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History of December 20

- ◆ **1876** : The great poet Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay composed the national song Vande Mataram.
- ◆ **1988** : Parliament approved the bill to reduce the voting age from 21 to 18 years through the 62nd Constitutional Amendment.
- ◆ **1993** : A cooperation agreement was signed between India and the European Union in Brussels.
- ◆ **1946** : Mahatma Gandhi stayed in Shrirampur for a month.

Current Affairs Related to 20 December

- ◆ Taiwan-based giant Foxconn, responsible for assembling around 70% of iPhones globally, will invest an additional Rs 139.11 billion in the state of Karnataka. The decision highlights Foxconn's ongoing efforts to diversify production away from China, driven by disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical tensions. Foxconn, the world's largest contract manufacturing company, has been expanding rapidly in India in the last one year.
- ◆ The Reserve Bank of India has authorized city-based Bandhan Bank to pay pension to retired railway employees. According to a statement issued by private lender Bandhan Bank, the bank will soon integrate its system with the Railway Ministry to handle the pension disbursement process. This approval from RBI will provide the bank access to approximately 50,000 retirees every year in 17 regional offices and eight production units of Railways across the country. This will help pensioners get access to competitive rates offered by the bank and other products of the lender.
- ◆ Since the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, about 71.51% of the 19.24 crore rural families in the country now have the facility of tap water at home. The Government of India, steadfast in its commitment to provide safe and potable tap water to every rural household in the country, launched the Jal Jeevan Mission in August 2019. The mission, implemented in collaboration with the states, aims to ensure provision of water in adequate quantity and prescribed quality on a regular and long-term basis.
- ◆ According to a recent survey by the Reserve Bank of India, Indian banks significantly increased their overseas presence in the financial year 2022-2023, increasing from 399 last year to 417 subsidiaries. The survey covered 14 Indian banks with overseas branches or subsidiaries and 44 foreign banks with presence in India.
- ◆ Aam Aadmi Party national convenor Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann launched the Mann Sarkar, Tuhade Dwar scheme from Ludhiana. Under this scheme, about 4000 operators have been recruited across the state. Under this scheme, the people of Punjab will get the benefit of 43 types of government services sitting at home.
- ◆ Reliance Industries has formed a strategic partnership with DBS Bank India to set up a financing program targeted at farmers and aggregators. The primary objective of this collaboration is to effectively manage crop residue and utilize it in the production of compressed biogas.
- ◆ India's commerce department officials are actively negotiating a free trade agreement with Oman in Muscat, aiming to seal a deal by the end of the month. This development assumes significance as talks between India and the Gulf Cooperation Council have faced hurdles, particularly with Saudi Arabia, delaying progress by more than a year. If successful, Oman will become the second GCC member after the UAE to sign an FTA with India.
- ◆ YUVAi-Youth for Advancement and Development with AI, National e-Governance Division, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, a collaborative initiative of Government of India and Intel India, is all set to take center stage at the upcoming Global Partnership Summit on Artificial Intelligence. Are. This groundbreaking program, designed to provide youth with essential AI skills, is gaining recognition for its innovative approach and commitment to building a future-ready workforce.
- ◆ According to a new United Nations report, Myanmar will emerge as the world's largest source of opium by overtaking Afghanistan in 2023. This change is attributed to a third consecutive year of increased cultivation due to Myanmar's civil war and a significant decline in opium cultivation in Afghanistan.

National & International Current Affairs

1. When is International Human Solidarity Day celebrated every year?

- (A) 18th December (B) 20th December
(C) 21st December (D) 22nd December

(B) International Human Solidarity Day is celebrated every year on 20 December. It is organized by the United Nations. This day is celebrated with the aim of celebrating unity in diversity and making people aware about the importance of human solidarity. The purpose of celebrating this day is to promote the culture of cooperation, equality and social justice all over the world, especially in developing countries.



2. Which state government will recently establish PM College of Excellence in all the districts?

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

(A) Madhya Pradesh government will establish PM College of Excellence in all the districts of the state. Out of total 570 government colleges, one college in every district will be upgraded as PM College of Excellence by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The government will spend more than Rs 460 crore on the development of these colleges. Apart from this, degree and mark sheets of students in all government and private universities will be uploaded in DigiLocker.



