

Weekly Current Affairs: 2nd Week of January 2021

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1. Indian Army Day: 15 January

- **Indian Army Day** is observed every year on **15 January** to honour our valiant soldiers who sacrificed their lives to protect the country and its citizens.
- This year marks the **73rd Indian Army Day.**
- On this day in 1949, commander-in-chief of the Indian Army by then Lt Gen K M Carriappa, in 1949 takes over from General Francis Butcher, the last British Commander-in-Chief of India.
- Army Day parade is conducted in Cariappa Parade ground in Delhi cantonment.

2. Elon Musk-owned Tesla Motors sets up first India entity in Bengaluru

- Elon Musk-owned electric vehicle (EV) company **Tesla** has registered its fully-owned subsidiary in Bengaluru with name '**Tesla India Motors and Energy Private Limited**'.
- Total paid up capital of the company is Rs 1,00,000 and authorised share capital is Rs 15 lakh.
- This is the first centre of Tesla group in India.
- Tesla is planning to open such centres in 5 states of India.
- Tesla headquarters: California, US.

3. Harsh Vardhan inaugurates CSIR-NIScPR in New Delhi

- Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated new institute of CSIR named as 'CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR)' in New Delhi.
- It has been established after the merger of CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (CSIR-NISCAIR) and CSIR-National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (CSIR-NISTADS)
- It will serve the society with its core areas of science communication and policy research

4. Niti Aayog ties-up with Flipkart to enhance Women Entrepreneurship Platform

- Niti Aayog has collaborated with Flipkart to launch revamped Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)
- **WEP:** unified access portal which brings together women from parts of India to realise their entrepreneurial aspirations
- Platform can be utilised by entrepreneurs for fruitful discussions and for sharing knowledge, ultimately benefiting the women entrepreneurs' ecosystem in India.
- The idea of the platform was first introduced at 8th Global Entrepreneurship Summit in 2017

5. Third phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana launched

- Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is launching 3rd phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 3.0) in 600 districts of India.
- 3rd phase will focus on new-age and COVID-related skills.
- Skill India Mission PMKVY 3.0 envisages training of 8 lakh candidates for 2020-2021 and has an outlay of Rs. 948.90 crore.
- Implementing Agency: National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
- PMKVY was first launched in 2015.





www.gradeup.co 6. 19th Dhaka International Film Festival to be held tomorrow

- The **19th Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF)** will be inaugurated tomorrow commemorating birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
- It is a **9-day festival** that will screen **225 films from 73 nation**
- **10 categories:** Cinema of the world, Children's Film, Women Film Maker, Spiritual Films, Bangladesh Panorama, Tribute and Retrospective
- Opening film: Spring Blossom directed by Suzanne Lindon
- Tribute section of festival will be dedicated to filmmaker Satyajit Ray

7. Ministry of Statistics launches NCAVES India Forum 2021

- Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation in collaboration United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), European Union and UN Environment is conducting NCAVES India Forum 2021
- Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) was introduced in 2017 by European Union for advance knowledge on environmental-economic accounting
- NCAVES Project is being implemented in 5 countries: India, Brazil, China, Mexico and South Africa

8. Harsh Vardhan dedicated National Innovation portal to nation

- Union Minister Harsh Vardhan dedicated National Innovation Portal (NIP) to the nation
- It has been developed by National Innovation Foundation (NIF), DST
- NIP is currently home to about 1.15 lakh innovations, covering Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary and Health
- Innovation Portal is a step towards Atmanirbhar Bharat and an excellent resource for students, entrepreneurs, MSME's, Technology Business Incubators (TBI's) and common people engaged in a variety of occupations

9. Sadyr Japarov wins Kyrgyzstan's Presidential Election with Landslide Votes

- Sadyr Japarov (52 years) has won Kyrgyzstan's Presidential election by landslide victory with 79% of the total votes cast.
- He will assume charge of the office from 28 January 2021.
- He succeeded **Talant Turdumamatovich Mamytov**, who was acting President after resignation of interim President Sadyr Japarov.
- Capital of Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek.
- Currency of Kyrgyzstan: Kyrgyzstani som.

