

# Current Affairs: December 28, 2024

## 1. PM Modi Chairs 45th PRAGATI Meeting:



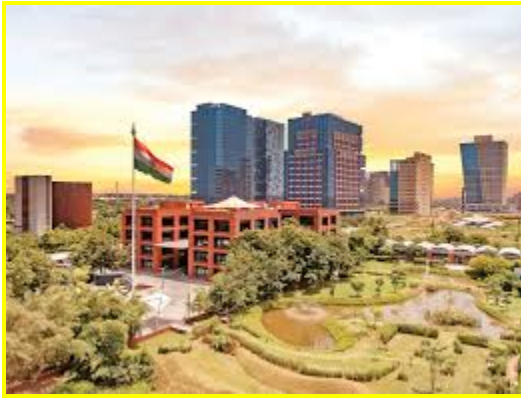
- Prime Minister Modi chaired the 45th PRAGATI meeting, reviewing projects in sectors like urban transport, road connectivity, and renewable energy, with a cost exceeding Rs 1 lakh crore. He emphasized timely execution, sharing best practices for metro projects, and the need for proper rehabilitation of affected families.

## 2. China to Build World's Largest Dam on the Brahmaputra:



- China has approved the construction of a \$137 billion dam on the Brahmaputra River in Tibet. The dam, expected to generate 300 billion kWh of electricity, will have significant environmental and geopolitical implications, especially for India and Bangladesh.

### 3. UK Universities Set to Establish Campuses at GIFT City:



- Two UK universities, Queen's University Belfast and Coventry University, are setting up campuses in India's GIFT City in Gujarat. This follows relaxed regulations that allow foreign universities to operate in India, part of a strategy to make India a global education hub.

### 4. Ocean Anoxic Event 1a:



- Researchers uncovered details of Ocean Anoxic Event 1a, which occurred about 119.5 million years ago during the Cretaceous period. Triggered by undersea volcanic eruptions, this event led to massive marine extinctions due to the lack of oxygen in oceans.

### 5. India's Global Economic Rankings in 2024:



- India has solidified its position as the fifth-largest global economy by nominal GDP, fourth in military power, and 8th in gold reserves. It also ranks 5th in stock market size, showcasing its rising economic stature on the global stage.

## 6. Monthly Per Capita Expenditure Increases:



- Rural areas in India saw a 9% increase in Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE), while urban areas saw an 8% rise in 2023-24. The urban-rural consumption gap is narrowing, with rural India showing faster consumption growth.

## 7. India's First Bio-bitumen-based Highway Stretch Inaugurated:



- India inaugurated its first bio-bitumen-based highway stretch on National Highway (NH) 44, marking a significant step toward sustainable infrastructure. This eco-friendly initiative reduces reliance on fossil fuels for road construction.

## 8. International Day of Epidemic Preparedness Observed:



- December 27 marked the International Day of Epidemic Preparedness. The observance raises awareness about the importance of being prepared for global epidemics and enhancing the response to health crises worldwide.

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