

## 9th December, 2021 Current Affairs

### 1. India Ranked as the fourth most powerful country for comprehensive power:



- Out of 26 countries, India has been ranked the 4th most powerful country in the Asia-Pacific region for comprehensive power.
- According to the Lowy Institute Asia Power Index 2021, Indians have an overall score of 37.7 out of 100.
- In comparison to 2020, India's overall score declined by two points.
- In 2021, India will once again fall short of the major power benchmark. India is one of 18 Asian countries with a declining overall score in 2021.
- The yearly Asia Power Index assesses the relative power of Asian states by measuring resources and influence.
- It's an instrument that rates 26 countries and territories based on what they have and how they use it, with countries as far west as Pakistan, as far north as Russia, and as far into the Pacific as Australia, New Zealand, and the United States included.
- The 2021 edition, which contains four years of data, is the most complete analysis of Asia's evolving power distribution to date.

#### List of Top 10 countries:

1. United States

2. China
3. Japan
4. India
5. Russia
6. Australia
7. South Korea
8. Singapore
9. Indonesia
10. Thailand

2. [Nirmala Sitharaman has been rated 37th on Forbes' list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women for 2021:](#)



Recently, [Nirmala Sitharaman](#), India's Finance Minister, has been rated [37th on Forbes'](#) list of the World's [100 Most Powerful Women for 2021](#).

[Key Highlights:](#)

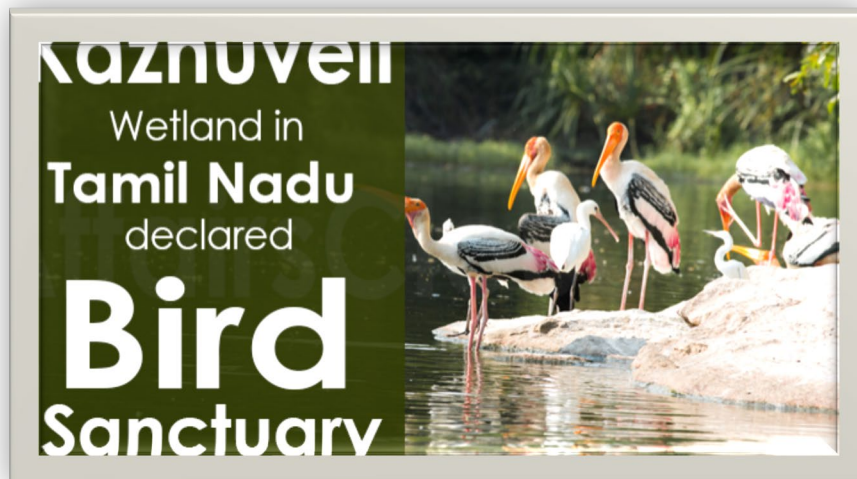
- For the [third year in](#) a row, she has been included on this list. In 2020, she was [ranked at 41st, while](#) in 2019, she [was ranked at 34th](#).
- Falguni Nayar, founder and CEO of Nykaa, was rated [88th on the list as India's eighth woman billionaire and wealthiest self-made](#) billionaire.

- Only four Indian women are included in Forbes' list of the world's 100 most powerful women in 2021.
- Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Chairperson of HCL Technology and India's first female CEO of a publicly traded IT business, has been ranked 52nd on the list.
- The executive chairperson and creator of Biocon, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, has been ranked 72nd on the list. In 1978, she launched India's largest publicly traded biopharmaceutical company.

### Forbes' list of World's 100 Most Powerful Women

- Forbes' 2021 World's 100 Most Powerful Women has been topped by MacKenzie Scott, philanthropist, novelist, and ex-wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, replacing outgoing German chancellor Angela Merkel, who led the list 15 times out of 17 versions.
- Second on the list was Kamala Harris, the first woman and the first person of colour (Black) to be elected Vice President of the United States of America.
- Janet Yellen, the first woman to be named Treasury Secretary in the United States, is rated 39th on the list.
- The youngest woman on the list is Taylor Swift (31 years old), who is ranked 78th, and the oldest is Queen Elizabeth II (95 years old), who is placed 70th.

### 3. The Kazhuvelli swampland has been announced as the 16th Bird Sanctuary: Key Highlights:



- The Kazhuveli swampland in Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu has been recently announced as the 16th Bird Sanctuary by Surpiya Sahu, Environment and Forest Secretary, at the Minister of Environment Forest and Climate Change.
- The declaration was made beneath subsection (1) of section 18 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- The Kazhuveli marshlands are the 2nd enormous Brackish Water Lake in South India, after Pulicat lake.

#### About Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary:

- It covers 5,151.60 hectares of land in Vanur taluk and 3,027.25 hectares in Marakkanam taluks.
- The Sanctuary lies adjoining the Bay of Bengal along the East coast of Tamil Nadu.
- Kazhuveli is a swamp of international reputation spread over 670 square km on the east coast of Tamil Nadu.
- The southern part of the wetland was announced as reserved land in 2001.
- The Sanctuary surrounds 13 villages in the Villupuram district and is home to a diverse species of flora and fauna, housing long-distance migrant birds from Central Asia and Siberia.

