

❖ Droupadi Murmu presents President's Colour to INS Dronacharya

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the President's Colour to INS Dronacharya, Indian Navy's gunnery school at Fort Kochi.
- The President's Colour also known as the Nishaan is considered the highest honour that the President bestows on a unit for exceptional service to the nation.
- INS Dronacharya is a centre for excellence in gunnery and missile warfare. It has trained Coast Guard, paramilitary and police forces, apart from naval personnel from friendly countries.
- INS Dronacharya is also the nodal centre for training Sagar Prahari Bal (a unit of Indian Navy, which is responsible for patrolling India's coastal waters) and the Navy's centre for training several Indian Ocean Region (IOR) nations in constabulary operations.
- Governor of Kerala: Arif Mohammed Khan
- Chief Minister of Kerala: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Chief of Naval Staff Admiral: R. Hari Kumar

❖ CII CIES moves to T-hub

- As part of efforts to boost the Startup ecosystem in the country, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has set up a Centre of Excellence for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups (CII CIES) at T-Hub in Hyderabad in partnership with the Telangana government and Infosys co-founder Gopalakrishnan's Pratiksha Trust.
- CII is a non-government, not-for-profit organization which plays a proactive role in India's development process.

➤ CII was founded in 1895, Headquartered in New Delhi

❖ **Historian Dr Anand Raj Varma passed away**

➤ Varma is well known as the former Principal of Anwar Ul Uloom College.

➤ He anchored an Urdu television game show called Quizline.

➤ His passion for Urdu language, laured him with the lifetime achievement award from the Andhra Pradesh Urdu University.

➤ He authored a book called **Dastaan-e-Hyderabad.**

❖ **Zojila pass opens up again after 68 days of closure**

➤ Border Roads Organisation (BRO) opened the strategic Zojila Pass located in the Greater Himalayan Range at an altitude of 11,650 feet.

➤ Zojila Pass acts as the gateway between Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir.

➤ The snow clearance operations in this pass were undertaken from both sides of the pass by Project Beacon and Vijayak, located in J & K and Ladakh respectively.

➤ This pass remained closed for only 68 days this year as compared to 73 days last year and 160-180 days in the past.

➤ Razdan Pass which provides the only road connectivity between the Gurez Sector and the Kashmir Valley has also been reopened.

❖ **Green, self-powered Desalination plant in Lakshadweep to be set up by NIOT**

➤ Chennai-based National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) will set up a Desalination plant in Lakshadweep which is emission free.

➤ Desalination refers to the removal of salts and minerals from water.

There are two main types of desalination technologies :

(i) Reverse Osmosis

(ii) Thermal Desalination

- Reverse Osmosis (RO) desalination uses the principle of osmosis to remove salt and other impurities, by transferring water through a series of semi-permeable membranes.
- Low-temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) technique works on the principle that water in the ocean 1,000 or 2,000 feet below is about 4°C to 8° C colder than surface water.
- In 2005, National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), set up a 100,000 litre-a-day plant in Kavaratti, Lakshadweep islands and this has been providing water to about 10,000 residents. But it is powered by diesel generator.
- Currently there are five desalination plants in operation in the Lakshadweep islands. Four more are expected to be functioning in the upcoming months.
- The NIOT was established in 1993 as an autonomous society under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- Objective of NIOT: To develop reliable indigenous technologies to solve various engineering problems associated with harvesting of non-living and living resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) which is about two-thirds of the land area of India.
- Headquarters of NIOT – Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- ❖ **India approves capital acquisition of military hardware worth Rs. 70,584 crore**
- India approved the capital acquisition of indigenously-developed military hardware worth Rs. 70,584 crore as part of a mega procurement plan.
- This plan is expected to significantly boost domestic defence manufacturing.
- The approval to the procurement proposals was accorded by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

- All the procurement will be made under the Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) category.
- Out of the total proposals, Indian Navy proposals constitute more than Rs. 56,000 crore, which largely includes indigenous BrahMos missiles, Shakti Electronic Warfare systems and Utility Helicopters-Maritime.
- The DAC also approved Indian Air Force's proposal for long range stand-off weapon, which will be indigenously designed, developed and integrated on SU-30 MKI aircraft.

❖ **Rajiv Gandhi airport bags Skytrax award**

- The GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited announced that Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) has been adjudged as the 'Best Regional Airport in India and South Asia' in 2023 Skytrax World Airport Awards.
- The airport, voted by passengers, also bagged the award for the Best Airport staff in India and South Asia.
- The awards are based on World Airport Survey questionnaires completed by over 60 nationalities of airport customers during the six month survey period.
- The Skytrax for the airport Industry, voted by customers in the largest, annual global customer satisfaction survey.

