of the zonal railway, <https://wr.indianrailways.gov.in/>.



- This will help the passengers in tracking and getting back their lost belongings as well as ensure the safety and security of passengers and their luggage and belongings.

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav released India State of Forest Report 2021

- Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav has released the biennial **India State of Forest Report 2021**.
- Total forest and tree cover in India in 2021 is **80.9 million hectares (8,09,537 sq. km)**. This is **24.62%** of the geographical area of the country.
- Forest and tree cover in India has risen by 2,261 square Kilometers (sq km) in 2 years (compared to 2019).
- 17 states and union territories have above 33% of the geographical area under forest cover.
- **Largest forest cover:** Madhya Pradesh
- **Maximum increase in forest cover:** Andhra Pradesh
- **Total carbon stock in India's forest:** 7,204 million tonnes





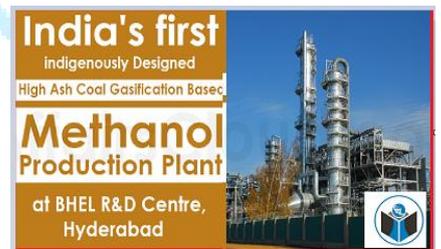
World's largest Khadi National Flag displayed at Longewala in Jaisalmer

- **World's largest national flag**, made of Khadi fabric was put to display to celebrate the "Army Day" on **January 15, 2022**.
- It was displayed at **Longewala**, along the India – Pakistan Border in **Jaisalmer**. Longewala was the centre stage of historic battle of 1971 between India and Pakistan. It will be the fifth public display of the Khadi flag.
- The Monumental National Flag is 225 feet long and 150 feet wide. It is approximately 1400 kgs in weight. 70 khadi artisans prepared this flag in 49 days. Its making has created about 3500 man-hours of additional work for Khadi artisans and allied workers.
- 4500 meters of hand-woven, hand-spun, Khadi cotton bunting has been used to make the flag. It covers an area of 33, 750 square feet. The Ashok Chakra in the flag has a diameter of 30 feet.



India's first coal to methanol plant built by BHEL inaugurated in Hyderabad

- Union government has dedicated India's **first BHEL-built 'coal to methanol' (CTM) pilot plant to the nation in Hyderabad**.
- The 0.25 TPD capacity CTM pilot plant is currently producing methanol with purity of more than 99% from high-ash coal.
- This conversion of high-ash Indian coal to methanol through the gasification route is the first-of-its-kind technology demonstration in India.



16th India Digital Summit 2022 organised by IAMAI

- **Piyush Goyal**, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, addressed the **16th edition of India Digital Summit, 2022** through a video conference.
- The two-day virtual event was organised on January 11 and 12, 2022 by the **Internet And Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)** with the theme "Supercharging Startups".
- During the event, the Minister unveiled 'LEAP' (**Leverage, Encourage, Access & Promote**) as the way forward to further strengthen our Startups ecosystem.



Cabinet approved infusion of Rs. 1,500 crores in Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited

- The Union Cabinet approved the infusion of **1500 crores rupees in the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA)**.
- It will help generate 10,200 jobs a year and reduce carbon emissions equivalent to approximately 7.49 million tonnes per year. The IREDA played a big role in the field of renewable energy and its portfolio had increased from ₹8,800 crore to ₹28,000 crores in the past six years.





Indian Army signs first contract with private sector

- In a significant step towards achieving **self-reliance** in the defence sector, the Indian Army signed its **first contract worth Rs 96 crore with Anadron Systems Pvt Ltd** under Make-II for Maneuverable Expendable Aerial Target.
- It also represents a significant step towards the 'AtmaNirbhar' initiative, which is aimed at making India a self-reliant nation.
- The industry funded projects that fall under the 'Make-II' category include prototype development of equipment and their upgrades and sub-systems.



PM Modi to host first meeting of India-Central Asia Summit:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be hosting **the first meeting of the India-Central Asia Summit** in a virtual format on 27th January.
- Presidents of **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan** will participate.
- This will be the first engagement of its kind between India and the Central Asian countries at the level of leaders.
- The first India-Central Asia Summit is a reflection of India's growing engagement with the Central Asian countries, which are a part of India's **"Extended Neighbourhood"**.



India's 1st para-badminton academy launched in Lucknow

- **India's first state-of-the-art, high-performance para-badminton academy with advanced equipment and facilities** has been set up in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- The set-up will improve **India's medal prospects** at the **2024 Paralympics** to be held in **Paris, France at Stade de France stadium**.
- The badminton centre has been **launched by the head national coach of the Indian para-badminton team, Gaurav Khanna**, in association with **Ageas Federal Life Insurance**. He also unveiled the **Ageas Federal 'Quest for Fearless Shuttle' programme** to spot and nurture new talent for the **2028 and 2032 Paralympics**.



India's First "District Good Governance Index" for 20 Districts released

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has released **India's First District Good Governance Index** for 20 Districts of UT of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The **top 5 districts** in the District Good Governance Index" are **Jammu, Doda, Samba, Pulwama and Srinagar**. J&K will become the first Union Territory in the country to have a Good Governance Index.





- The index was prepared by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Jammu & Kashmir Institute of Management, Public Administration & Rural Development in association with the Centre for Good Governance, Hyderabad.

PM Modi will inaugurate 216-foot statue of Ramanujacharya 'Statue of Equality' in Hyderabad

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate a **216-foot statue of Ramanujacharya** in a sitting position in **Hyderabad** on Feb 5, 2022, to celebrate the **1,000th birth anniversary** of the saint.
- Ramanujacharya was an 11th-century saint and a revolutionary social reformer. The statue will be called as '**Statue of Equality**'.
- It is located in a **45-acre complex at Shamshabad** on the outskirts of **Hyderabad, Telangana**. It is **built at a cost of 1,000 crore**, which was funded entirely by donations



India participated in 'Sea Dragon' 2022 exercise at Guam in the Western Pacific

- India is participating in the multinational exercise Sea Dragon the United States, Australia, Canada, India, Japan and South Korea.
- The exercise, **primarily focused on anti-submarine warfare (ASW) training**, will involve more than 270 hours of in-flight training and activities ranging from tracking simulated targets to tracking a US Navy submarine. Each event will be graded and the country scoring the highest points will receive the Dragon Belt award.



Defence Minister announced 27 Border Infrastructure Projects

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** listed the development of critical border infrastructure as a key priority to boost India's overall defence and security system.
- He announced **24 bridge projects** and **3 road projects** implemented and managed by the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** in four states and two union territories.
- Out of the **24 bridges**, nine are in Jammu and Kashmir, five each in Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh, three in Uttarakhand and one each in Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Out of the **3 road projects**, two are in Ladakh and one is in West Bengal.



3. Youth inspiration

The secret of my success is a combination of pure faith, dedication and hard work

SWETA PRIYADARSHI [65th BPSC (33rd Rank)]

The “pursuit of knowledge” in my view is a sure way to the “pursuit of happiness”.

PI-When you saw your result what was your reaction and how did you feel?

Sweta:- It was 7th Oct 2021, the first day of Navratri and I was very anxious. The result was supposed to be announced in the evening but to everyone’s surprise it came in the afternoon. I randomly checked my phone and voila...Rank 33rd. My hands were shaking and I started crying. My mother came running towards me and we hugged each other. That moment was a bliss and the feeling very surreal.



PI-To whom you want to give credit for your success?

Sweta:- I would like to give credit to my whole family but especially my mother. She instilled this interest for reading since my childhood. Also, I would like to thank my friends who were there with me.

BIODATA

Name- Sweta Priyadarshi

DOB- 15th Apr 1996

Father’s name- Mukund Kumar Sinha

Mother’s name- Sangita Sinha

Education Qualification

- 10th- St. Francis Senior Secondary School, Bilaspur (10CGPA, 2012)
- 12th- DAV Public School, Bilaspur (94%, 2014)
- B.Tech Mechanical, NIT Raipur (90%, 2018)

Strengths- Self-motivated, curious to grab new information, good communication skills.

Weaknesses- Would rest less, ignored health issues at times

Hobbies- Reading books, dance, watching series and movies.

PI-How and when did you decide you want to be a civil servant?

Sweta:- It was Dec 2012 when the whole country was raged over the “Delhi Nirbhaya Case”. And I wanted to march on the street like everyone else. My mother seeing my outrage said “system ka part banker use badalne ki koshish kro, sirf bahar khade rehkar mat chillao”. This line hit me like a bullet and I decided to serve the society and help the needy. A teenager in Class 11th, preparing for JEE decided to become a civil servant then.

PI-During the preparation, what was the most challenging thing that you faced and how did you overcome it?

Sweta:- The most challenging part was the “self-doubt”. I had exam fear and considered the exam to be “larger than life”. I used to put in 12-14hrs daily and hardly took breaks. After failing in UPSC Prelims 2019 I re-strategized and started taking break every week. I started working out, going on a walk every day. Basically I started taking some time out for

myself and it helped me gain a lot of confidence. The same year in October I wrote 65th BPSC prelims and cracked it.

PI-How did you keep yourself motivated and what would you suggest others?

Sweta:- What kept me motivated was that I knew the answer to my “WHY”. As long as you know why you’re doing it you would keep on going. I did not cut myself from my friends. I used to hangout with them, talk my heart out, express my insecurities and vulnerabilities.

I would like to suggest others to not keep their feelings to themselves. Talk to people you’re comfortable with. Be it your partner, friends, family or a counsellor. Just don’t keep yourself in a box. This exam is mentally taxing. As a civil servant, you’re expected to be “HUMANS” and not “ROBOTS”.

PI-What was your optional and how did you prepare it?

