

Daily Current Affairs

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Muslim League Jammu Kashmir

- The **Muslim League Jammu Kashmir** (Masarat Alam faction) MLJK-MA has been declared as an '**Unlawful Association**' under **Unlawful Activities** (Prevention) Act (UAPA).



- Union Home Minister Amit Shah in a social media post said, this organization and its members are involved in **anti-national and secessionist activities** in Jammu and Kashmir, supporting terrorist activities and inciting people to establish Islamic rule in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Mr Shah said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Government's message is loud and clear that anyone acting **against the unity, sovereignty, and integrity** of the nation will not be spared and face the full wrath of the law.

Vita Dani

- In a groundbreaking achievement, **Vita Dani**, a prominent **sports entrepreneur**, has etched her name in history by becoming the **first Indian to be appointed** as a governing board member of the **International Table Tennis Federation's** (ITTF) Foundation.
- ITTF and ITTF Foundation President **Petra Sorling** warmly welcomed Vita Dani to the ITTF family, acknowledging her passion for the sport's growth and its potential as a catalyst for development.



- Vita Dani, through her organization, **Dani Foundation**, has been instrumental in shaping the upward trajectory of **table tennis in India**.
- Her commitment to the sport extends beyond the international stage, with a focus on nurturing talent and creating opportunities for aspiring players within the country.
- Vita Dani is also known as the **co-owner of the Chennaiyin Football Club**, a prominent team in the Indian Super League (ISL).



- Her involvement in football and table tennis showcases a multifaceted **entrepreneurial spirit**, contributing to the development and popularity of diverse sports in India.

- The **ITTF Foundation, established in 2018**, aims to enhance the appeal of table tennis and attract a more diverse audience to the sport.

Pantoea Tagorei

- A team of researchers from **Visva-Bharati University's** botany department has made a groundbreaking discovery that has the potential to revolutionize agricultural practices.
- They have identified a new bacteria strain capable of boosting plant growth and named it '**Pantoea Tagorei**' in honor of Nobel laureate **Rabindranath Tagore**.
- Immense Potential for **Reducing Fertilizer Use and Boosting Crop Yields**
- Pantoea Tagorei has the potential to significantly **reduce the need for commercial fertilizers**.



- This could lead to cost savings for farmers and boost crop yields.
- Dr. Dam explained that the decision to name the bacteria after Tagore was inspired by the poet's visionary agricultural pursuits. **Tagore was a vocal advocate for sustainable farming practices** and believed in the importance of promoting self-sufficiency in food production. Naming the bacteria Pantoea Tagorei is a way of honoring Tagore's legacy and his contributions to agriculture.
- Pantoea Tagorei is a **plant-growth promoting bacteria (PGPB)**. PGPBs are a type of bacteria that live in the soil around plant roots and form a symbiotic relationship with the plants. They provide the plants with essential nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, and help them to resist diseases and pests.

Largest Tabla Ensemble

- **Gwalior**, often hailed as the **City of Music**, recently witnessed an extraordinary spectacle as **1500 tabla performers** converged at the historic Karna Mahal of Gwalior Fort.
- This monumental gathering not only set a **Guinness World Record** for the most persons performing tabla simultaneously but also marked a significant moment in the city's rich musical heritage.
- The event, known as **'Tabla Darbar,'** unfolded as part of the annual **'Tansen Samaroh' music festival** at the iconic Karna Mahal of Gwalior Fort on the evening of December 25th.
- A team of three from the Guinness Book of World Records was present to personally supervise and document this unprecedented **'Tabla Darbar' performance**. The meticulous recording process added an official seal to the city's musical achievement.



- Local artists participating in the event underwent extensive training at Raja Mansingh Tomar Music University, Gwalior. This preparation was instrumental in ensuring the synchronized and harmonious execution of the tabla performance by the massive ensemble.
- **Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav declared that December 25th would be commemorated annually as 'Tabla Divas,'** underscoring the historical significance of the record-setting event.
- Gwalior's commitment to culture and creativity has earned it a place in **UNESCO's Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**. The city's thriving musical legacy is

deeply rooted in the patronage of former royal houses, such as Raja Mansingh and Scindias.

