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**JANUARY 24 ENGLISH**

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## JANUARY – 2024

### **FIRST IN NEWS**

1. **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare** has inaugurated the 1<sup>st</sup> Healthy & Hygienic Food Street of country **PRASADAM** in **Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh**.
2. **Punjab** has become the 1<sup>st</sup> state to **map accident black spots** as part of the Road Safety.
3. **Goa** has become the 1<sup>st</sup> state in the country to launch a **model for regenerative tourism**.
4. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has launched 1<sup>st</sup> pilot project to make **jet fuel from alcohol** in **Pune**.
5. **Cameroon** in **Africa** has become the 1<sup>st</sup> country in the world to launch the **RTS, S malaria vaccine** for children into its routine national immunisation services.
6. The country's 1<sup>st</sup> **all-girl Sainik School** inaugurated in **Mathura, Uttar Pradesh**.
7. India's first 'Zero Waste Street Food Festival' was inaugurated in Delhi

### **POLITY**

1. **Arvind Panagariya** has been appointed as the chairman of the **16<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission**
2. **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation** has launched **National Single Window System** (NSWS) to streamline the import, clinical investigations, and testing of medical devices.
3. **Jammu and Kashmir** has become the 1<sup>st</sup> Union Territory to implement the **PM Vishwakarma Yojana (PMVY)**.
4. The Government is considering a proposal to sell FCI (Food Corporation of India) rice under the '**Bharat**' brand

5. **India's first submarine tourism** is to be setup in **Gujarat**, surrounding **Bet Dwarka city**

### ***SCHEMES IN NEWS***

<b>Scheme Name</b>	<b>Launched by</b>	<b>Objective</b>
<b>PRITHvi Vigyan (PRITHVI)</b>	<b>Ministry of Earth Sciences</b>	To enhance the <b>understanding of the Earth</b> and its vital signs.
<b>Pradhanmantri Suryodaya Yojana</b>	<b>Ministry of New and Renewable Energy</b>	To provide <b>Rooftop Solar (RTS) power systems</b> to <b>1 crore households</b> .
<b>'Prerana' Programme (experiential and inspirational learning program)</b>	It is a <b>week-long residential program</b> for selected students of <b>class IX to XII</b> .	<b>Ministry of Education</b>

### ***ECONOMY***

1. Ministry of Finance has imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of **'Wheel Loaders'** from **China**
2. **OLA Electric** has become **1<sup>st</sup> Electronic Vehicle (EV)** company to get Production Linked Incentive (PLI) approval.
3. **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** has entered into an MOU with the **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)** to develop and report a **"Green Cover Index"**.
4. **Reserve Bank of India** has **cancelled** the **licence of Hiriyr Urban Co-operative Bank** due to inadequate capital and earning prospects.
5. National Highway Authority of India has launched the **'One Vehicle, One FASTag'** initiative.

6. **Center for Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR)** of **World Economic Forum** has setup its **1<sup>st</sup> thematic centre** in **Hyderabad**, Telangana to focus on **life sciences** and **healthcare**.
7. The **Reserve Bank of India's** (RBI) maiden report on **'Finances of Panchayati Raj Institutions'** was released.
8. **Appointment Committee of the Cabinet** (ACC) headed by PM Narendra Modi has approved the reappointment of **Michael Debabrata Patra** as **Deputy Governor** of the RBI.
9. Geographical Indication (GI) tag:

Product	State
<b>Adi kekir (Ginger)</b>	Arunachal Pradesh
<b>Tangail Sarees</b> <b>Korial Sarees</b> <b>Garad Sarees</b>	West Bengal
<b>Kanteimundi brinjal</b>	Odisha
<b>Kachchhi Kharekb (Fruit)</b>	Gujarat

