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Important News: World

India, Israel launch commemorative logo



- India and Israel have launched a commemorative logo to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.
- The logo was unveiled virtually at an online event in the presence of Ambassador of Israel to India Naor Gilon and Indian envoy to Israel, Sanjeev Singla.
- The logo features the Star of David and the Ashoka Chakra- the two symbols that adorn the national flags of both countries- and forms the numeral 30 depicting the 30th anniversary of bilateral relations.
- Israel and India relationship encompasses slew of areas — health and innovation, agriculture and water, trade and economic activities, science and technology, research and development, defence and homeland security, art and culture, tourism and space.
- Israel and India established diplomatic relations on 29th of January 1992.

Facts about Israel:

- **Capital:** Jerusalem
- **President:** Isaac Herzog
- **Prime Minister:** Naftali Bennett
- **Currency:** Israeli Shekel

Source: ET

Important News: India

Environment Management Plans for Najafgarh jheel



- The **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has directed **Delhi and Haryana** to enforce the **Environment Management Plans** that the two governments have prepared for the rejuvenation and protection of the Najafgarh jheel, a transboundary wetland.
- The implementation of these action plans is to be monitored by the National Wetland Authority through the respective State Wetland Authorities.
- The **Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)** first took the matter of restoration of the Najafgarh jheel to the NGT in 2014, and then filed an execution application before the tribunal in 2019, noting that no remedial measures had been taken.

About Najafgarh Jheel:

- It is located in a natural depression in southwest Delhi, close to the Gurugram-Rajokri border on National Highway-48.
- The presence of 281 bird species, including several threatened ones such as Egyptian vulture, Sarus Crane, Steppe Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Imperial Eagle and those migrating along the Central Asian Flyway has been reported at the lake.

About National Green Tribunal (NGT):

- NGT was established in 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010 for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.

Source: Indian Express

Vision Document on Electronics Manufacturing



- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, in association with ICEA, released a 5-year roadmap and Vision Document for the electronics sector, titled “\$300 billion Sustainable Electronics Manufacturing & Exports by 2026.”
- This roadmap is the second volume of a two-part Vision Document – the first of which titled “Increasing India’s Electronics Exports and Share in GVCs” was released in November 2021.
- This report provides a year-wise break-up and production projections for the various products that will lead India’s transformation into a US\$300 billion electronics manufacturing powerhouse, from the current US\$75 billion.
- Mobile manufacturing that is expected to cross US\$100 billion annual production - up from the current US\$30 billion - is expected to constitute nearly 40% of this ambitious growth.

Source: PIB

Important News: Defence

Delivery of 50Ton Bollard Pull Tugs "Balbir" to Naval Dockyard Mumbai



- Contract for construction of 50Ton Bollard Pull Tugs was concluded with M/s Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, Visakhapatnam in February 2019.
- The Fourth tug in the series, "**Balbir**" has been delivered to Naval Dockyard, Mumbai on **24 Jan 2022**.
- These tugs have been designed and built under the classification rules of Indian Register for Shipping (IRS) with a service life of 20 years and are capable of assisting large naval ships, including Aircraft Carrier and Submarines in berthing, un-berthing, turning and manoeuvring in confined waters and in harbour.
- With all major and auxiliary equipment/system sourced from indigenous manufacturers, these tugs are proud flag bearers of "Make in India, Make for the World" initiatives of Ministry of Defence in consonance with "Atmanirbhar Bharat".

Source: PIB

Important News: Award and Honours

Padma Awards 2022



- This year the President has approved conferment of 128 Padma Awards including 2 duo case (in a duo case, the Award is counted as one).
- The list comprises 4 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 107 Padma Shri Awards.
- 34 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 10 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 13 Posthumous awardees.

- Among the notable names, India's first chief of defence staff (CDS) – the late General Bipin Rawat – was posthumously awarded the Padma Vibhushan, while Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra was among Padma Shri recipients.

Following are some notable names from the Padma awards:

- **Padma Vibhushan:** Kalyan Singh, former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh (posthumous); General Bipin Rawat, India's first chief of defence staff (posthumous)
- **Padma Bhushan:** Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, former West Bengal chief minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Covaxin maker Bharat Biotech's chairman Krishna Ella and his co-founder wife Suchitra Ella, Serum Institute of India (SII) managing director Cyrus Poonawalla
- Key names from Big Tech, including Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella and Alphabet and Google CEO Sundar Pichai, were also named as Padma Bhushan recipients.
- **Padma Shri:** Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra, Olympians Pramod Bhagat, and Vandana Kataria, singer Sonu Nigam

Source: PIB

Jai Bhim and Marakkar eligible for Best Feature Film at Oscars 2022



- Suriya's Jai Bhim and Mohanlal's Marakkar: Arabikadalinte Simham are eligible for Best Feature Film at Oscars 2022.
- Suriya's Jai Bhim, directed by TJ Gnanavel, premiered on Amazon Prime Video in November 2021.
- Jai Bhim is the only Tamil film to get shortlisted for the Best Feature Film at the 94th Academy Awards.
- Among the 276 films that have been shortlisted across the world, Jai Bhim and the Malayalam film, Marakkar: Arabikadalinte Simham, have been chosen from India.
- The award ceremony is scheduled on March 27, 2022, in Hollywood, US.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Sports

Smriti Mandhana named ICC Women's Cricketer of 2021



- India's **Smriti Mandhana** has been named the ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year for 2021.
- Smriti has won the Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Trophy awarded to the ICC Women's Cricketer of the year for the second time after 2018.
- Smriti has also become the second women's cricketer after Australia's Ellyse Perry to win the honour more than once.
- Mandhana was also named in the ICC Women's T20 International Team of the Year.

Source: newsonair

Important News: Personality

Veteran archaeologist and epigraphist Ramachandran Nagasamy passes away



- Veteran archaeologist and epigraphist **Ramachandran Nagasamy** passed away.
- Nagasamy is known for his epigraphy research on the sculptures in Mahabalipuram.
- He was honoured with the Padma Bhushan award in 2018 for his research work in archeology and was also the recipient of Kalaimamani award — the highest civilian award, from the Tamil Nadu government.
- He was the first director of Tamil Nadu government's Department of Archaeology.

Source: India Today