

15th January 2025**Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Mission**

The Madhya Pradesh government launched the Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Mission.

Key Points:

- ❖ It was launched on the occasion of National Youth Day (12 January).
- ❖ **Objective:** To empower the youth of the state by providing them opportunities to enhance their skills, knowledge and overall development.
- ❖ **Pillars of the mission:** Dialogue, strength and prosperity.
- ❖ The slogan of the Yuva Shakti Mission is '**Atma Deepo Bhava**', that is, be your own lamp.
- ❖ **Aim:** This mission is for the welfare of the youth of urban and rural, backward and socio-economically weaker sections. It seeks to empower women, Divyang, youth and farmers.
- ❖ This mission has been shaped by keeping 'Focus on Knowledge' and **Madhya Pradesh's 'Youth Policy-2023'** at the centre.
 - **GYAN:** Directed by the Prime Minister, in which 'G' stands for poor, 'Y' for youth, 'A' for food provider and 'N' for women's welfare.
- ❖ **Special Focus:** In this mission, special focus will be given to the skill enhancement of the youth.
 - The establishment of **Skill University** will develop the skills required for employment.
 - There will be **special training programs** for skill development in tourism, agriculture and service sectors.



- Various schemes will be implemented to encourage entrepreneurship among the youth and **provide employment opportunities at the local level.**
- The youth will be encouraged to protect the environment, create awareness against social evils and preserve the **cultural heritage of the nation.**
- Efforts will be made to improve their **mental and physical health** through sports and cultural activities.

International Kite Festival 2025

International Kite Festival 2025 was held in Gujarat.

Key Points-

- ❖ It was inaugurated by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.
- ❖ The festival was held from **11 to 14 January** at Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad, Statue of Unity (Ekta Nagar), Rajkot, Vadodara, Surat, Shivrajpur and Dhordo.
- ❖ The festival was attended by 143 kite flyers from **47 countries** and 52 kite flyers from 11 different Indian states.

Holongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary

The proposal to explore oil and gas in the eco-sensitive area of Holongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary has been approved.

Key Points-

- ❖ The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), headed by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, approved the proposal of Vedanta Group's Cairn Oil and Gas during its meeting on **December 21.**

- ❖ According to the minutes of the NBWL meeting, a team of WII and Assam Forest Department officials **inspected the project site, located about 13 km** from the sanctuary, on November 15.
 - The oversight committee found that exploratory drilling would cause minimal damage, only commercial drilling would not be permitted.
- ❖ Exploration at the site will be carried out **only to identify hydrocarbon reserves**. If reserves are discovered, any extraction will be done from outside the ESZ.
- ❖ The project site is located in a disputed area on the Assam-Nagaland border.

Hollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary

- ❖ Established: 1997
- ❖ It is located in the Jorhat district of Assam.
- ❖ The sanctuary covers an area of 20.98 sq km, while its ESZ covers 264.92 sq km.
- ❖ Its ESZ ensures connectivity between the sanctuary, Dissoi Valley Reserve Forest and the forest areas of Nagaland. This connectivity is important for seven species of primates found in the area.
- ❖ India's only primate species, the Hoolock Gibbon, and Northeast India's only nocturnal primate- the Bengal Slow Loris are found here.
- ❖ The Bhogdoi River forms a waterlogged area filled with semi-hydrophytic plants along the boundary of the sanctuary.

Himalayan "Gaddi" dog

The Himalayan "Gaddi" dog is officially recognized as a registered breed by the National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR)

key points-

- ❖ The Gaddi dog has become the **fourth indigenous breed** registered in India and the first from the Himalayan region.
- ❖ Earlier, Rajapalayam and Chippiparai from Tamil Nadu and Mudhol Hound from Karnataka have been given this status.
- ❖ The accession number of the newly-registered breed is **"INDIA-DOG-0600_GADDI_19004"**.
- ❖ This recognition comes after years of scientific study and a formal application process initiated by the Animal Husbandry Department of the Himachal Pradesh government in December 2022.

World's Biggest 3D Rangoli


A record was set in Bhopal by creating the world's largest 3D rangoli.

