

## Bharath Subramaniyam becomes India's 73rd Chess Grandmaster

- Fourteen-year-old **Bharath Subramaniyam** has become the **73rd Grandmaster of India**.
- The Chennai-based teenager completed his final GM Norm and crossed the requisite 2500 rating at **Vergani Cup Open in Italy**.
- Subramaniyam finished seventh overall in the event held at Cattolica by scoring 6.5 points from nine rounds.
- To achieve the Grandmaster (GM) title, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of **2,500 Elo points**.

## First-ever Startup India Innovation Week to be held from today

- **DPIIT** is organizing the first-ever **Startup India Innovation Week** from **10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.
- This virtual week-long innovation celebration aims to commemorate the **75th year of India's** independence '**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**'.
- This is designed to showcase the spread and depth of entrepreneurship across India.
- India is emerging as a global innovation hub, boasting the world's third-largest startup ecosystem.
- **DPIIT** has recognised more than **61 thousand startups** as on date.

## Rafael Nadal wins Melbourne Summer Set 1 ATP 250 tennis title

- 20-time Grand Slam champion **Rafael Nadal** won the Men's Singles title in the **Melbourne Summer Set ATP 250** event.
- He defeated **Maxime Cressy** of US in final.
- It was Nadal's **89th tour-level** crown.
- Nadal playing his first competitive tournament since **Aug**, was largely untroubled as he wrapped up the win in an hour 48 minutes.
- In women category, former world number one **Simona Halep** defeated **Veronika Kudermetova** at the **Melbourne Summer Set 1** final to claim her 23rd career title.

## [Defence Online Coaching 2022](#)

### India's first indigenous aircraft carrier begins another phase of sea trial

- India's 1st indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC) **Vikrant** began another set of sea trials.
- It is planned to be inducted in Aug 22.
- The **40,000-tonne aircraft** carrier is the largest and most complex warship to be built in India
- It successfully completed a five-day maiden sea voyage in Aug and underwent 10-day sea trials in Oct 2021.
- IAC-1 will operate the **MiG-29K, Kamov-31** helicopters; **Advanced Light Helicopters** and the soon-to-be-inducted MH-60R multirole helicopters.



## December 26 to be observed as Veer Baal Diwas

- Center has announced that **Dec 26** will be observed as '**Veer Baal Diwas**' as a tribute to guru **Gobind Singh's** four sons who were executed by the **Mughals**.
- This was announced by PM Modi on the occasion of the **365th birth anniversary** of the **10th Sikh guru**.
- **Veer Baal Diwas** will be on the same day **Sahibzada Zorawar Singh Ji** and **Sahibzada Fateh Singh Ji** attained martyrdom after being sealed alive in a wall.
- Children's Day in India is observed on **November 14**.

## World Hindi Day 2022: 10th January

- **World Hindi Day** is celebrated every year on **January 10** to mark the first **World Hindi Conference** that was held in **1975**.
- It is celebrated across the world to promote the use of the **Hindi language**.
- The first World Hindi Conference was held in **Nagpur** on January 10 in 1975.
- 1st **World Hindi Day** was celebrated in the year 2006.
- The theme of this day is to make Hindi a part of public opinion, although it doesn't necessarily mean that one has to leave their mother tongue.

## Rajnath Singh flags-in India's 1st Multidimensional Adventure Expedition

- **Rajnath Singh** flagged-in India's 1st multi-dimensional **Adventure Sports Expedition**
- It was conducted by **National Institute of Mountaineering** and **Allied Sports** in **France**.
- The expedition was conducted in Nov 21.
- The team comprising 12 people - eight Army personnel and four youths of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- The expedition team carried out over 250 Km of winter trekking in the **Alps Mountain Ranges**.
- The expedition was organised as part of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**.

