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20th December 2022

INTERNATIONAL

1) US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen

- The European Union has adopted a plan for a global minimum 15% tax on big business. The landmark deal between nearly 140 countries aims to stop governments racing to cut taxes in a bid to attract companies.

- It was praised by US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen as “an historic agreement which helps even the playing field”.

2) Diplomatic relations between India and Japan

- On the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Japan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the ties between the two countries have deepened in every sphere, be it strategic, economic or people-to-people contacts.

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NATIONAL

1) Cleaning Our Holy Rivers’,

- The festival aims to celebrate the great Epics, the Warriors Who Fought for Our Freedom, and the many policy decisions and schemes instituted by our Government towards ‘Women Empowerment’, towards ‘Cleaning Our Holy Rivers’, towards keeping our Country ‘Clean and Free from Dirt and Disease’.

2) Indian Navy’s sailboat INSV Tarini

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- Indian Navy's sailboat INSV Tarini has set sail for an expedition to Cape Town, South Africa for participating in the 50th edition of Cape to Rio Race 2023.
- This ocean sailing race will be flagged off from Cape Town on 2 January 2023 and will culminate at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- The race is one of the most prestigious Trans-Atlantic ocean races.
- The expedition is being undertaken by an Indian Navy crew of five officers including two women officers.

STATE NEWS

1) Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation

- In Gujarat, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has unveiled the logo, website and social media handles of the Urban-20 conference in Gandhinagar.
- The UNESCO heritage city Ahmedabad will host the Urban 20 cycles as part of G-20 meetings between February to July.
- The logo unveiling event in Gandhinagar was attended by senior officials of the Gujarat government and the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation.

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2) Aadhaar identification

- The Tamil Nadu government has announced that all those who are eligible for benefits (other than minor children) under various government schemes are required to submit proof of possession of an Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar identification.
- According to the order, Aadhaar is mandatory for government employees, government pensioners and beneficiaries of various schemes implemented by the State government through various Departments by their implementing agencies.

3) 'Cleaning Our Holy Rivers'

- The festival aims to celebrate the great Epics, the Warriors Who Fought for Our Freedom, and the many policy decisions and schemes instituted by our Government towards 'Women Empowerment', towards 'Cleaning Our Holy Rivers', towards keeping our Country 'Clean and Free from Dirt and Disease'.

4) 599th meeting of the board was held in Kolkata

- The 599th meeting of the board was held in Kolkata on December 16. The meeting was chaired by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das.
- The Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reviewed the current economic situation, and global and domestic challenges including the overall geopolitical developments, finance, and trade.
- The Board also discussed the activities of select Central Office Departments and the draft Report on the Trend and Progress of Banking in India, 2021-22.



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5) 'Friends of Library'

- The 'Friends of Library' programme, under which books would be directly given to those who are unable to access state-run libraries, was introduced by the Tamil Nadu government.
- The project will be helpful to people with disabilities, seniors, kids, and hospital in-patients, among others, who are unable to visit a library. Volunteers will hand over the books to such people from the libraries.



SPORTS

1) Karim Benzema

- France footballer Karim Benzema has announced his retirement from International football.
- Benzema ends his time with France with 37 goals in 97 appearances, but his time with the squad hasn't exactly been easy since his debut 15 years ago.
- When Benzema made his debut for France against Austria in March 2007, he scored while playing as a substitute.

2) Rehan Ahmed

- England's leg-spinner Rehan Ahmed has become the youngest men's Test cricketer to take a five-wicket haul on debut during the ongoing third match against Pakistan at the National Bank Cricket Arena.
- After making his Test debut at 18 years and 126 days, Rehan claimed three wickets in six overs on his way to 5-48 in the second innings, playing a key role in bowling out Pakistan for 216 in 74.5 overs on day three of the match.
- Rehan's brilliant display helped him set England a 167-run target to clinch the series 3-0.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) 'Fit At Any Age'

- Air Marshal PV Iyer (retd.) has launched his book 'Fit At Any Age' at India International Centre, New Delhi. He penned his journey to fitness in the book and shared anecdotes from his life to explain how he became motivated to work out daily.
- He also writes about why it's important to work out and why one's journey towards fitness should start early. The book, published by Bloomsbury India.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Sonakshi Sinha

- Bollywood actress, Sonakshi Sinha has been awarded PETA India's 2022 Person of the Year title. Sonakshi's actions helped save the lives of many animals killed for fashion, but her strong advocacy for dog and cat rights earned her the title.



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- She is actively involved in animal welfare activities and regularly voices out the need for stronger animal protection laws. The international animal rights non-profit group endorsed the title and celebrated the actions of the “Dabang” actress for saving animal lives in India.

2) Industry Excellence Award

- National Mineral Development Corporation won the coveted IEI (Institution of Engineers, India) Industry Excellence Award 2022 in Chennai.

- The largest producer of the iron ore in the country was felicitated at the 37th Indian Engineering Congress for its outstanding performance and high level of business excellence.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) Human Solidarity Day

- International Human Solidarity Day is observed annually on December 20 across the globe to celebrate the ideal of unity in diversity.

- IHSD highlights the goal of the United Nations and its member states to create awareness about poverty and the need to reduce poverty in independent nations.

OBITUARY

1) Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa passes away

- Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa, a Hawaiian princess whose lineage included the royal family that once ruled the islands and an Irish businessman who became one of Hawaii’s largest landowners, passed away at the age of 96 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

- She was born on 23rd April 1926 in Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

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