### **ENVIRONMENT**

1. **NITI Aayog**, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and **FAO** have jointly launched the **'Investment Forum for Advancing Climate Resilient Agrifood Systems in India'** in New Delhi.
2. **World Bank** (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, IBRD) has introduced innovative **7-year USD 100 million plastic waste reduction-linked bond** to tackle plastic pollution.
3. The Tamil Nadu government sanctioned ₹19.5 crore for the establishment of a **rescue, treatment and rehabilitation centre (RTRC)** for wildlife at **Pethikuttai** near **Sirumugai** in Coimbatore.
4. Odisha planned to Setup **World's First 'Black Tiger Safari'** in **Mayurbhanj**

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

1. **Lucknow** in Uttar Pradesh will be developed as **first Artificial Intelligence (AI) city of India**.
2. **NASA** has launched 5 payloads to soft land on the surface of Moon aboard **Peregrine Mission One (PM1)**.
  - **Peregrine Lander** is designed to carry scientific instruments and other payloads to the **Moon's surface**, specifically targeting the **Sinus Viscositatis region**.
3. **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.
4. **Denmark** has started a project called **Green Fuels Alliance India** to strengthen teamwork between **India and Denmark** in the field of **sustainable energy solutions**.
5. **China** has launched new satellite **Einstein Probe** which is shaped like a lotus to **observe violent cosmic phenomena**.
6. **World Health Organization** has certified **Cabo Verde** (also known as Cape Verde) as a **malaria-free country**.
7. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), has successfully landed **Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM)** on **surface of moon**.
  - **SLIM** Mission aims to demonstrate **precision landing within 100 metres** through new technologies.
8. **Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps** of Iran has launched **Sorayya satellite** using a three-stage solid-fuel Qaem 100 satellite carrier.
9. **ISRO** has developed an improvised **Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT)**. It has advanced capabilities and features for the **fishermen at sea to send emergency messages** from fishing boats.



## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

1. 5 New countries have joined BRICS in 2024:
  - i) Egypt
  - ii) Ethiopia
  - iii) Iran
  - iv) Saudi Arabia
  - v) United Arab Emirates
2. **Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M)** to open new campus at **Kandy in Sri Lanka** in 2024.
3. **India** has been elected as the **1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair** of the **FAO's COFI Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management**.
4. The **Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP)** had convened its 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in **New Delhi**
5. **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** in **Ukraine**, in partnership with the Government of Denmark, has launched two **“green rooms” in Ukraine**
6. **Kyrgyzstan** declares **Snow Leopard** as its National Symbol

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

1. **Uttar Pradesh** has ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in country in **Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)** for 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year.
2. **Tamil Nadu Coir Policy 2024** is released which aims to attract investments worth **Rs.3,000 crore** in the sector **by 2030** and generate 60,000 jobs.
3. **Gujarat** has set **Guinness World Record** for the most people performing **Surya Namaskar** simultaneously.

4. **Assam government** has launched **Baayu** which is **the India's 100% electric bike taxi service**.
5. The **Ayodhya Airport** in **Uttar Pradesh** is set to be renamed as **Maharishi Valmiki International Airport, Ayodhyadham**
6. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the new state-of-the-art **Boeing India Engineering & Technology Center (BIETC) campus** in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.

### **TAMILNADU NEWS**

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin has released book title '**Maha Kavithai**' by poet **Vairamuthu** in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
2. **Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Kerala** jointly released a souvenir to mark the **centenary celebrations of Vaikom Satyagraha** at Chennai.
3. **TN BEAT EXPO 2024** – with theme titled **Build Entrepreneurs in Adi Dravidars and Tribals** conclave was conducted in India. It is organised by **TAHDCO**.
4. The **Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet 2024** has attracted record investments of **₹ 6.64 lakh crore**
5. All **Ayushman Bharat – Health and Wellness Centres** in the State will now be rebranded as '**Maruthuva Nallavazhu Nilayam**' in both English and Tamil, With tagline **Arogyam Paramam Dhanam** in English and '**Noyatra Vazhve Kuraivatra Selvam**' in Tamil.

