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

January
MockDrill
PDF No. 3
(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 8th February 2022

[Attempt Test No. 3 Here!](#)



An important message from Team Smartkeeda

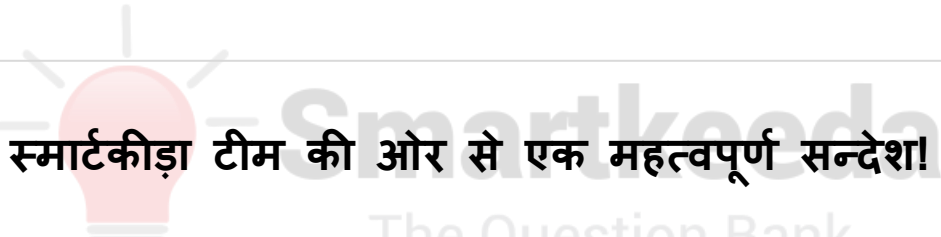
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of January 2022 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial 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 पढ़ना, 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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Important Days & Dates

101. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared 2022 as the “International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture” (IYAFA 2022). FAO is the lead agency for celebrating the year in collaboration with other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2022 – declared as “International Year of Artisanal Fisheries & Aquaculture”

102. Every year on January 10, International Hindi Day or World Hindi Day or the Vishwa Hindi Diwas with an aim to promote the use of the Hindi language worldwide. The word Hindi originated from the Persian word Hind, meaning the land of the Indus river. Apart from India, the language is also spoken in Nepal, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Fiji, and Mauritius. January 10 marks the first World Hindi Conference that took place in 1975, in Nagpur, Maharashtra. While Hindi Diwas is observed annually on September 14. [{Read more}](#)

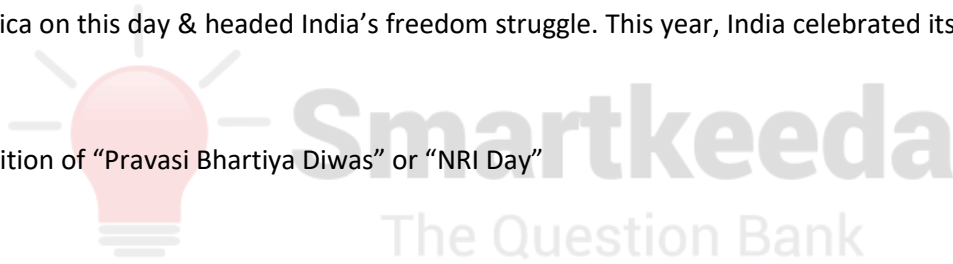
Key Points:

- January 10 – “International Hindi Day” or “World Hindi Day” or “Vishwa Hindi Diwas” (since 2006)
- September 14 – “Hindi Diwas”

103. “Pravasi Bharatiya Divas” or “Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day” is observed on 9 January across the country to reconnect the Non-Resident Indian community with their original roots. In the year 1915, Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa on this day & headed India’s freedom struggle. This year, India celebrated its 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 9 – 17th edition of “Pravasi Bhartiya Divas” or “NRI Day”



Sports & Games

104. Uzbekistan’s GM Nodirbek Abdusattorov defeated Russia’s GM Ian Nepomniachtchi, to win the “World Rapid Chess Championship 2021”. The 17-year-old is the youngest person ever to win the title. Nodirbek received ‘Mard Uglon’ (Brave Son) state award for winning World Rapid title 2021. Indian GMs Koneru Humpy and D. Gukesh were among the Top 10 at the Championship held in Warsaw, Poland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nodirbek Abdusattorov ([Uzbekistan’s Grandmaster](#)) – won the “World Rapid Chess Championship 2021” in Warsaw

