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1. Court reinstated Djokovic visa (Jan. 11, 2022)

Tennis star Novak Djokovic won a court battle to stay in Australia to play in the Australian Open to be held from 17th Jan to 30th Jan 2022, despite being unvaccinated against COVID-19, but the government quickly threatened to cancel his visa a second time.

Court reinstated Djokovic visa

- Federal Circuit Court Judge Anthony Kelly reinstated Djokovic's visa, which was canceled after his arrival at the Melbourne Airport.
- The judge also ordered the government to release Djokovic within 30 minutes from the Melbourne quarantine hotel where he spent the last four nights.
- But government lawyer Christopher Tran told the judge after the decision that the minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, Alex Hawke, "will consider whether to exercise a personal power of cancellation" of the visa.
- Government lawyers confirmed that another visa cancellation would mean Djokovic would be banned from Australia for three years.

2. 71st Junior National Basketball Championship (Jan. 11, 2022)

Punjab and Rajasthan emerged as the "girls" and "boys" champions respectively in the **71st Junior National Basketball Championship** held at Indore in Madhya Pradesh.

71st Junior National Basketball Championship

• Rajasthan boys trounced Chandigarh 82-61, while Punjab withstood a spirited fightback from Rajasthan (57-52) to win women's title.

The 71st edition of Championship was hosted by Madhya Pradesh Basketball Association (MPBA) from 4th to 10th January 2022, under the aegis of Basketball Federation of India (BFI) to help in identifying potential basketball stars and providing them with the platform and opportunity to turn their inherent talent into a real-life profession.

 MBPA trains the kids to learn to be great basketball players with 360-degree development. It also trains the underprivileged children to give them equal chances as well.

3. Bharath Subramaniyam is India's 73rd Chess GM (Jan. 10, 2022)

Chennai based fourteen-year old Bharath Subramaniyam on 9 January 2022 became India's 73rd chess Grandmaster, securing the third and final GM norm at Vergani Cup Open in Italy.

Bharath Subramaniyam is India's 73rd Chess GM

• This was the third GM norm for Subramaniyam and he also crossed 2500 Elo rating points. To become a GM a player has to secure three GM norms and 2500 live Elo rating points .

- He finished seventh in the tournament.
- The tournament was won by another Indian M.R. Lalith Babu.
- Viswanathan Anand was the firstIndian Chess GrandMaster in 1988.

Chess rating System

- Chess rating system is used in Chess to estimate the strength of a player .
- In chess ,the Elo rating system is used to grade the players by International chess governing body FIDE.
- The highest rating for a chess player is Grand Master or GM followed by International Masters or IM and then Masters etc.
- Players are invited to various chess tournaments in the world depending upon their gradings.

For Detail on FIDE please see the 11 December 2021 post

4. Bopanna and Ramkumar wins Adelaide International 1 ATP cup 2022 (Jan. 10, 2022)

The unseeded pair of Rohan Bopanna and Ramkumar Ramanathan beat the top seeds, Ivan Dodig and Marcelo Melo in the doubles final of the Adelaide International 1 ATP cup 2022 on 9 January 2022.

Bopanna and Ramkumar wins Adelaide International 1 ATP cup 2022

- Ivan Dodig is from Croatia and Marcelo Melo is from Brazil.
- It was the first ever ATP doubles title for Ramkumar Ramanathan while it was the 21st doubles ATP title for Rohan Boppana.
- The tournament was played at Adelaide, Australia.

5. Canada win its maiden ATP cup (Jan. 10, 2022)

Canada won its first ATP cup by defeating Spain 2-0 in the final.

Canada win its maiden ATP cup

- Denis Shapovalov of Canada defeated Pablo Carreno Busta of Spain and Felix Auger-Aliassime of Canada defeated Roberto Bautista Agut of Spain.
- The final was played in Sydney, Australia

ATP CUP

- ATP cup is organised just before the start of the Australian open Grand slam tournament in the month of January by the ATP .
- It is played on hard courts in select Australian cities between selected countries' men Tennis teams.

