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1. Bulandshahr prison foods becomes the 2nd jail in UP to be rated five star by FSSAI (Dec. 26, 2022)

five-star rating and the tag 'Eat Right Campus'

The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has awarded the food provided by the Bulandshahr prison of Uttar Pradesh a **five-star rating and the tag 'Eat Right Campus'**. Bulandshahr Jail is the second prison after **Farrukhabad jail** to get this tag from Uttar Pradesh.

The FSSAI team inspected the kitchen's food quality, storage and hygiene on stringent measures, based on which the Bulandshahr prison was given a five-star rating, the 'Eat Right Campus' tag in addition to the remark of 'Excellent' by the FSSAI.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been set up under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- It was set up on 5 September 2008.
- It comes under the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- FSSAI is responsible for protecting and promoting public health through the regulation and supervision of food safety.

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairperson of FSSAI: Rita Teotia

2. Dharmadam, Kerala becomes first complete library constituency in India (Dec. 26, 2022)

Library and Kerala

The Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's constituency Dharmadam has become the first complete **library constituency** in India. In his Facebook post, the chief minister Vijayan said that out of the total 138 wards in the constituency, there were no libraries in 63 wards.

However, with the help of a people's organization, People's Mission for Social Development, this task was completed.

Library and Kerala

Kerala which was the first state to achieve 100% literacy status in India is also perhaps the only state in India that has a library in every village.

Puthuvayil Narayana Panicker of Kerala is also known as the **Father of the Library Movement in India**.

- He started **Granthashala Sangam** with about 50 small libraries in 1945 in Kerala which grew into a large network of thousands of libraries.

- To honour and acknowledge P.N.Panicker ,Kerala Government declared June 19, his death anniversary, as **Vayanadinam (Reading Day)** in 1996
- In 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared June 19 his death anniversary as **National Reading Day** in India. The following month is also observed as National Reading Month in India.

3. Madhya Pradesh Government to build Atal Bihari Vajpayee's grand memorial in Gwalior: Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Dec. 26, 2022)

Madhya Pradesh Government to build Atal Bihari Vajpayee's grand memorial in Gwalior
The Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has announced that the state government will build a huge statue of former prime minister [Atal Bihari Vajpayee](#) and a research centre as part of his grand memorial in Gwalior.

He was speaking on 25 December 2022 at the '**Gwalior Gaurav Diwas**' function to mark the 98th birth anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The event was also attended by Union ministers Jyotiraditya Scindia and Narendra Singh Tomar. Vajpayee was born in Gwalior on December 25, 1924.

The Madhya Pradesh government has allotted nearly 4,050 hectares of land in Sirol area of Gwalior to build a memorial of Vajpayee.

On the occasion, noted **sarod maestro Amjad Ali Khan**, eminent scientist Dr VK Saraswat, cardiologist Dr Jamal Yusuf, international hockey player Ishika Chowdhary and educationist OP Dixit were awarded the 'Gwalior Gaurav Samman', while renowned poet **Harim Pavar** was presented the 'Atal Kavi Samman'.

4. Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurates Sports Science Center in Udupi, Karnataka (Dec. 25, 2022)

Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurates Sports Science Center in Udupi, Karnataka

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Information and Broadcasting Minister **Anurag Thakur** inaugurated the Sports Science Centre in Udupi on 24 December 2022. The sports science center has been set up by the government of Karnataka.

The state government has set up two sports science centers at **Udupi** and **Bengaluru**. These centers will conduct research on medicines, nutritious food, treatment and rehabilitation measures for sportspersons, which would help them to boost their abilities. The Minister said that many more such sports science centers will come up. In the future.

National Center of Excellence

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) under the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has also set up its own Sports Science Center at its

21 National Centres of Excellence (NCOE) and two high performance centers (Bengaluru and Patiala).

It has also set up a **National Centre for Sports Sciences and Research (NCSSR) in New Delhi** which is the hub of SAI Sports Science Center.

The National Centers of excellence provides specialized training in selected sports disciplines and also has a well-functioning Sports Science Center. The National centers of Excellence are at Alleppey and Thiruvananthapuram in **Kerala**, Aurangabad and Mumbai in **Maharashtra**, Bengaluru in **Karnataka**, Bhopal in **Madhya Pradesh**, **Chandigarh**, Dharamshala in **Himachal Pradesh**, Guwahati in **Assam**, Gandhinagar in **Gujarat**, Imphal in **Manipur**, Itanagar in **Arunachal Pradesh**, Jagatpur in **Odisha**, Kolkata in **West Bengal**, Lucknow in **Uttar Pradesh**, Patiala in **Punjab**, Rohtak, Sonapat in **Haryana** and 5 centers in **New Delhi**.

