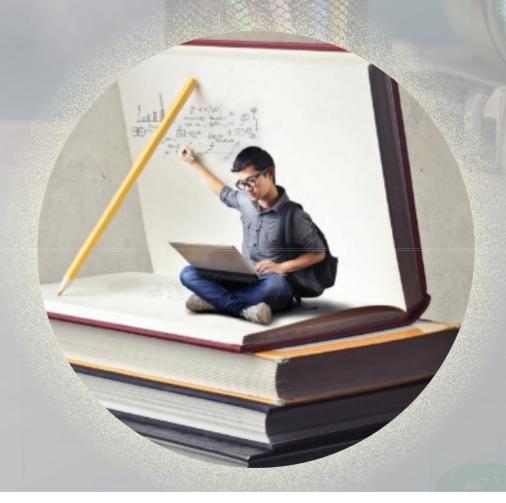


PLUTUS ACADEMY WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS



PLUTUS ACADEMY WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

15/01/2024 TO 21/01/2024

Basement C-59 Noida, Opposite to Priyagold Building Gate, Sector-2, Pocket-1, Noida

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International News

DENMARK'S KING FREDERIK X ASCENDS AS QUEEN MARGRETHE II STEPS DOWN AFTER 52 YEARS



DENMARK WITNESSED A HISTORIC MOMENT ON JANUARY 14 AS KING FREDERIK X ASCENDED THE THRONE, SUCCEEDING HIS MOTHER, QUEEN MARGRETHE II, WHO FORMALLY ABDICATED AFTER AN IMPRESSIVE 52 YEARS AS THE MONARCH.

QUEEN MARGRETHE, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED HER INTENTION TO REMAIN ON THE THRONE FOR LIFE, DID NOT PROVIDE A SPECIFIC REASON FOR HER DECISION TO STEP DOWN. HOWEVER, SHE MENTIONED A SIGNIFICANT BACK SURGERY IN FEBRUARY OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR, WHICH PROMPTED HER TO CONTEMPLATE HER FUTURE.

KING FREDERIK X AND QUEEN MARY ASSUME THEIR ROLES AT A TIME OF IMMENSE PUBLIC SUPPORT AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE DANISH MONARCHY.

TAIWAN ELECTS PRO-SOVEREIGNTY WILLIAM LAI IN HISTORIC ELECTION, FURTHER STRAINING CHINA TIES



TAIWANESE VOTERS HAVE CHOSEN WILLIAM LAI CHING-TE, A PRO-SOVEREIGNTY CANDIDATE FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE PARTY (DPP), AS THEIR PRESIDENT, MARKING A SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM CHINA.

LAI, THE CURRENT VICE PRESIDENT, SECURED AN UNPRECEDENTED THIRD CONSECUTIVE TERM FOR THE DPP BY DEFEATING HIS CONSERVATIVE RIVAL, HOU YU-IH OF THE KUOMINTANG (KMT), BY OVER 900,000 VOTES.

WITH LAI'S WIN, THE DPP SECURES AN UNPRECEDENTED THIRD CONSECUTIVE TERM, REFLECTING MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR THE PARTY'S COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING DEMOCRACY, EVEN AS BEIJING DISMISSES IT AS NON-REPRESENTATIVE OF MAINSTREAM TAIWANESE OPINION.

REFORMIST AREVALO SWORN IN AS GUATEMALA PRESIDENT



BERNARDO ARÉVALO WAS OFFICIALLY SWORN IN AS THE PRESIDENT OF GUATEMALA ON JANUARY 15, 2024, OVERCOMING MONTHS OF POLITICAL CHALLENGES AND EFFORTS TO DERAIL HIS INAUGURATION.

AREVALO, A 65-YEAR-OLD CAREER DIPLOMAT AND SOCIOLOGIST, IS SEEN AS A DEMOCRACY ADVOCATE LEADING A PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT. HIS PRESIDENCY IS VIEWED AS A WATERSHED MOMENT FOR GUATEMALA, AIMING TO RESHAPE THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE AND ADDRESS DEEP-ROOTED ISSUES.

AREVALO AIMS TO TACKLE DOMESTIC ISSUES, IN-CLUDING DEEP-ROOTED CORRUPTION. HE WILL NEED TO BALANCE US DEMANDS TO STEM MIGRATION, A SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGE GIVEN THE RECORD-HIGH REMITTANCES VITAL TO GUATEMALA'S ECONOMY.

SWITZERLAND TO HOST UKRAINE PEACE SUMMIT ON ZELENSKIY'S REQUEST



UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT VOLODYMYR ZELENSKIY HAS SECURED SWITZERLAND'S AGREEMENT TO

HOST A GLOBAL PEACE SUMMIT AIMED AT RESOLVING THE CONFLICT SPARKED BY RUSSIA'S INCURSION INTO UKRAINE ON FEB. 24, 2022. SWITZERLAND, KNOWN FOR ITS NEUTRALITY AND PAST MEDIATION ROLES, WILL FACILITATE TALKS TO FIND A RESOLUTION.

ZELENSKIY, DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE IN BERN ALONGSIDE SWISS COUNTERPART VIO-LA AMHERD, REVEALED THAT THE PEACE SUMMIT'S PARTICIPANTS ARE YET TO BE FINALIZED. HOWEVER, HE EMPHASIZED THE INVITATION TO COUNTRIES RESPECTING UKRAINE'S SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, HINTING AT INCLUSIVITY.

National News

INDIAN PRESIDENT INAUGURATED 5TH MEGHALAYA GAMES



ON JANUARY 15, 2024, THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA, SMT DROUPADI MURMU, INAUGURATED THE 5TH EDITION OF THE MEGHALAYA GAMES IN TURA, MEGHALAYA.

THE PRESIDENT PARTICULARLY STRESSED THE NEED TO SUPPORT AND GROOM TALENT FROM TRIBAL AREAS, RECOGNIZING THEIR POTENTIAL TO BECOME PROFESSIONAL SPORTSPERSONS.

THE 5TH INSTALLMENT OF THE MEGHALAYA GAMES HOLDS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE ON MULTIPLE FRONTS. NOTABLY, IT MARKS THE INAUGURAL OCCASION OF BEING HOSTED IN TURA, A DEPARTURE FROM ITS PREVIOUS EXCLUSIVE LOCATION IN SHILLONG.