ATP or Association of Tennis Professional is the governing body of the men's professional tennis circuit worldwide .

6. Slow over-rate will lead to on-field penalties in T20Is - ICC (Jan. 8, 2022)

ICC has introduced an in-game penalty for slow overrates in both men's and women's T20I, to come into affect this month. As per the overrate regulations of the ICC, a fielding side should be in a position to bowl the first ball of the final over of their innings by the scheduled time for the end of the innings. On failing that, teams will be allowed one less fielder - four instead of five - outside the 30-yard circle for the remainder of the innings. The existing sanctions include demerit points and financial penalties on teams and their captains.

- The third umpire, through a timer keeps tab of the time. In case of any stoppages, the third umpire will rework the end time and let on-field officials know.
- The ICC also introduced an optional drinks interval midway through the innings in bilateral T20Is as part of its updated playing conditions
- The change was recommended by the ICC Cricket Committee, which regularly discusses ways to improve the pace of play in all formats.

The one-off T20I between West Indies and Ireland at the Sabina Park Stadium(Kingston, Jamaica) on January 16 will be the first men's fixture where these new rules will be used. Two days later, it will be used for the first time in the women's game, in the first T20I between South Africa and West Indies in Centurion(South Africa).

7. Tennis World No. 1 Novak Djokovic denied entry into Australia (Jan. 7, 2022)

Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic was denied entry into Australia after the Australian government revoked his visa for failing to meet COVID19 vaccine entry requirements.

- Djokovic was denied entry at Melbourne Airport, where he arrived to participate in the Australian Open scheduled to be held from January 17 30, 2022.
- He is currently being held at an immigration detention facility and faces deportation.
- Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said Djokovic had failed to provide immigration
 officials with evidence of double vaccination or an adequate medical exemption and that
 is the only reason because "Rules are rules and there are no special cases,"
- As per rules all participants at the Australian Open must be vaccinated or have a medical exemption, which is granted only after assessment by two panels of independent experts.

Djokovic till date has won 20 Grand Slam men's singles titles. Djokovic is the only man in the Open Era of Professional Tennis to achieve a double career Grand Slam and complete a non-calendar year Grand Slam.

The Australian Open also known as 'happy slam' is a tennis tournament held annually over the last fortnight of January in Melbourne, Australia. The tournament is the first of the four Grand Slam tennis events held each year, preceding the French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open. It is played on hard court.

8. Four Indians in the CA's 2021 Test XI (Jan. 1, 2022)

- Cricket Australia has released a list of its Test XI of 2021. It has included players on the basis of their performances in Test Matches played in 2021.
- It has included four India players in the list, Rohit Sharma, Rishab Pant, R.Ashwin and Axar Patel.
- CA Test XI of 2021: Rohit Sharma, Dimuth Karunaratne (SL, Capt.), Marnus Labuschagne (Eng), Joe Root (Eng), Fawad Alam (Pak), Rishabh Pant (wk), R. Ashwin, Kyle Jamieson (NZ), Axar Patel, Hasan Ali (Pak), Shaheen Shah Afridi (Pak).

Cricket Australia governs cricket in Australia.

9. India Wins U-19 Cricket Asia Cup 2021 record 8 times (Jan. 1, 2022)

- India defeated Sri Lanka by 9 wickets in the final of the Asia U-19 cricket cup.
- The final was held at Dubai International Cricket Stadium at Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- This is the eight times India has won the Asia U-19 cricket title.
- Priyam Garg is the captain of Indian team.

10. India wins Centurion Test match by 113 runs (Dec. 31, 2021)

- India defeated South Africa by 113 runs to win the first Test match of the 2021-22 cricket Test series .
- With this win India went 1-0 up in the 3 match Test Series .
- The man of the match was K.L Rahul of India for his score of 123 and 23 in the match.
- The first test match was held at Supersport Stadium, Centurion.
- India had never won a test match at Centurion.

The Test Series between India and South Africa is called the Freedom Series in memory of Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela . It was started in 2015.