

INTERNATIONAL

Five nations get BRICS full membership.

The BRICS bloc has announced the joining of five full members into its group. Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have formally joined the BRICS on January 1, 2024. Russia has assumed the Presidency of BRICS from January 1, 2024.

Japan hit by major earthquake kills 30

Japan was hit by a series of powerful earthquakes, leaving at least 30 people dead and damaging buildings, vehicles and boats. The 7.5 magnitude quake has rattled Ishikawa prefecture on the main island of Honshu.

Under capital punishment Saudi Arabia executes 170 people in 2023

Saudi Arabia has executed 170 people in 2023, including four on New Year's Eve, which was an increase on the previous year. A total of 147 convicts were executed in 2022 in the Gulf state.

Sierra Leone's President pardons 352 inmates after failed coup

Sierra Leone's President Julius Maada Bio has pardoned and announced the release of 352 prisoners, including 11 women on New Year's day.

Two bomb explosions in Iran results in 103 deaths

Two bomb explosions near the tomb of Iranian general Qasem Soleimani have killed at least 103 people on the fourth anniversary of his assassination by the US. Another 141 people were wounded in the bombings.

Former PM Imran Khan is indicted for allegedly insulting election officials.

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has been indicted by a Pakistani court in a contempt case for allegedly insulting election officials.

500 prisoners of war exchanged between Ukraine & Russia

Ukraine and Russia have exchanged nearly 500 prisoners of war. This was the largest such exchange since Russian-Ukraine fighting started nearly two years ago.

UN body calls on Houthis to stop their attacks on shipping in Red Sea

The U.N. Security Council called on Yemen's Houthis to stop their attacks on shipping in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. The council said it is illegal and threatens regional stability, freedom of navigation and global food supplies.

Kyrgyzstan officially declares snow leopard national symbol

Kyrgyzstan has officially declared the snow leopard as its national symbol, underscoring its commitment to conservation and ecological balance.

Bangladesh National Elections: Awami League wins majority

In Bangladesh national elections, the ruling Awami League has won two-third majority in the parliament and fourth term in a row by winning 223 out of 299 seats.

Maldives suspends ministers over derogatory remarks against Indian PM

The Maldivian government has suspended three deputy ministers following their derogatory remarks against Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Maldives government had distanced itself from the remarks, calling them 'personal opinions'.

Bhutan Parliamentary elections: People's Democratic Party wins majority

People's Democratic Party (PDP) has won most seats in Bhutan's parliamentary elections and will form a new government. PDP had won 30 of the 47 National Assembly seats to return to power and the Bhutan Tendrel Party has secured 17 seats.

PNG PM declares state of emergency

Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister James Marape has declared a state of emergency after 16 people were killed in rioting in the Pacific Island nation. A police and public sector protest over a pay cut resulted into lawlessness.

South Africa accuses Israel of Gaza genocide

South Africa has accused Israel of genocide at the United Nations' top court, International Court of Justice (ICJ). It argued that Israel's leadership was intent on destroying the Palestinians in Gaza and calling for the court to order a halt to Israel's military campaign in the enclave.

Britain made 2.5 billion British Pounds as military aid to Ukraine.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak made 2.5 billion British Pounds as military aid to Ukraine on a surprise visit to Kyiv in Ukraine. Mr. Sunak met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to sign the historic UK-Ukraine Agreement on Security Cooperation.

Britain to provide 20,000 military personnel in NATO exercise.

Britain's defence ministry has stated that it will provide 20,000 military personnel to serve across the Europe in a major NATO exercise named "Steadfast Defender 24" in the first half of this year, as well as warships and fighter jets.

Former President Donald Trump Wins Iowa Caucuses

Former US president Donald Trump had won the Iowa caucuses defeating Nikki Haley and Ron DeSantis. He received the most votes from Republican caucus-goers.

N. Korea claims of testing solid-fuel missile with hypersonic weapon.

North Korea has claimed that it flight-tested a new solid-fuel intermediate-range missile along with a hypersonic warhead.

Maldivian President asks India to withdraw troops by March 15

The Maldivian President, Mohamed Muizzu, has asked that the Indian government to withdraw its military presence from the island nation before March 15, 2024.

Iran targets terrorist bases in Pakistan with drones and missiles

Iran has launched drone and missile attacks at terrorist group bases in Pakistan. The strike has hit a village, in the south-western province of Balochistan, which borders the two countries.

Pakistan Military conducts strikes against militant groups in Iran

Pakistan Military has conducted military strikes against what it called "terrorist hideouts" in Iran's Sistan-Balochistan province that killed 7 people.

U.K. Parliament passes Rwanda asylum plan

The British parliament has approved a controversial bill named "Rwanda Safety Bill" to allow it to send refugees arriving in the UK to Rwanda.

Under new Emir, Kuwait forms its first government

Gulf nation Kuwait has formed a new government, the first under the country's new Emir Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad al-Sabah. The freshly formed cabinet, led by Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, consists of 13 members.

India's MEA Attends 19th NAM Summit in Uganda

India's External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar has reached Uganda's Kampala to represent India at the 19th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit. He will lead the Indian delegation at the two-day NAM summit to be held in Kampala.

Criminal complaint filed against Israel President during Switzerland visit.

Israeli President Isaac Herzog has been handed criminal charges during his visit to the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland amid allegations of crimes against humanity over the war in Gaza.

Panama Canal ship traffic cut by 36% due to drought.

A severe drought that started last year has forced Panamanian authorities to reduce ship crossings by 36% in the Panama Canal, considered as one of the world's most important trade routes.

India, Cuba signed MoU on sharing successful digital solutions

India and Cuba signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on sharing successful digital solutions. The MoU will benefit the digital ecosystems of both countries through capacity building programs, exchange of best practices, and other collaborative activities.

Israel-Hamas War: Palestinian death toll crosses 25,000

The Health Ministry in the Gaza Strip has stated that Palestinian death toll from the war between Israel and Hamas has crossed past 25,000. A total of 25,105 Palestinians have been killed in the territory since Oct. 7, and another 62,681 have been wounded.

NAM Summit: Uganda President lauds Indian diaspora's role in its economic growth

During the 19th Non-Aligned Movement summit held in Kampala, Uganda President Yoweri Museveni has praised the significant contributions of the Indian returnees to his country's economic development.

Canadian immigration ministry announces 2-year cap on international student permits

In an attempt to address the mounting pressure on housing and healthcare in the country, the Canadian immigration Ministry has announced an immediate, two-year cap on international student permits.

China formally restores diplomatic relations with Pacific Island nation Nauru

China's Foreign Ministry has formally restored diplomatic relations with Nauru after the tiny Pacific Island nation cut its ties with Taiwan earlier this month.

Torkham border crossing between Pakistan-Afghan reopens

Pakistan and Afghanistan have reopened the Torkham border crossing, weeks after a row over travel papers erupted earlier this month.

Mali's Gold mine collapses, kills more than 70

More than 70 people have been killed in southwest Mali after a gold mine collapsed last week. Mining accidents are common in the country as most unregulated miners use unsafe methods to dig for gold.

Controversial Online Safety Bill gets approval from Sri Lankan Parliament

The Sri Lankan Parliament has approved the controversial Online Safety Bill with some amendments that seeks to regulate online content amid criticism from the opposition that claimed it will restrict freedom of speech.

ICJ ordered Israel to take measures to prevent acts of genocide in the Gaza Strip

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) ordered Israel to take measures to prevent acts of genocide in the Gaza Strip. The ICJ also ordered Israel to allow humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip and to prevent and punish incitement to genocide.

U.S. halts funding to U.N. agency for Palestinians

The United States temporarily halted funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees. The U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees fired a number of its staffers in Gaza suspected of taking part in the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas and other militants on southern Israel.

Turkey voted to approve Sweden's NATO membership bid.

Turkey's parliament voted 287-55 to approve Sweden's NATO membership bid, bringing the Nordic country one step closer to joining the military alliance after 20 months of delay.

India, France unveils defence industrial roadmap.

India & France have agreed to adopt "defence industrial roadmap" for cooperation on defence production, for future collaboration on "co-design and co-development" of military hardware, as well as key agreements on space cooperation. They also signed a defense-space partnership agreement and a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on satellite launches.

Six European countries pause funding for UNRWA

Six European countries Britain, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Finland paused funding for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

US, Iraq begin first round of talks on the future of US military presence in Iraq.

The US and Iraq have begun talks on the future of the US military presence in Iraq. The US has about 2,500 troops in the country.

India, France agreed to strengthen cooperation in the southwest Indian Ocean

India and France agreed to strengthen their cooperation in the southwest Indian Ocean. This agreement builds on joint surveillance missions that took place in 2020 and 2022 from the French island territory of La Reunion.

USA approves sale of F16 jets to Turkiye

The USA administration notified Congress of its intent to sell F-16 fighter jets and related equipment to Turkey for \$23 billion. The sale was approved after Turkey's parliament ratified Sweden's NATO membership.

Three nations quit West African bloc ECOWAS

Three African nations namely Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger with military governments have announced their immediate withdrawal from the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS.

Mutual visa waiver agreements signed between Thailand & China

Both nations Thailand and China have agreed to waive visa requirements for each other's nationals to facilitate travel and tourism between the two countries. This deal allows people from the two nations to travel to one another's country visa-free from March 1, 2024.