ADDITIONALLY, THIS EDITION INTRODUCES TRA-DITIONAL INDIGENOUS GAMES INTO ITS LINE-UP, AND IT IS DISTINGUISHED AS THE FIRST IN-STANCE WHERE THE INAUGURATION IS CARRIED OUT BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA.

PM Modi To Inaugurate NACIN Campus In Andhra Pradesh



PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI WILL IN-AUGURATE THE NEW CAMPUS OF THE NATION-AL ACADEMY OF CUSTOMS, INDIRECT TAXES & NARCOTICS (NACIN) AT PALASAMUDRAM IN ANDHRA PRADESH'S SRI SATHYA SAI DISTRICT. THE EVENT IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 16, MARKING A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION'S EDUCATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

NACIN, SPREAD OVER 500 ACRES, IS DEDICATED TO CAPACITY BUILDING IN INDIRECT TAXATION AND NARCOTICS CONTROL ADMINISTRATION. THIS NATIONAL-LEVEL, WORLD-CLASS TRAINING INSTITUTE WILL TRAIN OFFICIALS FROM THE INDIAN REVENUE SERVICE (CUSTOM & INDIRECT TAXES), CENTRAL ALLIED SERVICES, STATE GOVERNMENTS, AND PARTNER NATIONS.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS REVOKES FCRA REGISTRATION OF CENTRE FOR POLICY RESEARCH



THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS IN INDIA HAS REVOKED THE FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION (REGULATION) AMENDMENT ACT, 2020, REGISTRATION OF THE CENTRE FOR POLICY RESEARCH (CPR) IN NEW DELHI, ALLEGING VIOLATIONS.

THE LEADING PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTION, SPEARHEADED BY CONGRESS LEADER MANI SHANKAR AIYAR'S DAUGHTER, YAMINI AIYAR, HAS FACED GOVERNMENT SCRUTINY FOR PURPORTEDLY BREACHING FCRA REGULATIONS.

LAST YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED CPR'S FCRA LICENSE FOR 180 DAYS, A PERIOD SUBSEQUENTLY EXTENDED BY ANOTHER 180 DAYS.

ESTABLISHED IN 1973, CPR IS A PROMINENT POLICY THINK-TANK KNOWN FOR ITS ADVANCED RESEARCH ON DIVERSE POLICY ISSUES, FOCUSING ON THE CHALLENGES FACING INDIA IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

INDIA TO HOST YEAR-LONG 'RAMAYAN' FESTIVAL FROM DELHI



INDIA IS SET TO LAUNCH A YEAR-LONG FESTIVAL, SEEKING GLOBAL CONNECTIONS THROUGH THE CELEBRATION OF RAMAYAN AND ITS CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE.

THE FESTIVAL IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE FROM DELHI'S HISTORIC PURANA QILA (OLD FORT) ON JANUARY 18 AND WILL TRAVERSE VARIOUS CITIES SUCH AS LUCKNOW, AYODHYA, AND VARANASI.

THE "YEAR OF CONNECTING THE WORLD THROUGH RAMAYANA" PROMISES A VIBRANT ARRAY OF EVENTS, STARTING WITH THE INAUGURAL WEEK AT PURANA QILA FROM JANUARY 18-24. THE FESTIVITIES INCLUDE BALLET PERFORMANCES, TALKS, AND INTERACTIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITIONS CENTERED AROUND THE RAMAYANA.

PM Modi Unveils Ram Mandir Stamps: A Historic Moment In Indian Culture



PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI RECENTLY LAUNCHED A SERIES OF COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS DEDICATED TO AYODHYA'S RAM TEMPLE, MARKING A SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL EVENT IN INDIA.

STAMPS. EACH FEATURING KEY FIGURES AND SYM-BOLS ASSOCIATED WITH LORD RAM'S NARRATIVE, INCLUDING THE RAM TEMPLE, LORD GANESH, LORD HANUMAN, JATAYU, KEVATRAJ, AND MA SHABRI.

THE DESIGNS INCORPORATE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS RELATED TO SHRI RAM JANMBHOOMI MANDIR, SHOWCASING THE TEMPLE, THE REVERED CHOUPAI 'MANGAL BHAVAN AMANGAL HARI,' THE SUN, THE SARYU RIVER, AND THE SCULPTURES IN AND AROUND THE TEMPLE. EACH STAMP IS ADORNED WITH GOLD LEAF DETAILING FOR THE SUN RAYS AND THE CHOUPAI, ADDING A MAJESTIC TOUCH.

NHAI'S 'ONE VEHICLE, ONE **FASTAG'** INITIATIVE To STREAMLINE TOLL COLLECTION

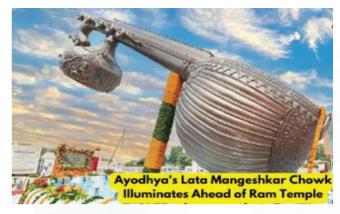


THE NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA HAS INTRODUCED THE 'ONE VEHICLE, ONE FAST-AG' INITIATIVE, TO CURB THE PREVALENT PRAC-TICE OF USING A SINGLE FASTAG FOR MULTIPLE VEHICLES OR LINKING MULTIPLE FASTAGS TO A SPECIFIC VEHICLE.

THIS INITIATIVE SEEKS TO PROMOTE A ONE-TO-ONE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN VEHICLES AND FASTAGS, ENSURING TRANSPARENCY AND AC-COUNTABILITY IN TOLL COLLECTION.

NHAI IS ACTIVELY PROMOTING THE COMPLETION OF THE 'KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER' (KYC) PROCESS FOR THE LATEST FASTAG. FASTAGS WITH VALID BALANCES BUT INCOMPLETE KYC DETAILS WILL FACE DEACTIVATION OR BLACKLISTING BY BANKS AFTER JANUARY 31, 2024.