105. On January 9, India’s tennis players Rohan Bopanna and Ramkumar Ramanathan won the men’s doubles title at the Adelaide International ATP 250 event. This is Ramkumar’s first ATP Tour title while Rohan won his 20th. Besides, France’s Gael Monfils won the men’s singles title and Australia’s Ashleigh Barty won the women’s singles title at the ‘Adelaide International ATP 250’ event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohan Bopanna + Ramkumar Ramanathan = won the Men’s Doubles title at ‘Adelaide International ATP 250’ event
- Gael Monfils ([France](#)) – won the Men’s Singles title | Ashleigh Barty ([Australia](#)) – won the Women’s Singles title



106. On January 9, Rafael Nadal beat American qualifier Maxime Cressy to win the “Melbourne Summer Set 1 ATP 250” event. It was Nadal’s 89th career singles title. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rafael Nadal ([Spain - Tennis](#)) – won the “Melbourne Summer Set 1 ATP 250” event (beating - Maxime Cressy)

107. On January 9, Chennai’s 14-year old Bharath Subramaniam became India’s 73rd Chess Grandmaster, securing the third and final GM norm at the Vergani Cup in Cattolica, Italy. While Indian player M. R. Lalith Babu emerged as the winner in the tournament, followed by Hans Moke Niemann of the US. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharath Subramaniam ([Tamil Nadu](#)) – became India’s 73rd Chess Grandmaster – at ‘Vergani Cup’ in Italy
- M. R. Lalith Babu ([Andhra Pradesh](#)) – winner of the ‘Vergani Cup’ in Italy

Science & Technology

108. The “Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST)” or the Chinese “Artificial Sun”, achieved a continuous high-temperature plasma operation for 1,056 seconds in the latest experiment, the longest time of operation of its kind in the world. They achieved a plasma temperature of 120 million degrees Celsius for 101 seconds in an experiment in the first half of 2021. This time, steady-state plasma operation was sustained for 1,056 seconds at a temperature close to 70 million degrees Celsius. The ultimate goal of “EAST” is to create nuclear fusion like the Sun, using deuterium abundant in the sea to provide a steady stream of Clean Energy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “EAST” or Chinese “Artificial Sun” – achieved a continuous high-temperature plasma operation for 1,056 seconds
- The operation was sustained for 1,056 seconds at a 70 million °C plasma temperature
- EAST’s goal is to create Nuclear Fusion like the Sun using ‘deuterium’ abundant in the Sea
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi](#) | [President – Xi Jinping](#)

109. On January 6, North Korea successfully tested a ‘Hypersonic Missile’. The missile had precisely hit a target located 700km (430 miles) away. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- North Korea – successfully tested a ‘Hypersonic Missile’ (hit a target located 700km away)
- [North Korea – Pyongyang](#) – North Korean won | [President – Kim Jong-un](#)

110. On January 7, Astronomers discovered the longest structure in the Milky Way, an unusual cloud of hydrogen. The gigantic structure, which is more than 3,900 light-years long and around 150 light-years wide, is located roughly 55,000 light-years away from the solar system. The team named the lengthy cloud “Maggie”, which is short for the Magdalena River, the longest river in Colombia. The survey relies on data collected by the radio observatory called ‘Jansky Very Large Array’ located in New Mexico. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Astronomers discovered the longest structure or hydrogen cloud named “Maggie” in the Milky Way galaxy
- “Maggie” is short for Magdalena River – the longest river in Colombia
- The survey relies on data collected by – ‘Jansky Very Large Array’ observatory ([New Mexico](#))



111. On January 9, China's Chang'e 5 lunar lander found the first-ever on-site evidence of water on the surface of the moon. The study published in the peer-reviewed journal Science Advances. The lander detected signs of water in rocks and soil. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China's lunar lander namely "Chang'e 5" – found the first-ever on-site evidence of water on the surface of the moon
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

112. On January 6, TickerPlant, a subsidiary of 63 Moons Technologies Ltd (formerly Financial Technologies Ltd), announced its collaboration with Google Cloud for the development of the CryptoWire Eco-system, catering to all stakeholders of crypto and the blockchain industry on a common platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TickerPlant + Google Cloud = collaboration for the development of CryptoWire Eco-system
- HQs of TickerPlant – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Jignesh Shah
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998
- HQs of CryptoWire – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Jigish Sonagara