Northern Ireland's main party makes deal with British government

The Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) had reached a deal with the British government on the operation of post-Brexit trade rules that would allow it to return to the region's power-sharing government. Northern Ireland has been without a proper government for almost two years.

Maldives Opposition parties begins Impeachment Motion Against its incumbent President

The two main opposition parties in the Maldives have decided to bring an impeachment motion against its incumbent President Mohammed Muizzu. The Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) and 'The Democrats' have gathered signatures to move for an impeachment motion in the People's Majlis (Maldives Parliament).

Vietnam, Philippines agrees to boost cooperation among their coastguards

During a state visit to Vietnam by Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Jr, both nations have agreed to boost cooperation among their coastguards and to prevent untoward incidents in the South China Sea.

NATIONAL

ISRO launches PSLV-C58/XPoSat mission

ISRO has successfully launched XPOSat (X-ray Polarimeter Satellite) to help the scientific community globally look at the fundamental phenomena associated with the galaxy and the black holes. India becomes the second country after the US to join Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer

Home Ministry declares Goldy Brar as individual terrorist under UAPA

Under the anti-terror Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has announced that Canada-based Satwinder Singh alias Goldy Brar an "individual terrorist".

Nationwide Truckers' Strike called off

The Nationwide truckers' strike has been called off as the Centre has assured that it will consult stakeholders before implementing new law regarding hit-and-run cases.

Joint military exercise India and UAE begins in Rajasthan.

India & UAE have begun a joint military exercise called 'DESERT CYCLONE' in Mahajan, Rajasthan. The exercise will conclude on January 15.

India records 9.3 lakh cancer deaths: LANCET study

According to a new study published in the Lancet, India has recorded about 12 lakh new cancer cases and 9.3 lakh deaths in 2019, becoming the second highest contributor to the disease burden in Asia for that year. China tops the chart with 48 lakh new cases and 27 lakh deaths.

Adani-Hindenburg row: Supreme Court upholds SEBI probe

The Supreme Court of India has refused to order a probe by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) or the CBI into the allegations levelled in the Hindenburg Research report regarding stock price manipulations by the Adani group of companies.

Czech Republic PM was chief guest at Vibrant Gujarat summit

Petr Fiala, the Prime Minister of Czech Republic was the Guest of Honour at the 10th Vibrant Gujarat Global Investors Summit to be held from January 10-12 in Gandhinagar.

Over ₹10,300 crore siphoned off by cyber criminals since April 2021: I4C

Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) has said that over ₹10,300 crore were siphoned off from India by cybercriminals since April 1, 2021, of which agencies managed to successfully block around ₹1,127 crore in the country.

J&K, first UT to implement Vishwakarma Yojana

Jammu and Kashmir has become the first UT to implement the PM Vishwakarma Yojana (PMVY). PMVY is an initiative that aims to empower and enhance the skills of the craftsman community.

Centre approves PRITHVI VIGYAN scheme

The Centre has decided to implement the all-inclusive scheme PRITHVI VIGYAN (PRITHVI) for 4,797 crore rupees. The Prithvi Scheme is aimed at the augmentation and sustenance of long-term observations of the atmosphere, ocean, geosphere, cryosphere, and solid earth to record the vital signs of the Earth System and change.

Ayodhya Airport to be renamed as Maharishi Valmiki International Airport

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to declare Ayodhya Airport as an International Airport and naming it as Maharishi Valmiki International Airport, Ayodhyadham.

Cabinet gives permission to Railway MoU with USAID for energy efficiency

The Union Cabinet had given its permission to a MoU between India and United States for International Development/India (USAID/India) for supporting Indian Railways to achieve Mission Net Zero Carbon Emission by 2030.

ISRO partners with SpaceX to launch GSAT-20 communication satellite

ISRO is collaborating with Elon Musk's SpaceX to launch a communications satellite GSAT-20 using SpaceX's Falcon-9 rocket later this year. The launch is scheduled for the second quarter of 2024.

Govt notifies revised Pharma manufacturing rules under schedule M to ensure quality control

The Centre has notified new guidelines for the quality control of pharmaceutical products. The guidelines state that manufacturers are responsible for the quality of their products. This includes ensuring that the products are safe, effective, and meet the requirements of their license.

Aditya-L1 reaches halo orbit around L1 point

ISRO successfully placed its first space-based solar observatory, Aditya-L1, into a halo orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrange's Point 1 (L1). The Aditya-L1 will study the Sun for an expected period of five years.

India, Saudi Arabia sign Haj quota for 2024

India signed a bilateral agreement with Arab nation Saudi Arabia under which it has been allocated a quota of 1,75,025 pilgrims for the annual Haj pilgrimage in 2024.

In a first, IAF's Super Hercules makes night landing at Kargil

In a first, an Indian Air Force (IAF) C-130 Super Hercules tactical transport aircraft had made a night landing at the Advanced Landing Ground (ALG) in Kargil close to the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan along with a team of Garud special forces.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reaches 10 crore participants

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has stated that Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra has crossed over 10 crore participants in about 50 days. The initiative was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Jharkhand's Khunti on November 15 last year.

Sarbananda Sonowal chairs first Inland Waterways Development Council Meeting

Sarbananda Sonowal, the Union Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister chaired the first Inland Waterways Development Council Meeting in Kolkata on 8th Jan 2024.

Centre plans 45,000 Crore Investment for Waterway Tourism

Sarbananda Sonowal, who holds the Ministry of Ports Shipping and Waterways has told that centre will invest 45000 crore rupees for the development of tourism in waterways.

Land acquisition for high-speed rail line Mumbai-Ahmedabad project completed

The National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) which oversees the bullet train project has said that it has completed 100% land acquisition for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Rail Corridor, across Gujarat, Maharashtra and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

India's Defence Minister sign pacts with UK counterpart

India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who was on an official visit to the UK has signed two agreements with his British counterpart Grant Shapps. Both nations have signed an MoU for bilateral international cadet exchange programme and also a Letter of Arrangement (LoA) on defence collaboration in Research and Development.

National Kala Utsav launched in Delhi

Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated the National Kala Utsav in New Delhi. The event witnessed the performances in 10 art forms including Classical and Traditional Folk Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Classical and Folk Dance, Visual Arts, Indigenous Toys and Games and Solo acting.

Indian Navy's aircraft Joins Exercise Sea Dragon-24 in Guam

Indian Navy's P8I aircraft had arrived in Guam, United States to participate in the 4th edition of the Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise, Ex Sea Dragon 24, organised by the US Navy.

'Swachh Mandir' Campaign launched to Clean Pilgrimage Sites

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has started off the 'Swachh Mandir' (Clean Temple) campaign across the country with an aim to make pilgrimage sites pristine.

Prime Minister to inaugurate 27th National Youth Festival at Nashik

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 27th National Youth Festival at Nashik in Maharashtra on January 12. The theme for this year is MYBharat-ViksitBharat@2047- By the Youth, For the Youth.

Four MOUs exchanged between India & UAE at Vibrant Gujarat Summit

During the 10th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, India has exchanged four MOUs with the UAE. These MoUs are related to investment cooperation in innovative healthcare, renewable energy, food parks and logistics cooperation.

DRDO conducts flight-test of New Generation Akash missile

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully flight-tested a new generation Akash-NG missile off the coast of Odisha. The missile was test-fired from the integrated test range in Chandipur, Odisha.

Government announced the establishment of 1,000 Khelo India Centers (KICs) across the country

Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur has announced to setting up of one thousand Khelo India Centres across the country under the Khelo India Scheme in the next two months. The KICs will be established at the district level to strengthen sports infrastructure.

India's longest sea bridge inaugurated

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India's longest sea bridge, Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) aka Atal Behari Vajpayee Nhava Seva bridge. Atal Setu, is a 21.8 km 6-lane elevated highway bridge, which connects Mumbai with Navi Mumbai, its satellite city.

30 crore Ayushman Cards have been issued to beneficiaries under the Ayushman Bharat

More than 30 crore Ayushman Cards have been issued to beneficiaries under the Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. The scheme provides a health cover of five lakh rupees annually to vulnerable families

25 Crore people taken-out from poverty in last 9 years: NITI Aayog

According to NITI Aayog's discussion paper on Multidimensional Poverty in India, nearly 25 Crore people in India have escaped poverty in the last nine years. It said that poverty has declined from over 29 percent to around 11 percent in the last nine years.

Centre removes License Requirement for Power Generating Companies

The Centre has decided to remove the requirement of license to operate and maintain the dedicated transmission lines by power generating companies for them to connect to the grid.

FASTags with incomplete KYC process to get de-activated

Centre owned NHAI said that FASTags with incomplete 'Know Your Customer' process will get deactivated or blacklisted after the 31st of January.

World Economic Forum Meeting: Smriti Irani, Ashwini Vaishnav, Hardeep Puri represents India

The 54th World Economic Forum Annual Meeting began on January 15 at Davos, Switzerland. India is represented by three Union ministers Smriti Irani, Ashwini Vaishnav, Hardeep Puri, three chief ministers along with their ministerial colleagues and over a hundred CEOs formally signed her abdication recently.

Under tribal welfare scheme, PM releases first instalment of benefits to one lakh people

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released the first instalment of ₹540 crore to one lakh beneficiaries of a rural housing scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) via video conferencing.

