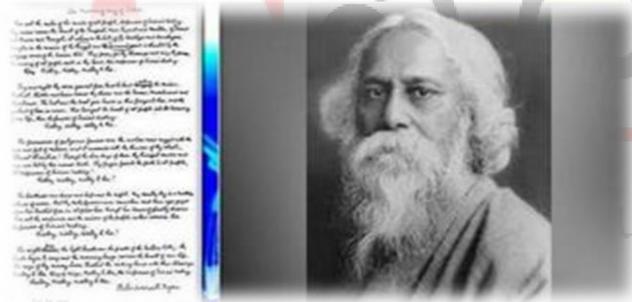


Today in History on 27 DEC

- 1911 - "Jana Gana Mana", the national anthem of India, was sung at the first Indian National Congress institution.

Jana Gana Mana, a symbol of India's enriched culture, was composed by Nobel laureate Vishwanath Tagore and was first performed on December 27, 1911, during the founding of the Indian National Congress (INC) team. The first performance of the national anthem took place at the Bharat Sabha, an automobile building located on Bowbazar Street in Kolkata district.



- 1944 - A proposal was made to the global industries for the establishment of the World Bank.

Currently, 189 countries are members of the World Bank. To become a member of the World Bank, any country must first become a member of the International Finance Corporation. The World Bank is a special institution. Its main objective is to provide financial assistance to member nations in

reconstruction and development work. The World Bank Group is a group of five international organizations that provide finance and financial advice to member countries. Its headquarters is in Washington, D.C. It was established in 1944.



- 1945: International Monetary Fund established with 29 member countries.

The IMF came into existence on December 27, 1945, with 29 member countries agreeing to be bound by the treaty. It began its financial activities on March 1, 1947. The IMF now has 190 member countries. It now plays a central role in managing balance of payments problems and international financial crises. Countries contribute funds to a pool through a quota system from which countries facing balance of payments problems can borrow money.



➤ 1960: France conducts a nuclear test.

In 1960, France became the fourth nuclear-armed state when it tested its first major nuclear device in Algeria, then a French colony. France conducted a total of 17 nuclear weapon tests in Algeria. France did not sign the Partial Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty, which gave it the option to conduct further nuclear tests until it signed and ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in 1996 and 1998, respectively. France currently denies having chemical weapons, having ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in 1995 and joined the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) in 1984. France also ratified the Geneva Protocol in 1926.



➤ 1966: The world's longest cave 'Cave of Swallows' was discovered in Acrison, Mexico.

The world's longest underwater tunnel has been found in eastern Mexico. The length of the tunnel is 347 kilometers. This tunnel was discovered under a campaign named Gran Aquifero Maya, in which a

team of divers was formed to find tunnels in the Yucatan Peninsula. The group that discovered these caves says that the underwater caves here are the largest caves ever discovered on this planet.



Important NEWS on 27 DEC

➤ V Ramasubramanian Appointed NHRC Chairperson

The post of Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) remained vacant since Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra completed his tenure on June 1, 2024. The appointment of former Supreme Court judge, V Ramasubramanian, was confirmed by President Droupadi Murmu on December 2024. Ramasubramanian's appointment marks a new chapter in the NHRC, following Mishra's tenure from June 2021 to June 2024.



➤ 3 Indians in Forbes' 2024 Power Women List

Forbes has unveiled its 21st annual list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women, a prestigious ranking that celebrates influential figures across business, entertainment, politics, philanthropy, and policymaking. This year, three Indian women have made their mark on the global stage with remarkable achievements in their respective fields. They include Nirmala Sitharaman, Roshni Nadar Malhotra, and Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, whose contributions to their industries have earned them prominent spots on the list.



➤ AIM & UNDP Launch Youth Co:Lab 2025 to Empower Disability-Inclusive Innovation

The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with Citi Foundation, have unveiled the 7th edition of the Youth Co:Lab National Innovation Challenge for 2024-2025. Launched globally in 2017 and introduced in India in 2019, Youth Co:Lab has empowered over 2,600 youth-led social innovation teams and reached 19,000+ participants.



➤ Russian Tennis Star Daniil Savelev Banned For 2 Years Over Doping

Russian Tennis Player, Daniil Savelev has been handed a two-year suspension for violating doping regulations. The International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) announced that Savelev tested positive for the prohibited substance meldonium in July 2024. Although ITIA acknowledged that the doping was unintentional, Savelev accepted the suspension, which will be effective until August 2026.



➤ India Squad For Champions Trophy 2025

The upcoming Champions Trophy 2025 marks the ninth edition of the ICC Champions Trophy, featuring eight teams competing in a round-robin format. Hosted by Pakistan, often referred to as the "cornered tigers," the tournament is scheduled to run from 19 February to 9 March, with 10 March

reserved as a contingency day for the final. Following their triumph in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024, India is set to face Pakistan in this championship.



