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Testzone presents
Full-Length Current Affairs Mock
Test Series Month-wise

January
MockDrill
PDF No. 11
(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 25th February 2022

[Attempt Test No. 11 Here!](#)



An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of January 2022 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda

स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF जनवरी 2022 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

501. On January 28, NHEV (National Highway for Electric Vehicle) inaugurated India's largest electric vehicle (EV) charging station in Gurgaon, Haryana. This charging station has been installed and operated by Alekrify Pvt Ltd. This smart EV charging station has 96 operational charging ports for electric vehicles for 96 EVs at a time and can serve upto 576 electric vehicles round the clock. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHEV – inaugurated India's largest EV charging station in Gurgaon, Haryana (installed & operated by – Alekrify)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

502. The flypast of Indian Air Force (IAF) was the grandest ever in the history of the Republic Day parade as the largest-ever fleet of 75 aircraft, including newly-acquired Rafale fighters, showcased the India's aerial assets over Rajpath. India's first woman fighter pilot, Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh became the second woman fighter pilot to be part of an IAF tableau after Flt Lt Bhawna Kanth. A total of 21 tableaux, 12 of various states/UTs and 9 of ministries/departments were showcased at Republic Day Parade this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The biggest fly-past with 75 aircraft of IAF was showcased at Republic Day Parade 2022
- Shivangi Singh – became the 2nd woman fighter pilot to be part of an IAF tableau (1st - Bhawna Kanth)
- Total 21 tableaux (12 states/UTs + 9 ministries/dept) were showcased at Republic Day Parade 2022

503. On January 25, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued notification restricting the export of human hair, unworked, whether or not washed or scoured, waste of human hair or any other form of raw human hair. This is expected to curb the under-invoicing of the product and smuggling via Myanmar to China where it was labeled as domestic Chinese hair and processed. India is the world's largest producer of human hair and 80% of world hair is produced in India but only 2% of value-added products such as wigs are made here. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DGFT – restricted the export of any form of raw human hair
- India – world's largest producer of human hair
- HQs of DGFT – New Delhi | Director General – Santosh Kumar Sarangi

504. On January 25, Himachal Pradesh celebrated its 52nd statehood day. On this occasion, Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur announced that the domestic consumers whose electricity consumption is up to 60 units per month will not be charged any money while those who consume up to 125 units will be charged only Re 1 per unit. For farmers, he announced to reduce the present cost of electricity from 50 paise to 30 paise per unit. He also announced to increase the limit of maximum annual income for availing the benefit of various welfare schemes and pensions for weaker sections of society from existing Rs 35,000 to Rs 50,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 25 – 52nd statehood day of Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh – announced to reduce cost of electricity for domestic consumers and farmers
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar



505. On January 26, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren launched the 'Petrol Subsidy Scheme' under which a subsidy of Rs 250, with the rate of Rs 25 per litre for 10 litres of petrol in a month will be credited to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. It will be credited through CM-SUPPORT App. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jharkhand – launched 'Petrol Subsidy Scheme' under which a subsidy of Rs 250 per month will be credited
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

506. On January 25, Assam and Nagaland agreed for out-of-court settlement for several decade old border dispute. Neutral forces have been stationed along the contentious area in Assam-Nagaland border since 1971. Both the states agreed to share royalty from petroleum from the disputed area. They also decided to monitor the area by surveillance using UAV and satellite imagery. The two states share a 512.1-km-long border. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam + Nagaland = agreed for out-of-court settlement to resolve their border dispute
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)

507. On January 26, Jio-bp constructed and launched one of India's largest EV Charging Hubs in Dwarka, Delhi with BluSmart as its primary customer. Reliance BP Mobility Limited is operating under the brand name 'Jio-bp' - a joint venture of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) and energy supermajor BP. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jio-bp – constructed & launched one of India's largest EV Charging Hubs in Dwarka, Delhi
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

508. On January 25, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) directed Delhi & Haryana to enforce the Environment Management Plans for the rejuvenation and protection of the Najafgarh jheel, a transboundary wetland. The order also stated the outlet of the Najafgarh jheel should remain free from sewage before it joins the Yamuna river. The implementation of these action plans will be monitored by the National Wetland Authority. A status report on it is to be submitted to the NGT as on July 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NGT – directed Delhi & Haryana to enforce Najafgarh jheel restoration plan
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev
- HQs of NGT – New Delhi | Chairman – Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel

