



CURRENT AFFAIRS 18th November 2022

National News

1. ISRO successfully launches first ever private Rocket from Sriharikota



- India's first ever private Vikram Suborbital rocket was launched at 11 30 today from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. The rocket reached an altitude of 89.5 km with three payloads weighing a total of 83 kilogram.
- The rocket safely splashed in the waters of the Bay of Bengal at around 115 km after the lift-off from Sriharikota.
- Praram, the mission of the rocket has the payloads from Space Kidz India, Bazoomq Armenia and N-Space Tech India and are equipped with sensors for the measurement of acceleration, pressure and others.
- Speaking after the launch Union Minister of Space Dr. Jitendra Singh said that it was a new beginning for India's space program. He said that this was a major step in creating India's own space ecosystem.

- **Thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi for encouraging new missions in Space, Dr.Singh told that India is fast emerging as a frontline Nation in space.**
- **Pawan Kumar Chowdhury, One of the founder of Sky root,a start up in Space technology said that the vehicle reached the space altitude of 89.5 kms and completed the required mission objective.**

2. Indian Army celebrates 242nd Corps of Engineers Day today



- **Indian Army is celebrating the 242nd Corps of Engineers Day today. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan and Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Pande have conveyed their best wishes to all ranks of the Corps of Engineers on the occasion.**
- **In an exclusive message on All India Radio on the occasion of Corps day, Engineer-in-Chief and Senior Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Engineers Lt Gen Harpal Singh has called upon the Corps to put in bigger efforts to be prepared for the future challenges and rededicate towards being a reliable, versatile and omnipresent arm of the Army.**
- **The Corps of Engineers provides combat engineering support, develops infrastructure for armed forces and other defence organisations and maintains connectivity**

along our vast borders besides providing succour to populace during natural disasters.

- These tasks are executed through four pillars of the Corps - Combat Engineers, Military Engineer Service, Border Road Organisation and Military Survey.

3. Army Chief General Manoj Pande receives Guard of Honour at Les Invalides in Paris



- Army Chief General Manoj Pande who is on a four-day visit to France, received a Guard of Honour at the Les Invalides in Paris today.
- He interacted with the Chief of Staff of the French Army General Pierre Schill and discussed issues of mutual interest.
- In a solemn ceremony, the Indian Army Chief also laid a wreath during the rekindling of the flame at Arc de Triomphe and paid tribute to the Bravehearts.
- Yesterday, the Army Chief laid a wreath and paid tributes to the Bravehearts at the Indian Memorial at Neuve Chapelle.
- He also interacted with French Commander of Land Combat Forces Lieutenant General Bertrand Toujouse.
- General Pande visited Ecole Military School at Paris on Tuesday.

- He interacted with Director, the Centre for Doctrine and Command Teaching and addressed the Senior Staff Officers' Course of French Army on India's Security Perspective.

4. NCW launches 4th phase of Digital Shakti campaign



- National Commission for Women, NCW Chairperson Rekha Sharma has said that Digital Shakti Campaign has been accelerating the digital participation of women and girls.
- Digital Shakti Campaign is a pan-India project on digitally empowering and skilling women and girls in the cyberspace.
- It aims to train women and girls to use technology to their advantage and to keep themselves safe online.
- Ms. Sharma launched the fourth phase of the Campaign on Tuesday. She highlighted the continuous efforts of the Commission for empowering women in every sphere across the nation.
- In line with its commitment to create safe spaces for women and girls online, Digital Shakti 4.0 is focused on making women digitally skilled and aware to stand up against any illegal or inappropriate activity online.
- The NCW launched it in collaboration with CyberPeace Foundation and Meta.

5. Arvind Virmani appointed as full-time member of NITI Aayog



- The government has appointed senior economist Dr. Arvind Virmani as a full-time member of the NITI Aayog.
- His appointment as the full-time member of NITI Aayog has been approved by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Mr. Virmani is the founder-chairman of the non-profit public policy organisation Foundation for Economic Growth and Welfare.
- Virmani, founder-chairman of the non-profit public policy organisation Foundation for Economic Growth and Welfare, has served as the Chief Economic Advisor in the Ministry of Finance during the Manmohan Singh-led UPA government from 2007-09.

6. North Korea launches intercontinental ballistic missile



- North Korea has launched an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) early morning today. South Korean officials said that the latest ICBM was fired from near the North Korean capital Pyongyang.
- It reached an altitude of 6,100 kilometer on a lofted trajectory and travelled 1,000 kilometer, reaching a speed of Mach 22.
- Meanwhile, Japan's Coast Guard said, the missile landed in the sea roughly 210 kilometer west of Hokkaido.
- Yesterday, North Korean FM Choe Son Hui warned of a fiercer response to US plans to strengthen its military presence in the region. It also launched a short-range ballistic missile yesterday.
- Pyongyang's longer-range missiles are designed to bring the US mainland within range. North Korea has fired more than 50 missiles over the past two months, most of them short-range.

7. Army observes 60th anniversary of battle of Rezang La in Ladakh



- Today, the country is observing the 60th Anniversary of Rezang La Day.
- The Battle of Rezang La in 1962 in eastern Ladakh, was India's one of the remarkable military expeditions. The Rezang La battle was illustrious and ever-inspiring.
- AIR correspondent reports, The Battle of RezangLa, an epic battle Indian Army ever fought in hostile conditions in eastern Ladakh region.
- RezangLa showed sheer tenacity and valour of the soldiers of 'Charlie Company of 13 Kumaon Regiment of the Indian Army.
- Sixty years ago on the morning of November 18th, fierce fight broke when over Five thousand Chinese with heavy

artillery support have attacked Charlie Company, protecting the airfield of Chushul.

- 120 brave soldiers of Charlie Company of 13 Kumaon Regiment led by commanding officer Major Shaitan Singh had delivered the heaviest blow to the Chinese People's Liberation Army, by killing over thousand Chinese soldiers in the fight.
- As many as 114 soldiers of C company died fighting. Five wounded were taken as prisoners, however they all escaped and one was sent back to tell the story of the battle to the rest of the world.

8. Uttarakhand High Court To Be Shifted From Nainital To Haldwani



- The Uttarakhand High Court will be shifted from Nainital to Haldwani.
- This decision was taken in a cabinet meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in Dehradun.
- Uttarakhand cabinet has also decided to make strict amendments in the conversion law, wherein forced conversion will now be a cognizable offence.
- With provision of 10 years of punishment under the new law. For this, a bill will be brought in the assembly.
- The Centre has handed over a 45-acre area near Haldwani for the high court.
- On October 27, the Central government handed over 45 acres of HMT land in Ranibag, near Haldwani, to the state

government for its possible use to benefit the people of the area.

By Sameer Singhal

PLUTUS ACADEMY