Appointments & Resignations

113. On January 5, the Chilean assembly, tasked with drafting a new constitution in Chile, elected Maria Elisa Quinteros as the new President of the assembly. Epidemiologist Maria Elisa Quinteros replaced the body's inaugural president, Indigenous Mapuche professor and activist Elisa Loncon. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maria Elisa Quinteros – elected as the new President of Chilean Assembly, tasked with drafting a new Constitution
- Maria Elisa Quinteros replaced – Elisa Loncon
- Chile – Santiago – Peso | President – Gabriel Boric (from March, 2022)

114. On January 7, Major General Vikas Lakhera assumed charge as the 20th Inspector General of Assam Rifles (North). He took over charge from Maj Gen VPS Kaushik. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vikas Lakhera – assumed charge as the 20th Inspector General of Assam Rifles (North)
- HQs of Assam Rifles – Shillong, Meghalaya | DG – Lt. Gen. Pradeep Chandran Nair

115. On January 6, Lt. Gen. Anindya Sengupta assumed charge as the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Leh-based XIV Corps (14 Corps) or Fire & Fury Corps, replacing Lt. Gen. P. G. K. Menon. Prior to taking over this appointment, Lt. Gen. Sengupta was Director General, Strategic Planning, at the Army Headquarters in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anindya Sengupta – assumed charge as the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of 'XIV Corps' or 'Fire & Fury Corps'
- HQs of XIV Corps – Leh, Ladakh | GOC – Anindya Sengupta (Nickname - 'Fire & Fury Corps')



116. On January 9, Former RBI Governor Urjit Patel was appointed as the Vice President of the Beijing-based multilateral funding institution, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) for 3-year tenure. India has the second highest voting share after China. He succeeded outgoing Vice President D. J. Pandian. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Urjit Patel – appointed as the Vice President of ‘AIIB’ for 3-year tenure (succeeding - D. J. Pandian)
- HQs of AIIB – Beijing, China | President – Jin Liqun | Established in – 2016 | Members – 105

117. In January 2022, Vinod Kannan replaced Leslie Thng & took over as the chief executive officer (CEO) of the ‘Vistara Airline’. Vistara is a 51:49 joint venture between Tata Sons Private Limited & Singapore Airlines (SIA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinod Kannan – appointed as CEO of Vistara Airles (succeed - Leslie Thng)
- HQs of Vistara Airline – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Vinod Kannan

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

118. On January 6, the IRDAI decided to set up 2 Hubs on Motor Insurance & Property Insurance and also an Advisory Committee with the overall objective to promote loss prevention measures in the General Insurance industry. It has been decided to form a hub on property insurance at ‘National Insurance Academy (NIA)’ and one on motor insurance at ‘Institute of Insurance & Risk Management (IIRM)’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI decided to set up 2 Hubs on:
 - Motor Insurance – at Institute of Insurance & Risk Management (IIRM)
 - Property Insurance – at National Insurance Academy (NIA)
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur

119. On January 7, the National Statistical Office (NSO) released the First Advance Estimates (FAE) of National Income at both Constant (2011-12) and Current Prices for FY2021-22. Real GDP or GDP at Constant Prices (2011-12) in FY2021-22 is estimated at ₹147.54 lakh Cr with the estimated growth of 9.2%. While Nominal GDP or GDP at Current Prices in FY2021-22 is estimated at ₹232.15 lakh Cr with the estimated growth of 17.6%. The First Advance Estimates of GDP was introduced in FY2016-17. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSO – released the First Advance Estimates (FAE) of National Income at both Constant & Current Prices for FY2021-22
- Estimate of Real GDP or GDP at Constant Prices in FY2021-22 – ₹147.54 lakh Cr (Estimated growth – 9.2%)
- Estimate of Nominal GDP or GDP at Current Prices in FY2021-22 – ₹232.15 lakh Cr (Estimated growth – 17.6%)
- NSO comes under – Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoS I/C – Rao Inderjit Singh)
- HQs of NSO – New Delhi | Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy



