

National

1. MoU signed between KVIC and QCI

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Quality Council of India and the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to enhance the quality of khadi produced by KVIC. The MoU between KVIC and QCI was signed at Kochrab Ashram established by Mahatma Gandhi.

2. Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary included in Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme

The Ministry of Tourism has included the Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary located at Bargarh District in Odisha in the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme. The Swadesh Darshan Scheme was launched in 2015 by the Ministry of Tourism to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country.

अतुल्य भारत



Incredible India

SWADESH DARSHAN

3. 19742 Fog Pass Devices provisioned

The Indian Railways has provisioned 19742 Fog Pass Devices. The step has been taken to ensure smooth rail operations during foggy weather as a large number of trains are affected in northern parts of the country. It is a GPS based navigation device and is suitable for trains with speed upto 160 kmph. The Northern Railway has been provisioned with maximum number of Devices that is 4491 devices.

4. Government of India to end FMR with Myanmar

The Government of India is planning to terminate the Free Movement Regime (FMR) along the International borders with Myanmar. The step is being taken to address issues like illegal migration and insurgent

activities taking place at the border. The FMR was initiated in 2018 as part of India's look east policy.



5. KLI-SOFC project inaugurated

The Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kochi-Lakshadweep Islands Submarine Optical Fibre Connection (KLI-SOFC) project. The Project aims to provide 100 times faster internet for the people of Lakshadweep. The project was conceptualised and undertaken by the Department of Telecommunications (DOT).

6. SMART 2.0

The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) along with Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) has launched the SMART 2.0 program to mainstream research in the field of Ayurveda. SMART stands for Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research among Teaching Professionals.



7. River rejuvenation project Devika

The Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi is set to unveil North India's first river rejuvenation project "Devika" built on the lines of Namami Gange. The

Devika Project was launched in February 2019 and is implemented along Devika River in Jammu and Kashmir.

8. ST status to Hattee community of Himachal Pradesh

The Government of Himachal Pradesh issued a notification giving Scheduled Tribe Status to the Hattee community. The Hattee community resides in the Trans giri area of Sirmaur district. The State government issued notification after soughting clarification on the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Act.

9. KLI-SOFC project inaugurated

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10. 10th edition of Sagar Parikrama

The 10th phase of Sagar Parikrama - a Coastal yatra was launched by the Government of India covering areas of Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry Coastal districts. The aim of the yatra is to resolve issues of Fishermen and facilitate economic upliftment of these fishermen through various schemes.

11. Ashtlaxmi Haat

The North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHDC) established Ashtlaxmi Haat for Northeastern Arts and Crafts. The Haat is set up as a dedicated marketplace in Guwahati which will showcase crafts of local artisans and boost incomes of artisans in the Region.

12. 31000 translations completed by E-SCR portal

The groundbreaking initiative of translating 36000

Judgements into scheduled languages taken by the Supreme Court in 2023, achieved a major leap as the year ended with 31000 judgments being translated into Scheduled Languages. The major feat was achieved by the e-SCR portal or SUVAS (Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software), an AI powered translation tool.

13. Government allows women employees to nominate children instead of husbands for pension in marital discord cases

In case of marital discord, a notable amendment has been made to Rule 50 of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 2021, enabling a woman employee to prioritize her child or children over her husband for family pension nomination. The family pension is granted under this rule following the demise of a government servant or retired government servant.

14. PM Modi Pays Tribute to Savitribai Phule and Rani Velu Nachiyar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to Savitribai Phule and Rani Velu Nachiyar on their birth anniversaries, acknowledging their inspirational impact on society. Savitribai Phule, a trailblazer in women's education, and Rani Velu Nachiyar, an esteemed Tamil queen who resisted the colonial empire in the 18th century, were praised for their compassion and courage.

15. PM Modi Unveils Mega Development Projects in Tiruchirappalli for Inclusive Growth

In a bid for 'Sabka Vikas' in southern India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation for development projects exceeding Rs 20,000 crore in Tiruchirappalli. After a convocation at Bharathidasan University, PM Modi was honoured by Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin.

16. RBI Proposes Revised Guidelines for Dividend

Declaration by Banks

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed granting permission for banks with a net non-performing assets (NPAs) ratio below 6 percent to declare dividends. Currently, banks must maintain a NNPA ratio of up to 7 percent to be eligible for dividend declaration. The RBI outlined in draft guidelines that the net NPA ratio for the relevant financial year should be less than six percent.

17. Air India Introduces Cutting-Edge Airbus A350 for Enhanced Domestic Travel Experience

Air India is poised to usher in a new era of domestic travel with the arrival of its first Airbus A350 aircraft. These state-of-the-art planes, boasting advanced technology and unparalleled comfort, will take to the skies on January 22nd, 2024, initially serving key routes between Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, and Mumbai.