Centre forms panel to examine demand to extend auto PLI scheme to more products

The Central government is setting up a committee to extend the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme to more products in the automobile and auto components sector. The committee will be headed by Hanif Qureshi, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) and industry veteran Pawan Goenka will be an advisor.

Defence minister inaugurates first all-girls Sainik School in Mathura

India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the first all-girls Sainik School named "Samvid Gurukulam Girls Sainik School" at Vrindavan in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.

Holy Rituals begin at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi complex in Ayodhya

The formal procedures of pre-Prana Pratistha Hindu rites of Ram Lala has started on January 16 in Ayodhya. These rituals continued till January 21 and then on January 22, the consecration ceremony was held in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

VP of India releases book titled 'Fertilising the Future: Bharat's March Towards Fertilizer Self-Sufficiency

Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar had released the book titled 'Fertilising the Future: Bharat's March Towards Fertilizer Self-Sufficiency'. This book was written by Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya. The Hindi version of the book is titled as 'Urvarak-Atmanirbharta ki Raah.'

National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission: Over 10 Million Screened

Under the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission, more than a crore people have been screened for Sickle Cell Disease. The Mission aims to screen 7 crore population in 3 years. Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disease which affects the whole life of the affected patient.

Under UAPA, Centre extends ban on SIMI for 5 years

The Union Government has declared that the 'Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI)' as an 'Unlawful Association' for a further period of 5 years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) 1967.

In honour of Lord Rama, India to host Year-long 'Ramayan' festival

India is planning to organise a year-long festival on "connecting the world through Ramayan". The festival begun from Delhi's historic Purana Qila (Old Fort) on January 18 and then will be taken to various cities like Lucknow, Ayodhya and Varanasi.

16th Finance Commission: Cabinet chaired by PM approves creation of three officer-level posts

The Union Cabinet has approved the creation of three officer-level posts for assisting the 16th Finance Commission, chaired by Arvind Panagariya. The newly created posts consists of two posts of Joint Secretary and one post of Economic Adviser.

Cabinet approves memoranda on health products with three nations

The Union Cabinet had approved separate memorandum with the Netherlands, Dominican Republic and Ecuador on cooperation in the field of medical products regulation.

Coal India subsidiaries to invest ₹5,607 crore in two thermal power projects

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved equity investments of ₹5,607 crore by Centre-owned Coal India subsidiaries South Eastern Coalfields and Mahanadi Coalfields to set up two thermal power projects with total generation capacities of 2,260 MW.

Centre forms panel to look into Sub-categorisation of SCs

The Centre formed a 5-member committee of Secretaries, chaired by the Cabinet Secretary, to evaluate and work out a method for the equitable distribution of benefits, schemes and initiatives to the most backward communities amongst the over 1,200 Scheduled Castes across the country, that have been crowded out by relatively forward and dominant ones.

Health Ministry tells doctors to mention reason for prescribing antibiotics.

With antimicrobial resistance on the rise in the country, the Central Health Ministry has asked doctors to write down the exact reason when prescribing such antibiotics and directed pharmacists to stop over-the-counter sale of antibiotics, and sell them only with the prescription of a qualified doctor.

V.Muraleedharan represents India at G-77 Third South Summit in Uganda

Minister of State for External Affairs V.Muraleedharan has represented India to participate in the Third South Summit of the Group of 77 and China (G-77) in Kampala Uganda. The theme of the Summit "Leaving No One Behind".

Largest aerospace engineering facility of Boeing inaugurated in Bengaluru

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Boeing India Engineering and Technology Center (BIETC) campus in Bengaluru. BIETC is built with an investment of ₹1,600 crore and is located in a 43-acre campus, and is the American aerospace major's largest such investment outside the U.S.

Airbus, CSIR-IIP to jointly work on sustainable aviation fuel

An MoU was signed between European based Airbus and the CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP) to develop new technologies and to test and qualify indigenous sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in the country.

Centre announces new guidelines for coaching centres

The Ministry of Education has issued 'Regulation of Coaching Centers 2024' Guidelines, saying that no coaching centre shall enrol students below 16 years of age. It also stressed that student enrolment should be done only after secondary school examination.

Hardeep Singh inaugurated the first pilot project of making aviation turbine fuel from Alcohol

Union minister of petroleum and natural gas, Hardeep Singh Puri launched the first pilot project to make jet fuel from alcohol in Pune. This project will produce sustainable biological aviation fuel or SAF.

India-Myanmar border to be protected: Home Minister

Union Home minister Amit Shah has said that India's border with Myanmar will be soon fenced and the existing free movement regime (FMR) between the two countries to be scrapped. India and Myanmar share a 1643-km long border in four states of northeast-Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh.

S Jaishankar co-chairs 6th India-Nigeria Joint Commission Meeting

India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar co-chaired the 6th India-Nigeria Joint Commission Meeting with his Nigerian counterpart Yusuf Tuggar.

For the first time, Indian Army couple to march down Kartavya Path in R-Day parade.

Major Jerry Blaize and Captain Supreetha C T have become the first couple in India to march down the Kartavya Path as members of two different contingents in the Republic Day parade on January 26.

PM Modi presides the Grand Pran Pratistha ceremony of Shri Ram Lalla in Ayodhya

Prime Minister Narendra has presided the Pran Pratistha ceremony & rituals of Lord Ramlalla in Ayodhya. He unveiled the 51-inch-tall Ram Lalla idol in the sanctum sanctorum at the temple. Arun Yogiraj of Karnataka had sculpted the idol.

PM Narendra Modi announces a new scheme "Pradhanmantri Suryodaya Yojana"

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, after returning from Ayodhya consecration ceremony has announced a new scheme named "Pradhanmantri Suryodaya Yojana" to help people set up solar panels at their homes with the target of installing rooftop solar on 1 crore houses.

Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurates 'Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Samman' campaign

Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar will inaugurate a yearlong pan India campaign Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Samman to commemorate the 75th Year of India as a Republic in New Delhi.

26 Tableaux showcased during Republic Day Parade at Kartavya Path

During the 76th Republic Day parade at Kartavya Path in New Delhi, a total of 26 tableaux participated in the Republic Day celebrations this year. Sixteen tableaux from States and UTs and ten from Ministries, Departments, and Organisations will roll down the Kartavya Path.

Over 200 ropeway projects announced worth 1.25 Lakh Crore

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari has said that more than 200 projects at a cost of one lakh 25 thousand crore rupees have been identified for coming five years under National Ropeways Development Programme- Parvatmala.

Union Cabinet approves incentive scheme for coal gasification projects

The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹8,500 crore incentive scheme for coal gasification projects under three categories

for public and private sector companies. Total outlay of ₹8,500 crore will be provided as financial assistance for coal gasification projects under three categories.

Prasanna Bhalachandra Varale sworn in as SC judge

Justice Prasanna Bhalachandra Varale took the oath of office as judge of the Supreme Court, raising the Dalit representation on the Bench to three.

Indian Navy's INS Visakhapatnam was deployed to the Gulf of Aden

The Indian Navy's guided missile destroyer INS Visakhapatnam was deployed to the Gulf of Aden to respond to a distress call from the British oil tanker MV Marlin Luanda.

India selects 'Maratha Military Landscapes' for 2024-25 UNESCO World Heritage List

The Ministry of Culture has announced that it has nominated the 'Maratha Military Landscape' for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List for the 2024-25 cycle, with a total of 12 components included in this nomination.

First ever survey reveals India has 718 snow leopards.

The first-ever Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAII) report stated that 718 Snow Leopards are present in India with Ladakh having the most at 477, followed by Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Jammu and Kashmir.

Election Commission announces election to 56 seats of Rajya Sabha in 15 states

The Election Commission of India has announced the election of 56 seats of the Rajya Sabha in 15 states. The notification will be issued to fill the vacancies created by the retirement of 56 Rajya Sabha MPs in April 2024.

Home Minister Launches Computerization Project for Agricultural Banks & Cooperative Societies

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has launched the computerization project of Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) and Registrar of Cooperative Societies of all States and Union Territories in New Delhi

BANKING & ECONOMY

FPI invest ₹1.7 lakh crore into Indian equities in 2023

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have pumped up ₹1.7 lakh crore into the Indian equity markets in 2023, owing to country's robust economic fundamentals amid a challenging global landscape.

Electric Vehicles sales grow in CY2023

According to Vahan, the sale of Electric Vehicles in India grew by 48 per cent year-on-year in CY2023. A total of 15,26,319 electric vehicles were registered in the country last year compared to 10,25,116 in 2022.

GST revenue growth slows to a 3-month low in December

Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues crossed ₹1,64,800 crore in December 2023, with year-on-year growth slowing to a three-month low of 10.3% from a 15.1% rise in the previous month.

Centre extends tenure of PLI scheme for Auto industry by a year

The Centre has extended the tenure of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Automobile and Auto Components by one year with partial amendments.

RBI issues revised instructions concerning inoperative accounts, unclaimed deposits

RBI has issued revised instructions with regards to inoperative accounts /unclaimed deposits in banks to help the account holders to get their monies. Bank are now required to contact the holder(s) of the inoperative account/unclaimed deposit through letters, email or SMS (if the email and mobile number are registered with the bank).

