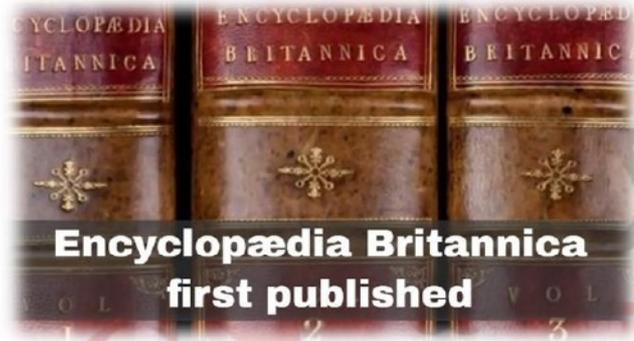


Today in History on 06 DEC

➤ 1768 - First edition of Encyclopædia Britannica

The 'Encyclopædia Britannica' is considered one of the lasting achievements of the Scottish Enlightenment. The 'Britannica', first issued in 1768, originated in Edinburgh. It was published by Colin Macfarquhar (1744/5-1793), a printer and engraver Andrew Bell (1725/6-1809).



➤ 1917 - Finland declares independence from Russia

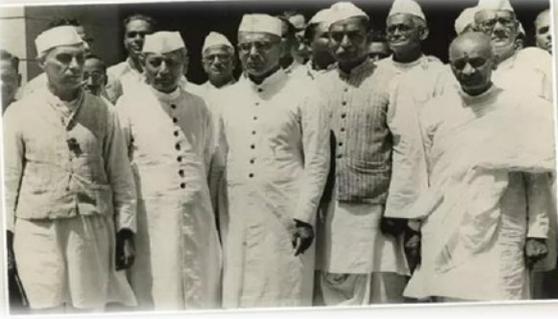
Finland declared its independence from the Russian Empire on December 6, 1917, shortly after the Bolshevik Revolution. The United States recognized Finland on May 7, 1919, in a letter written by Secretary of State Robert Lansing to Finnish Foreign Minister Rudolf Holsti. The earliest settlement in Finland occurred after the last ice age, around 9000 B.C. During the Stone Age, various cultures emerged, distinguished by different styles of pottery. The Bronze Age and Iron Age were marked by contacts

with other cultures in Fennoscandia and the Baltic region.



➤ 1946 - Government established in India.

The Interim Government of India was formed in 1946, and it is this government with which the United States established diplomatic relations before formal Indian independence. The U.S. Embassy and diplomatic relations in New Delhi were established on November 1, 1946, when the U.S. Department of State established the U.S. Mission in New Delhi as an embassy. The U.S. Department of State announced on October 22, 1946, that the governments of India and the United States "have agreed to exchange ambassadors and to raise their respective missions to the level of embassies."



- **1956 - Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, died in Delhi.**

Babasaheb Ambedkar died on 6 December 1956. Constitution maker Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was a great social reformer and scholar. He dedicated his entire life to eradicate casteism and uplift the poor, Dalits and backward classes. Ambedkar was born on 14 April 1891 in Mhow Nagar Military Cantonment located in Central India Province (now Madhya Pradesh) of British India.



- **1732 - Warren Hastings, the first Governor-General of the East India Company, was born.**

Warren Hastings (6 December 1732), was an English statesman, Governor-General of India and is credited with laying the foundations of the British Empire in India along with Robert Clive. He was the first Governor of Fort William Presidency (Bengal) and President of the Supreme Council of Bengal and thus the first de facto Governor-General of India from 1773 to 1785.



Important NEWS on 06 DEC

- **India's Tiger Population Doubles Since 2006, Reaches 3,682 in 2022**

India's tiger population has grown remarkably, reaching 3,682 in 2022 from 1,411 in 2006, doubling in just over 15 years. The rise reflects a significant

annual increase of 6% in consistently monitored areas, with numbers rising from 2,967 in 2018.

This achievement has been driven by focused conservation efforts under Project Tiger and measures implemented by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), the Parliament was informed.



➤ China Opens First Atmospheric Monitoring Station in Antarctica

China has inaugurated its first atmospheric monitoring station in Antarctica, marking a significant expansion of its research presence on the continent. Located in Larsmann Hills, East Antarctica, the Zhongshan National Atmospheric Background Station aims to provide continuous and long-term observations of atmospheric components, contributing valuable data on climate change and the impact of human activity on the environment. This station supports China's growing role in Antarctic research, aligning with its broader goals as a 'polar power.'

➤ Mahila Samman Savings Certificate: Empowering Women Financially

The Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme has achieved a significant milestone with over 43 lakh accounts opened. Launched on 31st March 2023 by the Government of India to commemorate the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', the scheme aims to provide financial security to women and minor girls, empowering them with a safe and attractive investment option.



➤ Kirti Vardhan Singh Launches Nano Bubble Tech to Purify Delhi Zoo Pond Water

Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh, inaugurated a 15-day trial of Nano Bubble Technology at the National Zoological Park in Delhi on Tuesday.

