

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

07th Jan 2023

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ "Ambedkar: A Life"

➤ Author: Shashi Tharoor

❖ Saiyam Mehra elected as chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council

➤ The All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) its members have elected Saiyam Mehra as Chairman and Rajesh Rokde as Vice Chairman of the industry body for a period of two years (2023-24).

❖ Dr. Tapan Saikia honored with 'Asom Baibhav'

➤ The Assam government has announced the names of the recipients of the state's highest civilian awards for 2022-2023.

➤ The categories in which the awards will be given away by the Assam government are: Asom Baibhav, Asom Sourav and Asom Gourav.

➤ Asom Baibhav, the highest civilian award to be given away by the Assam government, will be conferred on Dr Tapan Saikia.

➤ Dr Saikia is one of the patrons of the Deesikha Foundation.

➤ Dr Tapan Saikia will be conferred with the Asom Baibhav award for his contributions towards creating awareness and early detection of cancer in Assam and other Northeast states.

➤ The winner of the Asom Baibhav award will receive a cash prize of Rs 5 lakhs and will be entitled to avail medical treatment at government expense for life.

➤ As many as four personalities have been selected for the Asom Sourav award for 2022-2023.

❖ **Spain to be theme country of International Kolkata Book Fair**

- Twenty-five eminent Spanish authors will be present at the 46th International Kolkata Book Fair where Spain will be the theme country.
- The fair will be held from January 31 to February 12 at the Central Park Mela Ground, which has been newly named Boimela Prangan, in Salt Lake near Kolkata.
- The Theme Country- Spain Day will be celebrated on January 31 while Children's Day will be celebrated on February 5.
- Thailand will be participating for the first time in the International Kolkata Book Fair.
- The 9th edition of Kolkata Literature Festival 2023, an integral part of the Book Fair, will be held at the auditorium of the fairground for 3 days, from February 9 to 11.

❖ **First G-20 meeting to take place in Puducherry**

- Puducherry Lieutenant governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan said that the first G-20 meeting will be held in Puducherry on January 31.
- She released stickers, posters, and badges and also inaugurated a Selfie booth in the presence of Chief Minister Rengasamy.
- A working group meeting will be held on health in Thiruvananthapuram, and Chennai.
- Kolkata will host the first meeting on the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion.
- While Guwahati will host the first sustainable financial meeting and Chandigarh will host the first financial architecture meeting.

❖ **World's First Palm-Leaf Manuscript Museum opens in Kerala's Thiruvananthapuram**

- The Palm Leaf Manuscript Museum, equipped with contemporary audio-visual technology, has been opened in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, by Kerala Chief Minister (CM) Pinarayi Vijayan.

- The "World's First Palm-Leaf Manuscript Museum" was established at a cost of Rs 3 crore by the Kerala Museum of History and Heritage and the Archives Department.
- The museum has a collection of intriguing artefacts from the 650-year-long Travancore kingdom, which included sociocultural, governmental, and economic aspects.
- Before it was turned into a museum, it had been the Central Vernacular Records Office since 1887.
- The museum stores 187 manuscripts at Central Archives and the department's regional offices in Ernakulam and Kozhikode. The manuscripts span 6 centuries From 1249 CE to 1896.
- The Museum houses manuscripts in ancient scripts such as Vattezhuthu, Kolezhuthu, Malayanma, and ancient Tamil and Malayalam.

❖ **India Deploys Its "Largest Single Unit Of UN Women Peacekeepers"**

- India will deploy a platoon of women peacekeepers to UN Mission in Sudan.
- This will be India's largest single unit of women Peacekeepers in a UN Mission since it deployed the first-ever all-women contingent in Liberia in 2007. The Indian contingent, comprising two officers and 25 Other Ranks, will form part of an Engagement platoon and specialize in Community outreach, though they will be performing extensive security-related tasks as well.
- The deployment in Abyei will also herald India's intent of increasing significantly the number of Indian women in Peacekeeping contingents.
- The operation has been tasked with monitoring the flashpoint border between north and south and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid and is authorized to use force in protecting civilians and humanitarian workers in Abyei.

