

❖ **B.Sasikumar a renowned violinist and Carnatic musician passed away**

➤ B.Sasikumar, a prominent violin player from Kerala passed away at the age of 74 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. He was born on 27 April 1949 in Thiruvalla, Kerala.

➤ He was awarded, the Violin Samrat Award from Kuwait (2011); the Kendra Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2008); Kerala Snageetha Nataka Academy Fellowship (2002).

➤ Some of India's famous violin players are: L.Subramaniam, T.N.Krishnan, Akkarai Sisters, M.S.Gopala Krishnan.

❖ **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveils crest of Yard 12706(Imphal)**

➤ The crest of Yard 12706 (Imphal), the 3<sup>rd</sup> amongst the four projects of 15B stealth guided missile destroyers, was unveiled by Raksha Mantri Shir Rajnath Singh, in the presence of Manipur Chief minister N. Biren Singh, in New Delhi.

➤ It is the first capital warship to be named after a city in the north-east Imphal, the capital of Manipur. The crest design depicts the Kangla palace on the left and Kangla-Sa, on right. The Kangla palace is an important historical and archaeological site of Manipur.

➤ The Kangla-Sa, is a mythical being with dragon head and lion's body, from Manipur history, and is symbolic as the guardian of its people. Kangla-Sa is also the state emblem of Manipur

➤ The Imphal is the third ship in the series of four project 15B(Vishakapatnam Class) destroyers being built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited under Make In India initiative. Those 4 ships of project 15B are INS Vishakapatnam, INS Mormugao, INS Imphal and INS Surat.

## ❖ Punjab defeats Haryana to clinch 13<sup>th</sup> Senior Men National Hockey Championship 2023

➤ Punjab Hockey team won the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2023 and clinched gold medal by defeating Haryana Hockey team in the finals.

➤ The Championship was held from 17<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

➤ Punjab, Under the captainship of Harmanpreet Singh, defeated Haryana by a 9-8 margin after the team were tied 2-2 at regulation time. This marks Punjab's 4<sup>th</sup> title in the 13 editions of the tournament.

➤ The 2022 Senior Men championship was won by Haryana who defeated Tamil Nadu.

## ❖ ICG conducted "NATPOLREX-IX" at vadinar coast of Gujarat

➤ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted 9<sup>th</sup> National Level Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREX) on 24-25 November 2023, off Vadinar coast, Gujarat, in accordance with National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP).

➤ This exercise aimed to assess the coordination and readiness of various agencies in responding to a marine oil spill. Rakesh Pal, Director General of Indian Coast Guard, and Chairman of NOSDCP reviewed the preparedness of all agencies during the exercise.

➤ 8<sup>th</sup> edition of NATPOLREX-VIII was conducted from April 19-20, off Mormugao Harbour, Goa. Since 1986, the ICG has assumed responsibility for safeguarding the marine environment, taking over from the ministry of Shipping.

## ❖ UP CM Launches Hot Cooked Meal Scheme in Anganwadi Centers

➤ Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has unveiled the 'Hot Cooked Meal Scheme' in Uttar Pradesh, this landmark initiative aimed to provide nutritious meals to children aged 3 to 6 years at Anganwadis.

➤ The scheme, modeled after the successful Midday Meals Program. Yogi Adityanath laid the foundation stone for 3,401 Anganwaadi centers in 35 districts, with an estimated investment of Rs.403 crore.

➤ Mid-Day Meal Scheme was started in India on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1995 as 'National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE)'. It was renamed as 'National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in Schools' in October 2007, also known as the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme

❖ **54<sup>th</sup> IFFI (international Film Festival Of India) 2023 event was concluded in Goa.**

➤ The 54<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa ended on November 28 with an award ceremony. The Nine-day festival conclude at Dr. Shyam Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Panaji, Goa.

➤ The prestigious Golden peacock award for best film won by "Endless Borders" this is a persian language film directed by Abbas Amini.

➤ Deepak Kumar Mishra directed show "Panchayat" season 2 bagged the best OTT series award, which was introduced for the first time.

➤ Veteran Hollywood actor and producer Michael Douglas was honored with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award this event. Kannada actor Rishab Shetty was honoured with special jury award for his 'Kantara' scripted history as it became the first Kannda film to win an award at IFFI.