509. On January 25, India initiated an anti-dumping probe against imports of 'vinyl tiles' from China, Taiwan and Vietnam. If it is established that the dumping has caused material injury to the domestic players, the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) would recommend the imposition of anti-dumping duty on these imports. The finance ministry will take the final decision to impose the duties. India has already imposed anti-dumping duty on several products to tackle cheap imports from various countries, including China. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India – initiated an anti-dumping probe against imports of ‘vinyl tiles’ from China, Taiwan & Vietnam
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Pham Minh Chinh | President – Nguyen Xuan Phuc
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen

510. On January 28, PM Narendra Modi launched “Pandit Jasraj Cultural Foundation” on the occasion of the 92nd birth anniversary of this Indian classical vocalist. The Pandit Jasraj Cultural Foundation has been founded by Pandit Jasraj’s son Shaarang Dev Pandit, and his daughter, Durga Jasraj with an objective to protect, preserve, develop and promote the National Heritage, Art & Culture of India. Pandit Jasraj belonged to Mewati Gharana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – launched “Pandit Jasraj Cultural Foundation” on his 92nd birth anniversary
- The Cultural Foundation has been founded by = Shaarang Dev Pandit (son) + Durga Jasraj (daughter)

511. In January 2022, the CPI(M)-led Kerala government decided to introduce an ordinance to amend the ‘Kerala Lokayukta Act’ in a manner that gives it powers to reject the report of the anti-corruption ombudsman. In July 2011, as the then UPA government engaged with activist Anna Hazare on drafting of a Lokpal Bill. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala government – decided to introduce an ordinance to weaken the power of its ‘Kerala Lokayukta Act’
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

512. On January 20, the Delhi government launched a dedicated one-stop website for the promotion and adoption of electric vehicles (EVs). The website is- “ev.delhi.gov.in”. The website features include a ‘charging stations explorer’, ‘EV calculator’, ‘EV search’ and ‘EV dashboard’ among others. The website will also feature recent notifications, circulars issued by the Delhi government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – launched a ‘one-stop e-vehicle website’ for the promotion and adoption of electric vehicles
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

513. On January 28, the Lok Sabha secretariat launched a new app, ‘Digital Sansad’. The app will make it easier for people to follow proceedings in Parliament. It is a brainchild of Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. People will also be able to access archival data, speeches, debates, etc. MPs are barred from using laptops inside the House, the app comes handy for parliamentary information for MPs during a debate in the House. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lok Sabha secretariat – launched “Digital Sansad” app for people to follow proceedings in Parliament
- Rajya Sabha Chairman – M. Venkaiah Naidu | Lok Sabha Speaker – Om Prakash Birla

514. On January 28, Union Minister for Chemical and Fertilizers, Mansukh Mandaviya virtually launched the Research Portal of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER). This research portal will help the MSME sector and will lead to coordination between industry & NIPER. The portal will also provide information about the research being done by NIPER. NIPER is established under the aegis of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Mansukh Mandaviya – launched a research portal of 'NIPER' to help MSME sector
- NIPER – established under the aegis of Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers
- Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers: Bhagwanth Khuba

International Affairs

515. On January 24, Malaysia's AirAsia Group announced that it has changed the name of its listed holding company to 'Capital A Berhad' (Capital A) to reflect the diversity of its business portfolio as it seeks to grow its non-airline revenue. The airline retains the 'AirAsia' brand name. But the group will focus more on expanding other businesses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AirAsia Group – changed the name of its listed holding company to 'Capital A'
- HQs of Capital A Berhad – Sepang, Malaysia | CEO – Tony Fernandes

516. In January 2022, Iran, Guinea & Vanuatu paid sufficient back dues to the United Nations' regular operating budget to regain their voting rights. That leaves only two countries - Venezuela and Papua New Guinea without the right to vote in the UN General Assembly. The UN Charter states that members whose arrears equal or exceed the amount of their contributions for the preceding two full years lose their voting rights. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Iran, Guinea & Vanuatu – paid their dues & regained their voting rights in the UNGA
- Venezuela & Papua New Guinea – the only countries without the right to vote in UNGA
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Ebrahim Raisi | Supreme Leader – Ali Khamenei
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