RBI increases Bulk deposit limit for Urban Co-op banks in T3, T4

RBI increased the bulk deposit limit for Scheduled Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks, in Tier 3 and 4, to ₹1 crore and above from ₹15 lakh and above. The new bulk deposit limit applies to UCBs in the Tier 3 (with deposits more than ₹1,000 crore and up to ₹10,000 crore) and Tier 4 (with deposits more than ₹10,000 crore) categories.

Pakistan likely to get \$700 million from IMF

Pakistan is expected to get \$700 million as the next tranche of the bailout from the IMF under the existing \$3 billion Stand-By Arrangement (SBA).

IIT Madras targeting incubating 100 start-ups

IIT Madras plans incubating at least 100 start-ups across various sectors this year. The institute stated that it is looking at closing this financial year with 366 patents.

Flipkart co-founder launches e-commerce start-up OppDoor

Former Flipkart co-founder Binny Bansal has launched new e-commerce start-up named OppDoor, business-to-business (B2B) platform.

Bharti to acquire majority stake in Beetel Teletech

Bharti Airtel Services has entered into an agreement for the acquisition of 97.1 per cent stake in Beetel Teletech, another Bharti Group company.

Sun Pharma acquires Israel's Libra Merger

Sun Pharma has acquired 100 per cent shares of Libra Merger Ltd, a company incorporated in Israel.

SBI raises \$1 billion from overseas market

State Bank of India (SBI) has raised \$1 billion or (about ₹8,300 crore) to cater to the domestic ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) financing market.

India Ratings raises GDP forecast to 6.7%

Credit rating agency, India Ratings and Research has revised India's GDP growth estimate for 2023-24 to 6.7% from an earlier projection of 6.2% .

ONGC overseas subsidiary to get oil from Venezuela

Venezuela's has agreed to give some oil to India's ONGC Videsh to help it recover its pending \$600 million dividend for a stake in a San Cristobal field in eastern Venezuela's Orinoco Heavy Oil belt project.

Nepal to offer 10,000 MW of power to India

Nepal has signed a long-term agreement for the export of 10,000 MW of power to India in the next 10 years.

Indian economy projected to grow at 6.2% in 2024

According to the UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) 2024 report, India is projected to grow at 6.2% in 2024, supported by robust domestic demand and strong growth in the manufacturing and services sectors.

SBI raises \$250 million via Green Bonds

State Bank of India has raised \$250 million through the issuance of green bonds via private placement facilitated through its London branch.

India's real GDP growth for 2023-24 estimated at 7.3%: NSO

As per the first advance estimates of national income released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), India's real GDP growth in 2023-24 is estimated at 7.3%, compared to 7.2% a year ago.

MobiKwik refiles IPO papers with SEBI

Payment platform MobiKwik Systems Ltd. has once again filed papers for an initial share sale to raise up to ₹700 crore.

India exports total products worth over 60 lakh crore in financial year 2022-2023

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has said that India has exported products worth over 60 lakh crore in the financial year 2022-2023.

India's forex reserves reaches 22-month high of 623.20 billion dollars

As per the RBI's latest data, India's foreign exchange reserves rose for seventh straight week to reach 22-month high of 623.20 billion dollars for the week ending on December 29, 2023.

New Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) norms mandate investment in demat form

SEBI has mandated that all fresh investments made by Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) must be held in demat form.

VinFast Invests \$2 Billion In Tamil Nadu EV Facility

Vietnamese automaker VinFast announced plans to invest \$2 billion to establish an electric vehicle (EV) plant in Tamil Nadu, India. The facility will be located in the coastal town of Thoothukudi.

29,000 firms, ₹44,000 cr GST evasion exposed

The Union Finance Ministry has reported that over 29,000 fake firms were identified and over 44,000 crores of GST tax evasion detected in a nationwide drive over 7 ½ months.

GAIL enters long-term LNG supply deal with Vitol

GAIL has signed a long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) contract with Vitol Asia Pte for a supply of around one million tonnes per annum for about 10 years, commencing 2026.

SBI Research report shows significant decline in individual income inequality in India

The State Bank of India's economic research report revealed a substantial decrease in individual income inequality in India between the financial years 2013-2014 and 2021-2022. The income inequality captured based on the Gini coefficient of taxable income has declined significantly from 0.472 to 0.402 during financial years 2013-2014 and 2021-2022.

Maharashtra, T.N, and UP contribute 40% of registered MSMEs in India

Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh collectively contribute nearly 40 per cent of all registered micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India. As of December 2023, there are over 3 crore MSMEs registered in the country. Uttar Pradesh holds a 9 per cent share in the national MSME landscape.

Tata Starbucks aims to open 1,000 stores by 2028

Tata Starbucks is planning to increase its presence to 1,000 stores by 2028 from the current number of 390. The company is an equal joint venture between the Tata Group and the global coffee chain Starbucks.

Minimum capital requirement for Small Finance Banks doubled to ₹200 Cr

The Reserve Bank of India had raised the minimum capital requirement for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to ₹200 crore and permitted Payments Bank to upgrade as SFBs.

Vibrant Gujarat Summit Day one witness huge investments from big players

On the first day of Vibrant Gujarat Summit Reliance Industries, the Adani Group and the Tata Group have made huge investment proposals for various projects in Gujarat. Reliance Industries is planning to commence the Dhirubhai Ambani Green Energy Giga Complex, in Jamnagar in the second half of 2024. The Adani Group is planning to invest ₹2 lakh crore in the state over five years. The Tata Group was in the process of setting up a semiconductor fab plant in Dholera.

DPIIT to announce ranking of States/UTs on start-up initiatives

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), which comes under the Commerce and Industry Ministry will soon announce the ranking of States and Union Territories for 2022 based on initiatives taken for start-ups.

India's Net direct tax collections reach 81% of Budget Estimates for FY24

India's net direct tax collection has increased 19.41 percent on an annual basis to ₹14.70 lakh crore till January 11, reaching about 81 percent of the full-year target. Direct tax collection target for current fiscal is ₹18.23-lakh crore.

Microsoft briefly overtakes Apple as world's most valuable company

Microsoft has overtaken iPhone maker Apple as the world's most valuable company. Apple was 0.3% lower with a market capitalization of \$2.887 trillion. Shares Microsoft rose 1.5%, giving it a market valuation of \$2.888 trillion.

The 10th edition of Vibrant Summit concludes in Gandhinagar

In the 10th edition of Vibrant Summit held in January 2024, at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, MoUs for 41,299 projects have been signed attracting investments worth ₹26.33 lakh crore.

Bitcoin ETFs begin trading on U.S. exchanges

In a landmark moment for the cryptocurrency industry that has been demanding regulatory approval for more than a decade, several exchange-traded funds (ETFs) tied to the spot price of bitcoin began trading in the U.S. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has approved 11 such ETFs.

India's retail inflation rose to 5.7% in December 2023

India's retail inflation rose to 5.7% in December 2023, a four-month high. This was due to an increase in food prices, which rose 9.5% nationally and 10.42% for urban consumers.

India's industrial growth rate dropped to 2.4% in November 2023

India's industrial growth rate dropped to 2.4% in November 2023, an eight-month low. This was down from 11.6% in October, a 16-month high.

Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra was reappointed as RBI Deputy Governor

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the reappointment of Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra as the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Deputy Governor for one year.

IPPB crosses 8 Crore Customers in Financial Inclusion Milestone

India Post Payments Banks (IPPB) has achieved a significant milestone of over eight crore customers benefiting from its innovative and inclusive financial services.

India's Exports up at \$38.45 billion in December

India's exports increased up 1 per cent to \$38.45 billion in December 2023 while the trade deficit narrowed to a three-month low of \$19.8 billion. While Imports declined by 4.85 per cent to \$58.25 billion in December last year due to a dip in crude oil shipments.

India to invest about ₹200 crore to develop five lithium blocks in Argentina

The Government of India is planning to invest about ₹200 crore to explore and develop five lithium mines in Argentina. An agreement was signed between Khanij Bidesh India Ltd (KABIL) and Catamarca Minera Y Energética Sociedad Del Estado (CAMYEN).

IMF Chief says that AI will impact 40% of jobs globally

According to International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, almost 40% of jobs around the world could be affected by the rise of artificial intelligence (AI), a trend that is likely to deepen inequality.

WPI inflation at 0.73% in December, 2023

The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation rose in December at 0.73%. Earlier it was in the negative zone from April to October and had turned positive in November at 0.26%.

World Economic Forum's annual meeting commences at Davos

The 54th annual meeting of the World Economic Forum began in Davos, Switzerland amid growing concerns over global conflicts, climate change, and deepfake.

States' startup ranking for 2022: Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka are best performing States

According to the states' startup ranking for 2022, Kerala and Karnataka have emerged as the best-performing States in developing startup ecosystems for budding entrepreneurs. Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Telangana are also categorised as top performers.

Centre imposes 50% export duty on molasses

The Central government has imposed 50% duty on exports of molasses, a by-product of sugarcane used as raw material for alcohol production, with effect from January 18, 2024.

Forbes releases World's 10 Strongest Currency List

Forbes Magazine has released a list of 10 strongest currencies in the world along with the factors that contribute to their prominence. Kuwaiti Dinar, which holds the first position, has consistently ranked as the world's most valuable and stable currency since the time it was introduced in 1960. India ranks 15 with value listed as 82.9 per US Dollar.

