

**EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS—JANUARY 26, 2022**

**TAMIL NADU**

- **The Tamil Nadu forest department – is planning a proposal to create the state’s sixth tiger reserve in the Erode forest division.**
- ✓ The Erode division is home to up to 20 tigers besides elephants, leopards, wild dogs, wild boars, Indian gaurs, deer and other rare species in an area spread over 82,144 hectares.

|  | <b>TIGER RESERVES IN TN</b>            |                    |                                   |
|---|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
|   | <b>Name of tiger reserves</b>          | <b>Area (sqkm)</b> | <b>No.of tigers (2018 census)</b> |
|   | Mudumalai Tiger Reserve                | 688                | 103                               |
|   | Anaimalai Tiger Reserve                | 1,479              | 20                                |
|   | Kalakadu Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve    | 1,601              | 8                                 |
|   | Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve           | 1,408              | 83                                |
|   | Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve | 1,016              | 14-15*                            |
|   | *(according to a recent census)        |                    |                                   |

- ✓ The Erode forest division is located between two protected areas — Karnataka’s Kollegal forest division in the north and Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve in the west.
- ✓ Erode district comprises three forest divisions, including Sathyamangalam and Hasanur divisions that fall under the STR.
- ✓ There are six tribal settlements in the Erode forest division.
- ✓ The initiation of the proposal is to provide more scientific and geographical protection to the Erode forest division

- ✓ A year back, the Centre has approved the Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve as India's 51st tiger reserve and Tamil Nadu's fifth.
- ✓ After seven-year gap, the Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve with an area of 1,016 sqkm was formed in February 2021.
- **Seven eminent persons from Tamil Nadu - have been conferred with Padma Shri award for 2022 for their achievements in the fields of arts, social work and medicine.**
- ✓ The seven Padma Shri awardees are Sirpi Balasubramaniam for Literature and Education, S Damodaran for Social Work, S. Ballesh Bhajantri, Sowcar Janaki, R. Muthukannammal and A.K.C.Natarajan for Art, and Dr.Veeeraswamy Seshiah for medicine



- ✓ Celebrated actor and yesteryear star Sowcar Janaki was born Sankaramanchi Janaki in Rajahmundry in 1931
  - ✓ She has acted in close to 400 films in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi, over a career spanning seven decades.
  - ✓ Janaki debuted as a 17 year-old in L V Prasad's Telugu drama "Shavukaru" in 1950, a film that also gave her the prefix 'Sowcar'
- ✓ The awardees from the state includes diabetologist Dr Veeraswamy Seshiah, who was born in 1938 in Chennai, studied at the Madras Medical College and volunteered to serve at the Army Medical Corps in the Indo-China war.
  - ✓ He established the Department of Diabetology in 1978 and became the first and youngest professor of the department when he was 40.
  - ✓ In recognition of his work in the field of diabetes in general and diabetes in pregnancy (Gestational diabetes Mellitus GDM), March 10, his date of birth has been declared as the National GDM Awareness Day by the Government of India.

- ✓ His single test procedure for GDM has been revolutionary and is done by giving 75mg of oral glucose irrespective of meal time, after which blood sugar is measured two hours later.
- ✓ It is simple, economical and evidence based and approved by ministry of health and family welfare, Govt of India, and recognised by WHO, IDF and FIGO.
- ✓ Sirpi Balasubramaniam, who won the award for his contributions to the field of literature and education, is one of the state's most notable contemporary poets.
  - ✓ He is a noted translator of literary works, and was one of the founders of the Vanambadi literary movement in the 1970s.
  - ✓ Balasubramaniam, 85, was twice awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award - one in 2003 for his poetry collection "Oru Giraamattu Nadhi" and the other in 2001 for translation of Lalithambika Antharjanam's "Agnisakshi" into Tamil.
- ✓ Nonagenarian R Muthukannamal, a Sadhir natyam dancer from Viralimalai in Trichy was born in 1929.
  - ✓ She performed and created awareness about the dance form for many years.
  - ✓ To popularise her contribution to art, a sculpture of Muthukannammal was created at an arts school in Tirunelveli in 2017.
- **A total of 18 police officers from Tamil Nadu – are to be presented with the Police medal for Meritorious Service, and two will be awarded the President's Police medal for Distinguished Service on the occasion of Republic Day.**
- ✓ The two IPS officers receiving the medal for Distinguished Service are G Venkataraman, ADGP, Headquarters, Chennai and C Sivanarul, Inspector of Police, Special Branch CID, Thanjavur.



