



# ORC SAINIK ACADEMY

An Armed Forces Preparatory Pattern

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### History of December 15

- ◆ **1953** : S. Vijayalakshmi Pandit of India was elected the first woman President of the eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly.
- ◆ **1911** : Banaras Hindu University Society was established.
- ◆ **1961** : Adolf Eichmann, the organizer of the systematic massacre of Jews in the 1961 Holocaust by Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler, was sentenced to death.
- ◆ **2003** : The Bhutan government started action against Indian separatists operating there.

### Current Affairs Related to 15 December

- ◆ The Union Cabinet has approved additional allocation of Rs 2500 crore under the interest parity or subsidy scheme to provide the facility of rupee export credit before and after the shipment till June 30, 2024 next year. This step will help exporters from identified sectors and all MSME exporters to avail rupee export credit at competitive rates at a time when the global economy is going through adverse conditions.
- ◆ The Finance Ministry is working on a separate arrangement to operate a non-lapseable Defense Modernization Fund. In this regard, the Ministry of Finance in consultation with the Ministry of Defense is exploring a special arrangement for the Ministry to operate the Non-Lapsable Defense Modernization Fund. Articles 112, 114 and 266 of the Constitution provide that the Government cannot spend any money from the Consolidated Fund of India without obtaining approval through the annual budget presented before the Parliament.
- ◆ Indian Oil Corporation Limited and EKI Energy Services have come together to promote Surya Nutan, an innovative indoor solar cooking system developed by Indian Oil. The collaboration aims to leverage carbon finance and other sustainable tools to scale up the production, distribution and adoption of this eco-friendly cooking solution. Indian Oil, a Fortune 500 company with a major presence in India's hydrocarbon sector, has committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2046.
- ◆ According to IQ, Pakistan's second largest city Lahore has the distinction of having the world's worst air quality. Lahore, Pakistan's second largest city, is suffering from a severe smog crisis that poses a significant threat to the health and well-being of its residents.
- ◆ Swiggy, a leading online food ordering and delivery company, has taken a strategic step by appointing Anand Kripalu as Chairman of its Board and Independent Director. With an illustrious career spanning over 40 years in the fast moving consumer goods industry, Anand Kripalu brings a wealth of experience to Swiggy's leadership team. The appointment comes as part of Swiggy's ongoing efforts to strengthen its board with industry veterans.
- ◆ RBI MPC kept the repo rate at 6.5% for the fifth time in the December 2023 meeting. Economic projections include 7% GDP growth and 5.4% CPI inflation for FY2024. The key policy repo rate remained unchanged at 6.5% in the latest RBI Monetary Policy Committee meeting, reflecting the unanimous decision of the committee.
- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the second edition of Infinity Forum, a premier fintech event organized by the International Financial Services Center Authority and GIFT City. The event has been organized under the aegis of International Financial Services Center Authority and GIFT City. Building on the success of its inaugural edition in December 2021 for the Government of India, Infinity Forum 2.0 promises to be a global thought leadership platform focusing on financial services.
- ◆ The Indian Museum is a prestigious institution located in central Kolkata, West Bengal. This is the largest museum of India. The Indian Museum, located in the central part of Kolkata, West Bengal, plays a distinctive and important role in the cultural and scientific heritage of India. Established in 1814 with the support of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, it holds the distinction of being not only the largest museum in India but also the oldest museum in the country.
- ◆ The Board of Max Life Insurance has approved the appointment of Rajiv Anand as the new Chairman, marking a significant moment in the leadership of the company.
- ◆ The country's foreign exchange reserves crossed \$600 billion for the first time in four months. On December 1, it was \$604 billion.



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### National & International Current Affairs

**1. When is the subscription period for Sovereign Gold Bond Series 2023-2024 Series III fixed?**

- (A) 15 to 20 December 2023
- (B) 16 to 21 December 2023
- (C) 18th to 22nd December 2023
- (D) 20th to 24th December 2023
- (C)** The subscription period for Sovereign Gold Bond Series 2023.2024 Series III is scheduled from 18 to 22 December 2023. Therefore, the issue date in SGB Series III is December 28, 2023. The subscription period for SGB Series 2023-2024 Series IV is scheduled from 12 February to 16 February 2024.



