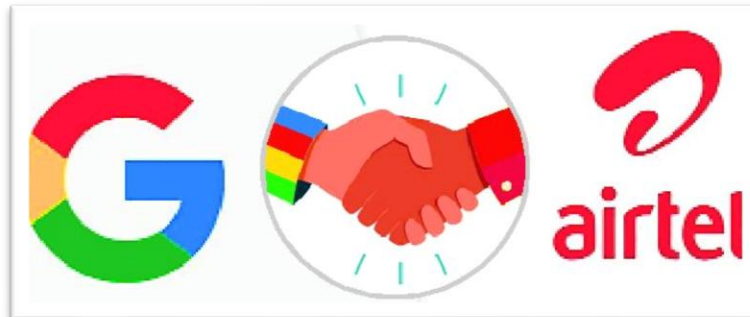


## 28 January, 2022 Current Affairs

### 1. Google to invest \$1 billion in Bharti Airtel



- Internet major Google will invest one billion dollars in telecom company Bharti Airtel.
- This includes equity investments as well as a fund for potential commercial agreements, under which the agreements will be approved on mutually agreed terms during the next five years.
- Google is making this investment as part of the Google for India Digitization Fund.
- According to Airtel, "In this, an equity investment of \$700 million will be made in Bharti Airtel at a price of Rs 734 per share.
- It said that out of the total investment, an amount of \$ 300 million would be for the implementing of commercial agreements.
- **Google LLC:** is an American multinational technology company that specializes in Internet-related services and products, which include online advertising technologies, a search engine, cloud computing, software, and hardware.

**CEO:** Sundar Pichai

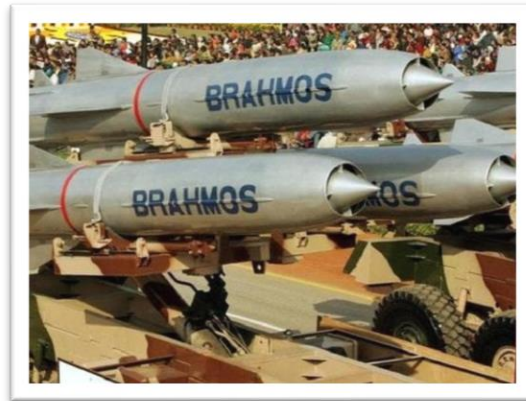
**Founded:** 4 September 1998

**Headquarters:** California, United States

**Founders:** Larry Page, Sergey Brin

**Parent organization:** Alphabet Inc.

## 2. India, Philippines signs 375 million dollar deal for the sale of BrahMos supersonic anti-ship cruise missiles



- India and Philippines today signed the 375 million dollar deal for the sale of BrahMos supersonic anti-ship cruise missiles to the Philippines Navy.
- Defense Secretary of Philippines Delfin Lorenzana and Indian Envoy to Philippines Shambhu Kumaran signed the contract in Manila.
- The development is a major shot in the arm for India's efforts to become an exporter of defence hardware.
- BrahMos Aerospace, an India-Russian joint venture produces the supersonic cruise missile BrahMos that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft, or from land platforms.
- The Philippines: is an archipelagic country in Southeast Asia. It is situated in the western Pacific Ocean.

**President:** Rodrigo Duterte

**Vice President:** Leni Robredo

**Capital:** Manila

**Currency:** Philippine peso

### 3. Navy inducts two indigenously built Advanced Light Helicopters ALH-DHRUV MK III in Port Blair

- The two indigenously made Advance Light Helicopters ALH-DHRUV MK III inducted on 28 January 2022 in the fleet of Andaman Nicobar Command in Port Blair.
- The induction ceremony was held at INS Utkrosh, in presence of Commander-in-Chief, Andaman Nicobar Command, Lt. Gen. Ajai Singh as chief guest.
- The Advanced Light Helicopter, ALH MK III designed & developed by Hindustan Aeronautical Limited, HAL is inducted into ANC's fleet after two decades.
- Equipped with twin powerful shakti engines, modern radar, electro-optical sensors, etc is capable to carry out missions day & night with max 14 soldiers.
- Lt. Gen Ajai Singh said that the helicopters will act as a force multiplier for far-flung islands of the east in Andaman and Nicobar Command and strengthen its operational capabilities.
- It will be utilized in carrying out search and rescue operations, air ambulance, maritime reconnaissance, and logistics support in these remote and geographically scattered islands.