- ✓ Additional director-general of police (ADGP) of headquarters Venkataraman headed the newly created cyber crime unit of the state and formed cyber crime police stations in every district headquarters.

- ✓ The medals are given during Republic Day and Independence Day celebrations acknowledging overall work.
- ✓ Twenty families of martyrs will be honoured by Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman National Cadet Corp (NCC) Directorate on the Republic Day.
- ✓ The families of the martyrs from Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore will be honoured by presenting a “Plaque of Gratitude”, and a wreath will be laid on the photograph of the martyrs.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to launch a programme “Shaheedon ko shat-shat Naman” on the day to honour the martyrs.

## STATES

- **The Kerala government - is set to amend the state Lokayukta Act through an ordinance.**
  - ✓ The draft of the Kerala Lokayukta (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021, has been sent to governor Arif Mohammed Khan for his assent.
  - ✓ The ordinance proposes amendments to the Kerala Lok Ayukta Act, 1999, by replacing sub-section (1) of section 14.
  - ✓ This particular section empowers the Lokayukta or an UpaLokayukta to make a declaration in its report that a public servant against whom a complaint is made should not continue to hold that post if the allegation is substantiated
  - ✓ The proposed amendment seeks to give an opportunity of hearing to the public servant against whom a complaint is made
- **On January 25, the Andhra Pradesh cabinet - gave its approval for creation of 13 new districts, which will take the number of districts in the state to 26.**
  - ✓ The reorganisation process is likely to be completed by the mid of April.
  - ✓ While 24 Lok Sabha constituencies would be converted into districts, Araku Lok Sabha constituency in Visakhapatnam tribal agency area will be divided into two districts.
  - ✓ The planning department has already readied a comprehensive roadmap for creation of the new districts.
- **The governments of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh - signed an agreement to build a dam at Adi Badri in Yamunanagar district to rejuvenate the mythical Saraswati river**
  - ✓ Adi Badri, situated in Haryana near the Himachal Pradesh border, is believed to be the origin point of river Saraswati
  - ✓ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and his Himachal counterpart Jai Ram Thakur were present during the signing ceremony held on January 21, 2022
  - ✓ According to the Haryana CM, the objective of the project is to revive the Saraswati river and to promote tourism and pilgrimage activities in the area

- ✓ With the commissioning of the dam, the flood situation arising out of excessive rainfall during rainy days will also be kept under control



- ✓ Kurukshetra University and Haryana Saraswati Heritage Development Board are conducting the research on the mythical river Saraswati
- ✓ The Haryana government has notified an area of 200km from Adi Badri to Ghaggar river via Kaithal for Saraswati river.
- ✓ The Adi Badri dam will be built on 31.66 hectares of land in Himachal Pradesh and an amount of Rs 215.33 crore will be spent for the purpose
- ✓ The dam will store 224.58 hectare metres of water every year, of which Himachal Pradesh will get 61.88 hectare metres of water, and Haryana the remaining which will flow into the Saraswati river
- ✓ Notably, the dam at Adi Badri will also get water from the Somb river that falls in the Yamuna near Adi Badri in Yamunanagar.

