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17th November 2022

INTERNATIONAL

- 1) Air India \$1.4 million (around Rs 11.3 crore)
- The US Department of Transportation has fined Air India \$1.4 million (around Rs 11.3 crore) for delaying refunds worth \$121.5 million (around Rs 985 crore) to passengers whose flights were cancelled during the Covid-19 pandemic.

2) Moscow Format Consultations on Afghanistan

- India participated in the fourth Meeting of the Moscow Format Consultations on Afghanistan, which was held in Moscow on November 16.
- Special envoys and senior officials from Russia, China, Pakistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan also participated in the meeting.



3) World's most populous country in 2023

- India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country in 2023, with each counting more than 1.4 billion residents this year, according to the 27th edition of the United Nations' World Population Prospects, 2022.

NATIONAL

1) Hyderabad, Chennai and New Delhi

- According to a report by Knight Frank, Indian cities, namely - Hyderabad, Chennai and New Delhi, have emerged as three of the top data centre markets in the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region.













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2) State bank Of India (SBI), ICICI Bank, IDFC First Bank, HDFC Bank and Yes Bank

- State bank Of India (SBI), ICICI Bank, IDFC First Bank, HDFC Bank and Yes Bank are among a shortlist of at least five lenders that the Reserve Bank of India has roped in to work on the retail pilot project of the central bank digital currency.

3) United States space agency NASA

- The United States space agency NASA has launched its Artemis-1 mission from Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.
- About eight minutes after launch, the core stage's engines cut off and the core stage separated from the rest of the rocket.
- After this, the Orion spacecraft was propelled by the Interim Cryogenic Propulsion Stage (ICPS). NASA also deployed the four solar arrays of the Orion spacecraft. After completing "translunar injection", Orion separated itself from the ICPS and is now on its way to lunar orbit.



4) Climate Change Performance Index

- The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2023 released which was published by three environmental nongovernmental organizations viz. Germanwatch, NewClimate Institute and the Climate Action Network (CAN) International.
- India rose two spots to rank eighth out of 63 countries in the Climate Change Performance Index 2023. In the Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Use categories, the country was rated "high". In the Climate Policy and Renewable Energy categories, it earned a "medium" rating.
- 5) Second-largest producer of crude steel
- India has emerged as the second-largest producer of crude steel by replacing Japan.













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- The biggest steel producing country is currently China, which accounted for 57% of world steel production.

6) Digital Shakti Campaign

- The National Commission for Women launched the fourth phase of the Digital Shakti Campaign, a pan-India project on digitally empowering and skilling women and girls in cyberspace.

7) Blackstone Group

- Global asset manager Blackstone Group has forayed into the data center business in Asia with a planned capacity across two large hyperscale data centers in India.
- It plans to increase it to 600 MW over the next two years through presence in five locations in the country. Blackstone launched its data center platform Lumina CloudInfra on 15 November 2022. Initially the data center will be set up in Mumbai and Chennai, and later on it will be set up in Delhi-NCR, Hyderabad and Pune.



APPOINTMNETS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Arvind Virmani

- Former Chief Economic Advisor, Arvind Virmani has been appointed as a full time member of NITI Aayog. The other existing Members of NITI Aayog are VK Saraswat, Ramesh Chand and VK Paul.
- While Suman Bery is the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Parameswaran is the incumbent CEO of the think tank. The Prime Minister has approved the appointment of Shri Arvind Virmani, Founder, Chairman, Foundation for Economic Growth & Welfare as Full-Time Member, NITI Aayog with immediate effect and until further orders, on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to Full-Time Members of NITI Aayog.

2) Suraj Bhan













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- Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority has appointed Suraj Bhan as the chairman of the National Pension System Trust (NPS Trust), responsible for managing funds under the National Pension System (NPS).
- Bhan has been a Trustee on the Board of NPS Trust since 2018. He joined the Indian Economic Service in 1983 and retired as Director General of Labour Bureau, Chandigarh, in January 2018.
- He has varied experience across several sectors with the government and public sector undertakings in the areas of economic policy, business, industry and finance.



SPORTS

1) Mercedes' George Russell

- Mercedes' George Russell has won his maiden F1 race in Brazilian Grand Prix in Sao Paulo. Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton & Ferrari's Carlos Sainz came at the second and third positions respectively.
- With Red Bull's Max Verstappen finishing fourth. It was also Mercedes' maiden win in the F1 2022 season. The 2022 season's final race will be held in Abu Dhabi from November 18 to 20 at Yas Marina Circuit.

2) 2024 Paris Olympics

- The Phrygian cap, the symbol of the French republic but wearing sneakers as a nod to the present, was unveiled as the mascot for the 2024 Paris Olympics.
- The Olympic Phryge ((pronounced fri-jee-uhs) is a bit smaller, the Paralympic Phryge is a bit slimmer and has a blade on his right leg because it is a Phyrge with an impairment.













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IMPORTANT DAYS

1) World Philosophy Day

- World Philosophy Day is commemorated on the third Thursday of November every year. This year it will fall on November 17. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) proclaimed it an International day in 2005.
- However, that was not always the case. World Philosophy Day was first celebrated on November 21, 2002. UNESCO aimed to raise public awareness about philosophy and how vital it is, not only to connect the world today but to the past and present, as well as for a better understanding of the future.

2) November World COPD Day

- On the third Wednesday in November World COPD Day is observed. This year World COPD Day is observed on November 16. The day aims to create awareness about the condition and ways to reduce the burden of COPD worldwide.
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is the third leading cause of death worldwide. Its aim is to raise awareness, share knowledge, and discuss ways to reduce the burden of COPD worldwide.

3) National Epilepsy Day

- Each year, on November 17, National Epilepsy Day is marked in India to raise awareness of the condition. National Epilepsy Day 2022 is observed to raise public awareness of epilepsy.
- To raise awareness of the causes and symptoms of epilepsy, numerous governmental and non-governmental organisations will mark National Epilepsy Day in 2022. A persistent brain illness called epilepsy is marked by periodic "fits" or "seizures."















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