## Golden Globe Awards 2022 announced

- **Golden Globe Awards 2022** ceremony has been announced to recognize excellence in film, both American and international, and American television.
- **Power of the Dog, West Side Story** won the most number of awards with 3 each.
- List of winners:
  - Best Film (Drama): **The Power of the Dog**
  - Best Film (Musical or Comedy): **West Side Story**
  - Best Actor (Drama): **Will Smith for King Richard as Richard Williams**
  - Best Actress (Drama): **Nicole Kidman for Being the Ricardos as Lucille Ball**



## Prashant Ranjan appointed as Director in the Ministry of Tourism

- **Prashant Ranjan** (IRS officer of 2007 batch) has been selected for the appointment as **Director in the Ministry of Tourism**.
- His tenure will be of **5 years** from the date of taking over charge of the post or until further orders, whichever event takes place earlier.
- He had served as **Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, Noida, Nagpur, Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Ghaziabad**.
- **Ministry of Tourism** is the apex body for the development and promotion of tourism in India.

## Labour Minister releases report on 2nd round of Quarterly Employment Survey

- Labour and Employment Minister **Bhupender Yadav** has released the report of **second quarter of Quarterly Employment Survey**
- It is the part of **All-India Quarterly Establishment based Employment Survey**
- The report highlights that manufacturing sector engages 39%, education 22% and Health 10% of the estimated workers.
- Overall percentage of female workers stood at **32.1%**.
- Regular workers constitute **87% of the estimated workforce in the nine selected sectors**.

## 82nd Indian Public Schools' Conference Principals' Conclave

- Education Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** has virtually addressed **82nd Indian Public Schools' Conference Principals' Conclave** and urged all schools attending the conclave to reflect how inclusive our leading schools are.
- It is being organized by **Doon School**.
- IPSC started in **1939** with a few residential schools now has a strength of 81 schools including Sainik Schools and Military Schools.
- Chairperson of IPSC: **Nishi Misra**.

## Finance Ministry: Deposits in Jan Dhan accounts cross Rs 1.5 lakh crore

- As per the latest data of finance ministry, deposits in bank accounts opened under **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) scheme** have crossed **Rs 1.5 lakh crore mark**.
- Total balance in accounts under Jan Dhan scheme was recorded at Rs 1,50,939.36 crore as on December-end 2021.
- Data revealed that over 44.23 crore accounts have been opened under the scheme.
- 9 crore accounts were opened with the public sector banks, 8.05 crore with regional rural banks.

## Actress Harshaali Malhotra receives Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Award 2022

- Actress **Harshaali Malhotra** has been awarded the **12th Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Award 2022** for her performance in the **2015 film Bajrangi Bhaijaan**
- She received the award from **Bhagat Singh Koshyari (Governor of Maharashtra)**



- She played the role of **Munni**, who was mute young girl from Pakistan in Salman Khan starrer Bajrangi Bhaijaan.
- **Govt of Maharashtra** organized **Bharat Ranta Dr Ambedkar national Awards 2022 ceremony** in the memory of Dr Ambedkar
- It was first awarded in **1993**

### National Youth Day: 12 January

- **National Youth Day** is celebrated every year in India on **12th January** to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.
- The day was declared as **Youth Day** by the Government of India in **1984**.
- The day was first celebrated in **1985**.
- This year, we are observing **159th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekanand** (12 January 1863).

### India successfully test-fires naval variant of advanced supersonic BrahMos

- **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** has successfully test-fired an extended range sea-to-sea variant of the **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile for Indian Navy**
- This advanced sea to sea variant of BrahMos Supersonic Cruise missile was launched from INS Visakhapatnam, stealth guided-missile destroyer of the Indian Navy.
- Produced by: **BrahMos Aerospace**, an India-Russian joint venture.
- It flies at a speed of **2.8 Mach** or almost three times the speed of sound

### DRDO test-fired Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile

- **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** has successfully flight tested **Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile**.
- It is indigenously developed anti-tank missile and is low weight and fire & forget missile.
- The missile successfully destroyed the target during the test flight.
- The missile has **miniaturized infrared imaging seeker** and advanced avionics for onboard control and guidance.
- DRDO Chairman: **G Satheesh Reddy**.

