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22nd December

NATIONAL

1) National Geoscience Data Repository

- The Ministry of Mines marked a historic moment with the launch of the National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) Portal.
- This initiative, spearheaded by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N), is poised to revolutionize access to critical geoscience data.

2) Telecommunications Bill, 2023

- The Lok Sabha recently approved the Telecommunications Bill, 2023.
- The bill, passed by a voice vote after a brief debate, also addresses the allocation of satellite spectrum and grants the government authority to assume possession of a telecom network during public emergencies or in the interest of public safety.

3) The Government of India

- The Government of India has recently unveiled a compelling video that captures ten extraordinary moments when India left an indelible mark on the global stage in 2023.
- The video showcases the nation's remarkable progress and contributions. Let's delve into these key moments that have defined India's journey in 2023.

STATE NEWS

1) Indian states, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh

- Two prominent Indian states, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh, have taken significant strides in deploying higher capacities under the "Development of Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects" scheme.
- This initiative, launched in December 2014 with an initial capacity of 20,000 MW, was later expanded to 40,000 MW in March 2017, aiming to establish at least 50 solar parks by 2023-24.













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2) Arunachal State Rural Livelihoods Mission

- The Arunachal State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ArSRLM) has forged a strategic alliance with the State Bank of India (SBI).
- The memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the two entities aims to provide comprehensive banking services to the SHGs operating in the state.

BANKING NEWS

1) Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is set to increase its liquidity infusion into the banking system through the 7-day variable rate repo (VRR) auction on December 22.
- The central bank, responding to a liquidity deficit near an 8-year high of ₹2.27-lakh crore as of December 20, has raised the offered amount to ₹1.75-lakh crore, up from ₹1-lakh crore in the previous week.

2) Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released a preliminary framework for selfregulatory organizations (SROs) aimed at overseeing banks, non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), and other entities under its regulatory purview.
- Seeking public input until January 25, 2024, the draft outlines eligibility criteria and operational guidelines for potential SROs.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Sandeep Batra as the Executive Director

ICICI Bank has received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval for the reappointment of Sandeep Batra as the Executive Director (ED).

The approval, conveyed through an official letter, is effective from December 23, 2023, to December 22, 2025.















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2) Wrestling Federation of India

In the recently concluded Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) elections, Sanjay Singh, a prominent figure within the former WFI chief Brij Bhushan's faction and currently the UP Wrestling Association vice president, clinched victory with an overwhelming 40 votes against Anita Sheoran's meager seven.

SPORTS NEWS

1) Indian Premier League

- The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 Auction was nothing short of a cricketing carnival, witnessing 333 players, including 214 Indians and 119 overseas players, go under the hammer.
- The extravaganza featured a mix of seasoned cricketers and rising talents, creating a buzz in the cricketing fraternity. Let's delve into the top 10 buys that shaped headlines and left fans eagerly anticipating the upcoming IPL season.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Shri Pradip Kumar Das

- Shri Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), has been honored with the esteemed "CMD of the Year" award under the Mini-Ratna category at the 13th PSE Excellence Awards.
- The event was hosted by the Indian Chamber of Commerce in New Delhi, marking the second consecutive financial year in which Shri Pradip Kumar Das has received this prestigious accolade.

2) FIH Hockey Star Awards 2023

- Indian hockey team midfielder, Hardik Singh, clinched the prestigious title of Men's FIH Player of the Year at the FIH Hockey Star Awards 2023.
- This recognition adds another feather to the cap of the talented player, who played a pivotal role in India's bronze medal victory at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.















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3) Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd.

- Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd. (CGCEL), a leading player in India's consumer electrical industry, has been honored with the prestigious National Energy Conservation Award 2023.
- The recognition was bestowed by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, and the Ministry of Power, represented by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Life Insurance Corporation of India

- Shares of the leading state-run insurer LIC surged to a new 52-week high on December 22 following a significant development.
- The Ministry of Finance has granted a one-time exemption to Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) regarding the 25% Minimum Public Shareholding rule.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) 40th Corps Day

- The Judge Advocate General (JAG) Department, the distinguished judicial and legal arm of the Indian Army, commemorates a momentous occasion – its 40th Corps Day on December 21, 2023.
- This celebration resonates with the historic introduction of the Bill for the Army Act in Parliament in 1949, a defining moment that laid the groundwork for the legal dispensation within the military.

2) National Mathematics Day

- Every year on December 22, the nation reveres the brilliance of Srinivasa Ramanujan, one of the greatest mathematicians in history, as National Mathematics Day (NMD).
- This significant day serves as a tribute to Ramanujan's unparalleled contributions to the field of mathematics and promotes the awareness of the subject's importance. 125th Birth Anniversary of Ramanujan celebrates this year.















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