

## Current Affairs: 19.01.2022

### OxFam India releases new study report 'Inequality kills'

Oxfam India released the report titled '**Inequality Kills**' on January 17, 2022, which reveals that COVID-19 pandemic has heightened economic inequalities across the world. Coronavirus pandemic showed that peoples' life chances are directly linked to their access to wealth and healthcare, their positions of power in society, their racial and caste identities, and their geographic locations.

#### Key facts of the report

- Wealth of the world's 10 richest men doubled since the pandemic began.
- Collective wealth of **India's 100 richest people hit a record high of INR 57.3 lakh crore** (USD 775 billion) in 2021.
- The number of Indian billionaires grew from 102 to **142** during pandemic.
- 84 percent of households in the country suffered a decline in their income in a year. (Rich becoming more rich while poor becoming poorer).
- 98 of the richest Indians owns as much wealth as the bottom 552 million
- This Inequality led to the death of at least one person every four seconds.
- The pandemic has set gender parity from 99 years earlier to now 135 years.
- Since 1995, the top 1% have captured nearly 20 times more of global wealth than the bottom 50% of humanity.
- It is high time to take unparalleled action to combat unprecedented inequality in the wake of COVID-19.

### NDRF celebrates 17th Raising Day on 19 January 2022

The **National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)** celebrates its Raising Day every year on **January 19**, since it came into existence on January 19, 2006. In 2022, the NDRF is observing its **17th Raising Day**. NDRF is an Indian specialized force under the **National Disaster Management Authority**, constituted under the **Disaster Management Act, 2005**, to carry out special response in situation of threatening disaster. There are **12 NDRF battalions** located in different parts of the country and comprises as many as 13,000 NDRF personnel who work to build a safer country. The current Director General of NDRF is **Atul Karwal**.

### Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launches commemorative postal stamp to mark first anniversary of Covid vaccination drive

Union Health Minister **Mansukh Mandaviya** released a commemorative postal stamp on Covid-19 vaccination on January 16, 2022, to mark **one year of the Covid inoculation drive**. The drive was rolled out on January 16, 2021. The stamp depicts a **health worker inoculating a senior citizen with indigenously developed vaccine 'Covaxin'**. It also shows the image of COVAXIN vial. It signifies the remarkable work done by front line health care workers and scientific community across the country in protecting the people against the Covid pandemic. The postage stamp has been indigenously developed jointly by the **ICMR and Bharat Biotech**.

### Legendary Collarwali Tigress who gave birth to 29 cubs passes away in Pench Tiger Reserve

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# Cross & Climb, Rohtak



**India's "Supermom" tigress**, popularly known as '**Collarwali**', has passed away at **Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Madhya Pradesh**, due to old-age. It was over 16 years old. 'Collarwali' tigress was known for giving birth to **29 cubs** during her lifetime, which is believed to be a world record. The official name given to the tigress by the forest department was **T-15** but she was fondly called 'Collarwali' by the native people. She gained Collarwali title as she became the **first tigress in the park to be fitted with a radio collar in 2008**. Madhya Pradesh also gained identity as a 'Tiger State' due to the significant contribution of this supermom.

**JIO Becomes First telecom company To Roll Out UPI AUTOPAY**  
**National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Jio** have announced that **UPI AUTOPAY** has now been introduced for the telecom industry with Jio. Jio's integration with UPI AUTOPAY has made it the **first player in the telecom industry** to go live with the unique e-mandate feature that was launched by NPCI. Using the UPI AutoPay launched by NPCI, customers can now enable recurring e-mandate using any UPI application for recurring payments such as mobile bills, electricity bills, EMI payments, entertainment/OTT subscriptions, insurance, mutual funds among others.

**Narendra Goenka takes charge as new Chairman of AEPC**  
**Narendra Kumar Goenka** has been appointed as the new chairman of **Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)** with effect from January 17, 2022. He replaces Dr A Sakthivel. Before this Mr Goenka was the Vice Chairman of the AEPC. AEPC is the official body of apparel exporters in India, under the aegis of Ministry of Textiles.

**Winners of Best FIFA Football Awards 2021**  
The Best FIFA Football Awards 2021 ceremony was held virtually in Zurich on January 17, 2022 to crown outstanding players for excellent achievement in football. Best FIFA Men's Player: Robert Lewandowski (Bayern Munich, Poland). Best FIFA Women's Player: Alexia Putellas (Barcelona, Spain)

## • Here is the Complete List of Winners

- Best FIFA Men's Player: Robert Lewandowski (Bayern Munich, Poland)
- Best FIFA Women's Player: Alexia Putellas (Barcelona, Spain)
- Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper: Édouard Mendy (Chelsea, Senegal)
- Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper: Christiane Endler (Paris Saint-Germain and Lyon, Chile)
- Best FIFA Men's Coach: Thomas Tuchel (Chelsea, Germany)
- Best FIFA Women's Coach: Emma Hayes (Chelsea, England)
- FIFA Fair Play Award: Denmark national football team and medical staff
- FIFA Special Award for an Outstanding Career Achievement: Christine Sinclair (for breaking the record of Most international goals scored by a female footballer.)
- Cristiano Ronaldo (for breaking the record of Most international goals scored by a male footballer.)

**9th Women National Ice Hockey Championship-2022 inaugurated in Himachal Pradesh**  
The **9th Women National Ice Hockey Championship 2022** was inaugurated at an altitude of 12,000 feet, at the Ice Skating Rink, Kaza, in **Lahaul-Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh** on January 16, 2022. The event was inaugurated by Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur.

# Cross & Climb, Rohtak



The national-level ice hockey competition is being held in Himachal Pradesh for the first time. Six teams from **Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Ladakh,**

**ITBP Ladakh, Chandigarh and Delhi** are participating in the mega event.

## **Former Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Passes Away at 91**

The **former Prime Minister of Japan, Toshiki Kaifu** has passed away. He was 91. Kaifu served as the Premier of the country for about two years from August 1989, until November 1991.

## **Celebrated Bengali Cartoonist- Illustrator Narayan Debnath, passes away at 97**

Legendary Bengali comics artist, writer and illustrator, **Narayan Debnath**, has passed away after prolonged illness. He was 97. The celebrated cartoonist was the creator of the popular Bengali comic strips like **Handa Bhonda (1962), Bantul the Great (1965) and Nonte Phonte (1969).**

He holds the record of longest running comics by an individual artiste for Handa Bhonda comics series which completed its continuous 60 years of running. In 2021, Debnath was awarded Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award in India.