

# Daily Current Affairs

## 02 January 2025

### Rakesh Aggarwal Gets Additional Charge as NIA Chief

- Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has assigned the additional charge of Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to senior IPS officer Rakesh Aggarwal. The move aims to ensure institutional stability and continuity at the helm of India's premier counter-terrorism agency.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an Office Memorandum assigning additional charge of DG, NIA to Rakesh Aggarwal.
- He will hold this charge until a regular incumbent is appointed or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- The decision follows the premature repatriation of Sadanand Vasant Date, a 1990 batch IPS officer of the Maharashtra cadre.
- The repatriation was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- Rakesh Aggarwal is a 1994 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer from the Himachal Pradesh cadre.
- He is currently serving as Special Director General of the NIA.
- **Role and Importance of NIA**
- It investigates offences related to,
  - Terrorism and terror financing
  - Radicalization networks
  - Cross border linkages
  - Threats to national security



## Israel Announces Peace Prize for Donald Trump

- Israel has announced a special peace honour for former US President Donald Trump. The decision comes shortly after Trump was overlooked for the Nobel Peace Prize and follows a high-profile meeting with Israeli leadership in Florida.
- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that Donald Trump will be awarded the Israel Prize for Peace in 2026.
- This is,
- The first time in 80 years that Israel's highest civilian honour will be awarded to a non-Israeli
- The first ever conferral of the Peace category under the Israel Prize
- The announcement followed a cordial meeting in Florida, reflecting renewed diplomatic engagement.



## India's Broadband Subscribers Cross 100 Crore Mark

- India achieved a major digital milestone in November 2025 as its broadband subscriber base crossed 1 billion (100 crore) users. This landmark reflects the country's rapid progress in digital connectivity and the success of sustained policy focus on expanding internet access nationwide.
- India had 100.37 crore broadband subscribers by the end of November 2025. This marks the first time the country has crossed the 1 billion subscriber threshold. The achievement places India among the world's largest digital and connected societies.
- The growth in broadband connectivity has been extraordinary over the past ten years.
- November 2015: Broadband subscribers stood at 131.49 million (13.15 crore).
- November 2025: Subscribers increased to 100.37 crore.



## India and Pakistan Exchange Prisoners Lists Under Consular Pact

- India and Pakistan have carried out another routine but significant diplomatic exercise. Both countries exchanged lists of civil prisoners and fishermen held in each other's custody.
- The exchange was conducted under an existing bilateral agreement and reflects ongoing humanitarian and consular engagement despite broader political challenges between the two neighbors.
- India and Pakistan exchanged lists of prisoners and fishermen through diplomatic channels under the 2008 Agreement on Consular Access.
- The Agreement on Consular Access (2008) allows both countries to exchange lists of prisoners twice a year.
- It ensures that detained nationals are granted consular access, enabling communication with their home country.



## **S. Shrinivas Takes Charge as Chief of IAF Training Command**

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) has appointed Air Marshal S. Shrinivas as the new head of its Training Command. Which marking an important leadership change in the force's training and human resource development wing.
- Air Marshal S. Shrinivas assumed charge as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of the Training Command of the Indian Air Force on January 1. After taking charge, he paid homage to fallen personnel at the Training Command War Memorial.



## **Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor Appointed as Vice Chief of the Air Staff**

- The IAF witnessed an important leadership transition with Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor assuming charge as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff. With nearly 40 years

of distinguished service he brings deep operational, instructional and strategic experience.

- Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor assumed charge as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force on January 1, 2026, succeeding Air Marshal Narmdeshwar Tiwari, who superannuated after completing 40 years of service.
- Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor is a senior fighter pilot officer of the Indian Air Force with extensive experience across command, operations, training, and staff roles. He is known for his contribution to fighter operations, training reforms, and leadership at key air commands.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. Who has been given the additional charge of Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA)?**

- A. Sadanand Vasant Date
- B. Rakesh Aggarwal
- C. Nagesh Kapoor
- D. S. Shrinivas

**Answer: B. Rakesh Aggarwal**

---

**2. Rakesh Aggarwal belongs to which IPS batch and cadre?**

- A. 1990 batch, Maharashtra cadre
- B. 1994 batch, Himachal Pradesh cadre
- C. 1992 batch, Punjab cadre
- D. 1996 batch, Uttarakhand cadre

**Answer: B. 1994 batch, Himachal Pradesh cadre**

---

**3. The premature repatriation of Sadanand Vasant Date was approved by which body?**

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Supreme Court of India
- C. Appointments Committee of the Cabinet
- D. Cabinet Secretariat

**Answer: C. Appointments Committee of the Cabinet**

---

**4. Which of the following is NOT a key area investigated by the NIA?**

- A. Terror financing
- B. Radicalization networks
- C. Cross-border linkages
- D. Cyber tax fraud

**Answer: D. Cyber tax fraud**

---

**5. Israel announced which honour for former US President Donald Trump?**

- A. Nobel Peace Prize
- B. Jerusalem Peace Medal
- C. Israel Prize for Peace
- D. Abraham Accord Award

**Answer: C. Israel Prize for Peace**

---

**6. Why is the Israel Prize for Peace awarded to Donald Trump considered historic?**

- A. First award to a US President
- B. First award after 50 years
- C. First time awarded to a non-Israeli and first Peace category
- D. First joint award with another nation

**Answer: C. First time awarded to a non-Israeli and first Peace category**

---

**7. By November 2025, India's broadband subscriber base reached approximately:**

- A. 75 crore
- B. 85 crore
- C. 95 crore
- D. 100.37 crore

**Answer: D. 100.37 crore**

---

**8. Under which agreement do India and Pakistan exchange lists of prisoners twice a year?**

- A. Shimla Agreement
- B. Indus Waters Treaty
- C. Agreement on Consular Access, 2008
- D. Tashkent Agreement

**Answer: C. Agreement on Consular Access, 2008**

---

**9. Who assumed charge as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the IAF Training Command on January 1?**

- A. Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor
- B. Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari
- C. Air Marshal S. Shrinivas
- D. Air Vice Marshal Rakesh Aggarwal

**Answer: C. Air Marshal S. Shrinivas**

---

**10. Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor was appointed as which senior officer of the Indian Air Force?**

- A. Chief of Air Staff
- B. Deputy Chief of Air Staff
- C. Vice Chief of the Air Staff
- D. Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief

**Answer: C. Vice Chief of the Air Staff**