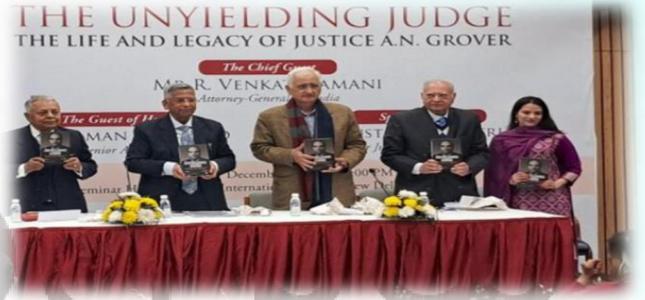
➤ Jaishankar Receives Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Award for Leadership

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar was honored with the Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award for Public Leadership by the South Indian Education Society (SIES) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to India's foreign policy and leadership on the global stage. In his acceptance speech, Jaishankar emphasized India's growing assertiveness on the international platform, underlining the importance of confidence in the nation's capabilities.



➤ "The Unyielding Judge: A Tribute to Justice A N Grover's Legacy"

At the launch of 'The Unyielding Judge: The Life and Legacy of Justice A N Grover,' Attorney General R Venkataramani highlighted the importance of judicial integrity, reflecting on how a judge's resistance to temptation defines their stature in human values. The event paid tribute to Justice Grover, renowned for his role in the landmark 1973 Kesavananda Bharti case, which upheld the basic structure doctrine of the Indian Constitution.



Current affairs MCQS on 27 DEC

Q.1. NITI Aayog has launched the Youth Co:Lab initiative in collaboration with which international organization?

- (a) World Bank
- (b) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- (c) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- (d) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Answer: (b) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and UNDP in collaboration with Citi Foundation launched the 7th Youth Co:Lab National Innovation Challenge for 2024-2025. Youth Co:Lab, co-created by UNDP and Citi Foundation in 2017, focuses on empowering youth to advance Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through innovation and entrepreneurship. In India, it began in 2019 in

collaboration with AIM, NITI Aayog and has organised six theme-specific youth innovation dialogues till 2024. The 2024-2025 edition, in partnership with AssistTech Foundation, emphasises on solutions that enhance opportunities for persons with disabilities in assistive technology, education, skilling and inclusive care models.

Q.2. Which country has recently won the ICC Under-19 Women's T20 Asia Cup?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) India
- (d) Japan

Answer: (c) India

In the final of the Under-19 Women's Asia Cup 2024, the Indian team defeated Bangladesh by 41 runs and won the title. In the final, Team India batted first and scored 117 runs. In response, the entire Bangladeshi team bowled out the franchise Team India for just 76 runs and won the title. The Asian Cricket Council organized the Women's Under-19 Asia Cup for the first time, in which Team India won.

Q.3. Recently the Central Government has approved 47 ethanol projects for loan subsidy in which state?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: (b) Bihar

A total of 47 projects in Bihar have been issued in-principle approval for interest subsidy on bank loans for setting up new distilleries or expanding existing distilleries. Currently, 22 ethanol distilleries - 8 molasses-based and 14 grain-based - are operational in Bihar, Minister of State for Food Nimuben Jayatibhai Bambhania told the Lok Sabha in a written reply. The government is implementing the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme across the country, under which oil marketing companies (OMCs) are selling ethanol-blended petrol. Under

this programme, the government has set a target of blending 20 per cent ethanol in petrol by 2025-26.

Q.4. Who has recently been appointed as CFO (Chief Financial Officer) by Oil India Limited?

- (a) Abhijit Majumdar
- (b) Amit Goyal
- (c) Piyush Srivastava
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Abhijit Majumdar

The Board of Directors of Oil India Limited (OIL) appointed Abhijit Majumdar as Chief Financial Officer (CFO). He took over the charge in addition to his current post of Director (Finance). Abhijit Majumdar replaced Rupam Barua, Executive Director (Finance & Accounts). He has an extensive career spanning over 32 years with expertise in financial management, corporate governance and risk management. Majumdar is a member of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of India and holds degrees in economics and law as well as a postgraduate diploma in foreign exchange management. He also completed the IICA Assessment Certificate Programme, which demonstrates his proficiency in financial and regulatory frameworks.

Q.5. Recently, India's first bio-bitumen national highway has been inaugurated in which country?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Nagpur
- (c) Kanpur
- (d) Bengaluru

Answer: (b) Nagpur

India has recently inaugurated its first bio-bitumen based national highway section on NH-44 at Mansar, Nagpur, Maharashtra using lignin based bio-bitumen technology developed by joint efforts of Praj Industries, CSIR-CRRI, NHA and Oriental.

Q.6. Recently, who has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Asia Pacific Vascular Society?

- (a) Dr. Vishakha Tripathi
(b) Suma Shirur
(c) Maria Corina
(d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Dr. Vishakha Tripathi

Jagadguru Kripalu Parishad (JKP) has announced that the Asia Pacific Vascular Society (APVS), the largest body of cardiologists in South-East Asia, has conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award posthumously on Dr Vishakha Tripathi ji in recognition of her exceptional contribution to humanity. The award was presented by APVS President Prof Dr NN Khanna, who lauded Dr Tripathi ji for her lifelong dedication to compassion, philanthropy and selfless service.

