

# Daily Current Affairs

## 05 January 2024

### Vibrant Gujarat Summit

- The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the **Vibrant Gujarat Global Investors Summit (VGGS)** is set to take place in Gandhinagar from January 10 to 12, 2024.
- The theme for this edition is **“Gateway to the Future.”** This biennial event serves as a crucial platform for global policymakers, diplomats, business leaders, and investors to foster collaborations, partnerships, and explore investment opportunities.
- The summit will witness the participation of several prominent global leaders, reinforcing India’s evolving diplomatic priorities.



- **Czech Republic’s Prime Minister Petr Fiala**, Timor-Leste’s President José Ramos-Horta, UAE’s President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and Mozambique’s President Filipe Nyusi are expected to attend.
- The arrest of Nikhil Gupta has added a diplomatic dimension to the summit, with India engaging in discussions with the Czech Republic regarding the matter.
- The Indian embassy in Prague has been granted diplomatic access to Mr. Gupta, and it is anticipated that the issue may find its way into discussions during PM Fiala’s visit to India.

- **As many as 28 countries and 14 organizations** have confirmed their participation as partners in VGGGS 2024. These partners, including the UAE, Czech Republic, Australia, Japan, and the UK, play a pivotal role in strengthening bilateral relations and contribute significantly to the success of the summit.
- The theme for this edition is 'Gateway to the Future,' emphasizing the exploration of emerging sectors such as semiconductors, green hydrogen, e-mobility, renewable energy, and FinTech.



- The presence of key leaders like President Al Nahyan of the UAE reflects the growing commercial partnership between the two nations.
- Gujarat is slated to be the first state to benefit from this investment.
- The **participation of Timor-Leste's President** signifies India's diplomatic focus on Southeast Asia. This is evident from India's decision to open a diplomatic mission in Timor Leste, announced during the ASEAN-India summit in September 2023.
- Minister of State for External Affairs Rajkumar Ranjan Singh's subsequent visit to Timor Leste further underlines India's commitment to fostering relations with the island nation.

## Murty Trust's Maitri Initiative

- In a groundbreaking collaboration with **Compassion Unlimited Plus Action (CUPA)**, **Murty Trust** unveils the '**Maitri**' initiative, a trailblazing **community cat sterilization center in Bangalore**.
- This state-of-the-art facility, signifies goodwill and friendship while addressing challenges in **India's animal welfare sector**.



- The Maitri initiative, driven by collaboration between the local community and CUPA, strives to manage stray cat populations and tackle the **One Health challenge of overpopulation**.
- CUPA's successful community enablement model for cat ABC has already sterilized over **5000 community cats since 2018**.

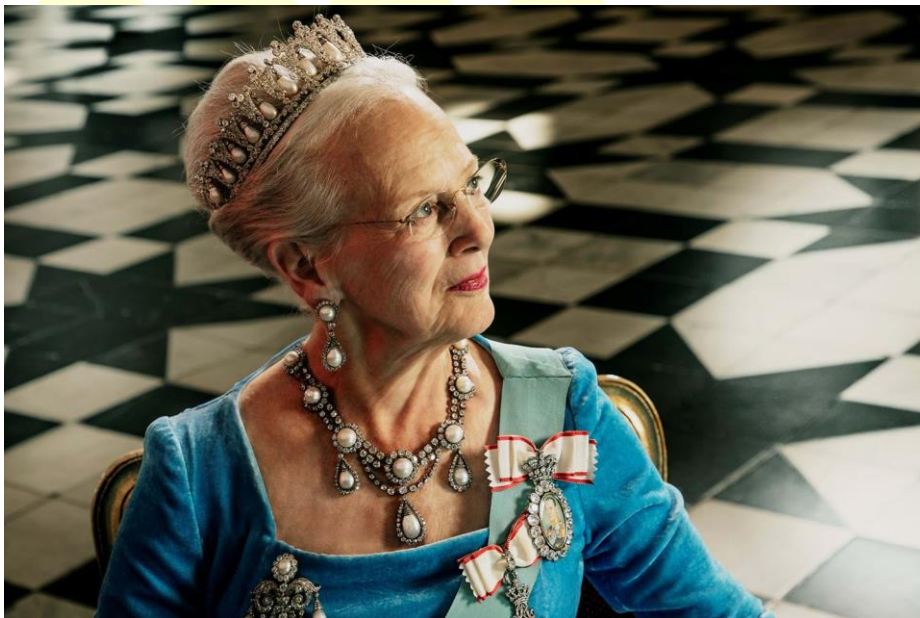


- Murty Trust aims to amplify this impact by providing crucial resources, enabling the scaling of efforts in community-cat population control.

