

## 30 January, 2022 Current Affairs

### 1. Olympian Neeraj Chopra honoured with Param Vishisht Seva Medal



- Olympian **Neeraj Chopra** will be honoured with **Param Vishisht Seva Medal** on the eve of Republic Day by **President Ram Nath Kovind**. He is the first track and field athlete to win a gold medal for India at the Olympics.
- Neeraj is a Subedar in the Indian Army. He had enrolled in **4 Rajputana Rifles** as a direct entry to **Naib Subedar** in **2016**. He was chosen for training at the Mission Olympics Wing and Army Sports Institute in Pune.
- Chopra was conferred with the Arjuna Award in 2018 and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM) in 2020 for his excellence in sports.
- The Haryana state will also showcase the **life-size replica** of Tokyo Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra in the form of a tableau during the 2022 Republic Day parade.

## 2. Ministry of Home Affairs Padma Awards 2022 announced



- The Union ministry of home affairs announced the **Padma awards** on the eve of the country's **73rd Republic Day**. The Awards are given in three categories: **Padma Vibhushan** (for exceptional and distinguished service), **Padma Bhushan** (distinguished service of higher-order) and **Padma Shri** (distinguished service).
- The award seeks to recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved. The list comprises **4 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 107 Padma Shri Awards**. 34 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 10 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 13 Posthumous awardees. In **Duo case**, the Award is counted as one.

### 3. 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.
- Last year, the franchise was purchased by the Sanjiv Goenka-owned of the RPSG group for an amount of **Rs 7090 Crores**. The other new team to enter the competition is from Ahmedabad who were bought by the Irelia Company Pte Ltd. (CVC Capital Partners) for **Rs 5635 Crores**.

#### 4. International Customs Day observed on January 26



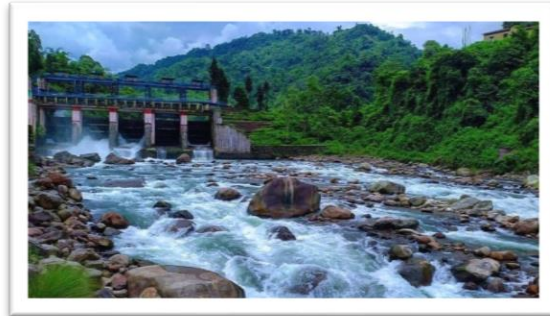
- The **International Customs Day (ICD)** is observed on **26 January** every year. The day is celebrated to recognise the role of customs officials and agencies and focus on the working conditions and challenges that customs officers face in their jobs.
- This year, the theme chosen by WCO for ICD is '**Scaling up Customs Digital Transformation by Embracing a Data Culture and Building a Data Ecosystem**'.
- The day was instituted by the World Customs Organization (WCO) to commemorate the day in 1953 when the inaugural session of the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) was held in Brussels, Belgium. In 1994 the CCC was renamed World Customs Organization (WCO).
- **World Customs Organization headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium
- **World Customs Organization Membership:** 182 countries
- **World Customs Organization Secretary-General:** Kunio Mikuriya

## 5. International Holocaust Remembrance Day: 27 January



- **International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust (International Holocaust Remembrance Day)** is observed on **27 January**. In 2022, the theme guiding the United Nations Holocaust remembrance and education is **“Memory, Dignity and Justice”**.
- The objective of the day is to commemorate the anniversary of the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during the Second World War. A genocide occurred during World War II in which Nazi Germany, aided by its collaborators, systematically murdered some six million European Jews, around two-thirds of the Jewish population of Europe, between 1941 and 1945.
- United Nations designated the day in 2005 to serve as a date for official commemoration of the victims of the Nazi regime and to promote Holocaust education throughout the world.

**6. Himachal Pradesh and Haryana govts tie-up for construction of Adi Badri Dam**



- Governments of Himachal Pradesh and Haryana have signed an MoU at Panchkula, for the construction of Adi Badri Dam that would come upon 77 acres in Himachal Pradesh near the Adi Badri area of Yamuna Nagar district of Haryana.
- The proposed dam aims for the rejuvenation of the Saraswati river with an estimated cost of Rs 215.35 crore.

**7. Apple retained the title as world's valuable brand in Brand Finance 2022**



- Apple has retained its position as the most valuable brand in 2022 as well, according to the Brand Finance 2022 Global 500 report.
- The brand valuation of Apple was recorded at \$355.1 billion in 2022, which is an increase of 35% from last year.



- This is the highest brand value ever recorded in the Brand Finance Global 500 ranking history.

**Brands in the top 10 list are:**

Apple

Amazon

Google

Microsoft

Walmart

Samsung

Facebook

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China

Huawei

Verizon

- TikTok (18th) has been named the world's fastest-growing brand in the list. Its brand value increased from US\$18.7 billion in 2021 to US\$59 billion in 2022.
- Tech remained the most valuable industry in the list in terms of sector. This was followed by Retail, Banking, Media and Telecoms in top 5 respectively.
- The Indian conglomerate Tata Group has emerged as the most valuable brand from India and also in South Asia. It is the only brand from the country in the top 100. The Global Rank of Tata Group 78. The brand value of Tata Group is US\$23.9 billion.

## 8. National Drugs Regulator approves conditional Market Authorization of Covaxin and Covishield

- The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation has now upgraded the permission for COVAXIN and Covishield from restricted use in emergency situations to normal new drug permission in adult population.
- According to Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, this has been done with certain conditions.
- The conditions include supply for programmatic settings including registration on CoWin platform and to continue to submit safety data on a six-monthly basis.

