

# MAHITHI MONTHLY SNIPPETS JANUARY 2024

## NAMMAKpsc SPECIAL EDITION



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- U.S. Department of Energy recently discovered the world's largest Lithium reserve beneath California's Salton Sea + Shallow saline lake + Southeastern part of the U.S. state of California - in the Colorado Desert + One of the largest inland seas in California + Remnant of prehistoric Lake Cahuilla
- ISRO launches XPoSat + Acronym - X-ray Polarimeter Satellite + Aim - Analysing the polarisation of X-rays emanating from bright celestial sources in the medium frequency band + POLIX & XSPECT are 2 payloads
- NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Arvind Panagariya Chairman to head 16th Finance Commission + Constitutional body - Article 280 + Appointed every five years + Function – decides federal fiscal distribution
- Sangita Kalanidhi award 2023 - Carnatic vocalist Bombay Jayashri Ramnath + By the Madras Music Academy
- India and Pakistan exchanged a list of their nuclear installations under a bilateral pact (signed 1988) that prohibits the two sides from attacking each other's atomic facilities, continuing an annual practice that began in 1992
- Paramilitary forces are set to adopt the 'Sandes App' for official communication and document sharing in the coming year
- Joint Military Exercise 'Desert Cyclone 2024' between India and UAE to be held in Rajasthan
- In Squash, Indian teenager Anahat Singh bags girls' under-19 2023 Scottish Junior Open title at Edinburgh
- DRDO celebrates 66th Foundation Day + Established in 1958 + Operates under the Department of Defense Research and Development + Research and development of defense technologies
- BWSSB gets Climate Smart Utilities Award 2023 by International Water Association + 2023 Second edition + Supported by African Water Association (AfWASA) + Aims - Raise awareness of the steps being taken by water and sanitation utilities operating in challenging conditions to respond to climate change
- 'Mentor a Student' initiative + By department of School Education Karnataka + help students score well in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination
- Centre has amended the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules of 2021, to allow women government employees and pensioners to nominate their children for receiving family pension over their spouse
- The pristine hills of the Meghamalai in Tamil Nadu have thrown up a new species of 'silverline' butterflies
- The Kanaka Line, or Corridor 4, will connect Heelige in southern Bengaluru to Rajanukunte in the northern suburbs over 46.88 km. It will have 19 stations, including Carmelaram, Benniganahalli, Channasandra and Yelahanka
- 5th Millets and Organics International Trade Fair Karnataka held + Karnataka has set a target of doubling its millets export + had exported 7,764 tonnes of millets and their value based products, amounting to about ₹36 crore during 2022-23 + accounted for nearly 40% of the country's millet production
- Pangolin conservation project has succeeded at Pench Tiger Reserve and Satpura Tiger Reserve + Started after 2019 + Launched by Madhya Pradesh with help of Wildlife Conservation Trust, Mumbai + Indian Pangolin species of pangolin native to the Indian

subcontinent - Unique mammals known for their protective keratin scales and are often referred to as "scaly anteaters."

