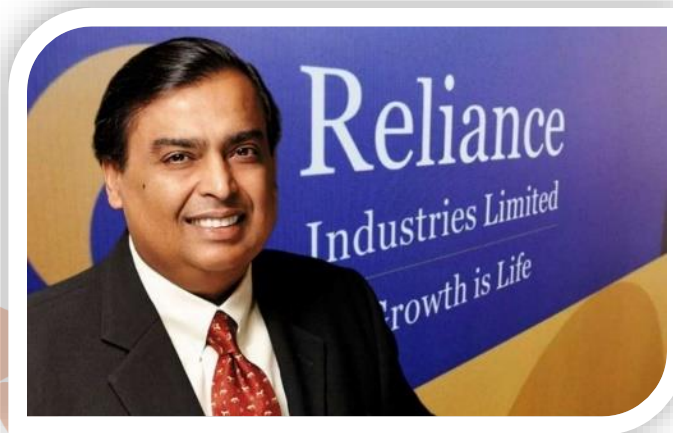


10 January, 2022 Current Affairs

1. Reliance acquires controlling stake of 73.37% in New York's Mandarin Oriental hotel



- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has announced the acquisition of a controlling stake of 73.37% in Mandarin Oriental New York, a premium luxury hotel in midtown Manhattan.
- RIL through its wholly-owned arm Reliance Industrial Investments and Holdings Limited has acquired the entire share capital of Cayman Islands-based Columbus Centre Corporation (Cayman), for an equity value of approximately \$98.15 million (Rs 735 crore).
- Cayman is the parent company of Mandarin Oriental hotel. It had indirect ownership of a 73.37 per cent stake in the hotel. Reliance will also take over the hotel's debt in excess of \$115 million to take the entire deal value to around \$270. The transaction is anticipated to close by the end of March 2022.
- **Reliance Industries Ltd CEO:** Mukesh Ambani (31 Jul 2002–)
- **Reliance Industries Ltd Founder:** Dhirubhai Ambani
- **Reliance Industries Ltd Founded:** 8 May 1973, Maharashtra
- **Reliance Industries Ltd Headquarters:** Mumbai

2. TCS bags phase 2 of Centre's passport plan



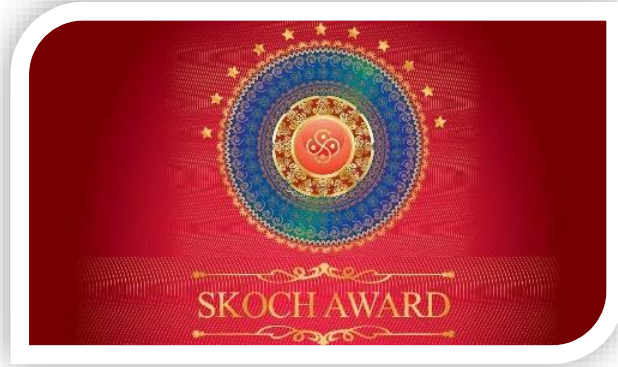
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has signed an agreement with Tata Consultancy Services Limited (TCS) for the second phase of the Passport Seva Programme (PSP-V2.0).
- TCS will be the service provider for the Passport Seva Project, which it has been for over 10 years. The PSP-V2.0 envisages rolling out chip-enabled e-passports, increasing data security and ensuring the next level of customer experience with the use of biometrics, artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics and auto-response.
- In the next phase of the programme, TCS will refresh existing facilities and systems, and develop new solutions to enable the issuance of e-passports using technologies such as biometrics, artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics, chatbots, auto-response, natural language processing, and the cloud.
- **Tata Consultancy Services Limited CEO:** Rajesh Gopinathan (21 Feb 2017–)
- **Tata Consultancy Services Limited Founded:** 1 April 1968
- **Tata Consultancy Services Limited Headquarters:** Mumbai

3. Satish Adiga gets ICMR national award “Dr Subhas Mukherjee Award”



- A professor in the clinical embryology department at Kasturba Medical College (KMC), under Manipal Academy of Higher education (MAHE), Dr Satish Adiga has been selected by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for its national award.
- He will receive Dr Subhas Mukherjee Award from ICMR in recognition for his outstanding contribution to the field of in-vitro fertilization (IVF). He has contributed significantly to both clinical IVF and fertility research.

4. Forensic Science Laboratory won SKOCH award for combating crime against children



- The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) won SKOCH Award in the Silver category for its work towards combating Crime and Violence against Children. The award was given out at the 78 SKOCH Summit.
- The “State of Governance” was the theme of the summit. Deepa Verma, the Director of the Rohini-based lab, has accepted the award on behalf of the lab.
- FSL is a scientific department and a participant in the criminal justice system whose mission is to investigate incidents of crime and violence against children who have suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm.