18. PM Modi to Inaugurate Upgraded Tiruchirappalli International Airport Terminal

PM Modi gets set to unveil the revamped Tiruchirappalli International Airport terminal tomorrow. This architectural marvel, boasting modern amenities and expanded capacity, promises smoother travel and a gateway to tourism and economic growth for South India.



19. Rupee Slips to 83.32 Against US Dollar

The rupee dipped on Monday, losing 11 paise to close at 83.32 against the US dollar. This modest decline followed a negative trend in domestic equities and persistent foreign fund outflows. Experts point to

various factors behind the rupee's wobble. Weakening global risk appetite due to economic concerns, particularly in the US, is putting pressure on emerging market currencies.

20. India's First All-Girls Sainik School Opens in Vrindavan

A milestone was reached for young women in India with the inauguration of the country's first all-girls Sainik school in Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh. The Samvid Gurukulam Balika Sainya Vidyalyaya, nestled amidst the spiritual aura of Vrindavan, promises to empower girls with academic excellence, military training, and leadership skills.



21. Uttarakhand's Farmland Ownership Restrictions

Uttarakhand slammed brakes on 'outsiders' buying farmland, sparking both cheers and jeers. Farmers rejoice, fearing big money land grabs and cultural shifts. Critics cry discrimination, warning of stagnant growth and choked investment.

22. Devastating Earthquakes Hit Western Japan, Leaving Widespread Destruction

Two powerful earthquakes in quick succession have rocked western Japan, leaving a trail of devastation and heartbreak. The first, a magnitude 7.6 temblor, struck on Monday afternoon, sending shockwaves through Ishikawa prefecture and nearby regions. As communities grappled with the initial damage, a strong aftershock jolted the area again, dealing another blow to already reeling residents.

23. 70th edition of Know India Programme

The Valedictory session of the 70th edition of the Know India Programme (KIP) was addressed by Secretary CPV and OIA, Shri Muktesh K. Pradeshi. The Flagship Initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs completes 20 years launched in 2003. The objective of the programme was to foster close connections between Indian diaspora youth and their ancestral homeland.

24. Sukanya Samridhi Yojana

The Government of India raised the interest rate by 20 basis Points to 8.2 percent on the saving scheme "Sukanya Samridhi Yojana". The Scheme was launched in 2025 under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign. The major aim of the scheme is to promote the education of girl children.

25. Foundation Stone for Headquarters of NCDFI laid at Gandhinagar

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah laid down the foundation stone of the Headquarters of National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India (NCDFI) Limited in Gandhinagar during the e-Market Awards 2023 ceremony. NCDFI is the apex organisation for Cooperative dairy sector based at Anand, Gujarat.

26. Maharishi Valmiki Airport inaugurated at Ayodhya

The Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the newly built Maharishi Valmiki International Airport at Ayodhya Dham. The Airport can handle 60 lakh passengers annually after its construction for the second phase is completed.

27. InterOperable Criminal Justice System

The state of Uttar Pradesh tops in the usage of India's Interoperable Criminal Justice System(ICJS). The state has topped in the usage for the third straight year. The ICJS platform enables data sharing and access to common information like FIRS, Trial Records, Court Judgements etc.

28. India emerges as 2nd largest producer of Steel in

the World

With 89.711 million tonnes of domestic steel production, India emerged as the 2nd largest global producer of Steel. India attained a remarkable 14.3% growth in steel production in 2023. Domestic Crude Steel Production stands at 94.114 million tonnes.

29. 12th Divya Kala Mela 2023

The DEPwD in collaboration with National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) inaugurated Divya Kala Mela 2023 in Surat, Gujarat. The event will showcase products and craftsmanship of Divyang Entrepreneurs and artisans from across the country.

International

1. India begins UN Statistical member term

India started its 4 year term as a member of the highest body of the global statistical system, the "UN Statistical System". The UN Statistical Commission was established in 1947 and is headquartered at New York.

2. Genocide Case against Israel at ICJ

The South Africa petitioned an urgent order at International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Israel, declaring breach of its obligations under the 1948 Genocide Conventions. India ratified the Convention in 1959. The UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide was moved in the UNGA in 1948.

3. India and Pakistan exchange list of Nuclear Installations

Under the agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear installations and facilities, India and Pakistan recently exchanged the list of Nuclear installations and facilities through diplomatic channels. The Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear installations and facilities agreement was signed on

December 31, 1988 and the Treaty came into force in 1991.



4. Harvard President Claudine Gay Announces Resignation Amid Controversy and Challenges

Harvard President Claudine Gay, after only six months in office, announced her resignation on Tuesday amidst significant controversy at the university. In a heartfelt letter to the Harvard community, Gay expressed her love for the institution and the difficulty of her decision. Following consultations with the Corporation, she concluded that resigning is in the best interests of Harvard, allowing the community to address the ongoing challenges collectively.