China's economy registers 5.2% in 2023

China's economy for the October-December quarter grew at a faster rate, thereby allowing it to reach the 5% annual growth for 2023. Its economy grew 5.2% for 2023, surpassing the Government's target of 'about 5%'

India to remain one of fastest-growing economies in world for next few years: Fitch says

Fitch Ratings has forecasted that India will remain one of fastest-growing economies in the world in next few years. It has also asserted India's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BBB (minus)' with a stable outlook. It has revised GDP growth outlook for FY24 from 6% to 6.9% issued in May last year.

WHO grants emergency use listing to Biological E's Corbevax

WHO has granted emergency use listing (EUL) for Corbevax, the Covid vaccine developed by Hyderabad-based vaccine maker Biological E. Corbevax is based on protein sub-unit platform.

HDFC Bank Q3 results declared.

India's largest private sector lender HDFC Bank reported net profit for the Q3 ended December 31, 2023 grew 33.5% to ₹16,372.54 crore as compared with ₹12,259.49 crore in the same quarter the earlier year.

Production Linked Incentive Schemes gets 1.03 Lakh Crore Investment: DPIIT

Over 1.03 lakh crore rupees investment have been made in Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes as of November 2023. This led to the production and sales of nearly 8.6 lakh crores and employment generation of over 6.7 lakhs.

Bank of Maharashtra declares Q3 results with a net profit of ₹1,036 crore

Pune headquartered Bank of Maharashtra has reported that its third-quarter net profit grew 33.6% to ₹1,036 crore. Net Interest Income (NII) for the quarter grew by 24.56% Year on Year (YoY) to ₹2,466 crore.

Federal Bank's net profit increased by 25 YoY to ₹1006.74 crore in Q3 FY24

Thrissur-based private sector lender Federal Bank has reported its Q3 results. Its net profit increased by 25% YoY to ₹1006.74 crore in the third quarter of FY24 due to strong growth in other income.

Shriram Finance secures \$750 million via Social Bonds

India's biggest Non-Banking Finance company Shriram Finance Ltd (SFL), has accepted bids worth \$750 million for issuance of U.S. dollar denominated bonds maturing in three years and three months.

Taro merges with Sun Pharma in ₹2,892 crore deal

Sun Pharma acquires the remaining 21.52% stake in Israel-based Taro Pharmaceutical Industries for ₹2,891.7 crore. Sun Pharma currently owns 78.48% in Taro.

Akasa Air places order for 150 Boeing 737 Max planes

Low-cost Indian airline Akasa Air has placed an order of 150 Boeing 737 Max aircraft. The order comprises of 737 MAX 10 and 737 MAX 8-200 jets that will provide the airline a steady aircraft delivery stream through 2032.

SBI raises ₹5,000 crore through bond issue

India's largest PSU lender State Bank of India (SBI) has raised ₹5,000 crore through its second Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance for the current financial year at a coupon rate of 8.34%.

Hyundai acquires GM's plant at Talegaon

Hyundai Motor India Ltd. (HMIL) has completed the acquisition General Motors India's Talegaon Plant in Maharashtra.

RIL Q3 net grows 10.9% to ₹19,641 cr.

Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) has reported its Q3 results. Its consolidated net profit grew by 10.9 percent on-year to ₹19,641 crore for the December quarter of the current financial year 2023-24.

IREDA sign MoU with IOB in co-lending for Renewable Energy Projects

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) has signed an MoU with Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) for collaborative efforts in co-lending and loan syndication for a diverse spectrum of Renewable Energy projects across the nation.

Reliance's Jio is India's strongest brand for 2024: Brand Finance

According to Brand Finance's 'Global-500 2024' report, Reliance Industries telecom subsidiary Jio remains to be the strongest Indian brand. In the 2024 ranking, Jio ranked 17th among the world's strongest brands.

ICICI Bank Q3 Results: Net profit rises 23.5%

ICICI Bank's net profit rose by 23.6 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) to ₹10,272 crore for the quarter that ended December 2023 (Q3 FY24). The bank's net interest income during the quarter increased by 13.4% YoY to ₹18,678 crore.

Union Bank of India posts 60% YoY surge in Q3 net profit

Union Bank of India (UBI) reported a 60% year-on-year (YoY) increase in net profit for the third quarter ending December 31, 2023. The bank's net profit increased to ₹3,590 crore.

KMB reports 8% year-on-year (YoY) increase in net profit in Q3

Kotak Mahindra Bank reported a 8% year-on-year (YoY) increase in net profit to ₹3,005 crore for the quarter ending December 2023. This was due to provisioning towards alternative investment.

Sony calls off merger with Zee citing disputes

Sony Group has sent a termination letter to Zee Entertainment Enterprises (Zee) of its decision to call off the proposed \$10 billion media merger deal, bringing an end to a protracted two-year acquisition process.

Central Bank of India Q3 results declared

The Union government owned Central Bank of India has announced its financial results for the third quarter (Q3) ended December 31, 2023 of fiscal year 2024.

India is now World's Fourth-Largest Stock Market: Bloomberg

According to data by Bloomberg, India crossed Hong Kong to become the world's fourth largest stock market by market capitalisation on January 22. India's market cap stood at \$4.33 trillion on Tuesday as against \$4.29 trillion for Hong Kong.

Centre expands scope of financial services on offer at IFSC

The Central government has expanded the scope of activities that can be undertaken at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC). The new activities include various financial services such as book-keeping, accounting, taxation, and financial crime compliance.

Karur Vysya Bank's Q3 net up 43% on all-round growth

Karur Vysya Bank Ltd (KVB)'s standalone net profit for the quarter ended December has registered 43% growth at ₹412 crore over the year-ago period due to inclusive growth from all the business segments.

SII joins global network to boost production of affordable outbreak vaccines

Serum Institute of India (SII) will be joining a growing Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, CEPI, a network of vaccine producers in the Global South to support more rapid, agile, and equitable responses to future disease outbreaks.

HDFC Bank sells stake in CAMS

HDFC Bank has reduced a 2.01 per cent stake in Computer Age Management Services Limited (CAMS) for all cash consideration of ₹252.34 crore.

Indian Bank registers 52% rise in Q3 net profit

Indian Bank's standalone net profit for the December quarter rose 52% from the year-earlier period to ₹2,119 crore compared with ₹1,396 crore in the year-ago quarter due to growth in interest income and lower provisions.

Canara Bank declares Q3 results

Public sector bank Canara Bank has reported a 26.86% year-on-year increase in its third-quarter net profit to ₹3,656 crore as against ₹2,881.52 crore clocked in the previous year.

IOB's Q3 net profit rises to 30% on interest income

Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)'s standalone net profit for the December quarter increased 30% from the year earlier period to ₹723 crore due to rise in interest income and higher recovery from technically written-off accounts.

RBI approved Zomato Payments as an online payment aggregator

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved Zomato Payments as an online payment aggregator. This approval allows Zomato to facilitate e-commerce transactions through its platform.

Foreign lenders filed an insolvency petition against the Byju's company in India

Foreign lenders who provided over 85% of Byju's \$1.2 billion term loan filed an insolvency petition against the company in India.

Airbus Helicopters partnered with the Tata Group to establish a Final Assembly Line (FAL)

Airbus and the Tata Group are building India's first private helicopter final assembly line (FAL). The FAL will produce the H125, Airbus', for India and neighboring countries.

RBI approves the LIC application to acquire up to 9.99% of HDFC Bank's paid-up share capital

The RBI approved the Life Insurance Corporation of India's (LIC) application to acquire up to 9.99% of HDFC Bank's paid-up share capital.

Ola's Krutrim is India's first AI unicorn

Ola's Krutrim is India's first AI unicorn. The AI startup, founded by Ola CEO Bhavish Aggarwal, raised \$50 million in funding, valuing the company at \$1 billion.

90% of the budget target for farm loans had been disbursed

The Finance Ministry of India said that 90% of the budget target for farm loans had been disbursed. This is a little over ₹18 lakh crore. The disbursements include working capital and term loans.

Thai's economy in recession

Thailand's deputy Finance Minister Julapun Amornvivat has stated that its economy is in a state of recession due to a high level of household debt.

China's Evergrande gets order for liquidation by Hong Kong court

A Hong Kong court has ordered the liquidation of Chinese property mogul Evergrande. The court's decision effectively kickstarts a long process which includes liquidating the developer's assets and replacing its management to address the concerns of its creditors.

Piramal to sell stake in Shriram Investment for ₹1,440 crore

Piramal Enterprises has decided to sell its entire stake in Shriram Investment Holdings Private Limited (SIHPL) to Shriram Ownership Trust (SOT) for a consideration of ₹1,440 crore.

India to become 3rd largest economy with GDP of \$5 trillion in three years

The Finance Ministry has said that India is expected to become the third-largest economy in the world with a GDP of \$5 trillion in the next three years and touch \$7 trillion by 2030 on the back of continued reforms. It forecasted India's real GDP growth at closer to 7% in 2024-25.

Yes Bank Q3 net profit grows over three times

Yes Bank has reported that its Q3 net profit grew more than three times to ₹231 crore for period ended December 31, 2023 as compared with ₹52 crore in the year-earlier period, aided by lesser provisions.