10. DRDO develops India's 1st indigenous 9mm Machine Pistol

- DRDO and Indian Army has launched India's first indigenous 9 mm machine pistol
- It is named 'Asmi' meaning Pride, Self-Respect, Hard Work
- It has been developed by Infantry School, Mhow and DRDO's Armament Research & Development Establishment, Pune
- It fires the in-service 9mm ammunition and sports an upper receiver made from aircraft grade Aluminium.
- It can be used as personal weapon for heavy weapon detachments and will have production cost under Rs50000.





www.gradeup.co 11. Haryana launches aviation services between Chandigarh and Hisar

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has launched aviation services between Chandigarh and Hisar at Chandigarh International Airport.
- After this service, distance from Chandigarh to Hisar will be covered in **45 minutes** only.
- The avian service has been started under 'Udaan' scheme of the Government of India.
- Along with this, air service from Hisar to Dehradun will commence on January 18 and from Hisar to Dharamshala on January 23.

12. Indian Army inks \$20 million contract with ideaForge to buy SWITCH drones

- Indian Army has recently signed \$20 million contract with Mumbai-based drone manufacturing company, ideaForge for procuring high-altitude variant of SWITCH unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).
- **SWITCH:** Fixed-wing Unmanned aerial vehicle that are capable of vertical takeoff and landing. They can be deployed at high altitude and harsh environments for day-and-night surveillance.
- They will be delivered to the Indian Army over a period of one year.
- IdeaForge CEO: Ankit Mehta

13. NIC and CBSE jointly launched 'CollabCAD' software

- National Informatics Centre (NIC) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) jointly launched 'CollabCAD Software' for students and Faculty of Engineering Graphics Curriculum.
- Aim: To provide a platform for students across the country to create and modify 3D digital designs with free flow of creativity and imagination.
- It will also enable students to collaborate over designs across the network
- NIC, CBSE, and AIM jointly e-book on CollabCAD 3D modeling

14. RBI forms six-member working group to regulate digital lending frauds

- **RBI** has set up **6-member panel** to study digital lending activities of regulated and unregulated players, due to the growing instances of frauds in digital lending space.
- Panel comprises of 4 RBI internal and 2 external members:
 - Chairman: Jayant Kumar Dash, ED, RBI
 - Ajay Kumar Choudhary, RBI
 - P Vasudevan, RBI
 - Manoranjan Mishra, RBI
 - Vikram Mehta
 - Rahul Sasi
- It will submit its report within 3 months.
- Aim: To provide regulatory approach for digital lending activities

15. IRDAI constitutes panel to examine health insurance products availability

- **IRDAI** has constituted '**Health Insurance Advisory Committee**' to examine availability of health insurance products
- It has been formed considering the need of the Indian society and recommend suitable products and processes.





- Committee will be headed by IRDAI Chairperson, **Subhash Chandra Khuntia** and will have a Member (Non-Life) as vice-chairman
- Tenure: 1 year
- Other Members:
 - Nachiket Mor
 - **A K Chand**
 - o **B K Mohanti**
 - K Hari Prasad
- IRDAI HQs: Hyderabad
- Chairman: Subhas C Khuntia

16. Naveen Patnaik inaugurates India's first 'Fire Park' in Bhubaneswar

- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has virtually inaugurated 'Fire Park' to educate and bring awareness on basic fire safety measures among the people, particularly the students.
- 'Fire Park' is located inside Odisha Fire and Disaster Academy in Bhubaneswar.
- Online portal, 'AgnishamaSeva' has also been launched for Odisha Fire Service.
- It will facilitate demonstrations on use of first aid fire-fighting equipment, rescue and disaster operations, visit to exhibition hall, etc

17. Manipur governor releases book titled Making of a General: A Himalayan Echo

- Manipur Governor Najma Heptulla has virtually released a book titled 'Making of a General-A Himalayan Echo'
- It has been authored by (**Retd**) Lt General Konsam Himalay Singh, conveying his dreams and depiction of Manipur as the Land of Emeralds
- It is the memoir of Himalay Singh who has traced his journey from a small village in Manipur to becoming 1st person from North East India to hold 3 Star General rank of Indian Army
- It has been published by Konark Publishers Pvt Ltd.

