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1. Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the National Level Kabaddi Championship at Udupi Karnataka (Dec. 24, 2022)

Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the National Level Kabaddi Championship at Udupi Karnataka

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, **Anurag Singh Thakur** inaugurated the National level Kabaddi championship in **Udupi in Karnataka** on December 24.

Important fact

- National level Kabaddi tournament will be held at **MGM ground** in flood light, in which **12 teams** from different states will participate.
- The winner will get the **Atal Trophy** and prize money of Rs **one lakh**.
- The runner-up will be awarded **Rs 75,000**, the third prize winner **Rs 50,000** and the fourth prize winner Rs 25,000.
- The winners will be presented with the Atal trophy.
- The **Atal Utsav and Booth Sangam** will be inaugurated on December 25 by former chief minister **B S Yediyurappa** along with selected presiding officers of six vote booths.
- Atal Trophy was started in 1999 by **Zilla Yuva Morcha** through volleyball tournament and this time kabaddi tournament is also being organized.

2. England's Sam Curran breaks Indian Premier League auction record (Dec. 23, 2022)

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England all-rounder **Sam Curran** became the Indian Premier League's (IPL) most expensive ever buy in the players' auction held on 23 December 2022.

The **Punjab Kings** bought Sam Curran for Rs 18.5 crore (\$2.23 million) following a bidding war involving the Chennai Super Kings and Mumbai Indians.

Curran, who was player-of-the-series in England's T20 World Cup triumph in Australia this year, previously featured for the Punjab Kings in 2019.

The earliest highest bid for a player in the IPL was that of South African all-rounder **Chris Morris**. He was bought by Rajasthan Royals last year for Rs 16.25 crore.

The previous record fee paid for Morris was broken once more with Mumbai Indians paying Rs 17.5 crore for Australian all-rounder Cameron Green.

The highest paid Indian player at the IPL has been **Yuvraj Singh**. He was bought for Rs 16 crore by the **Delhi Daredevil** in 2015.

Gujarat Titans are the current IPL champion team. The first IPL was held in 2008 which was won by the Rajasthan Royals team.

There are currently 8 teams in the IPL. They are **Chennai Super Kings, Delhi Capitals, Gujarat Titans, Kolkata Knight Riders, Lucknow SuperGiants, Mumbai Indians, Punjab Kings, Rajasthan Royals, Royal Challengers Bangalore and Sunrisers Hyderabad.**

IPL Chairman: Arun Dhumal

3. Harmanpreet singh to captain Indian team at the FIH men's world cup 2023 (Dec. 23, 2022)

Harmanpreet singh to captain Indian team at the FIH men's world cup 2023

Hockey India has announced Dragflicker **Harmanpreet Singh** as the captain of the Indian men's Hockey team for the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023. **Amit Rohidas** has been named as the vice-captain of the squad. The team coach is **Graham Reid.**

The FIH Men's Hockey World Cup is held **every four years** and the 2022 event was postponed to 2023 due to the corona pandemic .The last 14th FIH Men's World Cup Hockey was also played in Odisha in 2018.

The 15th FIH men's world cup will be held at the **Kalinga Stadium Bhubaneswar** and at the newly built **Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium, Rourkela** from 13-20 January 2023. The newly built Birsa Munda stadium is the **largest hockey stadium in India** with a seating capacity of 20,000 people

The final match will be played at the Kalinga Stadium on 29 January 2023.

This is the **fourth time** India is hosting the FIH men's world cup. It has hosted it in **1982, Bombay, 2010 New Delhi, 2018 Bhubaneswar** and 2023 in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela.

15th FIH Men's' World Cup

A total of 16 teams are participating in the World cup and they have been divided into 4 pools.

Pool A: Australia, South Africa, France, Argentina

Pool B: Belgium, Japan, Korea, Germany

Pool C: Netherlands, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand

Pool D: **India**, Wales, Spain, England

Belgium are the defending team having won the 1028 edition.

India has won the world cup only **once in 1975** at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. They defeated Pakistan in the final and the Indian team was led by **Ajit Pal Singh.**

Pakistan is the most successful team having won it **4 times**. However the Pakistani team has failed to qualify for the 2023 edition.

FIH

FIH (Fédération Internationale de Hockey) is the governing body of men's and women's International hockey.

