

Daily Current Affairs

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International Cruise Liner 'COSTA SERENA'

- Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal will launch the domestic sailing of the first International Cruise Liner 'COSTA SERENA' in India at Mumbai.
- At the recently concluded Global Maritime India Summit 2023 organised by the Ministry, discussions revolved around reaching the target of 50 million cruise passengers in India by 2047.
- Costa Cruises is expected to carry approximately 45,000 passengers in its next 2 months voyages.
- Such cruise initiatives are part of 'Dekho Apna Desh', launched on Prime Minister's appeal to the middle class to prefer domestic tourism over international.



Gyanvapi Mosque Dispute Case

- The Supreme Court today **refused to interfere** with the order of the Allahabad High Court Chief Justice Pritinker Diwaker transferring the case connected to the Gyanvapi mosque dispute from a single-judge bench.
- The Chief Justice of the High Court withdrew the **Gyanvapi case** from a single-judge bench that has been hearing the case since 2021.
- A bench comprising Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, Justice JB Pardiwala, and Justice Manoj Misra dismissed an appeal filed by Anjuman Intazamia Masjid,

the mosque's management. The apex Court observed that "certain things should remain within the realm of Chief Justice of the High Court.

- The Hindu side has contended that the mosque was built on the site of a temple. The Muslim side has argued that the mosque was built on Wakf premises, and the Places of Worship Act bars the changing of the character of the mosque.
- In **May 2022**, a new issue arose with the discovery of the "Shivling". The Hindu side in the matter claimed that a 'Shivling' was found inside a reservoir on the mosque complex during the survey. The Muslim side, however, dismissed the claim and said it was only a 'fountain'.
- The Supreme Court refused to stop the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to carry out a survey of the Gyanvapi Mosque at Varanasi, except the 'wuzukhana' area where a 'shivling' was claimed to have been found.



Integrated Expenditure Monitoring Software

- The Election Commission of India (ECI) has **launched Integrated Expenditure Monitoring Software (IEMS)**, a new tech-enabled portal to facilitate online filing of Contribution Reports, Election Expenditure Statements, and Audited Annual Accounts by political parties.



- This facility will enable the political parties to file the statutory and regulatory compliances, reports, and statements in a smooth manner with greater transparency.
- For ease of monitoring of election expenses, candidates would be required to open a separate bank account and incur their election expenses from only that account.
- Election Commission's control room and Complaint Monitoring Centre with 24-hour toll-free numbers will remain functional during the entire election process.
District Election Officers (DEOs) will collect unusual and suspicious cash withdrawals or deposits of cash exceeding one Lakh rupees from banks for verification followed by necessary action.



- If the amount is **more than 10 Lakh rupees**, then DEOs will pass on such information to the Income Tax Department for necessary action.
- According to the ECI, the Investigation Directorate of the Income Tax Department will activate Air Intelligence Units at the airports to gather intelligence.
- **State Police, State Excise Department, Income Tax Department**, Enforcement Directorate, and others will also be involved in the exercise. The State Excise Department will monitor production, distribution, sale, and storage of liquor and inducements in the form of free goods during the election process.

ECI Signs MoU With Ministry Of Education

- The **Election Commission of India** signed a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU, with the **Ministry of Education** to bring electoral literacy into classrooms across the country.
- The MoU outlines the development of institutional framework that seeks to embed electoral literacy in schools and colleges.
- It also includes structured curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities that will help prepare new voters for greater electoral participation in democracy.



- Key features of the MoU include systematic inclusion of voter education and electoral literacy in the curriculum from classes **6th to 12th in all schools**.
- Under the MoU, NCERT will include material on electoral literacy in school textbooks and advise state education boards to follow the same. Various activities will be held to promote **voter awareness among students, ensuring their registration and participation as voters**.

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NCERT

Shiv Nadar

- HCLTech founder **Shiv Nadar** and his family have retained the top spot on the **EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2023**.



- For the fiscal year 2022-23, they made a substantial donation of Rs 2,042 crore, marking the fifth consecutive year that Nadar, aged 78, has claimed this distinguished rank.
- The **EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy** List highlights India's philanthropists and the growing importance of individual givers in India's philanthropic landscape.
- The list is compiled by the **Hurun Report**, a research, luxury publishing, and events group established in **London in 1998**.

Rank	Name	Donation (in Crores)
1	Shiv Nadar and Family	Rs 2,042
2	Azim Premji and Family	Rs 1,774
3	Mukesh Ambani and Family	Rs 376
4	Nikhil Kamath	Rs 110
5	Gautam Adani and Family	Rs 285
8	Nandan Nilekani	Rs 189
9	Cyrus Poonawalla and Adar Poonawalla	Rs 179
10	Rohini Nilekani	Rs 170

World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly

- India is set to host the prestigious **World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly (WTSA)** in 2024, marking a significant step towards the advancements of 5G and 6G networks.
- Union Communication & IT Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw, made this announcement at the **India Mobile Congress 2023**, emphasizing the country's growing importance in the global technology landscape.



