



Current Affairs

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Rajasthan

Sangeet Natak Akademi Award

- Four artists from Rajasthan awarded for the year 2022 and 2023

For the year 2022

- Vasant Kabra (Sarod player)
- Daulat Ram Vaid (Allied Theatre Arts - Lighting)
- Gaffuruddin Mewati Jogi (Bhapang player)

For the year 2023

- Moinuddin Khan (Sarangi player)

Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Award

- Priyadarshini Mishra (Jaipur) - for theatre writing
- Yusuf Mewati (Mewati Gharana, Alwar)

Ramashraya

- Geriatric specialist unit
- Separate ward for the elderly in every district hospital of the state
- Medical and Health Department by Rajasthan Government
- Ward of 10 Beds.

Didwana-Kuchaman

- Didwana-Kuchaman tops the performance of Rajasthan districts under Jal Jeevan Mission
- 11 districts of the state are top performers while 24 districts are in the most backward category
- Apart from Jaipur city and Jodhpur city, ranking of other 48 districts was made.
- Jal Jeevan Mission - Scheme to provide tap water to every home

State Water Resources System Portal

- Rajasthan is the first state to launch this portal.
- Objective - To provide real time information about the water level of dams and canals of the state.
- Developed by the State Water Resources and Ground Water Department under the National Hydrology Project

National Conference on Sustainable Development Goals

- Venue - Jaipur
- Organizer - NITI Aayog + Rajasthan Government + UNDP
- Objective - Discussion on accelerating the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Three knowledge portals launched by Rajasthan Chief Minister during the conference
 - ✓ SDG Knowledge Hub
 - ✓ Food and Nutrition Security Analysis Dashboard
 - ✓ SDG-2 (Zero Hunger) Dashboard

Rajasthan Institute for Transformation and Innovation (RITI)

- Formed in order to achieve the goal of Developed Rajasthan 2047.
- Replaced Chief Minister Rajasthan Economic Reform Advisory Council
- Function - To give suggestions regarding policies for the development of the state in various fields.

Structure

- Chairman - Chief Minister, Government of Rajasthan

- Vice-Chairman - Nomination by the Chief Minister
- Full-time Member - Nomination by the Chief Minister
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Administrative Secretary of the Planning Department

Ramgarh Crater

- Declared India's first Geo Heritage site.
- Located in Ramgarh village of Baran district
- By Rajasthan government.
- Formed by a meteor impact 165 million years ago (about 3 kilometers in diameter)
- Other craters in the country
 - ✓ Lonar Crater, Maharashtra
 - ✓ Dhala Crater, Madhya Pradesh



Increase in the number of leopards in Rajasthan

- According to the report of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- Between 2018 and 2022, the number of leopards increased from 476 to 721
- The report includes four tiger reserves of Rajasthan
 - ✓ Mukundra Tiger Reserve
 - ✓ Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve

- ✓ Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve
- ✓ Sariska Tiger Reserve

Hanumangarh is the most polluted city in the state

- According to the report released by the Centre for Science and Environment
- The three most air polluted cities in the country are
 - ✓ Delhi NCR
 - ✓ Begusrai
 - ✓ Hanumangarh
- The least air polluted city in the state – Sirohi

Center of Excellence for Treatment of Rare Diseases

- JK Lone Hospital, Jaipur
- For the treatment of rare diseases in children

Kamyaab Kota Abhiyan

- To reduce stress, anxiety and depression among students regarding exams
- District Collector interacts with students in the “Dinner with Collector” program

School at Home

- Department of Social Justice and Empowerment launched educational helpline
- For students of special schools under the Directorate of Persons with Disabilities.

Hybrid drone

- Developed by IIT Jodhpur
- Capable of operating on land, water and air

- Inspired by the bird species 'Anhinga'
- It can stay underwater for 8 hours and has a flight time of 15 minutes.



