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### **NATIONAL**

# 1) Super Vasuki

- The Indian Railways conducted a test run of its latest train called Super Vasuki. The Super Vasuki is operated by the South East Central Railway (SECR) zone of the Indian Railways.
- The freight train is 3.5 km long. The train was formed by amalgamating five rakes of goods trains as one unit.
- The train took 11.20 hours to cover a distance of 267 km.

# 2) "Introspection: Armed Forces Tribunal"

- Shri Rajnath Singh, Union Defence Minister, inaugurated a national seminar entitled "Introspection: Armed Forces Tribunal" that the Armed Forces Tribunal (Principal Bench) Bar Association is hosting in New Delhi.
- In addition to serving members of the armed forces, the Introspection: Armed Forces Tribunal seminar is being held to evaluate how the Armed Forces Tribunal, which was formed to assure prompt and affordable justice for veterans, their families, and war widows, operates.

# 3) 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023

- According to External Affairs Ministry, the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Indore in January next year.
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on the 9th of January to mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community to the development of India. It also commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on 9th January 1915.

# 4) Geographical Indication tag to Mithila Makhana

- The Central government has awarded Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Mithila Makhana of Bihar.
- Once a product gets this tag, any person or company cannot sell a similar item under that name. This tag is valid for a period of 10 years following which it can be renewed.
- Farmers of the Mithila region will be benefitted from this decision. Makhana registered with GI Tag, farmers will get profit and it will be easier to earn.

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## 5) Action plan for campuses abroad

- A committee headed by K Radhakrishnan has recommended a specific and immediate actions plan for setting up of offshore campuses of Indian institutions.

### **BUSINESS AND ECONOMY**

## 1) India's NPCI Signs MoU with UK's PayXpert

- National Payments Corporation of India, has signed an MoU through their subsidiary corporation NPCI International Payments Limited, with the PayXpert, the payment solutions to establish and internationalize the acceptance of its payment solutions in the UK.
- In 2021, UPI has achieved a volume of US \$940 Billion, which is equal to 31% of GDP in India.

# 2) "Health Care in India- Transforming through innovation"

- The report tilted "Health Care in India- Transforming through innovation" is published by NASSCOM.
- According to the report, Rapid increase in government healthcare expenditure with 35% increase in medical colleges between 2016-21 along-with other initiatives (e-sanjeevani, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, Ayushman Bharat Yojana etc).

### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) Ashish Dhawan

- Ashish Dhawan, Indian philanthropist has been named to the board of trustees of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Ashish Dhawan is the founder and CEO of Convergence Foundation, and along with him, Dr Helene D Gayle, has also been appointed.

### **OBITUARY**

# 1) Narayan

- Kerala's first tribal novelist and short story writer Narayan has passed away at the age of 82 in Kochi.
- He was born in Kerala in 1940. His debut novel, 'Kocharethi' published in 1998, was selected for the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award in 1999.
- The novel has been translated to English, Hindi and south Indian languages.

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### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

# 1) International Day Commemorating the Victims

- International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief, observed on August 22.
- The day aims to remember the victims and survivors of evil acts on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief. The day was adopted at the 73rd UN General Assembly on 28 May 2019 as proposed by Poland.

# 2) World Senior Citizens' Day

- World Senior Citizens' Day is celebrated on August 21 every year. It is also known as National Senior Citizens' Day in the United States (US).
- The day is observed with the intent to highlight the contributions of elderly people in human society and honour them.

#### **SPORTS**

# 1) UEFA Women's Champions League

- Manisha Kalyan became the first Indian footballer to play at the UEFA Women's Champions League when she made her debut for Apollon Ladies FC in the European Club competition in Engomi, Cyprus.
- In November 2021, the 20-year-old had become the first ever Indian footballer to score a goal in the AFC Women's Club Championship.