Headquarters: **Lausanne, Switzerland**

President: Mohammad Tayyab Ikram

Members: 137 countries

4. Goa to host first ever World Table Tennis (WTT) Series event in India (Dec. 22, 2022)

Panaji, capital of Goa will host India's first ever World Table Tennis (WTT) **Star Contender** series event from 27-February to 5th March 2023 at the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium, Goa University campus.

The event will be hosted by Stupa Analytics Company, in association with the Goa government and the [Table Tennis Federation of India. \(TTFI\)](#)

World Table Tennis (WTT)

World Table Tennis (WTT) was created by the International Table Tennis Federation in 2019 to create and manage professional men's and women's Table Tennis events around the world.

The WTT organizes a series of events around the year and the highest ranked tournament being the four **Grand Smashes**.

In a year six Star Contender events are organised involving 48 men and women Table Tennis players around the world who play in the respective singles' main draws.

5. Antim Panghal nominated for the United World Wrestling 2022 Rising Star of the Year award (Dec. 22, 2022)

Indian women's wrestler **Antim Panghal** has been nominated for United World Wrestling 2022 **Rising Star of the Year award**. Japan's **Nonoka Ozaki**, USA's **Amit Elor**, Sweden's **Emma Malmgren** and **Andreea Ana** of Romania are the other in the five-woman nominees list for the United World Wrestling 2022 Rising Star of the Year award.

Antim Panghal created history this year by winning India's first-ever gold medal at the [World U20 Wrestling Championships 2022](#) in August. The 18-year-old freestyle wrestler from Haryana is also the reigning Asian champion in the same age category. She also won the senior category event, Zouhaier Sghaier Ranking Series.

19 year old **Nonoka Ozaki** of Japan has won gold medals in the senior world championships and the Asian championship this year in the 62 kg category.

18 year old American wrestler **Amit Elor**, is the reigning U23 and the senior world champion in 72kg.

21 year old **Emma Malmgren** of Sweden is world No. 4 in 53kg and is the European champion in seniors. **Andreea Ana** of Romania is the senior European champion in the 55kg.

United World Wrestling

It is the international governing body of amateur wrestling in the world. It was earlier known as the FILA (*Fédération Internationale des Lutttes Associées*) or International Federation of Amateur Wrestling.

Headquarters: Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland

President: Nenad Lalović

6. New Delhi to host the 36th Asian Wrestling Championships 2023 from 28 March to 2nd April: United World Wrestling (Dec. 21, 2022)

36th Asian Wrestling Championships 2023

The United World Wrestling (UWW) announced on 20 December 2022 that the **36th Asian Wrestling Championships 2023** will be held in **New Delhi**, India from 28 March to 2 April 2023. New Delhi will be hosting the event for the 7th time.

The Asian Wrestling Championship will offer ranking points to the wrestlers which will determine their seedings for the World Championships to be held in September 2023.

The **World Wrestling Championships** is scheduled to take place in Belgrade, **Serbia** from 16 to 24 September 2023.

The **first** edition of the Asian Wrestling Championships in 1979 was also held in India with **Jalandhar** as the host city. Mumbai hosted it once in 1987.

At the **35th Asian Wrestling Championships 2022** held in **Mongolia** Indian wrestlers won 17 medals - one gold, five silver and 11 bronze.

Tokyo 2020 silver medallist **Ravi Kumar Dahiya** won India's only gold medal while Tokyo 2020 bronze medallist Bajrang Punia settled for silver.

Japan topped the medals tally with 21 medals, including 10 gold medals. Iran came second with 17 medals, which included 10 golds.

Apart from announcing India as the venue for Asian Championships, the UWW also finalised the host cities for the four ranking series tournaments.

Zagreb (Croatia) and **Cairo** (Egypt) will host the first and second events in February while **Bishkek** (Kyrgyzstan,) and **Budapest** (Hungary) will host the next two in June and July, respectively.

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7. INSV Tarini to participate in 50th edition of Cape Town to Rio Race 2023 (Dec. 19, 2022)

INSV Tarini to participate in 50th edition of Cape Town

Indian Navy's sailboat **INSV (Indian Naval Sailing Vessel) Tarini** has set sail for an expedition to Cape Town, South Africa to participate in the 50th edition of Cape Town to Rio Race 2023.