National

Appointment of Election Commissioners in Election Commission

- Gyanesh Kumar - Kerala cadre IAS officer
- Sukhbir Singh Sandhu - Former Chief Secretary of Uttarakhand
- Chief Election Commissioner - Rajiv Kumar

Kishor Makwana

- Appointed as the Chairman of National Scheduled Castes Commission (NCSC)
- Author and litterateur
- Important books
 - ✓ Samajik Kranti Na Mahanayak Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar
 - ✓ Swami Vivekananda
 - ✓ Krantiveer Birsa Munda
 - ✓ Yug Pravartak Shivaji Maharaj

Shefali B Sharan

- Appointed as Principle Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB)

- Indian Information Service (IIS) officer

Navneet Kumar Sehgal

- Appointed Chairman of Prasar Bharati Board
- Prasar Bharati is a public broadcasting agency of India which includes Doordarshan and Akashvani.

Prime Minister's visit to Bhutan

- Inauguration of Gyaltsuen Jetsun Pema Mother and Child Hospital in Thimpu.
- Awarded Bhutan's highest civilian honour 'Order of the Druk Gyalpo'
- First foreign head of state to receive this honour

Marine Species Named After His Excellency The President

- Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has discovered a new species of sea slug belonging to the genus Melanochlamys
- off the coasts of West Bengal and Odisha
- It has been named 'Melanochlamys Draupadi' after President Draupadi Murmu.
- This species is found only in India.



National Dolphin Research Centre

- Established on the banks of river Ganga in Patna University campus, Bihar.
- India's first National Dolphin Research Centre.
- Objective - To assist scientists and researchers in conducting a comprehensive study of the Ganges dolphin.



Delhi is the most polluted capital in the world

- According to the report released by Swiss air quality monitoring organization "IQ Air"
- Most polluted city in the world – Begusarai
- Most polluted country in the world - Bangladesh

India Employment Report 2024

- Released by International Labour Organization and Institute of Human Development
- Title - Youth Education, Employment and Skills
- According to the report, share of unemployed youth in India's total workforce - 83 percent
- Number of educated unemployed - 65.7 percent

Startup Maha Kumbh

- Venue - New Delhi
- 3 days
- Objective - To connect venture capitalists and investors with startups.

International Big Cat Alliance

- Union Cabinet approved establishment of International Big Cat Alliance.
- Headquarters – India
- Objective - Conservation of big cats.
- Big cats include - tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, jaguar, leopard and puma.

Underwater Metro Train

- The country's first underwater metro train will be inaugurated in Kolkata.
- The 520 m long metro train between Kolkata and Howrah will be covered in a tunnel built 13 m below the bed of Hugli river.



Indigenous Hydrogen Fuel Cell Ferry

- Launched at Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu
- Built by Cochin Shipyard Limited
- Under the Green Ferry Initiative
 - ✓ To promote the use of green fuel in inland waterways based passenger vessels.
- This vessel was deployed for service at Varanasi.

- India's first indigenous hydrogen fuel cell ferry



Palm Oil Processing Unit

- Commercial operations started at the country's first integrated palm oil processing unit
- Set up in Roing of Lower Dibang Valley district of Arunachal Pradesh
- Operated by "3F Oil Palm" company

Measles & Rubella Champion Award

- Award to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India
- For combating measles and rubella
- By The Measles & Rubella Partnership

Jain Manuscript Science Centre

- Approval for establishment in Gujarat University
- By Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India

Lachit Borphukan

- Unveiling of 125 feet high statue of Ahom commander Lachit Borphukan
- It is called the 'Statue of Valour'
- Lachit Borphukan led the army of the Ahom Empire in the 'Battle of Saraighat'.
 - ❖ The Battle of Saraighat was fought in the year 1671 on the

banks of the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati.

- ❖ In this, the Ahom army defeated the Mughal army.
- ❖ Commander of the Mughal Army - Kachchwaha King Ram Singh I

Sela Tunnel

- Tunnel built at 13000 feet in Arunachal Pradesh
- Constructed by Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
- This tunnel connects Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh) to Tezpur (Assam).