18. Armed Forces Veterans Day: 14 January

- Armed Forces Veterans Day is observed annually in India on 14 January to honour the selfless devotion and sacrifice of our veterans in the service of the nation.
- It was first observed in **2017**
- The day is observed as a mark of respect and recognition of services rendered by **Field Marshal KM Cariappa** OBE, who retired on 14 January 1953.
- He was the 1st Indian Commander-in-Chief of Indian Armed Forces
- 'Wreath Laying Ceremonies and Veteran's Meets' are organised on this day

19. Veteran Social Activist D Prakash Rao passes away in Cuttack

- Noted social activist and Padma Shri winner, **D Prakash Rao** (63 years) passed away following a brain stroke at SCB Hospital in Cuttack
- He was known for his contribution towards imparting education to slum and orphan children in Cuttact, through 'Asha O Ashwasana' school which he started in 2000
- He was conferred with **Padma Shri award in 2019** for boosting the value of education among slum kids.
- Apart from this, He was tea-seller and also a well-known blood donor.





www.gradeup.co 20. 'Smart Water Supply Measurement and Monitoring System' challenge launched

- National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM), Ministry of Jal Shakti in partnership with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology has launched ICT Grand Challenge, for 'Smart water supply measurement and monitoring system'
- About the challenge:
 - Launched in September 2020
 - User agency of the Grand Challenge: NJJM
 - Implementing agency: C-DAC, Bangalore
 - 10 applicants have been selected
 - Currently, prototypes are being developed which are going to be evaluated

21. Donald Trump becomes first US President to be impeached twice

- Donald Trump has become 1st US president to be impeached twice.
- The **House of Representatives** voted last night to charge him with inciting last week's mob attack on US Congress.
- He was impeached by **232 197** vote by US House on single charge of incitement of insurrection that left 5 dead and the Capitol ransacked.
- The impeachment was supported by all Democrats and 10 Republicans, including Liz Cheney.

22. Nation celebrates festival of harvest

- Festival of harvest is being celebrated across the country today
- It is referred to by different names in different parts of the country like:
 - Paush Parbon in Bengal
 - Pongal in Tamil Nadu
 - Uttarayan in Gujarat
 - Bhogali Bihu in Assam
 - Lohri in Punjab and Jammu
 - Maghi in Haryana and Himachal
 - Makar Sankramana in Karnataka
 - Saen-kraat in Kashmir
 - Sukaraat in MP
 - o Khichdi Parwa in Bihar, Jharkhand and UP
- It marks the end of winter with sun's journey to the northern hemisphere.

23. Cabinet approves purchase of 83 Tejas fighter jets for Indian Air Force

- Union Cabinet has approved procurement of **73 LCA Tejas Mk-1A fighter aircrafts** and **10 LCA Tejas Mk-1 Trainer aircrafts** at Rs45,696 Crore cost along with Design and Development of Infrastructure sanctions of Rs1,202 Crore
- Light Combat Aircraft Mk-1A: indigenously designed, developed and manufactured 4th generation fighter aircraft
- It is equipped with critical operational capabilities of Active Electronically Scanned Array Radar, Beyond Visual Range (BVR) Missile, etc





<u>www.gradeup.co</u> 24. Manipur observes Cherry Blossom Festival

- Manipur CM, N Biren Singh has virtually inaugurated Cherry Blossom Festival at Mao, Manipur
- The festival featured the picturesque landscape of Mao adorned with beautiful cherry trees, which are laden with pink flowers which have traditionally attracted visitors from across the world.
- It was jointly organised by **Dept of Tourism, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR), Shillong** in association with **Organising Committee Flower Festival, Mao**.