#### 4. International Anti-Corruption Day:



### Key Highlights:

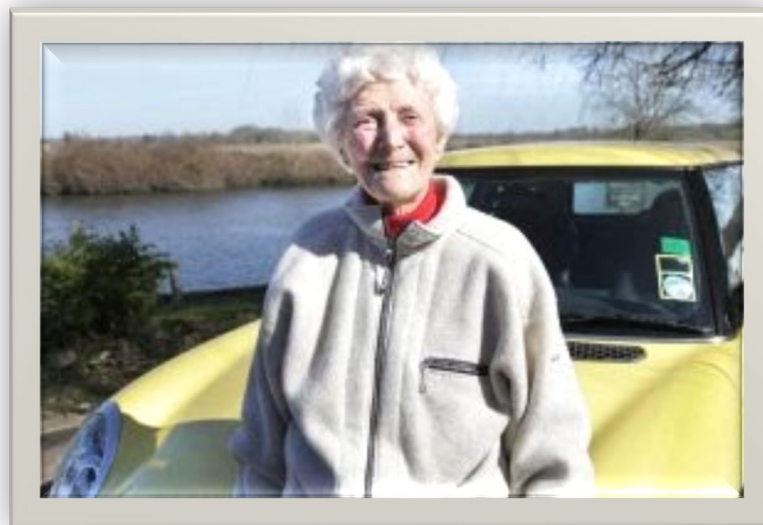
- International Anti-Corruption Day is observed on December 9 to raise public attention for anti-corruption.
- The day has been marked since the United Nations Convention against Corruption on 31 October 2003.
- The 2021 International Anti-Corruption Day is intended to emphasize the rights and responsibilities of everyone in tackling corruption.

### What is the theme of the International Anti-Corruption Day 2021?

#### "Your right, your role: say no to corruption".

- On 31 October 2003, the General Assembly embraced the United Nations Convention against Corruption and requested that the Secretary-General establish the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as secretariat for the Convention's Conference of States Parties (resolution 58/4).
- The Assembly also set 9 December as International Anti-Corruption Day to raise awareness of corruption and the Convention's role in combating and preventing it.
- The Convention entered into power in December 2005.

### 5. World's Oldest Test Cricketer, Eileen Ash passed away:



### Key Highlights:

- Recently, the World's oldest Test Cricketer, former English legend Eileen Ash passed away in the age of 110.
- England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) announced Eileen Ash, the oldest living Test cricketer, died on December 4.
- She was a right-arm seamer and she made her debut for the e national side in 1937 against Australia.
- She was the part of the Ashes tour of Australia in 1949, apart from playing representative cricket for Civil Service Women, Middlesex Women, and South Women in the domestic arena.
- Besides her cricket career, Ash also operated for MI6, the Secret Intelligence Service, during World War II.
- In her career spanning till 1949, she took 10 wickets in the seven matches.
- Eileen Ash was honored to ring the bell at Lord's in the Finals of the 2017 ICC Women's World Cup.

### 6. General Bipin Rawat died in a helicopter crash:



### Key Highlights:

- A military chopper carrying Chief of Defence Staff Bipin Rawat and 13 others crashed shortly after take-off in Tamil Nadu.
- The crash took place shortly after the Russian-made Mi-17 V5 chopper took off from the Air Force base in Sullur, Coimbatore, for Wellington in the Nilgiri Hills.
- He was with the 14 people on board, his wife and staff members.

- Thirteen people died in the crash, including CDS Rawat, Madhulika Rawat and 11 others.
- An IAF Mi 17 V5 helicopter with a squad of 4 members bearing the CDS and 9 other passengers had a tragic accident.
- Wing Commander Prithvi Singh Chauhan was piloting the Mi-17V5.

#### About General Bipin Rawat:

- General Rawat finished his education at St Edward School, Shimla and is an alumnus of National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla.
- He was designated in the Fifth Battalion of the Eleventh Gorkha Rifles in December 1978 from the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, where he was also vested in the Sword of Honour.
- General Bipin Rawat was the chief of the army from 2017 to 2019 before his peak to defence services chief.

#### 7. Dr. Suresh Jadhav, the Executive Director of the Serum Institute of India, has died:



- Dr. Suresh Jadhav had contributed significantly to the creation of the Covishield vaccination.
- He was a member of a number of national and international organizations and bodies.
- India's Serum Institute is the world's largest vaccine manufacturer.

- He started his career with a CSIR research scholarship.
- From 2004 to 2008, he had served as President of the Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers Network (DCVMN).
- On the GAVI board, he had represented the Serum Institute of India.
- He was instrumental in obtaining WHO pre-qualifications for a number of items.
- Since 1992, he has served as Executive Director.

8. [Sanket Mahadev Sargar has won gold at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships:](#)



[Key Highlights:](#)

- At Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships 2021 which was held on 8 December, Sanket Mahadev Sargar has won gold in the Men's 55 kg snatch category.
- In the men's 55kg snatch category, he set a new national record by lifting 113kg.
- Sargar has also qualified for the 2022 Commonwealth Games, which will be held in Birmingham.



**About The Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships:**

- The Commonwealth [Weightlifting Championships 2021](#), as well as the World Weightlifting Championships 2021, was held [in Tashkent from December 7 to 17](#).
- The Indian contingent has competed in both the Commonwealth Senior Championships and [the Weightlifting Championships](#).