❖ **Satellite made by 750 government school children to be launched by ISRO**

- Space Kidz India, a Chennai-based space tech startup is slated to launch their satellite made by 750 girls studying in government schools across the country aboard an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launch vehicle later this month.

- A targeted launch date of January 16 has been set for the satellite named AzaadiSAT, but it is subject to change due to various factors.
- Last year, Space Kidz's payloads were onboard Skyroot Aerospace's Vikram-S launch vehicle, the first Indian private rocket to launch into space.
- Space Kidz's payloads on Vikram S too were made by students. The payload, FunSAT, consisted of 80 experiments conducted by 160 students from India, the United States, Indonesia and other countries.

❖ **Scientists discovered an organism that hunts and eats viruses**

- Researchers at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln's have found a microscopic organism that feeds on viruses.
- They named it “virovore”.
- The team has found that a species of Halteria —microscopic ciliates that populate freshwater worldwide— can eat huge numbers of infectious chloroviruses that share their aquatic habitat.
- Chloroviruses are known to infect microscopic green algae.
- The findings of their research have been published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, which state that the effect of viruses on ecosystems extends beyond (and in contrast to) the viral shunt by redirecting energy up food chains.

❖ **Sunni Dam Hydro Electric Project**

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the investment for the 382 MW Sunni Dam Hydro Electric Project in Himachal Pradesh by SJVN Limited on 4 January 2022.
- The investment has received a heads-up for an estimated cost of Rs. 2614.51 crores including Rs. 13.80 crores as budgetary support from the Government for the cost of enabling infrastructure.

➤ The government has identified the state of Himachal Pradesh to have sufficient resources to generate surplus hydropower.

❖ **Pranesh M became India's 79th Grandmaster**

➤ Pranesh M became India's 79th Grandmaster, having completed his three norms prior to this event. IM Pranesh M emerged as the winner of the Rilton Cup, the first tournament of the FIDE Circuit.

➤ The 2022/2023 Rilton Cup, the strongest open tournament in Sweden, ran from December 27 to January 5 and brought together 136 players representing 29 national federations

❖ **Bronze statue of Belinda Clarke inaugurated at SCG**

➤ Australia's legendary woman cricketer Belinda Clark became the first female cricketer to be immortalised with a sculpture in the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) precinct.

➤ Clark's bronze statue has been installed at the entrance to the SCG's Walk of Honour and was revealed for the first time ahead of day two of the third men's Test against South Africa.

➤ The statue stands alongside that of Richie Benaud, Steve Waugh, Stan McCabe and Fred Spofforth, among other cricketers at the SCG.

➤ The sculpture is believed to be the first such honour afforded any women's cricketer in the world.

➤ Clark compiled a formidable record for Australia as a captain and batter, including 919 Test runs at 45.95 including two centuries in 15 Tests and 4844 One Day International runs at 47.49 including the first double century in a Women's ODI cricket.

➤ She was Australia's captain for 12 years and in 101 games and also led Australia to triumph in the 1997 and 2005 World Cups.

❖ **Divya Deshmukh won the National Chess Championship title**

➤ In the 48th National Women's Chess Championship, the 17-year-old Divya remained unbeaten and emerged as the queen of 64 squares in India for the second successive year.

➤ Last year at Bhubaneswar, Divya became the first teenager after India's best woman master Koneru Humpy to win the senior national title.

➤ Divya, who is 17 years old, played flawlessly throughout the competition's 11 rounds.

❖ Hyderabad to Host First-Ever Formula E World Championship Race

➤ The countdown of the first-ever ABB FIA Formula E World Championship race in India is to be held in Hyderabad. The Formula E World Championship will be held from 11th February.

➤ The government aims to make Hyderabad one of the top cities in the world by hosting Formula E World Championship.

➤ The event will be climate-friendly as it is a net zero-carbon sport.

➤ Hyderabad race on 11th February will be the fourth race of the season, season 9 of Formula E, the first three include Mexico City and Riyadh.

➤ A total of 11 teams with 23 cars with 22 cars would be racing here and they include some of the top racing companies.

➤ The world's fastest, lightest, most powerful, and most efficient electric race car, 'The Gen3' is coming to Hyderabad which is the highlight of the Formula E World Championship.

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