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मासिक आवृत्ती | जानेवारी 2024

# ज्ञानकोश

मासिक चालू घडामोडी  
(महाराष्ट्र राज्य)

MPSC, आणि सरळ सेवा भरतीसाठी  
ZP, आदिवासी विभाग, जिल्हा न्यायालय आणि इतर स्पर्धा  
परीक्षांसाठी उपयुक्त



आयातीवर सरकारचे निर्बंध

मुंबई ट्रान्स हार्बर लिंक (MTHL)

अयोध्या राम मंदिर प्राणप्रतिष्ठा सोहळा

रश्मी शुक्ला यांची महाराष्ट्राच्या  
DGPपदी नियुक्ती

राष्ट्रीय युवा दिन

छत्रपती शिवाजी महाराज उद्यान कला  
महोत्सव

## Gyankosh Monthly Current Affairs | January 2024

### Maharashtra State News

#### Arun Yogiraj's idol of Ram Lalla chosen for Ayodhya's grand temple

- Days after the idol of Lord Ram Lalla for 'Pran Pratishtha' (consecration) was finalized by the temple trust in Ayodhya, Union minister Pralhad Joshi said that **renowned sculptor Arun Yogiraj's idol of Ram Lalla** has been chosen for installation in the grand **Ram Janmabhoomi temple** in Ayodhya.
- The grand consecration **ceremony of Ram temple** will be held on **January 22**.

#### Who is Arun Yogiraj?

- Sculptor Yogiraj hails from a lineage of five generations of renowned sculptors in **Mysore**. Yogiraj started his sculpting career at a young age and was highly influenced by his father, Yogiraj, and grandfather, Basavanna Shilpi, who enjoyed the **patronage of the King of Mysore**.
- After pursuing an MBA and working in the corporate sector, Yogiraj started pursuing sculpting full time from 2008.
- Besides Ram Lalla idol, Yogiraj has carved an array of impressive sculptures, including a **30-foot statue of Subhash Chandra Bose** displayed behind the **Amar Jawan Jyoti** near India Gate in Delhi.
- His other notable contributions include a **12-foot tall sculpture of Adi Shankaracharya** in Kedarnath to a **21-foot tall Hanuman statue** in Mysore.

#### PM Modi to inaugurate Mumbai Trans Harbour Link

- **PM Modi will inaugurate the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL)** on January 12.
- This **MTHL project** is said to be the **country's longest sea bridge**.
- It is expected to drastically **reduce travel time** between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai from a **current 2 hours to approximately 15-20 minutes**
- Its **length is 21.8 kilometers** (comprising 16.5 km over the sea and 5.5 km on land)

#### MH CM to attend Akhand Harinam Saptah

- The MH CM is expected to take part in **state's largest Akhand Harinam Saptah** organized at the foothills of **Shri Malang Gad hill** of Thane District.

#### About:

- The **Akhand Harinam Saptah** is a **week-long spiritual festival** observed by **devotees of Lord Vishnu**, particularly those belonging to the **Varkari Sampradaya** in Maharashtra.
- The festival is characterized by **uninterrupted chanting of the name "Hari"** by devotees throughout the seven days.

#### Ram temple inauguration likely to generate ₹50,000cr business

- The **Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT)** has estimated that **business worth Rs 50,000 crore** will be generated in the country following the inauguration of the Ram temple at Ayodhya in January
- The **Ram Temple** holds **immense religious significance for Hindus**, and millions are expected to visit Ayodhya for the inauguration and darshan (viewing the deity).
- According to CAIT, there is a **large demand for special cloth garlands, lockets, key chains, pictures of Ram Darbar, models of Ram temples, Ram Dhwaja, and Ram Angvastra** imprinted with the image of Lord Ram across different Indian markets.
- This **influx of pilgrims will also boost demand** for various goods and services like travel, accommodation, food, souvenirs, and religious items.

#### Newlyweds to get wedding sets from Mangoan panchayat

- The **gram panchayat of Manganon village** in Kolhapur district has **decided to gift wedding sets worth Rs 11,000** to all women getting married.
- The sets will be funded through the **honorarium of the sarpanch, deputy sarpanch, panchayat members, and the gram panchayat corpus**.

### Did you Know?

- Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar made his first public appearance a century ago in Manganon village.

### Pench Tiger Reserve- first to start 2 Van e-Seva Kendras

#### Context:

- The Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra has taken a remarkable step towards bridging the digital divide in remote forested villages by launching two "Van e-Seva Kendras" – the first of their kind in India.
- These mobile e-service centers aim to bring essential government services directly to the doorsteps of villagers, eliminating the need for them to travel long distances to access them.

#### What are Van e-Seva Kendras?

- These are mobile units that travel to remote villages within the buffer zone of the Pench Tiger Reserve
- It offers a range of services including:
  - Online services
  - Banking services
  - Recharge facilities
  - Utility bill payments
  - Information dissemination

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### Int'l planners, designers to prepare master plan for Dharavi project

- Dharavi, one of Asia's largest slums, is set for a major transformation with the appointment of renowned international planners and designers to prepare a master plan for its redevelopment.
- A consortium led by Adani Infrastructure Developers Ltd.(AIDPL) has partnered with several renowned firms for this master plan preparation
- Aim is to improve the lives of Dharavi's residents while creating a model for sustainable urban development.

### Ajit Pawar pays tributes at Koregaon Bhima war memorial

- MH Deputy CM Ajit Pawar paid respects at the Jay Stambh (Victory Pillar) near Pune, commemorating the 206th anniversary of the Battle of Koregaon Bhima.

#### Key Points:

- The Battle of Koregaon Bhima was fought on January 1, 1818.
- The battle was part of the Third Anglo-Maratha War, a conflict for control of vast swathes of India.
- The battle holds immense significance for the Dalit community in India, marking their victory over the Peshwa army of the Maratha Empire.

### Yadav dynasty of Maharashtra (Static)

- Yadava dynasty, are rulers of a 12th–14th-century Hindu kingdom of central India what is now the Indian state of Maharashtra.
- Originally feudatory of the Eastern Chalukyas of Kalyani, the dynasty became paramount in the Deccan under Bhillama (c. 1187–91), who founded Devagiri (later Daulatabad) as his capital.
- Under Bhillama's grandson Singhana (reigned c. 1210–47) the dynasty reached its height, as the Yadava campaigned against the Hoysalas in the south, the Kakatiyas in the east, and the Paramaras and Chalukyas in the north.
- During the reign of the last Yadava king, Ramachandra (reigned 1271–c. 1309), a Muslim army commanded by the Delhi sultan 'Alā' al-Dīn Khaljī invaded the kingdom in 1294 and imposed tributary status.

