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ENGLISH
MEDIUM

21

Jan

2024

An Armed Forces Preparatory Pattern
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History of January 21

- ◆ **2008** : India successfully launched an Israeli spy satellite and placed it in polar orbit.
- ◆ **1972** : NEFA region of Assam became the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ◆ **2009** : An Air Force training aircraft, Suryakiran, crashed in Bidar, Karnataka.
- ◆ **1958** : The Copyright Act of was enacted.
- ◆ **1945** : Freedom fighter Rash Bihari Bose died.

Current Affairs Related to 21 January

- ◆ The Defense Ministry has suggested a rotational plan, in which each state and union territory will be given a chance to present its tableau once in a three-year cycle. Every year around 15 tableaux are selected for the Republic Day Parade, making it challenging to include every state every year. The proposed scheme aims to ensure equitable distribution and fair representation for all.
- ◆ Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs and Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri has stressed the importance of setting up and maintaining strong Grievance Redressal Committees under the Street Vendors Act 2014 to resolve disputes and conflicts among street vendors. He said that street vendors have long played an important role in the urban informal economy. And the Ministry is committed to creating a supportive and empowering environment for street vendors across the country.
- ◆ Female horse rider Divyakriti Singh has been honored with the Arjuna Award. She has become the first female horse rider to receive the Arjuna Award, one of the country's most prestigious sports awards. President Draupadi Murmu honored Divyakriti Singh with the Arjuna Award in a function organized at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Divyakriti is the only woman from Rajasthan to receive the Arjuna Award in the last five years.
- ◆ India's expeditionary ship MV Vasily Golovin set out from Cape Town on her 43rd ISEA voyage to Antarctica. This expedition includes 21 members from India, one from Bangladesh and two from Mauritius. Two helicopters, Aerospace 350 B3 and a Kamov 32, have been deployed for air support in this operation.
- ◆ France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore and Spain jointly top the world's most powerful passport rankings, boasting visa-free or visa on arrival access to 194 destinations, a historic milestone.
- ◆ IIT Madras has decided to open a new campus in Kandy, Sri Lanka. A team of academicians will be sent to IIT Madras by the Government of Sri Lanka before the establishment of the new campus.
- ◆ Insurance is a contractual arrangement in the form of a policy that provides financial protection to individuals or entities against loss of their property. This includes reimbursement from the insurance company for both minor and major damages. This financial protection is contained in a legal agreement known as an insurance policy, which is an agreement between the insured person/entity and the insurer.
- ◆ South Korea's parliament passed a landmark bill ending the centuries-old dog meat consumption. The law bans both eating and selling dog meat, reflecting a change amid concerns about animal welfare. South Korea's Parliament made history by passing an unprecedented bill banning the eating and selling of dog meat. The move marks the end of a centuries-old practice that has been increasingly criticized in the face of growing support for animal welfare.
- ◆ Germany triumphed over Poland at the United Cup, with Alexander Zverev and Laura Siegmund securing a hard-fought win against Hubert Hurkacz and Inga Swiatek in the deciding mixed doubles match.
- ◆ The Indian Navy increased its presence in the Pacific region with the arrival of P.81 aircraft in Guam, US. The deployment marks the Navy's participation in the fourth edition of Exercise Sea Dragon 24, an anti-submarine warfare exercise led by the US Navy. Exercise Sea Dragon 24 promotes cooperation and interoperability between the navies of the US, Australia, South Korea, Japan, and India. The objective of the exercise is to refine coordination and communication through professional interactions both on the ground and in the air.



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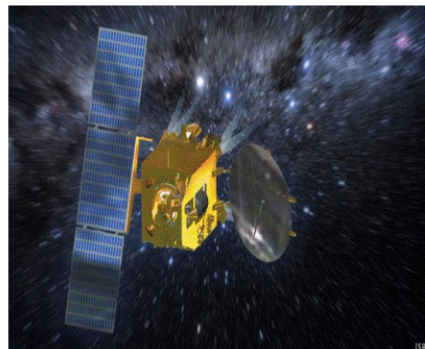
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National & International Current Affairs

1. By which month will the European Space Agency's Proba-3 mission be launched by ISRO's PSLV?

- (A) March (B) June
(C) August (D) September

(D) The European Space Agency's Proba-3 mission will be launched by ISRO's PSLV in September. In this, two small satellite coronagraph spacecraft and a solar-disk shaped occulter spacecraft will be launched simultaneously. According to the European Space Agency, flying at a distance of about 150 meters, Occulter will precisely cast its shadow on the coronagraph telescope, blocking direct sunlight.



2. Recently, by the financial year 2027-2028, India will be the third largest economy in the world with an economy of how many trillion dollars?