Q.7. Recently, whose book 'The Unyielding Judge: Life and Legacy of Justice A.N. Grover' has been released?

- (a) Ivanka Grover
(b) Nitán Grover
(c) Justice A.N. Grover
(d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Justice A.N. Grover

Attorney General R Venkataramani highlighted the importance of judicial integrity at the launch of 'The Indomitable Judge: Life and Legacy of Justice A.N. Grover'. He said a judge's ability to resist temptations makes him one of the highest values of humanity. The event was organised to pay tribute to Justice Grover, who is renowned for his role in upholding the doctrine of basic structure of the Indian Constitution in the landmark 1973 Kesavananda Bharati case.

Q.8. Recently, which Gulf country has officially reopened its embassy in Syria after 13 years?

- (a) Bahrain
(b) Kuwait
(c) Dubai
(d) Qatar

Answer: (d) Qatar

Qatar officially reopened its embassy in the Syrian capital Damascus after nearly 13 years. The Qatari flag was hoisted on the embassy building, which resumed operations in the Syrian capital after the fall of the Assad regime. Local resident Khalid al-Khalid expressed his happiness over the reopening of the embassy. He said Qatar was one of the countries that supported the Syrian revolution the most, adding: "I hope other countries will also reopen their embassies."

Q.9. Who won the gold medal in the Senior National Shooting Championship 2024 in Bhopal?

- (a) Dhanush Srikanth
(b) Sahu Tushar Mane
(c) Rudraksh Balasaheb Patil
(d) Yash Vardhan

Answer: (b) Sahu Tushar Mane

Shahu Tushar Mane won the gold medal in the men's 10m air rifle event at the National Shooting Championships, securing his first senior national title. Mane, representing Railways, won the silver medal after narrowly defeating Dhanush Srikanth of Telangana in the 24-shot final. Himanshu of Haryana won the gold medal in the youth category, while Yash Pandey of Madhya Pradesh and Abhinav Shaw of West Bengal won the silver and bronze medals respectively.

Q.10. Recently 'Shyam Benegal' has passed away. Who was he?

- (a) Filmmaker
(b) Journalist
(c) Writer
(d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Filmmaker

Indian parallel cinema legend Shyam Benegal died at a Mumbai hospital. He was 90 and was suffering from a serious kidney ailment. Shyam Benegal, the maker of films like 'Ankur' and 'Manthan', is considered a pioneer of the parallel cinema movement in India along with Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak and Govind Nihalini.

Q.11. Recently Dr. Ambedkar Scholarship has been started for Dalit students in which state?

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Assam
- (d) Bihar

Answer: (a) Delhi

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced the Dr Ambedkar Samman Scholarship for foreign education of Dalit students. Kejriwal cited it as a response to the alleged insult to Ambedkar by the BJP. However, the BJP claims that the scheme already exists, and accused Kejriwal of doing a trick before the elections. The scholarship covers tuition, travel and accommodation. The BJP presented evidence suggesting limited implementation of the existing scheme.

Q.12. Recently, which state of India has been included in the popular global destinations for the year 2025 by the American newspaper Wall Street Journal?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Goa

Answer: (a) Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh has been named as one of the "Go-to Global Destinations for 2025" by the Wall Street Journal. The state is renowned for its rich heritage, wildlife and natural beauty, establishing it as a top travel destination globally. It offers a diverse experience with UNESCO World Heritage Sites, tiger reserves and vibrant cultural attractions. Major attractions include Khajuraho, Panna and Bandhavgarh, known for their cultural significance, exciting wildlife and beautiful landscapes.

Q.13. Recently, who has won the title of Next Gen ATP Finals Tennis Tournament 2024?

- (a) John McEnroe
- (b) Lerner TN

- (c) Joao Fonseca
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Joao Fonseca

Joao Fonseca of Brazil won the Next Gen ATP Finals title in Jeddah. Fonseca, 18, performed brilliantly in the final event of the season for the best players under the age of 20. He defeated American Lerner Tien 2-4, 4-3 (8), 4-0, 4-2 in the championship match at King Abdullah Sports City, becoming the second-youngest winner in the event's history.

Q.14. Who has recently become the new chairman of NHRC (National Human Rights Commission)?

- (a) Ravindra Kumaran
- (b) Pratik Chaudhary
- (c) V. Ram Subramaniam
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) V. Ram Subramaniam

Former Supreme Court judge V Ramasubramanian has been appointed as the new chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission. The post of NHRC chairperson was lying vacant since Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra completed his term on June 1. Mishra served as the eighth chairperson of the rights panel and was appointed to its top post in June 2021.

Q.15. Who has recently been appointed as the White House Senior Policy Advisor on Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

- (a) Sriram Krishnan
- (b) Scott Bessant
- (c) Mike Walts
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Sriram Krishnan

US President-elect Donald Trump has appointed Indian-American entrepreneur and venture capitalist Sriram Krishnan as senior policy adviser for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. The move reflects the administration's priority to ensure that the US maintains its leadership in AI technology and shapes its policy direction.