

13th December 2022

INTERNATIONAL

1) Spacecraft to the moon

- Japan is elated and proud of its space startup that successfully launched a spacecraft to the moon recently, marking a significant step towards what would be a historic first, both for the nation and a private company.

- This has not been an easy task and got successful after multiple delays. Additionally, what makes it unique is the fact that it is the first successful venture to the moon by a private company.

2) Line of Actual Control in the Tawang sector

- Indian and Chinese troops clashed along the Line of Actual Control in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh on December 9 and the face-off resulted in "minor injuries to a few personnel from both sides", the Indian Army said.

- The clash near Yangtse along the LAC in the sensitive sector took place amid the over 30-month border standoff between the two sides in eastern Ladakh.



3) SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket

- A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket carried into space the first ever Arab-built lunar spacecraft. It was launched from the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.

- The Rashid Rover was built by Dubai's Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC), in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and is being delivered by the HAKUTO-R lander, engineered by Japanese lunar exploration company ispace.





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4) Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival

- The 20th Edition of the Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival kicked off in Kathmandu, Nepal. This year, the festival was scheduled to be held from December 8 to 12, 2022.

- The festival is resuming its physical screening after two years, because of the pandemic and is ready to showcase numerous films from across the world.

NATIONAL

1) India's sixth Vande Bharat Express

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has flagged off India's sixth Vande Bharat Express between Bilaspur (Chattisgarh)-Nagpur (Maharashtra) route.

- This is the second Vande Bharat express in the state after the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Vande Bharat express. He inaugurated the 'Nagpur Metro Phase I', and laid the foundation stone of 'Nagpur Metro phase- II' at Khapri Metro Station.

- The Phase I has been developed at a cost of Rs 8650 crore while the Phase II will be developed at a cost of more than Rs 6700 crore.



2) Reserve Bank of India

- In its bid to extensively use advanced analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning to analyse database and improve regulatory supervision over banks and NBFCs, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is mulling over to hire external experts.





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- The central bank has shortlisted seven global consultancy firms, including Pricewaterhouse Coopers, McKinsey and Boston Consulting Group (India), to use artificial intelligence and machine learning for supervisory functions.

3) Mopa International Airport in Goa

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated Mopa International Airport in Goa, which has been named after former Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar.

- The new airport, which is about 35 km from capital city Panaji, can handle 44 lakh passengers annually. Its capacity can be raised to over 3 crore passengers per year after expansion plans in the future.

4) G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies meeting

- The first G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies meeting is scheduled to be held during 13-15 December 2022 in Bengaluru.

- This meeting, which will mark the start of discussions on the Finance Track agenda under the Indian G20 Presidency, will be hosted jointly by the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India.



STATE NEWS

1) 8,400 candidates in Punjab Police in four years

- Punjab Cabinet approved the recruitment of 8,400 candidates in Punjab Police in four years including 1,200 sub-inspector and 7,200 constables. The Punjab Cabinet is led by the Chief Minister of Punjab Bhagwant Mann.





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- The decision to recruit 8,400 Punjab Police in four years was approved after the Cabinet meeting by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann. The government has decided to recruit youth to the posts of constables and sub-inspectors in the Punjab Police department every year.

2) Genetic enhancement of Badri Cow

- Uttarakhand Government is planning for genetic enhancement of Badri Cow through sex-sorted semen and embryo transfer technology with the aim to increase its productivity.

- The Badri breed derived its name from the holy shrine of Char Dham at Badrinath. It is found only in the hill districts of Uttarakhand and was earlier known as the 'pahadi' cow.

3) Bhupendra Patel takes oath as the 18th Chief Minister of Gujarat by Governor Acharya Devvrat

Bhupendra Patel took oath as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for a second straight term in Gandhinagar. He was administered oath as the 18th Chief Minister of Gujarat by Governor Acharya Devvrat.
 Prime minister Narendra Modi, several Union Ministers including Amit Shah, Smriti Irani, and Mansukh Mandaviya, and Chief Ministers of BJP-ruled States including Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan attended the ceremony.



APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS

1) Pilavullakandi Thekkeraparambil Usha

- Legendary athlete Pilavullakandi Thekkeraparambil Usha or PT Usha was elected as the first woman president of Indian Olympic Association (IOA). The 58-year-old Ms. Usha, a multiple Asian Games gold medallist and fourth-place finisher in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics 400m hurdles final, was declared elected unopposed for the top post in the polls.

- The elections were held under the supervision of Supreme Court-appointed retired SC judge L Nageswara Rao. Usha emerged as the lone candidate for the top post, as nobody was willing to fight against Usha, who was nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in July.





2) Dipankar Dutta

- Justice Dipankar Dutta has took oath as a judge of the Supreme Court. Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud administered the oath to Justice Dutta in the swearing-in ceremony in the Supreme Court in the presence of all judges.

- With the appointment of Justice Dutta, the Supreme Court will have 28 judges out of the strength of 34 judges. Justice Dutta will have a term till February 8, 2030.

SPORTS

1) Jos Buttler

- England's T20 World Cup-winning captain Jos Buttler was named ICC men's Player of the Month for the first time following his stupendous show in November.

- Pakistan's Sidra Ameen became the second successive winner of the women's Player of the Month award from the country, thanks to her brilliant performance in the ODI series win over Ireland.



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