5. Nadia Calvino became first woman president of European Investment Bank

Nadia Calviño assumed the role of President of the European Investment Bank, succeeding Werner Hoyer. As the eighth president and the first woman to lead the institution, Calviño also makes history as the inaugural Spaniard to helm the Bank.

6. Warner Bids Farewell to ODIs

David Warner, the explosive Australian opener, has hung up his ODI boots, drawing the curtain on a phenomenal career in the 50-over format. The 37-year-old, known for his aggressive batting style and fierce determination, announced his retirement on Monday, leaving behind a legacy of 6,932 runs in 161 matches, including 22 centuries.



7. PM Modi Mourns Loss of Legal Scholar Professor Ved Prakash Nanda

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expresses deep sorrow over the demise of esteemed legal scholar Professor Ved Prakash Nanda. Recognizing Nanda's invaluable contributions to the legal domain, PM Modi lauds his commitment to legal education. Professor Nanda, a notable figure in the Indian diaspora in the USA, was fervently dedicated to fostering robust India-US relations.

8. UNRWA for Palestinian Refugees

India has provided over USD 2.5 million to United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for the welfare of Palestine Refugees. India has promised an annual aid of USD 5 million for Palestinian Refugees. The UNRWA is an UN Agency established in 1949 and headquartered in the Gaza Strip.

9. Chinese Mengxiang Deep Sea mining Ship

China has constructed a state of the art Ocean drilling vessel named Mengxiang aimed to achieve Humanity's first ever excavation into Earth's Upper Mantle. The Vessel is equipped with the most

advanced drilling system and will be used for major domestic and international scientific programs.

Health/Agriculture/Environment

1. NTPS One Nation One Pass

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav launched the National Transit Pass System (NTPS)- "One Nation One Pass". The initiative will facilitate seamless transit of timber, bamboo and other forest produce across the country. NTPS will give a significant boost to the Agroforestry sector.

2. Simlipal kai chutney receives GI Tag

The Simlipal Kai chutney also known as Mayurbhanj red ant chutney has received the Geographical Indication Tag under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. The Chutney is renowned for its nutritional security and healing properties amongst the Tribal people.

3. 3 Indian Cities nominated for Wetland City Accreditation

The Central Government of India has nominated 3 Indian cities namely Indore, Bhopal and Udaipur for the prestigious voluntary Wetland City Accreditation. The sites nominated are Yashwant sagar lake and Sirpur Lake in Indore, Bhoj Wetland in Bhopal and Udaipur in Rajasthan. The Wetland City Accreditation tag provides global recognition to the sites.

4. 3 new species of cascade frogs discovered

The Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India have reported three new frog species belonging to the Ranidae Family from Arunachal Pradesh. These three newly discovered frogs are classified under the Genus Amolops. The species are named as Amolops Chanakya, Amolops Tawang and Amolops Terrairchis.



5. New species of Silverline Butterflies

New species of Silverline Butterflies have been discovered in Meghamalai hills of Tamil Nadu. The species of butterfly became the first to be discovered from Western Ghats in 33 years. The scientific name of the species is Cigaritis Meghamaiensis.

6. Pangolin Conservation Programme succeeded in MP

The Pangolin Conservation programme launched in Madhya Pradesh with the help of Wildlife Conservation Trust, to protect Pangolins has succeeded. The mammals have started breeding at Pench Tiger Reserve and Satpura Tiger Reserve. There are a total of 8 species of Pangolins found worldwide of which 2 are found in India namely the Indian Pangolin and the Chinese Pangolin.

7. Delhi Government Digitally Demarcates Over 2,000 Hectares as Deemed Forests

The Delhi government is actively engaged in the digital demarcation of more than 2,000 hectares of land, including over 450 kilometers of roads and drains, designated as deemed forests, according to an affidavit submitted to the Delhi High Court. Over 1,000 hectares of deemed forest land have already been identified, with an additional 1,000 hectares in the process of being demarcated.

8. Stone deity of Bhil Tribe

A team of Scientists from Birbal Sahni Institute of

Palaeosciences (BSIP), Lucknow proved that a Stone deity worshipped by the Bhils Tribe in Madhya Pradesh is a fossilised Dinosaur egg. The name of the deity is Kakad Bhairav or Bhilat Baba.

9. Rural Diabetes Prevention and Control Campaign

Union Minister Jitendra Singh launched the Rural Diabetes Prevention and Control Campaign in Purana Ramnagar village of Varanasi. The initiative is being launched to prevent the spread of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.