## CM Eknath Shinde to attend World Economic Forum

- MH CM Eknath Shinde, Industries Minister Uday Samant and a 10 member delegation will be attending the World Economic Forum at Davos slated for January 15- 16

### About:

- The World Economic Forum (WEF) is a non-profit organization that brings together leaders from business, government, civil society, and academia to discuss global challenges and work together to find solutions.
- It was founded in 1971 by Klaus Schwab.

## Ramlalla's Seating Ceremony on 22nd January

- From Vaikom to Ayodhya, the Hindu community has come a long way.
- Ceremony is going to be held with great pomp on Jan 22.
- Significant changes like Ayodhya Dham Airport being renamed after Maharishi Valmiki, tells a loud and clear message of social assimilation, justice and harmony — this is what was envisioned by Babasaheb Ambedkar.
- The Maharishi Valmiki International Airport Dham will link to the divine and majestic Ram Temple.
- The newly built airport has the capacity to serve 10 lakh travellers annually.

## MMRDA merges monorail with metro operations

- The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has merged the Monorail Project Implementation Unit with the Maha Mumbai Metro Operation Corporation to revive the struggling Mumbai Monorail.
- The merger aims to improve operation, cut costs, and save expenses.
- The move is expected to save over ₹40 to 60 crore annually and reduce duplication of manpower.

## MSEDCL supplies electricity to 2,395 tribal homes in Maharashtra in 12 days

- The Maharashtra state Electricity distribution company ltd( MSEDCL) has achieved a significant milestone by supplying electricity to vulnerable tribal communities

in remote areas of the state within just 12 days

- It was done in view of Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan schemes initiated by PM Modi

## PM Modi to inaugurate major Infra-projects in Navi Mumbai

- PM Modi will lay the foundation stone of two underground road projects in South Mumbai and Thane.
- He will also inaugurate Phase II of Nerul/Belapur - Uran railway lines as part of Mumbai Trans- Harbour Link (MTHL) project
- He will also officially inaugurate Digha station on the Airoli- Kalwa route of the Central railway's Trans-Harbour Link.

## Rashmi Shukla appointed as Maha DGP

- The MH state government has appointed 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rashmi Shukla as the Maharashtra director general of police (DGP)

### Did you Know?

- She is the first woman police chief of the state.

## MH state takes wine promotion scheme off ice

- The MH government has decided to revive the Wine Industrial Promotion Scheme (WIPS) for five years.
- The scheme was initially launched in 2020 but faced a major opposition and thus was put on ice for nearly a year.

### Key Points:

1. Wine Festivals and Events:
  - The scheme will allow the organization of wine festivals and events across the state, promoting wine tourism and local wineries.
2. Direct Sales at Wineries:
  - Wineries will be permitted to sell wine directly to consumers at their premises, boosting their sales and outreach.
3. Training and Skill Development:
  - The scheme will also focus on training programs and skill development initiatives
4. VAT Refund:
  - The 20% VAT refund to wineries is a significant incentive, aimed at easing

their financial burden and mendrong investment in the sector

### CSMT gets IR's first AC odorless toilet block

- Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT), formerly Victoria Terminus, has taken a significant step towards improving passenger experience with the inauguration of India's first air-conditioned odorless toilet block.
- This modern facility promises not only comfort and hygiene but also sets a new standard for railway station amenities.

### QR Code Placed To Get Information About Trees In Thane Municipal Parks

- The QR code has been placed on the trees so that the citizens can easily get information about the trees in the parks in the Thane municipal area.
- After scanning this code on the mobile phone, information about the tree will be available to the citizens in two languages, Marathi and English.

### Govt fixes MTHL toll at ₹250 per car

- The Maharashtra government has finalized the toll charges for the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL), also known as the Atal Setu, at ₹250 per car for a single trip.

#### Did you Know?

- The MTHL, India's longest sea bridge, stretches 21.8 kilometers
- It connects Sewri in Mumbai to Nhava Sheva in Raigad district.

### Kajal Kambale becomes First Disabled Female Climber to Scale Lingana Fort

- Kajal Kambale, a disabled mountaineer from Maharashtra, has become the first female mountaineer with any disability to conquer the challenging Lingana Fort in the Sahyadri range.

#### About:

- Lingana, a sub-fort of the iconic Raigad, holds historical significance as the "prison" of the Maratha Empire, contrasting Raigad's role as the "capital."
- Its name is derived from the resemblance to a "Linga" (a phallic symbol in Hinduism)

### Maharashtra reports highest dog bites in India in 2023

- Maharashtra reported the maximum number of dog bite cases in 2023, with over 4.35 lakh incidents.
- It is nearly 11% more than 2022
- It was followed by Tamil Nadu with 4,04,488 cases.
- The rise in cases was attributed to high reporting in Maharashtra. Mumbai, Thane, and Pune had the highest number of cases due to poor sterilization implementation.

### Maharashtra Cabinet Approves Old Pension Scheme For Govt Employees

- The Maharashtra govt has approved a proposal offering the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) as an option for state government employees who joined service after November 1, 2005.

#### About:

- The OPS is a retirement pension scheme where government employees receive a monthly pension equivalent to 50% of their last drawn salary.
- The employee does not contribute to the pension fund, and the entire burden is borne by the government.

### World Braille Day

- World Braille Day is celebrated annually on January 4th
- It commemorates the birthday of Louis Braille, the inventor of the braille writing system.
- This day serves as a vital reminder of the importance of access to information and communication for people who are blind or visually impaired
- The theme for World Braille Day 2024 is "Empowering Through Inclusion and Diversity"

### Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's Tiger Claw arrival delayed Again

- The Wagh Nakh (Tiger claw) of Chatrapatti Shivaji Maharaj from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London will be delayed to arrive in Maharashtra in May due to delay in the legal process of bringing them.

- **Earlier**, it was said that the tiger claw would come to India in **November** and then in **January**.

### National Birds Day

- National Bird Day on **January 5** highlights the importance of small birds in the ecosystem.
- Led by the Avian Welfare Coalition, the day focuses on raising awareness about birds in captivity, emphasizing the need to protect them from exploitation for profit or entertainment.
- The **Indian peacock**, with its majestic plumage and captivating dance, is the **national bird of India**.

### National Birds Day 2024: Theme

- The theme of this year's National Birds Day is **'Right To Fight'**.
- It resonates with the flight of a bird that symbolises freedom. With this campaign, the Avian Welfare Coalition aims to reduce the suffering of birds by raising public awareness of the destructive bird trade, the realities of cruel bird breeding mills and the ways to improve the welfare of birds already in captivity.