517. On January 27, Fintech company Alphaniti partnered with IIFL Securities to allow investors to invest and trade in stock offerings. Alphaniti aims to redefine the experience of direct investments by offering high-quality products at affordable costs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alphaniti + IIFL Securities = partnership to allow investors to invest & trade in stock offerings
- HQs of Alphaniti – Pune, Maharashtra | Founder & CEO – Arindam Ghosh
- HQs of IIFL Securities Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sandeep Bhardwaj



518. On January 27, NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) signed an MoU with TerraPay to allow Indians with an active UPI ID to receive Real-time International Payments into their bank accounts via TerraPay's secure payments technology. TerraPay is a Netherlands-based global payments infrastructure company. India is the largest recipient of cross-border remittances, receiving over US\$ 80 Billion per annum. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NIPL + TerraPay = an MoU to allow Indians with an active UPI ID to receive Real-time International Payments
- HQs of NIPL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ritesh Shukla
- HQs of TerraPay – Amsterdam, Netherlands | CEO – Ambar Sur

519. On January 27, Agri-tech start-up FAARMS in association with Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd (RGICL) introduced customized Digital Insurance Solutions for the rural population especially the farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FAARMS + Reliance General Insurance = introduced customized Digital Insurance Solutions for rural population
- HQs of Reliance General Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rakesh Jain
- HQs of FAARMS Solution Pvt Ltd – Bengaluru, Karnataka

520. On January 27, Paytm Money introduced India's 1st intelligent messenger called 'Pops'. With 'Pops', users can receive specific information related to their stocks, analysis about their portfolio, market news, and important market movements all in one place. Paytm Money partnered with InvestorAi to offer stock recommendations based on signals generated using artificial intelligence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm Money – introduced 'Pops' - India's 1st intelligent messenger
- Paytm Money + InvestorAi = partnership to offer stock recommendations based on signals generated using AI
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar | Founded in – 2009

521. On January 29, Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL) set up 'New Bank Note Printing Lines' each at Currency Note Press, Nashik and Bank Note Press, Dewas under its modernisation initiatives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SPMCIL set up 'New Bank Note Printing Lines' each at Nashik & Dewas under its modernisation initiatives
- Currency Notes printing places – Nasik, Dewas, Mysore, Salboni
- Coins minting places – Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Noida
- HQs of SPMCIL – New Delhi | CMD – Tripti Patra Ghosh
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

522. On January 29, the RBI imposed several restrictions on Indian Mercantile Cooperative Bank Ltd, Lucknow, including a cap of Rs 1 lakh on withdrawals. The restrictions would remain in force for six months and are subject to review. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI imposed several restrictions on Indian Mercantile Cooperative Bank Ltd, Lucknow (Rs 1 lakh cap on withdrawals)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935



523. On January 28, State Bank of India (SBI) listed its first \$300 million Formosa bonds on India International Exchange IFSC (India INX). The bank had raised \$300 million of "Regulation S" Formosa bonds at a coupon rate of 2.49%. With this, SBI became the first Indian entity to raise money through Formosa Bond. While India INX became the first Exchange in IFSC to list Formosa Bonds issued by SBI. A Formosa bond is a bond issued in Taiwan but denominated in a currency other than the New Taiwan Dollar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI – listed its first \$300 million 'Formosa bonds' on India International Exchange IFSC (India INX)
- SBI – became the first Indian entity to raise money through 'Formosa Bond'
- India INX – became the first Exchange in IFSC to list 'Formosa Bonds'
- Formosa bond is issued in – Taiwan
- HQs of India INX – GIFT City, Gujarat | MD & CEO – V. Balasubramaniam
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

Defence Affairs

524. On January 28, the indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) MK III aircraft was formally inducted at INS Utkrosh by Commander-in-Chief, Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN), Lieutenant General Ajai Singh at Port Blair. ALH MK III aircraft is manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). INS Utkrosh is an Indian naval air station under the joint-services Andaman and Nicobar Command of the Indian Armed Forces. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lt. Gen. Ajai Singh formally inducted 'ALH MK III' aircraft – at INS Utkrosh, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar
- ALH MK III aircraft is manufactured by HAL
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan

