

Current Affairs - 1 January 2025

"Happy New Year 2025! Begin this year with determination, focus, and the belief that every small step brings you closer to your dreams—this is your year to conquer!"

1. India-Pakistan Diplomatic Exchange



India and Pakistan exchanged lists of nuclear installations as per the 1988 Agreement on Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations. Additionally, both nations shared details of civilian prisoners and fishermen under the 2008 Consular Access Agreement. India requested Pakistan to release 183 prisoners and provide consular access to 18 missing individuals.

2. India's Renewable Energy Milestone



India surpassed 200 GW of installed renewable energy capacity, registering a 14% growth in 2024. The success is attributed to schemes like PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana and the National Green Hydrogen Mission, which created over 6 lakh jobs and reduced 5 MMT of carbon emissions.

3. Romania and Bulgaria Join Schengen Zone



Romania and Bulgaria officially became members of the EU's Schengen area, removing land border controls between these countries and the rest of the Schengen zone. This marks a significant step toward enhanced integration within the European Union.

4. China's High-Speed Train Prototype



China introduced the CR450, the world's fastest high-speed train prototype, capable of speeds up to 450 km/h. The train, designed for energy efficiency and enhanced passenger safety, is set to begin commercial operations in 2025, showcasing China's rail technology advancements.

5. World Blitz Chess Championship 2024



Magnus Carlsen and Ian Nepomniachtchi shared the championship title in a nail-biting World Blitz Chess Championship 2024. Ju Wenjun of China dominated the Women's section, securing her second consecutive victory and further cementing her legacy in chess.

6. Global Climate Action and India's Leadership



India reaffirmed its leadership in global climate action by announcing its ambitious carbon capture and storage technology initiative. This project aims to offset 10% of India's annual emissions by 2030, a bold step toward achieving its net-zero target by 2070.

7. Global Trade Growth Forecast



The World Trade Organization (WTO) projected a modest global trade growth of 2.8% in 2025, reflecting ongoing geopolitical tensions and inflationary pressures. However, India is expected to outpace global trends, driven by exports of technology, textiles, and pharmaceuticals.

8. India's Sports Achievements Recognized



The International Olympic Committee (IOC) hailed India as a rising sports power, highlighting the nation's record-breaking performance in the 2024 Paris Olympics. With 24 medals, including 6 golds, India secured its best-ever finish, boosting the nation's sports culture and infrastructure.