❖ **Andhra Pradesh budget presented with an outlay of ₹ 2.79 lakh crore**

- The Andhra Pradesh government plans to spend ₹ 2.79 lakh crore in the fiscal year 2023-24 which is nearly 9% higher than the ₹2.56 lakh crore announced in the 2022-23 budget estimates (BE).
- Andhra Pradesh finance minister Buggana Rajendranath presents the annual state budget for 2023-23 in the legislative assembly.
- The revenue deficit for 2022-23 as per revised estimates is around ₹ 29,107 crore, whereas the fiscal deficit for the same period is around ₹ 47,716 crore, which amounts to 2.21% and 3.62% of the GSDP respectively.

➤ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister: Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy

➤ Governor: Abdul Nazeer

➤ Capital: Amaravati

❖ Gianni Infantino re-elected as FIFA president until 2027

➤ Gianni Infantino has been re-elected as president of FIFA until 2027 after standing unopposed at the congress of world football's governing body.

➤ The decision was made by the congress of 211 member federations, who have seen their annual funding from FIFA increase from \$250,000 to \$2 million since Infantino's first win in 2016.

➤ FIFA was founded on 21st May 1904

➤ FIFA Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland.

❖ Dane Van Niekerk Confirms Retirement from International Cricket

➤ Renowned Momentum Proteas all-rounder, Dané van Niekerk has confirmed her official retirement from all forms of international cricket after a career that spanned more than 14 years.

➤ The 29-year-old enjoyed an illustrious international career for South Africa, representing her country on 194 occasions, including 107 One-Day Internationals (ODI), 86 T20 Internationals (T20Is) and a single Test match against India in 2014.

❖ Rajesh Gopinathan resigns as TCS MD & CEO

➤ Rajesh Gopinathan, Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has tendered his resignation effective Sept 15.

➤ The company's board has nominated K Krithivasan as the CEO-designate. He will take over as the Managing Director and CEO in the next financial year, subject to shareholder's approval, the company said in an exchange filing.

➤ Gopinathan will continue with the company till September 15, 2023, to provide transition and support to his successor.

➤ For a company in existence for 55 years, TCS has had only four CEOs and Krithivasan will be the fifth. The company has had one of the most stable management teams in the industry.

❖ **Poland to be first NATO member to send fighter jets to Ukraine**

➤ Poland's president says that his country plans to give Ukraine around a dozen MiG-29 fighter jets, which would make it the first NATO member to fulfil the Ukrainian government's increasingly urgent requests for warplanes.

➤ President Andrzej Duda said that Poland would hand over four of the Soviet-made warplanes "within the next few days" and that the rest needed servicing and would be supplied later.

➤ The debate over whether to provide non-NATO country Ukraine with fighter jets started last year, but NATO allies expressed concern about escalating the alliance's role in the war.

➤ Ukraine President: Volodymyr Zelenskyy

➤ Ukraine capital: Kyiv.

❖ **Navy deploys P-8I for drills with U.S. Navy in Guam**

➤ A P8I aircraft of the Indian Navy arrived at Guam, United States (USA) to participate in 'Exercise Sea Dragon 23', the third edition of the coordinated multi-lateral Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise for Long Range MR ASW aircraft, conducted by the US Navy.

➤ The exercise will stress on coordinated anti-submarine warfare amongst the participating countries: India, USA, Japan, Canada & South Korea. The complexity and scope of these exercises have increased steadily over the past years to include advanced ASW drills.

➤ The Exercise would witness representation by an Indian Navy P8I, along with P8A of the US Navy, P1 from the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force, CP 140 from the Royal Canadian Air Force and P3C from the Republic of Korea.

➤ Chief of Indian Navy: Admiral R. Hari Kumar

❖ **NIMAS team creates record cycling 5,374 kms. in six nations**

➤ A team of four officers at the National Institute of Mountaineering & Adventure Sports (NIMAS), Dirang in Arunachal Pradesh, created a national record in cycling by covering 5,374 kms. in 37 days across six South East Asian nations.

➤ The expedition team of four service personnel, presently posted with NIMAS, led by Director, NIMAS Col Ranveer Singh Jamwal cycled through six South East Asian Nations - Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

➤ The expedition commenced on January 16 from Hanoi in Vietnam and culminated on March 6 at Indian National Army (INA) memorial in Singapore.

➤ The team visited over 10 monuments and memorials and interacted with INA veterans, revisiting the stories of the sacrifice and bravery of INA. The team cycled across the entire length of Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.