

National News

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Major Dhyan Chand Sports University in which city?

- (A) Lucknow
- (B) Meerut
- (C) Varanasi
- (D) Noida

Answer: (B) Meerut

Explanation: On January 1, 2022, PM Modi laid the foundation stone for the university at Salawa and Kaili villages in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. Built at an estimated cost of ₹700 crore, it aims to foster a culture of sports and provide state-of-the-art training facilities including a synthetic hockey ground, football ground, and a cycling velodrome.

2. Which state's Legislative Council passed a bill to give more powers to the Higher Education Minister in state-run universities?

- (A) Tamil Nadu
- (B) Telangana
- (C) Maharashtra
- (D) Karnataka

Answer: (C) Maharashtra

Explanation: The Maharashtra Public University Act (Third Amendment) Bill was passed to allow the Higher and Technical Education Minister to make recommendations to the Governor (the Chancellor) regarding university appointments and serves as the Pro-Chancellor.

3. The Government of India approved the issuance of which tranche of Electoral Bonds for sale from Jan 1–10, 2022?

- (A) 15th
- (B) 17th
- (C) 19th
- (D) 21st

Answer: (C) 19th

Explanation: The 19th tranche of Electoral Bonds was authorized for sale through 29 specified branches of the State Bank of India (SBI). Electoral bonds are a financial instrument for making donations to political parties.

International News

4. Which country recently took over the chairmanship of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Counter-Terrorism Committee?

- (A) India
- (B) France
- (C) USA
- (D) Japan

Answer: (A) India

Explanation: India assumed the chairmanship of the UNSC Counter-Terrorism Committee for one year starting January 1, 2022. This committee was established by Resolution 1373 in the wake of the 9/11 attacks.

5. Which country introduced the world's first dual-mode vehicle (DMV) that can run on both roads and rail tracks?

- (A) China
- (B) Germany

- (C) Japan
- (D) South Korea

Answer: (C) Japan

Explanation: Japan launched the DMV in the town of Kaiyo. It resembles a minibus and runs on normal rubber tires on the road but lowers steel wheels to travel on rail tracks.

6. Which neighboring country of India formed a 'Hindu Temple Management Committee' to bridge the gap between the state and the minority population?

- (A) Bangladesh
- (B) Pakistan
- (C) Sri Lanka
- (D) Nepal

Answer: (B) Pakistan

Explanation: The Pakistan Ministry of Religious Affairs formed this committee to manage Hindu places of worship and address the concerns of the Hindu community in the country.

Economics & Banking

7. As per the ratings agency ICRA, what is the estimated real GDP growth of India for FY 2021-22?

- (A) 8.5%
- (B) 9.0%
- (C) 10.5%
- (D) 11.0%

Answer: (B) 9.0%

Explanation: ICRA Ltd maintained its forecast of 9.0% GDP expansion, highlighting a "K-shaped" recovery where

formal sectors grow faster than the informal ones.

8. Which bank's MD & CEO, Rajeev Ahuja, was recently appointed as the interim head?

- (A) Yes Bank
- (B) RBL Bank
- (C) Federal Bank
- (D) IDFC First Bank

Answer: (B) RBL Bank

Explanation: Rajeev Ahuja was appointed as the interim Managing Director and CEO of RBL Bank after the previous MD, Vishwavir Ahuja, went on leave.

9. Which country was recently inducted as the fourth new member of the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB)?

- (A) UAE
- (B) Uruguay
- (C) Bangladesh
- (D) Egypt

Answer: (D) Egypt

Explanation: Egypt joined the NDB as a new member, following the induction of Bangladesh, the UAE, and Uruguay in late 2021.

Sports

10. India defeated which team to win the Under-19 Asia Cup 2021 title?

- (A) Pakistan
- (B) Sri Lanka
- (C) Bangladesh
- (D) Afghanistan

Answer: (B) Sri Lanka

Explanation: India defeated Sri Lanka by 9 wickets in the final held in Dubai, clinching their record 8th U-19 Asia Cup title.