### Coastal road project

- The **first phase** of the coastal road, from **Worli to Marine Drive**, will be **completed by January 31**. It is likely to be **toll free**.
- The **remaining part** of the road will be opened by **May 2024**.
- Also, the **Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL)** project will be opened soon.
- The **MTHL** will be inaugurated by **PM Narendra Modi** on **January 12**.

### Decrease in Nashik city road accident numbers in 2023

- **Nashik, Maharashtra**, has seen a **slight decline** in the number of road accidents in **2023** compared to the previous year.
- In 2023, Nashik city witnessed a **6% reduction in fatalities**.
- In **2023**, there were **194 road accident deaths**, a decrease from **207 in 2022**.
- Also, the **number of people injured in road accidents** saw a **13% decrease**.
- It dipped from **540 in 2022 to 468 in 2023**.

### Govt amends PM-eBus Sewa tender

- The **Union government** has recently amended the **PM-eBus Sewa** scheme launched in **2023** to include **100 low-floor buses** that are **more accessible to persons with disabilities** compared to the ones with standard floor.
- **Center** amended a tender for the procurement of **3,600 electric buses** to address concerns raised by **disability rights activists** regarding the accessibility of the initially proposed standard-floor buses.

### Think:

- Read about **PM-eBus Sewa**

### Maharashtra govt donates Rs 11 Crore for Ayodhya Ram Mandir

- **MH govt** has donated **Rs 11 Cr** to the under construction **Ram Temple** in **Ayodhya, UP**

### About:

- **Ram Mandir** is a grand Hindu temple dedicated to **Lord Rama**
- It is located at the disputed site of **Ram Janmabhoomi**, believed to be the birthplace of **Lord Rama**.
- The Temple will be inaugurated on **January 22, 2024**

### 7.95L prize money for Vid athletics

- Over **1,500 athletes** from across **Vidarbha** will take part in the athletics competition in the **sixth edition** of **Khasdar Krida Mahotsav (KKM)**
- The event will begin at the synthetic track of **Divisional Sports Complex** in **Mankapur** from **January 13**.
- The **four-day event** will carry a prize money of **7.95 lakh** and a total of **116 events** in six age categories for men and women.

### Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

- **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Overseas Indian Day)** is a national day in India celebrated on **January 9th** every year.
- It recognizes and celebrates the contributions of the **Indian diaspora** to the development of India and strengthens the bond between India and its overseas communities.
- The date **Commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi** to India from **South Africa** in **1915**.

- **Gandhi, himself a member of the Indian diaspora, played a pivotal role in India's independence movement.**

### 100 percent land acquired for Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project

- National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) has achieved 100 percent land acquisition for Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project
- NHSRCL is the executing the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed rail corridor,
- A total of 1389 hectares of land was required,
- It included 951.14 ha in Gujarat, 430.45 hectares in Maharashtra and 7.9 hectares in Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

### White toxic foam in River Indrayani rankles Maharashtra

- The **Indrayani River**, a vital lifeline for Pune and surrounding areas, has been **choked by a thick layer of white, toxic foam**, sparking outrage and concern across Maharashtra.
- The frothy menace is **attributed to industrial pollutants and untreated sewage**
- It **poses serious health risks to aquatic life and nearby communities.**

#### Sources of the Foam:

1. Untreated industrial effluents
2. Domestic sewage
3. Use of detergents etc.,

### Ambani, Jindal among those invited for 'Advantage Vidarbha'

- In a bid to **showcase the potential of the Vidarbha region in Maharashtra**, organizers of the "Advantage Vidarbha" event have **extended invitations to prominent industrialists, including Mukesh Ambani (Chairman of Reliance Industries) and Sajjan Jindal (JSW Group Chairman).**
- The event, scheduled for **January 27-29, 2024**, aims to **attract investments and boost industrial development in the region.**

### World Hindi Day

- **World Hindi Day, celebrated annually on January 10th**, is a day to **commemorate and**

**promote the Hindi language on a global stage.**

- It's an **occasion to recognize the rich cultural heritage, literary depth, and growing influence of Hindi** beyond its geographical borders.

#### Did you Know?

- Hindi, with over **600 million speakers worldwide**, ranks as the **third most spoken language globally.**

### MOIL to bring country's longest triathlon to city

- The **country's longest triathlon, Tiger Man Triathlon**, will be **organized by Manganese Ore India Ltd (MOIL) Ltd in Nagpur on February 10 and 11.**
- **Amit Samarth, the finisher of Race Across America**, is the race director of the two-day event, presented by the largest manganese ore producer in the country, MOIL Limited, with an aim to **foster health, sports and community empowerment.**
- The competition will start with the **participants swimming 5 kms in the Ambazari lake, before taking a 200km cycle ride and concluding with a 50km run.**

### Summer onion plantation area falls by 50% in Nashik

- The **poor monsoon is affecting summer onion plantation in Nashik district.**
- This year, **summer onions have been planted on 81,000 hectares, compared to 2.2 lakh hectares last year.**
- The **low plantation will impact the availability of onions in the markets from April, leading to higher prices.**



### KMC converts roadside garbage dumping spot into public garden

- The Kolhapur Municipal Corporation (KMC) has converted a roadside garbage dumping and waste disposal site near the land records office in Mangalwar Peth into a garden.
- A tree plantation drive is also being carried out to give the surrounding area a new look.
- The road passing through the land records office is a bypass for motorists going towards the race course.

### MH among top 3 States to contribute 40% of registered MSMEs in India

- As per a CBRE-CREDAI report, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh collectively contribute nearly 40 percent of all registered micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India
- According to government data, as of December 2023, there are over 3 crore MSMEs registered in the country

### Maharashtra's Mahanand Dairy board passes resolution for takeover by NDDB

- The board of directors at Mahanand Dairy, a once-profitable venture under the Maharashtra government, has sanctioned a resolution to transfer the dairy's control

to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

- However, milk producers in the State are expressing concerns and alleging that the government and the board have decided to facilitate Amul's expansion in Maharashtra.

### IAF to Organise Aerial Display in Mumbai from January 12 to 14

- The IAF will organize an aerial display in Mumbai as part of the Indian Air Force outreach programme in coordination with the Government of Maharashtra from January 12 to 14 between 12 pm to 1 pm over Marine Drive
- The displays and demonstrations by IAF personnel and aircraft will showcase the skills, capabilities and professionalism of the force.

### VIIT bags top prize in poster presentation

- Vignan's Institute of Information Technology (Autonomous) (VIIT) campus bagged the first prize in poster presentation at Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) regional meet organized by the Ministry of Education (MoE).
- The main objective of the IICs is to show how MoE and All India Council for Technical Education support innovation and development in educational institutions.