Toyota is world's top-selling automaker in 2023

Japanese automaker Toyota Motor has sold a record 11.2 million vehicles in 2023, thereby taking the crown as the world's top-selling automaker for a fourth straight year.

IMF predicts global growth at 3.1% in 2024

IMF in its latest World Economic Outlook report has forecasted a global growth of 3.1% in 2024. It has increased its previous forecast by 0.2% from its October forecast and said it expected unchanged growth of 3.2% in 2025.

Centre appoints four members of 16th Finance Commission

The Central government has appointed Ajay Narayan Jha, Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Annie George Mathew and Niranjana Rajadhyaksha as members of newly constituted 16th Finance Commission.

Egypt to start issuing bonds in other currencies.

The Egyptian government is exploring the options of the issuing bonds denominated in Emirati dirhams, Indian rupees, and Hong Kong dollars, with an aim to broaden its financing options and attract global investors.

Import duty reduced for mobile phone components to 10%

The Union Finance Ministry has cut import duty on parts used for manufacturing of mobile phones to 10% from 15%, a move aimed at boosting exports.

AWARDS

Bombay Jayashri Ramnath honoured with Sangita Kalanidhi

Former West Bengal Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi has honoured Carnatic vocalist Bombay Jayashri Ramnath with the Sangita Kalanidhi Vidushi award on January 1, 2024. The Sangita Kala Acharya award was given to Carnatic vocalist Palkulangara K. Ambika Devi and mridangam exponent K. S. Kalidas.

Prof B R Kamboj was honoured with M S Swaminathan Award

Prof. B.R. Kamboj, Vice Chancellor of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University's has been honoured with the prestigious M.S. Swaminathan Award. He was selected for this award in recognition of his contributions as a scientist and extension specialist in the field of agronomy.

81st Golden Globes 2024 winners

Best film-Oppenheimer
Best male actor in a film - Cillian Murphy, Oppenheimer
Best female actor in a film- Lily Gladstone, Killers of the Flower Moon
Best TV series -Succession
Best director in a film- Christopher Nolan, Oppenheimer
Best animated film-The Boy and the Heron
Best non-English language film-Anatomy of a Fall

President presents National Sports and Adventure Awards 2023 at Rashtrapati Bhavan

Indian President Droupadi Murmu has presented the National Sports and Adventure Awards 2023 at a function in Rashtrapati Bhavan. Cricketer Mohammed Shami, Chess player R Vaishali, Archers Ojas Pravin Deotale and Aditi Gopichand Swami, Golfer Diksha Dagar & Kabaddi players Pawan Kumar and Ritu Negi are among the notables that received the Arjuna Award.

Centre calls nominations for first-ever 'Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar'

The Centre has called for nominations for 'Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar', the first-ever national science award from individuals or teams in various fields of science, technology and technology-led innovation. These awards, given across four categories, were instituted last year after scrapping more than 300 awards given by different institutions, and will comprise a medal and a citation but no cash component.

Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023: Surat & Indore cleanest cities

Surat in Gujarat and Indore in Madhya Pradesh were jointly declared cleanest cities of the country at the annual clean city awards 2023.

Maharashtra bagged the top spot among states Chandigarh won the award for the city having the best safety standards for sanitation workers – Safaimitra Surakshit Shehar.

Varanasi was named the cleanest 'Ganga town'.

Sasvad in Maharashtra was named the cleanest city among those with population below 1 lakh.

Mhow Cantonment of Madhya Pradesh was named the cleanest cantonment in the country.

CNN-News18 Indian of the Year 2023 Awards

Shah Rukh Khan has won the CNN-News18 Indian of the Year (IOTY) 2023 award.

Director Mani Ratnam won the award for Indian of the Year in the Entertainment category.

Actress and doctor Trinetra Haldar was honoured with the Youth Icon of the Year

Music composer Anirudh Ravichander won the award for the Youth Icon (Popular).

Arun Krishnamurthy and Saalumarada Thimmakka won the award in Climate Warriors category.

SBI chairman Dinesh Khara won the prestigious Indian of the Year 2023 award in the business category.

ISRO was honoured with the Indian of the Year 2023 award for outstanding achievement.

Ravi Kannan, a distinguished oncologist was honoured in the social change category.

Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra clinched the Indian of the Year award in the Sports category.

Chess Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa was conferred with the Rising Sports Star award.

75th Emmy Awards Winners

Best Drama Series: Succession

Best Actor in a Drama Series: Kieran Culkin (Succession)

Best Actress in a Drama Series: Sarah Snook (Succession)

Best Supporting Actor in a Drama Series: Matthew Macfadyen (Succession)

Best Supporting Actress in a Drama Series: Jennifer Coolidge (The White Lotus)

Best Comedy Series: The Bear (FX)

FIFA Awards 2023

Argentina's Lionel Messi has won the Best FIFA Men's Player Award for the 3rd time in the last 4 years. Barcelona striker Aitana Bonmati claimed the Best FIFA Women's Player Award.

Manchester City's Pep Guardiola won the Best Manager award for 2023.

England coach Sarina Wiegman has won the women's best coach award.

Manchester City's Ederson won the Best Men's Goalkeeper award.

Mary Earps, the Manchester United and England's won the Women's award in the ceremony in London.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar: 19 children to get PM's national award

A total of 19 children will be conferred with the national children's awards for the year 2024 by President Draupadi Murmu on January 22. The 'Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar' would be given to 9 boys and 10 girls in six categories – namely art and culture, bravery, innovation, science and technology, social service and sports.

BCCI Awards ceremony held in Hyderabad

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) hosted its second edition of the annual awards ceremony in Hyderabad.

Former India head coach Ravi Shastri was honoured with BCCI's Lifetime Achievement Award. He joined his former teammates Kapil Dev, Sunil Gavaskar, Syed Kirmani, and Kris Srikkanth amongst others in receiving the CK Nayudu Award for lifetime achievement.

Shubman Gill was nominated as the best men's cricketer of the year and will receive the Polly Umrigar Award for his performance in 2023.

Bihar's Socialist icon Karpoori Thakur awarded Bharat Ratna

Indian President Droupadi Murmu has announced that the late socialist leader & former Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur will be awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.

President Droupadi Murmu gives Best Electoral Practices Awards for 2023

India's President Droupadi Murmu had presented the Best Electoral Practices Awards for the year 2023. The awards were presented to State and District level officers for their outstanding performance in the conduct of elections during 2023 in different spheres such as IT initiatives, Security Management, Election Management, Electoral Roll, and contribution in the field of voter awareness and outreach.

2024 Padma awards

For the year 2024, the President of India Droupadi Murmu has approved the conferment of 132 Padma Awards.

The Padma Vibhushan was given to 5 people, including Padma Subrahmanyam, Venkaiah Naidu, Chiranjeevi, and Vyjayanthimala Bali. The other recipient was Bindeshwar Pathak, the posthumous founder of Sulabh International.

Late actor Vijayakant, M. Fathima Beevi, Satyabrata Mookherjee and Togdan Rinpoche, Young Liu were conferred with Padma Bhushan.

110 Padma Shri Awards were announced.

Padma Shri awards

69th Filmfare Awards 2024 announced.

Best Film (Popular): 12th Fail.

Best Film (Critics): Joram

Best Actor in a Leading role (Male): Ranbir Kapoor (Animal).

Best Actor in a Leading role (Female): Alia Bhatt (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani).

Best Actor (Critics): Vikrant Massey (12th Fail).

Best Actress (Critics): Rani Mukerji (Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway) and Shefali Shah (Three Of Us).

Best Director: Vidhu Vinod Chopra (12th Fail).

Lifetime Achievement Award: David Dhawan.

Tableau of Ministry of Culture wins first prize at Republic Day Parade 2024

The tableau of the Ministry of Culture 'Bharat: Mother of Democracy' has claimed the first prize at the Republic Day Parade 2024.

The tableau of Odisha secured the first prize in Judges category.

Gujarat's tableau showcasing Dhordo tourism village has earned the first place in the people's choice category.

Wings India Awards 2024

Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) & Delhi Airport (Indira Gandhi International Airport) have been recognised as the Best Airport of the Year. The best airline award went to Vistara-Tata SIA Airlines.

Hyderabad airport won in the 10-25 million passengers' category while Goa's Dabolim airport won in the 5-10 million category. Mangaluru airport won in the under 5 million category.

GMR Group was honoured as the best aviation service provider, Skyways Air Services Pvt. Ltd for cargo services, Indian Oil Skytanking Pvt. Ltd for fuel services and GMR for Aero Academy.

PERSONS IN NEWS (National and International)

Élisabeth Borne

French current Prime Minister Élisabeth Borne resigned after less than two years into her tenure. Her resignation comes with the incumbent President Emmanuel Macron widely expected to reshuffle his top team ahead of European elections due later this year.

Gabriel Attal

Gabriel Attal, who is currently working as an education minister has been named next Prime Minister of France. With this appointment Gabriel Attal at 34 is the youngest Prime Minister in modern French history.

Sheikh Hasina

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina was sworn in as Prime Minister of Bangladesh for the fourth straight term. Sheikh Hasina has led her party to a thumping victory in the national elections on the 7th of this month.

