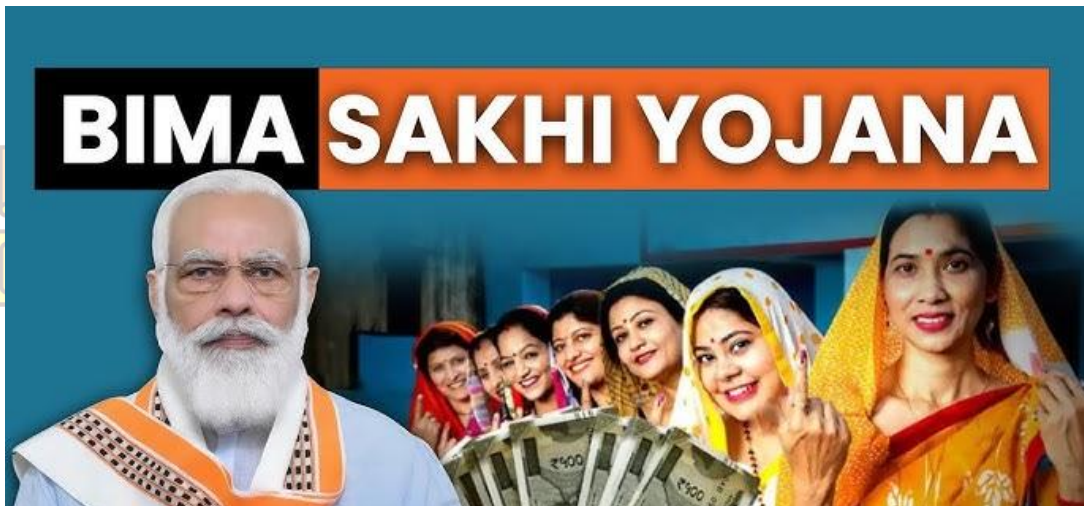


Daily Current Affairs

09 December 2024

Bima Sakhi Yojana

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch LIC's Bima Sakhi Yojana and lay the foundation stone of the **main campus of Maharana Pratap Horticultural University** at Panipat in Haryana.
- The main campus and six regional research stations, spread over 495 acres, will be established at a cost of over 700 crore rupees.



- The **Bima Sakhi Yojana**, an initiative of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, is designed to empower women aged **18 to 70 years**, who are **Class X pass**.
- They will receive specialized training and a stipend for the **first three years to promote financial literacy and insurance awareness**. After training, they can serve as **LIC agents** and the **graduate Bima Sakhis** will have the opportunity to qualify for being considered for Development Officer roles in LIC.

Rajasthan Global Investment Summit

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will visit Rajasthan on Monday. During his Rajasthan visit, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the **Rising Rajasthan Global Summit 2024 at Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center**. He will also address the gathering on the occasion.



- More than five **thousand business and trade representatives**, Diplomats and Investors, Delegates and other participants will attend the grand Investment Summit.
- **MoUs worth 30 lakh Crore rupees** have been signed for investment proposals prior to the summit. Representatives from 32 countries are participating in the investment summit, with 17 of them being the partner countries.

Mahatma Gandhi Remembrance Day

- A **bust of Mahatma Gandhi** was unveiled at the **Nebraska State Capitol** on December 6, 2024, marking the day as “A Day of Remembrance for Mahatma Gandhi.”
- Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen declared this special day to honor **Gandhi’s principles of non-violence, tolerance, and justice**, emphasizing their relevance in today’s world.



- The event was a collaboration between the **Indian Consulate in Seattle and the Governor's Office in Nebraska**, reflecting cultural understanding and long-term partnership.



- Governor Pilleen unveiled Gandhi's bust at the Governor's Office in Lincoln's iconic Nebraska State Capitol, the **first such installation** in the nine states under the Indian Consulate in Seattle's jurisdiction.
- The bust, gifted by the Indian government, symbolizes **Gandhi's enduring legacy and the universal values he championed**, such as Ahimsa (non-violence) and Satyagraha (truth force). The proclamation by Governor Pilleen described Gandhi as a global **symbol of peace and justice who inspired countless individuals and movements**.