THE COLLECTION COMPRISES SIX DISTINCT AYODHYA'S LATA MANGESHKAR CHOWK ILLUMINATES AHEAD OF RAM TEMPLE **INAUGURATION**



THE CITY OF AYODHYA IS WITNESSING A SIGNIF-ICANT TRANSFORMATION WITH THE UPCOMING INAUGURATION OF THE RAM TEMPLE. A KEY HIGHLIGHT IN THIS TRANSFORMATION IS THE LATA MANGESHKAR CHOWK, WHICH HAS RE-CENTLY BEEN ILLUMINATED, DRAWING ATTEN-TION BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

THE CHOWK, NAMED AFTER THE LEGENDARY INDIAN PLAYBACK SINGER LATA MANGESHKAR. HAS BECOME A POPULAR SELFIE HOTSPOT FOR LOCALS AND TOURISTS ALIKE.

THIS BRONZE SCULPTURE, WEIGHING 14 TONNES AND MADE BY RENOWNED SCULPTOR RAM SU-TAR. STANDS AS A SYMBOL OF LATA MANGESH-KAR'S MUSICAL LEGACY.

MINISTER **JYOTIRADITYA** Union SCINDIA INAUGURATES ASIA'S LARGEST AVIATION EXPO WINGS INDIA 2024



UNION MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION SHRI JY-OTIRADITYA M SCINDIA INAUGURATED WINGS

INDIA 2024, ASIA'S LARGEST AVIATION EXPO, AT BEGUMPET AIRPORT IN HYDERABAD.

THE THEME OF WINGS INDIA 2024 IS "CON-**NECTING INDIA TO THE WORLD IN AMRIT KAAL:** SETTING THE STAGE FOR INDIA CIVIL AVIATION @2047".

THE AIM IS TO SUPPORT A USD 20 TRILLION ECONOMY BY 2047 WITH A ROBUST AVIATION SYSTEM.

THE EXPO SERVED AS A PLATFORM FOR INDUSTRY LEADERS, POLICYMAKERS, AND STAKEHOLDERS TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND FORGE PARTNERSHIPS.

State News

DELHI LG KICKS OFF 2-DAY GLOBAL MAHARASHTRA'S PENCH TIGER RESERVE 'PATANG UTSAV' AT BAANSERA



DELHI LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR VK SAXENA IN-AUGURATED THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED 'PATANG UTSAV' AT BAANSERA, THE CITY'S FIRST BAM-**BOO-THEME PARK LOCATED AT SARAI KALE KHAN** ON THE SCENIC BANKS OF THE YAMUNA RIVER.

THE TWO-DAY FESTIVAL, ORGANIZED BY THE DEL-HI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, PROMISES A VI-**SUAL FEAST AS OVER 30 PROFESSIONAL KITISTS** FROM DIVERSE STATES, INCLUDING RAJASTHAN, SIKKIM, MAHARASHTRA, KARNATAKA, PUNJAB, LAKSHADWEEP, AND GUJARAT, SHOWCASE THEIR ARTISTIC PROWESS IN THE SKY.

THE EVENT SEEKS TO CELEBRATE THE DIVERSE ARTISTRY AND CREATIVITY THAT THE KITE-FLY-ING TRADITION ENCOMPASSES, OFFERING SPEC-TATORS A DELIGHTFUL VISUAL TREAT.

ACHIEVES MILESTONE AS INDIA'S FIRST DARK SKY PARK





PENCH TIGER RESERVE IN MAHARASHTRA HAS MADE HISTORY BY SECURING RECOGNITION AS INDIA'S INAUGURAL DARK SKY PARK, MARKING ITS POSITION AS THE FIFTH IN ASIA.

THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE, RECOGNIZING THE INTRINSIC VAL-UE OF THE NIGHT SKY AS A NATURAL, CULTURAL, AND HISTORICAL RESOURCE, PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN CONFERRING THIS DISTINCTION.

PRABHU NATH SHUKLA, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE RESERVE, HIGHLIGHTED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PRESERVING NATURAL DARKNESS FOR NATURE CONSERVATION, MAINTAINING ECOLOGICAL IN-TEGRITY, AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE WELL-BE-ING OF COMMUNITIES IN URBAN CENTERS.

KERALA LAUNCHES OPERATION AMRITH TO COMBAT AMR



THE KERALA DRUG CONTROL DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN A PROACTIVE STEP TO COMBAT THE GROW-ING THREAT OF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR) THROUGH OPERATION AMRITH (ANTIMI-CROBIAL RESISTANCE INTERVENTION FOR TOTAL HEALTH).

THIS INITIATIVE AIMS TO CURB THE OVERUSE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN THE STATE BY CONDUCTING SUR-PRISE RAIDS IN PHARMACIES AND DETECTING OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) SALES OF ANTIBIOTICS WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION.

AMR, OR ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE, REFERS TO THE ABILITY OF BACTERIA AND MICROBES TO RE-SIST THE DRUGS USED TO INHIBIT OR KILL THEM. RECOGNIZED AS A "SILENT PANDEMIC," AMR WAS ASSOCIATED WITH APPROXIMATELY 5 MILLION DEATHS GLOBALLY IN 2019, WITH 1.3 MILLION **DEATHS DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO IT.**

BULL-TAMING **FESTIVAL** 'IALLIKATTU' STARTS IN TAMIL NADU



TAMIL NADU, A LIVELY STATE IN SOUTH INDIA RE-NOWNED FOR ITS CULTURAL RICHNESS AND TRA-DITIONAL FESTIVITIES, KICKED OFF THE JALLIKATTU COMPETITION IN THE VILLAGE OF AVANIYAPURAM WITHIN MADURAI DISTRICT.

JALLIKATTU, A HIGHLIGHT OF THE PONGAL HARVEST FESTIVAL HELD IN THE SECOND WEEK OF JANUARY, IS POISED TO EXTEND ITS EX-CITEMENT OVER A THREE-DAY PERIOD WITH AVANIYAPURAM HOSTING THE FIRST DAY, FOL-LOWED BY PALAMEDU ON THE SECOND DAY AND ALANGANALLUR ON THE THIRD JALLIKAT-TU, A BULL-TAMING SPORT, TRACES ITS ROOTS BACK TO AROUND 2,000 YEARS, SHOWCASING A DEEP-SEATED CONNECTION TO THE CULTURAL FABRIC OF TAMIL NADU. INITIALLY CONDUCT-ED AS A MEANS TO SELECT SUITABLE BRIDE-GROOMS, THE EVENT HAS EVOLVED INTO A SYMBOL OF VALOR AND TRADITION.

