

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

"SPARK"



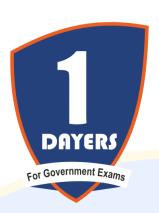




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### **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Jan to 6<sup>th</sup> Jan-2023





#### **ACHALESH TRIPATHI SIR**

Reasoning Senior faculty

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➤ PM Modi virtually Inaugurates Rs 7,600 crore worth Railway projects in West Bengal

He also flagged off the 7th Vande Bharat Express from Howrah to New Jalpaiguri station and inaugurated the Joka-Taratala-stretch of the Purple Line of Kolkata Metro.

About West Bengal:

Chief Minister- Mamata Banerjee

Governor- Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose

National Parks- Singalila National Park; Neora Valley National Park

Tiger Reserve- Buxa Tiger Reserve; Sundarban Tiger Reserve

Artpark-IISc Join Hands with Google to Launch AI-Powered Project Vaani About ARTPARK (Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Robotics Technology Park): Chairman Hub Governing Board - Govindan Rangarajan Headquarters - IISc, Bengaluru, Karnataka About Google:
Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Sundar Pichai Headquarters - California, United States of America (USA)

- UNSC adopts first-ever resolution on Myanmar, demanding end to violence and release of political prisoners.
  The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted its first resolution on Myanmar in 74 years to demand an end to violence and urge the military junta to release all political prisoners, including former leader Aung San Suu Kyi.
- ➤ TB Research Funding Trends 2005-2021: Funding for TB R&D Hits a Billion Dollars Worldwide in 2021
- > Indian Army Appoints Lt Gen Arvind Walia as its New Engineer-in-Chief
- Adani group acquires 27.26% equity stake held by NDTV founders Roys for over Rs 600 crore
- Pritzker-Winning Japanese Architect Arata Isozaki Passed Away
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mother Heeraben Passes Away
- ➤ Historian Simon Sebag Montefiore discusses his new book "The World" with Author Manu S. Pillai
- > Assam Cabinet Grants Industry Status to the Tourism Sector in Assam





- MoU Signed for Commercial Production of Indigenously-Developed 'Lumpi-ProVac' Vaccine
- ➤ GoI Introduces New Integrated Food Security Scheme for 2023

  The Government of India (GoI) has introduced a new Integrated Food Security

  Scheme beginning January 1, 2023, to supply free food grains to more than 81.35

  crore beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA)
- MoRD launches Prajjwala Challenge inviting Ideas, Solutions & Actions to Transform Rural Economy The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)'s flagship poverty alleviation program Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) has launched the 'Prajjwala Challenge' - Unlock the Rural Economic Opportunity' with an aim to invite ideas, solutions, and actions that can Transform Rural Economy.
- Croatia Joins Schengen Zone & Switches to Euro
   Croatia, a Balkan country, is now the 20th member of the Eurozone and the 27th
   country to join the passport-free Schengen zone
   About Republic of Croatia:
   President Zoran Milanović
   Capital Zagreb
   Currency Euro (EUR)
- CAD widens to 4.4% of GDP in Q2FY23, Banks' net NPA ratio at 10-yr low: RBI Report

In accordance with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) preliminary data on India's Balance of Payments (BoP) for the July-September (Q2) quarter of FY 2022-23, India's Current Account Deficit (CAD) widened in the Q2FY23 due to increased trade gap driven by high commodity prices and a weak rupee.

In absolute terms, CAD was \$36.40 billion in Q2FY23 which is highest in more than a decade.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Governor - Shaktikanta Das

Deputy Governors- Mahesh Kumar Jain, Michael Debabrata Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao, T. Rabi Sankar

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra Establishment- 1st April 1935

➤ Tripura signs Rs 2,275cr agreement with ADB to improve Power Distribution Network

The Tripura government has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) worth Rs 2,275 crore to strengthen and improve power distribution efficiency in Tripura.



