

### NATIONAL

#### 1. International Beach Festival

**Why in news** – KL CM Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the 10-day international beach festival at the Bekal Beach Park.

##### Key Points –

- The 'Spice Coast' is in the far north of Kerala.
- 3 venues - Chandragiri, Thejaswini and Payaswini.
- 'Yathrashree' - A special tour package for tourists to explore exotic tourist destinations.

#### 2. 'Delimitation' in Assam

**Why in news** – The Election Commission of India has begun the process of delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies in Assam.

##### Key Points –

- The process would be based on Census data from 2001.
- The last delimitation of constituencies in Assam was done in 1976 on the basis of the 1971 Census.
- Delimitation is the act of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and state Assembly seats to represent changes in population.
- Article 82 - Parliament is to enact a Delimitation Act after every Census.
- Delimitation Commissions have been set up four times — 1952, 1963, 1973 and 2002.

#### 3. Star named after Vajpayee

**Why in news** – The Aurangabad unit of BJP named a star after former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee to mark his birth anniversary.

##### Key Points –

- The star has been registered in the International Space Registry on December 25, 2022.
- The star gets the name Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji.
- Registration Number - CX16408US."
- It is the closest star to the Sun. (392.01 light years away).
- Only names of the stars approved by the

International Astronomical Union (IAU) are used by professional astronomers.

- The nearest-known star to the Sun already has a name. It is called Proxima Centauri (or Alpha Centauri C).

#### 4. Complete library constituency

**Why in news** – Dharmadam (KL) became India's complete library constituency.

##### Key Points –

- Dharmadam is Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's constituency.

### INTERNATIONAL

#### 1. Mongla port

**Why in news** – Indian firm bagged consultancy contract for Bangladesh's Mongla port.

##### Key Points –

- Egis India Consulting Engineers Pvt Ltd has been appointed as a consultant for the capacity-building project.
- Mongla port is the second largest seaport in Bangladesh.

#### 2. 10-point peace plan

**Why in news** – Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy sought India's support on the 10-point "peace formula".

##### Key Points –

- Zelenskyy urged world leaders to hold a Global Peace Summit based on it.
- It was first announced at G-20 Bali summit.

### GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

#### 1. Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

**Why in news** – Ministry of Railways has launched the scheme for the modernization of the railway stations across the country.

##### Key Points –

- Aim - Infrastructural development of more than 1,000 stations on a continuous basis with a long-term vision.
- High level platforms (760 to 840 mm) would

be provided at all categories of the railway stations.

### ECONOMY

#### 1. Australia-India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)

**Why in news** – The India and Australia free trade agreement (FTA) came into force from December 29, 2022.

##### Key Points –

- It is likely to double the bilateral commerce to \$45-50 billion in around five years.
- It was signed on April 2, 2022.
- Australia is offering zero-duty access to India for about 96.4% of exports (by value) from day one.
- India's goods exports to Australia stood at \$8.3 billion and imports from the country aggregated to \$16.75 billion in 2021-22.

### AWARDS & HONOURS

#### 1. Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development-2022

**Why in news** – It was awarded to the country's medical fraternity as a whole for their stellar role during the COVID-19 pandemic.

##### Key Points –

- Winners - Indian Medical Association and the Trained Nurses Organisation of India.
- The jury of the award was chaired by former CJI T S Thakur.

#### 2. Ekalabya Puraskar

**Why in news** – The 'Ekalabya Puraskar' for the year 2022 was presented to cyclist Swasti Singh.

##### Key Points –

- She was honoured for her performance from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022 at both national and international levels.
- It is recognized as the most prestigious sports award of Odisha.

#### 3. Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards

**Why in news** – IIT-Madras won key recognition in the Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards.

##### Key Points –

- IIT madras' BS in Data Science and Applications has won a silver prize in the 'Best Online Program' category.
- NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning) won the Gold in the 'Lifelong Learning category.'
- NPTEL is India's largest technical dissemination program.
- It is often referred to as 'the Oscars of Education.'

### SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

#### 1. Future Engineer Program

**Why in news** – Two-day training workshop was organized on Dec 28th & 29th, 2022 to implement Amazon Future Engineer Program.

##### Key Points –

- It was organized by the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) for teachers from 54 EMRS.
- Amazon Future Engineer Program – to provide quality computer science education for students from under-represented and underserved communities.
- EMRS - Eklavya Model Residential Schools.

### SECURITY

#### 1. Tripartite peace agreement

**Why in news** – It was signed by the Centre, Manipur government and the Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF).

##### Key Points –

- ZUF is a Manipur insurgent group. It agreed to give up violence and join the democratic process.



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## APPOINTMENTS

### 1. Lt Gen Arvind Walia

**Why in news** – Lt Gen Walia has been appointed as the next Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army.

#### Key Points –

- He succeeded Lt Gen Harpal Singh.
- An officer of the 1986 batch, Lt Gen Walia is an alumnus of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun.

- It is memoir of Dr C. Rangarajan, an Indian economist, former MP, and the 19th Governor of RBI.
- The book is divided into 3 parts.
  - o Part 1- 'RBI and Planning Commission'
  - o Part 2- 'Governor of RBI'
  - o Part 3- 'Beyond RBI'.

## BOOKS & AUTHORS

### 1. "Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond"

**Why in news** – C Rangarajan authored a book titled "Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond".

#### Key Points –

- It was published by the Penguin Business (Penguin Group).

### 1. MaNaM Initiative

**Why in news** – Tamilnadu CM M K Stalin launched the Mananala Nallaatharavu Mandram (MaNaM) initiative.

#### Key Points –

- Aim – to prevent suicides and suicidal tendencies among the students and also to tackle their mental health issues.

## STATES/UTS

NEW BPSK HINDI MEDIUM BATCH STARTING FROM 6 JANUARY 2023



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## ➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◀

### POINTERS

- Which state government has approved the 'State Warehousing and Logistics Policy-2022' - **Uttar Pradesh**.
- Which film has won the 'Best Film' award at the Kolkata International Film Festival - **The Golden Wings of Watercocks**.
- Which organization has been given the DSCI Award for 'Best Security Practices in Government Sector' - **UIDAI**.
- Which organization has recently released a report titled "2022 in Nine charts" - **World Bank**.
- Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and CEO of the Railway Board - **Anil Kumar Lahoti**.
- Gwalior Gaurav Diwas is celebrated on the birth anniversary of which former Prime Minister - **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**.
- Which country reported first death linked to 'brain-eating amoeba' - **South Korea**.
- According to a study, Antarctica's emperor penguins could be extinct by which year - **2100**.
- Which is the 2nd prison of Uttar Pradesh to be awarded a five-star rating and the tag 'Eat Right Campus' by the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) - **Bulandshahr**.
- Which is the first drone company to become India's first drone startup to receive both Type Certification and RTPO approvals by DGCA - **Garuda Aerospace**.



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