# 5th and 6th February 2023

#### INTERNATIONAL

### 1) India, France and the United Arab Emirates

- India, France and the United Arab Emirates announced the creation of a formal trilateral cooperation initiative for projects in solar and nuclear energy, the fight against climate change and joint production of military hardware.

## 2) A 7.8 magnitude earthquake shook Turkey

- A 7.8 magnitude earthquake shook Turkey followed by another strong quake which was felt in several provinces in the region, knocking down a number of buildings, reports said.
- The US Geological Survey said quake was centred about 33 kilometres (20 miles) from Gaziantep about 26 kilometres (16 miles) from the town of Nurdagi.
- It was centred 18 kilometres (11 miles) deep, according to the US Geological Survey. Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management agency was centred in the town of Pazarcik, in Kahramanmaras province.



### 3) Indian-American Congressman Dr. Ami Bera

- Indian-American Congressman Dr. Ami Bera has been appointed as a member of a powerful US House Committee handling intelligence-related matters.
- The House Permanent Selection Committee on Intelligence is charged with providing oversight of the country's intelligence activities, including the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), office of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), National Security Agency (NSA) as well as the military intelligence programs.

### **NATIONAL**

### 1) National Institute of Information Technology Limited

- HDFC Bank, one of the leading private sector banks of India, has partnered with National Institute of Information Technology Limited, a global talent development corporation, to build a large pool of skilled Virtual Relationship Management professionals for the banking industry.















- Virtual Relationship managers (VRMs) act as one point of contact for all requirements or issues of bank's managed customers. VRMs are a high potential channel for banks for revenue generation through customer retention, cross-selling and portfolio management.
- Building effective relationships with clients to retain and developing sustainable relationships. Identify customer financial and other banking needs then make referrals to others where appropriate.

### 2) Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of a ₹450 crore nano urea plant

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of a ₹450 crore nano urea plant and township of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) in Deoghar, Jharkhand.
- The nano urea plant will be the fifth such plant in India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the world's first nano urea plant in Gujarat in 2021.
- According to Union Minister Amit Shah Nano Urea will benefit farmers and it is already being exported to five countries.



### 3) ISRO and Indian Institute of Technology Madras

- ISRO and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) plans to develop a training module for the Indian Spaceflight Programme using Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality / Mixed Reality (AR / VR / MR).
- ISRO aims to utilise the advanced technologies created at the newly-established experiential Technology Innovation Centre (XTIC) at IIT Madras to promote Research and Development (R&D) in the domain of Extended Reality.

### 4) Passengers traveling in Indian Railways

- Passengers traveling in Indian Railways can now order food online through WhatsApp while undertaking a journey by using their PNR number.















- This comes as a step further towards making e-catering services more customer-centric in Indian Railways.
- The Indian Railways has recently started WhatsApp Communication for railway passengers to order food through e-catering services.

### **APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS**

### 1) Raul Rebello

- Mahindra Finance has appointed Raul Rebello as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Designate.
- Mahindra Finance is the vehicle financing unit of the Mahindra & Mahindra Group. Raul Rebello is currently the Chief Operating Officer of the company and will take charge as MD and CEO when Ramesh Iyer retires on 29th April 2024.



### 2) Shamika Ravi

- Economics professor and researcher Shamika Ravi has been appointed as a member of the Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM).
- She is currently non-resident senior fellow of the governance studies program at the Brookings Institution Washington D.C.

# **SPORTS**

### 1) Gymnast Dipa Karmakar

- Gymnast Dipa Karmakar has been handed a 21-month ban for failing a dope test conducted by the International Testing Agency.
- Dipa Karmakar's dope sample collected out-of-competition by the ITA, which is an independent organization that manages the anti-doping program of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) was found to contain Higenamine which is a prohibited substance under World Anti-doping Agency Code.















### 2) Kerala has crowned to their bulging cabinet of national football trophies

- Kerala has crowned to their bulging cabinet of national football trophies, putting on a show in the final of the National Beach Soccer Championships and overwhelming Punjab 13-4, to win the title, at Dumas Beach, Surat.
- In the third place game played earlier in the day, Delhi beat Uttarakhand 3-1.

### 3) Indo-Tibetan Border Police

- The central ice hockey team of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has won the 12th edition of the Ice Hockey Association of India (IHAI) National Ice Hockey Championship for men- 2023 organized in Leh,
- The ITBP team defeated the Ladakh Scouts by a score of 1-0 at the final. This is the third time in succession that the mountain trained Force has won this premier national ice hockey championship.



### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

### 1) Ricky Kej

- Ricky Kej, a musician, won his third Grammy Award for the album "Divine Tides," which he co-wrote with rock legend Stewart Copeland.
- This is undoubtedly a proud moment for India. The Indian music producer and composer from Bengaluru received the prize for "Divine Tides" after being nominated in the category of Best Immersive Audio Album. At the live event held at the Crypto.com venue in Los Angeles, USA, the outcome was revealed.

# 2) 65th Annual Grammy Awards

- The Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles played host to the 65th Annual Grammy Awards ceremony on February 5, 2023.
- It honoured the top performers, songs, and recordings from the eligibility year, which spanned October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022.















- November 15, 2022 saw the announcement of the nominations. The 63rd and 64th ceremonies were presented by South African comedian Trevor Noah, who served as host once more this year.

### 3) 'Mathrubhumi Book of The Year' award

- Author Dr Peggy Mohan has bagged the 'Mathrubhumi Book of The Year' award at the fourth edition of Mathrubhumi International Festival of Letters (MBIFL 2023).
- Her book 'Wanderers, Kings and Merchants,' portraying evolution of language as the outcome of migrations, won the award that carries Rs two lakh as cash prize and a sculpture. Nobel Laureate Abdulrazak Gurnah presented the award to Mohan at the valedictory ceremony of the four-day MBIFL 2023.

#### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

## 1) International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation

- International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is observed on February 6.
- The primary objective behind observing this day is to amplify and direct efforts on the elimination of this cruel practice and to promote the elimination of female genital mutilation, coordinated and systematic efforts are needed, and they must engage whole communities and focus on human rights, gender equality, sexual education and attention to the needs of women and girls who suffer from its consequences.

### **OBITUARY**

### 1) Pakistan's former president Pervez Musharraf passed away

- Pakistan's former president Pervez Musharraf passed away in Dubai at the age of 79 due to a prolonged illness. Musharraf, who was admitted to a hospital in Dubai, was shifted to the Armed Forces Institute of Cardiology (AFIC) in Rawalpindi earlier.
- Pervez Musharraf, who was in Dubai since March 2016, was undergoing treatment for amyloidosis. It is a rare disease that occurs when an abnormal protein, called amyloid, builds up in your organs and interferes with their normal function.
- Pervez Musharraf was the tenth president of the South Asian nation after the successful military coup in 1999 and 7th top general from 1998 to 2007.