RBI Introduces Podcast Facility

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, under the leadership of Governor Shaktikanta Das, has announced plans to launch a **podcast series aimed at enhancing public communication** and financial literacy. This initiative marks the RBI's continued efforts to expand its communication tools, aiming to provide more transparent and accessible information to the public.
- During the announcement, the **RBI kept its key interest rate unchanged** due to inflation risks but reduced the **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) to inject** more liquidity into the economy and support growth. This decision was made to address a slowing economy and aid the banking sector.

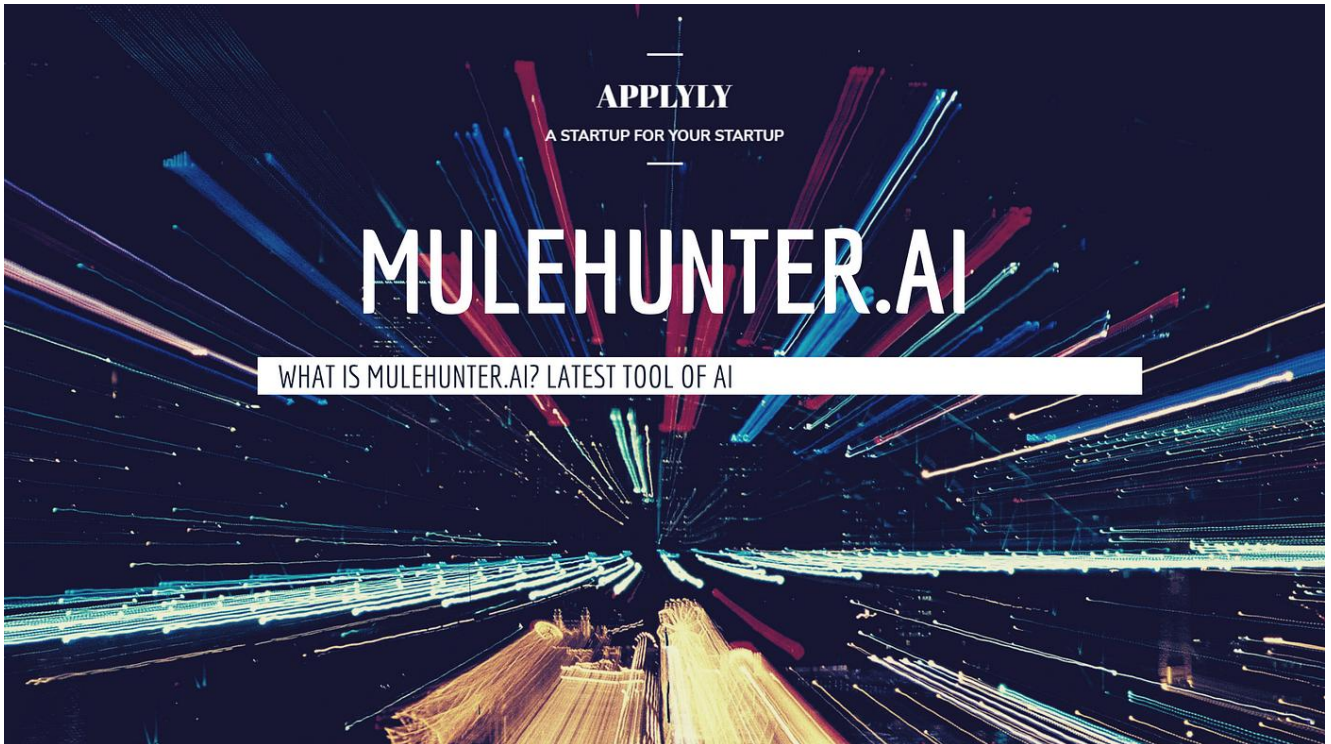


- Governor Das emphasized the role of **financial literacy tools like the podcast** in promoting financial education across diverse sections of society.
- Last month, the RBI also launched **booklets in the Santali (Ol Chik) language**, covering financial products, digital banking, and consumer protection, specifically tailored for children, farmers, entrepreneurs, self-help groups, and senior citizens.