25. First Ice climbing festival celebrated in Nubra valley

- Nubra Adventure Club has organised 1st ever Ice climbing festival has been started in Nubra valley, Leh
- It is a **7-day event** and will promote winter tourism in valley
- Ice climbing is a popular winter sport abroad and will attract adventure tourists
- 18 participants across Nubra valley including 4 women are taking part in Ice climbing
- Trainers: Rigzin tsewang, Tsewang Namgyal and Kran Kowshik
- Nubra is in Ladakh, bordering Baltistan, E Turkestan, Aksai Chin plateau, Tibet

26. France hosts 4th One Planet Summit in cooperation with UN and World Bank

- France has organised fourth 'One Planet Summit' through videoconferencing to protect world's biodiversity.
- Theme: Let's act together for nature!
- The Summit was organised in cooperation with UN and World Bank.
- It was first held in 2017
- Summit focused on biodiversity preservation through:
 - o protection of terrestrial and marine ecosystems,
 - promotion of agroecology,
 - mobilization of funding for biodiversity
 - o link between deforestation, species and human health

27. RS Sharma to head empowered panel for Covid-19 vaccine

- Union govt has formed an empowered committee for administration of Covid-19 vaccine, ahead of mega vaccination drive in India
- Committee consists of **10-member** from top health ministry and UIDAI officials and will be headed by **RS** Sharma (former TRAI chief)
- It will ensure delivery of the vaccine through Co-Win technology platform.
- RS Sharma is also member of National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration of Covid-19.

28. India bagged 85th rank in Henley Passport Index 2021

- Henley & Partners has released Henley Passport Index 2021 presenting original ranking of world's most powerful passports as per the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.
- India has been ranked 85th among 110 countries with visa-free score of 58.
- Japan has topped the list for third consecutive year, followed by Singapore and South Korea + Germany (3rd spot)
- Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan are the countries with the worst passport rankings.





<u>www.gradeup.co</u> **29. CBDT launches e-portal for filing complaints regarding tax evasion**

- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has rolled out an automated dedicated e-portal on e-filing website of the Dept to receive and process complaints of tax evasion, foreign undisclosed assets as well as complaints regarding benami properties
- It will **allow filing of complaints** by existing PAN and Aadhaar holders as well as for persons having no PAN and Aadhaar
- Unique number to each complaint will be allotted and complainant would be able to view their complaint status

30. Atal Innovation Mission launches new edition of Atal Tinkering Lab handbook

- Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog has launched new edition of ATL handbook named as 'The Atal Tinkering Lab Handbook 2.0'
- It outlines practical guidance on structural, selection, establishment and celebration aspects of AIM's flagship ATL programme.
- It is available online on AIM's official website
- It also provides guidance for schools a on building a technically robust grass root innovations mechanism
- It strengthens establishment and operational processes of ATL

31. NECBDC sign MoU with J&K govt on Bamboo Entrepreneurship

- Ministry of DoNER, through North East Cane & Bamboo Development Council (NECBDC) has signed MoU with J&K Government for Bamboo Entrepreneurship and Bamboo Infrastructure Development to boost unexplored potential of bamboo sector.
- MoU will facilitate bamboo production, its processing and associated business, and develop bamboo industry into a strong industry of J&K.
- State Bamboo Mission (SBM) in J&K will be framed.

32. New Foreign Trade Policy to come into effect from April 1

- New Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) will become effective from 1st April 2021 as announced during Parliamentary Consultative Committee meet on 'New Foreign Trade Policy 2021-26'
- Meeting was chaired by Minister of State for Commerce Hardeep Singh Puri
- It will be valid for **5 years**
- FTP will strive to make India a leader in international trade and channelize the synergies gained through merchandise and services exports for growth and employment making India \$5 trillion economy

33. PM addresses 2nd National Youth Parliament Festival

- PM Narendra Modi addressed the valedictory function of 2nd National Youth Parliament Festival
- It is organized by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- Festival will be held from 12th to 16th Jan 2021 to commemorate birth anniversary of youth icon Swami Vivekananda.
- **Events:** competitive and non-competitive cultural events, martial arts, exhibitions, intellectual discourses, young artists camps, seminars, adventure programmes, National Youth Awards

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www.gradeup.co 34. RBI cancels the licence of Vasantdada Nagari Sahakari Bank

- **RBI** has **cancelled the licence of Vasantdada Nagari Sahakari Bank** with immediate effect from January 11, 2021
- The bank will not be allowed to conduct the business of 'banking', including acceptance of deposits and repayment of deposits
- The move is taken as the bank has failed to comply with Section 11(1) and Section 56 of Banking regulation Act and will be unable to pay its present depositors in full in its current financial position.
- VNS Bank HQs: Osmanabad, Maharashtra

