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17th December 2022

INTERNATIONAL

1) Iran has been expelled from the United Nation's Commission

- In an unprecedented move, Iran has been expelled from the United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women in a vote on which India abstained.

- The US proposal at the UN Economic and Social Council to remove Iran from the panel received 29 votes, while there were eight votes against and 16 abstentions in the 54-member elected body.

2) Tokyo built by large-scale homebuilders

- The Japanese capital local assembly passed a new regulation which stated that all new houses in Tokyo built by large-scale homebuilders after April 2025 must install solar power panels to cut household carbon emissions.

- Currently, Japan stands at fifth spot in the world's largest carbon emitters list.



3) New York, Singapore most expensive cities

- New York and Singapore are the most expensive cities in the world, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's Worldwide Cost of Living Index for this year.

- Some Indian students are interested in attending these cities for higher education. Here is a list of some of the well-known universities and institutions in these pricey cities.

NATIONAL

1) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and several Union Ministers paid tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on his 71st death anniversary.





- Stating that the country will forever be grateful to Patel, PM Modi said, "Remembering Sardar Patel on his Punya Tithi.

- India will always be grateful to him for his monumental service, his administrative skills, and the untiring efforts to unite our nation."

2) Vijay Diwas

- Nation celebrates Vijay Diwas, to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation war.

On this day, the heroes who sacrificed their lives for war are remembered and tributes are paid to them.
On 16th December 1971, the chief of the Pakistani forces, General Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi, along with 93 thousand troops, surrendered unconditionally to the allied forces led by Lieutenant General Jagjit Singh Aurora, in Dhaka after their defeat.



3) Sovereign Gold Bonds

- The Reserve Bank of India is to issue two tranches of Sovereign Gold Bonds, which will open for public subscription in December and March.

- Sovereign Gold Bonds 2022-23-Series III will open for subscription during December 19-December 23 and 2022-23-Series IV during March 06-10, 2023.

- These bonds are issued by the Reserve Bank of India on behalf of the government.

- The SGBs will be sold through Scheduled Commercial, Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited, Clearing Corporation of India Limited, designated post offices, and stock exchanges — NSE and BSE.

4) "SURYA KIRAN-XVI"





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- The 16th Edition of the Indo-Nepal joint training Exercise "SURYA KIRAN-XVI" between India and Nepal is to be conducted at Nepal Army Battle School, Saljhandi, Nepal.

- "SURYA KIRAN-XVI" will be conducted from 16th to 29th December 2022.

- Exercise "SURYA KIRAN" is conducted annually between India and Nepal to enhance interoperability in jungle warfare & counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain and HADR under UN mandate.

5) Nuclear-capable ballistic missile Agni V

- India has successfully conducted night trials of nuclear-capable ballistic missile Agni V, capable of striking targets at ranges more than 5,000 kilometers with very high degree of accuracy.

- The missile test firing was conducted from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast.

- This was the latest test in the Agni missile series. According to defence sources, the test was carried out to validate new technologies and equipment on the missile that are now lighter than before.



STATE NEWS

1) Geographical Indications

- The Assam Gamosa, the Telangana Tandur Redgram, and a Ladakh apricot variety are just a few of the items that have received the Geographical Indications (GI) label from the government.

- The overall number of GI has reached 432, according to a statement made on Wednesday by the ministry of business and industry.

2) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Ko Kaam Karyakram

- The Minister of Minority Affairs, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani in a reply to a question in the Lok Sabha informed that the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Ko Kaam Karyakram has now been named as Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) Scheme.





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- The integrated scheme converges five erstwhile schemes of the Ministry viz. Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni and Nai Manzil.

- The scheme has been approved by the Cabinet for the period of 15th Finance Commission.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS

1) Cindy Hook

- The Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games organising committee has named American executive Cindy Hook as its first CEO.

- After speaking with 50 candidates over a six-month period, the organising committee made the announcement of the appointment.



SPORTS

1) Rehan Ahmed

- Rehan Ahmed becomes England's youngest-ever Test Cricketer to debut in the final match between Pakistan and England.

- Rehan Ahmed will be 18 years and 126 days old when the match begins.

- Till now, Brian Close, who was 18 years and 149 days old, was the youngest player in England during the New Zealand vs England match in 1949.

2) Hockey India

- Tata Steel Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hockey India on December 13, 2022 to become an Official Partner of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar – Rourkela.

- The FIH Men's World Cup is the pinnacle of men's hockey tournaments.





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- The 15th edition of the esteemed event will take place in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela from January 13 to January 29, 2023.

3) FIFA World Cup 2022 Golden Ball

- Each FIFA World Cup ends with a number of awards being handed to players who stand out during the FIFA World Cup tournament.

- The Golden Ball is presented to the player who has performed the best overall, while the Golden Gloves and Golden Boot are among the most prestigious of these honours.

- The Golden Boot is given to the player who scored the most goals during the competition.

4) Golden Boot

- The Golden Boot, is awarded to the World Cup's top goal scorer, is presently tied for first place with five goals each between Lionel Messi and Kylian Mbappe, who will compete in the FIFA World Cup 2022 final game.

- A player who scores the most goals throughout the competition will receive the Golden Boot.





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