3. Recently, who is the only Indian cricketer in the list of Google's top trading athletes in the year 2023?

- (A) Virat Kohli (B) Neeraj Chopra
(C) Mohammed Shami (D) Shubman Gill

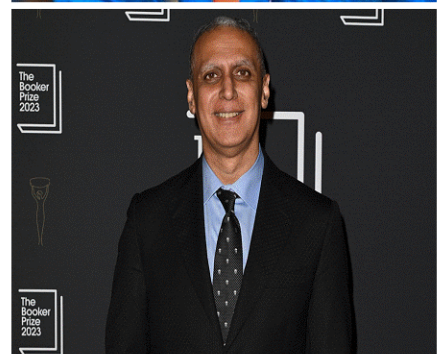
(D) Google has released the list of most searched players, stars and things in different categories. This year, Shubman Gill topped the list of most searched players in India. The year 2023 was an extraordinary year for Shubman Gill where he shone in all formats, Test, ODI and T20.



4. Which British Indian musician has recently been included in the 2024 Booker Prize judging panel?

- (A) Nitin Shahani (B) Veer Das
(C) Deepak Dhar (D) Kamlesh Sharma

(A) Recently, renowned British Indian composer Nitin Sawhney, who has composed music for more than 70 films including Warner Bros.'s Mowgli and Midnight's Children, was announced as one of the 2024 Booker Prize judges. Artist and writer Edmund de Waal has been appointed chairman of the jury.



5. Recently, which state government has ordered a ban on loudspeakers and sale of meat?

- (A) Jharkhand (B) Odisha
(C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Kerala

(C) Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, in his first cabinet meeting, issued an order to ban loudspeakers/DJs at religious functions and public places for making sound exceeding the prescribed limit. Madhya Pradesh government has also decided to form flying squads in all the districts to check noise pollution and illegal use of loudspeakers. These squads will regularly and randomly inspect religious and public places and check the sound of loudspeakers.



6. Recently, which ministry has ordered an investigation into the Parliament security breach incident?

- (A) Ministry of Finance (B) Union Ministry of Home Affairs
(C) Ministry of Culture (D) None of these

(B) On the request of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, the Home Ministry has ordered an inquiry into the Parliament security breach incident. An investigation committee has been formed under the leadership of CRPF Director General Anish Yadav Singh. It also includes members and experts from other security agencies. The inquiry committee will investigate the reasons for the security breach of Parliament, identify shortcomings and recommend further action.



7. Recently the country has been on top as a recipient of FDI.

- (A) Maharashtra (B) Gujarat
(C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Chhattisgarh

(A) Recently, Maharashtra Industries Minister Uday Samant said that his state has topped the list as a recipient of foreign direct investment. Speaking at the Legislative Council in Nagpur, Samant said Maharashtra has attracted foreign direct investment of Rs 28,868 crore in the last three months.



8. Who has recently been appointed as a part-time member of the PFRDA Board?

- (A) KS Reddy (B) Abbas Zaidi
(C) Param Sen (D) None of these

(C) Recently, Param Sen, Additional Secretary in the Department of Expenditure in the Finance Ministry, has been appointed as a part-time member of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority. This appointment completes the trio of part-time members on the PFRDA Board.



9. Recently Gaddam Prasad has been elected the new Assembly Speaker of which state?

- (A) Mizoram (B) Telangana
(C) Manipur (D) Jharkhand

(B) Recently Congress MLA Gaddam Prasad Kumar has taken charge as the Speaker of Telangana Assembly. Bharat Rashtra Samithi, BJP, AIMIM and the Left supported the Congress MLA's candidature and he was unanimously elected as the new Speaker. BJP MLAs had earlier refused to take oath under Protem Speaker Akbaruddin Owaisi, brother of AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi.



10. Recently in which country thousands of people have been affected by Cyclone Jasper?

- (A) Japan (B) Myanmar
(C) Pakistan (D) Australia

(D) Recently, thousands of people have been affected in Australia after Cyclone Jasper reached the north-eastern part of the country. According to reports, people in coastal areas are living without electricity and facing the threat of floods. The Australian Meteorological Department said that the cyclone has slowly reached some areas.