- Union Govt to end Free Movement Regime with Myanmar + Arrangement as part of the Central government's Act East policy 2018 + Allowed hill tribes citizens of India or Myanmar to travel within 16 km on either side of the Indo-Myanmar Border (IMB)
- Karnataka govt to introduce common calendar, fee structure and evaluation process in public universities + in accordance with committee recommendation of Y S Siddegowda report + constituted by Karnataka State Higher Education Council
- Classical dancer and choreographer Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari was presented with the 'Nritya Kalanidhi' award at the 17th Dance Festival of the Music Academy
- The European Union imposed sanctions on Russia's state-run diamond giant Alrosa as part of a ban on imports of the precious stones over the Ukraine war
- Karman Line: Located at 100 km (62 miles) above sea level, it is an imaginary line that demarcates the earth's atmosphere from space
- As a first, the Forest Department in Odisha has planned a 'nocturnal trail' for people, especially students and researchers, in the Chandaka-Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary
- Vice Admiral Sanjay J Singh takes over as flag officer commanding-in-chief, western naval command
- 'SMART 2.0' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research among Teaching professionals) – By Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) + promote robust clinical studies in priority areas of Ayurveda with Ayurveda academic institutions/hospitals across the country through mutual collaboration
- Oman To Host FIH Hockey5s World Cup Qualifiers
- The vice-chancellor of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University has been honored with the Swaminathan Award. The award recognizes his contribution to the field of agronomy as a scientist and extension specialist
- Jammu and Kashmir becomes first UT to implement PM Vishwakarma Yojana + Central Sector Scheme to uplift traditional artisans and craftspeople with loans, skill training and certificates
- Union expands Simplified Certification Scheme to include 37 more products + For applicants dealing with Group A equipment + submit a test-wise compliance sheet and a Self-Declaration of Conformity (SDoC) for parameters included in ERs + Nodal agency - Telecommunication Engineering Centre TEC
- Himachal Pradesh state government has finally issued notification to give Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the Hattee community of Trans-Giri area of Sirmaur district
- Kochi-Lakshadweep Islands Submarine Optical Fiber Connection (KLI-SOFC) launched + Lakshadweep will be connected through Submarine Optic Fibre Cable - ensure a paradigm shift in communication infrastructure in the Lakshadweep islands
- India started its four-year term as a member of the United Nations Statistical Commission - United Nations Statistical Commission + Functional commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) + Established in 1947
- An inscription written in Kannada and Sanskrit and said to be of Kadamba period 10th century A.D. has been discovered in the Mahadeva temple at Cacoda in southern Goa.
- Rashmi Shukla becomes first woman Maharashtra DGP
- Railways to get Fog Pass Devices - GPS based navigation device that helps the loco pilot to navigate during dense fog conditions

- ERNET - India's newly developed integrated web portal for educational institutes in the country + By Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology + offer domain registration, DNS and value-added services viz. Website as a Service (WaaS) and Learning Management as a Service (LMaaS)
- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports announced 'Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar' 2023 + Identification and nurturing of budding / young talent - Jain Deemed to be University, Bengaluru + Encouragement to sports through Corporate Social Responsibility - Odisha Mining Corporate Limited
- GOLDN – Instrument by IIT Bombay + For melt-mixing of waste thermoplastic polymers and inorganic particulate fillers to manufacture polymer composites
- The Election Commission of India (ECI) brought in new rules for the allocation of symbols to registered unrecognised political parties (RUPPs) + Mandatory for parties to furnish audited accounts of the last three financial years, expenditure statements of the last two elections, and the signature of the authorized office-bearer of the party along with the application form for symbols + In accordance with Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968
- Supreme Court judge Justice BR Gavai has been nominated as the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) + Body established under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free legal services
- Ministry of Education launches PRERANA program + Week-long residential program for selected students of class IX to XII for experiential and inspirational learning + Will run from a Vernacular School Mehsana, Gujarat
- Government of India has accorded its approval for India's participation in the international mega science project, Square Kilometer Array (SKA) + Ten countries involved are - Australia, Canada, China, India, Italy, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, the Netherlands and UK + DAE - lead agency
- Padma Shri awardee Rani Machaiah, an esteemed exponent of the Ummathat folk dance art of Kodagu (Coorg), has been named the 'Coorg Person of the Year 2023'
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully tested a 100 W-class Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel Cell-based Power System (FCPS) in its orbital platform, POEM3, which was launched on board PSLV-C58
- Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM) - first advanced Pure EV architecture—acti.ev (pronounced as active) of India + By Tata Motors Ltd. subsidiary + spawn a variety of products with multiple body styles and sizes, the company said in a statement
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has submitted three nominations from India for Wetland City Accreditation (WCA) of Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) & Udaipur (Rajasthan) under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
- A new plant species of Polygonum genus has been discovered at Gol Pahadi Island of the Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra
- South Korea recently introduced a new visa for foreigners allowing them to visit the country on a working holiday or workation
- Researchers at IISER Bhopal recently developed a new photocatalyst called UC-POP-Au, which absorbs the entire spectrum of light, making it a potent catalyst for chemical processes
- Union Cabinet cleared a nearly Rs 5,000-crore climate-science package. Aims to install more sensors for collecting weather and ocean data as well as developing high-quality

computer simulation models for better weather prediction for five-years by Ministry of Earth Sciences