35. Famous author and NY Times Reporter Neil Sheehan passes away

- Famous American reporter and author, **Neil Sheehan (84 years)** passed away at his home in Washington, D.C due to Parkinson's disease
- He was the Vietnam War correspondent, who covered the war from 1962 to 1966 for United Press International and The New York Times.
- His book titled **'A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam'** won National Book Award and Pulitzer in 1989
- Books: Arnheiter Affair (1972), After the War Was Over (1992), A Fiery Peace in a Cold War

36. S Y Quraishi to come up with book 'The Population Myth'

- Former chief election commissioner (CEC) **S Y Quraishi** is all set to come out with his book titled **'The Population Myth: Islam, Family Planning and Politics in India'**
- It will hit the stands on Feb 15, 2021
- The book has been published by HarperCollins India.
- **Context:** It evaluates India's demographics from a religious perspective and seeks to demolish two basic myths that 'Islam is against family planning' and Muslim rate of growth is linked to capture political power

37. Gujarat CM announces new Tourism Policy

- Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani has announced new Tourism Policy to develop and augment tourism in a sustainable manner
- New Tourism Policy 2021-25 will remain effective from 1st Jan 2021 to 2025
- Focus of the new policy will be on 'Vocal for Local' to boost the employment at local level
- Attraction for tourist: world's tallest statue at Kevadia, Gir National Park, India's 1st World Heritage City, world's biggest stadium, seaplane services, Blue-Flag certified beach, religious places

38. National Youth Day: 12 January

- National Youth Day is being observed in India every year on 12 January to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda
- 2021 is the 158th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekanand
- It was first celebrated on January 12, 1985.
- Theme 2021: 'Channelizing Youth Power for Nation Building'
- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Lok Sabha Secretariat has launched **National Youth Parliament 2021** as a part of National Youth Festival, which is held from 12 to 16 January

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<u>www.gradeup.co</u> **39. Indian Navy to coordinate largest coastal defence exercise Sea Vigil-21**

- Second edition of the biennial pan-India two day coastal defence exercise 'Sea Vigil-21' has been commenced today
- It was conducted for the 1st time in January 2019
- It will undertake entire 7516 km coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone of India
- It will involve all the 13 coastal States and UT along with other stakeholders like fishing and coastal communities
- It is a build up towards **TROPEX** [Theatre Readiness Operational Exercise] which Indian Navy conducts every 2 years

40. Jay Shah named BCCI's Official Representative on ICC Board

- Jay Shah has been named as the official representative of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) at the International Cricket Council (ICC) Board meetings.
- Currently, he is the Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- He will succeed BCCI president **Sourav Ganguly**, who was currently representing India at ICC Board and has suffered a heart condition recently
- International Cricket Council Headquarters: Dubai, UAE
- ICC Chairman: Greg Barclay

41. Nitin Gadkari to launch "Khadi Prakritik Paint" developed by KVIC today

- MoRTH Nitin Gadkari is all set to launch an innovative new paint termed as 'Khadi Prakritik Paint' developed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission.
- It is an eco-friendly, non-toxic paint, and is a first-of-its-kind product, with anti-fungal, anti-bacterial properties.
- Main Ingredient: cow dung
- It is cost-effective and odourless, and has been certified by **Bureau of Indian Standards.**
- It is available in two forms: **distemper paint** and **plastic emulsion paint**.

42. ISRO to adopt 100 Atal Tinkering Labs across country to promote education

- **ISRO** is all set to adopt **100 Atal Tinkering Labs** across the country to promote education in the field of **Space Education and Space Technology** among school students.
- The move will help in promoting innovation and the spirit of experiential learning among the school kids compared to traditional learning.
- Atal Tinkering Lab provides a makerspace where young minds can give shape to their ideas through hands and learn innovation skills.
- ISRO Chairman: K. Sivan

43. Bangladesh Declared as 'Country in Focus' for 51st IFFI

- Bangladesh has been chosen as 'Country in Focus' for 51st International Film Festival of India (IFFI).
- IFFI will be held at Goa from January 16 to 24, 2021.
- **'Country in Focus'**: Special segment that recognizes the cinematic excellence and contributions of the country. It will showcase four films from Bangladesh.

