

# Current Affairs – Dec 23, 2024

## 1. National Development

### Government Launches Rs. 1,000 Crore Digital Infrastructure Fund



On December 23, 2024, the Indian government launched a new Rs. 1,000 crore fund aimed at enhancing digital infrastructure across the country. The initiative is expected to boost connectivity in rural and underserved areas, helping bridge the digital divide and enhance access to services like education and healthcare.

## 2. International Diplomacy

### India Signs Free Trade Agreement with the European Union



India and the European Union have signed a historic Free Trade Agreement (FTA) on December 23, 2024. This deal is expected to improve trade ties by reducing tariffs, facilitating smoother trade flows, and providing a boost to key sectors such as technology, textiles, and agriculture.

## 3. Economic Initiatives

### Indian Government Approves \$500 Million for Renewable Energy Projects



On December 23, 2024, the Union Cabinet approved a \$500 million fund for expanding renewable energy projects across India. The fund will be used for developing solar, wind, and hydroelectric projects, further cementing India's position as a leader in renewable energy adoption.

#### **4. Education and Research**

##### **IIT Delhi Partners with MIT for Advanced Research Program**



IIT Delhi has entered into a partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to launch a joint advanced research program on artificial intelligence and machine learning. This collaboration, announced on December 23, 2024, aims to foster innovation and support India's growing tech ecosystem.

#### **5. Space Exploration**

##### **India's Gaganyaan Mission Successfully Completes Critical Test**



India's Gaganyaan mission, which aims to send astronauts to space, successfully completed a

critical test flight on December 23, 2024. This test marks a major step toward India's first manned space mission, scheduled for launch in 2025, further elevating the country's space exploration capabilities.

## 6. Sports News

### India Wins Gold at 2024 Asian Badminton Championships



India clinched the gold medal at the 2024 Asian Badminton Championships, held in Bangkok. The Indian team's outstanding performance in the finals secured a historic win, marking their dominance in the sport and earning them international acclaim.