6. **Padma awardees from T.N:**

<b>Padma Vibhushan</b>	<b>Vyjayanthimala Bali (Art)</b> <b>Padma Subrahmanyam (Art)</b>
<b>Padma Bhushan</b>	<b>Vijayakant (Actor) - Posthumous</b>
<b>Padma Shri</b>	<b>Joshna Chinappa (Sports)</b> <b>Badrappan M (Art)</b> <b>Joe D’Cruz (literature and education)</b> <b>G. Nachiyar (Medicine)</b> <b>Nagaswaram artist Seshampatti T. Sivalingam (Arts)</b>

7. World Tamils Economic Conference: **10<sup>th</sup> World Tamils Economic Conference** is being held in **Chennai**.

8. TN electorate in 2024:

- Voters: **6.18 crore**
- Highest number of electors : **Shozhinganallur** Assembly constituency in Chengalpattu
- Lowest number of voters: **Kilvelur** Assembly constituency in Nagapattinam

9. Tamil Nadu **STEPS Survey-2** aimed at estimating the **prevalence of NonCommunicable Diseases (NCD)** risk factors.

10. Chief Minister’s Special Award was presented to **U. Aayi Ammal, alias Pooranam**, from Madurai district, who donated her **1.52 acres of land** for the upgrade of Madurai East Panchayat Union Middle School as High School.

11. TN Government have proposed to notify **Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS)**. The sites are

- Kasampatti (Dindigul),
- Sendirakkilai Sacred Grove (Cuddalore),
- Idayapatti (Madurai)
- Kuriyanapalli Forest Block (Krishnagiri)

12. **January 12** is being celebrated as **World Tamil Diaspora Day – 2024**.



AWARDS	AWARDEE
Ayyan Tiruvalluvar Award, 2024	<b>Thavathiru Balamuruganadimai Swami</b>
Ambedkar Award, 2023	<b>P. Shanmugam</b>
Perarignar Anna Award, 2023	<b>'Pathamadai' Parama Sivam (2023)</b>
Mahakavi Bharathiar Award, 2023	<b>Palani Bharathi (2023)</b>
Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award, 2023	<b>U. Balaraman</b>
Paavendar Bharathidasan Award, 2023	<b>M. Mutharasu (2023)</b>
Muthamizh Kavalari K.A.P. Viswanatham Award, 2023	<b>R. Karunanidhi (2023)</b>
<b>Thanthai Periyar Award</b>	<b>Suba Veerapandian</b>
Tamil Thendral Thiru Vi Ka Award, 2023	<b>S. Jayaseela Stephen (2023)</b>
<b>C. Narayanasamy Naidu Award</b> (for the highest productivity in rice)	<b>S. Balamurugan</b>
Kottai Ameer Communal Harmony Award	<b>Alt News cofounder Mohammed Zubair</b>
Anna Medal for Gallantry 2024	<b>Yasaar Arafat, D. Daniel Selvasingh and S. Sivakumar.</b>
Best Police Station	<b>C3 S.S. Colony police station, Madurai</b>

## CULTURE

1. **Leh Ladakh** in **India** and **Lam Dong** in **Vietnam** have launched historic cultural exchange and tourism collaboration.
2. A site at **Pulloor**, in **Virudhunagar** is believed to have housed a **Samana palli** in the 8th Century to 10th Century CE
3. The Government of India has decided to include **Farsi (Persian)** as one of the **nine classical languages** in India under the New Education Policy.
4. Republic Day parade:
  - Chief guest: French President **Emmanuel Macron**
  - Theme: **'Viksit Bharat' and 'Bharat: Loktantra ki Matraka'**.
  - Tamil Nadu tableau – **Kudavolai System** in Ancient Tamil Nadu - **Mother of Democracy**

## AWARDS/PRIZE

Award	Awarded by	Awarded to	Known for
M.S. Swaminathan Award (open to all, irrespective of his/her nationality)	Retired Indian Council of Agricultural Research Employees Association ( <b>RICAREA</b> ) and Nuziveedu Seeds Limited ( <b>NSL</b> )	<b>Prof. B.R. Kamboj</b>	Vice Chancellor of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University.

