

Today in History on 30 DEC

➤ 1906 – Muslim League established in Dhaka.

The All India Muslim League was established on 30 December 1906 in a conference under the control of Nawab Salim Ullah Khan of Dhaka. The League was formed in 1907 in Karachi, Pakistan. Its first session was held in Karachi in 1907. The first session of the All India Muslim League was presided over by Aga Khan.



➤ 1919 – First female student admitted to the bar in London.

On Christmas Eve 1919, the day after the Act was passed, Helena Normanton became the first woman in England and Wales to be admitted as a student member to any of the four Inns of Court. Normanton, who attracted considerable press attention as the 'first' female barrister, had a turbulent relationship with the Bar Council.



➤ 1922 – Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Transcaucasia join together to form the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Founded in 1922 as a union of Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, and Transcaucasia (consisting of Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia), the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) eventually grew to 15 republics – and became a worldwide superpower.

Nearly 130 ethnic groups lived in this vast country, which spanned 11 time zones. The Soviet Union, officially the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, was a socialist state in Eurasia that existed from 1922 to 1991. It was nominally a supranational union of national republics, but its government and economy were highly centralized in a state that was unitary in most respects.



➤ 1943 - Freedom fighter Subhash Chandra Bose hoisted the flag of India's independence in Port Blair.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose hoisted the national tricolor flag for the first time in Port Blair on December 30, 1943. On this day the island was declared the first Indian territory to be free from British rule. The Government of India celebrates 30 December as the anniversary of the hoisting of the national tricolor. Port Blair was named in 1789 in honor of Archibald Blair of the East India Company. Which has now been changed to Sri Vijaya Puram. Archibald Blair was a lieutenant in the Bombay Marine.



➤ 1975 - The constitution came into effect in the African country of Madagascar.

In 1975, Lieutenant-Commander Didier Ratsiraka seized power from the provisional president and established a socialist government, nationalizing the economy and severing all ties with France. Under the Ratsiraka administration, a new constitution was adopted in Madagascar in December 1975.



Important NEWS on 30 DEC

➤ US Declare Bald Eagle As National Bird After 250 Years

On Christmas Eve 2024, President Joe Biden signed a historic law officially designating the bald eagle as the national bird of the United States. Although the bald eagle has been an enduring emblem of the country, appearing on the Great Seal of the US since 1782, it was never formally recognized as the national bird until this legislation. Spearheaded by lawmakers from Minnesota, this decision honors the bald eagle's symbolic representation of strength,

courage, and freedom while acknowledging its remarkable recovery from near extinction.



➤ China Approves \$137-Billion Mega Dam on Brahmaputra Near Indian Border

China has approved the construction of the world's largest dam on the Yarlung Zangbo (Brahmaputra) in Tibet, close to the Indian border. Estimated at \$137 billion, this project raises strategic and environmental concerns for India and Bangladesh. The massive hydropower dam, located at a tectonic boundary prone to earthquakes, has been touted as safe by Chinese authorities, who emphasize ecological protection and advanced engineering techniques.



➤ SLINEX 2024 India Sri-Lanka Naval Drill in Visakhapatnam

The bilateral naval exercise SLINEX 24 (Sri Lanka-India Exercise 2024) was held on December, 2024,

in Visakhapatnam under the Eastern Naval Command. This annual exercise is a significant platform to strengthen maritime cooperation, enhance interoperability, and ensure a safe, rule-based maritime domain in the Indian Ocean. SLINEX 24 was conducted in two phases—Harbour Phase and Sea Phase—and featured participation from both navies' Special Forces and key naval vessels.



➤ India's Defence Exports Reach Rs. 21,083 Crore In 2023-24

In the fiscal year 2023-24, India achieved a significant milestone in its defence sector. The country's defence exports reached a record-high value of Rs 21,083 crore (around USD 2.63 billion), marking a 32.5% growth over the previous year.

This growth is part of a broader trend in India's defence sector, reflecting both enhanced domestic production and export capabilities. In parallel, India's indigenous defence production also set a record, with a value of Rs 1,26,887 crore, representing a 16.7% increase compared to the previous fiscal year.



trajectory is expected to continue, driving PSB profits beyond the Rs 1.5 trillion mark for FY25. Key factors contributing to this growth include low NPAs, robust credit growth, and a solid capital adequacy ratio.



