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History of January 13

- ◆ **1709** : Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar defeated his third brother Kam Baksh in Hyderabad.
- ◆ **1818** : The Rana of Udaipur signed an agreement with the British army for the defense of Mewar province.
- ◆ **1948** : Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi started a fast unto death to maintain Hindu-Muslim unity.
- ◆ **1849** : The second battle took place at Chillianwala between the British and the Sikhs.

Current Affairs Related to 13 January

- ◆ Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education proudly presents Prerna, an experiential learning programme. This unique initiative aims to empower students of classes IX to XII with leadership qualities and provide them a meaningful, unique and inspiring experience.
- ◆ A procurement portal for tur dal was launched by Cooperation Minister Amit Shah to enable farmers to register to sell pulses and receive payments directly into their bank accounts. This portal will help streamline the entire process for tur dal growers in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka and Jharkhand. With this, pulses will be purchased from registered farmers for buffer stock and farmers will be paid at the minimum support price or market price. The main objective of the portal is to reduce dependence on imports by purchasing 80 percent of the buffer stock directly from farmers.
- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked a historic moment when he dedicated to the nation the Rs 400 crore demonstration fast reactor fuel reprocessing plant at the Indira Gandhi Center for Atomic Research Kalpakkam. The facility is an important step towards advancing India's nuclear capabilities, designed to reprocess fuel from a prototype fast breeder reactor.
- ◆ Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh took charge as the Flag Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Naval Command of the Indian Navy at a formal ceremony held at Naval Air Station, INS Shikra, Colaba, Mumbai. The ceremony marked the change of leadership from Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi who was serving as FOC in C.
- ◆ In an unprecedented collaboration with Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, Murthy Trust unveils Maitri Initiative, a pioneering community cat sterilization center in Bengaluru. This state-of-the-art facility is a symbol of goodwill and friendship while addressing challenges in India's animal welfare sector.
- ◆ Under PM Shri Yojana, 928 schools of Uttar Pradesh will be given a facelift in the first phase. Which also includes 81 Central and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas. 928 schools in the state will be modernized with an amount of Rs 404 crore. In this, classes 1 to 12 will be upgraded. A total of 1753 schools have been selected for upgradation under PM Shri Schools across the state.
- ◆ The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education has launched Prerna: An Experience-Based Education Programme. It aims to provide a meaningful, unique and inspiring experience to all participants, empowering them with leadership qualities. Prerna is a week long residential program for selected students from classes IX to XII. The Prerna program will originate from the Vernacular School established in 1888 in Vadnagar, Mehsana district of Gujarat, one of the oldest cities of India.
- ◆ In a significant change in the Ministry of External Affairs, official spokesperson Arindam Bagchi has handed over the command to Randhir Jaiswal. The move follows the appointment of Arindam Bagchi as India's next Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva in October 2023. Shri Bagchi is an experienced Indian Foreign Service officer of 1995 batch, who is holding the post of Additional Secretary.
- ◆ India Ratings & Research has upgraded the non-convertible debentures of PNB Housing Finance Limited to IND AA+ from IND AA with a stable outlook. The NCD limit is divided into bank loans and NCDs, the corresponding bank loans being rated IND AA+.
- ◆ Shashi Singh has been elected the new President of All India Rubber Industry Association. He will succeed Ramesh Kejriwal as the President of AIRIA. Before assuming the role of President, Shri Shashi Singh was Senior Vice President of AIRIA.

National & International Current Affairs

1. Recently, which country will host the FIH Hockey-5 World Cup Qualifier?

- (A) India (B) Oman
(C) South Africa (D) France

(B) Oman is set to unveil a state-of-the-art sports complex for the FIH Hockey-5s World Cup Qualifiers, which will welcome eight global teams competing for three coveted Olympic tickets. Scheduled just before the Summer 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, the FIH Hockey-5s World Cup Qualifier will be an exciting game that will attract eight international teams.



2. Who has recently inaugurated the India International Jewellery Trade Show IIJS 2024?

- (A) Piyush Goyal (B) Narendra Modi
(C) Amit Shah (D) Nirmala Sitharaman

(A) India International Jewellery Trade Show IIJS 2024 was inaugurated by Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal in Mumbai. He said that India's workforce should focus on making India the world's design destination for fashion and jewellery. He also said that the combination of fashion and jewellery can make India the favorite wedding destination for the world.



