20th December

INTERNATIONAL

1) European Union (EU) has conveyed disappointment at India's

• The European Union (EU) has conveyed disappointment at India's refusal to engage in interim arbitration for resolving the ongoing dispute concerning import duties on specific Information and Communications Technology (ICT) products, such as smartphones and components.

2) Colorado Supreme Court

• The Colorado Supreme Court, consisting entirely of justices appointed by Democratic governors, declared former U.S. President Donald Trump ineligible for the presidency under the U.S. Constitution's insurrection clause.
• This move marks the first-ever use of Section 3 of the 14th Amendment to disqualify a presidential candidate.

NATIONAL

1) IndiGo, India's

• IndiGo, India's leading carrier, has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first Indian airline to transport 100 million passengers in a single calendar year.
• This accomplishment places IndiGo in an elite global club of carriers operating such a massive scale, solidifying its position among the world's top-10 airlines by passenger traffic.

2) Tiger attacks on humans

• Tiger attacks on humans have been a concerning issue in India, with the Centre recently providing information on the extent of this problem. In 2022 alone, a total of 112 deaths occurred in the country due to tiger attacks.
• The Union Minister for Forest, Environment, and Climate Change, Bhupinder Yadav, shared these statistics in a written reply to the Lok Sabha, shedding light on the gravity of the situation.

STATE NEWS

1) Generative AI Studio in Bengaluru, India

- Accenture, a global leader in professional services, has taken a significant stride in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) with the establishment of its Generative AI Studio in Bengaluru, India. This cutting-edge facility is poised to become a central hub for the development and application of generative AI technologies, showcasing Accenture's commitment to advancing AI solutions for businesses.

2) Thirteen Indian states

- Thirteen Indian states participated in a state government securities auction, collectively raising Rs 19,692 crore, slightly surpassing the notified amount of Rs 19,592 crore.
- This marked an increase from the previous week, where eight states had raised Rs 12,100 crore through a similar auction.

3) Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP 4 – 700 MW)

- The Unit 4 of Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP 4 – 700 MW) marked a historic moment in India's nuclear power landscape by achieving criticality, signifying the initiation of controlled fission chain reactions.

BANKING NEWS

1) Shares of State Bank of India

- Shares of State Bank of India (SBI) have reached new heights, hitting a record Rs 659.50, marking a substantial 17% surge in the past month.
- This surge has outpaced the market, with S&P BSE Sensex and Nifty 50 up by nearly 9%, and the Nifty PSU Bank index gaining 14% during the same period. The remarkable rally has propelled SBI's market capitalization close to Rs 6 trillion, drawing attention to the bank's positive financial performance.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Senior IPS officer Maheshwar Dayal

- Senior IPS officer Maheshwar Dayal officially assumed the role of Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services on Monday.
- With a distinguished career marked by various leadership roles across multiple districts and specialized units, Dayal brings a wealth of experience to his new position.

SPORTS NEWS

1) Monday, legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan

- Monday, legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan revealed his ownership of the Mumbai team in the upcoming Indian Street Premier League (ISPL).
- The ISPL, India's first tennis ball T10 cricket tournament played within a stadium, is set to kick off its inaugural edition from March 2 to March 9 in Mumbai.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) 29th Kolkata International Film Festival

- The 29th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) concluded with a momentous highlight as the Israeli film 'Children of Nobody' secured the prestigious Golden Royal Bengal Tiger Award for Best Film.
- Inspired by a true story, this compassionate Israeli drama sheds light on the often unnoticed and uncared-for individuals on the periphery of society.

2) The Gaja Capital Business Book Prize

- The Gaja Capital Business Book Prize, a prestigious annual recognition, has crowned two exceptional narratives in its 2023 edition.
- Against All Odds: The IT Story of India and Winning Middle India: The Story of India's New-Age Entrepreneurs emerged as joint winners, capturing the essence of India's dynamic business landscape.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Suzlon Group

- Suzlon Group, India's largest renewable energy solutions provider, has recently inked a definitive agreement with REC Limited, a state-run entity, for crucial working capital facilities.

2) MediaTek and Nvidia

- Semiconductor powerhouses MediaTek and Nvidia have recently forged a strategic partnership aimed at bringing artificial intelligence (AI) to the forefront of the automotive industry.

3) Payment processing giants Razorpay and Cashfree

- Payment processing giants Razorpay and Cashfree have received the final authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as Payment Aggregators (PAs).
- This significant development comes after a year-long pause in onboarding new merchants, in compliance with RBI advisory. Open, a neobanking fintech, has also secured the final approval from RBI to operate as a Payment Aggregator.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) International Human Solidarity Day 2023

- International Human Solidarity Day 2023 is a significant observance held annually on December 20th.
- Recognized by the UN General Assembly, this day emphasizes the importance of solidarity in fostering global unity and diversity.