10. 5 crore accounts under Ayushman Bhav campaign

The Health Ministry has created a new milestone of creating more than 5 crore ABHA accounts under the Ayushman Bhav Campaign. ABHA is a 14 digit number that identifies a person uniquely in India's digital Healthcare Ecosystem. The Ayushman Bhav Campaign was launched in 2023.

Sports

1. Lovlina Borgohain nominated for female Sportstar of the year award

The 2023 world champion in women's 75kg category Lovlina Borgohain has been nominated for the popular choice -Sportstar of the year (Female) award for the upcoming Sportstar ACES Awards 2024. She was also the bronze medallist at the Tokyo Olympics.



2. Thirteen year old american becomes first to beat

Tetris

The 13 year old American Willis Gibson who goes by the streamer name Blue Scuti becomes the first person to ever beat Tetris. Tetris was first released in 1984 and became a worldwide sensation.

3. Japan's Naoya Inoue beats Tapales

Japan's Naoya Inoue beats Tapales to become an Undisputed World Champion at Super Bantamweight championship. He knocked out Philippines Marlon Tapales in the 10th round, claiming all four Super bantamweight belts.

4. Afghanistan secure T20I Series victory over UAE

The Afghanistan Cricket Team won the thrilling T20I Series 2-1 against UAE. The decider was played at Sharjah Cricket stadium where Afghanistan beat UAE by 4 wickets to win the series.

5. 3 members advocate committee of IOA to run Affairs of WFI

The Indian Olympic Association recently formed a three membered ad-hoc committee to run day to day Affairs of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). The President of the Wushu Association of India, Bhupinder Singh Bajwa will serve as the Chairman of the Committee.

6. Deepti Sharma takes fifer against Australia

The Indian Women's team Off Spinner Deepti Sharma becomes first Indian Women cricketer to take a fifer against Australia. The milestone was achieved in the second one day International match at Wankhede Stadium.



Science and tech/Space/Defence

1. NSIL to use Falcon rocket for launch of GSAT-20

In a recent announcement the commercial arm of ISRO, Newspace India Limited (NSIL) will use the Falcon rocket of SpaceX for the launch of Indian Communication satellite GSAT-20. The mission is scheduled to take place in 2024 and it will be the first time an Indian Government Satellite will be launched on a SpaceX Falcon 9 launcher.

2. Plastic Waste Recycling Instrument GoldN

The Researchers at IIT Bombay have developed a Plastic Waste Recycling Instrument namely GoldN. The Instrument mechanically meltmixes the waste thermoplastic polymers and Inorganic particulate fillers to manufacture polymer composites. The thermoplastic Waste can be moulded into materials like tiles, bricks, paver blocks etc.

3. Pakistan to acquire J31 Chinese Stealth Fighters

The Pakistan Air Force is set to acquire the J-31 stealth fighter aircraft also known as Shenyang FC-31. The J-31 aircrafts will replace early versions of the F-16, part of the PAF fleet. The PAF is already operating two Chinese made aircraft namely JF-17 "Thunder" and 25 J-10C "Vigorous Dragon".



5. Artificial Intelligence

Amidst growing concerns of Deepfakes and Misinformation powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI), the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTY) has issued an advisory to all platforms to comply with IT rules. Deepfakes can be defined as fake digital content in the form of Images, Videos or Audios.

6. Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO)

India joins as a partner country in a multinational initiative to build the World's largest radio Telescope "Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO)". The Radio Telescope spans over a square kilometre. The project is aimed at advancing astronomical observations for understanding the universe deeply.

7. Joint Military Exercise Desert Cyclone 2024

The inaugural edition of Joint Military Exercise Desert Cyclone 2024 between India and UAE is to be held in Rajasthan from 2nd to 15th January 2024. The aim of the Exercise is to enhance interoperability by sharing practices in Urban Operations. The exercise will act as a significant step in the strategic partnership between India and UAE.

8. ISRO launches PSLV-C58/XPoSat

India has bestowed a New Year gift upon the world as the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved a successful launch of XPOSat (X-ray Polarimeter Satellite) on the inaugural day of the year. This milestone aids the global scientific community in examining fundamental phenomena related to galaxies and black holes.

9. New design of Epaulettes for Indian Navy Officers

The Indian Navy unveiled a new design of epaulettes inspired by rajmudra of Chhatrapati Shivaji for its top rank officers. The design was inducted in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra by PM Modi on the occasion of the Indian Navy. The new epaulettes have been released for the ranks of Admiral, Vice Admiral and Rear Admiral.

Miscellaneous

1. Delivery of Seventh Ferrycraft Manjula

Shalimar Works Ltd, Kolkata delivered 07x250 Men Ferrycraft "Manjula" to the Indian Navy. The Ferrycraft was developed in consonance with Atma Nirbhar Bharat Initiative of Government of India. It is the Seventh Ferrycraft delivered to Indian Navy