- Led by **Mrs. Sudha Murty and Mr. Rohan Murty**, Murty Trust remains dedicated to philanthropic initiatives, with a strong focus on animal welfare. Supporting over 12 organizations in the past two years, the Trust emphasizes humane treatment and care for animals.
- The clinic's inauguration by Mrs. Sudha Murty and Ms. Aparna Krishnan, alongside CUPA trustees, underscores the initiative's commitment to the **well-being of both cats and communities**.

## Denmark's Queen Margrethe II

- **Queen Margrethe II of Denmark**, revealed her decision to **abdicate the throne after 52 years of rule**.
- The announcement, marks the anniversary of her own accession to the throne at the age of 31, following the death of her father, King Frederik IX.
- Danish Prime Minister **Mette Frederiksen confirmed** Queen Margrethe II's abdication in a news release, expressing gratitude for the monarch's lifelong dedication and tireless efforts for the Kingdom.



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- Queen Margrethe II, standing at an impressive 6 feet tall, has been a distinctive and beloved figure in Denmark. she often walked the streets of Copenhagen virtually unescorted, endearing herself to the public. Her warm manners, linguistic abilities, and talent as a designer contributed to her popularity.
- Aside from her royal duties, Queen Margrethe II displayed a remarkable adventurous spirit. **As a keen skier**, she was a **member of a Danish women's air**

**force unit** during her time as a princess, participating in judo courses and endurance tests in the snow.

- Even in her later years, at the age of 70, she visited **Danish troops in southern Afghanistan**, donning a military jumpsuit.



- Throughout her reign, Queen Margrethe II crisscrossed the country, regularly visiting Greenland and the Faeroe Islands – two semi-independent territories within the Danish Realm. Her visits were met with cheering crowds, reflecting the widespread admiration for her commitment to the people.
- Queen Margrethe II's legacy is one of resilience, adventure, and unwavering dedication to her role as a monarch. Her decision to abdicate the throne adds a new chapter to Denmark's royal history, **making way for her son**, Crown Prince Frederik, to assume the responsibilities of the monarchy.

## Fast Reactor Plant In Tamil Nadu

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked a historic moment as he dedicated the **Rs 400 crore Demonstration Fast Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant (DFRP)** at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), **Kalpakkam**, to the nation.
- This facility is a significant step towards advancing **India's nuclear capabilities**, designed to reprocess fuel from Prototype Fast Breeder Reactors (PFBR).
- The fast reactor power generation company, **Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd (BHAVINI)**, based in Kalpakkam, is at the forefront of this initiative.



- BHAVINI is currently setting up the PFBR and has plans for two additional fast reactors in the future. The DFRP, a pilot project for larger facilities, plays a vital role in **reprocessing fuel from the upcoming PFBRs**.
- The DFRP boasts a unique design, crafted **entirely by Indian scientists**. This facility is capable of reprocessing both **carbide and oxide fuels** discharged from fast reactors, setting it apart as the **only one of its kind globally**.
- The successful implementation of this design is a testament to India's growing prowess **in nuclear technology**.
- The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) highlights the DFRP as a crucial step towards the establishment of large commercial-scale fast reactor fuel reprocessing plants.
- The integration of cutting-edge technology in this plant reinforces India's commitment to achieving self-sufficiency in nuclear fuel cycle capabilities.
- The successful deployment of indigenously manufactured primary and secondary sodium pumps adds to the optimistic outlook. The **advanced stage of integrated commissioning** indicates a promising future for fast reactor power generation.
- The primary goal of the FRFCF is to **reprocess spent fuel from fast breeder reactors**, emphasizing its integral role in India's three-stage nuclear power programme.

## 'Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar' 2023

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2023.
- Odisha Mining Corporate Limited has been awarded in the category of Encouragement to Sports through Corporate Social Responsibility.



- Jain Deemed to be University, Bengaluru has been awarded for the identification and nurturing of budding and young talent. The awardees will receive their awards from President Droupadi Murmu at a specially organised function at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 9th of this month.
- Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar is given to corporate entities, Sports Control Boards, NGOs, including sports bodies at the State and National level, who have played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development.

## Indian Science Congress Postponed

- Indian Science Congress, the largest gathering of scientists and students of science in the country and a permanent annual fixture in the calendar of the participant group for more than a century, has been postponed.



- The postponement is unprecedented. With the exception of the two years following the outbreak of the **Covid-19 pandemic— 2021 and 2022** — the Indian Science Congress has been held every year since 1914.



- The **108th edition of the Congress** was held in **Nagpur from January 3-7, 2023**.
- The crisis is the fallout of an **unresolved disagreement between the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA)**, a registered society that organises the event, and the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)** in the Union Ministry of Science and Technology, the main funder of the congress.
- In September 2023, the **DST pulled funding support to the congress**, alleging “financial irregularities”. The ISCA denied the accusation, and challenged the DST’s directive that **government funds should not be spent** on anything related to the Science Congress, in court. This only deepened the rift. The lawsuit remains pending.
- The DST’s contribution (which was raised to **Rs 5 crore in 2023 from Rs 3 crore** earlier) pays for most of the event’s expenses.
- The ISCA had decided to move this year’s congress **from the original venue, Lucknow University**, to the private **Lovely Professional University (LPU)** in Jalandhar in the hope of receiving some funding.





