

Current Affairs : December 29, 2024

1. Magnus Carlsen Leaves Tournament:



- The world number one chess player, **Magnus Carlsen**, has left a major chess tournament due to a dress code dispute. His decision has become a topic of discussion in the chess world.

2. Third Eye Asian Film Festival:



- The 21st edition of the **Third Eye Asian Film Festival** will be held from **January 10 to 16, 2025** in **Mumbai and Thane**. A total of **61 films** will be showcased at the MovieMax theaters in Andheri, Sion, and Thane.

3. Haryana Government Increases Ex-Gratia Amount:



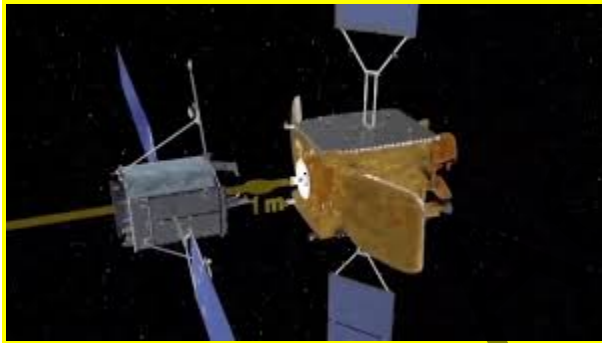
- The **Haryana government** has increased the **ex-gratia amount** for the families of armed forces and **Central Armed Police Forces personnel** from ₹50 lakh to ₹1 crore.

4. **Dr. Manmohan Singh's Funeral:**



- **Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh** was cremated on **December 29, 2024**, at **Nirman Bodh Ghat, New Delhi**, with full state honors.

5. **ISRO's 'SpaDeX Mission':**



- The Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) will launch the '**SpaDeX Mission**' on **December 30, 2024**. Under this mission, two small satellites will be launched for space docking from the **Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)** at **Sriharikota**.

6. **Indian Army's 'Exercise Surya Kiran':**



- A team of the **Indian Army** left for **Nepal** on **December 29, 2024**, to participate in the **18th Battalion-level Joint Military Exercise 'Exercise Surya Kiran'**. The exercise will be held from **December 31, 2024**, to **January 13, 2025**, in **Saljhandi, Nepal**.

7. Uttarakhand Olympic Association's Trial Event:



- The **Uttarakhand Olympic Association** has decided to organize **open trials for Handball and Volleyball** at the **Manoj Sarkar Sports Stadium, Rudrapur** on **January 1, 2025**. These trials are for players who could not participate in the state games.

8. New Voters in Uttarakhand:



- **Uttarakhand** will include **1,23,250 new voters** in the voter list by **January 2025**. According to the office of the **Chief Electoral Officer**, the final voter list will be published on **January 6, 2025**.

9. RBI Approves UPI Access for PPI:



- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has granted permission to access the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** for **Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI)** through third-party applications. This will provide more convenience to holders of prepaid products such as gift cards, metro rail cards, and digital wallets.

10. US Embassy Sets New Record:



- The **US Embassy in India** and its consulates have set a new record by issuing more than **10 lakh non-immigrant visas** for the second consecutive year.

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