**2. By when has India lifted the duty ban on import of yellow peas with the aim of stabilizing the prices of pulses?**

- (A) 31 December 2023 (B) 31 March 2024
- (C) 1st August 2024 (D) 31st March 2025
- (B)** India has lifted duty restrictions on import of yellow peas till March 31, 2024, with an aim to stabilize pulses prices. The move allows duty-free shipment of pulses till March 31, 2024, aimed at increasing the supply of pulses in the market. Yellow peas which are mainly imported from Canada and Russia.



**3. Who has recently launched 4E Wave?**

- (A) Nitin Gadkari (B) Piyush Goyal
- (C) Shri R.K. Singh (D) None of these
- (C)** 4E Wave was launched by Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy R.K. Launched by Singh. It is a student-led national movement for energy conservation. It has been launched in the presence of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Manoj Singha. The movement aims to raise awareness about energy conservation among communities and individuals, as well as encourage sustainable activities.



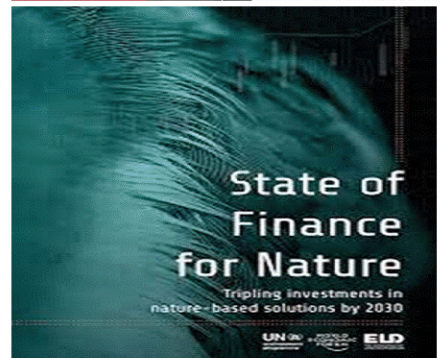
**4. Which bank has recently unveiled the First Launch Credit Card in collaboration with MasterCard?**

- (A) Union Bank of India (B) IDFC First Bank
- (C) BOI (D) RBI
- (B)** IDFC FIRST Bank in association with Mastercard unveils FIRST SWYP Credit Card. In a strategic move to meet the dynamic preferences of the youth, IDFC FIRST Bank has launched FIRST SWYP Credit Card designed in partnership with Mastercard. This is the second youth centric credit card from IDFC Bank after the success of First Millennium Credit Cards.



**5. Which edition of the State of Finance for Nature report has been released recently?**

- (A) First (B) Second
- (C) third (D) fourth
- (C)** Recently the third edition of the State of Finance for Nature report, The Big Nature Turnaround Repurposing \$7 Trillion to combat nature loss, was released. The report was released by the United Nations Environment Program at the 28th COP of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.







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6. Which country's army has recently organized a table top exercise for Asian women peacekeepers?

- (A) Russia (B) America  
(C) India (D) Bhutan

(C) Recently the Indian Army has organized table top exercises for Asian women peacekeepers. India also announced on the day that it will organize two initiatives for women personnel from Southeast Asia later this year as part of defense cooperation with ASEAN. The UN Charter gives the Security Council primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.



7. Which university of India has topped the recently released QS sustainability ranking?

- (A) Kanpur University (B) Delhi University  
(C) Rajasthan University (D) Allahabad University

(B) University of Delhi, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and Indian Institute of Technology Madras are the top 3 universities in India that were included in the global university list for sustainability category. No Indian university was included in the top 100 list.



8. Which country has recently doubled the International Students Fund?

- (A) Russia (B) Australia  
(C) China (D) Canada

(D) Recently Canada has doubled the International Students Fund to \$20,635. In such a situation, students will also have to shell out twice as much to stay and study there. Instead of making the living and studying conditions easier for international students, the Canadian government is making them more difficult.



9. Which bank has recently tied up with Accenture for digital transformation?

- (A) Union Bank (B) ICICI Bank  
(C) Axis Bank (D) None of these

(A) Union Bank of India has joined hands with global professional services company Accenture. This collaboration is set to bring a transformational journey through advanced implementation. In a significant step towards digital advancement, Union Bank of India has joined hands with Accenture, a global professional services company. This collaboration is set to bring a transformational journey through advanced analytics and implementation of cutting-edge technologies.



10. Which district administration has recently launched Suchitva Theeram project?

- (A) Kozhikode (B) Pune  
(C) Kolkata (D) None of these

(A) A project called Suchithava Thiram is going on in Kozhikode city. This is all about cleaning the beach area in Kozhikode. The people in charge are working hard to keep the beach clean and nice for everyone to enjoy. The project is part of a larger program called Malinya Mukta Navakeralaam and will be carried out by scientists from the Local Administration Department.