120. On January 7, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) introduced limits for cash withdrawals and mini statements on transactions done through Aadhaar enabled Payments Systems (AePS). According to the guidelines, acquiring banks will have to implement a maximum limit of 5 approved cash withdrawal transactions per customer per terminal per day. Cash withdrawal from micro ATMs of AePS has a limit of Rs 10,000 per transaction. These limits were implemented by the acquiring banks by January 15, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPCI – introduced limits for cash withdrawals & mini statements on transactions done through ‘AePS’
- Maximum transactions limit – 5 cash transactions per customer per terminal per day | Amount limit – Rs 10,000
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

121. On January 10, Edelweiss Housing Finance Ltd (EHFL) and ECL Finance Ltd (ECLF) signed a strategic co-lending agreement with Indian Bank for priority sector lending (PSL). Agriculture, micro enterprises and advances to weaker sections of the society are amongst the categories that form the priority sector in lending space. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EHFL + ECLF + Indian Bank = a strategic co-lending agreement for priority sector lending (PSL)
- HQs of EHFL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajat Avasthi
- HQs ECLF – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman - Rashesh Shah
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline – “Your Own Bank”

122. On January 10, RBL Bank and Google announced a strategic partnership to improve the Bank’s customer experience strategy and expand its value proposition through its digital platform, “Abacus 2.0”. Through ‘Abacus 2.0’, the Bank aims to provide a superior and holistic one-stop solution to its existing and new customers. To achieve this, RBL Bank will leverage Google Cloud’s secure and scalable infrastructure for seamless customer onboarding. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBL Bank + Google = strategic partnership to improve the Bank’s customer experience through “Abacus 2.0” platform
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajeev Ahuja (interim) | Chairman – Prakash Chandra
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

123. On January 8, Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) and the Bengaluru-based Mecwin Technologies Ltd signed an MoU to introduce farmer-friendly Solar-powered Pump-sets using bank finance. The lifespan of solar-powered pump-sets is 20-25 years. Besides, KVGB was the first bank to introduce Solar Loan Scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVGB + Mecwin Technologies = an MoU to introduce farmer-friendly Solar-powered Pump-sets for farmers
- KVGB – the first bank to introduce Solar Loan Scheme
- HQs of KVGB – Dharwad, Karnataka | Chairman – P. Gopi Krishna | Sponsored by – Canara Bank
- HQs of Mecwin Technologies – Bengaluru, Karnataka

124. On January 9, the RBI decided to set up a separate Fintech Department to facilitate innovation in the Indian fintech sector. The RBI's Executive Director Ajay Kumar Choudhary was appointed as head of the department. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI decided to set up a separate Fintech Department | HoD – Ajay Kumar Choudhary
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935



125. In January 2022, India's nominal GDP measured is forecast to rise from \$2.7 trillion in 2021 to \$8.4 trillion by 2030. As per IHS Markit report, India is likely to overtake Japan as Asia's second-largest economy by 2030 when its GDP is also projected to surpass that of Germany & the UK to rank as world's No 3. Currently, Indian economy is the sixth-largest in the world, behind the US, China, Japan, Germany & the United Kingdom. Meanwhile, Ratings agency ICRA has recently maintained its forecast of a 9% GDP expansion in FY22 & FY23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IHS markit report:
 - India's nominal GDP will rise to \$8.4 trillion by 2030 (from \$2.7 trillion in 2021)
 - India will overtake Japan to be Asia's 2nd Largest economy by 2030 (after China)
- India – currently 6th largest Economy after US, China, Japan, Germany & UK
- India's GDP forecast by ICRA for FY22 & FY23 – 9%
- HQs of ICRA – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & Group CEO of ICRA – Ramnath Krishnan | MD & CEO – Sushmita Ghatak