Sweta:- My optional subject was ANTHROPOLOGY. I started its preparation using UPSC topper Anudeep Durishetty Sir’s strategy. I followed it step by step and bought the books and did self-study. My sources were:
Social Anthropology- Braintree, Madan & Majumdar
Physical Anthropology- P. Nath
Indian Anthropology- Nadeem Hasnain+ case studies
Followed pyq and prepared model answers of few important questions. Do incorporate case studies in your answers for good marks.

PI-Can you tell us about your interview experience?

Sweta:- My interview was on 17th August 2021, first slot, Imtiaz Sir board. It was my first civil services interview and I was very nervous. I was 6th to go to the board. All the questions asked were in hindi and I answered in the same language. I was polite and maintained a smile on my face and also apologised if I did not know answers. My interview lasted for 20-25minutes. I got decent 82marks in my interview.

PI-Any suggestion for the future civil servants regarding preparation process.

Sweta:- Keep yourself motivated. The life spent in the pursuit of knowledge is worth living. You all are preparing for civil services, try to incorporate the qualities in yourself during the process itself. Wear it as a badge of honour. Be proud of your decision and work hard to achieve your goal. If not in 2022 then in 2023 but you would achieve it one day.

STRATEGY

Prelims:

- Read the basic books for the subjects (would help in mains too)
- Practice PYQs
- Give model tests or mock tests
- Keep your sources limited and read and re-read the same books.

SOURCES-

- NCERT Geography (class 11th-12th), Tamil Nadu class11th book for History, Spectrum for Modern history, Laxmikant for polity, Lucent for Science, KBC nano for Bihar Gk, Bihar economic survey+Budget, Vision IAS current affairs

Mains:

- Go through the PYQs and understand the pattern of their questions.
- Prepare model answers for history questions (since they get repeated often)
- Practice statistics (can use pyq)
- Give mock test in a time bound manner
- Use diagrams and flowcharts for your answers.
- SOURCES- mains pyq, the same sources as prelims.



4. INTERNATIONAL NEWS

France took over European Union Presidency for six months till June 30 2022

- France has assumed the rotating presidency of the **Council of the European Union** with effect from **January 01, 2022**.
- The country will continue to hold the **EU presidency for the next six months till June 30, 2022**. This is the **13th time that France has taken over the rotating presidency**. The motto of France as EU President is **“recovery, strength, belonging.”** Upon the completion of six months presidency, France will be replaced by the **Czech Republic**.



France took over European Union Presidency for six months till June 30 2022

Antigua and Barbuda joined International Solar Alliance as 102nd member

- The Caribbean nation of **Antigua and Barbuda** joined the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** as the **102nd member** by signing the **International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement**, the India-led global green energy initiative.
- The **Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne** signed the framework agreement in the presence of Indian High Commissioner Dr K. J. Srinivasa to catalyze global energy transition through a solar-led approach.
- ISA was jointly launched by **India and France** in **2015** during the **21st session of the United Nations Climate Change COP-21 in Paris, France** to promote solar energy.



Antigua and Barbuda

Antigua and Barbuda joined International Solar Alliance as 102nd member

Japan & Australia signed defense agreement to counter China

- **Japan and Australia** signed a ‘landmark’ **defense treaty** named the **Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA)** to counter China’s expansionary military and economic policies.
- The treaty or RAA will enhance the interoperability and co operation between the two countries. It is the **second deal signed between Japan & Australia after Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)**.
- The treaty was signed between **Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison** and **Japanese PM Fumio Kishida** in a virtual conference organized in Tokyo, Japan.



Japan & Australia signed defense agreement to counter China



Indo US Trade- Commerce gets a fillip with improving Agri Market Access:

- **12th India – USA TPF meeting held, Department of Agriculture and farmer’s welfare (DAC&FW) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA) have signed a framework agreement for implementing the 2 Vs 2 Agri market access issues i.e inspection / oversight transfer for Indian mangoes & pomegranate and market access for pomegranate arils from India and market access for US cherries and U.S Alfalfa hay.**
- **Mango and pomegranate exports will start from Jan – Feb 2022 and pomegranate aril exports from Apr 2022.**
- **Exports of Alfalfa hay and cherries from USA will begin in Apr 2022.**
- In addition, based on the ministerial discussions, **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)** also conveyed its readiness to provide market access for U.S pork and requested the U.S side to share a signed copy of final sanitary certificate for finalizing the same.



India, South Korea agree to impart ‘fresh momentum’ in CEPA up-gradation talks:

- **India stressed the need for fast-tracking the upgradation process of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with South Korea and raised issues of concern such as the large trade deficit and industry’s demand for greater market access and lower non-tariff barriers.**
- **India’s exports from South Korea in 2020-21 were at \$4.2 billion while imports from the country were at \$9.5 billion.**
- **New Delhi has been complaining about Indian businesses gaining far less from the CEPA than their South Korean counterparts and the need for up-gradation of the pact in a way that favours India and reduces the trade gap.**



India-US agree to advance cooperation in counter-terrorism, cyber security among other issues:

- **The Senior Officers Meeting of the India-US Homeland Security Dialogue was held in virtual mode.**
- **The meeting was co-chaired by Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla and Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy and Plans, Department of Homeland Security, Government of USA, Robert Silvers.**
- **During the meeting, both sides reviewed the ongoing cooperation and identified further steps that can be taken to explore opportunities and synergies in advancing cooperation in counter-terrorism, cyber security, securing critical infrastructure, maritime security and aviation security among other issues.**
- **During the meeting, both sides agreed that the existing sub-groups under the Homeland Security Dialogue on law enforcement engagement, securing global supply chains, investigative cooperation, and capacity building would meet separately in the coming months.**



- It will deliberate and explore how ongoing cooperation can be strengthened further.

India and UK Launch Free Trade Agreement Negotiations:

- **The Minister** of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, **Shri Piyush Goyal** launched the **Free Trade Agreement negotiations with the United Kingdom** along with Rt. Hon. An ne-Marie Trevelyan, UK Secretary of State for International Trade in **New Delhi**.
- The FTA is expected to facilitate the target of doubling bilateral trade between **India** and **United Kingdom by 2030**, set by the Prime Ministers of both the nations, **Shri Narendra Modi** and **Mr. Boris Johnson** in May 2021.



PM and new German Chancellor express hope of cooperation initiatives in areas of Climate Action and Green Energy:

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Federal Chancellor of Germany **Olaf Scholz** have agreed on further diversifying **cooperation and exchanges in new areas including Climate Action and Green Energy**.
- Prime Minister Modi held a telephonic conversation with Mr Scholz and congratulated him on his appointment as the **German Chancellor**.
- Modi expressed his appreciation for the immense contribution of former Chancellor Angela Merkel in strengthening the **India-Germany Strategic Partnership** and looked forward to continuing this positive momentum under the leadership of Mr Scholz.



Russia's test-fires new hypersonic Tsirkon missiles 2022

- **Russia** successfully test-fired around **10 new Tsirkon (Zircon) hypersonic cruise missiles** from a frigate and other two missiles from a submarine.
- The Zircon missile would be capable of flying at nine times the speed of sound and have a range of **1,000 kilometres (620 miles)**.
- The Tsirkon Cruise Missile will join Avangard glide vehicles and the air-launched **Kinzhal (Dagger) missiles** in Russia's hypersonic arsenal.
- Zircon is intended to arm Russian cruisers, frigates and submarines. It is one of several hypersonic missiles under development in Russia. The launch was the latest in a series of tests of Zircon, which is set to enter service next year.





Apple becomes world's first company to hit \$3 trillion M-Cap

- The stock market value of **Apple Inc.** hit **\$3 trillion** and became the world's first company to do so. The market cap of Apple hit **\$182.86 per share**, which made it **the world's first company to touch the \$3 trillion mark**.
- However shortly after hitting the mark, the share value dipped below it and did not rise again until the market closed. The iPhone maker passed **\$2 trillion** in 2020 and over **\$1 trillion** in 2018.
- The world's most valuable company reached the milestone as investors bet that consumers will continue to shell out top dollar for iPhones, MacBooks and services such as Apple TV and Apple Music.
- In China, the world's largest smartphone market, Apple continued to lead for the second straight month, beating rivals such as Vivo and Xiaomi, recent data from CounterPoint Research showed.



India give support to Sri Lanka to overcome forex crisis

- **India** has announced financial assistance of **USD 900 million loans** to **Sri Lanka** to help the island nation in building up its depleted foreign reserves and for food imports. It must be noted that Sri Lanka is currently facing a shortage of almost all essential commodities due to a shortage of dollars to pay for the imports.
- India is extending its support through the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. The Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay met Cabraal and expressed India's strong support to Sri Lanka in the wake of RBI extending over USD 900 million facilities.
- These comprise deferment of **Asian Clearing Union** settlement of over **USD 509 million** and currency swap of **USD 400 million**.



Narayan Rane virtually inaugurates MSME Pavilion in World Expo, 2020 Dubai:

- Union Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Minister, **Narayan Rane** has virtually inaugurated **MSME Pavilion in World Expo, 2020 Dubai**.
- The **World Expo 2020, held under the Bureau International des Expositions** aims at bringing together millions of people for the world's exceptional show, celebrating human brilliance and achievement with the **theme "Connecting Minds, Creating Future"**.





- The MSME Ministry's participation in the Expo will help to develop an understanding of the MSME ecosystem in India as well as enable interaction with governments of different countries, Business and Industry leaders, which will help in exchange for best practices adopted across the world.
- Rane also launched the **Khadi India Film produced by KVIC**.
- It has over six crore units employing over **11 crore** people and is a significant contributor to the economic growth of India

Abu Dhabi Airport Drone Attack:

- Three persons including two Indian nationals were killed in an explosion at **Mussafah in United Arab Emirates (UAE) near Abu Dhabi National Oil Company ADNOC's storage tanks**.
- The fuel tank explosion was triggered by a drone attack carried out by **Yemen's Huthi rebels**.
- Three petrol tanks exploded near a storage facility, while a fire also engulfed a construction area at Abu Dhabi airport.
- The United Arab Emirates is part of a Saudi-led military coalition that supports Yemen's government against the Iran-backed Huthi rebels.
- While Houthi rebels claimed responsibility for the attack, UAE Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan said that the sinful targeting will not go unpunished.



