

**IACE**

# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023**

**DESCRIPTIVE**

## ❖ “Breaking Barriers: the Story of a Dalit Chief Secretary”

➤ Author: Kaki Madhava Rao

## ❖ Jason Moo appointed as CEO of Bank of Singapore

➤ Bank of Singapore (BoS), the private banking arm of Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation (OCBC), announced that it has appointed Jason Moo as its new CEO.

➤ Moo will succeed Bahren Shaari

➤ Formerly known as ING Asia Private Bank, it was acquired by OCBC Bank in 2009 from ING Group for US\$1.46 billion. As of 30 September 2022, Bank of Singapore’s assets under management was US\$109 billion

➤ Bank of Singapore was founded on 29 January 2010.

## ❖ World Habitat Award 2023

➤ Odisha won the UN-Habitat’s World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission, a 5T initiative of the state.

➤ Jaga mission is the world’s largest land titling and slum upgrading program which aims at empowering the lives of slum dwellers.

➤ The Government of Odisha has set itself the ambitious target of becoming the first slum-free state in India and is leading the Jaga Mission programme to upgrade all of the state’s 2,919 slums.

## ❖ Odakkuzhal Award 2022

➤ Writer Ambikasuthan Mangad has been selected for Odakkuzhal Award 2022 for his collection of short stories titled Pranavayu.

- The award consists of Rs 30,000, citation, and plaque. Instituted by the Guruvayurappan Trust, the award is being given for the best collection of short stories in Malayalam.
- The award will be presented on the occasion of the 45th death anniversary of Mahakavi G. Sankara Kurup, who established the Guruvayurappan Trust, on February 2.

### ❖ **Govt. names 27 overseas Indians for Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards**

- Guyana President Mohamed Irfaan Ali and renowned Canadian scientist Dr Vaikuntam Iyer Lakshmanan are among 27 recipients of the 2023 Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award -- the highest honour conferred on overseas Indians.
- The award will be conferred by President Droupadi Murmu as part of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, which will be held from January 8-10 in Indore.
- The Award is given by the President of India to honour exceptional and meritorious contributions in their chosen field/profession both in India and abroad.
- Kumar Nadesan, Managing Director of the 92-year-old Virakesari, published by Express Newspapers, is the only Sri Lankan among 27 others selected globally to receive the coveted Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award.

### ❖ **Varanasi Cantt Railway Station achieves 5-star rating**

- Indian Railways' Varanasi Cantt Railway Station has been awarded a 5- star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.
- This certification is granted by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to railway stations adhering to standard food storage and hygiene practices.
- The other railway stations with Star certification include Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Station (Delhi); Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Mumbai); Mumbai Central Railway Station, (Mumbai); Vadodara Railway Station, Chandigarh Railway Station and Bhopal Railway Station.

### ❖ **World's longest river cruise**

- The river cruise from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh to Dibrugarh in Assam via Bangladesh, billed as the world's longest, will be flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 13.
- The name of this Cruise is 'Ganga Vilas cruise'.
- The luxury cruise with foreign tourists will cover around 4,000 km of 27 river systems including Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly, Brahmaputra and West Coast Canal in India in a span of 50 days.
- The cruise will cover 50 major tourist sites, including some heritage sites, the famous Ganga Aarti at Varanasi and sanctuaries such as Kaziranga National Park and the Sundarbans Delta. The cruise will travel 1,100 km in Bangladesh.
- The Varanasi-Dibrugarh cruise is expected to be run on a public-private partnership (PPP) model. The government's Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has signed an agreement with Antara Luxury River Cruises and JM Baxi River Cruises for the initiative.

### ❖ **Mopa Airport to be Named After Manohar Parrikar.**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the naming of Greenfield International Airport at Goa's Mopa as Manohar International Airport after former Defence Minister and Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar.
- The airport has been built on the theme of sustainable infrastructure and comprises a solar power plant, green buildings, LED lights on the runway, rainwater harvesting, and a state-of-the-art sewage treatment plant with recycling facilities.
- On 24th October 2000, he became the Chief Minister of Goa for the first time.

### ❖ **Imoinu Eratpa Festival**

- Imoinu Day is celebrated in Manipur as a part of the Meitei Cultural ritual.
- The traditional festival of Imoinu Day is celebrated on the 12th day of the Meitei Lunar Month of Wakching.