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• IFFI is held annually since 1952 in Goa. It is organised jointly by **Directorate of Film Festivals**, under Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and **Goa Govt**.

44. PM Modi's Foreign Tours chronicle "Modi India Calling-2021" released

- PM Modi's Foreign Tours chronicle book titled as 'Modi India Calling 2021' has been released on 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) by Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta.
- It is **450-page book**, which is filled with over hundreds of photographs of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from his **107 overseas and bilateral visits**
- The book has been conceptualized by senior BJP leader Vijay Jolly.
- It has been published by Maneesh Media.

45. ICRA Projects India's real GDP to expand by 10.1% in FY22

- **ICRA Ratings** has estimated the real gross domestic product (GDP) of India to grow by **10.1%** in the financial year 2021-22 (FY2022)
- ICRA had earlier projected a contraction of 7.8% for the ongoing fiscal 2020-21.
- As per ICRA, CPI inflation to decline to 4.6 per cent in FY2022 from 6.4 per cent in FY2021
- **ICRA Limited** (formerly Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency of India Limited) was set up in 1991.
- MD & Group CEO of ICRA: N. Sivaraman

46. Harsh Vardhan inaugurates Coastal Research Vessel 'Sagar Anveshika'

- Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated Coastal Research Vessel 'Sagar Avneshika' for National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai
- About 'Sagar Avneshika'
 - Developed by: Titagarh Marine, Kolkata
 - Help scientists to launch **deep ocean mission** for ocean exploration.
 - Can accommodate about 15-20 scientists
 - Advanced navigation systems with well-equipped labs with research and exploration apparatus
- It will boost multi-disciplinary research on oceanography along the Indian coast

47. 30th National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) function organised

- Ministry of Power, along with Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has organised 30th National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) function
- The award was conferred to various sectors under different categories
- During the event, **Standards and Labelling Programme for Air Compressors** and **Ultra High Definition (UHD) TV** was also launched
- **SAATHEE** (State-wise Actions on Annual Targets and Headways on Energy Efficiency) portal for state level activities was also launched.

48. Prakash Javadekar releases MEE of 146 National Park & Wildlife Sanctuaries

- Environment Minister **Prakash Javadekar** has released **Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE)** of 146 National Park and Wildlife Sanctuaries in India.
- Currently, India has a network of 903 Protected Areas covering about 5% of the total geographic area.





• MME shows that India is home to 70% of global tiger population, 705 of Asiatic lions and more than 60% of leopard's population in India is a certificate of India's thriving biodiversity.

49. Pakistan successfully tested Guided Multi Launch Rocket System 'Fatah-1'

- Pakistani Army has successfully test fired indigenously developed extended-range guided Multi-Launch Rocket System (MLRS), named as 'Fatah-1'
- **Fatah-1 weapon system:** It is capable of precisely delivering conventional warheads deep into 'enemy territory'.
- It can hit targets up to a range of 140 km.
- It will give Pakistan Army capability of precision target engagement deep in enemy territory.
- Pakistan Prime Minister: Imran Khan.

50. Arunachal Pradesh to become India's prime producer of vanadium

- Arunachal Pradesh is going to become India's prime producer of vanadium, a high-value metal used in strengthening steel.
- Arunachal is considered as sleeping hydropower giant.
- Vanadium:
 - Chemical element with symbol 'V' and atomic number 23
 - Hard, silvery-grey, malleable transition metal
 - Recovered as a by-product from the slag collected from processing of iron ore
- Largest deposits of vanadium of the world are in China, followed by Russia and South Africa.