India & Denmark agree to work together on green fuels including green hydrogen:

- **India & Denmark** agreed to initiate joint research and development on **green fuels including green hydrogen**, during the **Joint S&T Committee meeting** on 14th January 2022.
- The committee emphasised on **development of bilateral collaboration** on mission-driven research, innovation, and technology development, including climate and green transition, energy, water, waste, food, and so on as agreed by the two Prime Ministers while adopting the **Green Strategic Partnership – Action Plan 2020-2025**.



Joint inauguration and launch of projects by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravin Kumar Jugnauth:

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and **Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravin Kumar Jugnauth** will jointly inaugurate the **India-assisted Social Housing Units project in Mauritius** virtually on 20 January, 2022.
- The two dignitaries will also launch the **Civil Service College and 8MW Solar PV Farm projects in Mauritius** that are being undertaken under India's development support.





5. Defence News

Defence Minister announced 27 Border Infrastructure Projects

- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** listed the development of critical border infrastructure as a key priority to boost India's overall defence and security system.
- He announced **24 bridge projects** and **3 road projects** implemented and managed by the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** in four states and two union territories.
- Out of the **24 bridges**, nine are in Jammu and Kashmir, five each in Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh, three in Uttarakhand and one each in Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Out of the **3 road projects**, two are in Ladakh and one is in West Bengal.



DRDO successfully test-fired naval variant of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from INS Visakhapatnam

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired an **extended range sea-to-sea variant** of the **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** from **INS Visakhapatnam**, a stealth guided-missile destroyer of the Indian Navy.
- **BrahMos Aerospace**, an **India-Russian joint venture**, produces supersonic cruise missiles that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft, or land platforms.
- The missile can be launched from **submarines, ships, aircraft, or land platforms**. BrahMos missile **flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach** or almost three times the speed of sound.



Recent Tests by DRDO:

- Indigenously developed helicopter-launched **stand-off anti-tank (SANT)** missile
- Extended Range **Pinaka rocket system (Pinaka-ER)**
- **Area Denial Munitions (ADM)** and indigenously developed **fuzes**
- **Air version of the BrahMos** supersonic cruise missile from **Sukhoi 30 MK-I** aircraft
- Indigenously-developed **Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (SAAW)**
- Indigenously-designed **Abhyas – High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT)**

DRDO successfully test-fired MPATGM in its final "deliverable configuration"

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested the final deliverable configuration of the **Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)** at a range in Southern India.
- It is **indigenously developed anti-tank missile low weight**





(15kg), fire and forget missile and is launched from a man portable launcher, integrated with thermal sight.

- MPATGM will be **manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited** at its facility in **Bhanoor, Telangana**. The purpose of testing the missile was to check its consistent performance at a minimum range, which is **200-300 metres**.
- **MPATGM** has already completed a similar successful test for a **maximum range of 4,000 metres**. With this successful test of the MPATGM, the system is now ready for production in large numbers in India.

Launch Missile with range by DRDO IN NEWS

• “Brahmos”-400Km	• “Shaurya”-1000Km	• “Nirbhay”: 1500Km	• ‘Akash-NG’: 60 KM
• Agni-5: 5000 KM	• Pinaka ER: 70 Km	• Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile: 10 KM	
• Agni P Ballistic Missile: 1000 to 2000KM		• Pralay: 150-500 km	

Philippines became 1st country to buy BrahMos supersonic cruise missile for \$374.96 million

- **Philippines** has become the **first foreign country** to place an order for the **purchase of the BrahMos** Shore-Based cruise Missile System for its navy. This agreement will give a big boost to India’s defence manufacturing system.
- The estimated deal cost is worth **\$374.9 million**.
- The **BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd** will supply the missile, under the **Shore-Based Anti-Ship Missile System Acquisition Project**, for **Philippine Navy**.



ISRO successfully conducted qualification tests of Cryogenic Engine for Gaganyaan

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** successfully conducted the **qualification test of Cryogenic Engine** for **Gaganyaan** programme for a duration of **720 seconds** at **ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu**.
- The Qualification test ensures the **reliability and robustness of the cryogenic engine** for induction into the human-rated launch vehicle for Gaganyaan.
- India’s 1st human space mission ‘**Gaganyaan**’ will be launched in 2023. With this launch, India will become the **4th nation** in the world to launch a Human Spaceflight Mission after the USA, Russia and China



India launches 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica

- India successfully launched the 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica on November 15, 2021. The first batch of its contingents comprising of 23 scientists and support staff has reached the Indian Antarctic station Maitri. Four more batches will be landing in Antarctica by mid-January
- 2022. The Indian Antarctic program began in 1981 and has completed 40 scientific expeditions.



India's bases at Antarctica

There are three permanent research base stations in Antarctica, named Dakshin Gangotri (1983), Maitri (1988) and Bharati (2012), currently, Maitri and Bharati are fully operational.

- **Dakshin Gangotri**—India's first scientific base station in Antarctica established in 1983 as a part of Indian Antarctica Programme.
- **Maitri**—This is the 2nd permanent research station which is also known as the Friendship Research Centre, launched by India in 1988.
- **Bharati**—This is the 3rd permanent and active research station in Antarctica established in 2012.

ISRO successfully tested liquid propellant-based Vikas engine for Gaganyaan mission

- **Indian Space Research Organisation** has successfully conducted a 25-second qualification test for its liquid propellant-based High Thrust Vikas engine which is to be used under the Gaganyaan mission.
- The test was conducted **at the ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu.**
- The test was done **to test the performance of the engine in optimal conditions**, such as a change in the fuel-oxidiser ratio or pressure in the fuel chamber.
- These engines will be used in the **launch vehicles which will carry Indian astronauts to space in 2023.**



Indian Armed Force selected 'Saab' for supply of Anti-Armour weapon AT4

- **Swedish defence company 'Saab'** had been selected by the **Indian Armed Force** through a competitive programme for the supply of single-shot anti-armour weapon AT4.
- AT4 will be **used by the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force.** AT4 will be operated by a single soldier and its single-shot system has proven efficacy against structures landing craft helicopters armoured vehicles and personnel.
- The order includes the **AT4CS AST**, which can be fired from confined spaces such as from inside buildings, bunkers and other urban environments. **Carl-Gustaf system of Saab** is being already used by the Indian Armed Forces.



Amar Jawan Jyoti eternal flame merged with National War Memorial flame

- The government of India has merged the **Amar Jawan Jyoti flame** at India Gate with the flame at the **newly constructed National War Memorial** in the same complex.
- The ceremony was led by the **Integrated Defence Staff chief, Air Marshal Balabadhra Radha Krishna.**
- The **decision to merge the two flames** was taken keeping in mind that flame at **Amar Jawan Jyoti paid homage to the**





martyrs of 1971 operations that led to **the freedom of Bangladesh**, but none of their names are present there, while names of all Indian martyrs from all the wars, **including 1971 and wars before and after it are housed at the National War Memorial**.

- So, housing the flame at the same place along with the names will serve as a true tribute to martyrs.

India successfully test-fired a new version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile

- **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** with increased **indigenous content and improved performance** was **successfully test fired** from **Integrated Test Range**, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha
- The **launch** was conducted by **Brahmos Aerospace** in close coordination with the teams of the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.
- The missile was equipped with **advanced indigenous technologies** and followed a modified optimal trajectory for enhanced efficiency and improved performance.
- BrahMos is the **main weapon system of the Indian Navy warships**. An **underwater version is also being developed** which will be used by the submarines of India.



Jio signed a pact with Finland's University of Oulu to accelerate 6G research

- **Jio Platforms (JPL)** signed a pact with the **University of Oulu, Finland**, to **accelerate research and standardization in 6G technology**.
- JPL and the University of Oulu will collaborate in **Research and Development (R&D)** of aerial and space communication, holographic beamforming, 3D-connected intelligence in cybersecurity, microelectronics, and photonics.
- The collaboration will **develop competency with 6G enabled products** in the defence, automotive, white goods, industrial machinery, consumer goods, efficient manufacturing, novel personal smart device environments, and experiences such as urban computing and autonomous traffic settings.



5.Awards

Padma Awards 2022

- On the eve of the country's 73rd Republic Day, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs announced the Padma awards.
- Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri** are the **three categories of Padma awards**. The award is intended to reward accomplishments in all professions or disciplines where public service is a factor.
- President has authorised the **conferment of 128 Padma Awards**, including two duo cases (the Award is considered as one in a dual case).
- There are **four Padma Vibhushan awards, seventeen Padma Bhushan awards, and 107 Padma Shri awards** on the list. There are **34 women among the awardees**, as well as **10 foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 13 posthumous** recipients.