National & States Affairs

126. On January 5, Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Pashupati Kumar Paras launched 6 brands developed as part of the 'One District-One Product' (ODOP) approach under a central scheme "PMFMES" (Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises). The six brands launched are Amrit Phal, Cori Gold, Kashmiri Mantra, Madhu Mantra, Somdana, and Whole Wheat Cookies of Dilli Bakes. The central scheme PMFMES aims to provide financial, technical and business support for upgradation/setting up of 2 lakh micro food processing units based on the 'ODOP' approach in a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs 10,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoFPI – launched 6 brands developed as part of the 'One District-One Product' (ODOP) under "PMFMES" scheme
- Total outlay of "PMFMES" scheme – Rs 10,000 Cr | Launched in – June 2020
- Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Pashu Pati Kumar Paras | Constituency – Hajipur, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Prahalad Singh Patel

127. On January 6, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the scheme on Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II for Intra-State Transmission System (InSTS) in 7 states namely, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The transmission systems will be created over a period of 5 years from FY 2021-22 to 2025-26. The scheme is targeted to be set up with total estimated cost of Rs 12,031.33 Cr and Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of 33% of the project cost. Besides, the cabinet approved signing of an MoU between India and Nepal to construct a bridge over River Mahakali. The bridge will help the people living in Uttarakhand's Dharchula and in the area under Nepal territory. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the scheme on Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II for Intra-State Transmission System in 7 states
- Estimated cost – Rs 12,031.33 Cr (CFA - 33%) | Period – 5 years from FY 2021-22 to 2025-26
- Cabinet approved an MoU between India & Nepal – to construct a bridge over 'River Mahakali'



128. On January 5, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel inaugurated a 2-day International Conference of Academic Institutions at Science City, Gujarat as a precursor to the 10th Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit which was held between January 10 and 12. During the inaugural ceremony, Bhupendra Patel launched the 2nd edition of the “Student Start-up and Innovation Policy (SSIP 2.0)”. The SSIP 2.0 will remain in force till March 2027. The new policy aims to establish an innovation and incubation centre in each of the 90-odd universities in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhupendra Patel – inaugurated a 2-day “International Conference of Academic Institutions” at Science City, Gujarat
- Bhupendra Patel – launched the 2nd edition of “Student Start-up & Innovation Policy (SSIP 2.0)”
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar](#) | [CM – Bhupendra Patel](#) | [Governor – Acharya Devvrat](#)

129. On January 7, the Election Commission of India (ECI) enhanced the candidate expenditure limit for Parliamentary Constituencies and Assembly Constituencies. The poll body increased the expenditure limit for the Parliamentary constituencies to Rs 95 lakh (from Rs 70 lakh) for bigger states and Rs 75 lakh (from Rs 54 lakh) for smaller states. Likewise, the expenditure amount was revised to Rs 40 lakh (from Rs 28 lakh) for Assembly constituencies in bigger states while that in smaller states was increased to Rs 28 lakh (from Rs 20 lakh). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ECI enhanced the candidate expenditure limit for Parliamentary & Assembly Constituencies
- Parliamentary Constituencies: Rs 95 lakh for bigger states & Rs 75 lakh for smaller states
- Assembly Constituencies: Rs 40 lakh for bigger states & Rs 28 lakh for smaller states
- [HQs of ECI – New Delhi](#) | [Chief Election Commissioner – Sushil Chandra \(24th\)](#) | [Formed on – 25th Jan, 1950](#)

130. Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw announced that Indian Railways plans to implement ‘Plan Bee’ throughout India. ‘Plan Bee’ adopted by the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) is a unique amplifying system imitating the buzz of a swarm of Honey Bees to keep Elephants away from railway tracks. ‘Plan Bee’ had also won “Best Innovation Award” by Indian Railways in July, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways plans to implement ‘Plan Bee’ throughout India
- Initially adopted by – Northeast Frontier Railway | Award won in 2019 – “Best Innovation Award”
- [HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi](#)