ITU WTSA
NEW DELHI 2024

- The World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly (WTSA) is a **quadrennial event** and serves as the governing conference of the ITU Standardisation Sector (ITU-T).
- It is one of the three world conferences organized by the **International Telecommunication Union**, an entity within the United Nations system.



- This event plays a pivotal role in **setting global telecommunication standards**, making India's hosting of the WTSA a significant milestone.

- In a significant development, **Minister Vaishnav and Houlin Zhao**, the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), signed the Host Country Agreement (HCA) for the establishment of an **Area Office and Innovation Centre of ITU in New Delhi** on 3 March 2022.
- This agreement provides the legal and financial framework for the establishment and operation of the area office, further solidifying India's role in the global telecommunications arena.

Kerala To Launch Multilingual Microsites

- Kerala is set to introduce a series of **microsites** to provide information in **different languages** and showcase the state's rich heritage along with the features of all the tourist destinations.
- The **microsite on Sabarimala** in the Pathanamthitta district will share some fascinating details about the religious destination in a total of **5 languages**.
- The languages are **English, Hindi, Kannada, Tamil, and Telugu**. Not just about the Sabarimala temple, the microsite will also share details about other religious places and temples as well.
- From the directions to the necessary information to traditions, the site will have it all.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which Organization Launched Integrated Expenditure Monitoring Software

- A. Election Commission of India
- B. Ministry of Education
- C. Indian Ports Association
- D. Union Minister of Ports

ANSWER: A

2. Who Retained Top Spot On The Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2023

- A. Mukesh Ambani
- B. Narayan Murthi
- C. Shiv Nadar
- D. Gautam Adani

ANSWER: C

3. Who Appointed As Chairman Mastercard India

- A. Shreya Mittal
- B. Dinesh Kumar
- C. Soma Sankara
- D. Rajnish Kumar

ANSWER: D

4. Which State To Introduce Series Of Microsites In Multiple Languages

- A. Goa
- B. Kerala
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: B

5. Gyanvapi Mosque Dispute Seen In Which State

- A. Punjab
- B. Kerala
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: D

6. Purpose Of MoU Signed Between ECI & Ministry Of Education

- A. To Promote Voter Awareness Among Students
- B. To Develop Electoral Literacy In Schools And Colleges
- C. To Include Material On Electoral Literacy In School Textbooks
- D. All Of The Above

ANSWER: D

7. 'TOT' Model, Seen In The News, Is Associated With Which Field

- A. Finance
- B. Infrastructure
- C. Electronics
- D. Economics

ANSWER: B

8. The 'Hiroshima AI Process', Seen In The News, Is Associated With'

- A. SAARC
- B. G-7
- C. G-20
- D. ASEAN

ANSWER: B

9. Manaus, Which Was Seen In The News, Is A City In Which Country

- A. Brazil
- B. Argentina
- C. USA
- D. Greece

ANSWER: A

10. Which Institution Was Tasked With Preparation Of 'Vision India@2047' Plan

- A. NASSCOM
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. RBI
- D. Election Commission of India

ANSWER: B

11. Project Kusha Is Under The Purview Of Which Institutions

- A. HAL
- B. DRDO
- C. L&T
- D. BHEL

ANSWER: B

12. India's First Ever Lavender Farm Is Constructed In Which State/UT

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Jammu and Kashmir
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Sikkim

ANSWER: B

13. Which Of The Following Organizations Is Set To Launch Its "One Nation, One Registration Platform

- A. Election Commission of India
- B. National Medical Commission
- C. Reserve Bank of India
- D. National Human Rights Commission

ANSWER: B

14. HQ Of ICAR Indian Institute Of Soil & Water Conservation Located

- A. Gurugram
- B. Dehradun
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Shimla

ANSWER: B

15. Which Is The Only Shorebird That Lays Eggs In Self-excavated Burrows On Sandbanks

- A. Bengal Florican
- B. Ruddy turnstone
- C. Crab-plover
- D. Willet

ANSWER: C

16. Which Of The Following Countries Has The World's Tallest Nuclear Facility, Built By Rosatom

- A. Bolivia
- B. Argentina
- C. Azerbaijan
- D. Zimbabwe

ANSWER: A

17. The Term "Kavach" Often Seen In The News Refers To _____.

- A. The Indigenously Developed Train Collision Avoidance System
- B. A New Type Of Armour Developed For The Indian Army
- C. An Anti-missile System Developed By The DRDO
- D. The Satellite Was Developed By The ISRO

ANSWER: A

18. Name Of The Submersible Used In India's Deep Ocean Mission

- A. Sagar K6
- B. Rounaq
- C. Matsya6000
- D. Deep Rover

ANSWER: C

19. On Which Date Is Zojila Day Celebrated

- A. 31st October
- B. 2nd November
- C. 1st November
- D. 4th November

ANSWER: C

20. The "Champions Of Earth" Award Was Conferred By Which Of The Following Organisations

- A. United Nations
- B. United Nations Environment Programme
- C. Global Environment Facility
- D. WEF

ANSWER: B