Key Points -


- ❖ The world's largest 3D rangoli was created at **Shaurya Smarak in Bhopal** on Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary and National Youth Day in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ It has been included in the Golden Book of World Records.
- ❖ This rangoli of **225 x 80 feet** has been created using **4,000 kilograms** of natural colours.
- ❖ It depicts images of Swami Vivekananda, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Chief Minister Yadav and is a symbolic depiction of the determination of youth to protect the planet.
- ❖ This rangoli has been created by Indore artist **Shikha Sharma Joshi** and her team.



Person In News-Appointment

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Devjit Saikia and Prabhtej Singh | Devjit Saikia and Prabhtej Singh Bhatia were elected unopposed as Secretary and Treasurer respectively of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) at the Special General Meeting (AGM) held in Mumbai. |  |
|---|--|---|

Person In News-Sports

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Ira Jadhav | Fourteen-year-old rising star Ira Jadhav smashed 346 runs off 157 balls to guide Mumbai to an incredible 544-run win over Meghalaya in the Women's Under-19 One Day Trophy. She became the first player to score a triple century in this domestic tournament. |  |
|-------------------|---|---|

Person In News- Worldwide

| | | |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Zoran Milanovic | <p>Croatia's President Zoran Milanovic won for a second term, defeating the ruling party's candidate.</p> <div> <p>About Croatia-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capital- Zagreb ❖ Currency: Euro (€) (EUR) ❖ The republic declared independence on 25 June 1991 after breaking away from the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. ❖ It shares a coastline along the Adriatic Sea. </div>  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|

Sports

Spanish Super Cup

FC Barcelona defeated Real Madrid 5–2 to obtain their 15th Spanish Super Cup title.

Key Points:

- ❖ Its final was played at King Abdullah Sports City in Jeddah.
- ❖ The final of the Spanish Super Cup was played between football clubs, Barcelona and Real Madrid.
- ❖ Barcelona defeated Madrid in the final.

- ❖ The match between Spanish football clubs Real Madrid and Barcelona is called El Clasico.

Important News- Other States

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Maharashtra | ❖ The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying organised an Entrepreneurship Development Conference on the |
|--------------------|---|

| | |
|--------------|---|
| | <p>theme “Empowering Entrepreneurs: Transforming Livestock Economy” in Pune, Maharashtra.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ It aimed to bring together policymakers, federations, cooperatives, industry associations, entrepreneurs and financial institutions to unlock the potential of the livestock sector. |
| Assam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Assam has been ranked fourth in the New York Times' list of “52 places to visit in 2025”, positioning it as a must-visit global destination. ❖ The report highlights Assam's iconic attractions, including Charaideo Moidam, tea gardens, Kaziranga National Park and Rang Ghar in Sivasagar. |

Important News-Worldwide

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Indonesia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Recently, Indonesia's Mount Ibu volcano erupted twice, spewing out bright lava and rocks. ❖ This volcano is located on Indonesia's eastern island of Halmahera. ❖ This volcano is 1,325 meters high (4,347 feet). |
| California, USA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Large quantities of bright pink fire retardant have been dropped using planes to control wild-fires in Southern California. |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ It is made of salts such as ammonium polyphosphate, which does not evaporate as easily as water and lasts a long time. |
|--|---|

Miscellaneous

- ❖ Investments worth over **Rs 50,000 crore over the next five years** were announced at the second meeting of the IWDC organised by IWAI under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW).
 - IWDC advocated major infrastructure upgradation on National Waterways.
 - A series of new initiatives worth over Rs 1400 crore were announced in 21 inland waterways states.
- ❖ The **India Cleantech Manufacturing Platform** was launched by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry at the **India Climate Forum 2025** in New Delhi. The initiative is designed to enhance India's clean technology value chains in solar, wind, hydrogen and battery storage sectors.
- ❖ Under **ISRO's SPADEX mission**, India for the first time came very close to docking two satellites in space and then moved back away. According to ISRO, tests were conducted to **reach 15 meters and then 3 meters**. After this, the spacecraft was taken back to a safe distance.
- ❖ The total installed capacity of renewable energy is projected to increase to **209.44 gigawatts (GW) by December 2024** from **180.80 GW in December 2023**. This represents a significant growth of 15.84 per cent on a year-on-year basis.