3. Recently Heera MotoCorp won the CII National Award for Excellence in Water Management and set an ambitious target of becoming 500% water positive by which year?

- (A) 2024 (B) 2025
(C) 2027 (D) 2030

(B) Hero MotoCorp, the world's largest two-wheeler manufacturer, has made significant progress in water conservation, winning the CII National Award for Excellence in Water Management and setting an ambitious target of becoming 500% water positive by 2025. Hero MotoCorp's Gurugram facility won the Within the Fence category of the CII Awards, highlighting exceptional water management practices within its manufacturing operations.



4. India and which country have signed an agreement for cooperation in renewable energy?

- (A) Sri Lanka (B) China
(C) Nepal (D) America

(C) Recently India and Nepal signed an agreement for cooperation in renewable energy. According to the agreement, Nepal will export 10,000 MW electricity to India in the next 10 years. India's Energy Secretary Panjak Aggarwal and his Nepal counterpart Gopal Sigdel signed the bilateral agreement.



5. Recently the cabinet of which state has approved the Rani Durgavati Anna Protsahan Yojana?

- (A) Madhya Pradesh (B) Chhattisgarh
(C) Rajasthan (D) Uttar Pradesh

(A) Recently the Madhya Pradesh state cabinet has approved the Rani Durgavati Anna Protsahan Yojana. Under this scheme, farmers will be provided an incentive amount of Rs 10 per kg on the production of coarse grains. This decision of the state was highly praised by former Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan.



6. Recently, BCCI has imposed a two-year ban on which cricketer from Odisha?

- (A) Sumit Sharma (B) Ajay Munda
(C) Rahul Kumar (D) None of these

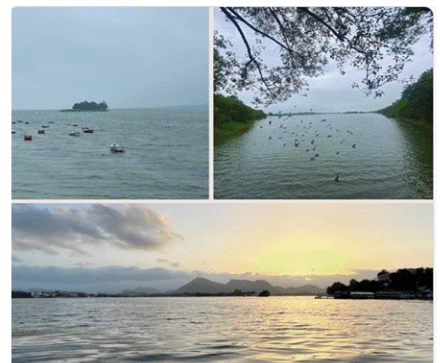
(A) Recently, the Board of Control for Cricket in India has reportedly banned Sumit Sharma, a cricketer from Odisha, from playing in any domestic cricket tournament for the next two years. Sharma is an all-rounder by profession. He was found guilty of making several fake age certificates.



7. How many Indian cities have been nominated for the International Wetland City tag recently?

- (A) 1 (B) 2
(C) 3 (D) 4

(C) 3 Indian cities nominated for International Wetland City tag. These are the first three Indian cities for which nominations have been submitted for Wetland City recognition. The nominations have been submitted based on proposals received from State Wetland Authorities in collaboration with Municipalities. It will also provide an opportunity to gain international recognition for cities that value their natural or man-made wetlands.



8. Who has recently been appointed as the Managing Director of National Asset Reconstruction Company?

- (A) Arvind Pangadhiya (B) P. Santosh
(C) Arindam Bagchi (D) None of these

(B) Recently, Canara Bank Chief General Manager P Santosh has been appointed as the Managing Director of National Asset Reconstruction Company, replacing Natarajan Sundar, who had resigned from the post. This unexpected change in leadership at the government-promoted asset reconstruction organization has raised concerns within the industry.



9. Recently India's toy export increased from how many million dollars in 2014-2015 to 326 million dollars in 2022-2023?

- (A) 96 (B) 101
(C) 159 (D) 332

(A) India's toy exports to grow from \$96 million in 2014-2015 to \$326 million in 2022-2023. Toy imports declined 52% during the same period from \$332 million to \$159 million. According to a case study on the success stories of toys made in India, measures such as increase in import duty and quality control led to an increase in exports of toys and a decline in imports.



10. Recently, India and South Africa played the shortest Test ever in their long history.

- (A) 50 years (B) 90 years
(C) 125 years (D) 147 years

(D) The second Test match played between India and South Africa in Cape Town ended in 107 overs, which became the shortest Test match in history. India won the Newlands Test by seven wickets to level the series 1.1, but in the process broke their own record, which previously stood by 842 balls against England in 2021.