### Hardeep Puri releases brochure themed 'Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization'

- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** is organizing a series of 30 events under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav by Prime Minister to commemorate 75th anniversary of Independence
- It will culminate in a grand finale of 'Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization' conference, wherein 6 main events will be organized in Surat tentatively on the **4th and 5th of February, 2022**
- An illustrated brochure themed '**Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization**' was also formally launched by Hardeep Puri virtually.



## Deputy CM of Maharashtra Ajit Pawar announces mini-Olympics

- Maharashtra's Deputy Chief Minister **Ajit Pawar** has announced that **mini Olympics** will be organized to promote and encourage Olympic sports among the youth
- Competition will be arranged around 1st May, to mark **Maharashtra Day**
- This event will be called '**Maharashtra State Olympic Competition**'
- '**Olympics Vision Document**' will be prepared considering requirements of **2024, 2028, 2032 Olympics**
- He also approved proposal to celebrate birth anniversary of Khashaba Dadasaheb Jadhav

## Odisha decided to raise upper age limit for state services from 32 to 38

- **Odisha Govt** has decided to raise upper age limit for entry to state government services from **32 to 38**
- However, it will be effective only for the recruitment advertisements made in calendar years **2021 and 2022** or to be made in **2023**.
- This decision was taken in a cabinet meeting held under chairmanship of Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** in the state capital Bhubaneswar.
- The decision was taken to enable the youth to avail opportunities to enter govt jobs.

## Delhi Police upgrades automation, digitization to provide on complaints

- **Delhi police** has upgraded its online citizen services and has started providing automatically generated to complainants on the investigation of their cases
- Apart from the registration of FIR, complainants will now also be informed about arrest of accused and filing of chargesheet and final report, on their mobile numbers and through email.
- When there are multiple accused, the will be sent in case of arrest of each of the accused person, as and when they are arrested.

## Mary Kom, Amit Panghal added to National Coaching Camps

- **Mary Kom** have become part of **National Coaching Camp in Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports, Patiala**, and **Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi**
- The camp will continue till **14th March**
- Three Services boxers **Amit Panghal, Manish Kaushik, Satish Kumar, Vikas Krishan**, and **Ashish Kumar** have also been included in men's camp in Patiala
- As many as 63 men boxers across different weight categories and 27 coachings and support staff have been in National Camp in Patiala.

## Eminent scientist S Somanath appointed new chairman of ISRO

- Eminent rocket scientist **S Somanath** has been appointed the **10th chairman of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** as well as the Space Secretary



- He will succeed **K Sivan** who completed his extended tenure as ISRO chief.
- His tenure will be of **three years**.
- The post of the ISRO chairman, Space Secretary and Space Commission chief is usually held by one person only.
- He is currently holding the post of **Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**.
- ISRO HQs: **Bangalore**

### Subhas Sarkar launches Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021-22

- Minister of State for Education **Subhas Sarkar** has virtually launched **Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar (SVP) 2021-2022**
- These awards recognize and inspire those schools, which have undertaken exemplary work in the field of water, sanitation, and hygiene
- At National level, 40 schools will be selected for awards.
- Award money has been enhanced from 50,000 to 60,000 per school under **Samagra Shiksha scheme**
- It was first instituted by **Dept of School Education and Literacy** in **2016-17**

### India Ranks 83rd in Q1 Henley Passport Index 2022

- **India** has been ranked **83rd among 111 countries in the latest Henley Passport Index**, released for Q1 of 2022
- India improved its position by seven places from 90th in Q4 of 2021 in October.
- Indian passport has visa-free access to 60 countries worldwide in Q1 2022
- Top performers: **Japan and Singapore**, followed by **Germany and South Korea**
- **Least Performer:** Afghanistan with score of 26
- Index is based on exclusive data from **International Air Transport Association (IATA)**