ODISHA CM NAVEEN PATNAIK INAUGURATES Puri **IAGANNATH** TEMPLE'S HERITAGE CORRIDOR



THE SMPP (SHREE MANDIR PARIKRAMA PRAKALPA) INTRODUCES A 75-METER-WIDE SPACE AROUND THE TEMPLE, REFERRED TO AS THE HERITAGE CORRIDOR.

THIS EXPANSIVE AREA HAS BEEN METICULOUS-LY DIVIDED INTO NINE DISTINCT ZONES, EACH SERVING A SPECIFIC PURPOSE AIMED AT EN-HANCING THE OVERALL EXPERIENCE FOR VIS-ITORS AND PRESERVING THE CULTURAL HERI-TAGE SURROUNDING THE SHREE JAGANNATH TEMPLE.

THE FIRST ZONE COMPRISES A 7-METER GREEN BUFFER ADJACENT TO THE MEGHANADA PACH-ERI, THE TEMPLE'S BOUNDARY. THIS ZONE ACTS AS A PROTECTIVE BARRIER, PRESERVING THE SANCTITY OF THE TEMPLE PREMISES.

Defence News

Union Minister Ajay Bhatt Flags Off Astra Missile For IAF Delivery



UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE, AJAY BHATT, MARKED A HISTORIC MOMENT ON JAN-UARY 14, BY FLAGGING OFF THE INDIGENOUSLY DEVELOPED ASTRA AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES.

THE CEREMONY TOOK PLACE AT THE KANCHANG-BAGH UNIT OF BHARAT DYNAMICS LIMITED (BDL) IN HYDERABAD, SIGNIFYING A CRUCIAL STEP TOWARDS THE MISSILE'S INDUCTION INTO THE INDIAN AIR FORCE (IAF).

THE ASTRA MISSILE, A BEYOND VISUAL RANGE (BVR) AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE, STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO INDIA'S TECHNOLOGICAL PROWESS. DEVELOPED BY THE DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (DRDO) AND MANUFACTURED BY BDL FOR THE IAF, THE ASTRA WEAPON SYSTEM BOASTS UNPARALLELED CAPABILITIES IN ITS CATEGORY, WITH A REMARKABLE RANGE EXCEEDING 100 KILOMETERS.

EX-AYUTTHAYA: INDIA-THAILAND FIRST NAVAL EXERCISE CONNECTS TO AYODHYA



IN A HISTORIC MOVE, THE INDIAN NAVY AND

ROYAL THAI NAVY (RTN) JOINED FORCES FOR THE MAIDEN BILATERAL EXERCISE NAMED 'EX-AYUT-THAYA' IN DECEMBER 2023.

'EX-AYUTTHAYA' TRANSLATES TO 'THE INVINCIBLE ONE,' EMPHASIZING THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL LINKS BETWEEN AYODHYA AND AYUTTHAYA.

THIS MARITIME COLLABORATION, SYMBOLIZING THE INVINCIBLE SPIRIT, HOLDS PROFOUND SIGNIFICANCE AS IT CONNECTS THE ANCIENT CITIES OF AYODHYA IN INDIA AND AYUTTHAYA IN THAILAND.

THE INDIAN NAVAL SHIPS KULISH AND IN LCU 56 ENGAGED IN THE INAUGURAL EDITION, WHILE HIS THAI MAJESTY'S SHIP (HTMS) PRACHUAP KHIRI KHAN REPRESENTED THE ROYAL THAI NAVY.

VICE ADMIRAL VINEET MCCARTY ASSUMES ROLE AS COMMANDANT, INDIAN NAVAL ACADEMY, EZHIMALA



VICE ADMIRAL VINEET MCCARTY OFFICIALLY ASSUMED THE PRESTIGIOUS POSITION OF COMMANDANT AT THE INDIAN NAVAL ACADEMY ON JANUARY 15, 2024.

VICE ADMIRAL MCCARTY'S JOURNEY IN THE INDIAN NAVY BEGAN ON JULY 1, 1989, WHEN HE WAS COMMISSIONED INTO THE SERVICE. OVER THE YEARS, HE HAS DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF THROUGH VARIOUS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, SHOWCASING EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION TO THE NATION.

VICE ADMIRAL MCCARTY'S SPECIALIZATION IN

'GUNNERY AND MISSILES' BECAME EVIDENT EARLY IN HIS CAREER. HE SERVED AS PART OF THE COM-MISSIONING CREW OF INS DELHI AND COMPLETED

SPECIALIST TENURES ONBOARD A FRONTLINE **GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER, SHOWCASING HIS** PROWESS IN NAVAL WEAPONRY AND TECHNOL-OGY.

Schemes News

DEFENSE MINISTER SANCTIONS INSURANCE SCHEME FOR BRO WORKERS



INDIA'S DEFENCE MINISTER, RAJNATH SINGH, HAS RECENTLY APPROVED A GROUNDBREAKING SCHEME AIMED AT PROVIDING INSURANCE COVER TO CASUAL WORKERS EMPLOYED BY THE BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION (BRO).

THE SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO OFFER FINANCIAL SE-CURITY AND WELFARE TO THE FAMILIES OF CASU-AL PAID LABOURERS WHO PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE COUNTRY'S **FARTHEST FRONTIERS.**

THE APPROVED SCHEME IS SET TO PROVIDE A SIG-NIFICANT INR 10 LAKH (\$13,500) TO THE FAMI-LIES OF CASUAL PAID LABOURERS IN THE UNFOR-TUNATE EVENT OF THEIR DEATH.

PM MODI RELEASES FIRST INSTALMENT OF PM-JANMAN SCHEME FOR PUCCA HOMES



PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI IS SET TO RELEASE ₹540 CRORE, THE INAUGURAL TRANCHE OF FUNDING, FOR PUCCA HOMES UNDER THE PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJA-NA-GRAMIN (PMAY-G) ON JANUARY 15.

THIS DISBURSEMENT, PART OF THE RECENTLY LAUNCHED PM-JANMAN PACKAGE, AIMS TO FOSTER THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF PVTG HABITATIONS.