### **PERSONS IN NEWS**

Person	Why in news?
<b>Justice Sanjiv Khanna</b>	Appointed as the Executive <b>Chairperson of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)</b>
<b>Priya Ravichandran</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She would be the <b>1<sup>st</sup> woman from the Fire and Rescue Services</b> to be inducted into the IAS.</li> <li>• <b>Note:</b> 1<sup>st</sup> woman officer of <b>Fire and Rescue Services in Tamil Nadu.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Gabriel Attal</b>	Becomes France's youngest and <b>first openly gay Prime Minister</b>
<b>Andrew Saberton</b>	Appointed as the <b>Deputy Executive Director of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</b>
<b>Anil Kumar Lahoti</b>	Appoints as <b>Chairman of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)</b>

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

Day	Date	Theme
<b>Global Family Day</b>	<b>January 1</b>	<b>Embracing Diversity, Strengthening Families</b>
<b>International Mind-Body Wellness Day</b>	January 3	<b>Holistic Wellness: Mind, Body, and Soul</b>
<b>World Braille Day</b>	January 4	Empowering Through Inclusion and Diversity
<b>World Day of War Orphans</b>	January 6	<b>Orphan Lives Matter</b>

<b>Earth's Rotation Day</b>	January 8	<b>Honoring the Discovery of Our Planet's Movement</b>
<b>Pravasi Bharatiya Divas</b>	<b>January 9</b>	<b>Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal</b>
<b>National Road Safety Week</b>	January 11 to January 17	Be a Road Safety Hero
<b>National Human Trafficking Awareness Day</b>	January 11	–
<b>National Youth Day</b>	January 12	–
<b>150th Year of its India Meteorological Department (IMD)</b>	<b>January 15</b>	–
<b>Army Day</b>	January 15	–
<b>National Startup Day</b>	January 16	<b>Startups Unlocking Infinite Potential</b>
<b>National Disaster Response Force</b>	January 19	–
<b>National Girl Child Day</b>	<b>January 24</b>	<b>Saving our Girls: Educating our Girls</b>
<b>International Day of Education 2024</b>	January 24	<b>Learning for Lasting Peace</b>
<b>National Voters Day</b>	January 25	–
<b>National Tourism Day</b>	January 25	<b>Sustainable Journeys, Timeless Memories.</b>

<b>International Day</b>	<b>Customs</b>	<b>January 26</b>	<b>Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose</b>
<b>First-ever International Day of Clean Energy</b>	<b>UN</b>	January 26	–
<b>International day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust 2024</b>	<b>day of</b>	January 27	–
<b>World Leprosy Day</b>		<b>last Sunday of January</b>	<b>Beat Leprosy</b>
<b>World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day</b>		January 30	<b>Unite. Act. Eliminate</b>
<b>Martyrs' Day</b>		January 30	

### **DEFENCE IN NEWS**

1. **Indian Navy** has received **Drishti 10 Starliner** (also known as Elbit Hermes 900), 1<sup>st</sup> indigenously manufactured **Medium Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (MALE - UAV)**.
2. Defence Research & Development Organisation has started development trials of indigenous **light tank 'Zorawar'**.
3. The **Indian Army** has launched **Operation Sarvashakti** in Jammu and **Kashmir** It is specifically designed to **counteract the revival of terrorism by Pakistan**, especially along the mountain ranges of **Pir Panjal**
4. Havildar **Preeti Rajak** has become the **Army's first woman Subedar**
5. Indian Army has opened the **India Selfie Point** near the **Line of Control** in Uri sector of **Jammu and Kashmir**.



6. The **Indian Army** will observe the year **2024** as the '**Year of Technology Absorption**'
7. Indian Army has **indigenously** developed an end-to-end secure mobile ecosystem called **SAMBHAV (Secure Army Mobile Bharat Version)** to enhance national defense capabilities.

