

## Today in History on 03 JAN

### ➤ 1831 - Savitribai Phule was born

Savitribai Phule was born on 3 January 1831. Her father's name was Khandoji Naivese and mother's name was Lakshmibai. Savitribai Phule was married to Jyotirao Phule in 1841. Savitribai Phule was the first principal of India's first girls' school and the founder of the first farmers' school. Mahatma Jyotirao is considered one of the most important figures in the social reform movement in Maharashtra and India. He is known for his efforts to educate women and Dalit castes.



### ➤ 1876 - Turkey's first constitution proclaimed.

In 1876 a constitution for Turkey was drafted by the Armenian Krikor Odian, secretary to the reformer Midhat Pasha, and proclaimed and almost immediately revoked by Sultan Abdul Hamid. The Turkish Constitution of 1921 was the fundamental law for Turkey from 1921 to 1924. It is generally accepted that the constitution was the result of the most democratic constitution-making process in Turkish history.



### ➤ 1894- Rabindranath Tagore inaugurated the 'Paush Mela' in Shantiniketan.

Shantiniketan is famous for Rabindranath Tagore, Visva-Bharati University and Paush Mela. Paush Mela was started in 1894 by Maharshi Devendranath Tagore to commemorate the anniversary of the Brahma Temple established in 1891 in Shantiniketan. Paush Mela of Shantiniketan is one of the popular cultural fairs of Bengal. This fair



showcases the rural heritage and folk culture of Bengal.



#### ➤ 1909 - Albert becomes King of the Belgians.

Albert was born in Brussels as the fifth child and second son of Prince Philippe, Count of Flanders, and Princess Marie of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen. Albert succeeded his uncle Leopold II on the Belgian throne in 1909. He married Elisabeth of Bavaria, with whom he had three children. Albert ruled during an eventful period in Belgian history, including the duration of World War I (1914–1918), when much of Belgium was occupied by German forces.



#### ➤ 1968- Launch of the country's first meteorological rocket 'Maneka'.

The country's first meteorological rocket 'Maneka' was launched in the year 1968. The RH-100 was a single-stage solid-fuel rocket capable of carrying its payload to an altitude of 55 km or more. When it was combined with a 650 mm long and 40 mm wide copper shaft dart used for meteorological research, it was called the Maneka-I rocket.



### Important NEWS on 03 JAN

#### ➤ 116th Mann Ki Baat- Welcoming a Milestone Year

As 2025 approaches, India stands on the threshold of significant celebrations and achievements. The year marks the 75th anniversary of the Constitution of India, a testament to the vision and dedication of the nation's founding fathers. The Prime Minister, through the 116th episode of his monthly radio address Mann Ki Baat, shared insights and





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aspirations for the country's progress and unity, covering diverse themes ranging from cultural heritage to health and sports.



### ➤ China Unveils World's Fastest High-Speed Train Prototype

China has introduced the CR450, the world's fastest high-speed train prototype, with test speeds reaching 450 km/h. Surpassing the current CR400 Fuxing trains (350 km/h), the CR450 marks a breakthrough in rail technology, combining speed with advancements in energy efficiency, safety, and passenger comfort. This innovation aligns with China's ambitious plans to expand its high-speed rail network to 70,000 km by 2035, cementing its leadership in global rail systems.