Padma Vibhushan (4)

Name	Field	State / Country
Ms. Prabha Atre	Art	Maharashtra
Shri Radheyshyam Khemka (Posthumous)	Literature and Education	U.P.
General Bipin Rawat (Posthumous)	Civil Service	Uttarakhand
Shri Kalyan Singh (Posthumous)	Public Affairs	Uttar Pradesh

Padma Bhushan (17)

Name	Field	State / Country
Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad	Public Affairs	Jammu and Kashmir
Shri Victor Banerjee	Art	West Bengal
Ms. Gurmeet Bawa (Posthumous)	Art	Punjab
Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee	Public Affairs	West Bengal
Shri Natarajan Chandrasekaran	Trade and Industry	Maharashtra
Shri Krishna Ella and Smt. Suchitra Ella* (Duo)	Trade and Industry	Telangana
Ms. Madhur Jaffery	Others-Culinary	USA
Shri Devendra Jhajharia	Sports	Rajasthan
Shri Rashid Khan	Art	Uttar Pradesh
Shri Rajiv Mehrishi	Civil Service	Rajasthan

Shri Satya Narayana Nadella	Trade and Industry	USA
Shri Sundararajan Pichai	Trade and Industry	USA
Shri Cyrus Poonawalla	Trade and Industry	Maharashtra
Shri Sanjaya Rajaram (Posthumous)	Sci and Engg	Mexico
Ms. Pratibha Ray	Literature and Education	Odisha
Swami Sachidanand	Literature and Education	Gujarat
Shri Vashishth Tripathi	Literature and Education	Uttar Pradesh

2021 Booker Prize

- ✎ South African writer and novelist **Damon Galgut** was honoured with the prestigious **2021 Booker Prize** for fiction for his novel **'The Promise'**

Ramnath Goenka Award

- ✎ **Zishaan A Latif** won Ramnath Goenka Award in Photo journalism category
- **Harpreet Chandi** became **1st woman of colour to make solo unsupported trek to South Pole**
- **UP** ranked **best state in water conservation efforts** at **3rd National Water Awards 2020**; **Rajasthan 2nd**
- Former Prime Minister of Japan **Shinzo Abe** has been conferred with **Netaji Award 2022** by Netaji Research Bureau, based in Kolkata.
- **'Kerala Arts and Crafts Village Organization'** won **'International Craft Award for 2021**
- Bollywood actress **Sushmita Sen** has been conferred with the **International Association of Working Women Award** at the **Washington DC South Asian Film Festival (DCSAFF) 2021**. The former Miss Universe has been felicitated for outstanding performance by a female actor in a TV series for her show **'Aarya 2'**.
- **Forensic Science Laboratory** won **2021 Silver SKOCH Award for Governance at 78th SKOCH Summit**
- **Harshaali Malhotra** awarded **Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Award 2022**
- **Oxford University Press** has declared **'Anxiety'** as **Children's Word of the Year 2021**, based on their recent research
- Former West Indies **Cricketer Clive Lloyd** Receives **Knighthood**
- **V Praveen Rao** - 7th **Dr. M S Swaminathan Award** for 2017-19
- **Nilmani Phookan Jr & Damodar Mauzo** - **Jnanpith Award**
- Olympian **Neeraj Chopra** honoured with **Param Vishisht Seva Medal** on the eve of Republic Day by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- **Neena Gupta** - **Ramanujan Prize** for Young Mathematicians
- **Harnaaz Sandhu** - **Miss Universe 2021**
- **Elon Musk** - TIME Magazine's **'Person of the Year'** for 2021
- **PM Modi** - **Bhutan's highest civilian award**
- Government of **Assam** conferred its highest civilian award **'Assam Baibhav'** on Industrialist **Ratan Tata**, on January 24, 2022.
- **Anil Prakash Joshi, Vidyut Mohan and Ridhima Pandey** - Mother Teresa Memorial Award

- **Anukruti Upadhyay - Sushila Devi Award 2021** for her novel, *Kintsugi*
- **Alia Bhatt** named PETA India's 2021 '*Person of the Year*'

National Sports Awards 2021

President Ram Nath Kovind presented the National Sports Awards 2021 at an event at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi on November 13, 2021. This year **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award** was given to **12 sportspersons**. **The Khel Ratna award carries a cash prize purse of ` 25 lakh**, a medal and a scroll of honour.

Thirty five sportspersons have been honoured with **Arjuna Award** this year. Arjuna Award for outstanding performance in Sports and Games' is given for good performance over a period of previous four years and showing qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. The Arjuna award carries a prize money of ` 15 lakh, a bronze statue and a scroll of honour.

• **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2021**

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ○ 1. Neeraj Chopra (Athletics) | 2. Ravi Kumar (Wrestling) |
| ○ 3. Lovlina Borgohain (Boxing) | 4. Sreejesh P.R. (Hockey) |
| ○ 5. Avani Lekhara (Para shooting) | 6. SumitAntil (Para Athletics) |
| ○ 7. Pramod Bhagat (Para Badminton) | 8. Krishna Nagar (Para Badminton) |
| ○ 9. Manish Narwal (Para shooting) | 10. Mithali Raj (Cricket) |
| ○ 11. Sunil Chhetri (Football) | 12. Manpreet Singh (Hockey) |

• **Dronacharya Award Winners (Regular category)**

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ○ 1. Radhakrishnan Nair (Athletics), | 2. Sandhya Gurung (Boxing), |
| ○ 3. Pritam Siwach (Hockey), | 4. Jai Prakash Nautiyal (Para Shooting), |
| ○ 5. Subramanian Raman (Table Tennis) | |

• **Dronacharya Lifetime Award Winners**

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ○ 1. TP Ouseph (Athletics), | 2. Sarkar Talwar (Cricket), |
| ○ 3. Harpal Singh (Hockey), | 4. Ashan Kumar (Kabaddi), |
| ○ 5. Tapan Kumar Panigrahi (Swimming) | |

52nd International Film Festival of India; 'Ring Wandering' Gets Golden Peacock Award

- Golden Peacock award—'**Ring Wandering**' directed by **Masakazu Kaneko**
- Silver Peacock Award for Best Director—**Václav Kadrnka** for *Saving One Who Is Dead*
- Best Actor—**Jitendra Joshi** for Godavari
- Best Actress—**Angela Molina** for Charlotte

Veteran actress **Hema Malini** of Indian cinema and eminent lyricist **Prasoon Joshi** were honoured with the Indian Film **Personality of the Year 2021 Award** at the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India in November 2021.

Golden Globe Awards 2022 announced:

- '**The Power of the Dog**' won the **Best motion picture**, drama;
- **Will Smith** won the **Best actor** in a motion picture, drama and
- **Nicole Kidman** won the **Best actress** in a motion picture, drama

**International Cricket Council announced ICC Awards 2021**

- Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for ICC **Women's Cricketer of the Year** -Smriti Mandhana (India)
- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC **Men's Cricketer of the Year** -Shaheen Afridi (Pakistan)
- ICC Men's **T20I Cricketer of the Year** -Mohammad Rizwan (Pakistan)

6.Appointment

<p>Sudhir Kumar Saxena</p> <p>A committee constituted to enquire security lapses during PM Punjab visit;</p>		<p>TS Tirumurti</p> <p>Assumes Chair of UNSC Counter-Terrorism Committee</p>	
<p>Amir Subhani</p> <p>appointed as new Chief Secretary of Bihar</p>		<p>G Asok Kumar</p> <p>Appointed as Director-General of National Mission for Clean Ganga</p>	
<p>Zhang Ming</p> <p>Secretary-General of Shanghai Cooperation Organization</p>		<p>Haitham Al Ghais</p> <p>appointed as new secretary general of (OPEC)</p>	
<p>Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas</p> <p>appointed as Chief Economist of IMF</p>		<p>S Somanath</p> <p>New chairman of ISRO</p>	
<p>Alka Mittal</p> <p>1st woman CMD of ONGC</p>		<p>Vijay Paul Sharma</p> <p>Chairman of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)</p>	

7.SPORTS

- **Lucknow's IPL franchise**, which is owned by **Sanjiv Goenka (RPSG Group)**, has been renamed Lucknow Super Giants ahead of the **Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022** mega auction.
- India's first **para-badminton academy** has been set up in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**. It has all the advanced equipment and facilities. The set-up will improve **India's medal prospects** at the **2024 Paralympics** to be held in **Paris, France** at **Stade de France stadium**.
- Ace Indian shuttler, **PV Sindhu** has bagged the women's singles title at the **Syed Modi International Tournament** in Lucknow. Sindhu beat fellow Indian **Malvika Bansod** 21-13 21-16 to win her second Syed Modi title after 2017.
- Pakistani skipper **Babar Azam** has been named as the captain of the **ICC Men's T20I team of the year for 2021**. The ICC Team of the Year recognises the 11 best players in men's cricket who have impressed one and all with their performances in a calendar year, either with the bat, ball or their all-round performance. No Indian male player has found a place in the team of 11.
- India tennis star **Sania Mirza** to retire after 2022 season. The 35-year-old had already bowed out of singles competitions in **2013**. Sania has **six Grand Slam titles** in women's doubles and mixed doubles to her name.
- Spain midfielder **Alexia Putellas** and Poland/Bayern Munich striker **Robert Lewandowski** were awarded the Best FIFA Players in women's and men's football respectively. **Lewandowski** won the Best FIFA Men's Player Award for the second straight year, after getting the first one in 2020.
- Indian badminton player **Lakshya Sen** has defeated World Champion **Loh Kean Yew** of Singapore, in the men's singles final of **India Open 2022** to secure his maiden **Super 500 title**.
- Tasnim Mir became the first Indian to grab World no 1 in Under-19 (U-19) Girls Singles category with 10,810 points in the latest Badminton World Federation (BWF) Junior rankings. She is followed by Mariia Golubeva from Russia and Lucia Rodriguez from Spain.
- Goalkeeper **Savita Punia** will lead India at the upcoming **women's Asia Cup in Muscat as Hockey India** named a strong 18-member squad for the event, including 16 players that featured at the Tokyo Olympics.
- **Virat Kohli** has stepped down as the **Test captain of the Indian national cricket team** after seven years. He first led the national side in Test cricket in 2014 against Australia. He guided the team to an unprecedented back-to-back Test series wins Down Under.
- South African all-rounder **Chris Morris** has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. Morris has played in four Tests, 42 ODIs and 23 T20Is for South Africa. Morris made his Test debut as late as 2016 and featured in only four games in the traditional format, making 173 runs and taking 12 wickets.
- Tamil Nadu's **Bharath Subramaniyam** became **India's 73rd chess Grandmaster**. He secured the third and final Grandmaster norm at an event at **Cattolica in Italy**.
- Pakistani all-rounder, **Mohammad Hafeez** has announced his retirement from international cricket on January 03, 2022, to end his career spanning more than 18 years
- **India** has lifted the **under-19 Asia cricket Cup** by defeating **Sri Lanka** by nine wickets in a rain-interrupted One-Day International final in **Dubai** through the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method.

