



## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 30-01-2023**

### **NATIONAL NEWS**

#### **Khadi Fest-23**

- Khadi and Village Industries Commission inaugurated the Khadi Fest- 23 which will run from January 27 to February 24, 2023 at the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in Mumbai.
- Events and exhibitions like Khadi Fest, Khadi Institutions, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program - PMEGP and Fund Scheme for Regeneration of Traditional Industries - SFURTI units provide a platform to bring thousands of artisan products directly to the customers.
- The Khadi Village Industries Commission was established in 1957 under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act 1956.
- It is under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

#### **Indianoil to Pump in Rs 2,200-Cr Investment for Projects**

- The Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has planned investments of around ₹2,200 crores in Tamil Nadu (TN) over the next two years, to take the major grassroots and expansion projects in TN.
- The projects include a 'grass-roots terminal' at Asanur and Vallur, a 'captive petroleum' project, oil and lubricant-LPG jetty at Kamarajar port among others.
- The IOCL has achieved 10% ethanol blending with petrol in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry and was working towards increasing it to 20% in line with the Centre's mandate.

#### **Jal Jeevan Mission Provides Tap Water to Rural Households**

- The Jal Shakti Ministry the government had provided 11 crore rural households with a tap water connection.
- Data from the Ministry's dashboard suggest that 56% of the targeted 19.3 crore households

had been covered.

- In September 2022, 53% of the households or 10.2 crore households, had been covered.
- A fully functional tap water connection is defined as a household getting at least 55 liters of per capita per day of potable water all through the year.
- The Jal Jeevan Mission aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India.

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **India Becomes 1st Nation to Extend Assurance to Sri Lanka**

- India has become the first creditor nation to extend assurance towards restructuring the debt of Sri Lanka with financial assistance worth \$4 billion.
- India will encourage greater investment in core areas of energy, tourism and infrastructure.
- Dr. Jaishankar's visit also witnessed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the High Impact Community Development program on socio-economic development.

## **BANKING**

### **AU Small Finance Bank Launches 'Swipe Up'**

- India's largest Small Finance Bank, AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB), launched the first-of-its-kind platform in the credit card industry - the 'Swipe Up' platform.
- With the help of this platform, credit cardholders of any bank can get an upgraded card instantly.
- Other bank credit cardholders can upgrade their card to one of AU credit cards.
- Swipe Up platform primarily focuses on customers who hold Credit Cards from any other Bank and can benefit from an upgraded Credit Card matching their current lifestyle.
- It allows cardholders to compare their existing credit cards within seconds.
- These cards will have a higher credit limit, higher cashback, better reward points, zero membership fees and various other features that are an upgrade from their existing credit card.

## **Bank of Baroda Introduces Vikram Credit Card**

- On the Occasion of 74th Republic Day celebrations, Bank of Baroda's (BoB) subsidiary BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL) has launched Vikram Credit Card.
- It is the contactless RuPay credit card dedicated to Indian defense, paramilitary and police personnel.
- Mr. Vikramaditya Singh Khichi, former Executive Director of Bank of Baroda, launched the Vikram Credit Card.
- It is a lifetime-free credit card
- It has attractive reward points and an activation gift of a complimentary OTT (Over-The-Top) subscription.
- It has an accidental death cover of Rs 20 lakh.

## **SPORTS**

### **Australian Open 2023**

- Novak Djokovic won the Australian Open title for the 10th time by defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-3, 7-6, 7-6 in the first Grand Slam Australia Open of 2023.
- With this victory, Novak Djokovic has equaled Spain's Rafael Nadal's record of winning 22 Grand Slam titles.
- Djokovic won the first Australian Open title in the year 2008.
- In the Australian Open 2023, Arina Sabalenka of Belarus has won the women's singles title by defeating Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan.
- Sabalenka has won a Grand title for the first time.
- Sabalenka defeated Elena Rybakina 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the final match.

## **APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS**

### **Chief Technology and Operations Officer of Standard Chartered Bank**

- Standard Chartered Bank has appointed Sarabjit Anand as the chief technology and operations officer (CTOO) for India and South Asia.

- Mr. SV Shivshanker has been appointed by the United Kingdom (UK)-based bank as Head of Human Resources for India and South Asia.
- Mr. Sarabjit joined Standard Chartered Bank in 1991 in India.
- Recently, he was the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for Singapore and ASEAN markets.

## **President Election of The Czech Republic**

- In the Czech Republic, retired army general Petr Pavel won the presidential election, defeating billionaire businessman Andrej Babis.
- Retired general Petr Pavel will replace controversial incumbent President Milos Zeman.
- During the election, General Pavel got 58.2 percent of the votes while Andrzej Babis got 42.8 percent.
- General Powell has been Chairman of the Military Committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

# **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

## **World's First Photonic based Quantum Computer**

- Canadian Prime Minister (PM) Mr. Justin Trudeau has announced a new federal investment of 40 million Canadian dollars (\$32 million), which will enable Xanadu Quantum Technologies Inc.
- It is a Toronto-based Canadian quantum computing company to build and commercialize the world's first photonic-based, fault-tolerant quantum computer.
- The Project is supported through the Canadian government's Strategic Innovation Fund with 177.8 million Canadian dollars (\$142 million).
- The Project is expected to create 530 new highly skilled positions in the high-tech and quantum computing fields.

# **OBITUARY**

## Former Indian and Iron Man of India Sabir Ali

- Former Indian decathlete and Iron Man of India Sabir Ali passed away in New Delhi. He was at the age of 67.
- He was an athlete who won 10 gold medals in the decathlon, including at the 1981 Asian Athletics Championships held in Tokyo, Japan.
- He became the 3rd Indian to win the Asian Athletics Championships decathlon crown after VS Chauhan (1974) and Suresh Babu (1975).
- He became the Captain of the Indian Athletics Team in the Asian track and field athletic meet held in Kuwait in 1983.
- He was conferred with the Arjuna award by the president of India Zail Singh and the Bhim award by the government of Haryana in 1981.



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