THE RELEASE OF ₹540 CRORE SERVES AS THE INITIAL FINANCIAL BOOST FOR PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TRIBAL GROUPS (PVTGS) FAM-ILIES, EMPHASIZING THE COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING DURABLE HOUSING UNDER THE PMAY-G.

SIMULTANEOUSLY, OFFICIALS ACROSS 100 DIS-TRICTS WILL DISTRIBUTE BENEFITS UNDER THE PM-JANMAN PACKAGE TO GRAM PANCHAYATS AND VILLAGE CHIEFS, ENSURING A WIDESPREAD AND EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION.

Banking News

YES BANK INTRODUCES VEEFIN'S SMARTFIN FOR DIGITAL SUPPLY CHAIN FINANCE



IN A STRATEGIC MOVE TO BOLSTER SUPPORT FOR MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMES), YES BANK HAS INTRODUCED SMART-FIN.

SMARTFIN, IS AN ADVANCED DIGITAL SUPPLY CHAIN FINANCE (SCF) PLATFORM DEVELOPED IN COLLABORATION WITH VEEFIN SOLUTIONS. THE INITIATIVE REFLECTS YES BANK'S COMMITMENT TO FOSTERING INNOVATION AND ENHANCING ITS DIGITAL OFFERINGS, PARTICULARLY IN THE REALM OF WORKING CAPITAL EFFICIENCIES.

SMARTFIN, POWERED BY VEEFIN SOLUTIONS, PRESENTS AN END-TO-END DIGITAL SCF PLATFORM.

ACCORDING TO RAJAN, THE PLATFORM'S DIGITAL OFFERINGS AIM TO ENHANCE OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL EFFICIENCIES FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN.

KARNATAKA BANK AND CLIX CAPITAL FORGE DIGITAL CO-LENDING PARTNERSHIP VIA YUBI PLATFORM



IN A STRATEGIC MOVE ALIGNED WITH RESERVE

BANK OF INDIA GUIDELINES, KARNATAKA BANK (KBL), A PROMINENT PRIVATE SECTOR BANK, AND CLIX CAPITAL, A RAPIDLY GROWING NBFC, HAVE JOINED FORCES THROUGH THE YUBI CO.LEND PLATFORM.

THIS DIGITAL CO-LENDING PARTNERSHIP TARGETS THE INDIAN MSME SECTOR, A KEY DRIVER OF THE COUNTRY'S GDP AND EMPLOYMENT GROWTH.

PAIRED WITH CLIX CAPITAL'S ROBUST LENDING TECH PLATFORM AND THOROUGH DUE DILIGENCE, THE ALLIANCE AIMS TO PROVIDE SEAMLESS AND ACCESSIBLE FINANCE SOLUTIONS. THIS INITIATIVE IS A RESPONSE TO THE RBI'S ENCOURAGEMENT FOR BANKS AND NBFCS TO CO-LEND TO PRIORITY SECTORS.

RBI RELEASES DRAFT NORMS FOR FINTECH SELF-REGULATORY ORGANISATIONS



THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI) HAS UNVEILED A DRAFT FRAMEWORK FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND RECOGNITION OF SELF-REGULATORY ORGANIZATIONS (SROS) IN THE FINTECH SECTOR.

THE DRAFT RULES AIM TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN FOSTERING INNOVATION WITHIN THE INDUSTRY AND ENSURING REGULATORY PRIORITIES ARE MET FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION AND RISK CONTAINMENT.

TO ENSURE BROAD INDUSTRY REPRESENTATION, MEMBERSHIP IN THE SRO-FT SHOULD BE VOLUNTARY AND INCLUSIVE OF FINTECHS. THE SRO-FT MUST BE RECOGNIZED AS THE PRIMARY AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING MARKET STANDARDS AND DEFINING RULES OF CONDUCT.

DLABS AT ISB LAUNCHES 'BUILD FOR EPFO REMOVES AADHAAR AS VALID BILLIONS' JOINTLY WITH RBI INNOVATION | DATE OF BIRTH PROOF HUB. UBI



DLABS AT THE INDIAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (ISB) HAS ANNOUNCED THE INITIATION OF 'BUILD FOR BILLIONS', A STARTUP ACCELERATOR PROGRAM CENTERED AROUND FINANCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE INFORMAL ECONOMY.

THIS INNOVATIVE PROGRAM HAS BEEN LAUNCHED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RESERVE BANK INNO-VATION HUB (RBIH) AND UNION BANK OF INDIA.

THE PRIMARY THEME OF 'BUILD FOR BILLIONS' IS TO FOSTER FINANCIAL INCLUSION WITHIN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY. IT AIMS TO ADDRESS LIVE-LIHOOD ISSUES FOR GIG WORKERS, MIGRANT WORKERS, DOMESTIC WORKERS, STREET VEN-DORS, CARPENTERS, PLUMBERS, ELECTRICIANS, AND CONSTRUCTION LABORERS WHO REPRESENT THE INFORMAL ECONOMY.



THE EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND ORGANIZA-TION HAS RECENTLY ISSUED A CIRCULAR STAT-ING THE REMOVAL OF AADHAAR FROM THE LIST OF ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS FOR PROOF OF DATE OF BIRTH (DOB) FOR CORRECTION AND **UPDATION PURPOSES.**

THIS DECISION, EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 16, 2024, FOLLOWS A DIRECTIVE FROM THE UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION AUTHORITY OF INDIA (UIDAI) AND ALIGNS WITH THE AADHAAR ACT, 2016, WHICH DOES NOT RECOGNIZE AADHAAR AS PROOF OF DATE OF BIRTH .

THE UIDAL EMPHASIZES THAT AADHAAR IS PRI-MARILY AN IDENTITY VERIFICATION TOOL AND NOT A PROOF OF BIRTH. THIS IS SUPPORTED BY A MEMORANDUM FROM THE MINISTRY OF **ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLO-**GY (MEITY) AND A JUDGMENT BY THE BOMBAY **HIGH COURT**

Business News

CENTRE INTRODUCES NEW RULES TO BOOST EASE OF BUSINESS IN GREEN **ENERGY SECTOR**



IN A PIVOTAL MOVE FOR INDUSTRY, ESPECIALLY IN GREEN ENERGY, THE GOVERNMENT HAS IN-TRODUCED RULES TO EXPEDITE ENERGY STOR-AGE ESTABLISHMENT AND ENHANCE ENERGY SECURITY.