8. Bihar Special

- 1) The '**Vaccine Mitra**' chatbot was launched by Bihar Health Minister Mangal Pandey on November 2, 2021 with an aim to promote COVID-19 vaccination.
- 2) **In the recently released Public Appearances Index, 2021**, In this index,
 - a. Bihar has been ranked 12th in the list of large states in the equity column, while Gujarat is at the first and Uttar Pradesh is at the last position.
 - b. In the category of large states in the growth/growth column, Bihar has got the last (18th) position, while Telangana is at the first position.
 - c. In the sustainability column, **Bihar has been ranked 17th** in the big states category, while Uttar Pradesh has been ranked 18th (last). Kerala is on the first rank.
 - d. In the overall ranking, Kerala has been ranked first and Tamil Nadu is at second place. **Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are at the last rank**
- 3) The **6th International Dharma Dhamma Conference** was inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Venkaiah Naidu at **Nalanda University located in Rajgir**, Nalanda district of Bihar
- 4) President Ram Nath Kovind presented the **Padma Awards announced for the year 2020** to 8 personalities from Bihar
 - a. For the year 2020, **one person from Bihar was awarded Padma Vibhushan and 7 people were awarded Padma Shri**
 - b. Former Defense Minister George Fernandes was posthumously awarded the Padma Vibhushan for his service in the field of public affairs
 - c. At the same time, the following **seven personalities** were given the **Padma Shri award**:
 - i. Shri Sujoy Kumar Guha (in the field of Science & Engineering)
 - ii. Shri Bimal Kumar Jain (in the field of Social Work)
 - iii. Mrs. Shanti Jain (in the field of art)
 - iv. Dr. Shanti Roy (in the field of medicine)
 - v. Shri Shyamsundar Sharma (in the field of Arts)
 - vi. Shri Ramji Singh (in the field of social work)
 - vii. Shri Vashisht Narayan Singh (Posthumous) (in the field of Science and Engineering)
- 5) At the same time, the following seven personalities were given the Padma Shri award: Shri Sujoy Kumar Guha (in the field of Science & Engineering) Shri Bimal Kumar Jain (in the field of Social Work) Mrs. Shanti Jain (in the field of art) Dr. Shanti Roy (in the field of medicine) Shri Shyamsundar Sharma (in the field of Arts) Shri Ramji Singh (in the field of social work) Shri Vashisht Narayan Singh (Posthumous) (in the field of Science and Engineering)
- 6) President Ram Nath Kovind presented the **Padma Awards announced for the year 2021** to 5 personalities from Bihar
 - a. For the year 2021, **Shri Ram Vilas Paswan** was posthumously awarded the **Padma Bhushan** for the year 2021 for his work in public affairs.
 - b. At the same time, the following 4 personalities were given the Padma Shri award:
 - i. Smt. Dulari Devi (in the field of Arts)
 - ii. Shri Ramchandra Manjhi (in the field of art)
 - iii. Dr. Dilip Kumar Singh (in the field of medicine)

iv. Mrs. Mridula Sinha (Posthumous) - In the field of literature and education

- 7) Chief Minister **Nitish Kumar** honored **Dr. Shankar Nath Jha**, who worked for Musahar children, with the best education award '**Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Education Award-2021**' in a program organized at the convention building on the occasion of Education Day
- 8) Bihar has received the **Skoch Governance Gold Award** in the recently held 75th Skoch conference. At the same time, the **Mukhyamantri Gram Sampark Yojana**, which is running under the Department of Rural Affairs, has been given a silver award by the Skoch Institute.
- 9) The team of Rohtas has won the title of Bihar Athletics Meet held from 15 to 17 November 2021
- 10) Bihar has been ranked 17th in the ranking of states of **Swachh Survekshan, 2021** released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India on November 20, 2021. In the Citizen Feedback category of cities with a population of 50 thousand to 1 lakh, **Supaul** of Bihar has got the **first place** in the country

9.IMPORTANT DAY

- ✍ **1 January:** DRDO Foundation Day
- ✍ **4 January:** World Braille Day
- ✍ **6 January:** World Day of War Orphans
- ✍ DPIIT & Ministry of Commerce organized "**Startup India Innovation Week**" from January 10-16, 2022
- ✍ **6 January:** BIS Foundation Day
- ✍ **9 January:** Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day or Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- ✍ **10 January:** World Hindi Day
- ✍ **11 January:** National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- ✍ **12 January:** National Youth Day (Theme 2022: "It's all in the mind.")
- ✍ **14 January:** Indian Armed Forces Veterans Day
- ✍ **15 January:** Indian Army Day
- ✍ **16 January:** National Startup Day
- ✍ **19 January:** NDRF Raising Day
- ✍ **19 January 2022:** Tripura celebrated 44th Kokborok Day
- ✍ **21 January:** Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura Statehood Day
- ✍ **23 January:** Parakram Diwas
- ✍ **24 January:** International Day of Education (Theme 2022: Changing Course, Transforming Education.)
- ✍ **24 January:** National Girl Child Day
- ✍ **December 26** to be observed as '**Veer Baal Diwas**' annually

10. One liner current affairs

- India is celebrating the **73rd Republic Day** on 26 January 2022. The celebrations this year are special as India is in the **75th year of Independence** – being celebrated as ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’. Republic Day marks the date on which the Constitution of India came into effect on **26 January 1950**. It replaced the Government of India Act (1935) as the governing document of India.
- **Union Agriculture Ministry** has amended the guidelines of **Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)** to provide 40-100 per cent subsidy **until March 2023** in purchasing drones for farm mechanization. After the amendment, a grant for the purchase of drones up to **100 per cent** of the cost of agriculture drones or **Rs 10 lakhs**, whichever is less, can be give
- India has paid **USD 29.9 million** in **UN regular budget assessments** for the **year 2022**. India is currently a nonpermanent member of the 15-nation Security Council and its two-year term will end on December 31, 2022
- **Apple has retained its position** as the **most valuable brand in 2022** as well, according to the Brand Finance 2022 Global 500 report.
- **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP)** for the year 2022 has been conferred to **29 children**. These winners include **15 Boys and 14 Girls**, The award carries a **cash prize of Rs.1,00,000/-**
- **Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla** has launched the official mobile application of the Parliament named ‘**Digital Sansad App**’ on January 27, 2022, to allow citizens to access live proceedings of the House, including the Union Budget 2022 live. T
- **India’s first innovation centre** for **graphene** will be set up in **Kerala** by the Digital University Kerala (DUK), along with the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET) in Thrissur, for Rs 86.41 crore. T
- **Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan**, which is among the proposed five sites in the country, is expected to be formally notified as **tiger reserve (TR)** soon before the **Global Tiger Summit**, which is to be held at **Vladivostok, Russia**.
- The **NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)** member countries will be conducting a **12-day maritime exercise** in the **Mediterranean Sea** from January 24, 2022. The name of the maritime exercise is “**Neptune Strike ’22**”.
- **Transparency International** has released the **Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2021** in which **India** has been ranked at **85th spot** (Score of 40). The ranking has been **topped jointly by three countries- Denmark, Finland and New Zealand (Score of 88)**.
- **Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley** was sworn in for a second term in office on 20 January 2022, following a landslide victory by her party in the 2022 election

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- **The Russian, Chinese and Iranian** navies undertook naval exercises **CHIRU-2Q22** in the **Gulf of Oman**.
- **The International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has cut India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal 2021-22 (FY22) to **9 per cent**,
- The government of India officially handed over India's flag carrier, **Air India** to the Tata Group on January 27, 2022,
- The Government of India has appointed **Dr V Anantha Nageswaran** as the **new Chief Economic Adviser**.
- **Swedish defence company 'Saab'** had been selected by the Indian Armed Force through a competitive programme for the supply of single-shot anti-armour weapon AT4
- Russia delivered all the contracted 70,000 AK-203 Kalashnikov assault rifles to the Indian Armed Forces. T
- **Western Naval Command** of the Indian Navy conducted a joint maritime exercise **Paschim Lehar (XPL-2022)** off the West Coast which concluded. The exercise continued for 20 days and was conducted with an aim to enhance Inter-Service synergy among the **Indian Navy, IAF, Indian Army and Coast Guard**
- Former Japan Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe** was conferred with the **Netaji Award 2022** by Netaji Research Bureau.
- **Prajakta Koli** has become India's first **UN Development Programme (UNDP) Youth Climate Champion**. She is a content creator on various online platforms like youtube, Instagram, etc. She has been conferred the title for her contribution towards mental health, women's rights and girl child education through various global social campaigns.
- **P S Vinothraj** directed film **Koozhangal** from India won the best film award in the **Asian Film Competition section at the 20th Dhaka International Film Festival**.
- Olympian **Neeraj Chopra** will be honoured with Param **Vishisht Seva Medal** on the eve of Republic Day by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- **Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (Erode district, Tamil Nadu)** has been given the **prestigious TX2 award** after its tiger numbers doubled to 80 since 2010.
- Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has hosted the **first India-Central Asia Summit**, through the virtual platform.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully test-fired the Vikas engine that would power India's first human-carry rocket (Gaganyaan human space mission).
- CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) has developed an **indigenous RT-PCR diagnostic kit, 'Om'**, for the testing of the Omicron variant of coronavirus
- Ace Indian shuttler, PV Sindhu has bagged the women's singles title at the Syed Modi International Tournament in Lucknow. S
- **India's first para-badminton academy** has been set up in **Lucknow**, Uttar Pradesh. It has all the advanced equipment and facilities. The set-up will improve India's medal prospects at the 2024 Paralympics to be held in Paris, France at Stade de France stadium.
- The women's team from Ladakh has lifted the 9th National Women's Ice Hockey Championship in Himachal Pradesh.
- Indian Movie's **Jai Bhim** and **Marakkar: Arabikadalinte Simham** have been officially shortlisted for the **Oscars 2022**. Jai Bhim is the fourth Indian film to get nominated for Oscars after Mother India, Salaam Bombay, and Lagaan.
- India's largest electric vehicle (EV) charging station with a capacity of 100 charging points for 4 wheelers, was opened at Delhi-Jaipur National Highway in Gurugram.