## NATIONAL

- **The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare - has issued guidelines to make drone technology affordable to the stakeholders of the agriculture sector**



- ✓ The guidelines of “Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization” (SMAM) have been amended to provide a grant upto 100% of the cost of agriculture drone or Rs. 10 lakhs, whichever is less, for purchase of drones
  - ✓ This grant may be used by the Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes, ICAR institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and State Agriculture Universities for purchasing agricultural drones
  - ✓ The Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs) would be eligible to receive grant up to 75% of the cost of agriculture drone for demonstration purposes
  - ✓ A contingency expenditure of Rs.6000 per hectare would be provided to the agencies that hire drones for demonstrations and Rs 3,000 per hectare is to be offered to the agencies that are buying drones for demonstration purposes
  - ✓ The financial assistance and grants would be available until March 31, 2023.
  - ✓ The drone operations are being permitted by Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) through the conditional exemption route
  - ✓ The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has also released Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for use of Drone application in the field of agriculture
  - ✓ The drones are proposed to be used to spray pesticides for crop protection in agricultural, forestry, non-cropped areas, etc. and for drone application in spraying for soil and crop nutrients.
- **The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, in association with India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) - released its vision document, ‘\$300 billion Sustainable Electronics Manufacturing & Exports by 2026.’**



- ✓ Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw released the vision document
- ✓ This report provides a year-wise break-up and production projections for the various products that will lead India's transformation into a \$300 billion electronics manufacturing powerhouse, from the current \$75 billion
- ✓ The \$300 billion US dollar electronics manufacturing comes on the back of \$10 billion PLI Scheme announced by the government to boost the Semiconductor and Display ecosystem.

- ✓ The government has committed nearly \$17 billion over the next 6 years across four PLI Schemes - Semiconductor and Design, Smartphones, IT Hardware and Components
  - ✓ This roadmap is the second volume of a two-part Vision Document - the first of which was released in November last year titled "Increasing India's Electronics Exports and Share in GVCs"
  - ✓ The country is already expected to increase its electronic manufacturing capability to nearly \$180 billion the next five years.
- **On January 25, the government - imposed restriction on export of human hair with immediate effect to prevent alleged smuggling of the product from the country**
- ✓ Henceforth, exporters would require permission or licence from the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) for sending shipments of hair outside India.
  - ✓ Time and again, raw human hair is smuggled to countries like Myanmar and China, which is hurting local industries and exports.
  - ✓ In India, West Bengal is the major hub for the industry besides Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu.
  - ✓ Major competitors of India are China, Cambodia, Vietnam and Myanmar.
  - ✓ Raw human hair is mainly collected from households and temples of these states and these primarily cater to the beauty market globally.
  - ✓ Two types of hair are collected in the country namely - remy and non-remy hair.
  - ✓ Remy hair, the best grade, is collected from temples where pilgrims donate their hair as part of a religious vow and are mainly used to make hairpieces and wigs.
  - ✓ Non-Remy hair is a household waste collected by small groups of people in villages and cities, which are then sold to dealers
  - ✓ During April-November this fiscal, hair exports stood at \$144.26 million, while it was only \$15.28 million in 2020-21

## ECONOMY

- **India's economy - is estimated to grow by 9% in the current fiscal year, according to the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) World Economic Outlook**
- ✓ This is slightly lesser than the agency's earlier forecast of 9.5%, amidst the impact of the third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - ✓ The IMF raised India's GDP growth estimate to 9% for 2022-23 from its earlier estimate of 8.5% in October and for 2023-24 it forecast the economy to grow by 7.1%.
  - ✓ On a calendar year basis, the IMF said India's growth is projected at 8.7% in 2022 and 6.6% in 2023.
  - ✓ China is estimated to grow by 8.1% in 2021 and 4.8% in 2022.
  - ✓ India will retain its tag as the fastest growing major global economy.