- While LPU had also hosted the **106th Science Congress in 2019**, the DST was said to be unhappy with the ISCA's choice for this year.
- The ISCA, however, argued that its **executive committee does not need** the DST's clearance for the venue, and that a DST representative was in any case present when LPU was chosen.
- The ISCA has now formed a five-member committee to scout for possible venues to host the event.
- **Ranjit Kumar Verma**, general secretary of ISCA, said it was unfortunate that the event was not being held on time, but said this was not the end of the Science Congress.



- “We will hopefully be able to organise the Science Congress before March 31 and we are hopeful that the Prime Minister will attend the event,” he said.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. Which Country's Prime Minister To Be Chief Guest In Vibrant Gujarat Summit**

- A. Czech Republic
- B. China
- C. Russia
- D. Australlia

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Theme Of 10<sup>th</sup> Edition Of Vibrant Gujarat Global Investors Summit**

- A. Gateway To Success
- B. Pathway To Prosperity
- C. Gateway To The Future
- D. Progression Unlimited

**ANSWER: C**

**3. Murty Trust's 'Maitri' Initiative Aims To Address Challenges In Which Sector**

- A. Education
- B. Healthcare
- C. Animal Welfare
- D. Agriculture

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Queen Margrethe II Related To**

- A. Denmark
- B. Spain
- C. Portugal
- D. Finland

**ANSWER: A**

**5. Which Entity In Kalpakkam Is At Forefront Of Setting Up The Prototype Fast Breeder Reactors In India**

- A. IOCL
- B. BHAVINI
- C. HPCL
- D. BPCL

**ANSWER: B**

**6. Ritual Theatre Mudiyetu, A UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage, Originate**

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Kerala
- D. Andhra Pradesh

**ANSWER: C**

**7. Which Athlete Received Arjuna Award For Outstanding Performance In Sports & Games 2023 For Wushu**

- A. Deepika Kumari
- B. Naorem Roshibina Devi
- C. Dutee Chand
- D. Savita Punia

**ANSWER: B**

**8. Which Country Successfully Launched Long March-11 Carrier Rocket**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Scheme Introduced To Empower SC Students Through Residential Education**

- A. VISHESH
- B. SAMRIDDHI
- C. SHRESHTA
- D. UJJWAL

**ANSWER: C**

**10. In Which City Did Power Minister RK Singh Inaugurate Power Grid's Vishram Sadan**

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Mumbai
- C. Delhi
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

**11. Who Has Been Named President Of The Democratic Republic Of Congo**

- A. Moise Katumbi
- B. Denis Kadima
- C. Felix Tshisekedi
- D. Martin Fayulu

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Who Won Women's Silver Medal At 2023 World Rapid Chess Championships Held In Samarkand, Uzbekistan**

- A. Pia Cramling
- B. Anastasia Bodnaruk
- C. Koneru Humpy
- D. Hou Yifan

**ANSWER: C**

**13. Who Has Been Appointed As The New Chairman And Managing Director Of Power Grid Corporation**

- A. Ravindra Kumar Tyagi
- B. Harini Patel
- C. Anil Sharma
- D. Rahul Singhania

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Where Did The 12th Divya Kala Mela 2023 Take Place**

- A. Ahmedabad
- B. Vadodara
- C. Rajkot
- D. Surat

**ANSWER: D**

**15. On Which Date Is Global Family Day Celebrated Annually**

- A. January 1
- B. January 2
- C. January 3
- D. January 4

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Which Companies Have Partnered With ITC To Help Indian Tobacco Farmers**

- A. Skymet and IBM
- B. Skymet and Accenture
- C. Wipro and Skymet
- D. Microsoft and Skymet

**ANSWER: D**

**17. What Was The Primary Focus Of 10<sup>th</sup> Phase Of Sagar Parikrama**

- A. Cultural Exchange And Coastal Tourism
- B. Welfare Of Fishing Communities And Coastal Development
- C. Environmental Protection And Marine Conservation
- D. Promoting Scientific Research And Innovation In Fisheries

**ANSWER: B**

**18. Who Inaugurated India's First All Girl Sainik School In Vrindavan Uttar Pradesh**

- A. Rajnath Singh
- B. Shashi Tharoor
- C. Amit Shah
- D. Smriti Irani

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Which State Launched K-SMART Application To Bring All Services Of Local Self-government Institutions On Unified Digital Platform**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**20. Which State Has Consistently Ranked First In Recording Entries On The Inter Operable Criminal Justice System Platform**

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Madhya Pradesh

**ANSWER: C**