5. Sudhir Kumar Saxena committee constituted to enquire security lapses during PM Punjab visit



- Ministry of Home Affairs has constituted a committee to enquire into the serious lapses in the security arrangements during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Punjab. It is a three-member committee and will be headed by Sudhir Kumar Saxena, Secretary (Security), Cabinet Secretariat. It also comprises Balbir Singh, Joint Director, IB and Suresh, IG, SPG.
- The committee has been asked to inquire about the alleged lapses in the security arrangements of PM Modi "which led to the exposure of the VVIP to grave risk" and submit the report at the earliest.
- The move comes just ahead of the Supreme Court's hearing on the PM's security breach. It was the government's own former ASG, Maninder Singh, who moved SC seeking an independent probe into the PM's security breach. The court is slated to hear the matter on January 7.

6. World Rapid Chess Championship 2021 won by Nodirbek Abdusattorov

- Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzbekistan), won the World Rapid Chess Championship 2021 by defeating Ian Nepomniachtchi (Russia) in a tiebreaker and dethroning Magnus Carlsen, the current World Number 1. 2020 FIDE Championship was won by Magnus Carlsen.

- Nodirbek won the title along with a prize of \$60,000, where he lost only one match against the Ukrainian Anton Korobov, and tied in five others. The Uzbeki Grand Master (GM), received the Mard Uglon (“Brave Son”) Presidential medal.

7. Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2022: 09th January



- The Non-Resident Indian Day or also known as the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas is celebrated every year on 9th January every year.
- The aim of the event is to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots.
- On the occasion of 2022 Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD), Union Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan will speak at a virtual youth PBD conference on the “role of Indian diaspora” in innovation and new technology.
- On 9 January 1915, Mahatma Gandhi came to India from South Africa and became the greatest Pravasi who led India’s Freedom Struggle and made India free from British or colonial rule. As a Non-Resident Indian or Pravasi, he is presented as a symbol of a change and development that could bring into India.

8. World Hindi Day: 10 January



- World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 since 2006 to promote the language at the global stage. The day marks the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference which was inaugurated on January 10, 1975, by the then prime minister Indira Gandhi.
- However, the celebration of first World Hindi Day was commenced on 10 January 2006 by former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. The first World Hindi Day conference was organised on January 10, 1975, in Nagpur, a city in the state of Maharashtra.
- The grand event registered the participation of 122 representatives from 30 countries. The day is observed in India from the year 2003. The Ministry of External Affairs began the tradition of celebrating World Hindi Day in other nations in 2006 with an aim to promote this language across the world.

9. Justice Ayesha Malik to be the first woman Supreme Court judge of Pakistan



- Pakistan has moved closer to the appointment of the first woman judge of the Supreme Court after the High Power Panel's approval to elevate Lahore High Court judge Ayesha Malik to the Supreme Court. The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP), headed by Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed, approved Malik's promotion with a majority of five votes against four.
- This is the second time that the JCP held a meeting to decide on Justice Malik's elevation. Justice Malik's name had first surfaced before the JCP on September 9 last year, but the panel was equally divided, resulting in rejection of her candidature.

10. World No.1 Ash Barty wins Adelaide International



- In Tennis, World No.1 Ash Barty won the Adelaide International by crushing world No. 14 Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan 6-3, 6-2 in Women's Singles final at Cannebara.
- This was Barty's 14th career singles title and second in Adelaide.
- Ashleigh Barty is an Australian professional tennis player and former cricketer.

11. Ex-RBI Governor Urjit Patel appointed Vice President of AIIB

- India is a founding member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with the second highest voting share after China.
- It is headed by former Chinese vice minister for finance Jin Liqun.
- Patel, 58, will be one of the five Vice Presidents of the AIIB with a three-year tenure. He is expected to take over his posting next month.

12. LLC named Jhulan Goswami as Ambassador of All Women Match Official Team



- Legends League Cricket (LLC) has appointed Jhulan Goswami as an ambassador to its All Women Match Official Team to promote Women's Empowerment initiatives of the LLC and to increase participation of women in cricket.
- The LLC set up an All Women Match Official Team for the League. This is the first of its all-women official teams that would officiate an entire men's league. Legends League Cricket (LLC) is the professional cricket league for retired cricketers.
- The inaugural session of LLC will be organized from January 20 2022 at Oman Cricket Stadium in Muscat, Oman. Legends League Cricket (LLC) 2022 teams: Indian Maharaja, Aisan Lions, World Giants.