- ✓ IMF's forecast for 2021-22 is slightly lower than the 9.2% growth projected by the National Statistical Office (NSO).
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has estimated the economy to grow by 9.5% in 2021-22.
- ✓ The economy is currently recovering after the devastating blow due to the impact of Covid-19 induced lockdown, which led to a 7.3% contraction.
- **On January 25, the government - approved the merger of Punjab & Maharashtra Co-operative (PMC) Bank with Unity Small Finance Bank (SFB) with effect from the same day**
- ✓ Under the guidelines of the scheme approved by the government, all the branches of PMC Bank will operate as branches of Unity SFB
- ✓ The scheme envisages commencing pay-outs for depositors with around Rs 5 lakh in balance within one year, as opposed to two years in the draft scheme.
- ✓ Nearly two and half years before, the RBI had moved in to supersede the board of the Punjab & Maharashtra Co-operative (PMC) Bank
- ✓ The scheme of amalgamation envisages takeover of the assets and liabilities of PMC Bank, including deposits, by USFBL in terms of the provisions of the scheme.
- ✓ In September 2019, the RBI had forced out PMC Bank's board after detecting a major fraud in PMC Bank's books involving real estate firm HDIL.
- ✓ It was found that, for several years, the bank's top management had used fraudulent accounts to lend to HDIL to fund its real estate projects and thus massively violated RBI's single-party lending rules.
- ✓ Unity SFB is promoted by Centrum Financial Services, in which BharatPe owner Resilient Innovation is a joint investor

## AWARDS

- **On January 25, the central government - announced the Padma awards on the eve of the country's 73rd Republic Day**
- ✓ India's first Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat and former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Kalyan Singh have been posthumously conferred with Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest highest civilian honour.
- ✓ General Bipin Rawat died in a chopper crash in Tamil Nadu on December 8, 2021, while late BJP leader Kalyan Singh was the UP chief minister at the time of the Babri Masjid demolition
- ✓ The other two Padma Vibhushan awardees are late Radheyshyam Khemka, one of the leading lights of Gita Press, the Gorakhpur-based legendary institution which played a key role in popularising Hindu religious texts, and Prabha Atre, the renowned Indian classical vocalist from Maharashtra.
- ✓ Senior Congress leader and former J&K chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, former West Bengal CM and CPM veteran Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Microsoft CEO

Satya Nadella, Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai, Natarajan Chandrasekaran of Tata Group, Vaccine makers - Cyrus Poonawalla of the Serum Institute and Krishna Ella and Suchitra Ella of Bharat Biotech, former comptroller and auditor general Rajiv Mehrishi and Sanjaya Rajaram, the Varanasi-born Mexican scientist who developed more than 450 high-yield varieties of wheat have been honoured with Padma Bhushan

**HONOURS FOR POONAWALLA, ELLAS**

**PADMA VIBHUSHAN**

- > Prabha Atre | Art
- > Radheyshyam Khemka (Posthumous) | Lit
- > Gen Bipin Rawat (Posth) | Civil Service
- > Kalyan Singh (Posth) | Public Affairs

**PADMA BHUSHAN**

- > Ghulam Nabi Azad, Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee | Public Affairs
- > Victor Banerjee, Gurmeet Bawa (Posth), Rashid Khan | Art
- > Natarajan Chandrasekaran, Krishna Ella & Suchitra Ella (duo\*), Satya Nadella, Sundar Pichai, Cyrus Poonawalla | Trade and Industry
- > Swami Sachidanand, Vashishth Tripathi, Pratibha Ray | Literature and Education
- > Madhur Jaffrey | Culinary
- > Rajiv Mehrishi | Civil Service
- > Devendra Jhajharia | Sports
- > Sanjaya Rajaram (Posth) | Science & Engineering