❖ **Union Minister Smriti Irani launches Anganwadi Protocol for Divyang Children**

➤ The Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, recently launched the Anganwadi Protocol Divyang Children in a national outreach program at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

➤ The Protocol provides guideline for Anganwadi workers to track and help children with disabilities upto the age of 6.

➤ Union Minister Smriti Irani highlighted the ongoing efforts, with over 4.37 crore children receiving support for meals and ECCE(Early Childhood Care and Education), 4.5 crore children aged 0 to 3 benefiting from take-home relations and home visits and more for growth and health referrals.

➤ The Anganwaadi protocol for Divyang children embodies a Social Model for inclusive care under the POSHAN Abhiyan. The protocol consist of 3 key steps:

1. Screening for early disability signs
2. Inclusion in community events and empowering families
3. Referral support via ASHA/ANM & Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) teams.

❖ **Abdullahi Mire, a former Somalia refugee has won the 2023 UNHCR Nansen Refugee award**

➤ Abdullahi Mire, a former refugee from Somalia has been named the 2023 Refugees (UNHCR) Nansen Refugee Award's Global Laureate for championing the right to education while putting 100,000 books in the hands of displaced children and youth in Kenya.

➤ He will be presented with the award at a ceremony in Geneva, Switzerland, on December 13, 2023. In addition to the Global Laureate, four regional winners have also been named for the 2023 UNHCR Nansen Refugee award

➤ The UNHCR Nansen Refugee award was established in 1954 to honour the legacy of Fridtjof Nansen, a Norwegian scientist, polar explorer, diplomat, and the first High Commissioner for Refugee for the League of Nations. The award is presented annually to an individual or organisation for outstanding services to refugees.

➤ The UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award consists of commemorative medal and monetary prize of \$100,000.

➤ The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee (UNHCR) is a United Nations agency mandated to protect and assist refugees worldwide. UNHCR was established in 1950, and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Present High commissioner for Refugees is “Filippo Grandi”.

### ❖ **Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare: 30 November**

➤ The Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare is an annual event held November 30, as a tribute to the victims of chemical warfare, as well as to reaffirm the commitment of the organisation for prohibition of Chemical weapons

➤ It is officially recognised by the United Nations and has been celebrated since 2005.

➤ The first International agreement limiting the use of chemical weapons can be traced back to 1675 between France and Germany. The Chemical weapons Convention was adopted in 1993. It came into force on April 29, 1997.

### ❖ **Rural Marketing Association of India Appoints Puneet Vidyarthi as its President for 2023-25.**

➤ Rural Marketing Association of India (RMAI), the premier body of rural marketers in India said it has appointed Puneet Vidyarthi as its president for 2023-25 during its 18<sup>th</sup> annual General Meeting, taking over from Biswabaran Chakrabarthi.

➤ Puneet Vidyarthi is head of marketing, business development at CASE New Holland, a construction equipment business. He also served as the Associate Vice President and Head of Marketing and Digital innovations at JCB india Ltd.

➤ Rural market Association of India it is a non-profit organisation founded in 2005, headquarters located at New Delhi.

### ❖ **Cabinet approved the continuation of Fast Track Special Courts**

➤ The union cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the extension of the Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) as a centrally sponsored Scheme (CSS) from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026.

➤ The extension of this scheme is assisted by a financial implication of Rs. 1952.23 crore, funded through the Nirbhaya Fund.

➤ Initially these FTSCs were launched on October 2019, in response to the escalating incidents of rape involving women and girl children. The enactment of “The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018” paved the way for the creation of FTSCs, emphasizing stringent punishment for rape offenders, including death penalty.

➤ The FTSCs implemented in 30 States/Union Territories, the scheme has operationalized 761 FTSCs, including 414 exclusive POCSO Courts.

### ❖ **Nepal officially registers first same-sex marriage**

➤ Five months after the landmark decision by Nepal’s Supreme Court legalizing same-sex marriage, the country has officially registered its first case.

➤ This move positions Nepal as the first South Asian country to recognize and formalize same-sex marriages. The ground breaking event took place in Dordi Rural Municipality of Lamjung district, Western Nepal.

➤ On June 27, 2023, the Supreme Court issued an interim order to legalize same-sex marriage, making it a pivotal moment in the ongoing fight for equality.

➤ The recent registration of Maya and Surendra’s marriage represents a tangible realization of this legal milestone.