

News Digest

NATIONAL

■ Nation Celebrates Janajatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15th November

The nation celebrated Janajatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15th November 2022 with various programmes to commemorate the contributions of tribal communities in India's history and culture. On the occasion, President Smt. Droupadi Murmu paid tributes to the statue of Bhagwan Birsa Munda at Ulihatu village in Khunti district of Jharkhand. The President also addressed a *Janajatiya Samagam* in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh, during which she said that the spirit of sacrificing everything in the interest of justice has been the speciality of the tribal society. "The history of freedom also includes several streams of struggles by the tribal communities," the President added.

■ India Will Not Rest Till Terrorism is Uprooted: PM Modi at 'No Money for Terror' Conference

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has emphasised that the world needs to unite against all kinds of covert and overt backing of terrorism as certain countries support terrorism as part of their foreign policy. He said this while addressing the third 'No Money for Terror' ministerial conference on counter-terrorism financing in New Delhi. He stressed that there must be a cost imposed on countries that support terrorism. While asserting that India will not rest till terrorism is uprooted, the PM said it is well known that terrorist groups get money through several sources and one source is state support. 450 delegates from over 70 countries, and multilateral organisations, met at the two day conference to deliberate on crucial issues including global trends in terrorism and terrorist financing, use of formal and informal channels of funds for terrorism, emerging technologies and terrorist financing, and international co-operation to address challenges in combating terrorist financing.



■ India's First Privately Built Space Rocket Launched Successfully by ISRO

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched the country's first privately built rocket (satellite launch vehicle), heralding a level-playing field for cost-efficient satellite launch services by disrupting the entry barriers. Vikram-S, designed and developed by Hyderabad-based space tech startup Skyroot Aerospace as part of its Prarambh Mission, was launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, on 18th November 2022. The 6-metre tall launch vehicle Vikram-S is named after Vikram Sarabhai, the father of India's space programme. The rocket carried three payloads from Space Kidz India, Bazoomq Armenia and N-Space Tech India. Prarambh is the maiden mission Skyroot Aerospace which has the support of ISRO as well as the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (INSPACe).

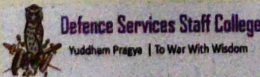


■ UGC Asks Higher Educational Institutions to Engage Industry Experts as Professors of Practice

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked higher educational institutions to initiate necessary steps to engage professionals and industry experts as Professors of Practice in their institutes. In a letter addressed to the Vice Chancellors of Universities and Principals of Colleges across the country, the UGC has observed one of the recommendations of National Education Policy 2020 is to impart holistic and multidisciplinary education in higher educational institutions and this may require the participation of experienced practitioners, professionals and industry experts in the teaching-learning process.

■ In a First, Women Candidates to Join Defence Services Staff College

For the first time in the history of the Indian Army, six women candidates have cleared the examination for the prestigious Defence Services Staff College, Wellington. At the college, candidates are taught and trained for crucial aspects of military staff service like tactics, law and military history. The completion of the course enables the personnel for staff appointment to Lt. Col. rank and also gives them an advantage in the promotions to the rank of Colonel, which takes place via selection. This is yet another step that ensures women officers have the same opportunities as their male counterparts to grow in ranks and structures within the Army. The Indian Army had granted permanent commission to women officers for the first time in 2021.



■ India Bags EXCELL Award for Leadership in Family Planning

In a significant development and recognition to the country's efforts in improving access to modern family planning methods, India has received the Leadership in Family Planning (EXCELL) Awards-2022 in the 'country category' at the International Conference on Family Planning held in Pattaya city, Thailand. India has made outstanding progress not only in improving access but also adoption of modern contraceptive methods enabling couples to make informed choices about family planning. These are reflected in the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)

- 5 data. As per NFHS-5 data, overall Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) has increased substantially from 54 percent to 67 percent in the country, from NFHS-4. Similarly, unmet needs of family planning have witnessed a significant decline from 13 per cent to 9 per cent. The unmet need for spacing has also come down to less than 10 per cent.

INTERNATIONAL

■ India Takes Over G20 Presidency as Bali Summit Concludes with Resolve to Fight Hunger

The G20 Summit held in Bali, Indonesia, concluded on 16th November with Indonesian President Joko Widodo symbolically handing over the G20 Presidency to Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi. India's Presidency of the G20 officially starts from 1st December 2022. India is taking charge of the G20 at a time when the world is grappling with geopolitical tensions, economic slowdown, rising food and energy prices and the long-term ill-effects of the pandemic. During the Summit in Bali, G20 nations expressed deep concern over the challenges posed to global food security exacerbated by current conflicts and tensions and expressed commitment to taking urgent actions to save lives, prevent hunger and malnutrition. In a declaration issued after the G20 Summit in Bali, the member nations called for an accelerated transformation towards sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems and supply chains. The declaration expressed commitment to protect the most vulnerable from hunger by using all available tools to address the global food crisis. Referring to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the declaration said it has adversely impacted the global economy.



■ India Stresses on More Effective Climate Finance at COP27

India has told the developed countries that access to finance and technology to developing countries is must to protect the Earth from apocalyptic changes. Delivering India's National Statement at COP27 in Egypt, Environment Minister Shri. Bhupender Yadav stressed that the world urgently needs a paradigm shift from mindless and destructive consumption to mindful and deliberate utilisation. He said that as the world's most populous democracy and a vibrant emerging economy, India seeks to lead by example. Raising concerns over the issue of climate finance, the Minister said that the commitment made by the developed countries to mobilize US\$ 100 billion from diverse sources by 2020 was a meager amount and remains unachieved till now. He added that the current needs of developing countries are estimated to be in the order of trillions. Furthermore, India has urged to developed countries not to make coal the lone villain as all fossil fuels contribute to the Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. India told the COP27 participants that selective singling out of sources of emissions, for either labelling them more harmful, or labelling them 'green and sustainable' even when they are sources of greenhouse gases, has no basis in the best available science.

ECONOMY

■ IFSCA, RBI Sign Pact for Supervision of Regulated Entities

The International Financial Services Centres Authority, IFSCA and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration in the field of regulation and supervision of regulated entities in their respective jurisdictions. The MoU also facilitates technical cooperation and exchange of information to strengthen the safety, stability and soundness of respective financial ecosystems, thereby ensuring environments conducive for optimal business development and economic growth. The IFSCA is a unified regulator responsible for development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centre(s), established across the country.

SPORTS

■ National Sports Awards 2022

As part of the National Sports Award 2022, Table Tennis player Sharath Kamal Achanta has been honoured with Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, 25 sportspersons including Seema Punia, Lakshya Sen, Nikhat Zareen, R. Praggnanandhaa, Deep Grace Ekka, Sushila Devi, Sagar Kailla Ovhalkar, Omprakash Mitharval, Vikas Thakur, Manasi Girishchandra Joshi and others have been chosen for the Arjuna Awards. Five coaches have been chosen for Dronacharya Award in the regular category and three coaches in lifetime category. Four sportspersons including Ashwini Akkunji C, Dharamvir Singh, B.C Suresh and Nir Bahadur Gurung have been honoured with the Dhyhan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement in Sports and Games. Three entities including And Lakadh Ski and Snowboard Association have been recommended for Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar. Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, has bagged the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy 2022.



(Source: AIR/PIB)