525. On January 25, the Armed Forces received the first batch of 70,000 rifles from Russia as part of a larger contract to manufacture the AK 203 assault rifles in India. The first batch is likely to be used by the Indian Air Force, while the rifles to be manufactured at the Amethi factory will be delivered to the Indian Army, which is the main customer with a requirement of over 6,00,000 AK 203s. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Armed Forces received the first batch of 70,000 AK 203 assault rifles from Russia (1st batch is likely to be used by IAF)
- Korwa Rifle Factory – Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



Sports & Games

526. In January 2022, South Africa beat India by four runs in the third and final One-Day International (ODI) at Newlands in Cape Town and won the 3-match series 3-0. Indian team was captained by K. L. Rahul while South Africa's team was captained by Temba Bavuma. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Africa – won the 3 matches One Day International (ODI) series (defeated - India)
- South Africa's team was captained by – Temba Bavuma | Indian team was captained by – K. L. Rahul

527. In January 2022, Pakistan's Shaheen Shah Afridi was awarded "Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy" for the Cricketer of the year 2021. The Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy is a cricket trophy which is awarded annually by the International Cricket Council to the 'ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shaheen Shah Afridi (Pakistan - Cricketer) – awarded "Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy" for 2021
- 'Garfield Sobers Trophy' - a Cricket trophy – awarded annually by the ICC to 'ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year'

528. On January 28, 2022 Asian Games will take place from September 10 to September 25, 2022, in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China and there will be five co-host cities. The multi-sporting event will feature 40 sports with a total of 61 disciplines. E-sports and breakdancing will debut in the 2022 Asian Games as full medal sports, while Cricket will also be back at Asian Games in T20 format after 11 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "2022 Asian Games" will take place from Sep 10 to 25, 2022 – in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China (total 40 sports)
- Newly added as full medal sports: E-sports & Breakdancing | Again added: Cricket (after 11 years)

529. On January 29, Ashleigh Barty won Women's Single title at the "Australian Open 2022" by defeating Danielle Collins. Barty became the first Australian to win the event since Chris O'Neil captured the women's title in 1978. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashleigh Barty (Australia - Tennis) – won Women's Single title at the "Australian Open 2022"

530. On January 28, India defeated China to win a bronze medal at the 'Women's Asia Cup hockey tournament'. Japan defeated South Korea to clinch the title. The tournament was held in Muscat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Women's Asia Cup hockey tournament": Gold – Japan | Silver – South Korea | Bronze – India
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in



Persons in News

531. A day after former West Bengal CM Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee refused to accept Padma Bhushan, legendary singer Sandhya Mukherjee and tabla exponent Anindya Chatterjee also refused to accept Padma Shri. They think that the awardees are chosen at random, not through an evaluation of their life and work, since some other persons who doesn't deserve, were given superior Padma Awards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The following personalities refused to accept Padma Awards 2022:
 - Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee (Padma Bhushan)
 - Sandhya Mukherjee (Padma Shri)
 - Anindya Chatterjee (Padma Shri)

Appointments & Resignations

532. On January 26, Pushp Kumar Joshi was recommended by Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) to be the new chairman and managing director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL). The recommendation will go to the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by PM Narendra Modi. ACC will decide on his selection after getting reports from anti-corruption agencies such as CVC and CBI. If appointed, he will replace Mukesh Kumar Surana, who will superannuate on April 30. HPCL is a subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pushp Kumar Joshi – recommended by PESB to be the new CMD of HPCL (succeeding - Mukesh Kumar Surana)
- HQs of PESB – New Delhi | Chairperson – Mallika Srinivasan
- HQs of HPCL – Mumbai, MH | CEO & Chairperson – Mukesh Kumar Surana (till April, 2022) | Founded in – 1974
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Alka Mittal (addi. charge)

533. On January 27, IIFL Finance appointed Arun Purwar as chairman of its board effective from April 1. He was chairman of the State Bank of India from November 2002 to May 2006. He played an important role in starting SBI's life insurance company- SBI Life Insurance Company. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arun Purwar (former chairman of SBI) – appointed as Chairman of IIFL Finance (succeeding - Nirmal jain)
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nirmal jain | MD – Venkataraman Rajamani