### National Youth Day

- National Youth Day, observed on January 12th in India, celebrates the vibrant energy and immense potential of the nation's young people.
- This day coincides with the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, a renowned philosopher and spiritual leader whose teachings emphasized character building, social responsibility, and the power of the youth to shape the future.
- The day acknowledges the significant role young people play in driving social progress, innovation, and development.
- It serves as a platform to inspire young people to embrace their potential, engage in their communities, and strive for positive change.



- The theme for National Youth Day 2024 is “Arise, Awake, and Realize the Power You Hold.”

### PM Modi to inaugurate youth festival in Nashik

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Mumbai Trans-harbor link, connecting Mumbai International Airport and Navi Mumbai International Airport.
- It is now named 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewari-Nhava Sheva Atal Setu'
- He will also launch various rail projects and the underground road tunnel in Mumbai.

### Ports Minister optimistic about job surge with planned Wadhwan port

- Union Ports Minister Sarbanand Sonowal said that the proposed Wadhwan port near Dahanu will fuel substantial industrial growth in the region
- It will also create job opportunities for thousands of young individuals.

#### About:

- Wadhwan Port, also known as Vadhaven Port, is a proposed deep-sea port located on the coast of Maharashtra,
- It's envisioned as India's first foreshore port
- The project is a joint venture between Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) and the Maharashtra Maritime Board

### PM to launch projects worth Rs 30,500 crore in Maharashtra

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi would launch, commission and dedicate projects to the tune of Rs 30,500 crore in Maharashtra.
- He will also inaugurate, dedicate to the nation and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth more than Rs 12,700 crore in the public programme in Navi Mumbai.
- He would lay the foundation stone of the underground road tunnel connecting Eastern Freeway's Orange Gate to Marine Drive.
- It will reduce travel time between Orange Gate and Marine Drive.

### Jijabai Jayanti 2024

- The 426th birth anniversary of Rajmata Jijabai was celebrated with grand celebrations at the Rajwad (palace) of Raja Lakhhuji Rao Jadhav in Sindkhed Raja.
- She is the mother of the Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
- Descendants of the Jadhav clan from Sindkhed Raja and nearby villages, including Kinagaon Raja, Umerad, Deulgaon Raja, gathered at the palace to perform a grand puja (prayer ceremony) at the sacred site believed to be Jijabai's birthplace.

### Navi Mumbai Airport to Open by Year-End

- Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia announced that the long-awaited Navi Mumbai international airport will begin operations by November or December this year.
- At least 10 Indian cities will have two airports each within the next 10 to 15 years.
- Navi Mumbai airport's opening marks the culmination of a 60-year wait for connecting Mumbai with its satellite city.

### Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park Art Festival

- Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park Art Festival returned for its third edition.
- It offers a vibrant showcase of art forms and provides a platform for artists to connect with art lovers and potential buyers.

#### About:

- The Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park Art Festival is a four-day extravaganza.
- It honors the rich heritage and traditions of Maharashtra, fostering a sense of pride and belonging.

### Atal Setu Bridge

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL), known as Atal Setu, today, marking a historic moment in India's infrastructure development.
- It is dedicated to the memory of the late BJP veteran and former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### Key Features:

- **Length and Lanes:** Atal Setu is a 6-lane bridge spanning 21.8 km, making it the longest sea bridge in India.

- **Geographic Extent:** Connecting Sewri in Mumbai to Nhava Sheva in Uran taluka, Raigad district, the bridge is expected to have a transformative impact on the region's economic development and connectivity.

### Mumbai-Pune Expressway

- Road crash fatalities in Maharashtra saw a slight decrease in 2023

#### Key Points:

- Nearly 32% decrease can be seen in road fatalities
- The overall death toll dropped marginally from 15,224 in 2022 to 15,009 last year.

### Indian Army Day

- Every year on **January 15th**, India celebrates **Army Day**, a day to honor the dedication and sacrifice of the brave men and women who safeguard our nation.
- This day marks the historic event of **Lieutenant General Kodandera M. Cariappa** taking over as the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army on **January 15, 1949**.
- This day serves as a **source of inspiration for young people**, showcasing the values of patriotism, courage, and resilience.
- **"In Service of the Nation"** will be the theme for Indian Army Day in 2024

### Navi Mumbai international airport will be operational by March 2025

- **Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia** said the **Navi Mumbai International Airport** is set to be **commercially operational by March 2025**.
- This mega-project promises to **decongest Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA)** and transform travel in the region.
- It is also aiming to be **India's first green airport** with **extensive rainwater harvesting, solar power, and sustainable practices**.

### Hyundai to invest Rs 7,000 crore in Pune's Talegaon area

- **South Korean automobile giant Hyundai Motor India** is set to invest a whopping **Rs 7,000 crore** in Pune's Talegaon area
- It marks a **significant expansion beyond its home base of Tamil Nadu** for over 25 years.

- This strategic move **promises to boost Maharashtra's auto industry and generate considerable economic benefits for the region**.
- The investment will be **utilized to revive the inoperative General Motors plant in Talegaon**, giving it a new lease on life.

### PMC organizes health awareness drive as part of the Mera Yuva Bharat campaign

- The **health department of Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC)** has organized a series of week-long awareness programmes and activities for the city youths as part of the **'Mera Yuva Bharat campaign'**.
- The campaign was **launched on National Youth Day on Friday, January 12**, and will go on till **January 19, 2024**.
- The civic body **targets to reach out to over 11 lakh youths** during the campaign.

### Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)

- **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)** is an initiative by the **Indian government** launched in **October 2023**
- It is aimed at **empowering and engaging the nation's youth (aged 15-29 years)**.
- It envisions a **"phygital platform"**, a blend of **physical and digital activities** to:
  1. Provide equitable opportunities
  2. Facilitate skill development
  3. Promote social responsibility
  4. Nurture a sense of national pride

### National StartUp Day

- **National Startup Day** is celebrated annually on **January 16th**
- It ignites the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship across the nation.

#### About:

- It commemorates the launch of the **"Startup India" initiative in 2016**, a landmark program aimed at fostering a vibrant ecosystem for young minds to thrive.
- **PM Modi** announced **January 16**, the foundation day of Startup India, as **National Startup Day in 2022**.

### Adani Group to provide Dharavi residents 350 sq ft homes

- **Mumbai** has introduced the **StartUp Mumbai Challenge** during the **Mumbai Festival 2024**.