131. Mud Crab Reovirus (MCRV), also known as ‘Sleeping Disease’, caused the mass mortality (death) of Wild Crabs (Scylla serrate) in Andhra Pradesh. Joint research by M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) and Centre for Advanced Study in Marine Biology (Tamil Nadu) confirmed the presence of MCRV in the collected samples. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mud Crab Reovirus (MCRV) or Sleeping Disease – caused the mass death of Wild Crabs in Andhra Pradesh
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati \(LC\), Visakhapatnam \(EC\) & Kurnool \(JC\)](#)
- [CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy](#) | [Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

132. In January 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was trapped on a flyover for 20 minutes by protesters in Punjab. The Special Protection Group (SPG) is responsible for the safety and security of the prime minister. For visits to the states, the SPG follows the instructions as stated in the ‘Blue Book’. The instructions in the ‘Blue Book’ are issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi was trapped on a flyover for 20 minutes by protesters in Punjab (in Jan 2022)
- SPG is responsible for the safety & security of the PM
- SPG follows the instructions as stated in the 'Blue Book' – issued by Ministry of Home Affairs

133. On January 12, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated 11 new government Medical Colleges and the new campus of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) in Tamil Nadu. The institutes were established under the Centre's 'Establishing of New Medical Colleges attached with existing district/referral hospital' scheme. While the new campus of CICT was fully-funded by the Central government and built at a cost of ₹24 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi inaugurated 11 new Medical Colleges & new campus of Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) in Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi
- HQs of CICT – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Chairperson – M. K. Stalin | Director – R. Chandrasekaran

134. On January 8, National Health Mission, Assam in collaboration with Piramal Swasthya and Cisco launched project "Niramay" to demonstrate the integration of digital health technology to strengthen the public health care delivery in the state. This initiative is based on Piramal Swasthya's indigenous integrated health technology platform 'AMRIT'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- National Health Mission (Assam) + Piramal Swasthya + Cisco = launched project "Niramay" for digital health technology
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Location of Piramal Swasthya Management & Research Institute (NGO) – Hyderabad, Telangana
- HQs of Cisco – California, US | CEO – Chuck Robbins

135. On January 6, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid foundation stones for 572 km of National Highway (NH) projects at a cost of Rs 12,981 Cr in Kaushambi, Ayodhya and Basti in Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari laid foundation stones for 572km NH projects in Kaushambi, Ayodhya & Basti (UP) | Cost - Rs 12,981 Cr
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

136. In January 2022, The Haryana government has proposed to set up the first heli-hub of the country in Gurugram the 1st of its kind in the country to have all the facilities at one place like heliport, hangars, repairs, & any other related services. It is in alignment with the NCRPB Regional Plan 2041 to introduce heli-taxi service in the region. Also, Maharaja Agrasen Airport is being built in Hisar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – proposed to set up 1st heli-hub of India – in Gurugram
- Maharaja Agrasen Airport – being built in Hisar, Haryana
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya



137. In January 2022, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 2nd campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute (CNCI) in Kolkata in a virtual event. The facility will help in ensuring quality healthcare to the poor & the middle class & will be equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for cancer diagnosis, staging, treatment & care. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 2nd campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute in Kolkata
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

138. In January 2022, Shri Rajnath Singh flagged-in India's first 'Multi-dimensional Adventure Sports Expedition' conducted by National Institute of Mountaineering & Allied Sports (NIMAS) in France. The expedition was conducted in November 2021 & the team was led by Director NIMAS Colonel Sarfaraz Singh. The expedition team carried out over 250km of winter trekking in the Alps Mountain Ranges followed by 975km of cycling from Alps Mountain Ranges to English Channel near Dunkirk via France, Switzerland & Belgium & culminated with 12 deep scuba dives in the Mediterranean Sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – flagged-in India's 1st 'Multi-dimensional Adventure Sports Expedition' (conducted in France by - NIMAS)
- Expedition team lead by – Sarfaraz Singh
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