- The RBI has shown **interest in integrating artificial intelligence (AI)** in its operations. A new committee, **FREE-AI (Framework for Responsible and Ethical Enablement of AI)**, is being developed to address AI-related risks in the financial sector.

- A new AI-powered tool, **MuleHunter.AI**, has been developed by the RBI Innovation Hub in Bengaluru to detect and manage mule accounts, which are often used in digital fraud. In addition to the podcast, the RBI has organized events such as a quiz competition for students, highlighting its ongoing efforts to engage with the public on financial matters.



UNGA Declares December 21 As World Meditation Day

- **UN General Assembly (UNGA)** has unanimously adopted a resolution declaring **December 21 as World Meditation Day**, co-sponsored by **India and supported by countries like Liechtenstein, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Mexico, and Andorra**.
- This resolution emphasizes meditation's role in achieving comprehensive well-being, inner peace, and coping with modern challenges such as stress and anxiety.
- **December 21, marking the Winter Solstice**, is considered an auspicious time in Indian tradition for reflection and spiritual growth. It complements the **International Day of Yoga observed on June 21 (Summer Solstice)**, highlighting India's decade-long leadership in promoting wellness practices globally.



- India played a pivotal role in guiding the resolution, showcasing its commitment to global human well-being under the ethos of “**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**” (The world is one family).

India Internet Governance Forum

- **Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Jitin Prasada** will inaugurate the **Fourth edition of India Internet Governance Forum** in New Delhi on Monday.



- The two-day event will focus on **bridging the digital divide, enhancing trust** and safety in the online environment, and leveraging advanced technologies for nation-building.
- It will also emphasize the need for a secure, inclusive, and ethically governed Internet. The **theme for this edition is “Innovating Internet Governance for India.**

'Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore'

- A Nationwide Campaign ' Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore' Launched On 19th Of December During **Good Governance Week**. The **One-week Programme** Will Be Held Till 24th Of December, Covering **Events In All The Districts Across The Country**. In This Campaign, Over **700 District Collectors** Will Be Participating And Officials Will Be Visiting **Tehsils And Panchayat Samiti Headquarters**.



- This Is The Third Time, That The Government Will Be Conducting A **National Campaign At Tehsil Level To Address Public Grievances** And Improve Service Delivery. Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore Abhiyaan Will Create A National Movement For Good Governance That Will Inspire Future Generations.

UK Joins US And Bahrain In C-SIPA

- In a major development for **West Asian security cooperation**, the **United States, Bahrain, and the United Kingdom** have announced an expansion of their strategic partnership through the **Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (C-SIPA)**.
- The UK's entry into this agreement marks a **crucial enhancement of the existing security framework**, which was initially established between the US and Bahrain in 2023.



- Central to this partnership is the newly unveiled Geospatial Acceleration Initiative, which **leverages the expertise of the U.S. National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)** to enhance regional **maritime security and navigation safety**.
- This initiative will focus on developing and **sharing critical hydrographic, aeronautical, and topographic** data among partner nations. **Bahrain's strategic importance is highlighted** by its role in maintaining security in vital maritime corridors, including the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.
- The **nation hosts key UK naval facilities in the Gulf** and has demonstrated its commitment to regional stability through active participation in multinational security operations.



- The economic dimension of this partnership has already shown promising results, with **the UK-Bahrain Strategic Investment Partnership**, established in **2023, generating over £1 billion in investment** in the United Kingdom.
- This **trilateral cooperation builds upon decades** of established relationships between the participating nations. The UK's entry into C-SIPA reinforces its special **relationship with the United States, which is founded** on deep security, military, and intelligence connections. Together, these nations aim to **strengthen regional stability and protect international trade** routes while fostering economic prosperity across the Middle East.