- The **StartUp Mumbai Challenge** named **'Forever Planet'** signifies a forward-looking commitment to nurturing early-stage startups.
- It is in **collaboration with Turbostart and the United Nations India** and **aims to position Mumbai as a global hub for innovative and sustainable development.**
- The initiative is in line with PM Modi's **Mission LiFE.**

### **Indian Army conducts firepower demonstration 'Exercise Topchi' at Devlali**

- The **Indian Army** conducted an impressive display of firepower and precision during **'Exercise Topchi'**, an annual training exercise held at **Devlali, Maharashtra.**
- The exercise **showcased the integrated use of a variety of weapons and surveillance platforms,** demonstrating the army's capabilities and readiness.

### **MTHL will open trade opportunities, attract investments for JNPT**

- The **Mumbai Trans Harbour Link** will slash the time taken to transport cargo, thereby elevating the overall operational efficiency of **JNPT (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority).**
- In turn, this will create a more streamlined supply chain, leading to reduced operational costs, and enhance the port's competitiveness on a global scale.

### **Navi Mumbai Airport**

- Over **10,000 jobs** are expected to be created with the launch of the first two phases at **Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA)** next year.
- About **60% of the airport's construction** is complete, with the remaining work on track for completion by the end of **2024.**

### **Eurasian otters spotted in Pench**

- The **first record of Eurasian otters in Maharashtra** has been found in the waters of **Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR)**
- The discovery was **jointly led by Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR),** and experts from **Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT), Mumbai, MH**
- The discovery also indicates the presence of a **healthy ecosystem.**

### **Coca-Cola India joins forces with Reliance Retail for PET collection, recycling initiative**

- **Coca-Cola India and Reliance Retail** have collaborated on a groundbreaking sustainability initiative, **'Bhool Na Jana, Plastic Bottle Lautana'**
- It focuses on used PET bottle collection and recycling through **Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs)** and collection bins.

### **Interstate fire safety training centre to be built soon**

- An interstate fire safety training centre will be established in **Haryana** on the lines of the one in **Maharashtra's Nagpur**
- Moreover, the **Fire and Emergency Services Training Centre in Manesar Sector 8** will soon have its own **90m-high hydraulic platform and gym**

### **Centre imposes 50% export duty on molasses to boost ethanol production**

- **Central government** has imposed a **50% export duty on molasses,** a byproduct of sugar cane.
- The decision will come in force from **January 18.**
- The decision has been taken given the possibility of a decline in domestic sugar production in the current season.

### **Mumbai Festival 2024**

- The first edition of **Mumbai Festival** will be held from **January 20 to 28, 2024,** with a mission to showcase the city's cultural kaleidoscope.
- The theme, **Everyone's United,** emphasises the inclusivity of Mumbai as the melting pot that welcomes and embraces everyone in the city of dreams, **Sapno Ka Gateway.**
- The festival will feature cultural and musical events, food festivals, and more.

### **Ghrishneshwar temple**

- Centre has included the **Ghrishneshwar temple in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar district** in the **Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)** scheme, leading to excitement among the stakeholders.
- The temple is one of the **12 Jyotirlinga temples.**

- Inclusion in the scheme would enrich religious tourism at different fronts.

#### PRASAD Scheme:

- The Government of India launched the PRASAD scheme in the year **2014-2015 under the Ministry of Tourism**. The full form of the PRASAD scheme is the '**Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive**'.
- This scheme focuses on developing and identifying pilgrimage sites across India for enriching the religious tourism experience.
- It aims to **integrate pilgrimage destinations** in a prioritized, planned and sustainable manner to provide a complete religious tourism experience.
- The growth of domestic tourism hugely depends on **pilgrimage tourism**.

#### Pune startups witness 70% dip in funding in 2023

Pune had accounted for 3.19 per cent of the funding reported in India for 2023, while it had cornered 4.15 per cent of the funding in 2022.

#### Key Points:

- Pune, as per government data, has over 5,900 registered startups that accounted for five per cent of the total startups in the country.
- Advait Kurlekar, TIE Pune Governing Council Member and Chair Nurture 12.0, said the squeeze is mainly because of the issues related to ethics and corporate governance.
- Funding refers to investment by Venture Capital Fund (VC) or Angel Investor into the startup. It can either be in terms of debt or equity (where the investor buys shares of the company).

#### State signs MoUs worth ₹3.10 lakh crore in Davos

- The state government of Maharashtra has signed MoUs worth over ₹3.10 lakh crore (\$42.3 billion) with Indian and foreign companies at the World Economic Forum in Davos.

#### Key points:

- Adani Group has declared to invest ₹50,000 crore in the next 10 years in Maharashtra by setting up a data centre with a capacity of one gigawatt.
- Among the overseas investors is AB InBev, a **Belgium-based** brewing company, who will set up a unit in Maharashtra.

- The state inked a pact worth ₹600 crore. AB InBev is known for popular beer brands such as Budweiser.
- The development came days after the Shinde-led government decided to revive the Wine Industrial Promotion Scheme for five years.

#### INS Shivaji

Indian Navy chief inaugurates **CO2-based AC plant** at INS Shivaji in Pune.

#### Key Points:

- This is a major step towards meeting the **government's commitment to reduce global warming and emission of gases harmful to the environment**.
- Navy chief emphasised the anti-piracy operations of the the force while outlining the central government's Anti-Piracy Act.
- "We have two operations ongoing in the Indian Ocean region. One is an anti-piracy operation that has been going on since 2008, which has constant deployment of one ship there. Since 2008 about 108 ships were deployed to counter piracy.

#### India gets its first International Dark Sky Park in Pench

- The **Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has been announced as India's first Dark Sky Park**
- It offers **pristine night skies without light pollution**
- **Thus, it is an ideal haven for astronomy enthusiasts and tourists.**

#### PM Modi lays foundation stone of 8 AMRUT projects in Maharashtra's Solapur

- **PM Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of several development projects at Solapur in Maharashtra.**
- **AMRUT 2.0 is designed to provide universal coverage of water supply through functional taps to all households** in all the statutory towns in the country and coverage of sewage/septage management

#### Rare sight of Indian vulture spotted in Thane

- First in many years, a vulture was spotted in the skyline of Thane's Malang Gad by naturalist Sanal Santosh.

- Indian vulture or long-billed vulture (Scientific name *Gyps indicus*) has not been spotted over two decades in the city.

### Mumbai-Vashi lane on Thane Creek Bridge-3 set to open in April

- The ongoing construction of Thane Creek Bridge-3 is designed to accommodate the increasing vehicular traffic expected once the Navi Mumbai International Airport becomes operational.
- This project involves expanding the current Thane Creek Bridge-2 to add six more lanes.
- With significant progress achieved on the South Mumbai to Vashi carriage – comprising over 85 per cent of the project – the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) is hoping to open one side of the road, potentially by April 2024.