THE NEW RULES SPECIFICALLY STATE THAT GEN-**ERATING COMPANIES, THOSE SETTING UP CAP-**TIVE GENERATING PLANTS, OR CONSUMERS WITH A LOAD EXCEEDING A SPECIFIED OUAN-TUM CAN NOW ESTABLISH DEDICATED TRANS-MISSION LINES WITHOUT OBTAINING A LICENSE.

THIS QUANTUM IS SET AT NOT LESS THAN

TWENTY-FIVE MEGAWATTS FOR INTER-STATE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM AND TEN MEGAWATTS FOR INTRA-STATE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM.

LIC OVERTAKES SBI TO BECOME THE MOST VALUABLE PSU



IN A SIGNIFICANT TURN OF EVENTS, THE LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA (LIC) HAS NOT ONLY STAGED AN IMPRESSIVE COMEBACK BUT HAS ALSO SURPASSED THE MARKET CAPI-TALIZATION OF THE STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI).

LIC'S SHARE PRICE GAINED OVER 2% IN MORN-ING TRADES. PROPELLING ITS MARKET CAPITAL-IZATION TO CROSS THE ₹5.8 LAKH CRORE MARK. TOUCHING 52-WEEK HIGHS OF ₹919.45 A PIECE, LIC'S MARKET CAP NOW STANDS HIGHER THAN THAT OF THE STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI), SIG-NALLING A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE FOR THE IN-SURANCE GIANT.

THE PAR AND NON-PAR BUSINESS SEGMENTS HAVE BEEN STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS FOR LIC.

THE PARTICIPATING LIFE INSURANCE PLAN (PAR) ALLOWS POLICYHOLDERS TO SHARE IN THE COM-PANY'S PROFITS, ENHANCING OVERALL MAR-GINS.

GOVERNMENT REDUCES WINDFALL TAX ON CRUDE OIL AMID GLOBAL ECONOMIC CONCERNS



IN RESPONSE TO THE EVOLVING DYNAMICS OF

THE GLOBAL OIL MARKET, THE INDIAN GOVERN-MENT HAS DECIDED TO SLASH THE WINDFALL TAX ON DOMESTICALLY-PRODUCED CRUDE OIL, EFFEC-TIVE JANUARY 16.

THE TAX, LEVIED AS THE SPECIAL ADDITIONAL EX-CISE DUTY (SAED), HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM RS 2,300 PER TONNE TO RS 1,700 PER TONNE.

THE MOVE AIMS TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES POSED BY SOARING CRUDE OIL PRICES AND IS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FORTNIGHTLY RE-VIEW MECHANISM BASED ON AVERAGE OIL PRIC-ES IN THE PRECEDING TWO WEEKS.

THE REDUCTION IN WINDFALL TAX COMES AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF CONCERNS ABOUT WEAKENED GLOBAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND AN INCREASE IN CRUDE INVENTORIES IN THE UNITED STATES, CONTRIBUTING TO A DECLINE IN CRUDE PRICES.

KVIC Launches 'Khadi Sanatan Vastra' FROM ITS FLAGSHIP STORE IN CP, NEW DELHI



THE KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMIS-SION (KVIC) HAS RECENTLY UNVEILED A NEW CLOTHING RANGE CALLED 'SANATAN KHADI VAS-TRA' AT ITS FLAGSHIP STORE IN CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI.

THIS LAUNCH ALIGNS WITH THE BROADER VISION OF PROMOTING KHADI AS A SYMBOL OF NATION-AL PRIDE AND SUSTAINABLE FASHION.

THE DESIGN FOR THE 'SANATAN VASTRA' WAS PREPARED AT THE KHADI CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (COEK) LOCATED AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF L&T SECURES 'MEGA ORDER' **FASHION TECHNOLOGY (NIFT).**

THE MANUFACTURING OF KHADI DOES NOT IN-VOLVE ANY MECHANICAL OR CHEMICAL PRO-CESSES, MAKING SANATAN TEXTILES UNIQUE AS THEY ARE PREPARED AS PER TRADITIONAL INDIAN METHODS.

FOXCONN AND HCL GROUP FORGE PARTNERSHIP FOR CHIP PACKAGING UNIT IN INDIA



TAIWANESE TECH GIANT FOXCONN, A LONG-TIME APPLE INC. PARTNER, IS DIVERSIFYING FROM CHI-NA AND JOINING FORCES WITH HCL GROUP TO ESTABLISH A CHIP PACKAGING AND TESTING FA-CILITY IN INDIA.

FOXCONN'S SUBSIDIARY, FOXCONN HON HAI TECHNOLOGY INDIA MEGA DEVELOPMENT, WILL INVEST \$37.2 MILLION FOR A 40% STAKE, WITH THE REMAINING HELD BY HCL.

THE COLLABORATION AIMS TO SET UP AN OUT-SOURCED SEMICONDUCTOR ASSEMBLY AND TEST-ING (OSAT) FACILITY IN INDIA. OSAT FACILITIES DO NOT ENGAGE IN CHIP FABRICATION BUT PRO-VIDE THIRD-PARTY CHIP PACKAGING AND TESTING SERVICES.

FOR MUMBAI-AHMEDABAD BULLET TRAIN **ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT**



L&T CONSTRUCTION'S RAILWAYS STRATEGIC BUSINESS GROUP HAS CLINCHED A SIGNIFI-CANT CONTRACT VALUED BETWEEN ₹10,000 TO ₹15,000 CRORE FOR A PIVOTAL SEGMENT OF THE MUMBAI AHMEDABAD BULLET TRAIN PROJECT.

THE 'MEGA' ORDER, RECEIVED FROM A JAP-ANESE AGENCY OVERSEEING THE MUMBAI AHMEDABAD HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT (MAHSR), ENTAILS THE CONSTRUCTION OF 508 ROUTE KM OF HIGH-SPEED ELECTRIFICATION WORKS.