### ➤ Vitul Kumar Appointed Officiating DG of CRPF

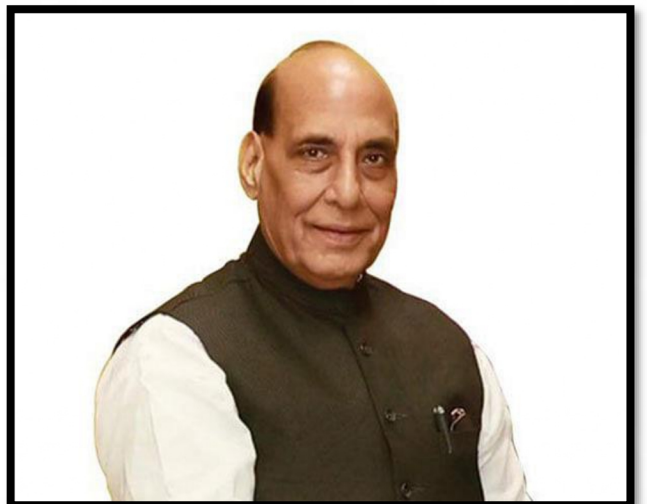
Vitul Kumar, a 1993-batch IPS officer from the Uttar Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the officiating Director General (DG) of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) following the retirement of Anish

Dayal Singh on December, 2024. Kumar, who is currently serving as the Special Director General of the CRPF, will oversee the force during a crucial period, especially with the ongoing challenges in regions like Chhattisgarh and Manipur. His appointment ensures continuity in leadership until a permanent successor is named.



### ➤ India's Defence Exports Cross Rs 21,000 Crore : Rajnath Singh

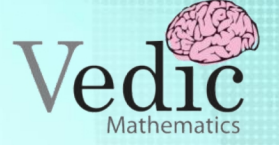
India's defence exports have witnessed a remarkable surge, reaching a record Rs 21,000 crore from a mere Rs 2,000 crore a decade ago. During a visit to the Army War College (AWC) in Mhow Cantonment, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh set an ambitious target of Rs 50,000 crore in defence exports by 2029.





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#### ➤ GDP to Grow at 6.6% in FY25: RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in its December 2024 Financial Stability Report (FSR), projected India's GDP growth at 6.6% for FY25, driven by a revival in rural consumption, increased government spending, and strong services exports. Despite a moderation in GDP growth to 6% in H1 FY25 from 8.2% in H1 FY24, the RBI highlighted India's economic resilience, supported by sound macroeconomic fundamentals, improved asset quality in banks, and robust financial system indicators.



#### ➤ Rajat Verma Appointed CEO of DBS Bank India

Rajat Verma, the current head of the Institutional Banking Group at DBS Bank India, has been appointed as the new CEO of DBS Bank India, effective March 1, 2025. This announcement comes after the retirement of Surojit Shome, who has been at the helm since 2015. Verma's appointment, subject to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approval, marks a new phase for DBS India as it continues its growth trajectory in India, one of the bank's key markets.

#### ➤ RBI Introduces Name Lookup for NEFT and RTGS

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a name lookup facility for Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) and National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) systems, aiming to reduce fraud and errors. This feature, similar to what Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) offer, will allow remitters to verify the beneficiary's name before initiating transactions.



#### Current affairs MCQS on 03 JAN

Q.1. Where has the 5-day 'Honey Festival' concluded recently?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Nepal





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- (c) Bhutan  
(d) Indonesia

**Answer: (b) Nepal**

The five-day first honey festival was held in Sauraha in Bagmati Province of Nepal. The festival offers visitors a chance to taste six types of honey for free. The honey tasting programme at the festival is sponsored by the Nepal government with the aim of promoting honey marketing and providing additional income to local farmers through beekeeping. Honey made from mustard, litchi, chiuri mahua butter tree, eucalyptus, spices, rudilo bush, sunflower, buckwheat and moringa juice was available for sale.

**Q.2. Which team has recently won the Pro Kabaddi League title?**

- (a) Jaipur Pink Panthers  
(b) Dabang Delhi  
(c) Haryana Steelers  
(d) None of these

**Answer: (c) Haryana Steelers**

Haryana Steelers have won the title of Pro Football League Season 11 by defeating Patna Pirates. Haryana's team has won this title for the first time. Last time Haryana Steelers finished second but this time its players left no stone unturned and won the title. Haryana's coach Manpreet Singh has won the Championship Coach Trophy for the first time. Haryana Steelers defeated Patna Pirates 32-23 in the final of PKL Season 11 in Pune.