### Maharashtra govt approves separate barrack for transgenders in Nagpur Central jail

- The Maharashtra government has sanctioned Rs 3 crore to construct separate barracks for transgender inmates in Nagpur Central prison.
- It will be the first central prison in the state to have an independent barrack for transgender inmates.
- Presently, they are accommodated in separate cells in prisons for men and women.

### 'National Aarogya Fair' to be held from Jan 19-22

- A 'National Aarogya Fair' will be held under the aegis of the Ministry of AYUSH in Maharashtra's Thane from January 19-22
- The theme of the event is 'Ayurveda for All - New Approaches in the Management of Lifestyle Disorders'
- Free patient check-ups and Ayurvedic consultations will be available for several diseases
- Also, citizens can also avail of Ayurvedic medicines at a discount at the venue.

### Advertising Standards Council warns against greenwashing

- The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) has issued its guidelines to prevent

false pro-environment claims, also known as greenwashing,

- These guidelines aim to ensure that environmental claims made by advertisers are reliable, verifiable, and transparent.

### K'ghar couple invited for Ram temple ceremony

- Kharghar-based couple Vithal (53) and Ujjwala Kamble (46) will be one among the select band of 11 couples picked across the country to participate in the main rituals at Ayodhya Temple
- The grand consecration ceremony of the idols at Ram Temple in Ayodhya is to be held on Jan 22.

### Declaration of public holiday on 22 January in Maharashtra

- Maharashtra government declares a public holiday on **January 22, 2024**
- It is in view that Lord Ram will be seated in the grand temple built at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya on this particular day
- The event will be held in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### NGT seeks Talawade fire tragedy report in four weeks

- The National Green Tribunal's principal bench in New Delhi, in a suo motu exercise, directed the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune district magistrate (collector) and the Pimpri Chinchwad municipal commissioner to file their responses related to the fire tragedy at a sparkling candle manufacturing unit in Talawade last year.
- The responses must indicate if the unit was operating with necessary environmental clearance, the action taken against it for violating environmental norms and details of payment to the family members of the deceased victims as also to the injured victims.

### Ayodhya's Ram temple is being built in Nagara Style

- The Ram temple in Ayodhya have been designed by Chandrakant Sompura and his son Ashish
- The temple design complex is in the Nagara style of temple architecture.

About:

- The **Nagara style of temple architecture emerged some time in the fifth century CE**, during the **late Gupta period**, in northern India.
- Some important features of Nagara Style Architecture are:

#### Shikhara:

- The crowning glory of Nagara temples is the shikhara, a curvilinear tower that tapers upwards, symbolizing the ascent towards the divine.
- Its shape can vary depending on the sub-style, ranging from the beehive-like Rekha to the segmented Bhumija

#### Amalaka and Kalasha:

- Atop the shikhara sits the amalaka, a fluted disc representing the sun. It's crowned by the kalasha, a pot symbolizing prosperity and the containment of the sacred essence within the temple

#### Mandapa:

- The mandapa serves as a gathering space for devotees, often featuring intricately carved pillars and ceilings. It can be enclosed or open-air, depending on the temple's layout.

#### Garbhagriha:

- The innermost sanctum of the temple, the garbhagriha houses the main deity. It's typically the most sacred space, often dimly lit and adorned with religious iconography.

### Army's lone blind officer gets PMO invite for Republic Day function

- **Lt Col Dwarakesh, the Indian Army's sole blind active-duty officer gets PMO invite for Republic Day function**
- **He is** currently posted at the Station Headquarters in Pune's Khadki.
- He also won a shooting national medal and climbed the Siachen Glacier.
- He along with another civilian woman are the only two blind para shooters in the country.
- They have imported special equipment from Switzerland to support their shooting endeavors.

### Maha govt joins Shivaji Maharaj-era icons' heirs for conservation project

- The **MH govt has enlisted the expertise of nine descendants of Chhatrapati Shivaji era Maratha Chieftains and warriors along with other Maratha sardars closely associated with the warrior king.**

- This **collaboration with descendants of Shivaji Maharaj-era icons** for a historical conservation project is a promising initiative with far-reaching implications.
- This unique **partnership offers solutions and options that go beyond the mere restoration of physical structures.**

### 98-year-old master sculptor gives shape to iconic statues

- **Ram Vanji Sutar, 98 year old sculptor**, has sculpted a **30 ft tall bronze statue of Jatayu**
- **This statue** has pride of place on an elevation, **Kuber Tila**, at the **Ram Janmabhoomi complex** in Ayodhya
- **He is** also working on a **251-meter tall statue of Ram**, which **will become the tallest in the world.**

### Maharashtra Deputy CM Fadnavis to monitor a special aid cell for poor patients

- A **new medical cell under state's deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis** will work to ensure a bed for poor patients at charitable hospitals run by trusts.
- **Maharashtra has over 468 charitable hospitals.**
- As per provisions under **Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 and Bombay High Court orders**, around **10 percent of the total beds** in these hospitals should be kept reserved for poor patients with free treatment
- **Also, a 10 percent beds for treatment at concessional rates.**
- The **total number of beds that can be made available under this is around 11,000.**

### Parakram Diwas 2024

- Every **January 23rd**, India celebrates the **birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.**
- This year the nation observes the 127th edition of **Parakram Diwas 2024.**

#### Key Points:

- The Government of India, recognizing the need to honour Netaji's heroic legacy, officially declared **January 23 as Parakram Diwas in 2021.**
- A highlight of Parakram Diwas 2024 was the digital launch of **'Bharat Parv' by the Prime Minister.** This event, showcasing the nation's diversity through Republic Day Tableaux and

cultural exhibits, was a vibrant display of India's rich heritage.

### Government clears CIL plan to pump Rs 5,607 crore into 2 thermal power projects

- Cabinet's panel approves equity investment of Rs 5,607 crore by Coal India Ltd subsidiaries in two thermal power projects in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha with a combined capacity of 2,260 MW.
- The investment clearance underlines the government's resolve to expand coal-fired generation capacity and confidence in meeting additional fuel requirement from domestic coal mines

### Maharashtra Final Voter List Released

- The final voter list for the state of Maharashtra has finally been released.
- A total of 90,124,310 voters are eligible to vote in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.
- The number of voters in the age group of 18 to 29 has increased by 14,00,3798 in the final voter list
- The number of voters in this age group now stands at 1,73,63,865

### 200 tribal youths participate in exchange programme

- Around 200 tribal youths participated in the 15th Tribal Youth Exchange programme at the Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra State Open University in Nashik.
- The event was organized by the Nehru Yuva Kendra Nashik under the Union Ministry of Youth programs and sports.
- Union MoS for tribal affairs, Dr Bharati Pawar inaugurated the programme and personally interacted with the participants from the naxal-affected areas in the age group of 18-22 years.

