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# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

## 20 December 2022

### NASA Launches Mission 'SWOT' To Survey Earth's Water

- **NASA And The French Space Agency Centre National D'études Spatiales (CNES) Have Jointly Launched The Surface Water And Ocean Topography (SWOT) Mission To Track Nearly All The Water On Earth's Surface.**
- **The SWOT Mission Was Launched Through A SpaceX Falcon 9 Rocket In California, USA.**
- **It Will Provide Data On More Than 95 % Of The World's Lakes Larger Than 15 Acres And Rivers Wider Than 330 Feet Across.**
- **SWOT Will Cover The Entire Earth's Surface Between 78 Degrees South And 78 Degrees North Latitude At Least Once Every 21 Days.**
- **It Will Provide Data About How Ocean Influences Climate Change, How A Warming World Affects Lakes, Rivers, And Reservoirs And How Communities Can Better Prepare For Disasters (Floods).**
- **It Will Measure The Height Of Water In Freshwater Bodies & The Ocean (More Than 90 % Of Earth's Surface).**
- **National Aeronautics And Space Administration (NASA):**
- **The National Aeronautics And Space Administration Is An Independent Agency Of The US Federal Government Responsible For The Civil Space Program, Aeronautics Research, And Space Research.**
- **Headquarters: Washington, D.C**
- **Founded: 29 July 1958**



## World Minority Rights Day – 18 December

- On 18 December, International Minority Rights Day Is Celebrated Every Year.
- It Focuses On The Challenges And Issues Faced By Minority Communities Of Different Ethnic Origins.
- The Theme Of 2022: "All In 4 Minority Rights".
- The National Commission For Minorities In India Organises This Day,
- The United Nations On December 18, 1992, Adopted This Day As An Individual's Right.
- The Purpose Of This Day Is To Maintain The **Right To Freedom And Equality** For **Minorities** And To Create **Awareness About The Respect Of Minorities**.
- **Who Are Minorities ?**
- A **Community That Does Not Have Any Influence Socially, Economically And Politically** And Whose **Population Is Negligible**, Will Be Called A **Minority** – **United Nations**.
- **Indian Minorities Are Muslim, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhist, Parsis (Zoroastrian) And Jain Religions.**



## Goa Liberation Day – 19<sup>th</sup> December

- **Goa Liberation Day** Is Celebrated **Annually On 19th December** To Celebrate The **Success Of 'Operation Vijay'** Undertaken By **The Indian Armed Forces** To **Defeat Portuguese Colonial Forces** And **Liberate Goa** In **1961**.

- **Goa Remained A UT Until 1987 And Was Then Given The Status Of India's 25<sup>th</sup> State.**
- **Colonial Background Of Goa:**
- **Afonso De Albuquerque Defeated The Ruling Bijapur King With The Help Of A Local Ally, Timayya & Influenced Its Presence In Goa From 1510.**
- **Tristão De Bragança Cunha, Founded The Goan National Congress In 1928.**
- **In 1946, Socialist Leader Ram Manohar Lohia Led A Historic Rally In Goa.**
- **After 1947, Portugal Refused To Negotiate With Independent India On The Transfer Of Sovereignty Of Its Indian Enclaves.**
- **On 18 And 19 December 1961, A Full-scale Military Operation Called 'Operation Vijay' Was Launched, Which Led To The Freedom Of Goa By India.**



## **PM Launches Grih Pravesh Programme**

- **On 18 December, PM Narendra Modi Inaugurated And Laid The Foundation Stone Of Several Development Projects In Tripura And Meghalaya.**
- **The Projects Include 'Grih Pravesh' Programme For Beneficiaries Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban And Rural.**
- **These Houses, Developed At A Cost Of Over Rs 3400 Crores, Will Cover Over 2 Lakh Beneficiaries.**

- **The Ministry Of Housing And Urban Poverty Alleviation Launched The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Rural In 2016.**
- **The Scheme Was Initiated With The Objective Of ‘Housing For All By 2022.**



## **Gaya And Nalanda Selected Under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme**

- **Gaya And Nalanda In Bihar Has Been Included By The Government Of India Under The Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme.**
- **Punaura Dham In Sitamarhi Has Been Selected For Development Under The PRASHAD Scheme Of The Government Of India.**
- **Swadesh Darshan 2.0:**
- **It Was Launched In 2014-15 For Integrated Development Of Theme Based Tourist Circuits Like Buddhist Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Desert Circuit Etc.**
- **It Was Later Re-launched As Swadesh Darshan 2.0 With The Focus On Developing Sustainable And Responsible Tourism Destinations.**
- **PRASHAD Scheme:**
- **The Government Of India Launched The Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASAD Scheme) In The Year 2014-2015 Under The Ministry Of Tourism.**
- **This Scheme Focuses On Developing And Identifying Pilgrimage Sites Across India For Enriching The Religious Tourism Experience.**



## India Win's Women's FIH Nations Cup 2022

- **The Indian Women Hockey Team Led By Captain Savita Punia Beat Spain 1-0 In The Final To Win The Inaugural FIH Nations Cup Played At Valencia, Spain.**
- **The Winning Goal Was Scored By Gurjit Kaur Of India.**
- **Indian Team Has Qualified For The FIH Pro League 2023-24.**
- **India Finished Third In The 2021-22 FIH Pro League.**
- **The Team Did Not Qualify For The Ongoing 2022-23 Pro League Season.**
- **Top 8 Ranked Teams Which Are Not Part Of Women's FIH Pro League Were Invited To Play In The FIH Nation's Cup.**
- **World's Top Ranked 9 Teams Are Invited To Play In The FIH Pro League.**
- **Fédération Internationale De Hockey (FIH):**
- **It Is The Governing Body Of Men's And Women's International Hockey.**
- **FIH Is Responsible For Field Hockey's Major International Tournaments, Notably The Hockey World Cup.**
- **President : Mohammad Tayyab Ikram**
- **Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland**



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. NASA Was Established In Year \_\_\_\_\_.

A. 1948

B. 1958

C. 1956

D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: B**

2. World Minority Rights Day Is Observed On \_\_\_\_\_.

A. 19 December

B. 17 December

C. 18 December

D. 16 December

**ANSWER: C**

3. The Theme Of World Minority Rights Day 2022 Is \_\_\_\_\_.

A. All In 4 Minority Rights

B. All Minorities Are Right

- C. Protection Of Rights Of Minorities
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: A**

**4. Operation Vijay Is Related To \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Jammu & Kashmir
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Goa
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Goa Was Liberated In Year \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 1962
- B. 1961
- C. 1960
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: B**

**6. Goa Remained A Union Territory Until Year \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 1982
- B. 1981
- C. 1987
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: C**

**7. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Started In Year \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 2014
- B. 2015
- C. 2016
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: C**



8. PRASHAD Scheme Was Started In Year \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. 2013-14
- B. 2014-15
- C. 2015-16
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: B**

9. Fédération Internationale De Hockey (FIH) HQ Is In \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Paris
- B. Lausanne
- C. Geneva
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: B**

10. Current President Of Fédération Internationale De Hockey (FIH) Is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Mohammad Iqbal
- B. Tayyab Ikram
- C. Narendra Batra
- D. None Of The Above

**ANSWER: B**

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