51. J&K LG, Manoj Sinha launches 'Satark Nagrik' mobile app

- J&K LG, Manoj Sinha has launched 'Satark Nagrik' mobile app and Departmental Vigilance Officers (DVO) Portal of J&K Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB).
- Satark Nagrik App: Developed to facilitate seamless flow of information about corruption and enable citizens to submit their grievances with ease and mobility
- **DVO Portal:** It has been designed to put in place online communication channel and will help in quick disposal of complaints by monitoring of DVO matters status

52. Bandhan Bank launches 'Shaurya Salary Account'

- **Bandhan Bank** has launched **'Bandhan Bank Shaurya Salary Account'** to provide banking, financial services to Armed Forces and Paramilitary services personnel
- Key features:
 - Zero-balance salary account
 - higher interest on Savings account balance
 - Unlimited free ATM transactions at any banks ATMs
 - Unlimited free NEFT/RTGS/IMPS transaction
 - Free personal accidental insurance of Rs 30 lakh
 - Free educational benefit of up to Rs 1 lakh per year for four years to a dependent child

53. Home Minister launches Single Window Clearance System' for coal mines

• Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched single window clearing system for coal mines in country.

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- It will be an online platform to obtain clearances for smooth operationalization of coal mines
- The move is taken as coal Sector has the potential to be the biggest contributor towards making India a 5 trillion dollar economy by 2024.
- The launch is held in the presence of Union Minister of Coal Pralhad Joshi.
- It will create nearly **70 thousand jobs.**

54. Veteran Professor Chitra Ghosh passes away

- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's niece and eminent academician Chitra Ghosh (90 years) passed away following a cardiac arrest.
- She made pioneering contributions to academics and community services and dedicated her life in serving the people, teaching & inspiring the youth.
- **Books:** Mother of my Heart: The Story of Bivabati Bose, Women Movement Politics in Bengal, A Daughter Remembers: Life and Times of Sarat Chandra Bose, and Opening the Closed Windows

55. MoRTH issues notification to facilitate issuance of IDP for Indian citizen

- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has issued notification to facilitate the issuance of International Driving Permit (IDP) for Indian citizens
- There was no mechanism for IDP renewal till now
- After this, Indian citizens can apply for renewal through Indian Embassies/Missions abroad, from where these applications would move to the VAHAN portal in India
- IDP would be couriered to the citizen at his/her address abroad by the respective RTOs

56. Famous Indian Journalist Turlapati Kutumba Rao passes away

- Renowned India Journalist and orator Turlapati Kutumba Rao (87 years) passed away
- He was known for his service to journalism in Telugu language.
- He has written over **4000 biographies** and delivered over **16000 public speeches** that has been recorded by Telugu Book of Records as a world record.
- Autobiography: Naa Kalam Naa Galam (2012)
- Awards:
 - Padma Shri
 - Pratibha Puraskar
 - Kalaprapoorna title
 - Guardian of Telugu
 - World Lifetime Achievement Award
 - President's Gold Medal

60. West Bengal CM inaugurates 26th Kolkata International Film Festival

- West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee has inaugurated **26th Kolkata International Film Festival** at Nabanna Sabhaghar, WB
- Bollywood actor and brand ambassador of West Bengal Shah Rukh Khan virtually participated in the event
- **'Apur Sansar'** was screened as the inaugural film to show respect to the veteran Tollywood actor Soumitra Chatterjee





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- Health Ministry has set up an expert **panel under chairmanship of Joint Secretary Preeti Pant** to **examine the adverse findings from National Family Health Survey-5**
- It will recommend ways to improve malnutrition, stunting, anaemia, and C-section cases
- Findings of NFHS 5:
 - Data of States and UTs on over 130 parameters
 - Children born between 2014 and 2019 are more malnourished than the previous generation.
 - Infant and child mortality declined in most of the Indian states.

62. Jigmet Dolma wins 4th position in Dhaka Marathon 2021

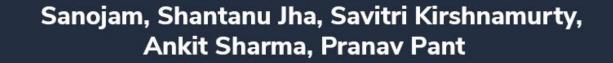
- Jigmet Dolma (SPO of Ladakh police) from India has secured 4th position in Dhaka Marathon 2021
- **Dhaka Marathon:** organized to commemorate the return of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman from Pakistan jail to Bangladesh in 1972.
- In full marathon, **Bahadur Singh of India** became the champion in men's category and **Pushpa Bhandari** of **Nepal** became the champion in women's category.
- Elite competition of the men's and Women's marathon: Hicham Lakohi of Morocco and Angela Jim Asunde.

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11

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