**Q.3. According to the recent data of the Election Commission of India, which country has the highest percentage of women voters in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections?**

- (a) Bihar  
(b) Andhra Pradesh  
(c) Kerala  
(d) Puducherry

**Answer: (d) Puducherry**

According to data released by the Election Commission of India, Puducherry had the highest

percentage of women voters in the country during the 2024 Lok Sabha election. According to a press statement issued by the Chief Electoral Officer of Puducherry, out of the 10,23,699 voters, 5,42,979 or 53.03% are women. With only trained women officials deployed at all 31 polling stations, the Mahe Assembly constituency created history. The sex ratio in the Union Territory has also increased significantly, rising from 1127 in 2023 to 1130 in 2024. The ECI data also shows a 5.19% increase in registered voters. Nearly 70% of the 151 registered transgender voters cast their vote. According to the data, the number of NOTA votes declined from 12,199 in 2019 to 9763 in 2024.

**Q.4. Which country has recently introduced the prototype of the world's fastest train?**

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

**Answer: (a) China**

China has introduced the world's fastest high-speed train prototype CR450, with a test speed of 450 km/h. This is a significant step forward in rail technology, surpassing the current CR400 Fuxing trains (350 km/h), improving speed as well as energy efficiency, safety and passenger comfort. This innovation coincides with China's ambitious plans to expand its high-speed rail network to 70,000 km by 2035, further strengthening its leadership in global rail systems.

**Q.5. Former President of which country Jimmy Carter has passed away recently?**

- (a) South Africa  
(b) Australia  
(c) America  
(d) Japan

**Answer: (c) America**

Jimmy Carter, the peanut farmer who won the presidency after the Watergate scandal and the Vietnam War, has died. He suffered a humiliating







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defeat after a tumultuous term and then redefined life after the White House as a global humanitarian. He was 100.

**Q.6. Who will host the World Audio-Visual Entertainment Summit "Waves" for the first time in 2025?**

- (a) India
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) Germany
- (d) France

**Answer: (a) India**

India is going to host the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) for the first time in February. Prime Minister Modi compared it to international events like the World Economic Forum held in Davos and highlighted its importance in bringing together global media leaders and innovators.

**Q.7. Recently which Indian player has secured third place in the King Cup International Badminton Open?**

- (a) Manohar Sharma
- (b) Vinay Sinha
- (c) Lakshya Sen
- (d) None of the above

**Answer: (c) Lakshya Sen**

Indian badminton player Lakshya Sen won the bronze medal at the King's Cup International Badminton Open 2024. Sen defeated French player Alex Lanier to finish third. He defeated France's Lanier 21-17, 21-11 to reach the spot. Earlier, he lost to reigning world junior champion Hu Zhen of China 19-21, 19-21 in the semi-finals. Sen has become the first Indian male shuttler to reach the semi-finals of a singles match at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

**Q.8. Recently who has created history by winning the 15th national title in 'Motorcycle Drag Racing'?**

- (a) Hemant Mudappa
- (b) Kaushal Shah
- (c) Vikrant Tomar

(d) None of the above

**Answer: (a) Hemant Mudappa**

Hemanth Mudappa, popularly known as the "Drag King" in Indian motorsport, achieved an extraordinary feat by winning the Triple Crown in the final round of the MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Drag Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit (MIC). With this win, Mudappa took his total number of national titles to an impressive 15, cementing his position as the most respected motorsport athlete in India. Despite suffering a thumb fracture in a recent accident, Mudappa demonstrated resilience and skill and won titles in multiple categories.

**Q.9. Recently India and which country have completed 2 years of Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement?**

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) UAE
- (c) Japan
- (d) Australia

**Answer: (d) Australia**

The India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (Ind-Aus ECTA) has completed two years of success. It promotes mutual growth and reflects the complementarity of the two economies. Ind-Aus ECTA has greatly advanced trade relations, created new opportunities for MSMEs, businesses and employment in both countries and also strengthened the foundation of their economic partnership. In its third year, the Government of India is dedicated to maintaining this momentum through strong collaboration and innovative initiatives to promote mutual prosperity to realize the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Vision 2047 of making India a developed nation.