### PM Modi inaugurates 11 new government Medical Colleges across Tamil Nadu

- PM **Narendra Modi** has virtually inaugurated **11 New Government Medical Colleges across Tamil Nadu** and new **campus of Central Institute of Classical Tamil in Chennai (Fully Govt funded)**.
- New medical colleges have been established at a cost of Rs 4,000 crores
- Districts in which new Medical Colleges were inaugurated: **Virudhunagar, Namakkal, The Nilgiris, Tiruppur, Thiruvallur, Nagapattinam, Dindigul, Kallakurichi, Ariyalur, Ramanathapuram and Krishnagiri.**

### Science & Technology

#### ISRO successfully conducts tests of Cryogenic Engine for Gaganyaan

- **ISRO** has successfully conducted **qualification tests of Cryogenic Engine for Gaganyaan human space programme**
- It is conducted by ISRO Propulsion Complex in Tamil Nadu for 720 seconds duration and met the test objectives.
- Successful test has ensured reliability and robustness of the cryogenic engine for induction into Gaganyaan
- Gaganyaan programme will use 2 cryogenic engines and will be launched by **Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mark III launched vehicle**





## Atal Innovation Mission declares results of 'ATL Space Challenge 2021'

- **NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** has declared the results of '**ATL Space Challenge 2021**', after successful completion and overwhelming participation from young innovators
- It was launched in collaboration with **ISRO** and **CBSE**
- The challenge was designed for all the school students, mentors and teachers across the country
- It witnessed over **2500 submissions from both ATL and Non-ATL students** across the country from which 75 top innovators were selected and announced.

## Prime Minister inaugurates MSME Technology Centre at Puducherry

- PM Modi has inaugurated **Technology Centre of MSME Ministry at Puducherry** on National youth day
- It is a World Class Technology Centre set up with an investment of **Rs. 122 crore**
- It is spread across 10 acres and will train 20,000 youth, support 2000 MSMEs and incubate 200 Start Ups, propelling local economy to great heights
- It will boost skill development and inculcate entrepreneurial spirit among youth
- It is developed under flagship **Technology Centre Systems Program**

## India's oldest sloth bear 'Gulabo' passes away at Van Vihar National Park

- India's oldest sloth bear, named as **Gulabo (40 years)** passed away at the **Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh** due to failure of internal organs.
- She was the oldest sloth bear of the country and was one of the star attractions in the park
- She was rescued from a **street performer (Madaari) in May 2006**.
- Van Vihar National Park was declared a national park in 1979 and covers an area of about 4.45 km<sup>2</sup>

## Agreement

### Union Minister proposed single application for all Scientific Fellowship

- Union Minister **Jitendra Singh** has proposed **Common Single Application for all Scientific Fellowships, Grants and Scholarships**.
- It will not only save cost and time but will provide a level playing field to all the students
- He has also constituted Committee for streamlining Fellowships and Research Grants under the Chairmanship of **Dr Shekhar C. Mande**.
- After its implementation, students need not to submit multiple applications and different portals.

### Tata group replaces Vivo as IPL title sponsor for 2022 & 2023

- **Tata group** has replaced Chinese mobile phone manufacturer **Vivo** as the title sponsor of the IPL for **2022 and 2023** seasons by BCCI.



- Multinational conglomerate will pay **Rs. 300 crore** per year as the title sponsor of IPL for the next two seasons.
- This is about 60% of what Vivo would have paid.
- The **15th edition of IPL** will have as many as 10 teams as two new teams, one from **Ahmedabad** and the other from **Lucknow**, are all set to join the cash-rich league.

### Kachai Lemon Festival began in Manipur

- The **18th edition of Kachai Lemon Festival** began in **Manipur**.
- Theme: 'Organic Kachai Lemon for Safe Environment and Rural Transformation'
- Kachai Lemon has been accorded GI tag and widely grown in **Kachai Village of Ukhrul district**.
- Kachai Lemon is considered to be unique as it is a rich source of **ascorbic acid** and famous for its juice content.
- **Kachai Lemon Festival** is organized annually to promote this unique kind of lemon fruit and to encourage the lemon farmers.