Sherni

- 'She Research Network in India' launched by University Grants Commission (UGC)
- To tackle gender disparity in science and promote equitable representation
- Aim - To establish a national level government expert platform for women faculty members.

Country's tallest weather tower

- Located in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Inaugurated by Union Earth Sciences Minister
- 72 m high and capable of tracking clouds from 200 km away

Asteroid Naming

- Named after Prof. Jayant Murthy of Bangalore
- 2005EX296 was replaced by '(215884) Jayant Murthy'
- By the International Astronomical Union (IAU)

- Prof. Murthy was the acting director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics.



Chakshu Platform

- Chakshu platform launched by Department of Telecommunications
- To report fraud or spam callers through Sanchar Sathi portal

Digital Intelligence Platform

- By Department of Telecommunications
- To share intelligence among stakeholders from law enforcement agencies, banks and financial institutions and to prevent misuse of data

Mission Divyastra

- Successful test of Agni-5 missile equipped with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology.
- Launched by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- From Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha



MH 60R Seahawk Helicopters

- Indian Navy inducted MH 60R Seahawk helicopters into its fleet.
- MH 60R Seahawk is known as Romeo.
- Imported from USA
- Importance - In anti-submarine warfare and medical operations etc.



Silver Tarakashi

- The famous silver Tarakashi of Cuttack, Odisha has been given GI tag.
- It is also known as 'Rupa Tarakashi' or 'Silver Filigree'



Indiramma Awas Yojana

- By Telangana government
- Financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to poor people for building houses

Idira Gandhi Pyari Behna Sukh Samman Nidhi Yojana

- By Himachal Pradesh government
- Rs 1500 per month to women in the age group of 18-60 years
- 1 female character from 1 family

Kocharab Ashram

- Redeveloped into Sabarmati Ashram, Gujarat
- Inaugurated by PM
- First Ashram established by Mahatma Gandhi after coming to India from South Africa

Bharat Shakti Exercise

- Tri-service exercise
- Venue - Pokhran Jaisalmer

International

Third Summit for Democracy

- 18-20 March in Seoul, South Korea
- In hybrid format
- Address by the Prime Minister of India via Video Conferencing
- Summit for Democracy was launched by US President Joe Biden in 2021

Pokhara

- Declared the tourism capital of Nepal
- Located in Gandaki Province of Nepal
- This city is famous for its natural beauty
- Home to many lakes including Phewa Lake, Begnas Lake and Rupa Lake

Yaoundé Declaration

- Health ministers from 11 African countries signed the Yaoundé Declaration aimed at eliminating malaria deaths.
- On the occasion of the Yaoundé Conference co-hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Government of Cameroon
- Yaounde – Capital of Cameroon



Human Development Index 2023-24

- Issued by - United Nations Development Programme
- Theme - 'Breaking the deadlock: Reimagining cooperation in a polarized world'
- Top position - Switzerland (Score - 0.967)
- Last position - Somalia (Score - 0.380)
- India's rank - 134 (Score - 0.644)
- This index is based on three aspects -
 - Life expectancy
 - Average years of education and expected years of schooling
 - Per capita income

Gender Inequality Index

- Released by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- 1st Rank - Denmark
- India's Rank - 108 (Score - 0.437)
- 122nd Rank in 2021

World Happiness Index 2024

- Released by United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- 1st Rank - Finland
- India's Rank - 126

Hurun Global Rich List

- Released by Hurun Research Institute

- Mumbai overtook Beijing for the first time to become Asia's billionaire capital.
- India's Mukesh Ambani ranked 10th on the list.
- Elon Musk - Richest Person

96th Oscar Awards (2024)

- Best Film - Oppenheimer
- Best Direction - Christopher Nolan (Oppenheimer)
- Best Actor - Cillian Murphy (Oppenheimer)
- Best Actress - Emma Stone (Poor Things)
- Best Supporting Actor - Robert Downey Jr. (Oppenheimer)
- Best Supporting Actress - Da'Vine Joy Randolph (The Hold Over)
- The Oppenheimer film won seven Oscar awards, including Best Picture.
- The film Poor Things won four Oscar awards.