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has declared to mark **16th January** as '**National Start-up Day**'.
- The government of India has merged the **flame of the Amar Jawan Jyoti** at Delhi's India Gate with the flame at the adjoining **National War Memorial**.
- The **world's largest national flag**, made of **Khadi fabric** was put to display to celebrate the "**Army Day**" on January 15, 2022. It was displayed at **Longewala, along the India – Pakistan Border in Jaisalmer**. Longewala was the centre stage of the historic battle of 1971 between India and Pakistan. The Monumental National Flag is 225 feet long and 150 feet wide. It is approximately 1400 kgs in weight.
- **Israel** has completed a successful flight test of the **Arrow-3**.
- **Indonesia** will move its capital to mineral-rich East Kalimantan, an Indonesian province on the island of Borneo. The name of the **new capital will be Nusantara**.
- **Indian Navy and Russian Navy** undertook **PASSEX exercises** at the port of Cochin, in the Arabian Sea.
- 37 Years old **Shaylyn Ford** was crowned as the **winner of Mrs World 2022**.
- Goalkeeper **Savita Punia** will lead India at the upcoming **women's Asia Cup in Muscat** as Hockey India named a strong 18-member squad for the event, including 16 players that featured at the Tokyo Olympics
- India is all set to host **AFC Women's football Asian Cup India 2022** from 20th January 2022 in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, and Pune.
- The Oxford University Press (OUP) has picked up '**Anxiety**' as the **Children's Word of the Year 2021**
- In the Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir**, the administration has declared **Jerri settlement in Reasi district** as the first '**Milk Village**' of the Union Territory and sanctioned 57 more dairy farms under the Integrated Dairy Development Scheme (IDDS) for the hamlet.

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11.MCQ

Set-1

1.The 46th GST Council meeting was called to discuss the GST rate on which sector?

- A.Textile B.Oil
C.Health D.Electronics

ANS- A

2.China has claimed which Indian state as South Tibet?

- A.Uttarakhand B.Arunachal Pradesh
C.Mizoram D.Sikkim

ANS- B

3.PM Modi has inaugurated Sawra-Kuddu Hydro Power Project, in which state?

- A.Maharashtra B.Uttar Pradesh
C.Gujarat D.Himachal Pradesh

ANS- D

4.Who has been named 'Journalist of the Year' in Redink Awards for Excellence in Journalism 2021?

- A.Saurabh Shukla B.Faye D' Souza
C.Danish Siddiqui D.Prem Shankar Jha

ANS- C

5.In which state the Central Government has approved to host the Khelo India Youth Games 2022-23?

- A.Kerala B.Haryana
C.Madhya Pradesh D.Rajasthan

ANS- C

6.PM Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of Major Dhyan Chand Sports University in which city?

- A.Meerut B.Kanpur
C.Ranchi D.Bhopal

ANS- A

7.Khalid Hussain has won the Sahitya Akademi Award 2021 in which language category?

- A.Hindi B.Kannada
C.Punjabi D.Bengali

ANS- C

8.Which state has topped the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Rurban Mission?

- A.Tamil Nadu B.Telangana
C.Haryana D.Karnataka

ANS- B

9.Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of hydroelectric projects worth Rs 11000 crore in which state?

- A.Maharashtra B.Himachal Pradesh
C.Kerala D.Gujarat

ANS- B

10.Which country has started the world's longest metro line?

- A.Australia B.Japan
C.America D.China

ANS- D

11.For which language Sahitya Akademi has selected Daya Prakash Sinha for Sahitya Akademi Award 2021?

- A.Tamil B.Urdu
C.Hindi D.English

ANS- C

12.Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation of 23 projects worth 17,500 crore rupees in which city?

- A.Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
B.Jaipur, Rajasthan
C.Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
D.Haldwani, Uttarakhand

ANS- D

13. Which country launched its first in the series Project 22220 versatile nuclear-powered icebreaker 'Sibir' to boost India's Arctic Plans via Northern Sea Route?

- A. Russia B. USA
C. China D. UK

ANS- A

14. Which state govt set to table bill to "free Hindu temples"?

- A. Maharashtra B. Karnataka
C. Uttar Pradesh D. Kerala

ANS- B

15. Who has inaugurated the Bina (MP)-Panki (UP) multiproduct pipeline project?

- A. Hardeep Singh Puri B. Yogi Adityanath
C. Narendra Modi D. Rajnath Singh

ANS- C

16. Who has become the first Indian to qualify for two different events of the held Winter Olympics in Beijing?

- A. Neha Ahuja B. Arif Mohammed Khan
C. Vikas Puri D. Aanchal Thakur

ANS- B

17. Which nation won the U-19 Asia Cup 2021?

- A. India B. Sri Lanka
C. South Africa D. Australia

ANS- A

18. Kalpana Chawla centre for research in space science & technology has been inaugurated in which university?

- A. Allahabad university B. Delhi university
C. Chandigarh university D. Madras university

ANS- C

19. Who received the Sahitya Academy Awards 2021 in the English language?

- A. Namita Gokhale B. Anuradha Sarma
C. Niranjana Hansda D. Sanjiv Vernekar

ANS- A

20. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched a nationwide 100-day reading campaign. What is the name of the campaign?

- A. Indian Paathshaala B. Bharat Paathshaala
C. Padhe Bharat D. Padhe India

ANS- C

21. Which country assumed the chairmanship of the United Nations Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee in 2022?

- A. Vietnam B. France
C. Australia D. India

ANS- D

22. Who has been honoured with "Bihar Vibhuti Samman"?

- A. Rohit Kumar B. Phagu Chauhan
C. Nitish Kumar D. Arjun Swami

ANS- A

Q23. Which country has assumed the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union for six months beginning January 2022?

- A. THE UK B. India
C. France D. China

ANS- C

24. Which railway station has been renamed as 'Veerangana Laxmibai Railway Station' by the Uttar Pradesh government?

- A. Varanasi B. Agra
C. Jhansi D. Aligarh

ANS- C

25. What is the total number of members in the committee constituted to examine "The Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021?"

- A. 10 B. 31
C. 21 D. 26

ANS- B



26. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of PGI Satellite Centre in which city?

- A. Meerut B. Ferozepur
C. Bhopal D. Imphal

ANS- B

27. There was a massive fire at which nation's Parliament?

- A. Israel B. Japan
C. South Africa D. Russia

ANS- C

28. Cricket all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez has announced his retirement from international cricket for which of the following countries?

- A. West Indies B. Afghanistan
C. South Africa D. Pakistan

ANS- D

29. Name the winner of the RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year' 2020?

- A. Rana Ayyub B. Rohit Sardana
C. Danish Siddiqui D. Arfa Khanum Sherwani

ANS- C

30. Who has become the first Indian-origin woman to trek solo to the South Pole?

- A. Srishti Bandla B. Sneha Sharma
C. Sunita Williams D. Harpreet Chandi

ANS- D

31. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and CEO of the Railway Board?

- A. Vinay Kumar Tripathi B. Naresh Salecha
C. Sanjeev Mittal D. Ravinder Gupta

ANS- A

32. Which Union Minister has recently launched the 'India Semiconductor Mission'?

- A. Amit Shah B. Ashwini Vaishnav
C. Rajnath Singh D. Nirmala Sitharaman

ANS- B

33. Ayush Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal lays the foundation stone for Heartfulness International Yoga academy at which place?

- A. Hyderabad B. Mumbai
C. Jaipur D. Nasik

ANS- A

34. Dr. Jitendra Singh launches Web Portal for PM's Excellence Award, says prize money doubled. What is the new Prize money for PM's Excellence Award?

- A. 10 Lakh B. 5 Lakh
C. 50 Lakh D. 20 Lakh

ANS- D

35. Which state has got the first place in the list of open defecation free villages?

- A. Telangana B. Tamil Nadu
C. Kerala D. Assam

ANS- A

36. 'SMILE' scheme is to be implemented by which Union Ministry?

- A. Ministry of Women and Child Development
B. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
C. Ministry of Education
D. Ministry of Rural Development

ANS- B

37. Who has been appointed as the head of ONGC, making her the first woman to head ONGC?

- A. Ankita Ahuja B. Ritu Kumar
C. Alka Mittal D. Anamika Malhotra

ANS- C

38. Which state's High Court has become the country's first paperless court?

- A. Karnataka B. Kerala
C. Tamil Nadu D. Telangana

ANS- B

39. Who has been appointed as new Director-General for the National Mission for Clean Ganga?

- A. Vini Mahajan
C. G Sateesh Reddy
B. Vinay Tripathi
D. G Ashok Kumar

ANS- D

40. Union Education Minister launched NEAT 3.0 and AICTE prescribed technical books in regional languages. Who is the Union Education Minister?

- A. Piyush Goyal
C. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank
B. Narendra Tomar
D. Dharmendra

Pradhan

ANS- D

41. Who is the only woman in the 31-member panel recently formed to examine the bill to increase the legal age of marriage?

- A. Sushmita Dev
C. Meenakshi Sharma
B. Rajni Ashokrao
D. Chhaya Verma

ANS- A

42. What is the existing annual income limit for the identification of the economically weaker section (EWS)?

- A. Rs 6 lakh
C. Rs 9 lakh
B. Rs 8 lakh
D. Rs 10 lakh

ANS- B

43. Which country will host the 46-nation mega naval battle 'Exercise Milan 2022'?

- A. America
C. India
B. Iran
D. China

ANS- C

44. Who has recently been given the World CEO Winner of the Year 2021 Award?

- A. Vinod Bhandari
C. Vinay Prakash
B. Kanak Sharma
D. Kishore Kumar Yedam

ANS- D

45. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the New Integrated Terminal Building at Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport. Where it is located?