ONLINE LEARNING WITH EXPERTS

### 4. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve bags TX2 award



- Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (Erode district, Tamil Nadu) 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.
- Sathyamangalam wildlife sanctuary was declared a tiger reserve in 2013 and the reserve that spread across 1,411.60 sq km is an important link between the Nilgiris and Eastern Ghats landscape.
- The Nilgiri biosphere landscape that this reserve is part of is currently the home to the largest tiger population in the world.
- It is connected to other well-established tiger habitats like Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Bandipur Tiger Reserve and BR Hills Tiger Reserve.

#### **The TX2 award:**

- The award acknowledges the efforts by the State governments and the local communities which have played one of the most important roles to turn a relatively new tiger reserve into one of the source populations of tigers in India.
- The awards are presented by the 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.

#### **5. PM Narendra Modi to address NCC Officers and Cadets at Cariappa Parade Ground**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the National Cadet Corps PM Rally at Cariappa Ground in Delhi. The Rally is the culmination of NCC Republic Day Camp and is held on 28th January every year.
- At the event, Prime Minister will inspect the Guard of Honour, review March Past by NCC contingents, and also witness the NCC cadets displaying their skills in army action, slithering, microlight flying, parasailing as well as cultural programmes.
- The best cadets will receive medals and batons from the Prime Minister.

## 6. PM Narendra Modi calls for cooperation between India and Central Asia

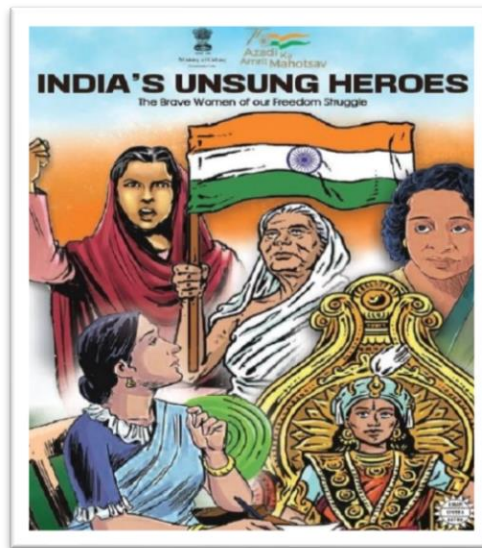


- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Central Asia is central to India's vision of an integrated and stable extended neighborhood.
- In his opening remarks at the first India-Central Asia Summit being held virtually, Mr. Modi stated that they have similar concerns for regional security and are concerned about the developments in Afghanistan.
- The Prime Minister highlighted that there are three main objectives of Summit and the first is to make it clear that mutual cooperation between India and Central Asia is essential for regional security and prosperity.
- Mr Modi said diplomatic relations between India and Central Asian nations have completed 30 fruitful years. He said this cooperation has received many successes over the past three decades.
- Presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan participated in the Summit.

## 7. Lucknow IPL Team to be called Lucknow Super Giants

- Lucknow's IPL franchise, which is owned by Sanjiv Goenka (RPSG Group), has been renamed Lucknow Super Giants ahead of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 mega auction.
- Lucknow team roped in KL Rahul as their captain and also roped in Australia all-rounder Marcus Stoinis and leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi.
- The official IPL team of Lucknow crowdsourced its name from fans and a consumer engagement campaign was launched on social media on 3rd Jan 2022.

## 8. MoS Culture Meenakashi Lekhi releases pictorial comic book 'India's Women Unsung Heroes'



- Minister of State for Culture Meenakashi Lekhi has released the pictorial comic book 'India's Women Unsung Heroes' in New Delhi. The book has been prepared by Culture Ministry in partnership with Amar Chitra Katha.
- The book portrays the tales of valour of our forgotten women freedom fighters.
- Ms. Lekhi said that the book is a fitting tribute to the forgotten heroes of our freedom struggle as it celebrates the lives of women who lit the flame of rebellion throughout the country.
- The minister said that it contains stories of queens who battled imperialism & dedicated their lives for Maa Bharati.

## 9. India's first graphene innovation center to be established in Kerala

- India's first innovation centre for graphene will be set up in Kerala by the Digital University Kerala (DUK), along with the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET) in Thrissur, for Rs 86.41 crore.
- This will be the first graphene Research and Development (R&D) incubation centre in the country.
- Tata Steel Limited is set to be the industrial partner of the centre.



- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, has given approval for the project. The project, which will be implemented with the support of the Kerala government, is expected to accelerate the state's growth in the knowledge industry sector.

## 10. Pencilton Launches Teen-Focused Debit and Travel Card



- A teen-focused Fintech startup based in India, Pencilton has recently launched PencilCard, a debit card that is compliant with National Common Mobility Card standards.
- It has been launched in partnership with Transcorp.
- The National Common Mobility Card was developed by India's Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in early 2019.
- It allows the user to pay for travel, toll duties, retail shopping and withdraw money.