India Russia Sign Deal For Nuclear Plant

- With **PM Narendra Modi skipping Russia** for the annual summit for the second year in a row, **Jaishankar is in Moscow** on a five-day visit to meet the Russian leadership.



- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** addressing a community event during his five-day trip to Russia, where he met with the Russian leaders.
- He said, “Today, we signed some very important deals for building more units of the **Kudankulam nuclear power plant**.”
- The **Kudankulam nuclear power plant** is a joint project between **India and Russia**, who are providing the technical expertise.
- The Kudankulam nuclear power plant is being built in **Tamil Nadu** with the technical assistance of Russia.



- The construction **began in March 2002**. Since February 2016, the first power unit of the Kudankulam NPP has been steadily operating at its design capacity of **1,000 MW**.
- The plant is expected to start operating at **full capacity in 2027**.
- **Jaishankar called Russia a “special partner”** in several domains such as defence, nuclear power and space.
- He said, “We collaborate in areas of defence, space and nuclear [energy] with countries that we trust deeply.”
- He also revealed that the two countries have decided that their negotiation teams will convene by the end of January to begin face-to-face talks on the **free trade agreement between India and the Eurasian Economic Zone**.
- To a question on payment problem between Russia and India, he said in “an unusual situation, we are trying to find ways by which banks deal with each other”.

eSvarna

- IndusInd Bank has launched a pathbreaking new corporate credit card – **eSvarna – on the RuPay network**. It is **India’s first corporate credit card** that allows linking with UPI apps for payments. The card offers comprehensive features tailored to frequent business travellers.
- The eSvarna RuPay corporate credit card enables smooth transactions at merchant outlets, both physical and digital.
- Its marquee feature is linking with any **UPI payment app** to facilitate seamless UPI-based payments as well.
- This gives it an edge over other business credit cards as linking credit cards to UPI is currently only enabled for RuPay cards by RBI.



- Hence, the **eSvarna card allows the convenience of UPI payments** combined with credit card rewards and protections.
- The card is designed keeping in mind premium business travellers who seek exclusive **privileges and value-added benefits**. It offers complimentary domestic and international airport lounge access up to 10 times annually to relax and unwind during travels.
- Additionally, it provides comprehensive travel insurance covering passport, baggage delays, flight cancellations and accidents.
- The **1% fuel surcharge waiver up to ₹4000** also helps control expenses for high business mileage users. Unlike most premium cards, eSvarna has no joining or annual fees to maximize value.
- It also provides **business-focused rewards on daily transactions**. The RuPay network offers reliability combined with acceptance at most merchant outlets across the country.

Bharatiya Space Station

- India aims to establish its own **permanent space station called 'Bharatiya Space Station'** over the next 25 years. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has set a target to launch the first module of this station by 2028.
- This forms part of **India's ambitious future space plans**, which also include crewed missions, deeper space exploration and more advanced launch capabilities.
- According to recent statements by ISRO Chairman **Dr. S. Somanath, the organization** plans to launch the first module of Bharatiya Space Station by 2028. This is likely to be an 8-ton module launched using India's LVM3 rocket. This will be followed by launching additional modules over the next 7 years.
- **By 2035, ISRO aims to have a fully operational space station** with greater launch capacity, facilities for docking crew and cargo transporters, zero gravity research labs and more.



- To support the space station, **ISRO is developing more powerful rockets** capable of lifting 20–25-ton payloads to Low Earth orbit.
- These heavy lift vehicles will allow assembling a modular station by launching segments separately and joining them in space. They can also support possible future interplanetary missions.
- While the first module will be robotic, Dr. Somanath indicates plans for crewed **missions after 2035 once the Bharatiya station** gains full functionality. This will cap India's 3-stage strategy spanning robotic spacecraft, human spaceflight programs and finally a permanent national space station.
- India's ambition comes as the **International Space Station (ISS)** may conclude operations by 2030, offering opportunities for new national or regional stations.
- China already has a **permanent station called Tiangong** while Russia plans its own ROS station to replace lost access to ISS. Against this backdrop, Bharatiya station establishes India as a major space-faring nation.

Dr Saveera Parkash

- In Pakistan, following the Election Commission of the country's mandate for political parties to field **at least five percent of women candidates** on general seats, the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has fielded a woman hailing from the country's **Hindu minority community** in the General Elections.



