



## CURRENT AFFAIRS 16th November 2022

### National News

#### 1. National Press Day being observed today



- Today is National Press Day. The day is observed on 16th November every year to commemorate a free and responsible press.
- It was on this day that the Press Council of India started functioning as a moral watchdog to ensure that the press maintains high standards and is not fettered by any influence or threats.
- Since the year 1997, the Council has commemorated the day in a significant way through seminars with relevant themes.
- Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur will be the chief guest at the National Press Day Celebration in Delhi today.

## 2. India-US joint military training exercise Yudh Abhyas to begin today in Auli, Uttrakhand



- 18th edition of India-US joint military training exercise Yudh Abhyas will begin today in Auli, Uttrakhand.
- The 15-day-long exercise will focus on high altitude and extremely cold climate warfare.
- Exercise Yudh Abhyas is conducted annually between India and US with the aim of exchanging best practices, Tactics, Techniques and Procedures between the Armies of the two nations.
- The previous edition of the exercise was conducted at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska (USA) in October 2021.
- US Army soldiers of 2nd Brigade of the 11th Airborne Division and Indian Army soldiers from the Assam Regiment will be participating in the exercise.
- The schedule will include all operations related to peacekeeping and peace enforcement.

- The troops from both nations will work together to achieve common objectives.
- The joint exercise will also focus on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.

### 3. India becomes the world's second largest producer of steel



- Union Minister of Steel Jyotiraditya Scindia has said that India has made remarkable progress in the steel sector in the last 8 years.
- He said, the country which was earlier a net importer of the steel has now become a net exporter.
- The Minister was addressing the Steel Conference of State governments in New Delhi today.
- Mr. Scindia informed that India has also moved from 4th largest producer of steel to the second largest producer of steel at global scale.
- Speaking about the growth of steel consumption in the country, the Steel Minister added that the per capita steel consumption grew from 57.8 kilogram to 78 kilogram, registering a growth of 50 per cent in the last 8 years.
- In case of installed capacity of steel, the country has moved from 100 million tonnes a year to almost 150 million tonnes.

- **Mr. Jyotiraditya Scindia also informed that the country has registered a tremendous growth in the steel production.**

#### **4. FIFA World Cup 2022 is set to kick off on 20th November in Qatar**



- **The 2022 FIFA World Cup is set to kick off on 20th November in Qatar. This will be the first-ever time that the tournament is held in the winter months.**
- **The tournament will have 32 teams competing for ultimate glory, segmented across eight groups in eight venues across Qatar.**
- **The final of the tournament will be played on 18th December. Going into the mega event, all the teams have announced their respective squads of up to 26 players each.**
- **The first match will be played between host Qatar and Ecuador on 20th November.**
- **Defending champions France will be playing their tournament opener against Australia on 23rd November.**
- **They had defeated Croatia 4-2 in the final of the 2018 edition in Russia.**

- The team that will lift the trophy on December 18 will receive 38 million euros as Prize money.
- That is approximately 320 Crore Rupees.
- The losing finalist gets around 27 million euros or around 227 crore Rupees while the 3rd place team will get around 24.45 million euros or around 206 crore Rupees.

## 5. Rich haul for NMDC at PRCI Excellence Awards 2022



- National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) bagged the Champion of Champions Award, sweeping the 16th PRCI Global Communication Conclave 2022, to bring home fourteen Corporate Communication Excellence Awards.
- The awards were presented at the Global Communication Conclave organized by Public Relations Council of India (PRCI) in Kolkata.  
NMDC won Gold awards for Most Resilient Company of the Year; Internal Communication Campaign, Corporate Brochure; Best PSE Implementing CSR.
- It won Silver Awards in the categories of Best Use of CSR for Childcare; Corporate Community Impact; Best Corporate Event; Unique HR Initiatives; Annual Report; Arts, Culture & Sports Campaign
- It also won Bronze Awards for Visionary Leadership; Website of the Year; Innovative Environmental Program and Consolation Award for Best Use of Social Media.

## 6. Mary Kom, PV Sindhu, Mirabai Chanu and Gagan Narang elected in IOA Athletes Commission



- Olympic medallists MC Mary Kom, PV Sindhu, Mirabai Chanu and Gagan Narang were among 10 eminent sportspersons elected as members of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) Athletes Commission.
- All the 10 elected members of the apex body, five men and as many women, won unopposed in the polls.
- Under the new constitution of the Indian Olympic Association which was adopted on November 10, the athletes commission is to have equal representation of male and female members.
- Winter Olympian Shiva Keshavan, table tennis player Sharath Kamal, women's hockey captain Rani Rampal, fencer Bhavani Devi, rower Bajrang Lal and former shot

putter Om Prakash Singh Karhana are the other six members of the elected panel.

- All the 10 members, out of which five are female, are Olympians. Keshavan is the only Winter Olympian.
- The immediate task of the Athletes Commission would be to identify eight Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) who would then be voting members of the IOA's General Assembly.

## 7. G20 hosts Official Launch of The Pandemic Fund



- The G20 Presidency of Indonesia is hosting the official launch of the Pandemic Fund on the margins of the G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting in Bali, Indonesia in the presence of Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia
- At the launch, the Pandemic Fund, now with new name and logo, will provide the latest progress the Governing Board has made since its establishment on September 8, 2022, to get operational – an important step toward strengthening global health architecture.
- Drawing on lessons from COVID-19, which exposed huge weaknesses and under investment in pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (PPR), particularly in low- and middle-income countries, the Pandemic Fund is intended to strengthen the capacity of these countries to mitigate the risks of future global health threats.

- It will provide a dedicated stream of long-term financing for PPR and address critical gaps through investments and technical support at the national, regional, and global levels.
- The Pandemic Fund is also expected to incentivize countries to prioritize this agenda and increase their own efforts.

**By Sameer Singhal**

PLUTUS ACADEMY