L&T WILL UNDERTAKE THE DESIGN, SUPPLY, MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION, TESTING, AND COMMISSIONING OF A 2×25 KV POWER SUPPLY ELECTRIFICATION SYSTEM. THIS IN-CLUDES HIGH-SPEED OVERHEAD EQUIPMENT, TRACTION SUBSTATIONS, AND MV/LV POWER DISTRIBUTION EQUIPMENT WORKS.

Economy News

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX (WPI) INFLATION HITS NINE-MONTH HIGH AT 0.73% IN DECEMBER 2023



IN DECEMBER 2023, THE WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX (WPI)-BASED INFLATION SURGED TO A NINE-MONTH HIGH OF 0.73%, MARKING A SIG-NIFICANT REBOUND FROM THE NEGATIVE ZONE OBSERVED FROM APRIL TO OCTOBER.

THIS POSITIVE TRAJECTORY, A CONTINUATION FROM NOVEMBER'S 0.26%, WAS PRIMARILY DRIVEN BY NOTABLE INCREASES IN FOOD PRIC-ES, ACCORDING TO A STATEMENT BY THE MIN-ISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

THE SPIKE IN WPI INFLATION IS ATTRIBUTED TO A SHARP RISE IN PRICES OF FOOD ARTICLES, MA-CHINERY & EQUIPMENT, OTHER MANUFACTUR-ING, OTHER TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT, AND COM-PUTER, ELECTRONICS & OPTICAL PRODUCTS.

Union Budget: A Historical Overview



THE UNION BUDGET, AS PER ARTICLE 112 OF

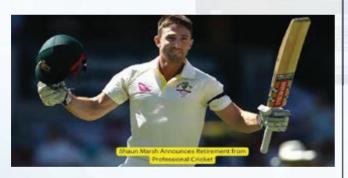
THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION, SERVES AS THE FI-NANCIAL BLUEPRINT OF THE GOVERNMENT, OUT-LINING ESTIMATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR SPANNING APRIL 1 TO MARCH 31.

THE 2017-18 UNION BUDGET MARKED A PIVOTAL MOMENT BY SHIFTING THE PRESENTATION DATE TO THE FIRST DAY OF FEBRUARY, INTEGRATING THE RAILWAY BUDGET WITH THE UNION BUDGET.

INDIA'S INAUGURAL BUDGET WAS PRESENTED ON APRIL 7, 1860, DURING BRITISH COLONIAL RULE, BY FINANCE MINISTER JAMES WILSON. POST-IN-DEPENDENCE, THE FIRST UNION BUDGET WAS IN-TRODUCED ON NOVEMBER 26, 1947, BY FINANCE MINISTER SIR R.K. SHANMUGHAM CHETTY AMID THE CHALLENGES OF PARTITION.

Sports News

SHAUN MARSH ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM PROFESSIONAL CRICKET



AUSTRALIA'S SHAUN MARSH, A RENOWNED NAME IN INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC CRICK-ET, HAS ANNOUNCED HIS RETIREMENT FROM ALL FORMS OF THE SPORT.

SHAUN MARSH STARTED HIS CAREER IN WEST-**ERN AUSTRALIA AND GAINED RECOGNITION FOR** HIS SKILL AND DEDICATION. MARSH'S INTERNA-TIONAL CAREER WITH THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKET TEAM WAS MARKED BY NOTABLE PERFORMANC-ES IN TEST MATCHES, ONE DAY INTERNATION-ALS (ODIS), AND TWENTY20 INTERNATIONALS (T20Is).

HE PLAYED 38 TEST MATCHES, 73 ODIS, AND 15 T20IS FOR AUSTRALIA. IN ODIS, HE PAR-

TICULARLY EXCELLED WITH A BATTING AVERAGE OF 40.78 AND AN 81.42 STRIKE RATE. HIS TEST CAREER ALSO BOASTS A NOTEWORTHY AVERAGE OF 43.32 IN 68 INNINGS. MARSH'S CONTRIBU-TIONS IN T20s, THOUGH LESS PROMINENT, STILL INCLUDED 15 GAMES FOR AUSTRALIA WITH A TOP SCORE OF 47.

ROHIT SHARMA BECOMES THE FIRST MEN'S PLAYER TO PLAY 150 T20IS



IN A HISTORIC MOMENT FOR INDIAN CRICKET, ROHIT SHARMA, THE CAPTAIN OF TEAM INDIA, ETCHED HIS NAME IN THE RECORD BOOKS BY BE-COMING THE FIRST MEN'S PLAYER TO FEATURE IN 150 T20 International matches.

THIS MILESTONE WAS ACHIEVED DURING THE SEC-OND T201 AGAINST AFGHANISTAN AT THE HOLKAR CRICKET STADIUM, MARKING A REMARKABLE FEAT IN ROHIT'S ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER.

DURING THE FIRST T201 AGAINST AFGHANISTAN. ROHIT SHARMA NOT ONLY CAPTAINED HIS SIDE TO VICTORY BUT ALSO SECURED ANOTHER MILE-STONE BY BECOMING THE FIRST PLAYER TO WIN 100 T20IS. THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT UN-DERLINES HIS LEADERSHIP PROWESS AND THE TEAM'S SUCCESS UNDER HIS CAPTAINCY.

Books & Authors News

A BOOK NAMED "GANDHI A LIFE IN THREE CAMPAIGNS" LAUNCHED BY M.I. AKBAR



RENOWNED AUTHOR M.J. AKBAR, ALONG WITH CO-AUTHOR K. NATWAR SINGH, LAUNCHED A NEW BOOK TITLED "GANDHI: A LIFE IN THREE CAMPAIGNS."

THE BOOK DELVES INTO THE LIFE AND STRUG-GLES OF MAHATMA GANDHI, PARTICULARLY FO-CUSING ON THREE PIVOTAL MASS CAMPAIGNS HE LED: 1)NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT (1920): HIGHLIGHTING GANDHI'S ABILITY TO MOBILIZE THE MASSES AGAINST BRITISH RULE.