Lai Ching-te

Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) candidate Lai Ching-te has won the much-anticipated Taiwanese presidential polls. This marks the historic third-straight victory for the DPP after Tsai Ing-wen completed her two terms as Taiwan's President since 2016.

Felix Tshisekedi

President Félix Tshisekedi has been declared the winner of Democratic Republic of Congo's Presidential election. He won about 73% of the vote against Moise Katumbi, on 18.

Queen Margrethe II

Denmark's Queen Margrethe II, the world's only reigning queen and the longest serving current monarch in Europe has announced her surprise abdication in a new year TV address. Crown Prince Frederik will take her place as King of Denmark.

Rajiv Shah

Rajiv Shah, President of The Rockefeller Foundation has been appointed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System as a 'Class C' director on the New York Fed Board of Directors for a three-year term.

Alejandro Giammattei

The U.S. government has barred former Guatemalan President Alejandro Giammattei from entering the United States over his involvement in corruption.

Preeti Rajak

Champion trap shooter Preeti Rajak became the first woman subedar in the Army, after she was promoted from the havildar rank.

Nitish Kumar

Janata Dal (United) President Nitish Kumar has taken oath as Bihar Chief Minister for a record ninth time. Earlier, he had given his resignation as the chief minister of the RJD-JD(U) government.

Imran Khan

Former Pakistani PM Imran Khan who was removed by his opponents as PM in 2022 has been sentenced to 10 years in jail in a case in which he was charged with leaking state secrets.

Arvind Panagariya

The Centre has appointed former Niti Aayog vice chairman Arvind Panagariya as the new Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission.

Indra Mani Pandey

Indra Mani Pandey, a senior diplomat of India, has took the position of Secretary General (SG) of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) in Dhaka.

Muhammad Yunus

Noted Nobel peace laureate Muhammad Yunus who is credited with lifting millions out of poverty with his pioneering microfinance bank was convicted on January 1, 2024, of violating Bangladesh's labour laws.

Dennis Francis

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) President Dennis Francis was official visit to India from January 22 to 26. During his trip, Mr. Francis held bilateral discussions with the Indian leadership including External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and engaged with civil society, leading think tanks.

Randhir Jaiswal

Randhir Jaiswal, a 1998 batch IFS officer has taken charge as the Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs. Mr. Jaiswal succeeds Arindam Bagchi, who has been appointed as India's permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva.

Dinesh K. Tripathi

Vice-Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi has taken over as the Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS). He was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 01 Jul 1985.

Prakash Nanda

Ved Prakash Nanda, a noted Indian American legal scholar, Professor passed away. A Padma Bhushan awardee for his contributions to literature and education. He served as President of the World Jurist Association, honorary Vice President of the American Society of International Law.

Suchetha Satish

Suchetha Satish has set a Guinness World Record for singing in 140 languages during a single concert. The concert, titled "Concert for Climate", was held at the Indian Consulate Auditorium in Dubai to raise awareness about climate change.

Mario Zagallo

Mario Zagallo, a Brazilian football legend, died at the age of 92. Zagallo was the first person to win the FIFA World Cup as a player and a coach, and the only person to receive four World Cup winner's medals.

Franz Beckenbauer

Germany's Franz Beckenbauer, who was widely regarded among the greatest football player of all time, has died. He played 103 matches for West Germany, winning the 1972 European championship and then the World Cup on home soil.

Ustad Rashid Khan

Hindustani classical musician and maestro Ustad Rashid Khan, who was battling cancer, died. He belongs to the Rampur-Sahaswan Gharana He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2006 and the Padma Bhushan in 2022.

Phiroz Vandrevala

Phiroz Vandrevala, a former Director on the Board of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and former chairman of IT body Nasscom has passed away. He joined TCS in 1982 and served as a key part of the leadership team over the decades, including serving as Executive Director of the company between 2007-2016.

Dr. Prabha Atre

Veteran classical singer Swarayogini Dr. Prabha Atre, died. Atre represented the Kirana Gharana of Hindustani classical music. She was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in January 2022.

Munawwar Rana

Munawwar Rana, a renowned Urdu poet passed away. He was 71. He was awarded the Gyanpeeth Award in 2014.

SPORTS

David Warner announces his retirement from one day cricket

Australia's David Warner has announced his retirement from One Day Internationals (ODIs). He is Australia's sixth-highest run scorer in the ODI format.

Anahat Singh wins girls' under-19 Scottish Junior Open title

India's Anahat Singh won the under-19 title at the 2023 Scottish Junior Open squash held in Edinburgh. Anahat won victory over Robyn McAlpine in the final.

India beat South Africa to win second test match

India defeated South Africa in the second and the final cricket test at Newlands Stadium in Cape Town. The entire test match was over in 107 overs, under five sessions, making it the shortest ever in the history of test cricket. The two test match series was drawn 1-1.

Hyderabad E-Prix 2024 event cancelled

Formula E had officially cancelled the Hyderabad E Prix, scheduled to be held on February 10, 2024.

Tennis: Germany wins maiden United Cup title

Germany created history after it beat Poland to win maiden United Cup title in Sydney. German's Alexander Zverev defeated Hubert Hurkacz in a three-hour epic.

Asian Shooting Championship: Nancy Mandhotra bags gold

India's Nancy Mandhotra has won the Women's 10-meter Air rifle Gold with a junior Asian record of 252.8 points at the Asian Shooting Championship in Jakarta, Indonesia. While Elavenil Valarivan has secured the Silver.

Tata Steel Chess tournament 2024 begins in Netherlands

The 86th edition of the Tata Steel Chess started at Wijk aan Zee in the Netherlands on January 12. The event featured 14 super grandmasters who will compete in a 13-round round-robin tournament.

Nepal cricket body suspends Lamichhane after rape conviction

Nepal's cricket body has suspended former captain Sandeep Lamichhane, a day after he was sentenced to eight years in prison for raping an 18-year-old woman.

Akhil Sheoran of India won gold and Aishwary Tomar won silver

Akhil Sheoran of India won gold and Aishwary Tomar won silver in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions event at the Asian Olympic shooting Qualifiers in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Madhya Pradesh, overall champion at the inaugural Beach Games 2024

Madhya Pradesh became the overall champion with winning 18 medals including 7 gold at the inaugural Beach Games 2024, held at Ghoghla Beach in Diu. The Beach Games 2024 were India's first multi-sports Beach Games.

Yogesh Singh Wins Gold in Men's 25m Centre Fire Pistol

Yogesh Singh has won gold prize in individual as well as team event of the men's 25m centre fire pistol competition at the Asia Olympic Qualifiers in Jakarta, Indonesia. Yogesh claimed the individual gold medal after shooting 573.

Golf: Grayson Murray wins 2024 Sony Open

American professional golfer Grayson Murray has claimed the Sony Open after he shot two birdies on the 18th hole. He won this tournament with a 40-foot birdie putt in a playoff.

Sumit Nagal becomes first Indian to beat top ranked player in 35 years

India's Sumit Nagal has created history to become the first Indian man in 35 years to beat a seeded player at Australian Open Grand Slam. He defeats world number 27 Alexander Bublik of Kazakhstan in a straight-set victory.

India beats Afghanistan in third T20 to clean sweep the series

India defeated Afghanistan in the third T20 after two thrilling super overs in Bengaluru to claim the three-match series 3-0.

R.Praggnanandhaa excels become India's number one Chess player

India's R.Praggnanandhaa has defeated World Chess Champion Ding Liren in the Tata Steel Masters in Wijk aan Zee, in the Netherlands. He also overtook Anand to become India's new number one Chess player in terms of live ratings.

6th Edition of Khelo India games inaugurated in Chennai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the opening ceremony of 6th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games in Chennai. This is the first time that the Khelo India Youth Games are being held in South India.

Spanish driver Carlos Sainz wins Dakar Rally

Spanish driver Carlos Sainz had won the gruelling Dakar Rally for a fourth time becoming the oldest winner of the race at 61. Sainz is the father of Ferrari Formula One driver Carlos Sainz Jr.

Indian Women's Hockey team Fails to qualify for Paris 2024 Olympics

Indian Women's hockey team failed to qualify for the Olympics for the first time since 2016 after falling to a 1-0 loss against Japan in the third-place playoff match at the FIH Women's Hockey Olympic Qualifiers in Ranchi.

Raiza Dhillon has won silver in the women's skeet final

Young Raiza Dhillon secured India's 18th quota place for the Paris Games with a silver medal in women's skeet event of the Asia Olympic Qualification for Shotgun.

Asian Marathon Championships 2024: Man Singh bags Gold medal

India's Man Singh has won the gold medal at the Asian Marathon Championships 2024 with a personal best timing of two hours 14 minutes and 19 seconds in Hong Kong.

India Open Badminton tournament 2024: Indian pair loses final to Korean pair

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have lost in the finals of the men's doubles at the India Open Badminton to South Korea's Seo Seung-jae and Kang Min-hyuk.

China's Shi Yu Qi defeated Hong Kong's Lee Cheuk Yiu to clinch the men's singles title. Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu Ying won the women's singles title after defeating China's Chen Yu Fei.

Rohit Sharma leads ICC ODI Team of the Year

Indian ODI captain Rohit Sharma has been named captain of the International Cricket Council, ICC ODI Team of the Year, which featured five other Indians including Virat Kohli and the pace duo of Mohammed Shami and Mohammed Siraj.