\*Award counted as one

- ✓ Devendra Jhajharia, the javelin thrower who has pulled off the unique feat of winning two golds and one silver in three consecutive Paralympics, has also been awarded Padma Bhushan.
  - ✓ Jhajharia, 40, already holds the distinction of being the first para-athlete to be conferred with the Padma Shri in 2012 as well as the first to receive the Khel Ratna in 2017
- ✓ Singer Sonu Nigam and Olympic gold-medallist Neeraj Chopra have been honoured with a Padma Shri.
- ✓ Neeraj Chopra has been awarded a Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) and a Padma Shri, in what could be a first such instance.
  - ✓ The junior commissioned officer in the Army won gold in javelin throw at the Tokyo Olympics last year and is only the second individual gold medallist in India's Olympic history
  - ✓ Subedar Neeraj Chopra stands out in the list of 29 who have been conferred the PVSM, which is usually the preserve of three-star generals
  - ✓ The Panipat-born Chopra was conferred with the Arjuna Award in 2018, Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM) in 2020 and Khel Ratna in 2021 for excellence in sports.
- ✓ The sportspersons who have been awarded Padma Shri include - shuttler Pramod Bhagat, a gold medal winner at the Tokyo Paralympics, javelin thrower Sumit Antil, martial arts coach from Kashmir's Bandipora district, Faisal Ali Dar, the 93-

year old Kalarippayattu mentor Sankaranarayana Menon Chundayil and shooter Avani Lekhara, India's first paraolympic women champion.

- ✓ Other Padma Shri awardees among sportspersons include Vandana Kataria of Indian women's hockey team who scored the maximum goals in Tokyo Games and holds the record of being the first Indian female player to score a hat-trick and veteran footballer from Goa, Brahmanand Sankhwalkar.
- ✓ Late Guru Prasad Mahapatra, who as industry secretary worked tirelessly to augment oxygen supply during the second Covid-19 wave despite having been infected by the virus, has been awarded Padma Shri
- ✓ Other recipients of the Padma Shri award includes
  - ✓ Akhone Asgar Ali Basharat, Balti poet from Kargil working for preservation and promotion of the Balti language and culture;
  - ✓ Himmatrao Bawaskar, who is globally acclaimed for his research on scorpion and snake bites;
  - ✓ Khandu Wangchuk Bhutia, a Tangkha painter from Sikkim;
  - ✓ Acharya Chandanaji, a Jain spiritual leader and social worker from Rajgir who has dedicated her life to the uplift and empowerment of the poor for the past five decades.
  - ✓ Veteran Gandhian and political leader from Mehsana in Gujarat, Malji Bhai Desai, for promoting khadi during his five decades in public service.
  - ✓ A 102-year-old Gandhian social worker from Kamrup in Assam, Shakuntala Choudhary;
  - ✓ Social worker who has dedicated his life to sanitation in south India's villages S Damodaran;
  - ✓ Social worker from Mohali working with leprosy patients Prem Singh;
  - ✓ Social worker who has been working for the cause of the girl child in Haryana Om Prakash Gandhi;
  - ✓ Divyang social worker from Malappuram who has worked with divyangan and women, overcoming numerous personal tragedies and illnesses K V Rabiya
  - ✓ Kuchipudi dancer Padmaja Reddy;
  - ✓ Shehnai maestro from Chennai S Balleesh Bhajantri;
  - ✓ Legendary Lavani singer from Kolkhapur Sulochana Chavan;
  - ✓ Applique textile artist from Manipur Lourembam Bino Devi, who has been preserving Leeba textile art for five decades;
  - ✓ Renowned Odia singer Shyamamani Devi;
  - ✓ Biaga tribal dancer and singer from Madhya Pradesh Arjun Singh Dhurve;
  - ✓ Nadaswaram player Gosaveedu Shaik Hassan;
  - ✓ Gamaka singer from Shivamogga H R Keshavamurthy;
  - ✓ Gond painter from Mandla Durga Bai Vyam;
  - ✓ Kajari folk singer from Mirzapur Ajita Srivastava;
  - ✓ A traditional Laiphadibi doll-maker from Imphal Konsam Ibomcha Singh;