534. On January 28, the government appointed Venkataraman Anantha Nageswaran as its Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) at the Ministry of Finance, days before the tabling of the '2021-22 Economic Survey' (on January 31) and the presentation of '2022-23 Union Budget' (on February 1). He replaced Krishnamurthy Subramanian who superannuated in December 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- V. Anantha Nageswaran – appointed as the Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) at Ministry of Finance
- He replaced – K. Subramanian



535. On January 27, Wipro Limited appointed Badrinath Srinivasan (Badri) as the Managing Director for Southeast Asia. He is based in Singapore and will report to NS Bala, CEO, APMEA (Asia Pacific, Middle East, India and Africa). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wipro – appointed Badrinath Srinivasan as the MD for Southeast Asia
- HQs of Wipro – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Thierry Delaporte | Founder Chairman – Azim Premji

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

536. In January 2022, Maharashtra National Cadet Corps (NCC) Directorate won the prestigious “Prime Minister Banner” at the Republic Day Camp (RDC) 2022 at Cariappa Ground, in New Delhi. Narendra Modi presented the prestigious PM Banner to Major General Y. P. Khanduri, ADG, NCC Directorate, Maharashtra. Senior Under Officer (SU) Siddhesh Jadhav was the banner bearer and Cadet Captain Nikita Khot was the trophy bearer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra NCC Directorate – won the prestigious “Prime Minister Banner” at the ‘RDC 2022’ in New Delhi
- Major General Y. P. Khanduri – ADG, NCC Directorate, Maharashtra
- Banner bearer – Siddhesh Jadhav | Trophy bearer – Nikita Khot
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

537. On January 28, Friendship Hospital was named the world’s “Best New Building” or “Most Transformative Building” for 2021 by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). The Friendship Hospital is located in Shyamnagar village in southwest Bangladesh’s Satkhira district. The 80-bed hospital in the cyclone-prone area was constructed using locally-made bricks. The hospital was designed by a Bangladeshi architect Kashef Chowdhury. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Friendship Hospital – named the world’s “Best New Building” or “Most Transformative Building” for 2021 by RIBA
- Friendship Hospital – located in Shyamnagar village, Satkhira district, Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

538. Jammu and Kashmir topped the list of Police Gallantry Medals announced on the eve of Republic Day. J&K Police bagged 115 Police Medals for Gallantry (PMG), out of a total of 189 awarded in 2022. Among state police forces, Chhattisgarh received the highest number of gallantry medals (10), followed by Odisha (9) and Maharashtra (7). Moreover, 42 fire service medals, 37 correctional service medals for police personnel and 51 ‘Jeevan Rakshak Padak’ were also announced. And this year, Delhi Police’s DCP (Special Cell) Sanjeev Kumar Yadav bagged his 11th President’s medal for Gallantry on the occasion of Republic Day 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – topped the list of Police Medals for Gallantry (PMG) with 115 medals (among states & UTs)
- Among states: 1st - Chhattisgarh (10), 2nd - Odisha (9), 3rd - Maharashtra (7)
- Sanjeev Kumar Yadav (Delhi Police’s DCP) – bagged his 11th President’s medal for Gallantry



Schemes & Initiatives

539. On January 26, the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) notified a drone certification scheme under Rule 7 of the liberalized Drone Rules, 2021. The objective of this scheme is to provide safety and security criteria and requirements for drones, evaluate their certification, among others. This scheme will ensure quality requirements to boost indigenous manufacturing. The MoCA approved a PLI scheme for unmanned aircraft systems (drones) and drone components with an allocation of ₹120 Cr. India's target is to be the drone hub by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Civil Aviation – notified a drone certification scheme to ensure quality requirements
- Ministry of Civil Aviation – approved a PLI scheme with allocation of ₹120 Cr for drones & drone components
- India's target is to be the drone hub by – 2030
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency – Guna, Madhya Pradesh

Important Days & Dates

540. “Martyrs’ Day” or “Shaheed Diwas” is observed in India on several days to honour those who laid down their lives for the nation. January 30 is the date which is observed as Martyrs' Day across India as it marks the date of the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi by Nathuram Godse in 1948. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 30 – “Martyrs' Day” or “Shaheed Diwas” – to mark the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

541. Data Privacy Day, celebrated on January 28, aims to spread the awareness about online safety for the data of all individuals. In 2021, the theme was “Privacy Matters”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 28 – Data Privacy Day | Theme – “Privacy Matters”