### Unique dance fusion at Kala Ghoda to invoke love for planet earth

- The 24th edition of the multidisciplinary street arts festival, the Kala Ghoda Art Festival (KGAF) commenced in Mumbai on January 20, 2024.
- KGAF featured renowned artists in a mega event for nine days across 25 prestigious venues in the city.

- It also showcased performances from 14 different verticals, including visual arts, dance, music, theater, and literature
- One of the anticipated performances was an innovative fusion of Egyptian bellydance and Indian Kathak dance
- It was a collaboration between Leena Viie, award-winning international bellydance artist, and Aditi Yadav, acclaimed Kathak exponent.

### National Girl Child Day

- National Girl Child Day is observed on 24 January every year to spread awareness about the inequalities faced by a girl child in Indian society.
- The day advocates for equal opportunities in education, healthcare and nutrition
- It also promotes awareness about the rights of a girl child and addresses issues like child marriage, discrimination, and violence against girls.
- The day is in line with various campaigns and programs run by the Indian government including Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (Save the Girl Child, Educate the Girl Child) scheme in India that was initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi 2015.

### International Day of Education

- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 24 January as International Day of Education
- This day underscores the vital role education plays in building a more peaceful, sustainable, and prosperous future for all.
- It's a call to action to advocate for inclusive, equitable, and quality education for every child, youth, and adult.
- The theme of the 2024 celebrations is 'learning for lasting peace'.
- This theme highlights the importance of education in fostering peace and understanding and strikes a deep chord with contemporary global issues.

### Percentage of young voters rise in state; decline in 40 to 80+ age group

- Maharashtra has seen a net addition of 4,12,416 in the final electoral roll taking the total number of voters in the state to around 9.12 crore.

- While the **young voters between the age group of 18 to 29 has shown an increase of around 1%**, the voter percentage from **age 40 to 80+ has shown a decrease of 3 per cent** when compared to the draft electoral roll.

### **'India can greatly reduce CAR-T cell therapy cost'**

- India now has a **revolutionary weapon in its arsenal in its fight against cancer.**
- The **Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the CAR-T cell therapy**, offering new hope to countless patients battling the deadly disease.
- This **cutting-edge treatment, which is already saving lives globally, could become affordable for the Indian population**
- This highly personalized treatment **involves harnessing the power of a patient's immune system, genetically modifying the T cells to seek and destroy cancer cells with deadly precision**

### **SII enters collaboration to make affordable vaccines**

- **City-based Serum Institute of India Pvt Ltd (SII) and Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) have collaborated to boost vaccine production efforts in global south regions.**
- While **CEPI works to develop new vaccines against known or novel infectious diseases within three months of a pandemic threat being recognised**, the mass production capacity at SII would boost the efforts to end any future pandemics.

### **National Voters' Day**

- The **National Voters' Day is celebrated every year in India on January 25** to encourage the country's voters to participate in the electoral process.
- It not only encourages the youth to participate in the electoral process but also focuses on the fact that the right to vote is a basic right.
- This **day also marks the foundation day of the Election Commission of India, i.e. 25th January 1950.**
- This year, it is the **14th edition** which is being celebrated.

- **Theme 2024 - 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For sure'**

#### **Did you Know?**

- The **first-ever National Voters' Day was celebrated on January 25, 2011**

### **27% population in Maharashtra affected by tobacco menace**

- **Maharashtra grapples with a staggering 27 per cent of its population affected by the adverse effects of tobacco consumption.**
- In view of this, an **innovative initiative has emerged, positioning teachers as key influencers** in spearheading tobacco control efforts within schools.
- The **Healis Sekhsaria Institute for Public Health in Navi Mumbai, in collaboration with the Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health (HSPH)/Dana Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI) in the USA, joined forces with the Bihar Department of Education (DOE) to develop and test the ground breaking Tobacco-Free Teachers, Tobacco-Free Society (TFT-TFS) programme.**

#### **Did you Know?**

- **Tobacco-related deaths claim the lives of 3,700 individuals daily in India.**

### **MH may sell Samruddhi Eway rights for ₹60-70k cr**

- In a bid to unlock massive funds for infrastructure development, the **Maharashtra government is considering the sale of rights to the ambitious Samruddhi Expressway.**
- Estimates peg the **potential deal at a staggering ₹60-70,000 crore**
- It thus makes it **India's one of biggest infrastructure monetization projects.**

### **New women's policy moots quota, discounts, financial aid**

- **Maharashtra is set to introduce a new policy for women that includes incentives such as housing quotas, insurance discounts, and tax concessions.**

#### **Key Points:**

- **Quotas:** The policy suggests quotas for women in education, employment, and leadership positions. Proponents argue it's necessary to break down existing barriers,



while critics fear it might compromise meritocracy.

- **Discounts:** Proposed initiatives include tax breaks and reduced fees for women-owned businesses and services used by women. Supporters see it as financial encouragement, while opponents raise concerns about potential market distortions.
- **Financial Aid:** Scholarships, grants, and loan schemes aim to address economic barriers faced by women in education and entrepreneurship. This is generally well-received, but questions remain about targeting and long-term sustainability.

### Zero stamp duty, registration charges for home buyers at Mumbai expo

- **CREDAI-MCHI, the apex body of the real estate industry of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) is thrilled to announce the 31st edition of India's Largest Property Expo, scheduled to take place in Mumbai from January 26th to 28th, 2024.**
- It offers **zero registration charges and stamp duty for three days**, featuring over 75 developers and expected increased unit sales
- This year, **the Expo propagates the theme "Zero is our Hero,"**
- The **3-day event is to be held at the Jio World Convention Centre**
- The intent is to take advantage of the ongoing demand for residential housing and give a boost to the momentum with the added incentive, that will result in a saving of around 6 per cent for the consumer.

### Republic Day

- India celebrated its 75th Republic Day on January 26, 2024
- This day marks the adoption of the Constitution in 1950.
- Theme 2024: "Viksit Bharat" and "Bharat – Loktantra ki Matraka"
- It translates to: Developed India and Bharat - The Mother of Democracy

#### About:

- It marked the transition of the country from a British dominion to a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic.
- The Constitution established the framework for governance, guaranteeing

fundamental rights and outlining the duties of citizens.

#### Significance of Republic Day:

- Celebration of democracy and self-governance
- Display of national unity and diversity
- Renewal of commitment to nation-building

### Bharat Ratna Award

- The **Bharat Ratna Award is the highest civilian honor in India.**
- **Karpoori Thakur gets Bharat Ratna Award 2024**

#### About:

- He served as the Chief Minister of Bihar twice.
- He was known for championing the cause of the backward classes.
- He was popularly known as Jan Nayak (people's hero),

#### Bharat Ratna Award:

- It was started in 1954.
- It is awarded to those people who work exceptionally for public service, or the highest performance in the field of literature, science, art, or any human endeavor.
- A maximum of three persons can be the recipients of this prestigious award in a single year.

