

❖ **National Mathematics Day**

- National Mathematics Day is celebrated on December 22 across the nation every year.
- The National Mathematics Day is marked to recognise and celebrate the works of Srinivasa Ramanujan.
- Srinivasa Ramanujan, the Indian mathematical genius, was born on this day in 1887. This year nation celebrates his 135th birth anniversary of Ramanujan.
- The day was announced on 26 February 2012 by the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to mark the 125th anniversary of the birth of the Indian mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan (22 Dec 1887- 26 Apr 1920). 2012 was also observed as National Mathematics Year.
- The 2015 movie ‘The Man Who Knew Infinity’ was released based on Srinivasa Ramanujan’s biography.
- 1729 is called Ramanujan number as It’s the smallest number expressible as the sum of two cubes in two different ways. Hence it is known as the Ramanujan-Hardy number.

❖ **‘The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage’**

- Author: Commodore Ranjit B Rai (Retd) and defence journalist Aritra Banerjee.

❖ **PT Usha nominated to Vice-chairman panel**

- Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has nominated legendary former athlete PT Usha to the panel of vice-chairperson in the upper house of the Parliament.
- PT Usha was also elected as the president of the Indian Olympic Association recently.
- PT Usha (Pilavullakandi Thekkeparambil Usha) to use her full name, is one of India’s greatest athletes, often called the country’s “queen of track and field”.

➤ The queen of Indian track and field for two decades, the woman who was nicknamed ‘Payyoli Express’, ‘Udanpari’, and ‘Golden Girl’ because of her speed on the race-track, Pilavullakandi Thekke parampil Usha (P.T. Usha) needs no introduction.

❖ Major General Mohit Seth takes over as GoC Kilo Force

➤ Major General Mohit Seth has taken over as the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Counter Insurgency Force Kilo.

❖ Sethrichem Sangtam gets first Rohini Nayyar prize for rural development

➤ Sethrichem Sangtam, who helped triple the incomes of 1,200 marginalised farmers in Eastern Nagaland, was awarded the first Rohini Nayyar prize for outstanding contribution to rural development.

➤ Sangtam, 40, was presented with cash prize of Rs 10 lakh, a citation, and trophy at a ceremony.

➤ He was awarded the prize by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery.

➤ The award has been instituted by the family of late Dr. Rohini Nayyar, an eminent scholar-administrator who worked on issues related to rural development.

➤ She spent two decades in Planning Commission where she helped conceptualise NREGA and India Human Development Report.

❖ Digital India Awards 2022

➤ The Smart Cities Mission recently won the Platinum Icon in the Digital India Awards 2022 for their initiative ‘Data Smart Cities: Empowering Cities through Data’.

➤ The Smart Cities Mission won the award under the ‘Data Sharing and Use for Socio-Economic Development’ category.

➤ This category ‘emphasizes on sharing of Government Data by Ministries/Departments/Organizations, States, Cities and ULBs to create a vibrant data for analysis, decision-making, innovation etc.

➤ The initiative is a key step in creating a robust data ecosystem that enables evidence-based decision-making in cities.

➤ The Digital India Awards (DIA) is a prestigious National competition that seeks to encourage and honour innovative digital solutions by government entities in realising the Digital India vision.

➤ These are conducted by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY).

❖ **Country's first Green Steel Brand "KALYANI FeRRESTA"**

➤ Union Steel Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia has launched India's first Green Steel Brand "KALYANI FeRRESTA" in New Delhi.

➤ This first-of-its-kind steel has been manufactured by a Pune-based Steel company, Kalyani group by using renewable energy resources, leaving zero carbon footprints in the environment. Green steel is the manufacturing of steel without the use of fossil fuels.

➤ This new phenomenon is about producing steel by using low-carbon energy sources such as hydrogen, coal gasification, or electricity instead of the traditional carbon-intensive manufacturing route of coal-fired plants.

➤ Sweden has become the first country in the world to manufacture fossil-free steel which is also known as green steel.

❖ **UAE to host next World Trade Organisation meeting in 2024**

➤ The UAE will host the next ministerial conference of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in the first quarter of 2024.

➤ The WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from June 12 to June 17. It was originally meant to be held in Kazakhstan in 2020, but was postponed due to the pandemic.

➤ The last time the conference was held in the Gulf was in 2001 in Doha, which resulted in China being approved as the 143rd member.

➤ The Ministerial Conference is the topmost decision-making body of the WTO and usually meets every two years.

➤ The inaugural Ministerial Conference was held in Singapore in 1996.

❖ **Intanki National Park**

➤ Ten captive-bred Asian Giant Tortoise (*Manouria emys*) juveniles were released into a protected area of Nagaland's Intanki National Park.

