

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

20th Dec 2022

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ International Human Solidarity Day

- International Human Solidarity Day (IHSD) is observed annually on December 20 across the globe to celebrate the ideal of unity in diversity.
- The celebration of the International Day of Human Solidarity is a significant step in the aim of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030, to eradicate poverty in all its forms across the globe.
- As per the United Nations Millennium Declaration published on September 18, 2000, the word 'solidarity' was added to the UN as one of the fundamental values that are to be essential for international relations.
- On December 20, 2002, the UN General Assembly introduced a World Solidarity Fund to help counter global poverty. This got included in the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) trust fund in February 2003. To commemorate the above day, the UN declared December 20 as International Human Solidarity Day.

❖ Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times

- Author: Michelle Obama

❖ Jammu and Kashmir's Sargam Koushal wins 'Mrs World 2022'

- India's Sargam Kaushal has been crowned 'Mrs World 2022' in an event that took place at Las Vegas.
- Sargam Koushal was named Mrs World 2022, beating contestants from 63 countries to bring the title back to India after 21 years.
- Mrs Polynesia was named the first runner-up, followed by Mrs Canada as the second runner-up.

- Hailing from Jammu and Kashmir, Sargam also won the Mrs. India World 2022-23 back in June this year, which led her to represent India internationally.
- Earlier, in 2001, the actor-model Aditi Govitrikar brought Mrs World title in India.
- Meanwhile, Mrs. World, the first pageant for married women, was established in 1984.
- It was first known as Mrs Woman of the World before being renamed Mrs World in 1988.
- More than 80 nations have entered Mrs. World over the years, with Americans producing the majority of the victors.

❖ **NMDC wins IEI Industry Excellence Award 2022**

- National Miner NMDC won the coveted IEI (Institution of Engineers, India) Industry Excellence Award 2022 on 16th December, 2022 in Chennai.
- On behalf of NMDC, Shri N R K Prasad, CGM (IE & MS), received the award from Dr. K Ponmudy, Minister for Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- NMDC, the largest producer of iron ore in the country, was honoured at the 37th Indian Engineering Congress for its outstanding performance and high level of business excellence.
- NMDC was incorporated in 1958 as a Government of India public enterprise.

❖ **Ashwini Vaishnaw appointed as first Chancellor of Gati Shakti University**

- Union Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw has been appointed as the Chancellor of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, Vadodara, by President Smt. Draupadi Murmu. President also appointed Dr Manoj Chaudhary as the first Vice Chancellor of Gati Shakti University, Vadodara.
- Gati Shakti University was granted the central status by the Union Cabinet in July 2022.
- Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti Yojana was announced by PM Modi on 15th August 2021 on the 75th Independence Day.
- The objective of the scheme is to cut logistics costs, increase cargo handling capacity, reduce costs and reduce turnaround time at ports to promote trade

❖ **Leo Varadkar re-elected as the Prime Minister of Ireland**

- Indian-origin Leo Varadkar, former Irish Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the Fine Gael party, has been elected as the new prime minister of Ireland.
- Varadkar replaced Micheal Martin as Taoiseach (premier) in a rotation between his Fine Gael and Martin's Fianna Fail parties that is unprecedented in Irish history.
- This is the second time that Varadkar has been elected as Irish prime minister. He first became the Irish prime minister in June 2017.
- In 2015, before Ireland's referendum legalising same-sex marriage, Varadkar came out publicly as gay.
- The Republic of Ireland is a western European country which shares a boundary with Great Britain.

❖ **Ferry service to start between India and Sri Lanka**

- According to the Sri Lankan Ports, Shipping, and Civil Aviation Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva a passenger ferry service between Kankesanthurai port in Jaffna district and Karaikal ports in Puducherry will start in January 2023.
- In 2011 a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the two countries to start ferry service between the two countries.
- In 2018 India provided \$45.27 million for upgrading the Kankesanthurai harbour into a commercial port.
- The ferry service between Tamil Nadu and the Northern part of Sri Lanka which is dominated by Sri Lanka Tamils was disrupted in 1980's due to the civil war in Sri Lanka.
- After the end of the civil war in Sri Lanka in 2009, efforts were made to revive the old transportation link between the two countries.

