

Current Affairs

2nd February 2022

Today's Important News

Dubai firm to launch world's first
hydrogen-powered flying boat.



1. Dubai firm to launch world's first hydrogen-powered flying boat

- World's first hydrogen-powered flying boat is all set to be manufactured and launched in Dubai.
- Swiss startup THE JET ZeroEmission has signed an agreement with UAE-based Zenith Marine Services and US-based DWYN to manufacture and operate 'The Jet'.
- The boat is equipped with two fuel cells and an air conditioner as well as other clean-tech.
- The boat can silently fly over the waters at a cruising speed of 40 knots and also has a capacity of carrying 8-12 passengers.



Foot Notes:

About Dubai:

Dubai is a city and emirate in the United Arab Emirates known for luxury shopping, ultramodern architecture and a lively nightlife scene. Burj Khalifa, an 830m-tall tower, dominates the skyscraper-filled skyline.

2. World Wetlands Day 2022: 2nd February

- World Wetlands Day is observed every year on 2nd February globally.

- The objective of the day is to raise awareness about the crucial role played by wetlands for people and our planet.
- This year, the theme is “Wetlands Action for People and Nature”.
- The day is celebrated to mark the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2nd February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea.



3. Center of Excellence in Affordable and Clean Energy launched in IIT Dharwad

- A Global Center of Excellence in Affordable and Clean Energy has been launched at the IIT Dharwad, Karnataka.
- The center is supported by the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) donation from Honeywell Hometown Solutions India Foundation (HHSIF).
- The first phase of the CSR project with HHSIF is to establish equipment for the GCoE-ACE mainly as skill development, fabrication, and R&D equipment.



Foot Notes:

About Karnataka:

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Chief Minister: Basavaraj Bommai

Capital: Bengaluru

4. India's first geological park to come up at Madhya Pradesh's Jabalpur

- The first 'geological' park of country will be built in Lamheta in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
- Approval for the park has been granted by Geological Survey of India, under ministry of mining, Government of India for construction of the park with an investment of Rs 35 crores.
- The geological park will be built in Lamheta, because this place is among significant places in the world, from the geological point of view.



Foot Notes:

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel

5. Govt sets up National Land Monetisation Corporation

- The govt is setting up the National Land Monetisation Corporation (NLMC) to carry out the monetization of the land and other non-core assets.
- Initial authorized share capital of NLMC will be ₹5000 crores and subscribed share capital of ₹150 crores.
- So far, CPSEs have referred 3,400 acres of land and other non-core assets for monetisation from CPSEs including MTNL, BSNL, BPCL, B&R, BEML, HMT Ltd, Instrumentation Ltd.



6. Government notifies Phase II of capital goods scheme

- Ministry of Heavy Industries has notified the phase II of the scheme to enhance competitiveness in the capital goods sector.
- Financial outlay will be of Rs 1,207 crore.
- It will provide assistance to Common Technology Development and Services Infrastructure.
- Total financial outlay would include budgetary support of Rs 975 crore and the remaining Rs 232 crore would come through contribution from the industry.
- Minister of Heavy Industries: Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey



7. Vedanta ties up ₹8Kcr facility with Union Bank to take over syndicated facility

- Vedanta Ltd has tied up a facility of ₹8Kcr with Union Bank of India to take over majority of the syndicated facility after discussions with lenders.
- During 2020, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Vedanta Ltd had tied up a syndicated facility of ₹10Kcr with State Bank of India as the lead bank at a running cost of 10.5 per cent.
- This replacement facility was availed on Dec 2021 to take over the existing Syndicated facility to reduce the overall interest cost of the company.



Foot Notes:

About Vedanta:

Founder: Dwarka Prasad Agarwal

Founded: 25 June 1965

CEO: Sunil Duggal

Headquarters: Mumbai

8. Banks to transfer 15 accounts worth Rs 50,000 crore to NARCL in FY-22

- As per SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara, NARCL or bad bank and India Debt Resolution Company Ltd are ready to commence operations.
- A total of 38 NPA accounts worth Rs 82,845 crore have been identified to be transferred to NARCL initially.
- In the Phase I 15 accounts worth Rs 50,000 crore will be transferred to NARCL in the current financial year.
- Public Sector Banks have taken a majority stake in NARCL, IDRCL will be majorly owned by private sector banks.



9. Tata Sky is now Tata Play, adds new OTT binge combo packs with Netflix

- Tata Sky (founded in 2006) has dropped the 'sky' brand name and rechristened itself as 'Tata Play'.
- One of the largest Direct to Home (DTH) platforms has joined hands with Netflix to offer new OTT (over the top) content-centric channel packs as well.
- 'Tata Sky' is a joint venture between the Tata Sons (60%) and The Walt Disney Company (30%), with Temasek Holdings, Singapore (10%).



Foot Notes:

About Tata Sky:

Owner: The Walt Disney Company India

CEO: Harit Nagpal

Headquarters: Santacruz, Mumbai

Founded: 10 August 2006

10. Actor-filmmaker Amitabh Dayal passed away

- Actor-filmmaker Amitabh Dayal (51-years) has passed away after suffering a heart attack.
- Mr Dayal has worked in films like Kagaar: Life on the Edge (2003) with Om Puri, Bhojpuri film Rangdari (2012) and Raj Babbar's Dhuaan (2013), Amitabh Bachchan's Virrudh (2005).



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