**Q.10. According to the recent RBI report, India's GDP is estimated to grow by what percentage in the financial year 2024-25?**

- (a) 6.6%
- (b) 6.1%







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(c) 6.9%

(d) 6.5%

**Answer: (a) 6.6%**

The Indian economy is exhibiting resilience and stability, and gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to grow at 6.6 per cent in 2024-25, supported by a recovery in rural consumption, a pick-up in government consumption and investment, and strong services exports. The Reserve Bank has released the December 2024 issue of the Financial Stability Report (FSR), which reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on the resilience of the Indian financial system and risks to financial stability.

**Q.11. Who has been recently nominated for the ICC Cricketer of the Year?**

- (a) Virat Kohli
- (b) Rohit Sharma
- (c) Arshdeep Singh
- (d) None of the above

**Answer: (c) Arshdeep Singh**

Jasprit Bumrah is the only Indian cricketer to receive multiple nominations for the ICC Cricketer of the Year Awards, announced by the International Cricket Council. The fast bowler was nominated for the annual awards' highest honour - the Sir Garfield Sobers. He was also included in the shortlist of four men for the ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year Award 2024.

**Q.12. The statue of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh will be installed at which place?**

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Shimla
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Jaipur

**Answer: (a) Hyderabad**

The central government has confirmed plans to allocate space for a memorial in honour of former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, who passed

away at the age of 92. Dr Singh will be cremated with full state honours at Nigambodh Ghat in New Delhi. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge had requested for a memorial to be built at the cremation site to commemorate Dr Singh's legacy. Known for his key role in India's economic transformation, Dr Singh's contributions as a statesman are acknowledged globally.

**Q.13. ISRO has recently successfully launched the PSLV C-60 SPADEX mission at which place?**

- (a) Jaisalmer
- (b) Indore
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Sriharikota

**Answer: (d) Sriharikota**

ISRO's Space Docking Experiment (SPADIX) is a phenomenal achievement that has placed India at par with global leaders in space docking technology. Addressing the media in New Delhi after the successful launch of PSLV-C60 from Sriharikota, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh termed the mission as a milestone. Dr Jitendra Singh said the SPADIX mission is an important project of ISRO aimed at developing and demonstrating technologies for rendezvous, docking and undocking of spacecraft using two small satellites. These capabilities are critical for future missions, including satellite servicing, space station operations and interplanetary exploration, he said.

**Q.14. Which team has recently won the Senior National Men's Handball title?**

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Chandigarh
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Kerala

**Answer: (d) Kerala**

Kerala achieved a historic feat by winning the Senior National Men's Handball Championship title. They defeated Chandigarh 34-31 in a thrilling final. This is the first time Kerala made it to the final and performed brilliantly to win the title. The team's







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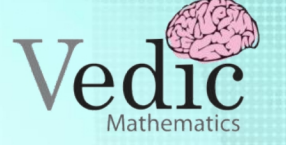
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success was based on a collective effort, with the main players performing brilliantly. Devendra was awarded the 'Best Player of the Championship' and Rahul was awarded the 'Best Goalkeeper'.

**Q.15. Which country has recently announced additional security assistance of \$2.5 billion for Ukraine?**

- (a) America
- (b) Germany
- (c) France
- (d) Russia

**Answer: (a) America**

President Joe Biden said the United States will send about \$2.5 billion more in weapons to Ukraine, as his administration works quickly to spend all the money it has available to help Kyiv fight Russia before President-elect Donald Trump takes office. The package includes \$1.25 billion in presidential funding to allow the military to pull its existing stock off its shelves and get weapons to the battlefield faster. It also includes \$1.22 billion in a long-term weapons package to be contracted through the separate Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, or USAI.

