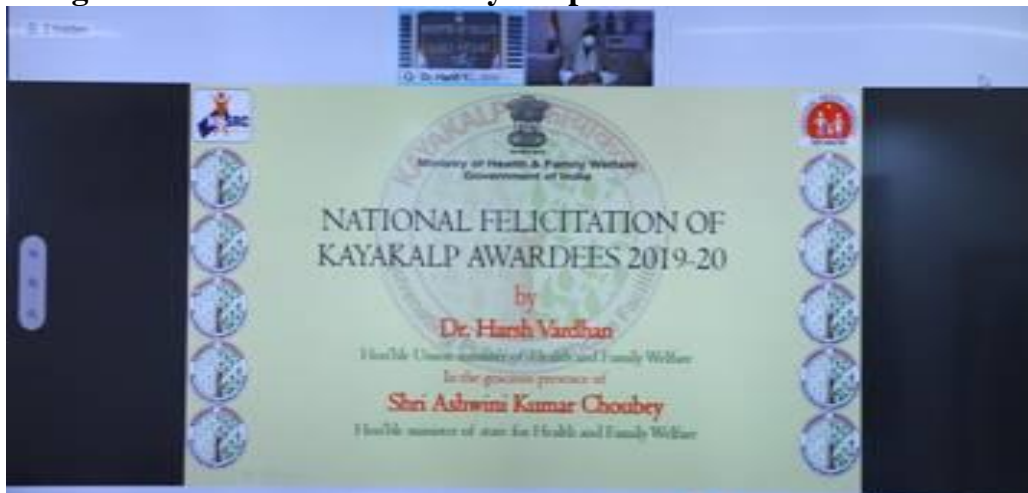


Daily Current Affairs- 15/01/2021

1. Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and family Welfare inaugurated the 5th National Kayakalp Awards



- The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India launched a National Initiative 'Kayakalp' on 15th May 2015 to ensure hygiene, sanitation and cleanliness in Public Health Facilities in India.
- Some Important awards are: **AIIMS (All India Institutes of Medical Sciences) Bhubaneswar** has been adjudged as the best central government hospital under B category for cleanliness for third consecutive year. It had earlier received the award in 2018 as well as in 2019 for becoming the second cleanest hospital among category B hospitals.
- **JIPMER (Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research)** has been awarded the second prize for the year 2019-20. The award was for the category Group A Central government health facilities. JIPMER had bagged the second place in 2018-19 and third place in 2017-18.

2. First time in history, Union Budget 2021 to be paperless



- Union Budget 2021, slated to be presented on February 1, is going to be completely paperless in the wake of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.
- The Budget papers - the Union Budget and Economic Survey - will not get printed, soft copies will be provided.

3. Heritage Conservation Committee approves construction of new parliament building



- A few days ago, the Supreme Court cleared the decks for the ambitious Central Vista Project, which covers a three-km stretch from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate in Lutyens' Delhi, by upholding the environmental clearance and the notification for change in land use.
- Additional secretary of the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry is the chairman of the Heritage Conservation Committee.
- **Note:** The Central Vista revamp, announced in September, 2019 envisages a new triangular Parliament building, with a seating capacity for 900 to 1,200 MPs that is to be constructed by August, 2022 when the country will be celebrating its 75th Independence Day. The common Central Secretariat is likely to be built by 2024 under the project.

4. “New Foreign Trade Policy 2021-2026” to be rolled out from April



Department of Commerce
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Government of India

- Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry said that India's new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2021-2026, under formulation, will come into effect from April 1, 2021, for five years and will strive to make the country a leader in international trade.

- **Note:** District Export Hubs Initiative will be an important part of the new FTP.

5. Tesla incorporates fully owned subsidiary in Bengaluru for its electric vehicles



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- US-based Electric car maker, Tesla has incorporated a fully owned subsidiary in Bengaluru as a first step to set up an R&D unit and a manufacturing plant for its electric vehicles in the country.
- Tesla has registered its 100 percent subsidiary, as - Tesla India Motors and Energy Pvt Ltd, according to disclosures

with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

6. Cabinet approves Procurement of 83 Light Combat Aircrafts (LCA) 'Tejas' from HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited) for Indian Air Force



- The Cabinet has approved procurement of 73 LCA Tejas Mk-1A fighter aircrafts and 10 LCA Tejas Mk-1 Trainer aircrafts at the cost of Rs. 45,696 Crore along with Design and Development of Infrastructure sanctions worth Rs.1,202 Crore from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- It is the first “Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured)” category procurement of combat aircrafts with an indigenous content of 50% which will progressively reach 60% by the end of the programme.



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7. Manipur Governor released book “Making of a General A Himalayan Echo”



- Manipur Governor Dr Najma Heptulla released a book titled “Making of a General-A Himalayan Echo” authored by (Retd) Lt General Konsam Himalaya Singh.

8. January 15, Indian Army Day



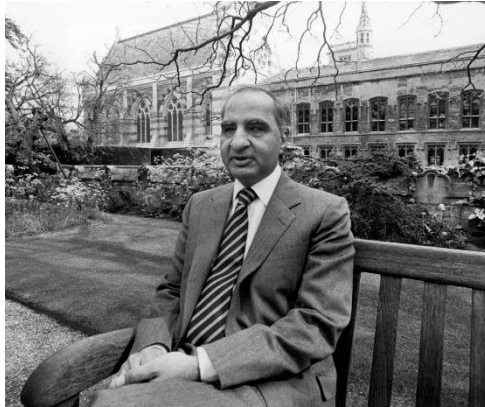
- On the occasion of the 73rd Army Day on January 15, Army chief MM Naravane lauded the "supreme sacrifice" of the bravehearts in the line of duty.
- Army Day is celebrated on 15 January every year in India, in recognition of Field Marshal Kodandera M. Cariappa taking over as the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army from General Sir Francis Butcher, the last British Commander-in-Chief of India, on 15 January 1949.

9. Renowned writer Ved Mehta passes away



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- Indian-American novelist Ved Mehta, who overcame blindness and became widely known as the 20th-century writer most responsible for introducing American readers to India.
- He was the MacArthur Prize fellow and member of the British Royal Society of Literature.

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