139. On January 6, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) released guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for waste Tyres. As per data provided for an NGT case, India discards roughly 2,75,000 tyres each year but does not have comprehensive plan for them. After 2024-25, the EPR obligation will be 100% of the quantity of new tyres manufactured or imported in the year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoEFCC – released guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for waste Tyres

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

140. On January 6, the Union Cabinet approved the signing of an MoU between India and Turkmenistan on cooperation in Disaster Management. The cabinet also approved an MoU between India & Spain on cooperation & mutual assistance in Customs Matters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved an MoU on cooperation in Disaster Management – between India & Turkmenistan
- Cabinet approved an MoU on cooperation & mutual assistance in Customs Matters – between India & Spain
- Turkmenistan – Ashgabat – Manat | President – Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow
- Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez



141. On January 10, Sova Capital, a London-based emerging markets broker-dealer, signed an agreement with BSE's India International Exchange (India INX) to facilitate investing in Russian stock market. The partnership will create a bridge for Indian investors to access trading on Moscow Exchange (MOEX). India INX Global Access IFSC Limited, a subsidiary of India INX, launched a platform through which Indian clients can trade foreign stocks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sova Capital (London) + India INX = an agreement to facilitate investing in Russian stock market (MOEX)
- HQs of India INX – GIFT City, Gujarat | MD & CEO – V. Balasubramaniam

142. On January 5, AIC STPINEXT Initiatives (STPINEXT), a special purpose vehicle of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), signed two MoUs, one with HDFC Bank and another with Excelpoint Systems India Pvt Ltd, for fostering entrepreneurship and nurturing tech startups in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- STPINEXT signed two MoUs with HDFC Bank & Excelpoint Systems India to strengthen Tech-startup Ecosystem in India
- HQs of STPI – New Delhi | DG – Arvind Kumar
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

Ordinance, Bills and Acts

143. In January 2022, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) notified the new amendments to the “Environment (Protection) Act, 1986” for better monitoring and utilisation of fly ash by Coal-based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) in India. The latest notification mandates all coal and lignite-based TPPs to utilise 100% fly ash in an environment friendly manner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoEFCC – notified new norms for fly ash utilisation by Coal-based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) in India
- MoEFCC – amended the “Environment (Protection) Act, 1986” for the same purpose
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

144. On January 7, Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated a Conference on e-Governance in Hyderabad, Telangana. The 24th “Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) 2020-21” was organised by Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) in association with the Telangana government. The theme of this conference was “India’s Techade: Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World”. Moreover, 26 ‘National Awards for e-Governance 2021’ were presented during the conference where the State Labour Department of Chhattisgarh won ‘Golden Award for e-Shramik Seva’. While, Uttar Pradesh received the most number of National e-governance awards in 24th e-Governance Conference. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh – inaugurated 24th “Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) 2020-21” in Hyderabad, Telangana
- The Conference was organised by = DARPG + MeitY + Telangana government
- Chhattisgarh’s State Labour Department – won ‘Golden Award for e-Shramik Seva’ during the ‘NCeG’
- Uttar Pradesh – received the most number of National e-governance awards in 24th e-Governance Conference
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

145. On January 9, A mission to combat malnourishment among children aged 6 months to 5 years won the “SKOCH Award” for southern Assam’s Cachar district. Cachar district’s mission named “Parvarish” saw 704 out of 800 children recover from the severely acute malnourished stage. Instituted in 2003, SKOCH Award recognises people, projects and institutions that go the extra mile to make India a better nation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Parvarish” mission of Cachar district (Assam) – won the “SKOCH Award” to combat malnourishment among children
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