### Padma Awards

- The **Padma Awards are some of the highest civilian honors** recognizing distinguished service in various fields.
- These awards are conferred by the **President of India** at ceremonial functions which are held at Rashtrapati Bhawan.
- It was instituted in 1954.
- These awards are announced annually on the eve of Republic Day
- The list comprises **5 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 110 Padma Shri Award**

#### PADMA VIBHUSHAN (5)

1. **Ms. Vyjayanthimala Bali - TN (Art)**
2. **Ms. Padma Subramaniam - TN ( Art)**
3. **Shri Konidela Chiranjeevi - AP (Art)**
4. **Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu - AP (Public Affairs)**
5. **Shri Bindeshwar Pathak (P) - Bihar ( Social Work)**

#### PADMA BHUSHAN (17)

- M Fathima Beevi (Posthumous), Hormusji N Cama, Mithun Chakraborty, Sitaram Jindal,

Young Liu, Ashwin Balachand Mehta, Satyabrata Mookherjee (Posthumous), Ram Naik, Tejas Madhusudan Patel, Olanchery Rajagopal, Dattatray Ambadas Mayaloo Alias Rajdutt, Togdan Rinpoche (Posthumous), Pyarelal Sharma, Chandreshwar Prasad Thakur, Usha Uthup, Vijaykanth (Posthumous) and Kundan Vyas

### Republic Day Parade Tableaux

- A total of **25 tableaux from 16 states and Union Territories, as well as nine Ministries and Departments** participated in the parade of 2024.
- The states and UTs set to be represented in the parade include **Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Ladakh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Manipur, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Telangana.**

### About MH Tabulex:

- **Theme: "Bharatiya Lokashathiche Preranasthan: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj" (The Inspiration of Indian Democracy: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj)**
- **It celebrated 350 years of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's coronation**
- The tableau **depicted Rajmata Jijabai giving lessons** in governance and politics to a younger Shivaji.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj carved out his independent kingdom from the Adilshahi Sultanate of Bijapur, which formed the foundation of the Maratha Empire.
- The tableau **depicted Shivaji's Ashtapradhan Mandal**, with some women seen raising their concerns in a court.

### Evolution of Indian Constitution

- The **Indian Constitution, adopted on November 26, 1949, is a testament to the long and arduous journey of India's struggle for self-governance.**
- Its **evolution can be traced back to various influences, including:**
- **Pre-colonial Legal Codes:** Ancient Indian legal systems like Manu Smriti and Arthashastra laid the foundation for principles like justice and rule of law.
- **Colonial Acts and Reforms:** The Government of India Acts (1773-1935) introduced concepts like separation of powers

and legislative councils, shaping constitutional development.

- **Independence Movement and Nationalist Ideals:** The Indian National Congress advocated for a democratic and inclusive constitution, drawing inspiration from various global models.

### The Drafting Process:

- **Constituent Assembly (1946-1950):** A diverse body of elected representatives **led by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar** meticulously deliberated and drafted the Constitution over three years.

### Key Influences:

- The **Constitution borrowed features from diverse sources like the British parliamentary system, American federalism, Irish fundamental rights, and French republicanism.**
- **Content and Structure:** The Constitution comprises **22 parts, 395 articles, and 8 schedules**, outlining the framework for a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic.

### Post-Adoption Amendments:

- The Constitution remains a dynamic document, **undergoing over 106 amendments** to adapt to changing social, political, and economic realities.

- Over 100 women artists herald the parade with Indian musical instruments.

- Maiden participation of an all-women Tri-Service contingent.

- Women pilots showcased Nari Shakti during the Fly-past.

- Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) contingents consisted of only women personnel.

### Padma Awards:

- These awards are announced annually on the eve of Republic Day
- 2024 list comprises **5 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 110 Padma Shri Awards.**

### PADMA VIBHUSHAN (5)

- Ms. Vyjayanthimala Bali - TN (Art)
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- Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu - AP (Public Affairs)
- Shri Bindeshwar Pathak (P) - Bihar ( Social Work)

### Gallantry Awards:

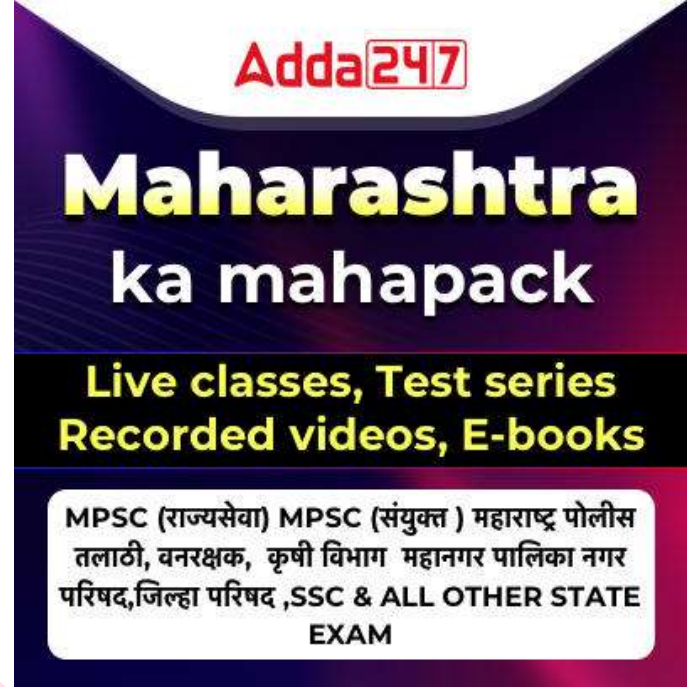
- President Smt Droupadi Murmu has approved Gallantry awards to 80 Armed Forces

personnel, including 12 posthumous, on the eve of 75th Republic Day.

- They include **Param Vir Chakra** winners Subedar Major (Honorary Captain) Yogendra Singh Yadav (Retd) & Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar (Retd), and **Ashok Chakra** winners Major General CA Pithawalla (Retd), Colonel D Sreeram Kumar & Lt Col Jas Ram Singh (Retd).

**Do you know?**

- The **Param Vir Chakra** is awarded for the most conspicuous act of **bravery and self-sacrifice** in the face of the enemy, while the **Ashok Chakra** is awarded for similar acts of valour and self-sacrifice but, other than, in the face of the enemy.



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EXAM