- (A) 2 trillion (B) 4 trillion
(C) 5 trillion (D) 6 trillion

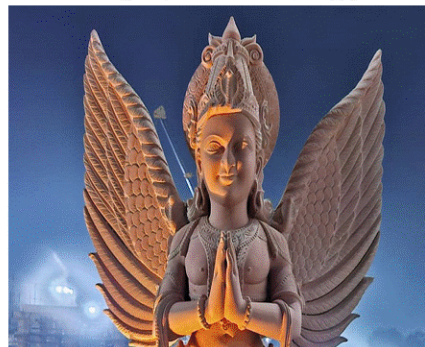
(C) Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has expressed confidence that by the financial year 2027-2028, India will be the third largest economy in the world with an economy of 5 trillion dollars and by 2047, India will become a developed economy with a GDP of 30 trillion dollars. At present, India's economy is worth 3.4 trillion dollars and America is the fifth largest economy after China, Japan and Germany.



3. Which state government will recently launch Ramlala Darshan Scheme for Ayodhya pilgrimage?

- (A) Maharashtra (B) Karnataka
(C) Chhattisgarh (D) Uttar Pradesh

(C) Chhattisgarh government will start Ramlala Darshan Yojana, a pilgrimage to the newly constructed Ram temple in Ayodhya. This decision was taken during the state cabinet meeting held in Raipur. Shri Ram Lalla Darshan Scheme To fulfill Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guarantee, the state will send around 20,000 residents every year to Ayodhya for darshan of Shri Ram Lalla.



4. Who recently released the book titled Modi: Energizing a Green Future?

- (A) Amit Shah (B) Bhupendra Yadav
(C) Piyush Goyal (D) Narendra Modi

(B) Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav, who heads the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, recently unveiled an insightful book titled Modi: Energizing a Green Future. An important addition to the environmental literature, this book is published by Pentagon Press in collaboration with Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee Research Foundation.



5. Recently the Chief Minister of which state inaugurated the Malkangiri Airport?

- (A) Odisha (B) Kerala
(C) Jharkhand (D) Himachal Pradesh

(A) Recently, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the new airport in Malkangiri. Spread over an area of 233 acres, the airport is located at Katlaguda in Goudaguda Panchayat area. An official said that it has been developed at a cost of Rs 70 crore and its runway is 1620 meters long and 30 meters wide.





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6. What position has the Indian passport held in the recently released Henley Passport Index 2024?

- (A) 52nd (B) 62nd
(C) 80th (D) 101st

(C) Indian passport has been ranked 80th in the recently released Henley Passport Index 2024. The Indian passport is currently the 80th most powerful passport in the world along with the Uzbekistan passport as it gives Indians visa-free access to 62 countries. Indians can travel visa-free to countries including Bhutan, British Virgin Islands, Barbados, Thailand, Jordan, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Mauritius and Indonesia.



7. In which city has the Defense Secretary recently inaugurated BEL's Hi-Tech Auditorium Abhigyan?

- (A) Pune (B) Ghaziabad
(C) Bengaluru (D) Ahmedabad

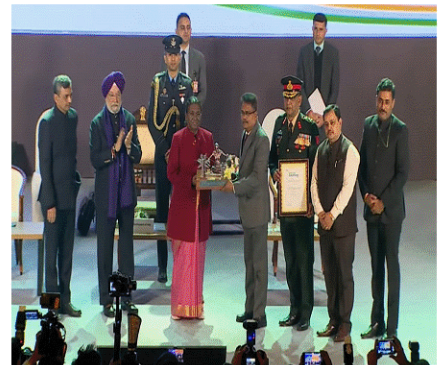
(B) Defense Secretary Girdhari Armane inaugurated the Abhigyan Auditorium in Ghaziabad. The Defense Secretary said it would tie together the three services. BEL can play an important role in ensuring this. He said that Abhigya Auditorium will be for the scientific community. BHEL engineers and scientists should come forward with this new beginning.



8. Which city has emerged as the cleanest city in the recent Swachh Survekshan 2023?

- (A) Indore (B) Surat
(C) A and B both (D) None of these

(C) Indore jointly won the title of cleanest city for the seventh time, sharing the honor with Surat. President Draupadi Murmu presented the commendation to 13 prestigious award winners in various cleanliness categories at the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023 at a prestigious ceremony organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.



9. Which country has recently launched the Green Fuel Alliance in India?

- (A) France (B) Saudi Arabia
(C) Denmark (D) None of these

(C) Recently Denmark has announced its Green Fuels Alliance India initiative to promote collaborative efforts between the two countries in the field of sustainable energy solutions and advance their joint global goal towards carbon neutrality. The primary objective of GFAI is to promote sustainable energy development in India by establishing such an ecosystem.



10. Recently, scientists from Bangladesh and which country have participated in India's Antarctic expedition?

- (A) Bhutan (B) Mauritius
(C) Myanmar (D) China

(B) Recently, scientists from Bangladesh and Mauritius joined India's Antarctic expedition. Indian expedition ship MV Vasily Golovin set out from Cape Town on its 43rd ISEA voyage to Antarctica. This campaign includes 21 members from India, one from Bangladesh and two from Mauritius.