About Tripura:

Governor- Satyadeo Narain Arya Chief Minister- Manik Saha Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS)- Sepahijala WLS, Trishna WLS, Gomati WLS

- ➤ IIT-Madras & DRDO Partners to Introduce DIA-RCoE for Advanced Defence
  Technology Research
  Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Madras has created a 'centre of excellence'
  named 'DRDO Industry Academia-Ramanujan Centre of Excellence' (DIA-RCoE) at
  a campus unit set up by the Defence Research and Development Organisation
  (DRDO) to develop advanced technologies for national defence and security
- Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva sworn in as 39th President of Brazil
   About Brazil:
   President- Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva
   Capital- Brasília
   Currency- Brazilian Real
- **Election Commission appoints Maithili Thakur as Bihar's State Icon**
- FIDE World Rapid and Blitz Championships 2022: Koneru Humpy wins India's first Silver Medal at World Blitz Championships
  Indian Grandmaster (GM) Koneru Humpy, a former world rapid champion, has won a Silver medal in the Women's World Blitz Championship at the FIDE (Fédération Internationale des Échecs) World Rapid and Blitz Championship 2022 held in Almaty, Kazakhstan from 25th to 30th December 2022.
- Koustav Chatterjee Becomes India's 78th GM in MPL 59th National Senior Chess Championship Kolkata-based chess player Koustav Chatterjee (19-year) became India's 78th Grandmaster (GM) in MPL 59th National Senior Chess. He is also the 10th GM from Kolkata and West Bengal (WB).
- Former Tata Sons Director Padma Shri Awardee R.K. Krishna Kumar Passed Away
- Grammy-winning American singer Anita Pointer Passed Away
- Former IAS Kaki Madhava Rao Authored a New Book "Breaking Barriers"





- MHA constitutes HPC Chaired by MoS Nityanand Rai to protect Ladakh's Culture, Language & Employment
  The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has constituted a 17-member High Powered Committee (HPC) to discuss measures for the protection of Ladakh's unique culture, language and employment.
- ➤ GoI Introduces National Geospatial Policy 2022

  Ministry of Science and Technology (MoS&T) notified the 'National Geospatial Policy, 2022' for implementation with immediate effect. The policy was notified following the liberalising of the usage of geospatial data under the draft Geospatial Data Policy in February 2021.
- ➤ NCISM & CCRAS Launches 'SMART' Programme to Boost R&D in Ayurveda The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) launched the SMART (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals) programme.
- KMRC: India's First Underwater Metro Services to be Operational by December 2023
  The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC) announced that the East-West Metro Corridor project, India's first underwater metro service, in Kolkata will be completed by December 2023. The 16.6 km corridor will run through the Hooghly river, connecting Howrah and Kolkata Sealdah railway stations
- India's external debt at \$610 billion in Q2 FY23; declines by \$2.3 billion As per the figures from the Ministry of Finance, India's external debt stood at USD 610.5 billion in Q2 FY23 (July-September 2022) showing a decrease of USD 2.3 billion from Q1 FY23 (April to June 2022).
- BCCI Releases Names of India's Best Players of 2022 in all 3 Formats

  Title Players Wernment Example 1. Players of 2022 in all 3 Formats

Title	Players
Team India: 2022 Best Performers in Tests	Rishabh Pant (Wicket-Keeper Batsman)
	Jasprit Bumrah (Bowler)
Team India: 2022 Best Performers in ODIs	Shreyas Iyer (Batter)
	Mohammed Siraj (Bowler)
Team India: 2022 Best Performers in T20Is	Suryakumar Yadav (Batter)
	Bhuvneshwar Kumar (Bowler)



- ➤ BSE appoints Sundararaman Ramamurthy as MD and CEO
- ➤ CJI DY Chandrachud launches E-SCR Project for Digital Version of Judgments Reported in SC