- PRITHvi Vgyan (PRITHVI) scheme cleared by Union government. It is Initiative of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) that aims to enhance the understanding of the Earth and its vital signs for Time period for 2021-26
- Researchers recently created the world's first functional semiconductor made from graphene. Graphene is a single layer of carbon atoms. New research has overcome graphene research in 'band gap,' - important electronic property that allows semiconductors to switch on and off
- Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina secured a record fourth straight term as her Awami League party won two-thirds of the seats in the general elections
- The United States Department of State recently released data that indicates significant progress in the processing of EB-5 applications that are currently pending, especially those from Indian citizens
- ISRO recently said it has successfully tested a futuristic fuel cell-based power system A fuel cell - device that generates electricity by a chemical reaction+ applications -providing power for applications across multiple sectors
- After 10 years, the Pallas fish eagle, was sighted in the Chilika during the bird census carried out by the Chilika wildlife division
- The recent reappearance of toxic foam on the Indrayani river, tributary of Bhima once again raised concerns about pollution
- India signs Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024 with Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)
- Montane birds hit by forest logging, climate change, finds IISc study. FOREST LOGGING - Practice of cutting down, removing, or harvesting trees from forests for various purposes, primarily to obtain wood and other forest products
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has utilised road construction technology i.e. Rejupave technology to build high-altitude bituminous road sections at the Sela tunnel and LGG-Damteng-Yangste (LDY) road near the India-China border in Arunachal Pradesh
- The Indian Space Research Organization's inaugural solar mission, Aditya-L1, has been positioned at Lagrange Point 1
- In a first, a C-130 Super Hercules tactical transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force made a night landing at the Advanced Landing Ground (ALG) in Kargil close to the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan along with a team of Garud special forces
- Graama-Kannada Audio Search - search engine for Tumakuru dialect + developed by Students of International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (IIIT-B)
- Scientists recently uncovered the fossils of the newfound species of carnivorous worm, named Timorebestia koprii, or "terror beast", in northern Greenland
- Hog deer - spotted for the first time at the Rajaji Tiger Reserve (Uttarakhand, Est – 1983 , Named after C Rajagopalachari) + native solitary endangered (schedule 1) creature in India
- Tricholime - new granular lime-based Trichoderma formulation + by Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) Kozhikode + Trichoderma is a fungal biocontrol agent, has proven effective in suppressing several soil-borne plant pathogens and serves as a successful bio-pesticide and bio-fertilizer in crop production.
- Peregrine lander module is Lunar mission + carried by Vulcan rocket + First US lunar lander since 1972

- Tshering Tobgay elected as prime minister of Bhutan
- South Korea bans production and sale of dog meat
- Gabriel Attal - France's youngest-ever and first openly gay PM
- Music maestro Rashid Khan passes away at 55
- Research team at Stanford University has found the absorption capacity of a sisal-based material to be higher than those in commercial menstrual pads
- Researchers at the Indian Institutes of Technology Madras and Mandi have metabolically engineered *Nothapodytes nimmoniana* plant cells to increase production of anti-cancer drug camptothecin (CPT)
- Noted hindi litterateur, Pandit Hariram Dwivedi passed away
- Prime Minister shares devotional bhajan "Sabne Tumhein Pukara Shree Ram Ji" sung by Hariharan
- Regional Conference on the theme "e- Governance" held in Guwahati
- International Purple Festival - six days of celebration and empowerment for Persons with Disabilities + celebration of inclusivity and empowerment + 2024 edition held in Goa
- The data and terminology relating to diseases based on Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani systems will now be included in the WHO's ICD11 classification. WHO ICD - Latest version of the global standard for reporting diseases and health conditions started in 2018
- Nepal and India have reached an understanding to take forward the procedural activities of the 6,480-megawatt Pancheshwar Multipurpose power plant on Mahakali river that forms boundary between the 2 countries
- India to become chair of World Heritage Committee first time + Part of UNESCO + Under World Heritage Convention adopted by UNESCO in 1972 + Aims to identify, protect, and preserve cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value
- Golden Globes 2024 presented + Awards by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA) + Started in 1944
- Chandubi Festival was celebrated along the Chandubi Lake in the state of Assam aimed at promoting eco-tourism in this biodiversity hotspot of Assam
- Conjoined Silverline (*Cigaritis conjuncta*) – new butterfly species found in Kodagu for the first time + Iruppu Falls area of the Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctuary
- The Karnataka high court has held that the exclusive reservation, conferred on women while recruiting 'nursing officers' under the Indian Military Nursing Services Ordinance, 1943, violates the rights guaranteed under Articles 14, 16 (2), and 21 of the Constitution of India
- The Bengaluru Rural District Police, in collaboration with Alliance University organised an awareness campaign on 'Say no to drugs' on the Alliance University's central campus
- With repeated controversies erupting over rejection of tableaux for the Republic Day parade year after year, the Defence Ministry has proposed a plan for the States and Union Territories to showcase their display by rotation
- India's first healthy & hygienic food street 'Prasadam' inaugurated in Ujjain Mahakaleshwar temple
- The Karnataka Forest Department recently started collecting green tax, Rs 10 from two-wheelers and Rs 20 from four-wheelers, entering BR Hills through BRT Tiger Reserve
- 10th edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 + theme - 'Gateway to the Future' + Organized by Gujarat
- Drishti 10 'Starliner' – First indigenous UAV + By Adani Defence and Aerospace