5. PM Modi to participate in the historic programme marking 'Veer Bal Diwas' in Delhi on 26 December (Dec. 24, 2022)

'Veer Bal Diwas' in Delhi on 26 December

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in a historic programme marking the first '**Veer Bal Diwas**' at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, Delhi on 26th December 2022.

On the Prakash Purab(birth anniversary) of the 10th Sikh Guru Sri Guru Gobind Singh on 9th January 2022 the Prime Minister had announced that 26th December will be observed as 'Veer Bal Diwas' to mark the martyrdom of Sri Guru Gobind Singh's sons **Sahibzadas Baba Zorawar Singh** and **Baba Fateh Singh**.

They were brutally murdered by Wazir Khan the Mughal Governor of Sirhind on this day in 1705. .

During the programme, the Prime Minister will attend a 'Shabad Kirtan' performed by Baal Kirtanis. On this occasion, Mr Modi will also flag off a march-past by about three thousand children in Delhi.

6. UIDAI wins DSCI best Security practices award in the government sector award (Dec. 23, 2022)

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)

The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has won the Data Security Council of India's (DSCI) Best Security Practices in Government Sector award.

The award was given to UIDAI during DSCI's three day **Annual Information Security Summit (AISS)** in Gurugram for its significant role in securing national critical Aadhaar infrastructure that provides digital identity based welfare services to residents.

The Annual Information Security Summit (AISS) was organised by [Nasscom](#) -DSCI from 20-22 December in Gurugram. Data Security Council of India is a premier industry body on data protection in India. It was set up by the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM).

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016.

It was set up on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India, under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**.

UIDAI was created to issue Unique Identification numbers (UID), Aadhaar, to all **residents of India**. It issues a **12 digit biometric Aadhaar number** to the residents of India after satisfying the verification process laid down by the Authority.

Chief Executive officer (CEO): **Dr Saurabh Garg**

7. Unique musical dance event held in New Delhi to recharge electric vehicle by dancing (Dec. 23, 2022)

recharge electric vehicle by dancing

The Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas organized a unique one-day event on 23 December 2022, called '**Dance to Decarbonise**', where renewable energy generated through dance was used to charge electric vehicles. This unique event was held at the **National Stadium, in New Delhi** as a run up to the India Energy Week that will be held in Bangalore in the month of February 2023.

One of the imperatives of this event was to build engagement around sustainability by leveraging dance and music. The activity involved setting up a state-of-the-art stage, which will harness renewable energy created by people dancing on it to charge an SUV and an e-auto rickshaw.

The event is seen as a commitment by the Government to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070 and the implementation of responsible energy sources over transformational energy systems for the future.

Union Ministry for Petroleum and Natural Gas: **Hardeep Singh Puri**

8. India, Japan to conduct 1st bilateral air combat exercise in January 2023 (Dec. 23, 2022)

1st bilateral air combat exercise in January 2023

India and Japan will conduct their first Air exercise from 16 January to 26 January 2023 at the **Hyakuri Air Base** and at the **Iruma Air Base** in Sayama Japan.

The decision to conduct bilateral air exercise was taken during defence minister Rajnath Singh meeting with the Japanese Defence Minister Yasukazu **Hamada held** in Tokyo, Japan on 8 September 2022.

According to the information, around 150 Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel will take part in the exercise along with the Japan Air Self Defense Force (JASDF). The aim of the combat exercise

is to strengthen defence cooperation between the forces, enhance tactical skills and promote mutual understanding.

India -Japan military exercise

At present both the countries conduct bilateral Naval and Army exercises.

The bilateral Army **Dharma Guardian** exercise was started in 2018. It was held in Belagavi, Karnataka in February 2022.

Naval Exercise

The Indian Navy has been conducting the [Japan India Maritime Exercise \(JIMEX\)](#) with the Japan Maritime Self Defence every year since 2012. This year it was held from 11-17 September in the Bay of Bengal.

9. 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 Dragflyer **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

10. 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.