➤ The festival is dedicated to the goddess Imoinu or Emoinu. In Meitei mythology, Imoinu is associated with household, hearth, kitchen, wealth, peace, and prosperity. She is also associated with the incarnations of the goddess Leimarel Sidabi.

### ❖ **Capt. Shiva Chouhan: 1st woman officer to be deployed at Siachen, world's highest battlefield**

- Captain Shiva Chouhan of the Indian Army's Fire and Fury Corps became the first woman officer to get operationally deployed at the world's highest battlefield, Siachen.
- The Fire and Fury Corps announced that officer Chauhan has been deployed to the Kumar Post after completing "arduous training."
- Capt Shiva Chouhan from Rajasthan is a Bengal Sapper.
- She is posted at the "Kumar Post" at an altitude of 15,632 feet where night temperatures are close to -25°C.
- The Kumar Post on Siachen Glacier is named after Col Narendra (Bull) Kumar, the noted Army mountaineer who led the first expedition to Siachen before India launched Operation Meghdoot in April 1984 to capture the glacier.
- Captain Shiva displayed grit and determination by successfully leading the Sura Soi Cycling Expedition from Siachen War Memorial to Kargil War Memorial conducted on the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas in July 2022, covering a distance of 508 km.

### ❖ **India takes over leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union**

- India will take over the leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) having its Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand from this month.
- APPU is an intergovernmental organization of 32-member countries of the Asian-Pacific region.
- The goal of APPU is to extend, facilitate and improve postal relations between member countries and to promote cooperation in the field of postal services.

➤ Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh, erstwhile Member (Personnel), Postal Services Board will take over the charge of Secretary General of the Union for a tenure of four years.

➤ This is the first time that an Indian is leading an international organization in the postal sector. Dr Singh will remain in office for 4 years.

### ❖ **China becomes the first country in Asia to launch Hydrogen powered passenger Train**

➤ China's CRRC Corporation Ltd. recently unveiled its first hydrogen urban train, which happens to be Asia's first hydrogen train.

➤ The hydrogen train gets a top speed of 160 km/h, and the operational range without refueling is 600 km (the record of 1175 km has been set this September by Coradia iLint serial train of Alstom in Germany).

➤ On the other hand, India is also moving fast to make its first-ever indigenous Hydrogen trains. As per various statements given by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, India will most likely get its first hydrogen train by 2023.

➤ Earlier, Germany became the first country to operate the world's first-ever hydrogen-powered passenger train fleet.

➤ The hydrogen train in Germany has been made by France's rail transport company Alstom.

➤ Hydrogen has been looked at as a potent replacement for fossil fuels in the transportation industry.

### ❖ **Silent Valley National Park**

➤ Silent Valley National Park ( Kerala ) in the last month identified 141 species of birds of which 17 were new species of birds.

➤ The bird survey was conducted at Silent Valley on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of December 2022 and marked the 30th Anniversary of the first bird survey in Silent Valley.

➤ P.K Uthaman and C.Sushant, the veteran birders were the only members of the 7th Survey team who had attended the first survey held in 1990.

## ❖ Dieback Disease

- The dieback disease was first reported in the country during the 1990s near Dehradun in Uttarakhand, while it was first noticed in Telangana in 2019.
- The dieback disease is mainly caused by the fungi *Phomopsis azadirachtae*.
- The dieback disease affects leaves, twigs and the inflorescence of neem trees of all ages and it causes almost 100% loss of fruit production in severely infected trees.
- The disease posing a threat to the neem trees has been identified as twig blight and dieback disease

### IACE'S UNIQUE INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

## IACE'S QUIZ WAR

# BATTLE OF BRAINS

## 6 TEAMS

## EACH TEAM 4 MEMBERS

### 5 SUBJECTS , 4 ROUNDS

- ◆ Q.A ◆ REASONING ◆ ENGLISH
- ◆ CURRENT AFFAIRS ◆ COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

**1<sup>ST</sup>** PRIZE

**10,000/-**

**2<sup>ND</sup>** PRIZE

**5,000/-**

**3<sup>RD</sup>** PRIZE

**3,000/-**