➤ UP CM Inaugurates Atal Yuva Maha Kumbh

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 'Atal Yuva Maha Kumbh' in Lucknow to honor the birth centenary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The event, aimed at celebrating Vajpayee's legacy, included the recognition of meritorious students, cultural tributes, and discussions on Vajpayee's contributions.



➤ Amitava Chatterjee Appointed as MD & CEO of J&K Bank

Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Bank's share price soared by 7.4% on December, 2024, following the announcement of Amitava Chatterjee's appointment as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). This significant development comes after the bank's board appointed Chatterjee for a three-year term starting December 30, 2024.



➤ Indian Banks' Profitability Soars with Low NPAs and Strong Credit Growth

Indian public sector banks (PSBs) have reported strong profitability, with a 25% increase in net profit in H1 2024-25, totaling Rs 85,520 crore, compared to Rs 68,500 crore in H1 2023-24. This upward

Current affairs MCQS on 30 DEC

Q.1. Kaveri engine was developed by which organisation?

- (a) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- (b) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- (c) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- (d) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)

Answer: (b) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

DRDO's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) has approved the Kaveri engine for flight testing. The Kaveri engine project was initiated in the late 1980s to power India's light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas. It was developed by the Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The approval marks progress in India's indigenous aero-engine technology development.

Q.2. Which medal has Martina Devi Maibam won in the recent Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championship?

- (a) Bronze
- (b) Gold
- (c) Silver
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Silver

Indian weightlifting continued its impressive performance at the Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships. Martina Devi (plus 87 kg) won a silver medal at the Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships. In Stockholm, 18-year-old Martina finished second by lifting 225 kg (96 and 129 kg). She also won silver in clean and jerk and bronze in snatch. Her personal best performance is 237 kg which she achieved at the Junior World Championships this year.

Q.3. In which country has Atal Yuva Mahakumbh and Atal Health Fair been inaugurated recently?

- (a) Gorakhpur
- (b) Agra
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Prayagraj

Answer: (c) Lucknow

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 'Atal Yuva Maha Kumbh' on the occasion of the birth centenary celebrations of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in Lucknow. The event, aimed at honouring Vajpayee's legacy, included felicitation of meritorious students, cultural tributes and discussions on Vajpayee's contributions.

Q.4. Recently Amitav Chatterjee has been appointed as the new Managing Director of which bank?

- (a) Jammu and Kashmir Bank
- (b) Punjab Bank
- (c) Bandhan Bank
- (d) Yes Bank

4. A

Answer: (a) Jammu and Kashmir Bank

Jammu and Kashmir Bank appointed Amitabh Chatterjee as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who will take charge from December 30, 2024. Amitabh Chatterjee, who has previously been the MD and CEO of SBI Caps, will replace Baldev Prakash, who has over 30 years of banking experience.

Q.5. Recently "Bald Eagle" has been made the national bird of which country?

- (a) Japan
- (b) USA
- (c) China
- (d) Russia

Answer: (b) USA

President Joe Biden signed a historic law officially declaring the bald eagle the national bird of the United States. Although the bald eagle has been an enduring symbol of the country and appears on the

U.S. Great Seal since 1782, it had never been formally recognized as the national bird under this law. The decision, sponsored by Minnesota legislators, honored the bald eagle's symbolic representation of strength, courage, and freedom, as well as acknowledged its unique revival from the brink of extinction.

Q.6. Recently, India has achieved what percentage reduction in malaria cases?

- (a) 97 %
- (b) 85 %
- (c) 82 %
- (d) 88 %

Answer: (a) 97 %

According to an official report released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, there has been a significant decline in malaria cases in India. The total number of malaria cases has come down to 20 lakhs in 2023, while the number of deaths was only 83. While the number of malaria cases annually was 7.5 crores in 1947, now this figure has reduced by 97%.

Q.7. Recently, which state has become the 5th state to provide 100% piped water supply to rural households?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Punjab
- (d) Odisha

Answer: (c) Punjab

Recently Punjab has become the fifth state to achieve the target of 100% piped water supply to rural households. This work has been done under the central government scheme 'Har Ghar Jal'. To address the issues of water quality and water scarcity, 15 major canal water projects covering 1706 villages are underway at a cost of Rs 2174 crore. These projects will benefit a population of about 25 lakh and 4 lakh families. With this, all the villages of the state have achieved ODF (open

defecation free) status under Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural).

Q.8. Recently, ICC has imposed a fine of 20% of the match fee on which Indian player?