India's badminton pair regains world no. 1 ranking.

India's doubles pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty had reclaimed the first rank in the BWF men's doubles rankings. They reached the world no. 1 ranking for a second time.

Ministry of Sports to Launch 'Fit India Champions' Podcast Series

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will soon launch the 'Fit India Champions' podcast series featuring India's top athletes including Neeraj Chopra and Sheetal Devi.

2024 Australian Open: Rohan Bopanna, Matthew Ebden won the men's doubles tennis title

Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden won the men's doubles tennis title at the Australian Open. They defeated the Italian duo of Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori 7-6(0), 7-5. Bopanna, 43, became the oldest man in the Open Era to win a major title.

Aryna Sabalenka win the 2024 Australian Open women's singles title

Belarusian defending champion and world number two Aryna Sabalenka defeated Chinese 12th seed Zheng Qinwen 6-3, 6-2 to win the Australian Open women's singles title.

Italy's Jannik Sinner wins 2024 Australian Open

Italy's Jannik Sinner defeated Russia's Daniil Medvedev in the men's singles final of the Australian Open in Melbourne. With his win, Sinner became the first Italian man to win a Slam since Adriano Panatta in 1976.

England wins first test in Hyderabad

England beat India by 28 runs in the first test of a five-match series in Hyderabad. Chasing the target India's innings folded with only 202 runs on board.

ISSF Shooting World Cup, Cairo: Rhythm Sangwan and Ujjwal Malik wins first gold

Rhythm Sangwan and Ujjwal Malik have won India's first gold medal at the ISSF Shooting World Cup 2024 in Cairo. They defeated the Armenian pair of Elmira Karapetyan and Benik Khlghatyan 17-7 in the 10m air pistol mixed team event.

ICC revokes suspension of Sri Lanka Cricket

the International Cricket Council (ICC) has lifted the suspension of Sri Lanka Cricket with immediate effect.

ISSF World Cup: Divyansh Singh Panwar wins gold in men's air rifle event

Indian Olympian Divyansh Singh Panwar had won gold in the men's air rifle shooting event with a world record score in the final.

Rohan Bopanna becomes the oldest man to reach World Number One position

India's Rohan Bopanna for the first time has climbed to World Number One position in the latest ATP Doubles Rankings list. He recently won his career's first Men's Doubles Grand Slam title at the Australian Open to jump two places in the ATP Rankings.

Australian Open Deaf Championship: India's Prithvi Sekhar wins singles title

India's Prithvi Sekhar has won the singles title at the Australian Grand Slam Tennis Championship in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing category. He came as a runner-up with Glen Flindell in doubles event.

4th edition of Khelo India Winter Games: Ladakh to host first part

Ladakh will be hosting the first part of the 4th edition of the Khelo India Winter Games scheduled to commence officially from February 2 to 6 at Leh. The Second and final part of the Khelo India Winter Games scheduled later from February 21 to 25 is being hosted by the Jammu and Kashmir.

East Bengal wins Super Cup title

East Bengal has defeated Odisha FC 3-2 in extra time to win the 2024 Kalinga Super Cup, 2024. The final at Kalinga Stadium saw an exciting contest as the two teams were locked 2-2 at the end of regulation time.

MISCELLANEOUS

2nd International AYUSH Conference & Exhibition held at the Dubai World Trade Centre

The second International AYUSH Conference and Exhibition opened at the Dubai World Trade Centre, orchestrated by the Science India Forum and the Ministry of AYUSH.

New alliance for Global Good, Gender Equity and Equality launched at WEF

India has announced the launch of a new alliance for Global Good, Gender Equity and Equality, at the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland. The main objective of this new Alliance is to bring together global best practices, knowledge sharing and investments in the identified areas of women's health, education, and enterprise.

Joint Military Exercise between India and Saudi Arabia will be held in Rajasthan

The first joint military exercise between India and Saudi Arabia, "SADA TANSEEQ", will be held from January 29 to February 10, 2024 in Rajasthan. The exercise will focus on counter-terrorism operations under the United Nations Mandate.

China's population down for 2nd year

China has reported a negative trend in its population growth for the second consecutive time in 2023. The total number of people in China dropped by 2.75 million to 1.409 billion in 2023, a faster decline than in 2022.

NATO kicked off its largest military exercise

NATO kicked off its largest military exercise since the Cold War, called "Steadfast Defender 2024". The exercise involves all 31 NATO member countries.

N.Korea successfully tested a new cruise missile

North Korea said that it had successfully tested a new cruise missile, the Pulhwasal-3-31. North Korea claims the missile is a "strategic" weapon that can carry nuclear warheads.

JAXA announced that its lunar probe landed within 100 meters of its target

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) announced that its lunar probe had landed close to its target on the moon's surface.

India's documentary "To Kill A Tiger" gets nomination at Oscars 2024

To Kill A Tiger, set in a small Indian village, has been nominated for the best documentary feature at the 96th edition of Academy Awards(Oscars). This movie is directed by Delhi-born Nisha Pahuja, a filmmaker based in Toronto.

N.Korea performs test of underwater nuclear weapons system Haeil-5-23

North Korea has performed a test of its underwater nuclear weapons system "Haeil-5-23" in a protest against this week's joint military drills by South Korea, the United States and Japan.

Lunar Orbiter of NASA 'Pings' India's Chandrayaan-3 Lander On Moon

The US space agency NASA has said that its instrument onboard its spacecraft orbiting the Moon has successfully pinged the Vikram lander of India's Chandrayaan-3 mission.

Amit Shah releases the book 'Assam's Braveheart Lachit Barphukan'

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah launches a book 'Assam's Braveheart Lachit Barphukan' written by Arup Kumar Dutta at the Srimanta Sankardeva International Auditorium in Guwahati.

North Korea to launch three new spy satellites.

North Korea leader Kim Jong has said that the country is planning to launch three new spy satellites, build military drones, and boost its nuclear arsenal in 2024..

Dubai ranked first in 2024 Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Awards

Dubai took the top spot as No.1 global destination in the Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Best of the Best Destinations Awards 2024. This is the third consecutive time that Dubai took the top spot.

Neuralink startup implants a chip in its first human brain

Elon Musk's backed startup Neuralink has implanted a chip in a human brain for the first time. The operation took place on Sunday and the patient was recovering well.

India's passport ranked 80th in the Henley Passport Index

According to the latest Henley Passport Index, India's passport has been placed at the 80th spot, allowing Indians to travel visa-free to 62 countries. France, Germany, Italy, and Spain — join the elite club with Japan and Singapore in having the most powerful passports in the world.

Artemis Moon Mission postponed by a Year

US based space Agency NASA has postponed its ambitious Artemis program, which aims to return astronauts to the lunar surface for the first time in over fifty years.

IIT Madras to open new campus in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's Education ministry has stated that a new campus of India's premier institution IIT Madras would be established in Kandy in Sri Lanka.

Japan enters deal with US to buy 400 long-range missiles

Japan has made a deal with the United States to buy 400 long-range Tomahawk missiles as it mops up its military capacity to counter regional security threats.

Taiwan to launch its first lunar mission in 2024

Taiwan is planning to launch its first lunar mission 'Deep Space Radiation Probe (DSRP)' late this year. Taiwan's National Central University's faculty and students have developed a deep space radiation detector DSRP and is scheduled to launch in Japan in the fourth quarter of this year.

Two US gov. schools in California launches Hindi as world language

Two government schools in California namely Horner Middle School and Irvington High School will soon launch a pilot programme introducing Hindi as a world language in the curriculum.

World Braille Day observed on January 4th

World Braille Day was celebrated across the globe on 4th January every year. This day marks the birthday of Louis Braille, the inventor of the Braille script, born in France in 1809.

World Day for War Orphans: 6th January

World Day of War Orphans is observed every year on 6th January. The day is dedicated to highlighting the struggles and needs of the most vulnerable victims of war, the children.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2024 observed on January 9

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, also known as NRI Day (Non-Resident Indian), is celebrated on January 9 every year. It holds great significance in recognising and honouring the Indian diaspora spread across the globe.

World Hindi Day being observed on January 10

World Hindi Day is observed on January 10 every year to mark the day when the language was first spoken in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1949. The theme of the World Hindi Day 2024 is "Hindi–Bridging Traditional Knowledge and Artificial Intelligence".

National Youth Day: 12th January

National Youth Day is observed every year on January 12 to honour the teachings and ideals of Swami Vivekananda who was born on January 12, 1863, in Kolkata.

Parakram Diwas observed on January 23

India paid its respects & homage to freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on the occasion of his birth anniversary on January 23, also observed as "Parakram Diwas", or the Day of Valour.

National Voters Day observed on January 25

The Election Commission of India is celebrating the 14th National Voters' Day (NVD) on 25th January 2024. The NVD theme for 2024 is 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For sure'.

International Customs Day: 26th January

International Customs Day is celebrated every year on 26th January. This year's theme, "Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose".

International Day of Clean Energy: 26th January

International Day of Clean Energy is observed every year on 26th January. It is a significant day dedicated to promoting the importance of renewable energy for a sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust: 27th January

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) designated January 27 as the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. This date was chosen to mark the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp, in 1945.