- Defence Research and Development Organisation recently launched an indigenous assault rifle named 'Ugram'
- Maheshwar Rao appointed Bengaluru Metro's full-time MD
- BTP reintroduced horse mounted police for "aerial law enforcement" in and around Vidhana Soudha + enhancing visibility + security for the crowd gathering on the weekends
- I-STEM(Indian Science, Technology, and Engineering Facilities Map), an initiative from the Office of Principal Scientific Adviser is launching a major project called 'Samavesha' to revolutionise research collaboration in India by enhancing accessibility to facilities and labs
- National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) project has introduced a mobile app 'Report Fish Disease' to track and monitor fish diseases across the country
- Exercise Sea Dragon-24: multinational maritime exercise that encourages professional exchanges and teamwork among participating navies. Participating countries: India, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and the US
- China recently sent a new astronomical satellite called the Einstein Probe into space to observe mysterious transient phenomena in the universe that flicker like fireworks
- Palaeontologists in Argentina recently found fossil fragments of a new species of dinosaur named Sidersaura marae
- The Hubble Space Telescope recently captured an image of the spiral galaxy, MCG-01-24-014, revealing the enigmatic beauty of what is known as 'forbidden' light. Spiral galaxies are twisted collections of stars and gas that often have beautiful shapes and are made up of hot, young stars
- The over-a-century old Yakshagana mela, the Kateel Durgaparameshwari Prasadita Yakshagana Mandali, in Dakshina Kannada will revert to all-night shows from January 14, after the High Court of Karnataka gave the go-ahead for the same last month subject to adherence to noise pollution rules
- India recently flagged concerns on European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) + tax on carbon intensive goods that are entering the EU
- 2024 Henley Passport Index released. Annual global ranking of passports based on their visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to other countries. France gained first rank
- Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023 conferred + Annual cleanliness survey + Conducted by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs + Quality council of India + Assess and rank cities and towns in terms of cleanliness and sanitation + Indore cleanest city
- Makaravilakku is an annual festival held on Makara Sankranti in Kerala, India at the shrine of Sabarimala
- Urdu poet Munawwar Rana passes away
- The State Bank of India (SBI) recently introduced the SBI Green Rupee Term Deposit (SGRTD) scheme to mobilise funds to support environment friendly initiatives and projects
- Astronomers recently unveiled the discovery of an Earth-like planet, younger and closer than any previously identified, named HD 63433d
- Prime Minister condoles demise of renowned classical singer, Dr. Prabha Atre
- Indian Navy Ships Cheetah, Guldar and Kumbhir were decommissioned. Cheetah, Guldar and Kumbhir were built at Gdynia Shipyard, Poland as Polnocny class Landing Ships and were commissioned into the Indian Navy in 1984, 1985 and 1986 respectively