- (a) Virat Kohli
- (b) Ravindra Jadeja
- (c) Hardik Pandya
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Virat Kohli

India's star cricketer Virat Kohli has been fined 20% of his match fee and given one demerit point for his shoulder clash with Australia player Sam Konstas on the first day of the Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). The incident happened after the 10th over of Australia's innings. Kohli was found guilty of breaching Level 1 of the ICC's Code of Conduct, specifically inappropriate physical contact. The fine has been imposed following the incident in which Kohli recklessly collided with Konstas, which led to disciplinary action.

Q.9. Recently 'MT Vasudevan Nair' has passed away. Who was he?

- (a) Director
- (b) Writer
- (c) Journalist
- (d) Singer

Answer: (b) Writer

Eminent Malayalam writer and Jnanpith Award winner M T Vasudevan Nair passed away. He was 91. M T Vasudevan Nair, also known as M T, was a prolific and prolific writer, screenwriter and film director of modern Malayalam literature. He directed seven films and wrote screenplays for about 54 films.

Q.10. Who has been appointed as Revenue Secretary in the Finance Ministry recently?

- (a) Arunish Chawla
- (b) Sanjay Murthy
- (c) Punit Goenka
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Arunish Chawla

Arunish Chawla, a senior IAS officer of 1992 batch of Bihar cadre, has been appointed as the new Revenue Secretary in the Finance Ministry. The appointment has been made to fill the vacancy created after Sanjay Malhotra became the RBI Governor. Chawla will replace Ajay Seth, who was holding the additional charge of Revenue Secretary since Malhotra's appointment. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has confirmed that Chawla will hold the additional charge of the Ministry of Culture until a regular officer is appointed.

Q.11. Who topped the recently released 'ICC Test All Rounder Ranking'?

- (a) Jasprit Bumrah
- (b) Jose Hazlewood
- (c) Ravindra Jadeja
- (d) Virat Kohli

Answer: (c) Ravindra Jadeja

India continue to dominate the latest ICC men's Test all-rounder rankings with their key players occupying key spots in the top 10. Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin continue to top India's rankings, further cementing their position as the two best all-rounders in world cricket.

Q.12. Who chaired the 45th edition of the PRAGATI meeting in New Delhi?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Rajnath Singh
- (d) S Jaishankar

Answer: (b) Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 45th edition of PRAGATI, a platform for proactive governance and timely implementation. Eight major projects worth over ₹1 lakh crore, including six metro projects, one road connectivity and one thermal power project, were reviewed. States were directed to increase rooftop solar power installations under the PM Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme with improved vendor ecosystem

and accelerated processes. PRAGATI has reviewed 363 projects worth ₹19.12 lakh crore in 45 editions. PRAGATI is a multi-purpose platform launched on March 25, 2015. It addresses grievances of common people while monitoring major government programmes and projects. The platform reviews projects of both the Central and State governments. It promotes e-transparency and e-accountability among stakeholders.

Q.13. Which country has recently become the largest recipient of remittances in 2024?

- (a) Mexico
- (b) India
- (c) Russia
- (d) China

Answer: (b) India

India is the global leader in remittances, with an estimated flow of \$129 billion in 2024. It is followed by Mexico, China, the Philippines, and Pakistan. Remittances to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are projected to be \$685 billion in 2024, with South Asia seeing an 11.8% increase. Remittance growth is projected to be 5.8% in 2024, up from 1.2% in 2023, and is higher than financial flows such as foreign direct investment (FDI). FDI has declined by 41% over the past decade, while remittances have grown by 57%, driven by job market recovery in high-income countries such as the US. Remittances provide critical financial support to households globally.

Q.14. Recently 'Manika Jain' has been appointed as India's Ambassador to which country?

- (a) Iceland
- (b) Norway
- (c) Moldova
- (d) Australia

Answer: (c) Moldova

The Ministry of External Affairs said that Manika Jain, the current Ambassador of India to Romania, has been concurrently accredited as the country's Ambassador to Moldova, with residence in

Bucharest. Jain, who joined the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) in 1993, is expected to take up the assignment shortly, the MEA said in a press release.

Q.15. Where has the torch rally of the 38th 'National Games' started recently?

- (a) Haldwani
- (b) Nagpur
- (c) Surat
- (d) Mumbai

Answer: (a) Haldwani

The torch rally of the 38th National Games has started from Haldwani. This torch will go to every corner of Uttarakhand and spread awareness about the National Games. This rally, which will last for 35 days, will pass through 99 places in all 13 districts. The torch rally will conclude on January 27 in Dehradun and the National Games will be formally inaugurated the next day.