146. In January 2022, the Kerala Arts & Crafts Village near Kovalam won the “2021 International Craft Award” for the best craft village of the year. Shahrbanoo Arabian (Iran) & Dalavayi Kullayappa (India) were selected as the craft persons of the year. Sri Lanka’s Chandramali Liyanage was named as Craft icon of the year. China’s Qiling Zhang & India’s Mubin Khatri got selected for the Next generation craft designers. India’s Amita Sachdeva & Mubarik Khatri have won the artisans award. The “House of Toramally”, “Jaipur Rugs” and “Mandala” & “Gaurang Shah” were selected as the craft brands of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 International Craft Awards”:
 - Best Craft Village of the Year – Kerala Arts & Crafts Village
 - Craft Persons of the Year – Shahrbanoo Arabian (Iran) & Dalavayi Kullayappa (India)
 - Craft Icon of the Year – Chandramali Liyanage (Sri Lanka)
 - Next Generation Craft Designers – Qiling Zhang (China) & Mubin Khatri (India)
 - Artisans Award – Amita Sachdeva (India) & Mubarik Khatri (India)
 - Craft Brands of India – “House of Toramally”, “Jaipur Rugs” and “Mandala” & “Gaurang Shah”
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

147. In January 2022, Uttar Pradesh was awarded the 1st prize in 3rd National Water Awards-2020 in the best state category, followed by Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu. Ministry of Jal Shakti gave 57 awards to States, Organizations, Individuals etc. in 11 different categories. The 1st National Water Award was launched in 2018 in attaining the government’s vision of a ‘Jal Samridh Bharat’. The ₹3.6 trillion Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme aims to ensure assured tap water supply or ‘Har Ghar Jal’ to all rural households by 2024. Mission Paani (Network 18) was awarded for the ‘Best Media (Print & Electronic)’ category. While ITC Ltd was awarded for the ‘Best Industry for CSR activities’ category. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “National Water Awards 2020” in ‘Best state’ category: 1st – UP | 2nd – Rajasthan | 3rd – Tamil Nadu
- ‘Best Media (Print & Electronic)’ category – Mission Paani (Network 18)
- ‘Best Industry for CSR activities’ category – ITC Ltd
- Jal Jeevan Mission targets to ensure ‘Har Ghar Jal’ to all rural households – by 2024
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS for Jal Shakti & Food Processing Industries – Prahlad Singh Patel

Amount & Agreements

148. In January 2022, Ministry of Tourism allocated Rs 500 Cr to Uttar Pradesh under its “Swadesh Darshan” scheme for strengthening tourism infrastructure. The announcement was made by Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy after he virtually inaugurated various components developed at Govardhan bus stand in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh under the “PRASAD scheme” of Ministry of Tourism. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism – allocated Rs 500 Cr to Uttar Pradesh under its “Swadesh Darshan” scheme
- G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated various projects – at Govardhan bus stand in Mathura, UP under “PRASAD scheme”
- “Swadesh Darshan” scheme + “PRASAD scheme” = belong to Ministry of Tourism
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

149. India is on track to surpass China as the world’s 3rd largest Ethanol consumer by 2026 as India accelerates the transformation towards a clean energy ecosystem with the objective of becoming carbon neutral by 2070. Ethanol demand in India tripled between 2017 and 2021. India brought forward its 20% ethanol blending target with gasoline from 2030 to 2025, and is aiming to start selling 20% blends in 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to surpass China as the world’s 3rd largest Ethanol consumer by 2026



International Affairs

150. In January 2022, China, Russia, Britain, the United States & France (The permanent five members of the UNSC) agreed that a further spread of nuclear arms & a nuclear war should be avoided. They also agreed that a nuclear war 'cannot be won & must never be fought'. The joint pledge was issued ahead of latest review of the Treaty of the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The treaty came into force 1970. In total, 191 states have signed the treaty. South Africa is the only country known to have developed nuclear weapons & then to have dismantled its nuclear arsenal completely. North Korea is the only country to withdraw from the treaty. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China, Russia, Britain, US & France – agreed to stop further spread of Nuclear Arms & Nuclear War
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) – signed in July 1968 & effective from March 1970
- North Korea – the only country to withdraw from the NPT
- HQs of UNSC – New York, US | Presidency in January – Norway (Dec - Niger | Feb - Russia)





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