### NDTV Lucknow Bureau Chief Kamal Khan passes away

- **NDTV's** Lucknow Bureau Chief **Kamal Khan** passed away due to a heart attack.
- Kamal's reportage over the last decades stood out for its perceptiveness, integrity & the way he delivered hard truths with poetic dexterity.
- Khan was working as **Executive Editor with NDTV**.
- He was a recipient of **Ramnath Goenka Award**, and **Ganesh Shanker Vidyarthi Award** from the President of India.

### Armed Forces Veterans Day 2022: 14th January

- **Armed Forces Veterans Day** is observed on **January 14** every year, since 2017.
- It is celebrated to honour the sacrifice of our veterans in serving the nation.
- Armed Forces Veterans Day was called Armistice Day when it was announced and this year, the nation is celebrating the **6th Armed Forces Veterans Day**.
- Armed Forces Veterans Day recognises the services rendered by **Field Marshal KM Cariappa OBE**, the first **Indian Commander-in-Chief** of the **Indian Armed Forces**.

### AYUSH Ministry hosts first-ever global Surya Namaskar event

- On the auspicious day of **Makar Sankranti** the Ministry of AYUSH hosted the 1st-ever global **Surya Namaskar** event.
- Union Minister, **Sarbananda Sonowal**, addressed the people on the occasion and gave his message on **Surya Namaskar**.
- Keeping in view the recent upsurge of corona cases, he had advised people to do 'Surya Namaskar' from home and upload videos on the links used for registration.
- Leading **Yoga masters** and gurus from global institutions also **shared their messages**.





## Badminton Association partners Sony for Yonex-Sunrise India Open 2022

- The **Badminton Association of India (BAI)** announced **Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI)** as its broadcast partner for the **Yonex-Sunrise India Open 2022**.
- The 11th edition of the tournament will see reigning world champion Singapore's **Loh Kean Yew** and bronze medallist **Lakshya Sen** as well as two-time Olympics medallist **PV Sindhu** and the 2015 India Open champion **Saina Nehwal**.
- The tournament is being telecast live on Sony Ten 1 channel and is being streamed live on SonyLIV.

## 20th Dhaka International Film Festival begins today in Dhaka

- The 20th **Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF)** has been started (from 15th to 23rd January) at multiple venues in **Dhaka**.
- It will showcase **225 films** from **70 countries** under **10 categories** with more than **50 foreign** delegates.
- It is being organized in a hybrid mode with many films being streamed online during the festival.
- **Indian entries:** Koozhangal, Avijatrik, Mayar Jonjal, Aandaal, etc
- Dhaka International Film Festival is organized by the Rainbow Film Society in 1992

## Indian Army Day: 15th January

- **Indian Army Day** is celebrated every year on **15th January** in recognition of **Field Marshal K.M Cariappa** as the **first commander-in-chief** of the Indian army.
- This year marks the **74th Indian Army Day**.
- Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the day has been celebrated with **stringent protocols** at all Army command headquarters.
- The **Indian Army originated** from the East India Company, which was known as the **British Indian Army** and later named the **National Army** after India's independence.

## Republic Day celebrations to begin from January 23

- The **Republic Day** celebrations will now begin every year from **January 23** instead of January 24 to include the birth anniversary of freedom fighter **Subash Chandra Bose**.
- **August 14:** Partition Horrors Remembrance Day
- **October 31:** National Unity Day (birth anniversary of Sardar Patel),
- **November 15:** Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (Birsa Munda's birth anniversary),
- **Nov 26:** Constitution Day
- **Dec 26:** Veer Baal Divas (a tribute to the four sons of Guru Gobind Singh).



## Virat Kohli steps down as Test captain

- **Virat Kohli** has **stepped down** as the **Test captain** of the Indian cricket team after the series defeat against South Africa.
- Under him, India won 40 out of **68 Test matches**.
- Kohli was appointed **Test captain back in 2014** when **S. Dhoni** stepped down in the middle of the series against Australia.