➤ The soft release of Asian Giant Tortoise is an attempt to boost conservation and repopulating the species. The soft release is a process of gradually releasing captive-raised species into the wild.

➤ Distribution: They are found in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, and Malaysia and other places.

➤ Threats: Hunting for consumption, habitat loss, anthropogenic activities like construction and slash and burn.

➤ Conservation Status

-IUCN :Critically Endangered

-CITES :Appendix II

-Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 : Schedule IV

➤ Intanki National Park is also known as the Ntangki National Park, which was established by British administrators in the year 1923.

❖ **AYURSWASTHYA Yojana**

➤ Currently, the Ministry of Ayush is running a Scheme namely, AYURSWASTHYA Yojana.

➤ It is a Central Sector Scheme.

➤ It is having two components

-AYUSH and Public Health (PHI) and

-Centre of Excellence (CoE) from the Financial Year 2021-22 by merging two erstwhile schemes of this Ministry namely

- Central Sector Scheme of Grant-in-Aid for Promotion of AYUSH Intervention in Public Health Initiatives (PHI) and
- Central Sector Scheme for assistance to AYUSH organizations (Government / Non-Government Non-Profit) engaged in AYUSH Education/ Drug Development & Research / Clinical Research etc. for upgradation to Centre of Excellence (CoE).
- Under the Centre of Excellence component of AYURSWASTHYA Yojana, financial assistance is provided to eligible individual organizations/institutes for establishing and upgrading their functions & facilities and/or for research & development activities in AYUSH.
- The maximum admissible financial assistance under the Centre of Excellence component of AYURSWASTHYA Yojana, to an organization/institute is 10.00 crores for maximum period of three years.

❖ **Vainu Bappu 40-inch Telescope**

- On the celebrations of 50 years of operations of the Vainu Bappu 40-inch telescope, several stellar discoveries of the telescope were highlighted. The celebrations were held on the 15th and 16th of December 2022 in Kavalur, Tamil Nadu.
- The telescope set up by Professor Vainu Bappu has played a significant role in astronomy with major discoveries like the presence of rings around the planet Uranus, a new satellite of Uranus, the presence of an atmosphere around Ganymede which is a satellite of Jupiter.
- Several important kinds of research were conducted with the telescope, including the discovery and study of many 'Be Stars', Lithium depletion in giant stars, optical variability in Blazars, and the dynamics of the famous supernova SN 1987A.

❖ Social Progress Index (SPI)

- Social Progress Index (SPI) for States and Districts is made by the Institute for Competitiveness and Social Progress Imperative. Based on the SPI scores, states and districts have been ranked under six tiers of social progress.
- Tier 1: Very High Social Progress; Tier 2: High Social Progress; Tier 3: Upper Middle Social Progress; Tier 4: Lower Middle Social Progress; Tier 5: Low Social Progress; and Tier 6: Very Low Social Progress.
- Puducherry has the highest SPI score of 65.99 in the country, attributable to its remarkable performance across components like Personal Freedom and Choice, Shelter, and Water and Sanitation. Lakshadweep and Goa closely follow it with scores of 65.89 and 65.53, respectively. Jharkhand and Bihar scored the lowest
- Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, and Goa have emerged as the best-performing states for the Foundations of Wellbeing. Within the dimension for the Access to Basic Knowledge component, Punjab has the highest component score of 62.92, while Delhi has topped the list for Access to Information and Communication with a score of 71.30. For Health and Wellness, Rajasthan has the highest component score of 73.74. For Environmental Quality, the top three states belong to the northeast region, namely, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Meghalaya.

❖ 9th Pro Kabaddi League

- Jaipur Pink Panthers won the Pro Kabaddi League Season 9 Final against a hard-fighting Puneri Paltan by a score of 33-29 to win their second PKL championship.
- After Patna, Jaipur Pink Panthers, the league's first-ever winners, are currently only the second team to win multiple titles.
- WINNERS: Jaipur Pink Panthers: Rs 3 crore, RUNNERS UP : Puneri Paltan: Rs 1.80 crore
- Most Valuable Player of the Season: Arjun Deshwal (Pink Panthers) Rs 20 lakh
- Raider of the Season: Bharat (Bengaluru Bulls) Rs 15 lakh
- Defender of the Season: Ankush (Pink Panthers) Rs 15 lakh
- Young Player of the Season: Narender (Bengaluru Bulls) Rs 8 lakh.



IACE'S

W - CAT

(Weekly Current Affairs Test)

CHAMPIONSHIP

(EVERY MONDAY)

9:00AM TO 9:30AM

1ST Prize

3000

3RD Prize

1000

2ND Prize

2000

4TH & 5TH Prize

500

6TH TO 10TH : APPRECIATION PRIZES