  The Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Yashwant (DY) Chandrachud launched the Electronic Supreme Court Reports (E-SCR) project to provide free access to about 34,000 judgements of SC to lawyers, law students and the common public.
- Gaganyaan: India's 1st Atmanirbhar human space flight to be launched by 2024
- ➤ World Boxing Council to Create Transgender Category

  The World Boxing Council (WBC), one of the four governing bodies for Boxing,
  will introduce a transgender category from 2023 to ensure safety and inclusion.
- Siddheshwar Swamiji seer of Sri Jnanayogashrama in Karnataka Passed away
- Shashi Tharoor's Latest Book "Ambedkar: A Life" Launched
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Inaugurates Siyom Bridge in Arunachal Pradesh; Dedicates 28 BRO Infrastructure Projects Worth Rs. 724 Crore The Siyom Bridge, which is crucial from a strategic perspective, was physically inaugurated during the event, while the other projects were virtually dedicated to the nation.
- ➤ UP Govt Signs MoUs Worth Rs. 18,590 Crore with Six UAE Based Companies
  The Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) signed Memorandums of Understanding
  (MoUs) worth Rs. 18,590 crores with six United Arab Emirates (UAE) based
  companies ahead of the "Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit (UPGIS) 2023,"
  which will be hosted in Lucknow, UP, in February 2023.
  About the United Arab Emirates (UAE):
  President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
  Capital Abu Dhabi city
  Currency Arab Emirati Dirham (AED) [called Dirhams]





- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh attended MoU Exchange Ceremony 'Outreach Programme with MoE & MoSDE' in New Delhi Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD) attended the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Exchange Ceremony 'Outreach Programme with Ministry of Education (MoE) & and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MoSDE)' in New Delhi, Delhi.
- NTPC Launches India's First Green Hydrogen Blending Operation in PNG Network NTPC Ltd. (formerly known as National Thermal Power Corporation Limited), India's state-owned and largest energy conglomerate, has launched India's first green hydrogen-blending operation in the piped natural gas (PNG) network of its Kawas township in Surat, Gujarat.

About the NTPC Ltd (formerly National Thermal Power Corporation Limited): Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) – Gurdeep Singh Established – 1975
Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi

Manipur: Zeliangrong Community Celebrates Gaan Ngai Festival on 4th January 2023

About Manipur:

Chief Minister- Nongthombam Biren Singh Governor- La Ganesan Wildlife sanctuary -Khongjaingamba Ching Wildlife Sanctuary Zoological park- Manipur Zoological Garden

PM Narendra Modi addresses 108th Indian Science Congress through Video Conferencing

Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister (PM) of India, virtually inaugurated and addressed the 108th edition of the Indian Science Congress (ISC), also known as ISC 2023, organised at Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj (RTM) Nagpur University, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

The focal theme of the ISC 2023 is "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment".

- ➤ ADB, India sign \$220 million loan pact to Strengthen Power Sector in Tripura
- Capt Shiva Chouhan Becomes 1st Woman Officer to be Deployed at Siachen, World's Highest Battlefield
- India Takes Over Leadership Of Asian Pacific Postal Union; Vinaya Prakash Singh Elected As Secretary General
   Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh, former Member (Personnel), Postal Services Board, will take over as Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) for a 4-



year term, following the successful elections held during the 13th APPU Congress in Bangkok (Thailand) in August–September 2022.