❖ **India ranked 3rd globally in the publication of scientific papers**

- Union Minister for Science and Technology, Jitendra Singh has revealed that India had jumped from 7th to 3rd in global scientific publications and scholarly output, according to a report by America's National Science Foundation.
- India also ranks third globally in the number of PhDs produced annually. In a similar upward trend, the number of patents granted by the India Patents Office to Indian scientists has more than doubled in just the last four years.
- India's scholarly output increased from 60,555 papers in 2010 to 1,49,213 papers in 2020.
- China leads the world in the publication of the maximum number of scientific papers followed by The United States of America.

❖ **Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2022**

- The 2022 Global Food Security Index (GFSI) report was released by the British weekly The Economist. The 11th Global Food Security Index shows a deterioration in the global food environment for the third year, threatening food security.
- In this report, South Africa overtook Tunisia to become the most food-secure country in Africa.
- Widening food security gap: In 2022, 8 of the top 10 performing countries are in Europe, with Finland topping the list with a score of 83.7. It is followed by Ireland (scoring 81.7) and Norway (scoring 80.5). These countries have received high scores on all 4 pillars of the GFSI. The non-European countries in the top 10 list are Japan and Canada.
- India is ranked at 68th position along with Algeria with the overall score of 58.9. China's position is at 25th with the score of 74.2.
- India was ranked at 71st position in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 of 113 countries with an overall score of 57.2 points on the GFS Index 2021.

❖ **Missile destroyer INS Mormugao commissioned into Indian Navy**

- The second of the Project 15B stealth-guided missile destroyers built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDSL), INS Mormugao (Pennant D67), has been commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- The ship, named after a key port in Goa, was commissioned in Mumbai naval dockyard a day before the Goa Liberation Day celebrations.
- The ship is 163 metres long and 17 metres wide, displaces 7400 tonnes when fully loaded and has a maximum speed of 30 knots.
- The keel of Mormugao was laid in June 2015 and the ship was launched on September 17, 2016. The design has largely maintained the hull form, propulsion machinery, a lot of platform equipment and major weapons and sensors.
- Over the last decade, the Indian Navy has commissioned three guided missile destroyers of the Kolkata class — INS Kolkata, INS Kochi, and INS Chennai — under the project codenamed 15A.
- All these ships were built by MDSL, one of the country's most important Defence PSUs.

❖ **NASA Launches International Mission to Survey Earth's Water**

- The US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched the newest Earth science satellite to track nearly all the water on Earth's surface.
- The Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) spacecraft was launched atop a SpaceX rocket from Space Launch Complex 4E at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California with a prime mission of three years.
- The satellite will measure the height of water in freshwater bodies and the ocean on more than 90 per cent of Earth's surface.
- According to NASA, SWOT will cover the entire Earth's surface between 78 degrees south and 78 degrees north latitude at least once every 21 days, sending back about one terabyte of unprocessed data per day.

❖ India win's blind T20 world cup

- The Indian national blind cricket team made history as they won the T20 World Cup for the Blind for the third consecutive time.
- They beat Bangladesh by an impressive margin of 120 runs at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru.
- For India, captain Ajay Kumar Reddy (100 runs) and Sunil Ramesh (136 runs) emerged as the star performers, scoring remarkable centuries.
- The Indian national blind cricket team is affiliated with the Cricket Association for the Blind (CABI), which is independent of BCCI.

❖ Women's FIH Nations Cup 2022

- The Indian women Hockey team led by Captain Savita Punia beat Spain 1-0 in the final to win the inaugural FIH Nations Cup played at Valencia, Spain.
- The inaugural FIH Nations cup was held in Valencia, Spain from 11-17 December 2022.

IACE'S UNIQUE INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS



IACE'S
PQRE
CHAMPIONSHIP

EVERY WEDNESDAY
8:30AM TO 9:00AM

1 ST Prize	3000	3 RD Prize	1000
2 ND Prize	2000	4 TH & 5 TH Prize	500

6TH TO 10TH APPRECIATION PRIZES