2) SALT SATYAGRAHA (1930): TURNING A PINCH OF SALT INTO A SYMBOL OF RESISTANCE AGAINST COLONIAL EXPLOITATION AND 3) QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT (1942): A DECISIVE CALL FOR THE END OF BRITISH COLONIALISM IN INDIA. THESE CAMPAIGNS ARE PORTRAYED AS CRUCIAL MO-MENTS THAT CHALLENGED AND EVENTUALLY LED TO THE DISMANTLING OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE IN INDIA.

Ranks & Reports News

GUJARAT, KERALA, KARNATAKA LEAD IN **ECOSYSTEM** STARTUP DEVELOPMENT: DPIIT



THE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM IN INDIA WITNESSED A SIGNIFICANT BOOST AS GUJARAT, KERALA, KAR-NATAKA, AND TAMIL NADU EMERGED AS THE BEST-PERFORMING STATES IN THE STARTUP RANK-**ING FOR 2022.**

MAHARASHTRA, ODISHA, PUNJAB, RAJASTHAN, AND TELANGANA WERE ALSO RECOGNIZED AS TOP PERFORMERS IN THIS DYNAMIC LAND-SCAPE.

A TOTAL OF 33 STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE EVALUATION, CATEGORIZED UNDER FIVE DISTINCT GROUPS - BEST PERFORMERS, TOP PERFORMERS, LEAD-ERS, ASPIRING LEADERS, AND EMERGING START-UP ECOSYSTEMS.

THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED RANKINGS WERE OF-FICIALLY UNVEILED BY UNION COMMERCE MINISTER PIYUSH GOYAL. THE DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE (DPIIT), A CRUCIAL DEPARTMENT UNDER THE COMMERCE MINISTRY, CARRIED OUT THE **EVALUATION....**

Important Days News

INDIAN ARMY DAY 2024



INDIAN ARMY DAY IS A SPECIAL DAY CELEBRAT-ED ON JANUARY 15 EVERY YEAR, IN 2024, IT WILL BE CELEBRATED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 15.

THIS DAY MARKS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE IN-DIAN ARMY GETTING ITS FIRST INDIAN CHIEF IN 1949.

THIS CHIEF WAS GENERAL K.M. CARIAPPA, WHO TOOK OVER FROM THE BRITISH.

THE THEME FOR INDIAN ARMY DAY IN 2024 IS "IN SERVICE OF THE NATION." THIS MEANS THAT THE INDIAN ARMY IS ALWAYS READY TO SERVE AND PROTECT OUR COUNTRY. THEIR MOTTO IS "SERVICE BEFORE SELF," SHOWING THAT THEY ALWAYS THINK OF THE COUNTRY FIRST.

Pongal 2024



THE PONGAL FESTIVAL, ALSO KNOWN AS BHOGI PONGAL, IS A VIBRANT AND AUSPICIOUS HAR-VESTING FESTIVAL WIDELY CELEBRATED IN IN- DIA.

THIS FOUR-DAY FESTIVAL HOLDS IMMENSE SIG-NIFICANCE IN THE SOUTHERN STATE OF TAM-IL NADU AND MARKS THE BEGINNING OF UT-TARAYAN, SYMBOLIZING THE END OF WINTER AND THE ONSET OF THE HARVEST SEASON.

PONGAL FALLS EVERY YEAR IN JANUARY, DURING THE TAI MONTH OF THE TAMIL SOLAR CALENDAR, AND THIS YEAR, IT BEGINS ON JANUARY 15, LASTS UNTIL JANUARY 18.

THE FESTIVAL IS DEDICATED TO THE SUN GOD, LORD SURYA, AND IS CELEBRATED IN VARIOUS NAMES ACROSS INDIA - MAGH BIHU IN ASSAM, LOHRI IN PUNJAB, AND MAKAR SANKRANTI IN THE NORTHERN PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

MAKAR SANKRANTI 2024

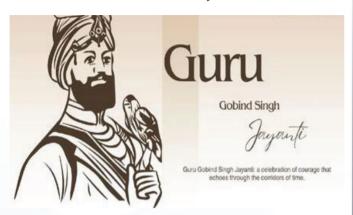


IN 2024, MAKAR SANKRANTI, A HINDU FESTIVAL MARKING THE SUN'S ENTRY INTO CAPRICORN, OCCURS ON JANUARY 15. CELEBRATED BASED ON SOLAR CYCLES, THIS FESTIVAL IS DISTINCTIVE IN HINDU TRADITIONS, SYMBOLIZING THE END OF WINTER AND THE BEGINNING OF LONGER DAYS, COINCIDING WITH THE MONTH OF MAGHA.

MAKAR SANKRANTI, A FESTIVAL CELEBRATED NA-TIONWIDE, HOLDS SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE IN HIN-DUISM. ACCORDING TO VEDIC ASTROLOGY, WHEN THE SUN ENTERS THE ZODIAC SIGN OF CAPRI-CORN, MARKING THE TRANSIT OF SURYADEV INTO HIS SON SHANI'S SIGN, MAKAR SANKRAN-TI IS CELEBRATED. THIS FESTIVAL IS ASSOCIATED WITH RITUALS LIKE GANGA SNAN (BATHING IN

THE GANGES) AND CHARITABLE ACTS.

SRI GURU GOBIND SINGH JAYANTI 2024



GURU GOBIND SINGH JAYANTI, ALSO KNOWN AS PRAKASH UTSAV, IS A SIGNIFICANT SIKH FESTI-VAL COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF GURU GOBIND SINGH JI, THE TENTH AND LAST SIKH GURU. THIS AUSPICIOUS DAY IS CELEBRATED WITH IMMENSE JOY AND FERVOUR BY SIKH COM-MUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

GURU GOBIND SINGH JAYANTI HOLDS IMMENSE SIGNIFICANCE FOR SIKHS AS IT MARKS THE BIRTH OF A VISIONARY LEADER WHO NOT ONLY STRENGTHENED THE SIKH COMMUNITY BUT ALSO STOOD AGAINST TYRANNY AND INJUSTICE.

GURU GOBIND SINGH JUS RENOWNED FOR ESTAB-LISHING THE KHALSA PANTH, A COMMUNITY OF INITIATED SIKHS, IN 1699. THE CREATION OF THE KHALSA SYMBOLIZED THE SPIRIT OF COURAGE, SELFLESSNESS, AND DEVOTION TO RIGHTEOUS-NESS.