Exercise	Parties involved	Exercise type
<b>Desert Cyclone</b>	India and United Arab Emirates	Military
Exercise Sea Dragon 24	<b>Indian Navy's (IN) P8I aircraft</b> has participated	–
Ex-Ayutthaya	India and Thailand	Navy
Exercise KHANJAR	<b>India-Kyrgyzstan</b>	–
Exercise CYCLONE	India-Egypt	Military
Exercise Desert Knight	<b>France</b> and UAE	Military
SADA TANSEEQ	India-Saudi Arabia	Military

### **COMMITTEE IN NEWS**

Committee	Purpose of the committee
<b>Rohit Kumar Singh Committee</b>	To prepare Guidelines with respect to <b>misleading advertisements in coaching sector</b>
<b>Vijayaraghavan Committee</b>	Formed <b>to restructure and redefine the role of DRDO</b>
<b>Idate Commission</b>	To address the concerns of <b>Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic, and De-Notified Tribes</b> (NTs, SNTs, and DNTs) in India.

## INDICES

Report	Released by	Note
<b>Global Firepower's 2024 rankings</b>	Global Firepower (GFP)	<b>United States</b> has been ranked as the <b>strongest military</b> of the world
<b>Global Economic Prospects Report 2024</b>	World Bank	It forecasts a <b>deceleration in global GDP growth</b> , from an estimated 2.7% in 2023 to <b>2.4% in 2024</b> .
<b>All India Survey on Higher Education</b>	Ministry of Education	–

## SUMMITS

Summit Name	Hosted in	Purpose of Summit
<b>9<sup>th</sup> edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023</b>	<b>Faridabad Haryana</b> in	Theme: <b>Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> International and 44<sup>th</sup> All India Criminology Conference</b>	<b>Gandhinagar, Gujarat</b>	–
<b>Davos Summit 2024</b>	<b>Davos in Switzerland</b>	–
<b>19<sup>th</sup> NAM Summit</b>	<b>Kampala in Uganda</b>	Theme: <b>“Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence”</b> .

### **PORTAL IN NEWS**

Portal	Purpose	Launched by
<b>e-samridhi portal</b>	<b>For procurement and payment of tur dal</b>	Minister of Cooperation
<b>ERNET</b>	Integrated web portal of India for <b>educational institutes</b>	<b>Ministry of Electronics &amp; Information Technology</b>
<b>Nalam Naadi app</b>	<b>Tamil Nadu School Education department</b>	<b>The app will help the special educators to track students with learning disabilities.</b>

### **BOOKS AND AUTHORS**

Book Name	Author Name	Note
<b>'Four Stars of Destiny'</b>	Former Army chief General <b>Manoj Mukund Naravane</b>	–
<b>"An Uncommon Love: The Early Life of Sudha and Narayana Murthy"</b>	<b>Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni</b> (Indian-American author)	–
<b>Gandhi: A Life in Three Campaigns</b>	M.J. Akbar	–
<b>Conversations with Aurangzeb</b>	By <b>Charu Nivedita</b>	It is translated into English by <b>Nandini Krishnan</b>

**SPORTS IN NEWS**

1. **Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar' 2023:**
2. Best FIFA Men's Player 2023 - **Lionel Messi from Argentina**
3. Best FIFA Women's Player 2023 Award - **Aitana Bonmati from Spain**
4. **Divyakriti Singh** of Jaipur becomes the first Indian woman to get **Arjuna Award in equestrian games**
5. **2023 International Chess Federation (FIDE) World Rapid Chess title** held in **Samarkand, Uzbekistan**
  - **Magnus Carlsen - Gold medal** in men category
  - **Koneru Humpy (India) - silver medal** in women category

Announced by	Awardee	Purpose
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jain Deemed to be University, Bengaluru</b></li> <li>• <b>Odisha Mining Corporate Limited</b></li> </ul>	It is given to <b>corporate entities</b> (both in private and public sector), Sports Control Boards, NGOs, who played a visible role in the <b>area of sports promotion and development.</b>

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