- ✓ Faisal Ali Dar, a Kashmiri martial arts coach who has been inspiring youths in terrorism-hit districts of Kashmir;
- ✓ A water conservationist working in drought-prone Maharashtra, Savaji Bhai Dholakia;
- ✓ Woman environmentalist from Uttarakhand Basanti Devi, who has contributed to revitalising the Kosi River.
- ✓ Former abbot of Tawang monastery Guru Tulku Rinpoche;
- ✓ 125-year-old living embodiment of yoga, dhyana and sewa from Kashi Sivananda;
- ✓ Spiritual leader from Goa Sadguru Brahmeshanand Acharya Swami.
- ✓ Narendra Prasad Mishra, who developed treatment protocols for victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy (posthumous);
- ✓ Ayurveda practitioner from Pune Balaji Tambe;
- ✓ Orthopaedic surgeon from Visakhapatnam Sunkara Venkata Adinarayana Rao;
- ✓ Doyen of pregnancy diabetes Veeraswamy Seshiah;
- ✓ Neurologist Bhimsen Singhal and
- ✓ Nephrologist from UP Kamlakar Tripathi.
- ✓ The awards are announced on Republic Day every year and are conferred by the President at a ceremonial function at his official residence - the Rashtrapati Bhawan - around March or April
- ✓ This year, the President has approved conferment of 128 Padma Awards -- 4 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 107 Padma Shri Awards
- ✓ Of them, 34 are women, 13 awards are posthumous, and 10 awards are for persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI
- ✓ 10 doctors have been named for the Padma awards for their services to the field of Medicine
- ✓ The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian awards of India which are given in various disciplines -- literature and education, arts, science and engineering, trade and industry, civil services, public affairs, sports, and medicine
- ✓ Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service while Padma Bhushan is for distinguished service of high order and Padma Shri for distinguished service in any field.
- ✓ This year's Republic Day parade will have about 180 "special" invitees — construction workers engaged in the revamp of Rajpath alongwith autorickshaw drivers, sanitation and other frontline workers
- **The nation's third-highest peacetime gallantry medal Shaurya Chakra - has been awarded to five Army soldiers, an Assam Rifles jawan and six CRPF personnel — nine of them posthumously — in the Republic Day awards this year.**
- ✓ The Shaurya Chakra awardees from the Army are Naib Subedar Sreejith M (17 Madras), Havildars Anil Kumar Tomar (Rajput/44 Rashtriya Rifles), Kashiray

Bammanalli (Engineers/44 RR), Pinku Kumar (Jat/34 RR) and Sepoy Maruprolu Jaswanth Kumar Reddy (17 Madras).



- ✓ All these five awardees have laid down their lives while killing terrorists in counter-insurgency operations in Jammu and Kashmir
  - ✓ Rifleman Rakesh Sharma of 5 Assam Rifles has also been awarded the medal for a counter-insurgency operation in Assam.
  - ✓ The CRPF awardees, who have got it posthumously, are head constables Ajeet Singh and Kuldeep Kumar Urawan, constables Vikas Kumar and Purnanad, company commandant Dilip Malik and assistant commandant Anirudh Pratap Singh.
  - ✓ The highest gallantry medal Ashoka Chakra and the second Kirti Chakra have not been awarded in the overall 384 gallantry and other awards list this year
  - ✓ The Indian Army received a total of 317 awards for gallantry and distinguished service of its personnel.
  - ✓ In addition to the Shaurya Chakras, there were 19 Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM), four Uttam Yudh Seva Medal (UYSM), 33 Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM), and 84 Sena Medal (gallantry), including three "Bar to Sena Medal (gallantry) and four of them posthumous.
  - ✓ Additionally, 10 Yudh Seva Medal (YSM) were conferred, along with 40 Sena Medal (distinguished), 77 Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM), including three "Bar to VSM", and 44 mention-in-dispatches, including three posthumous honours.
- **The Ministry of Home Affairs - has awarded gallantry and service medals to a total of 939 police personnel on Republic Day eve this year**
- ✓ Out of 939 awards delivered, 189 personnel have received Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG), 88 President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service (PPM) and 662 Police Medal for Meritorious Service (PM)
  - ✓ This year, no President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG), the highest of police gallantry medals, has been awarded to anyone.
  - ✓ From amongst 189 Gallantry Awards, 134 personnel were awarded for their gallant action in the Jammu and Kashmir region, 47 personnel for their gallant

action in Left Wing Extremism affected areas and 1 personnel for their gallant action in North Eastern Region.