Notre-Dame Cathedral

- In France, the iconic **Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris is reopening** its doors today, five-and-a-half years after a devastating **fire nearly destroyed the 861-year-old landmark**. The restoration, a spectacular achievement in just **five years for a structure that** took nearly two centuries to build, is widely seen as a moment of triumph for French President Emmanuel Macron.
- Several world leaders, dignitaries, and worshippers will gather for the opening ceremony in the evening to mark the occasion in a rare moment of unity against the backdrop of global divisions and conflicts.

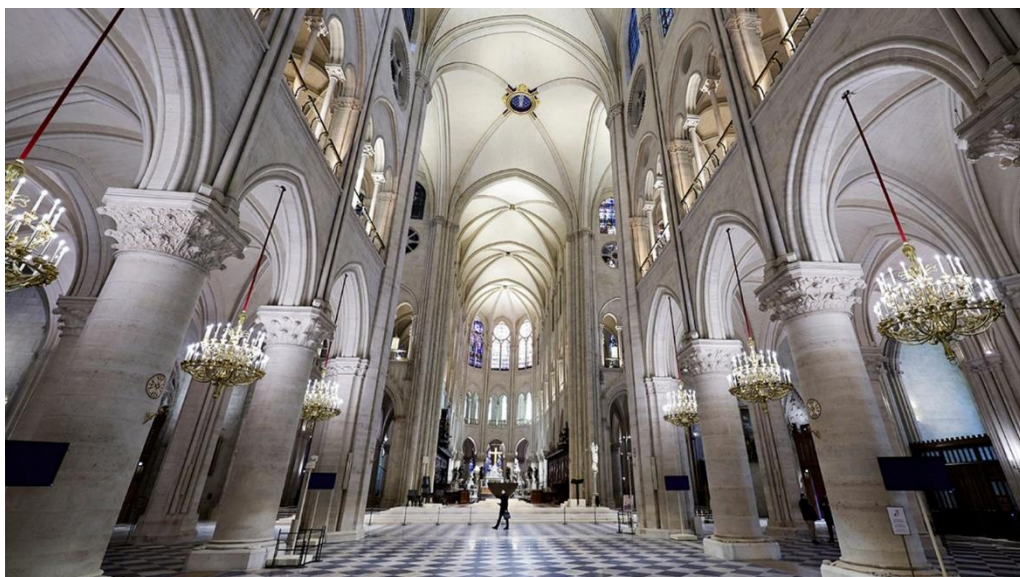


- **Around 1,500 guests including America's First Lady Jill Biden, President-elect Donald Trump and Britain's Prince William** along with nearly 50 heads of state and government and personalities will attend the reopening celebration.

- On the evening of the **15th of April in 2019**, the roof of the medieval Gothic masterpiece burst into flames. Much of the roof collapsed but the bell towers and facade held.



- **Notre Dame de Paris** is one of the **French capital's** most beloved and visited monuments, celebrated for its rib vaulting, flying buttresses, stunning stained-glass windows and carved stone gargoyles. It is a **medieval Catholic cathedral** located on an island in the **Seine River** in **Paris, France**.



- The cathedral is consecrated to the **Virgin Mary** and considered to be one of the finest examples of **French Gothic architecture**.
- It contains the **Holy Crown of Thorns** the most precious item of Holy relics and relics from the **crucifixion of Jesus- a piece of the cross** on which he was nailed and one of the nails.
- It is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Notre-Dame is believed to be built on the site of a **former Gallo-Roman temple dedicated to Jupiter**. Following the arrival of Christianity in France, four churches were built on the same site.
- The **construction of Notre-Dame began in 1160 under Bishop Maurice de Sully** and was largely completed by 1260.
- When **Napoleon Bonaparte became** ruler of France in 1801, he chose Notre-Dame for his coronation and pledged to restore it.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **UNGA Declares _____ As World Meditation Day**