This initiative is aimed at improving the water quality in the zoo's ponds to benefit aquatic animals by removing algae, foul odors, and discoloration often caused by polluted water.



➤ IIT Ropar's AWaDH Celebrates 4th Foundation Day with Farmer-Centric Innovations

IIT Ropar's Technology and Innovation Foundation (iHub – AWaDH) is celebrating its 4th Foundation Day by hosting a significant Farmer Engagement Session, marking a key milestone in its journey to transform agriculture through technology. Launched under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) with support from the Department of Science & Technology (DST), AWaDH is spearheading innovation in agriculture, water, and IoT, with a

focus on deep-tech research, startups, and incubation.



➤ Maria Victoria Juan Wins Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award 2024

Nurse Maria Victoria Juan has been honoured with the Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award 2024, a prestigious recognition that celebrates exceptional contributions to the nursing profession worldwide. Maria, whose career has been a testament to dedication and resilience, was chosen for this award for her outstanding efforts in transforming the healthcare landscape, particularly in the Philippine Army Health Services and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.



➤ SheSTEM 2024: Empowering Youth-Led Innovation for a Sustainable Future

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the Swedish Embassy, in collaboration with Nordic partners like Innovation Norway, Innovation Centre Denmark, and Business Finland, successfully concluded SheSTEM 2024. This initiative, aimed at inspiring young innovators, celebrated the contributions of women in STEM fields and invited students from grades 6–12 across India to present innovative ideas on Battery Technology and Energy Storage (BEST) systems.



Current affairs MCQS on 06 DEC

Q.1. Recently, which international organization has declared West Bengal as the top destination for heritage tourism?

- (a) World Bank
- (b) UNESCO
- (c) UNWTO
- (d) IATA

Answer: (b) UNESCO

UNESCO has recognised West Bengal as a top destination for heritage tourism. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee highlighted the state's progress in religious, heritage and tea tourism. The recognition has boosted tourism and created thousands of jobs for the youth. West Bengal is focusing on enhancing iconic religious sites and heritage sites. The state's efforts are boosting its tourism sector, making it a major player in India's tourism industry.

Q.2. Recently, which state will implement 'Raithu Bharosa Yojana'?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Assam

Answer: (a) Telangana

Telangana Chief Minister announced the extension of the Raithu Bharosa scheme after Sankranti. The scheme will continue to provide a bonus of Rs 500 for high quality rice prices in the next season. Raithu Bharosa scheme, also known as Farmers Investment Assistance Scheme (FISS), was launched in 2018-19 to meet the initial investment of farmers. It has been announced with the aim of removing agricultural machinery and preparing for upcoming local community appointments.

Q.3. Recently, Madhav Tiger Reserve has become the 8th Tiger Reserve of the state?

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

Answer ; (d) Madhya Pradesh

Ratapani forest near Bhopal has been declared Madhya Pradesh's eighth and the country's 57th tiger reserve. The state government recently issued a notification formalising the status. Located just 15 km from Bhopal, the reserve is spread over 1,271.456 sq km and covers parts of Bhopal, Raisen and Sehore districts.

Q.4. Recently, who has taken over as the President of the International Cricket Council (ICC)?

- (a) Jay Shah
- (b) Greg Barclay
- (c) Ricky Ponting
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Jay Shah

A day after resigning as secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Jay Shah has taken over as president of the sport's global governing body, the International Cricket Council (ICC). While Shah was hoping to "extend the reach and growth" of the sport on the global stage, his departure could lead to an interesting six weeks in the corridors of the BCCI.

Q.5. Recently, the 16th conference of the countries involved in the United Nations Treaty to Combat Desertification has started in which country?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Riyadh
- (c) Dubai
- (d) Moscow

Answer: (b) Riyadh

The Conference of the Parties (COP16) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is being held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, with nearly 200 representatives from governments, civil society and leading experts attending. This is the first time it is being held in the Middle East and North Africa region, which already knows the impacts of desertification, land degradation and drought.

Q.6. According to a recent report, which country has become the largest source of FDI in India?

- (a) Singapore
- (b) America
- (c) China
- (d) Russia

Answer: (a) Singapore

India received the highest foreign direct investment (FDI) from Singapore in 2023-24, despite foreign

capital inflows into the country declining by nearly 3.5% due to global economic uncertainties, according to the latest government data. Although FDI from Singapore declined 31.55% to \$11.77 billion in 2023-24, India attracted the maximum inflows from that country, the data showed.

Q.7. In which state has Khel Mahakumbh 2024 been inaugurated recently?

- (a) Haryana
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Bihar

Answer: (c) Uttarakhand

Khel Mahakumbh Uttarakhand 2024 was inaugurated by Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, Youth Welfare, PRD and Sports Minister Rekha Arya and Raipur MLA Umesh Sharma Kau. Organised by the Youth Welfare and PRD Department, the event was attended by participants from across the state keeping in mind the sports and athletic spirit.