About the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU):

About the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU):

Secretary General – Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh (India)

Headquarters – Bangkok, Thailand

Established – 1962 (created in 1961)

Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev reshuffles Cabinet & appoints Galymzhan Koishybayev as Deputy PM

About the Republic of Kazakhstan:

President- Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

Prime Minister (PM)- Alikhan Smailov

Capital- Astana

Currency- Kazakhstani Tenge

- Pushan-Alpha: Digantara launches 2nd satellite to Monitor Space Weather onboard Falcon 9 rocket from Florida, US Bengaluru (Karnataka) based space situational awareness (SSA) start-up Digantara launched its second satellite Pushan-Alpha as a rideshare on SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket, carrying Transporter-6 mission to the low earth orbit (LEO), from Space Launch Complex 40 (SLC-40) at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, United States (US).
- ➤ IIT Guwahati Aeromodelling Club Engineered Indigenous Multipurpose Drones
- Former Indian Football Player Shyamal Ghosh Passed Away
- MP Governor released Dr Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi's Medical Book 'Human Anatomy'
- World Braille Day 2023 January 4 World Braille Day commemorates the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, a 19th-century French educator, who invented Braille in 1824.
- Defence Minister Inaugurates 2 Infrastructures in J&K and Ladakh to Improve Road Connectivity
- TN Governor R N Ravi Inaugurates Octave 2023 Northeastern Cultural Festival





Cabinet Approvals on January 4, 2023 Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi approved the following proposals,

CCEA Approves Central Sector BIND Scheme with an Outlay of Rs. 2,539.61 Crore Up to 2025-26

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) proposal for the Central Sector Scheme "Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development" (BIND) at a cost of Rs. 2,539.61 crores

Cabinet approves National Green Hydrogen Mission worth Rs. 19,744 crore

President assents CrPC (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 2021 that makes violation of Sec 144 Order an Offence

The President of India Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to the Code of Criminal Procedure (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 2021 which empowers the administration to register criminal cases against those who are staging protests in violation of Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

- World's First Palm-Leaf Manuscript Museum opens in Kerala
- President of India Droupadi Murmu's Visit to Rajasthan from 3 to 4 January 2023 She inaugurated Samvidhan Udyan at Raj Bhavan, Jaipur and met with the member of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups' Communities of Rajasthan. She also virtually inaugurated the Transmission System for Solar Energy Zones in Rajasthan and laid the foundation stone for 1000 megawatt (MW) Bikaner Solar Power Project.

About Rajasthan:

Government Exams Chief Minister (CM)- Ashok Gehlot

Governor- Kalraj Mishra

Wildlife sanctuary- Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary; Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary Tiger Reserve- Sariska Tiger Reserve; Mukundara Tiger Reserve

- Narayan Rane Virtually Inaugurates India Made ITRS at MOPA Airport, Goa Narayan Rane, Union Minister for Micro Small & Medium enterprises (MSME) inaugurated an India made Intelligent Tray Retrieval System (ITRS), manufactured by M/s SIK Innovations Private Limited, an MSME-Make in India Company, at MOPA (Goa) International airport, officially renamed as Manohar International Airport, Mopa, Goa
- ➤ Highlights of EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar's Visit to the Republic of Cyprus and Austria— December 29, 2022 - January 3, 2023



The year 2022 commemorated the 60th anniversary of India-Cyprus diplomatic ties, which were established on February 10, 1962.

- GST Revenues grow 15% to Rs 1.49 lakh crore in December 2022
- ➤ ISRO, Microsoft join hands to Empower Space-Tech Startups in India
- Assam Govt confers Assam State Civilian Award 2023; Dr Tapan Saikia receives 'Assam Baibhay'
- ➤ Belinda Clark becomes 1st Woman Cricketer to get a Bronze Statue at SCG Belinda Clark, a former Australia captain, became the 1st female cricketer to get a Bronze statue unveiled at the Walk of Honour of the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) in Sydney, Australia.
- 2023 Hyderabad E-Prix: Hyderabad to host India's 1st ABB FIA Formula E World Championship Race Hyderabad, Telangana is set to host the 2023 Hyderabad E-Prix, India's 1st ever ABB FIA (Federation Internationale de l'Automobile) Formula E World Championship race, all-electric motorsports, on 11th February 2023.
- Global Family Day 2023 January 1
- Cyclone Mandous: Govt Approves Rs 28.11 crore for AP Tobacco Farmers.



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