



1. Madhya Pradesh is set to host 4th edition of the Mandu Festival

- The 4th edition of the Mandu Festival will be held between January 07- January 11, 2023 in Madhya Pradesh (MP).
- It's aim to showcase the destination's historic heritage blended with a modern vibrancy. The first edition of the Mandu Festival began on 28 Dec 2019 at Mandu, MP. The 5-day festival organized by the Madhya Pradesh government and curated by E-Factor Entertainment is set to showcase the historical legacy of Mandu.



Foot Notes:

About Madhya Pradesh :

Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Capital: Bhopal

2. Petroleum Minister Hardeep Puri, India will achieve 20% ethanol blending in petrol by 2025

- Petroleum and Natural gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has said that India will achieve twenty per cent ethanol blending in petrol by 2025.



- India has increased the ethanol blending in petrol from 1.53 per cent in 2013-14 to over ten per cent in 2022. The Minister said, government is setting up five second generation, 2G ethanol biorefineries in the country. These are at Panipat in Haryana, Bathinda in Punjab, Bargarh in Odisha, Numaligarh in Assam and Devangere in Karnataka.

3. Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates School of Logistics, Waterways and Communication in Agartala

- The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, along with Dr Manik Saha, Chief Minister, Tripura inaugurated the School of Logistics, Waterways and Communication.
- The school will enable the rich pool of talent of the region to become world class experts in the transportation and logistics sector. In order to unlock the promised economic potential of the Northeast, the school will be enable the innate capacity of human resources along our opulent waterways, said Shri Sonowal.



Foot Notes:

About Tripura:

Capital: Agartala

Chief Minister: Manik Saha

Governor: Shri Satyadeo Narain Arya

4. Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board signs MoUs with chapters of eight countries of GOPIO

- Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board signed MoUs with chapters of eight countries of the Global Organisation of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) at the MP Tourism Pavilion of Brilliant Convention Centre in Indore at the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention.
- These MoUs were signed with France Metropole Paris, Mauritius, Reunion Island, Martinique, Sri Lanka, GOPIO International, Malaysia, and Mauritius.



Foot Notes:

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel

5. Cabinet clears Rs 2,600 cr to promote RuPay debit card, BHIM transactions

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi doubled the allocation for promotion of RuPay debit cards and low-value BHIM-UPI (Unified Payments Interface) transactions to Rs 2,600 crore for FY23 that aims at promoting digital payments across the country. The scheme was first announced in FY22 Budget with a financial outlay of Rs 1,300 crore.



6. A Shanti Kumari became the first Women to takes charge as Chief Secretary of Telangana

- A. Shanti Kumari, the Senior IAS officer has been appointed Telangana's new Chief Secretary. According to the Telangana High Court's verdict the state government has issued order of appointing her as the Chief Secretary.
- The order was given a day after the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) relieved Somesh Kumar from the post. Shanti Kumari will take charge over incumbent Somesh Kumar, who was relieved from the Telangana government by the Union Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).



Foot Notes:

About Telangana:

Capital: Hyderabad

Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan

Chief Minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao

7. In a first, India among the top five ECM markets globally in 2022

- India was among the top five markets, globally, in terms of equity fundraising despite the quantum of funds raised declining by 43 per cent. According to a report by Kotak Investment Banking, funds to the tune of \$16.4 billion were transacted via equity capital market (ECM) activity in India in 2022.



Foot Notes:

About Equity capital market (ECM):

- The equity capital market (ECM) refers to the arena where financial institutions help companies raise equity capital and where stocks are traded. It consists of the primary market for private placements, initial public offerings (IPOs), and warrants; and the secondary market, where existing shares are sold, as well as futures, options, and other listed securities are traded.

8. Hockey India enters the metaverse through Hockeyverse

- Hockey India has become the first National Sports Federation to enter the world of metaverse by announcing the launch of 'Hockeyverse.'
- Hockeyverse will provide a novel virtual experience where global hockey fans can experience their favorite sport from the comfort of their home through their personal computer. Upon accessing the 'Hockeyverse' URL in a browser, users are welcomed to the hockeyverse virtual world page. Users are asked to enter their name and email address. After selecting their virtual Avatar's gender, users can click on the 'Enter Hockeyverse' button to enter.



9. 'A Life in Movie': New book to offer compelling account of Irrfan Khan's iconic life

- A new book will offer a compelling account of iconic actor Irrfan Khan's life and achievements, starting from his days at the prestigious National School of Drama (NSD) to his nearly a decade-long stint in television and his gradual ascent in the film industry.
- In the book, "Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies", film critic Shubhra Gupta engages key people, including director Mira Nair, Vishal Bharadwaj, and Anurag Basu in conversation on the actor's art, craft and legacy.



10. Brook and Gardner voted ICC Players of the Month for December

- England's Harry Brook and Australia's Ashleigh Gardner have won the International Cricket Council's (ICC) Player of the Month awards for December 2022, it has been announced.
- The 23-year-old Brook played a key role in England's historic 3-0 whitewash against Pakistan, finishing the series as the highest run-getter with 468 runs in three matches. Brook proved to be a perfect fit for the "BazBall" approach and slotted in seamlessly in the middle-order in the absence of Jonny Bairstow, with his runs coming at an incredible strike rate of 93.41.



Foot Notes:

About ICC:

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Founded: 15 June 1909

Chairman: Greg Barclay

General Manager: Wasim Khan

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