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh approves proposal to launch Group (Term) Insurance Scheme for Casual Paid Labourers engaged by BRO . Family to get insured value of Rs 10 lakh as insurance in any kind of CPL death
- India's First National Highway Steel Slag Road section on NH- 66 Mumbai-Goa National Highway inaugurated. JSW Steel, under the CSIR-CRRI technological guidance, has constructed the 1 km long four lane steel slag road section on Indapur-Panvel Section of NH-66 Mumbai-Goa
- State-of-art AI supported Telemedicine Mobile Clinic launched for remote hilly areas in Udhampur
- India is set to become the world's largest producer of lentil (masoor) during the 2023-24 crop years on account of higher acreage + Crucial component of the Indian diet + Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra are among the leading states in terms of lentil cultivation
- Himalayan Wolf recategorized as Vulnerable by IUCN
- Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has been designated as Dark Sky Park fifth in Asia, protecting the night sky and preventing light pollution
- DRDO conducts successful flight-test of New Generation AKASH missile off Odisha coast + Surface-to-air new generation missile
- Rising sea level and erosion of the beach in front of the Kapil Muni temple on Sagar Island are turning out to be a damper on the Ganga Sagar Mela. It is a ritualistic bath in West Bengal on Sankranti
- Scientists at the University of Oxford in the UK have launched first-in-human vaccine trials for the deadly Nipah virus which impacts many Asian countries, including India called ChAdOx1 NipahB vaccine
- State-owned firm Khanij Bidesh India Ltd (KABIL) signed lithium exploration pact for five blocks in Argentina. This is the first-ever lithium exploration and mining project by a Government Company of India. KABIL will start the exploration and development of 5 lithium brine blocks viz 1. Cortadera-I, 2. Cortadera-VII, 3
- On January 15, 1949, Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa became the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, and took over authority from the British Commander-in-Chief General Francis Butcher, and became the first Indian to command the Army in its long, rich history – Indian army day
- Researchers from Mizoram University's zoology department have discovered a new species of coral snake in Mizoram
- Kachchi Kharek from Gujarat (Kutch) gets GI Tag + Traditional dried fruit made from dates
- Astra Missiles for supply to the Indian Air Force (IAF) flagged off + Developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) + Manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL) + Beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missile
- 14th Ministerial-level meeting of the India-United States Trade Policy Forum (TPF) held in New Delhi. Established in 2005 to strengthen economic ties and address trade-related matters between India and the United States
- Corbevax - India's first indigenously developed Covid-19 vaccine + based on a protein sub-unit platform +received the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s Emergency Use Listing (EUL) + developed by Hyderabad-based Biological E Limited (BE)



- Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) has developed an indigenous technological solution for fishermen at sea to send emergency messages from fishing boats. The second-generation Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT-SG) is an upgrade on DATs that have been operational since 2010
- Maiden Bilateral Maritime Exercise -Ayutthaya' between the Indian Navy (IN) and Royal Thai Navy (RTN) was conducted
- MPLADS e-SAKSHI Mobile Application for revised fund flow procedure under MPLAD Scheme launched + MPLAD Scheme - enable the Members of Parliament (MPs) to recommend works of developmental nature
- The Bureau of Indian Standards has issued 'Standardized Development and Building Regulations, 2023,' encapsulated in Special Publication SP 73: 2023. The Special Publication mark a significant stride towards revolutionizing India's built environment
- Chief Minister of Karnataka launched several computer software that integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) to aid the police in analysing cases and to assist citizens with their queries
- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative + Integrates FASTag + Mandates KYC registration of FASTag
- First sight of rare bear Tibetan brown bear in Sikkim makes it first confirmed record in India
- Government of India has decided to include Farsi (Persian) as one of the classical languages in India under the New Education Policy. It is Indo-Iranian language spoken primarily in Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan
- The Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, one of the oldest CSIR laboratories, has developed an opto-mechanical system using mirrors and pipes to help guide the sun rays to fall on the forehead of the deity on the Ram Navami – a day to commemorate the birth of lord Rama
- R Praggnanandhaa defeated world champion Ding Liren of China in the fourth round of the Tata Steel Chess Tournament . He surpassed the legendary Viswanathan Anand as the top-rated Indian player
- Scientists recently discovered a new species of fungus in Kerala, named 'Paramyrothecium indicum'
- The 9th edition of the Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival (PPHF), a state festival of Arunachal Pradesh, will take place at Seijosa in the Pakke Kessang district
- REC Limited issues inaugural Japanese Yen (JPY) 61.1 billion green bonds under the Global Medium Term Notes Programme + A green bond is a type of debt instrument specifically designed to fund projects and initiatives that have positive environmental or climate-related benefits
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, launched two flagship programs – “Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Intelligent Internet of Things (IIoT) Sensors” and India’s first Graphene Centre “India Innovation Centre for Graphene (IICG)” at Maker Village, Kochi, Kerala
- ASER Karnataka report 2023 released by non-profit Pratham + Mysuru was studies + Learning levels needs to be improved in Karnataka
- Hambi Kepathu sport of North east gets revival at Karbi Youth Festival (KYF) + played using seeds of African dream herb
- World Economic Forum annual meet held in Davos