- The woman, first to contest general elections from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Buner district, is **Dr Saveera Parkash**.
- Prakash has already filed her nomination for the PK-25 seat. Her father, Oam Parkash is a retired doctor and has been an active member of the PPP for over three decades.
- **Saveera was also serving** as the PPP women's wing General Secretary in Buner. The General Elections in Pakistan are slated to be held on the 8th of February.



SSBCrack
EXAMS

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. eSvarna Is Launched By

- A. Indusind Bank
- B. HDFC
- C. SBI
- D. PNB

ANSWER: A

2. Name Of Space Station To Be Launched By India

- A. Namu Space Station
- B. Indian Space Station
- C. Bharatiya Space Station
- D. Bharat Space station

ANSWER: C

3. Pantoea Tagorei Bacteria Strain Seen In News Is Helpful For

- A. Cancer Patients
- B. Animal Diseases
- C. Plant Growth
- D. Asthma Patients

ANSWER: C

4. First Indian To Be Appointed As A Governing Board Member Of International Table Tennis Federation's

- A. Vita Dani
- B. Anita Sheoran
- C. Vijay Aggarwal
- D. Sushma Singhania

ANSWER: A

5. Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant Is Joint Project Of India &

- A. Germany
- B. USA
- C. Russia
- D. China

ANSWER: C

6. Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant Is In Which State

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Gujrat
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: A

7. Politician Dr Saveera Parkash Seen In News Belongs From

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Pakistan
- C. Kenya
- D. Myanmar

ANSWER: B

8. Which Company Collaborated With REC Limited To Enhance Its Non-fund-based Working Capital Capacity

- A. Suzlon
- B. Tata Power Renewable Energy
- C. Adani Green Energy
- D. Greenko Group

ANSWER: A

9. When Is International Human Solidarity Day 2023 Observed

- A. December 21
- B. December 20
- C. December 26
- D. December 27

ANSWER: B

10. In Climate Change Performance Index 2024, What Position Did India Achieve

- A. 5th
- B. 8th
- C. 10th
- D. 7th

ANSWER: D

11. Which State Emerged Victorious In Women's Team Event At The 75th Inter State Inter Zonal Badminton Championship Held In Guwahati

- A. Karnataka
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Gujarat
- D. Assam

ANSWER: B

12. Which Indian State Has Retained 'Achiever' Status In Logistics Ease Across Different States 2023 Rankings

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Gujarat

ANSWER: A

13. What Legislative Act Has Been Replaced By The Recently Approved Post Office Bill, 2023 In India

- A. Indian Post Office Act, 1898
- B. Communications Act, 1997
- C. Postal Services Reforms Act, 2012
- D. India's Postal Framework Act, 1890

ANSWER: A

14. Which Ministry Unveiled The National Geoscience Data Repository Portal

- A. Ministry of Space
- B. Ministry Of Mines
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Environment

ANSWER: B

15. Who Has Been Honoured With "CMD Of Year" Award At 13th PSE Excellence Awards In Mini Ratna Category

- A. Pradip Kumar Das
- B. Sunil Gupta
- C. Ananya Sharma
- D. Rajesh Patel

ANSWER: A

16. Which Indian State Secured First Spot In Agri-marketing Reforms, According To Reform Index Released By Niti Aayog

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Haryana

ANSWER: B

17. Who Is Known As The 'Queen Of Millet'

- A. Kundra Bati Mandia
- B. Jasra
- C. Raimati Ghiuria
- D. Juana

ANSWER: C

18. Which Country Recently Banned Export Of Technology Related To Rare Earth Metals

- A. China
- B. United States
- C. Russia
- D. India

ANSWER: A

19. Who Is The Recipient Of Arjuna Award 2023 In The Sport Of Chess

- A. R Praggnanandhaa
- B. D Gukesh
- C. P Harikrishna
- D. R Vaishali

ANSWER: D

20. Name Of International Agreement Signed In 1987 To Ban Chlorofluorocarbons

- A. Paris Agreement
- B. Montreal Protocol
- C. Chicago Agreement
- D. Kyoto Protocol

ANSWER: B