- A. December 20
- B. December 22
- C. December 23
- D. December 21

ANSWER: D

2. **Notre-Dame Cathedral Is Located In**

- A. New York
- B. Paris
- C. Seattle
- D. Tokyo

ANSWER: B

3. **Which State Is Constructing 16,000 Affordable Homes Under The PM Housing Scheme**

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Bihar
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: D

4. What Is The Minimum Distance The Government Aims To Have A Post Office Within For Better Accessibility

- A. 1 km
- B. 2 km
- C. 3 km
- D. 5 km

ANSWER: C

5. Which Organization Approved The \$188.28 Million Loan For Maharashtra's Backward Districts

- A. International Monetary Fund
- B. Asian Development Bank
- C. Reserve Bank of India
- D. World Bank

ANSWER: D

6. Who Won The 2024 Turner Prize For Their Solo Exhibition "Alter Altar"

- A. Jasleen Kaur
- B. Amrit Singh
- C. Harpreet Kaur Gill
- D. Rajinder Dhillon

ANSWER: A

7. Who Has Been Selected To Receive The Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2024

- A. Angela Merkel
- B. Veronica Michelle Bachelet
- C. Malala Yousafzai
- D. Antonio Guterres

ANSWER: B

8. What Language Is Promoted Through The Newly Launched PM e-VIDYA DTH Channel No. 31

- A. To promote the Indian Super League
- B. Indian Sign Language
- C. To develop a new language
- D. To promote a new sport

ANSWER: B

9. In Which City Will Google Establish Its Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC) In Partnership With The State Government

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Chennai
- C. Pune
- D. Hyderabad

ANSWER: D

10. Which State Is Implementing Climate-adaptative Community-based Water-harvesting Project With A \$50 Million Loan From ADB

- A. West Bengal
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Meghalaya

ANSWER: D

11. In Which State Will Union Health Minister JP Nadda Launch The 100-day TB Elimination Campaign On 7th December 2024

- A. Haryana
- B. Punjab
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: A

12. Which Airline Ranked 103rd Out Of 109 In The 2024 Airhelp Score Report

- A. Air India
- B. IndiGo
- C. Turkish Airlines
- D. Ryanair

ANSWER: B

13. Which Country Signed The BRI Cooperation Framework With China To Implement Infrastructure Projects

- A. Bhutan
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Nepal
- D. Bangladesh

ANSWER: C

14. Which Company Introduced The Nova Foundation Models In Generative AI

- A. Google
- B. Amazon
- C. Meta
- D. Adobe

ANSWER: B

15. Which Country's Parliament Issued An Official Apology For The Century-long Assimilation Policies That Discriminated Against The Sami, Kven, And Forest Finn Communities

- A. Sweden
- B. Finland
- C. Denmark
- D. Norway

ANSWER: D

16. In Which State Did The Rengma Naga Tribe Celebrate The Ngada Festival-cum-mini Hornbill Festival

- A. Nagaland
- B. Assam
- C. Manipur
- D. Mizoram

ANSWER: A

17. Who Was Reappointed For A Second Term As The Director-general Of The World Trade Organization

- A. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
- B. Kristalina Georgieva
- C. Antonio Guterres
- D. Amina Mohamed

ANSWER: A

18. Which Day Is Observed As Mahaparinirvan Diwas Every Year

- A. December 4
- B. December 5
- C. December 6
- D. December 7

ANSWER: C

19. Punatsangchu II hydroelectric project, is located in which country

- A. Myanmar
- B. Bhutan
- C. Nepal
- D. India

ANSWER: B

20. Which Article Empowers The President Of India To Appoint A Special Officer For Linguistic Minorities

- A. Article 340
- B. Article 347
- C. Article 350 B
- D. Article 353

ANSWER: C