A. Imphal

C. Pune

ANS- B

B. Agartala

D. Lucknow

46. As of January 1, 2022, what is the estimated population of the world, as per the US Census Bureau?

- A. 9.8 billion
C. 7.8 billion
B. 3.8 billion
D. 5.8 billion

ANS- C

Q47. World Day of War Orphans is being observed on which date?

- A. January 06
C. January 04
B. January 05
D. January 07

ANS- A

48. Which Indian bowler has jumped three spots to break into the top ten of ICC Men's Test Bowling Rankings?

- A. Ishant Sharma
C. Yuzvendra Chahal
B. Mohammed Shami
D. Jasprit Bumrah

ANS- D

49. Violent clashes broke out in which nation over a sharp rise in fuel prices?

- A. Uzbekistan
C. Afghanistan
B. Turkmenistan
D. Kazakhstan

ANS- D

50. In which city the Union Ayush Minister has laid the foundation stone of Heartfulness International Yoga Academy?

- A. Mumbai
C. Hyderabad
B. Delhi
D. Chennai

ANS- C

Set-2

1. What is Virat Kohli's rank in the latest ICC Men's Test Batting Rankings 2022?

- A. 7
B. 9

C.12
ANS- B

2. India's first match will be against which nation in the ICC Women's World Cup 2022?

- A. Pakistan
B. New Zealand
C. Bangladesh
D. West Indies

ANS- A

3. Who has won the Ramnath Goenka Award in Photo Journalism?

- A. Zishaan A Latif
B. Vikram Seth
C. Amrita Pritam
D. Sarat Chandra

ANS- A

4. When will ICC Women's World Cup begin?

- A. February 15
B. March 04
C. March 01
D. April 03

ANS- B

5. In which state/union territory, the traditional New Year 'Losar Mahotsav' has been celebrated?

- A. Ladakh
B. Tamil Nadu
C. Delhi
D. Telangana

ANS- A

6. Richard Leakey, who has passed away recently, was a world-renowned conservationist and fossil hunter from which country?

- A. Nigeria
B. United Kingdom
C. Sweden
D. Kenya

ANS- D

7. Atal Tunnel, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which state/UT?

- A. Himachal Pradesh
B. Sikkim
C. Arunachal Pradesh
D. Uttarakhand

ANS- A

8. Which two tourist areas have been declared as strategic areas in Jammu and Kashmir?

- A. Gulmarg, Sonamarg
B. Pahalgam, Patnitop
C. Jammu, Katra
D. Amarnath, Anantnag

ANS- A

9. The Ramnath Goenka Awards have been presented annually in India for excellence in which of the following field?

- A. Journalism
B. Sports
C. Science & Technology
D. Literature

ANS- A

10. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA), which was making news recently, is located at which state?

- A. West Bengal
B. Uttar Pradesh
C. Bihar
D. Uttarakhand

ANS- B

11. Who will lead India in the ICC Women's World Cup 2022?

- A. Smriti Mandhana
B. Harmanpreet Kaur
C. Mithali Raj
D. Jhulan Goswami

ANS- C

12. India's first unique 'Rock' museum has been inaugurated in which city?

- A. Hyderabad
B. Lucknow
C. Bengaluru
D. Pune

ANS- A

13. Name the Indian who has been given the charge as Chair of UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022?

- A. Vikas Swarup
B. T S Tirumurti
C. Harsh Vardhan Shringla
D. Syed Akbaruddin

ANS- B

14. The flagship UJALA programme of the Ministry of Power has completed how many years of successful implementation in 2022?

- A. 5
B. 8
C. 9
D. 7

ANS- D



15. Which country is facing unrest due to a sudden spike in fuel prices?

- A. Oman B. Kazakhstan
C. Turkmenistan D. Bahrain

ANS- B

16. 'Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA)' is located in which country?

- A. Australia B. Chile
C. USA D. Russia

ANS- B

17. Election Commission has hiked the Parliamentary constituencies poll expenditure limit. What is the new expenditure limit for candidates in bigger states?

- A. Rs 75 lakhs BRs 70 lakhs
C. Rs 90 lakhs D. Rs 95 lakhs

ANS- D

18. What is the theme of the 24th National Conference on e-Governance?

- A. Pandemic World
B. Digital Governance
C. 'India's Techade: Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World'
D. Digital World

ANS- C

19. PM Modi has inaugurated a new campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute (CNCI) in which city?

- A. Hyderabad B. Kolkata
C. Patna D. Lucknow

ANS- B

20. Which state has bagged the best state award in the 3rd National Water Awards for the year 2020 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti?

- A. Madhya Pradesh B. Uttar Pradesh
C. Tamil Nadu D. Rajasthan

ANS- B

21. Centre has approved an MoU with which of the following country for the construction of a bridge over Mahakali River at Dharchula in Uttarakhand?

- A. Sri Lanka B. Malaysia
C. Nepal D. Bangladesh

ANS- C

22. The UN World Food Programme in India has partnered with which organisation to enhance the effectiveness of the PM-POSHAN scheme?

- A. Goonj
B. Reliance Foundation
C. The Akshaya Patra Foundation
D. Pratham

ANS- C

23. Which among the following countries has joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as its 102nd and most latest member?

- A. Antigua and Barbuda B. Seychelles
C. Trinidad and Tobago D. Barbados

ANS- A

24. 'Khuntkatti' law, which was seen in the news, is practised in which Indian state/UT?

- A. Jharkhand B. Punjab
C. Uttar Pradesh D. Chhattisgarh

ANS- A

25. Who has been appointed as the new Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization?

- A. Essya Hanachi B. Michael Furlani
C. Zhang Ming D. Javier Evans

ANS- C

26. Which of the following states has been named as the host for the National Youth Festival 2022?

- A. Jammu & Kashmir B. Kerala
C. Puducherry D. Chhattisgarh

ANS- C

27. The 24th National Conference on e-Governance was organised in which of the following cities?

- A. Hyderabad B. New Delhi

C.Gandhinagar

D.Mumbai

ANS- A

28.In the case of Assembly constituencies poll in big states, what is the new expenditure limit defined for the candidates by the Election Commission?

A.Rs 20 lakhs

B.Rs 30 lakhs

C.Rs 50 lakhs

D.Rs 40 lakhs

ANS- D

29.The Pravasi Bhartiya Divas is celebrated every year on which day?

A.January 10

B.January 9

C.January 8

D.January 7

ANS- B

30.Who has been appointed as the new secretary-general of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries?

A.Abdul Rahman al-Bazzaz

B.Ashraf T. Lutfi

C.Haitham Al Ghais

D.Fuad Rouhani

ANS- C

31.Which state government has announced an increase in the retirement age of state government employees from 60 years to 62 years?

A.Andhra Pradesh

B.West Bengal

C.Madhya Pradesh

D.Uttar Pradesh

ANS- A

32.Which countries President has signed a law prohibiting Child Marriage?

A.UK

B.Philippines

C.UAE

D.USA

ANS- B

33.Who among these has been awarded the 12th Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Award 2022?

A.Janhvi Kapoor

B.Sara Ali Khan

C.Harshaali Malhotra

D.Nora Fatehi

ANS- C

34.The Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change recently chaired the 19th Meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority. What is the name of the minister?

A.Ashwini Kr. Choubey

B.J. P. Nadda

C.Bhupender Yadav

D.Dharmendra Pradhan

ANS- C

35.Who has been named as the new chief economist of the IMF to replace Gita Gopinath?

A.Piotr Trabinski

B.Pablo Moreno Garcia

C.Paul Hilbers

D.Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas

ANS- D

36.What is the name of the mission launched by the Western zone of the Indian Railways to track lost belongings of passengers?

A.Mission Hifazat

B.Mission Amanat

C.Mission Nidhi

D.Mission Dharohar

ANS- B

37.In Chess, who has achieved the feat of becoming the 73rd Grandmaster of India?

A.Pravin Thipsay

B.Parimarjan Negi

C.Bharath Subramaniam

D.Vaishali Rameshbabu

ANS- C

38.Which actor has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Amway India?

A.Pankaj Tripathi

B.Akshay Kumar

C.Manoj Bajpai

D.Amitabh Bachchan

ANS- D

39.Who has become India's richest self-made female billionaire?

A.Kiran Mazumdar

B.Falguni Nair

C.Roshni Nadar Malhotra

D.Savitri Jindal

ANS- B



40. Which company has been chosen as the title sponsor for the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 and 2023 seasons by BCCI?

- A. Tata Group B. Amazon
C. Vivo D. Paytm

ANS- A

41. Which country's passport has topped the list of powerful passports for the first quarter of 2022 released by the Henley Passport Index, along with Japan?

- A. Australia B. Singapore
C. America D. Africa

ANS- B

42. Who has been appointed by the International Monetary Fund as its new Chief Economist?

- A. James Cameron B. Alex Halter
C. Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas D. Gita Gopinath

ANS- C

43. What is the rank of India in the Henley Passport Index, released for Q1 of 2022?

- A. 90 B. 72
C. 89 D. 83

ANS- D

44. Which country has awarded a USD 375 million contract to India for the BrahMos missile?

- A. Philippines B. Indonesia
C. Namibia D. Croatia

ANS- A

45. Which state has topped in terms of increase in forest cover as per 'India State of Forest Report' 2021?

- A. Andhra Pradesh B. Tamil Nadu
C. Haryana D. Maharashtra

ANS- A

46. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of the ISRO, to replace K. Sivan?