11. Who became the first Indian cricketer to take 200 Test wickets in the fewest number of balls?

- (A) Ravichandran Ashwin
- (B) Jasprit Bumrah
- (C) Mohammed Shami
- (D) Ishant Sharma

Answer: (C) Mohammed Shami

Explanation: Mohammed Shami reached the milestone of 200 Test wickets during the first Test against South Africa in Centurion (concluded just before Jan 1), becoming the 5th Indian pacer to achieve this.

Appointments & Resignations

12. Who has been appointed as the Director General and Chief Executive Officer (DG & CEO) of the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)?

- (A) Sanjay Kumar Singh
- (B) Praveen Kumar
- (C) Chandra Prakash Goyal
- (D) Eishin Chihana

Answer: (B) Praveen Kumar

Explanation: Praveen Kumar, a former Secretary of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, was appointed to lead the IICA, an institute based in Manesar, Haryana.

13. Who has been named as the new Chairman of Yamaha Motor India Group?

- (A) Motofumi Shitara
- (B) Eishin Chihana
- (C) Seon Seob Kim
- (D) Unsoo Kim

Answer: (B) Eishin Chihana

Explanation: Eishin Chihana took over the role, replacing Motofumi Shitara, who had held the position since 2018.

Awards & Honors

14. Who won the Sahitya Akademi Award 2021 in the English language category for the novel "Things to Leave Behind"?

- (A) Namita Gokhale
- (B) Anuradha Sarma Pujari
- (C) Sanjiv Verenkar
- (D) Hrushikesh Mallick

Answer: (A) Namita Gokhale

Explanation: Namita Gokhale was honored for her novel, while Daya Prakash Sinha won in the Hindi category for his play *Samrat Ashok*.

15. Which institution was ranked 1st in the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2021?

- (A) IIT Delhi
- (B) IIT Madras
- (C) IIT Bombay
- (D) IISc Bangalore

Answer: (B) IIT Madras

Explanation: IIT Madras was recognized as the most innovative educational institute in India for the third consecutive year.

Books, Defense & Schemes

16. Who is the author of the book "Dr. V L Dutt: Glimpses of a Pioneer's Life Journey," released recently?

- (A) V L Indira Dutt
- (B) Shashi Tharoor
- (C) Salman Khurshid
- (D) Venkaiah Naidu

Answer: (A) V L Indira Dutt

Explanation: The book, authored by V L Indira Dutt, was released by Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, chronicling the life of industrialist Dr. V L Dutt.

17. The Indian Army's 'Quantum Computing Laboratory and AI Centre' has been set up in which state?

- (A) Karnataka
- (B) Madhya Pradesh
- (C) Telangana
- (D) Maharashtra

Answer: (B) Madhya Pradesh

Explanation: This advanced facility was established at the Military College of Telecommunication Engineering (MCTE) in Mhow, Indore, to spearhead research in transformative technologies.

18. Which Union Ministry is implementing the 'Gram Ujala Programme'?

- (A) Ministry of Power
- (B) Ministry of Rural Development

- (C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- (D) Ministry of Agriculture

Answer: (A) Ministry of Power

Explanation: Under the Gram Ujala scheme, LED bulbs are provided for ₹10 each in exchange for working incandescent bulbs to promote energy efficiency in rural areas.

19. The SMILE scheme, recently in the news, is designed for the welfare of which group?

- (A) Small Farmers
- (B) Transgender persons and persons engaged in begging
- (C) Migrant Labours
- (D) Pregnant Women

Answer: (B) Transgender persons and persons engaged in begging

Explanation: SMILE (Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) provides comprehensive rehabilitation, medical facilities, and skill development for these marginalized groups.

20. Which Indian company commissioned India's largest solar power project (600 MW) at a single location in Rajasthan?

- (A) Adani Power
- (B) Azure Power
- (C) Tata Power
- (D) ReNew Power

Answer: (B) Azure Power

Explanation: Azure Power fully commissioned this 600 MW solar park in Bikaner, Rajasthan, which is connected to the Interstate Transmission System.