Books & Authors

542. On January 24, A book titled “Operation Khatma” is authored by journalists R. C. Ganjoo and Ashwini Bhatnagar. The book narrates the Indian Army's Surgical Strike across the Line of Control (LoC) in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in September 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Operation Khatma” book – authored by R. C. Ganjoo & Ashwini Bhatnagar

543. On January 24, Union Minister for Culture and author Meenakshi Lekhi launched a new comic book titled “India's Women Unsung Heroes” in New Delhi. The unique book has been prepared by the Ministry of Culture in partnership with Amar Chitra Katha which is an Indian publisher of Indian comics & graphic novels. The book beautifully portrays the tales of valor of our forgotten women freedom fighters. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Meenakshi Lekhi – launched “India’s Women Unsung Heroes” book
- The book is prepared by = Ministry of Culture + Amar Chitra Katha

544. On January 25, the book “Last among Equals: Power, Caste, and Politics in Bihar’s Villages” was recently published by Context. This book is authored by MR Sharan. This book describes the formidable spirit shown by the poor to succeed against all odds. The book is an account of the author’s field study in a group of villages in Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Last among Equals: Power, Caste, and Politics in Bihar’s Villages” book – authored by MR Sharan
- Publisher – Context

545. On January 24, educationist, writer and astrologer Shubira Prasad authored her 2nd book “The Angels of Kailash” in the trilogy of the battle between humans and demons. The book is published under Vitasta Publishing. Her 1st book was titled “The Demons of Jaitraya”. “The Kumbh Conspiracy” will be the final book of the trilogy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Angels of Kailash” book – authored by Shubira Prasad (2nd book of the trilogy)
- 1st book – “The Demons of Jaitraya” | 3rd book – “The Kumbh Conspiracy”
- Published by – Vitasta Publishing

546. Former finance secretary Subhash Chandra Garg authored his 1st book, “The \$10 Trillion Dream”. This book explores the critical policy issues that India faces today and suggests reforms for it to become a \$10 trillion economy by the mid-2030s. The book is published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The \$10 Trillion Dream” book – authored by Subhash Chandra Garg (Former Finance Secretary)
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India

Obituaries

547. Dr. Anil Awachat, a prominent Marathi author and social activist based in Pune, passed away at the age of 77. He was the founder-director of Muktangan rehabilitation centre in Pune. He is known for the books, “Manasa”, “Karyarat” and “Gard”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Anil Awachat – Marathi Author & Social Activist – passed away



Amount & Agreements

548. On January 28, Bharti Airtel & Google announced to partner on a long-term, multi-year agreement to accelerate the growth of India's digital ecosystem. As a part of its Google for India Digitization Fund, Google intends to invest up to \$1B in Airtel which will comprise an investment of \$700 million to acquire 1.28% in Bharti Airtel. Both companies will focus on shaping and growing the cloud ecosystem in India. They will also co-create India-specific network domain use cases for 5G and other standards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel + Google = agreement to accelerate the growth of India's digital ecosystem
- Google – will invest up to \$1B in Airtel out of which \$700 million to acquire 1.28% in Bharti Airtel
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

Acquisitions & Mergers

549. On January 27, the debt-laden Air India has formally been handed over to the Tata Group after 67 years. Tata group had founded Air India as 'Tata Airlines' in October 1932. The government nationalised the airline in 1953. The Tata group would pay Rs 2,700 Cr cash and take over Rs 15,300 Cr of the airline's debt, as the total value of the deal was Rs 18,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Air India was formally handed over to Tata Group after 67 years – for Rs 18,000 Cr (Rs 2,700 Cr cash + Rs 15,300 Cr debt)
- HQs of Air India – New Delhi | CMD – Vikram Dev Dutt
- HQ of Tata Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

550. On January 28, Social media platform Meta, under its “#SheMeansBusiness” programme, partnered with FICCI to support 5 lakh women-led small businesses across India. Out of over 63 million small businesses in India, about 20% are owned by women highlighting the need to bring more gender equality. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meta + FICCI = partnership under “#SheMeansBusiness” programme to support 5 lakh women-led small businesses
- HQs of Meta – California, US | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | DG – Arun Chawla | President – Sanjiv Mehta | Founded in – 1927





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