- A. Ajit Kumar Mohanty B. S. Somanath

C. G. Madhavan Nair D. Udupi Ramachandra Rao
ANS- B

47. Which is the first city of India to have a water metro project?

- A. Amritsar B. Ahmedabad
C. Mumbai D. Kochi

ANS- D

48. Where did the Monumental National Flag, the world's largest national flag made of Khadi fabric, put to a grand public display?

- A. Leh B. Hindon
C. Jaisalmer D. Mumbai

ANS- C

49. Which player has been named as the captain of the Indian women's team participating in the 2022 Women's Hockey Asia Cup?

- A. Navjot Kaur B. Savita Punia
C. Lalremsiami D. Rani Rampal

ANS- B

50. PARAKH, which was seen in the news, is a portal associated with which field?

- A. Customs Clearance B. Student Learning Assessment
C. Investment Advice D. Defence Acquisition

ANS- B

Set-3

1. Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti 2022 will be observed on 9th January 2022. It will be which birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh Ji?

- A.200 B.355
C.100 D.25

ANS- B

2. Which date has been declared as Veer Baal Diwas by PM Modi?

- A. December 26 B. December 25
C. December 20 D. December 31

ANS- A

3. Election Commission announced the Assembly polls scheduled for Goa, Punjab, Manipur, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. Who is the Chief Election Commissioner?

- A. Achal Kumar Jyoti B. Anil Tripathi
C. Sushil Chandra D. Sunil Arora

ANS- C

4. Justice Ayesha Malik has become the first woman Supreme Court judge of which country?

- A. Afghanistan B. Pakistan
C. Bangladesh D. Sri Lanka

ANS- B

5. Which film won the Golden Globe Award 2022 in Best Motion Picture- Drama category?

- A. Belfast B. The Power of the Dog
C. King Richard D. Dune

ANS- B

6. Who has been appointed as the new Secretary-General by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries?

- A. Haitham Al Ghis B. Noel Quinn
C. Muhammad Yunus D. Abdul Razzaq

ANS- A

7. What is the latest value of foreign currency reserves of India as per the data by RBI?

- A. \$633.614 billion B. \$621.581 billion
C. \$642.453 billion D. \$639.405 billion

ANS- A

8. WST has been successfully deployed by which of the following space agency into the space?

- A. ISRO B. NASA
C. Roscosmos D. JAXA

ANS- B

9. What is the theme for National Youth Day 2022?

- A. YUVAAH - Utsah Naye Bharat Ka
B. Sankalp Se Siddhi
C. Youth for Digital India
D. Channelizing Youth Power for Nation Building

ANS- A

10. DRDO recently test-fired a naval variant of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile. Which destroyer ship was used for testing the missile?

- A. INS Rajput B. INS Kolkata
C. INS Chennai D. INS Visakhapatnam

ANS- D

11. The 2022 Women's Hockey Asia Cup will be held in which country?

- A. Myanmar B. Oman
C. India D. Thailand

ANS- B

12. Tasnim Mir becomes the Indian world number one player, she is associated with which sports?

- A. Tennis B. Badminton
C. Shooting D. Hockey

ANS- B

13. Birju Maharaj, who passed away on 17th January 2022, belongs to which profession?

- A. Athlete B. Music Composer
C. Kathak Dancer D. Politician

ANS- C



14. Which country recently launched formal Free Trade Agreement negotiations with India?

- A. Japan B. USA
C. Russia D. UK

ANS- D

15. Which actress has received the 12th Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Award 2022 for her performance in Bajrangi Bhaijaan?

- A. Koel Mallik B. B. Saroja Devi
C. Harshaali Malhotra D. Sridevi

ANS- C

16. Who of the following won the 2022 India Open Women's Singles Title?

- A. PV Sindhu
B. Saina Nehwal
C. Busanan Ongbamrunphan
D. Supanida Katethong

ANS- C

17. Which of the following states has won the maximum number of awards at the national startup awards 2021?

- A. Maharashtra B. Gujarat
C. Uttar Pradesh D. Karnataka

ANS- D

18. The Indian navy has participated in the PASSEX exercise with which country?

- A. France B. Japan
C. Russia D. China

ANS- C

19. Who has won the Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper Award 2021?

- A. Ederson B. Alisson Becker
C. Manuel Neuer D. Edouard Mendy

ANS- D

20. Who has taken over as the new AEPC Chairman?

- A. Anand Mahindra B. Narendra Goenka
C. Samir Mehta D. Pawan Munjal

ANS- B

21. Who has been awarded the Best FIFA Men's Player Award 2021?

- A. Neymar B. Robert Lewandowski
C. Cristiano Ronaldo D. Lionel Messi

ANS- B

22. Who has been chosen as the new head of the European Parliament?

- A. Angela Merkel B. Roberta Metsola
C. Magdalena Andersson D. Sanna Marin

ANS- B

23. Government has merged the flame of the Amar Jawan Jyoti with the flame at National War Memorial. The eternal flame of Amar Jawan Jyoti was lit in which year?

- A. 1949 B. 1952
C. 1980 D. 1972

ANS- D

24. The first BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022 was held under the chairmanship of which country?

- A. China B. Russia
C. India D. Brazil

ANS- A

25. India test-fired more indigenous and improved variants of BrahMos missile. It is which type of missile?

- A. Cruise missile
B. Ballistic missiles
C. Conventional guided missile
D. All of the above

ANS- A

26. Who is the current BRICS Sherpa of India?

- A. Dilip Sinha B. Piyush Goyal
C. Devyani Khobragade D. Sanjay Bhattacharyya

ANS- D



27. Which word has been chosen as the Oxford University Press Children's Word of the Year 2021?

- A. Anxiety B. Coronavirus
C. Sanitizer D. Isolation

ANS- A

28. Who is the author of the biography 'Bose: The Untold Story of An Inconvenient Nationalist'?

- A. Punya Prasun Bajpai B. Ramachandra Guha
C. Chandrachur Ghose D. Prem Parkash

ANS- C

29. India will face which nation in its first match of the T20 World Cup 2022?

- A. Sri Lanka B. Pakistan
C. Australia D. England

ANS- B

30. Who is the winner of Genesis Prize 2022?

- A. Steven Spielberg B. Rabbi Lord
C. Albert Bourla D. Natan Sharansky

ANS- C

31. Indonesia has decided to change its capital from Jakarta to which new capital city?

- A. Negara Agung B. Nusantara
C. Mancanegara D. None of the above

ANS- B

32. ISRO tested which engine to be used for India's first human-carry rocket under the Gaganyaan human space mission?

- A. Kirti engine B. Gaurav engine
C. Vikas engine D. Ekta engine

ANS- C

33. Border Roads Organisation conducts final blast concluding all excavation on Sela Tunnel Project. Where is Sela Tunnel?

- A. Tamil Nadu B. West Bengal

C. Maharashtra

D. Arunachal Pradesh

ANS- D

34. India is celebrating the 125th Birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on which date?

- A. January 21 B. January 22
C. January 23 D. January 24

ANS- C

35. India's first para-badminton academy has been set up in which city?

- A. Hyderabad B. Chennai
C. Lucknow D. Pune

ANS- C

36. Which city is the host of the 2024 Summer Paralympics?

- A. Rome B. Paris
C. Athens D. Beijing

ANS- B

37. In which city, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will unveil a 216-foot statue of "Statue of Equality"?

- A. Hyderabad B. Nashik
C. Ahmedabad D. Lucknow

ANS- A

38. The hologram statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose has been unveiled at which place by PM Modi on his birth anniversary on January 23?

- A. Rashtrapati Bhavan B. Red Fort
C. India Gate D. Indian Museum

ANS- C

39. Which inter-governmental alliance is holding a maritime exercise named "Neptune Strike '22" in the Mediterranean Sea?

- A. NATO B. G20
C. SAARC D. BRICS

ANS- A

40. Which of these leaders has been conferred with the Netaji Award 2022 by the Netaji Research Bureau?

- A. Vladimir Putin B. Xi Jinping
C. Shinzo Abe D. Joe Biden

ANS- C

41. Which institute has been honoured with Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar in the Institutional category for 2022?

- A. Disaster Mitigation and Management Centre, Uttarakhand
B. Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management
C. 8th Battalion of National Disaster Response Force
D. Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society

ANS- B

42. Which country has organized the 'Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation'?

- A. Malaysia B. India
C. UK D. Sri Lanka

ANS- A

43. Who has been named ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year 2021?

- A. Shaheen Afridi B. Babar Azam
C. Kane Williamson D. Virat Kohli

ANS- A

44. India's First "District Good Governance Index" has been unveiled recently for districts of which states/UTs?

- A. Uttarakhand B. Jammu and Kashmir
C. Himachal Pradesh D. Ladakh

ANS- B

45. Which nation's football team had to withdraw from AFC Women's Asia Cup 2022?

- A. China B. Iran

- C. India D. Vietnam

ANS- C

46. The NASA space agency has recently unveiled Phase 2 of the 'Deep Space Food Challenge' in partnership with the space agency of which country?

- A. Canada B. Russia
C. Japan D. India

ANS- A

47. Which team has won the 9th National Women's Ice Hockey Championship in 2022 held in Himachal Pradesh?

- A. Delhi B. Ladakh
C. Chandigarh D. Indo-Tibetan Border Police

ANS- B

48. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)" is a scheme of which Union Ministry?

- A. Ministry of Rural Development
B. Ministry of Science and Technology
C. Ministry of Electronics and IT
D. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

ANS- D

49. Which Indian film has won the Best Film Award at the Dhaka International Film Festival 2022?

- A. Dikkiloona B. Thalaivi
C. Koozhangal D. Jai Bhim

ANS- C

50. Which Indian actor has been felicitated with the Best Actor award at the Dhaka International Film Festival 2022?

- A. Dhanush B. Jayasurya
C. Ram Charan D. Prabhas

ANS- B



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