

## Current Affairs: 17/18.01.2022

### World's largest Khadi National Flag displayed along India–Pakistan border on Army Day 2022

The **Monumental National Flag**, which is the **world's largest national flag made of Khadi fabric**, was put to a grand public display at **Longewala**, along the India – Pakistan Border in Jaisalmer on the occasion of "Army Day" on January 15, 2022. The tricolor is **225-feet long and 150-feet wide**. It weighs around **1,400 kg**.

The flag was prepared in 49 days by 70 Khadi artisans.

Longewala is in the western Jaisalmer district. It was the site of the iconic Battle of Longewala in 1971, which was fought between the India and Pakistan.

### Prime Minister Narendra Modi to virtually address WEF's Davos Agenda 2022 Summit

India's Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will address the **World Economic Forum's (WEF's) Davos Agenda Summit 2022**, through video-conferencing on January 17, 2022.

The "Davos Agenda 2022" summit is being held digitally from January 17 to January 21, 2022, due to the Covid-19 pandemic..

The theme of the event is "**The State of the World.**"

The week-long digital summit will begin with a special address by Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The 'Davos Agenda 2022' will be the first global platform for Heads of state and government as well as CEOs and other leaders to share their visions for 2022 on critical collective challenges and how to address them.

This is the second consecutive year that the event is being held virtually.

### 46 Startups declared winners of National Startup Awards 2021

A total of **46 Startups** have been recognized as winners of **National Startup Awards 2021** along with 1 incubator and 1 accelerator, by the Government of India on January 16, 2022.

They have been felicitated for their contribution in their respective sectors.

State-wise, **Karnataka** bagged highest number of awards, which included 14 out of 46 national startup awards.

Over 2,177 applications were invited across 15 sectors and 49 sub-sectors for the award.

These applicants were evaluated against six broad parameters.

### Indian Representative Navdeep Kaur wins Best National Costume award at Mrs World 2022 pageant

**India's Navdeep Kaur** has won the award for the **Best National Costume** at the prestigious **Mrs World 2022** pageant in Nevada, Las Vegas on January 15, 2022.

Navdeep Kaur, who is the winner of Mrs India World 2021, was representing the country at the Mrs World 2022.

Navdeep wore a striking gold **Avant Garde** outfit inspired by the **Kundalini Chakra**. It was designed by Eggie Jasmin.

'Kundalini Chakra' symbolizes the movement of energy in chakras of the body from the base to the spine up through the crown.

Navdeep hails from a small town near Odisha's Steel City, Rourkela.

Meanwhile, Mrs America, Shaylyn Ford, was crowned as 'Mrs World 2022'.

Mrs Jordan, Jaclyn Stapp and Mrs UAE, Debanjali Kamstra, were declared as the runner ups, respectively.

### Dubai opens its Infinity Bridge for traffic for the first time

The iconic '**Infinity Bridge**' in **Dubai, United Arab Emirates**, was formally opened to traffic for the first time on January 16, 2022.



# Cross & Climb, Rohtak



The bridge is named 'Infinity' as its design resembles the mathematical sign for infinity ( $\infty$ ). It also represents limitless, infinite goals of Dubai.

The bridge consists of six lanes in each directions and a combined 3-metre track for pedestrians and cyclists.

It is 300 metres long and 22 metres wide. The bridge is built over the Dubai Creek and can accommodate 24,000 vehicles in both directions each hour.

It shall connect Deira to Bur Dubai and vice-versa.

## Indian Navy and Russian Navy undertake PASSEX Exercise in Arabian Sea

Indian Navy and Russian Navy undertook PASSEX exercises on 14 January 2022 at the port of **Cochin, in the Arabian Sea.**

The Indian Navy's indigenously designed and built guided missile destroyer, **INS Kochi**, took part in the exercise.

Russian Federation Navy was represented by **RFS Admiral Tributs**. Two other Russian naval ships Russian Naval Missile Cruiser Varyag, and Russian Tanker Boris Butoma were also accompanied.

The exercise showcased cohesiveness and interoperability between the two navies.

## Shersingh Khyalia appointed as CEO of Adani Power

The Board of Directors of **Adani Power Limited (APL)** has approved the appointment of **Shersingh B Khyalia as the chief executive officer (CEO)** of the company with effect from January 11, 2022.

Adani Power is a subsidiary of Gautam Adani-led Adani Group.

## Lakshya Sen defeats World Champion Loh Kean Yew to win maiden Super 500 title

**Indian badminton player Lakshya Sen** defeated World Champion **Loh Kean Yew of Singapore**, in the men's singles final of **India Open 2022** to secure his maiden Super 500 title.

Apart from this, Indian duo Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy defeated Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan of Indonesia, 21-16, 26-24 in the men's doubles, to win their first-ever Indian Open finals.

### List of Winners of 2022 India Open (badminton)

- Men's Single – Lakshya Sen (India)
- Women's Single – Busanan Ongbamrunghan (Thailand)
- Men's Double – Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy (India)
- Women's Double – Benyapa Aimsaard and Nuntakarn Aimsaard (Thailand)
- Mixed Double – Terry Hee and Tan Wei Han (Singapore)

## Russia's Aslan Karatsev beat Andy Murray in Sydney Tennis Classic to win third ATP Title

In tennis, the World number 20, Aslan Karatsev defeated former world number 1, Andy Murray, 6-3, 6-3, to win men's single title at the Sydney Tennis Classic final, to claim his third ATP Tour title.

The women's single title was claimed by Spanish world number nine Paula Badosa, who defeated Barbora Krejickova 6-3 4-6 7-6(4), to capture her third career title.

### Winners list of Sydney Tennis Classic 2022

- Men's Single – Aslan Karatsev (Russia)
- Women's Single – Paula Badosa (Spain)
- Men's Double – John Peers (Australia and Filip Poláček (Slovakia)
- Women's Double – Anna Danilina (Kazakhstan) and Beatriz Haddad Maia (Brazil)

## Legendary Kathak Dancer Pandit Birju Maharaj no more

Legendary **Kathak maestro**, composer and singer, **Pandit Birju Maharaj** has passed away, due to age-related ailments. He was turning 84 in February 2022.

He was born as Brij Mohan Nath Mishra and popularly known as Maharaj Ji or Pandit Ji.

- Maharaj Ji was the doyen of the **Lucknow Gharana of Kathak**
- He was the recipient of Padma Vibhushan, country's second-highest civilian award.

- A book based on his life, titled Nriya Samrat Pt. Birju Maharaj, was launched in 2021.

## **Padma Shri winning social activist Shanti Devi passes away at 88**

- Odisha-based **social worker and Padma Shri** awardee **Shanti Devi**, who was remembered as the voice of the poor, has passed away. She was 88.
- Shanti Devi was also called as Lugdi Devi.
- She was known for her dedication towards the underprivileged community and restoring peace in the Maoist-affected areas in **Odisha**.
- Shanti Devi received the prestigious Padma Shri award from President Ram Nath Kovind on November 9, 2021.

## **Former Mali's President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita passes away at 76**

- The former **President of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita**, who was ousted in a military coup, has passed away. He was 76.
- Mr Keita had ruled Mali for seven years, since September 2013, till he was overthrown in a military coup in August 2020.
- He had also served as prime minister of the country from 1994 to 2000.