- 4th states' Start-up Ranking a yearly capacity building exercise by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) released. Bengaluru adorns the title of 'India's start-up capital'
- Cabinet approves Memorandum of Intent (MoI) between India and Netherlands on cooperation in the field of Medical products Regulation
- Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India , Dominican Republic , Kenya, Ecuador on cooperation in the field of Medical Products Regulation
- Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and Kenya on cooperation in the field of sharing successful Digital Solutions implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation
- Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and the European Commission on Working Arrangements on Semiconductors Ecosystems under the framework of EU-India Trade and Technology Council
- First in many years, a vulture was spotted in the skyline of Thane which has not been spotted over two decades in the city
- Prime Minister of India paid tributes to Saint Thiruvalluvar on Thiruvalluvar Day. He was a poet and philosopher, is regarded as a cultural icon by Tamils. He is fondly referred to as Valluvar by Tamils
- The Forest Department of Tamil Nadu has cleared 356.50 hectares of invasive growth of Senna spectabilis that posed a threat to biodiversity conservation in Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR)
- The Indian Vice President recently inaugurated the 12th General Assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace in New Delhi. It was founded in 1970 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Its aim is to bring together the efforts of Buddhists in support of consolidating universal peace, harmony, and cooperation among people in Asia
- Recently, a team from the Thackeray Wildlife Foundation (TWF) has discovered the first-ever viviparous skink genus and five new species belonging to it from peninsular India
- Japan recently landed a spacecraft called SLIM (Smart Lander for Investigating Moon) on the lunar surface, becoming the 5th country after the Soviet Union, the US, China and India to achieve a soft landing on the moon
- The recently launched Forgotten Trails: Foraging Wild Edibles, authored by Malemleima Ningombi and Harisha RP, chronicled the foods that Soligas and Yeravas tribes forage from the forests. Indigenous groups Soligas and Yeravas have been living in the Cauvery Basin and the surrounding hills of peninsular India for thousands of years
- Chief Minister of Odisha unveiled a sprawling heritage corridor around the Jagannath Temple in Puri
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed an improvised Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT) with advanced capabilities and features for the fishermen at sea to send emergency messages from fishing boats. The first version of DAT has been operational since 2010
- UCO Bank entered into an MoU with Poornatha and Company to launch UCO Empower, an online training programme for MSME customers in vernacular languages under the bank's CSR activity
- MNRE launches SIGHT scheme to incentivise production of green hydrogen + Acronym - Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition + Aim - Bolster domestic electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the 'Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana', a government scheme under which one crore households will get rooftop solar power systems
- The recent use of Mosquitofish has led these fishes becoming invasive in India + Called Gambusia + Feed on mosquito + Introduced in India first time in 1928
- In a first-of-its-kind model of convergence, Kanger Valley National Park, Chattisgarh is working with a coalition of various organizations and government departments to prepare a landscape-based ecological restoration plan for the national park
- Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) a wholly owned subsidiary of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) launched India's first indigenously developed Hepatitis A vaccine 'Havisure' in Hyderabad
- 19th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit was held in Kampala, the capital of Uganda. Uganda has taken over as chair from Azerbaijan, to run until 2027. Theme: 'Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence'
- Air India launched its maiden scheduled commercial flight of the Airbus A350-900 from Bengaluru to Mumbai
- Former India cricketers Ravi Shastri and Farokh Engineer were awarded the prestigious Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award during the BCCI's 'Naman' Awards
- Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve in Assam has received the addition of two new mammalian species, the elusive binturong (*Arctictis binturong*) and the small-clawed otter
- Delhi to Kanyakumari Bikers Rally, under Siddha Wellness Rally & Awareness Campaign (SWRAC) to be flag-offed
- For the year 2024, 60 Parachute Field Hospital, Uttar Pradesh, in the Institutional category, has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2024 for its excellent work in Disaster Management
- The Indian Army contingent comprising 25 personnel reached Egypt to take part in the India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise CYCLONE
- India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR has commenced at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh
- New innovative plant-inspired robot which is named FiloBot has been developed that climbs up structures just like climbing vines
- International Institute of Information Technology (IIITB) has introduced a new course — Competitive Programming — that will help humans solve problems that even AI tools struggle with
- The Army has launched Operation Sarvashakti in the Rajouri-Poonch sector of Jammu and Kashmir, deploying forces on both sides of the Pir Panjal range to target terrorists who have carried out a series of attacks on troops in the area
- Election Commission of India (ECI) has conducted a training programme in virtual mode on the recently introduced Election Seizure Management System (ESMS) for the officers concerned from Andhra Pradesh
- The Lake Retba's waters are virtually devoid of life and are on the verge of disappearing due to pollution and mining. Also known as Lac Rose, is a unique and stunning natural wonder located in Senegal, West Africa
- 9th India International Science Festival (IISF) held in Haryana
- India has been elected as the First Vice Chair of the Food and Agriculture Organization's Committee on Fisheries (COFI) Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management