This ocean sailing race will be flagged off from Cape Town on 2nd January, 2023 and will culminate at **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**.

The expedition is being undertaken by an Indian Navy crew of five officers including two women officers. INSV Tarini is being skippered by Capt **Atool Sinha**.

The Cape Town - Rio de Janeiro is one of the most prestigious Trans-Atlantic ocean races. The crew, over a period of 5-6 months in this trans-oceanic voyage is expected to face extreme weather and rough sea conditions of the Indian, Atlantic and the Southern oceans.

During the expedition while transiting from Goa to Rio de Janeiro via Cape Town and back, INSV Tarini would be covering a distance of almost 17000 nautical miles.

INSV Tarini is known for circumnavigating the globe with an all-women officer crew in the historic expedition titled '**Navika Sagar Parikrama**' in 2017.

8. PM launches Grih Pravesh programme for over 2 lakh beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Dec. 19, 2022)

PM launches Grih Pravesh programme for over 2 lakh beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on 18 December inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of several development projects worth **over 6,800 crore rupees in Tripura and Meghalaya**.

Important facts

- The projects include '**Grih Pravesh**' programme for beneficiaries under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Rural**.
- These houses, developed at a cost of over **Rs 3400 crores**, will cover over **2 lakh beneficiaries**.

- Other projects include connectivity projects for widening of **Agartala Bypass (Khairpur-Amtali) NH-08** under PMGSY III, foundation laying of **32 roads** with a length of over 230 km and improvement projects of **112 roads** with a length of over 540 km.
- The Prime Minister also inaugurated the **State Institute of Hotel Management at Anandnagar** and **Agartala Government Dental College**.

About Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation** launched the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana rural in 2016**.
- The scheme was initiated with the objective of '**Housing for All by 2022**'.
- The scheme has 2 Components - Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (**Urban**) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (**Rural**).
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin was earlier called Indira Awas Yojana which was renamed in March 2016.

9. Argentina beat France 4-2 on penalties, win 3rd FIFA World Cup title (Dec. 19, 2022)

Argentina beat France 4-2 on penalties, win 3rd FIFA World Cup title

Argentina won the **FIFA World Cup 2022** title **third time** on 18 December after defeating defending champions **France 4-2 on penalties**. The final match was played at **Lusail Stadium in Lusail, Qatar**.

Important facts

- Argentina has been able to win the World Cup **after 36 years**. It has now won the title for the third time after **1978 and 1986**.
- The match remained tied at 2-2 for the stipulated 90 minutes. **Lionel Messi** scored a goal to put Argentina ahead 3-2, but **Kylian Mbappe** scored in the 117th minute to level the match at 3-3. After this, Argentina won the match in the penalty shootout.
- Lionel Messi scored the first goal in the match on a penalty in the 23rd minute. He became the **first footballer in the world to score in all knockout matches of a World Cup**.
- Messi won the **Golden Ball** award for the best player in the FIFA World Cup 2022, while Mbappe won the **Golden Boot** award for being the top goalscorer and Emiliano Martinez of Argentina won the **Golden Glove** award for being the best goalkeeper.
- Embappé technically became France's first **Golden Boot** winner with a total of 8 goals.
- Enzo Fernandez wins the **Young Player Award**.

2022 FIFA World Cup Awards

- **Top 4 team Rankings:** (Winner), France (2nd), Croatia (3rd) and Morocco (4th)
- **Golden Boot Award:** Kylian Mbappe (France)
- **Golden Ball Award:** Lionel Messi (Argentina)
- **Golden Glove Award:** Emiliano Martinez (Argentina)
- **FIFA Young Player Award:** Enzo Fernandez
- **FIFA Fair Play Award:** England
- **Silver Boot Award:** Lionel Messi
- **Bronze Boot Award:** Olivier Giroud (France)
- **Silver Ball Award:** Kylian Mbappe

Most Goals in FIFA World Cup 2022

- Kylian Mbappe (France) - 8
- Lionel Messi (Argentina) - 7
- Julian Alvarez (Argentina) - 4
- Olivier Giroud - 4
- Alvaro Morata (Spain) - 3
- Bukayo Saka (England) - 3
- Cody Gakpo (Netherlands) - 3

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- **Silver Boot Award:** Lionel Messi
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