Q.8. What kind of infection is Chronic Pulmonary Aspergillosis (CPA), which was in the news recently?

- (a) Viral infection
- (b) Bacterial infection
- (c) Fungal infection
- (d) Parasitic infection

Answer: (c) Fungal infection

Chronic pulmonary aspergillosis (CPA) is a fungal lung infection caused by a fungus called Aspergillus, commonly found in indoor and outdoor environments. CPA affects people who suffer from chronic lung diseases such as emphysema, bronchitis or tuberculosis. CPA is not contagious and cannot spread between individuals. Early symptoms may be absent; common symptoms include coughing up blood, weight loss, fatigue, shortness of breath and wheezing. CPA is usually a lifelong condition that requires long-term antifungal treatment. Surgery may be needed to remove fungal masses that cause bleeding from the lungs. CPA kills

more than 340,000 people each year, highlighting its severe impact.

Q.9. Recently, whom has Donald Trump appointed as Senior Advisor on Arab and Middle East Affairs in his Cabinet?

- (a) Keith Kellogg
- (b) Tulsi Gabbard
- (c) Masad Bulos
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Masad Bulos

President-elect Trump has appointed Massad Boulos, the Lebanese-born father-in-law of Tiffany Trump, as senior adviser for Arab and Middle Eastern affairs. A legal expert and peace advocate, Boulos will aim to strengthen US interests in the region. Earlier, Trump had offered a role to Charles Kushner, Ivanka's father-in-law.

Q.10. Recently, the World Maritime Technology Conference (WMTC) 2024 will be organized in which city?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Chennai
- (d) Bhopal

Answer: (c) Chennai

The World Maritime Technology Conference (WMTC) will be held in Chennai. It is being held in India for the first time in 15 years, before this it was held in Mumbai. The conference covers important topics such as climate change, sustainability and geopolitical dynamics affecting the maritime industry. The last edition was held in Copenhagen in April 2022, with previous hosts such as Shanghai, Houston and St. Petersburg.

Q.11. Recently, the fourth edition of the joint military exercise 'Harimau Shakti' has started between India and which country?

- (a) Malaysia
- (b) Singapore
- (c) Italy
- (d) Nepal

Answer: (a) Malaysia

The 4th India-Malaysia joint military exercise Harimau Shakti was held at Bentong Camp in Pahang, Malaysia. It involves 78 Indian soldiers of the Mahar Regiment and 123 Malaysian soldiers of the Royal Malaysian Regiment. The exercise focuses on counter-terrorism operations in jungle areas under Chapter VII of the United Nations. It includes simulated exercises such as cross-training, anti-MT ambushes, reconnaissance patrols and counter-terrorist area attacks. The annual event is held alternately between the two countries, boosting interoperability, defence cooperation and bilateral relations.

Q.12. Recently who has become the second Indian chess player to achieve 2800 yellow rating?

- (a) Arjun Eriges
- (b) Vishwanathan Anand
- (c) D Gukesh
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Arjun Eriges

Grand Master Arjun Erigaisi has become the second Indian chess player and 16th player in the world to achieve 2800 Elo rating points in classical chess. 21-year-old Arjun Erigaisi is the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to achieve 2800 Elo rating points. 21-year-old Arjun Erigaisi is currently ranked number 4 in the world by FIDE behind Grand Master Magnus Carlsen, Grand Master Fabiano Caruana and Grand Master Hikaru Nakamura.

Q.13. Recently, the first joint table top exercise 'Sinbex' has started between India and which country in Pune?

- (a) Singapore
- (b) Japan
- (c) Nepal
- (d) Cambodia

Answer: (d) Cambodia

The first edition of the joint table top exercise SINBEX between the Indian Army and Cambodian Army began at the Foreign Training Node, Pune. The

Cambodian Army contingent will comprise of 20 soldiers and the Indian Army contingent will also comprise of 20 soldiers from an Infantry Brigade.

Q.14. Who has recently won the men's singles title in the Syed Modi International Badminton Tournament?

- (a) Lakshya Sen
- (b) Ben Shelter
- (c) Hubert Hukaj
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Lakshya Sen

India's top badminton players PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen won the women's and men's titles respectively of the 2024 Syed Modi International Badminton Championships. This was PV Sindhu's first BWF singles title after the 2022 Singapore Open title. The BWF (Badminton World Federation) World Tour 300 Syed Modi International Badminton Championships with a prize money of USD 2.10 lakh was held at Babu Banarasi Das Indoor Stadium located in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Q.15. Recently, which state government has increased the retirement age of judicial officers from 60 years to 61 years?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Assam

Answer: (a) Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Governor Justice Abdul Nazeer has approved the amendment in the retirement age of judicial officers. This amendment has increased the retirement age of judicial officers from 60 to 61 years. As per the instructions of the state's Law Department, the amended law has been officially published in the gazette.