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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 29-01-2022

NATIONAL NEWS

India - UN Regular Budget

- India has paid USD 29.9 million in UN regular budget assessments for the year 2022.
- As of January 21, 2022, 24 Member States have paid their regular budget assessments in full.
- India is currently a non-permanent member of the 15-nation Security Council and its two-year term will end on December 31, 2022.

India to Export BrahMos to Philippines

- **Philippines** has signed a deal to buy three batteries of the BrahMos missile, which is developed jointly by **India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya.**
- The deal is worth nearly **US$375 million** and is India's first significant defence export.
- The missiles are manufactured by BrahMos Aerospace in India.
- The BrahMos is a medium-range ramjet supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from both surface and air.
- BrahMos is one of the fastest supersonic cruise missiles in the world.

ALH MK III Aircraft Inducted at INS Utkrosh

- **In a boost to maritime security, the indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) MK III aircraft was formally inducted at INS Utkrosh.**

- The ALH MK III aircraft is manufactured by **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited(HAL)** in order to boost the security of Andaman & Nicobar.

- INS Utkrosh is an Indian naval air station under the joint-services Andaman and Nicobar Command of the Indian Armed Forces.

- It is located near naval base INS Jarawa, on Port Blair in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Gurgaon Gets India's Largest EV Charging Station

- India's largest EV charging station has been inaugurated in Delhi – Jaipur National Highway, in Gurgaon, Haryana.

- The station has 100 charging points, including 72 AC chargers & 24 DC fast chargers, and is situated in Sector 52 of Gurgaon.

- The station has been installed and operated by Alektrify Private Limited.

- The station was developed under the National Highway for Electric Vehicle (NHEV) by 2020 Programme and Ease of Doing Business in India.

About NHEV by 2020 Program:

- National Highway for Electric Vehicle by 2020 is 1st intercity e-mobility prototypical program to facilitate EODB (Ease of Doing Business) through SWC (Single Window Clearance) for the setup of Charging Stations on National Highways.

- This programme is to provide a platform to stakeholders from all categories to exhibit different practices & technologies for developing Electric Vehicle Ecosystem on National Highway / Expressway in India.

BUSINESS NEWS

Pencilton Launches Debit Card with NCMC

- **Pencilton**, a teen-focused fintech company, has launched **PencilCard**, a debit card with NCMC for teens.

- PencilCard is a National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)-compliant RuPay debit card specially designed for the teenager segment.
- It has been launched in partnership with **Transcorp International Ltd.**
- This contactless prepaid debit cards can be used for payments across various channels, including retail shopping offline, online shopping, travel and in the future - tolls and parking, among others.

Air India Handed Over to Tata Group

- **The government officially handed over Air India to the Tata group.**
- The total value of the deal is **Rs 18,000 crore (US$2.4 billion).**
- The strategic disinvestment transaction of Air India successfully concluded with the transfer of **100 per cent shares of Air India to Talace Pvt Ltd.,** along with management control.

ABOUT TATA GROUP:

- Tata Group Founder: Jamshedji Tata
- Tata Group HQ: Mumbai

Airtel - Google Partnership

- **Google to invest up to $1 billion in a partnership with Airtel as part of its Google for India Digitization Fund.**
- Deal includes investment of $700M to acquire 1.28% ownership in Airtel at a price per share of Rs. 734.

BANKING NEWS

TerraPay, NIPL Partnership for International Payments

- **NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), had signed a memorandum of understanding with TerraPay, a Netherlands-based global payments infrastructure company**
- The MoU will allow Indians with an active UPI ID to receive real-time, international payments into their bank accounts using TerraPay's secure payments technology.
- NIPL is the international payments arm of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Chairman of IIFL Finance

- IIFL Finance appointed former **State Bank of India** head **Arun Kumar Purwar** as Chairman of its board effective from April 1.
- Currently he is working for **Tadas Wind Energy Pvt and Eroute Technologies.**

AWARDS

Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve Bags TX2 Award

- **Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) in Erode district has been given the prestigious TX2 award after its tiger numbers doubled to 80 since 2010.**
- Apart from the STR, the **Bardia National Park in Nepal** has won this year’s TX2 award for doubling the population of wild tigers.
- The awards are presented by the Global Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA|TS), Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Global Tiger Forum (GTF), IUCN’s Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme (ITHCP), Panthera, UNDP, The Lion’s Share, Wildlife Conservation

Society (WCS) and WWF.

- They celebrate the 10thanniversary of all 13 tiger range countries committed to doubling the global population of wild tigers by 2022.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

India’s Women Unsung Heroes

- **Meenakshi Lekhi, Union Minister for Culture launched a new comic book titled “India’s Women Unsung Heroes” an honour to all the lesser-known Indian women who fought for India’s independence and contributed to India’s freedom struggle.**

- The book was released at Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts At New Delhi on.

- The book was prepared by the Ministry of Culture of the Government of India in partnership with Amar Chitra Katha.

OBITUARY NEWS

Marathi Author, Activist Anil Awachat

- Marathi author and social activist Anil Awachat, better known as Baba, died. He was 78.

- Awachat was the founder-director of the Muktangan Rehabilitation Centre in Pune and associated with several social causes.