Abel Prize

- In the field of mathematics
- To Michel Tallagrand
- By The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters



Erasmus Prize

- To author Amitav Ghosh
- For writings on climate change

- By The Praemium Erasmianum Foundation
- Main books of Amitav Ghosh - The Shadow Lines, The Calcutta Chromosome, Sea of Poppies, The Hungry Tide



Pritzker Architecture Prize

- In the field of architecture
- To Japanese architect Riken Yamamoto
- Equivalent to the Nobel Prize in the Architecture
- Balkrishna Doshi - the only architect from India to be awarded with this award (2018)



Miss World 2023

- Kristina Piskova of the Czech Republic



Global Inequality Research Prize

- To Bina Agrawal and James Boyce
- by World Inequality Lab and Sciences Po Centre for Research on Social Inequalities

Operation Indravati

- By the Government of India
- To evacuate Indians stranded in Haiti
- Due to increasing violence in Haiti

Lamitie Military Exercise

- Between Indian Army and Seychelles Defence Forces
- 10th Edition
- Venue - Seychelles

Dharma Guardian

- Annual Joint military exercise between Indian Army and Japan Ground Self Defense Force
- 5th edition
- Venue - Mahajan Field Firing Range, Bikaner
- In this exercise, for the first time, trained animals (eagles and dogs) were used to catch hidden terrorists.

Samudra Lakshman Exercise

- Between Indian Navy and Malaysian Navy
- Venue - Visakhapatnam
- Indian Naval Ship Kiltan involved

Sea Defenders-2024

- Joint maritime security exercise of Indian Coast Guard and United States Coast Guard
- Venue - Port Blair

Sports

Ranji Trophy

- 89th edition
- Winner - Mumbai (record 42 times)
- Runner-up - Vidarbha
- Venue of the final match - Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai
- Player of the Series - Tanush Kotian (Mumbai)



Women's Premier League (WPL)

- 2nd Edition
- Winner - Royal Challengers Bangalore
- Runner-up - Delhi Capitals
- Player of the Series - Deepti Sharma (UP Warriors)
- Orange Cap - Ellyse Perry (RCB)
- Purple Cap - Shreyanka Patil (RCB)

Pro Kabaddi League 2023-24

- 10th Edition
- Winner - Puneri Paltan (First Time)
- Runner-up - Haryana Steelers
- Venue of Final Match - GMC Balayogi Stadium, Hyderabad



Pankaj Advani

- Indian snooker player
- Inducted into Billiards Hall of Fame
- Hall of Fame Located at the 'World Billiards Museum' in Shangrao City, China



Ansh Nerurkar

- 11-year-old Indian chess player
- First Indian to win the 'Future Category' title of 'Prague International Chess Festival'
- Also won the Best Team award along with R Praggnanandhaa



World Shooting Para Sports World Cup

- Venue - New Delhi
- Rudransh Khandelwal from Bharatpur won two silver medals
- ✓ In the 50m pistol SH-4 category team event and individual event



- Mona Agarwal from Sikar won gold medal in the 10m rifle SH-1 category.



Important Days

World Wildlife Day

- 3 March
- Theme - 'Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation'

International Women's Day

- 8 March
- Theme - 'Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress'

World Consumer Rights Day

- 15 March
- Theme - 'Fair and Responsible AI for Consumers'

International Day of Forests

- 21 March
- Theme - 'Forests and Innovation: New Solutions for a Better World'

World Water Day

- 22 March
- Theme - 'Water for Peace'