- The vulture population in seven tiger reserves and forest areas in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala has registered a remarkable increase from 246 in February 2023 to 308 according to synchronised population estimation survey
- Odisha will start a melanistic tiger safari near Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR). Melanism is a genetic condition in which an increased production of melanin, a substance in the skin that produces hair, eye, and skin pigmentation, results in black (or nearly black) skin, feathers, or hair in an animal
- Padma Awards 2024 announced
- Japan's space agency has confirmed its moon-lander successfully achieved its pinpoint landing on the moon
- A team of archaeologists recently discovered two stone inscriptions of 'Grantham' and Tamil dating 11th and 16th centuries respectively at Pazhnchervazhi village near Kangayam. Grantha is an important historical script that was once used to write Sanskrit throughout South East Asia and greater Tamil Nadu.
- Scientists have discovered that a shallow "soda lake" in western Canada could be a good match for Darwin's "warm little ponds" where life got started on the primordial Earth
- The government has given administrative approval for installing the statue of former chief minister Devaraj Urs, in front of the new DC office complex at Siddarthanagar in Mysuru
- Republic Day flower show in Lalbhag saw the largest-ever turnout with around 95,000 people visiting the show and the organisers said the total collection was ₹258.9 lakh; this year, the flower show was centred around social reformer Basaveshwara
- A working group constituted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) made certain recommendations to address issues relating to guarantees extended by State governments
- Finance Minister recently rejected the theory that India's ongoing recovery is 'K-shaped'. It is a Economic term used to describe a scenario in which different segments of an economy recover from a downturn at different rates or in different directions, creating divergent paths of growth
- Laughing gull, a migratory bird from North America, has been sighted for the first time in the country at the Chittari estuary in Kasaragod district
- The new Mahindra Armado recently made its first appearance at the Republic Day Parade. It is India's first Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV)
- Rohan Bopanna became the oldest ATP Masters 1000 champion at 43 years . Achievement of winning all four major championships within a calendar year
- Bengaluru will host the largest annual gathering of astronomers from India when the 42nd meeting of the Astronomical Society of India
- Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare prepared a framework to promote Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM) in the agricultural sector of the country with a view to encourage small and medium farmers to avail benefits of carbon credit.
- Ministry of Culture's Tableau on theme 'India: Mother of Democracy' clinches First Spot at Republic Day Parade 2024
- Inaugural edition of India-Saudi Arabia Joint Military Exercise 'SADA TANSEEQ' held at Mahajan, Rajasthan
- Dr Nitya Anand, who discovered India's first oral contraceptive pill, 'Saheli', passed away recently

- Researchers recently discovered a previously unidentified protein named mitochondrial coxiella effector F (MceF) with antioxidant properties produced by *Coxiella burnetii*, a Gram-negative intracellular bacterium
- First-ever survey of India's snow leopard conducted + Four-year-long exercise named Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAI) + By MOEFCC + Mysuru-based Nature Conservation Foundation + Wildlife Institute of India + wildlife biologists and conservationists + India has estimated 718 snow leopards spread over six states and Union Territories
- International Health Regulations National Focal Point (IHR NFP) in Argentina alerted the World Health Organization of a human case of Western Equine Encephalitis Virus (WEEV) infection + Mosquito-borne virus + Primarily found in North America

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