

# IACE

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

**23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2022** | **DESCRIPTIVE**

### ❖ **Dinesh Kumar Shukla appointed as the chairman of AERB**

- Senior nuclear scientist Dinesh Kumar Shukla has been appointed as the chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) for a period of three years.
- Shukla, who has been the executive director of the AERB, succeeds G Nageswara Rao to the top post.
- He has been associated with the commissioning of high-flux research reactor Dhruva and later, held the positions of reactor superintendent of the Dhruva Research Reactor and the head of the Reactor Operations Division (ROD) at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).
- He was the chairman of the Advisory Committee on Occupational Health for BARC Facilities and Unit Level Safety Committee for Medical and Other Facilities.

### ❖ **IEX becomes India's first carbon-neutral power exchange**

- Indian Energy Exchange (IEX), India's leading and premier energy market platform, has become a Carbon Neutral Power Exchange.
- IEX is now India's first carbon-neutral Power Exchange, using market based tradable instruments to offset its carbon emissions.
- IEX's commitment towards climate mitigation will support corporates and industries who want to be associated with an environmentally responsible organisation and will enable them to contribute towards the critical challenge of climate change.
- The recently concluded COP 27 reiterated the need to ramp-down GHG emissions.
- India has set a target to net zero emissions by 2070.

### ❖ India longest 'escape tunnel' opens in Kashmir

- India's longest escape tunnel, which is 12.89 km long constructed on the 111 km under-construction Banihal-Katra railway line in Jammu and Kashmir was completed by the Indian Railways.
- The longest tunnel is part of the Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line (USBRL) project.
- This is the fourth tunnel on the Banihal-Katra route following the 12.75 km tunnel T-49, the longest tunnel of the Indian Railways, which was completed in January this year.
- The tunnel was constructed by the New Austrian Tunnelling Method (NATM), which is a modern technique of drill and blast processes.

### ❖ Assam grants Industry Status to tourism sector in the state

- The Assam cabinet has approved the proposal for grant of industry status to the tourism sector in the state, to boost investments and generate employment.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced the tourism sector of the state as an industry and extended incentives available under State Industrial Policy to tourism sector.
- The newly-implemented policy aims for sustainable and environmentally friendly investment besides capital formation and the creation of gainful employment.

### ❖ Indore gets the Country's First Infantry Museum

- The country's first Infantry Museum has been opened for the general public at Mhow, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- This museum is the first in the country and second in the world. Before this, such a museum has been built in America.
- The world's first National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center is located outside the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning in Columbus Georgia. The 190,000-square-foot museum opened in June 2009.

## ❖ India's 1st human space flight to be launched in end of 2024

- Jitendra Singh, minister of state (independent charge) of science and technology, atomic energy and space, said the crewed Gaganyaan mission—H1 mission is being targeted to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- Singh added that the uncrewed 'G1' mission is targeted to be launched in the last quarter of 2023 followed by the second uncrewed 'G2' mission in the second quarter of 2024, before the final human space flight 'H1' mission in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- The astronauts under this mission, who have been selected from the Indian Air Force, are currently undergoing mission-specific training in Bengaluru.
- Isro's Gaganyaan project envisages demonstration of human spaceflight capability by launching crew of three members to an orbit of 400km for a three-day mission and bring them back safely to earth, by landing in Indian sea waters.

## ❖ UNESCO's latest tentative list of World Heritage Sites from India

- Two heritage sites from Gujarat the Sun Temple at Modhera and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's hometown Vadnagar both in Mehasana district, have found place among the three sites from India that were added to the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- The third site added to the list is rock-cut relief sculptures of Unakoti in Tripura.
- The temple description states that it is built in Maru-gurjara architectural style.
- Gujarat so far has four World Heritage Sites: Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park, Rani ki Vav (Queen's Stepwell), Historic City of Ahmedabad and Dholavira. The Wild Ass Sanctuary in Little Rann of Kutch has been on the tentative list since 2006.

## ❖ Viacom18 gets Olympic Games Paris 2024 Broadcast Rights

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that Viacom18 Media Private Limited (Viacom18) has secured the exclusive media rights to broadcast the Olympic Games Paris 2024, plus non-exclusive rights to the Winter Youth Olympic Games Gangwon 2024, in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

### ❖ **INS Arnala: Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft**

- The Indian Navy launched 'Arnala', the first of the eight indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft (ASW-SWC), at the shipbuilding facility of L&T in Chennai's Kattupall.
- Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), 'Arnala' made its first contact with the water of the Bay of Bengal.
- The ship has been named 'Arnala' to signify the strategic maritime importance accorded to the island of Arnala, located about 13 kilometres north of Vasai, Maharashtra, by Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

### ❖ **Oscars 2023: The Last Show And RRR's Naatu Naatu gets Shortlisted**

- The Gujarati-language Chhello Show (The Last Show), which is India's official entry for the 2023 Academy Awards or Oscars awards in the International Feature film category, has been shortlisted for next year's Academy Awards.
- Meanwhile, the track Naatu Naatu from SS Rajamouli's RRR has been shortlisted in the Best Original Song Category.
- India's history with the Oscar entries for the last few years were – Koozhangal, Jallikattu, Gully Boy, Village Rockstars, Newton, Visaranani, all of which have failed to make the Oscar shortlist.
- The only Indian films to have been nominated for an Oscar so far have been Mother India, Salaam Bombay and Lagaan.
- Bhanu Athaiya is the first person from India to win Oscar. She is a famous costume designer who won Oscar for the 1982 historical film Gandhi.

### ❖ **Gamaka exponent and Padma Shri awardee, H.R Keshava Murthy passes away**

- H.R. Keshava Murthy, a senior gamaka exponent, who was honoured with Padma Shri earlier this year, passed away.
- He was born in a family of gamaka artists.

➤ Keshava Murthy has been honored with many awards including Shantala Natya Shri award, by the State government and different cultural organisations. The President honoured him with the Padma Shri this year.

➤ Gamaka, also known as kaavya vaachana, is a form of storytelling by singing that originated in Karnataka, India. One person reads a stanza of a poem with highest emphasis on meaning, applying suitable raga or a dhaati (melodic line), usually matching the emotion of the poem; the song generally has no established rhythm.

➤ Another person then explains the meaning of the stanza with examples and anecdotes.

### ❖ **Anushka Sharma roped in as brand ambassador of Puma India**

➤ The manufacturer and designer of casual and athletic footwear, Puma has roped in Bollywood actor and entrepreneur Anushka Sharma as its brand ambassador.

➤ The brand's other ambassadors in India include Kareena Kapoor Khan, MC Mary Kom, Yuvraj Singh, Sunil Chhetri, and most recently Harry Sandhu.

### ❖ **Delhi to host Asian Wrestling Championship in 2023**

➤ The United World Wrestling (UWW) announced the dates for the Asian Wrestling Championships 2023, which will take place in New Delhi, India, from March 28 to April 2.

➤ The Asian championship competitions will feature men's freestyle, women's freestyle, and men's Greco-Roman divisions.

➤ The Asian Championships will be held in New Delhi for the 36th time.

➤ Jalandhar served as the host city for the 1979 Asian Wrestling Championships, which were held in India. It was then held in Mumbai in 1987.

➤ Indian wrestlers earned 17 medals at the most recent Asian Championships, which were held in Mongolia last year, with one gold, five silver, and eleven bronze.



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