- ✓ The personnel who received the Gallantry Award include 115 from J&K Police, 30 from CRPF, 2 from ITBP, 2 from BSF, 3 from SSB, 10 from Chhattisgarh Police, 9 from Odisha Police, and 7 from Maharashtra Police, and the rest from the other States/UTs.
  - ✓ Apart from gallantry and service medals for police, 42 personnel of fire services have been awarded Fire Service Medals on the occasion of Republic Day.
    - Out of 42 medals, one has been awarded President's Fire Service Medal for Gallantry while two have been awarded Fire Service Medal for Gallantry for their respective acts of valour and gallantry.
  - ✓ The President's Police Medal for Gallantry is awarded for "gallantry in saving life and property, or in preventing crime, or in arresting criminals".
    - ✓ The medal can be awarded to any member of the Police Service in India regardless of rank or time in service.
    - ✓ Medal recipients are given a monthly stipend that is paid to them even after retirement, and on the death of the recipient, it is paid to their surviving spouse.
  - ✓ The President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service is awarded for long and distinguished service to persons who have served in the Police Service or Central Police and Security Organizations for at least 21 years.
    - ✓ Individuals must be prior recipients of the Police Medal for Meritorious Service and must have held that medal for at least six years
  - ✓ Police Medal for Meritorious Service is awarded to personnel with a minimum of 18 years in service regardless of their rank and time in service.
- **On January 25, the Election Commission - honoured IAS officer Mukta Arya with the Best Electoral Practices Award on the occasion of 12th National Voters' Day**



- ✓ Arya served as the district election officer of Howrah assembly constituency during the West Bengal elections last year and had lost her father a day before polling in her constituency.

- ✓ She bagged the award for her goodwork in ensuring 100% arrangement of assured minimum facilities in all polling stations of Howrah and building confidence of voters through meticulous planning of transportation and other facilities.
  - ✓ Among others awards given away, were the **Best State Award to the Tamil Nadu chief electoral officer (CEO) Satyabrata Sahoo** for conducting state elections in 2021 with special focus on IT initiatives and security management.
  - ✓ The second Best State Award went to Assam CEO Nitin Khade for holding 2021 assembly election in Assam in an inclusive and accessible manner, with a 0.72% increase in female voter turnout ratio.
  - ✓ Sumit Gupta, the DEO of North 24 Parganas during West Bengal elections last year, also won the best electoral practices award for his intensive voter education initiatives
  - ✓ Other to win the award are Goalpara DEO Varnali Deka for building database of PwD (persons with disability) voters and Birbhum superintendent of police Nagendra Nath Tripathi for holding peaceful elections despite domestic tragedy.
- **The Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM) and Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority's Vice Chairman Vinod Sharma – were conferred the Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2022 for their excellent work in disaster management.**



- ✓ According to the Union Home Ministry, the GIDM has been selected in the Institutional category, while Sharma was named in the individual category.
- ✓ On January 23, both received the awards from the Prime Minister Narendra Modi alongwith the awardees of 2019, 2020 and 2021 in a ceremony held to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- ✓ The central government has instituted the annual award -- Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar -- to recognise and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organisations in India in the field of disaster management.

- ✓ The award is announced every year on January 23, the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- ✓ It carries a cash prize of Rs 51 lakh and a certificate in the case of an institution and Rs 5 lakh and a certificate in the case of an individual.
- ✓ The GIDM was established in 2012 and since then it has been working to enhance the disaster risk reduction (DRR) capacity of Gujarat.
- ✓ Sharma is a senior professor at the Indian Institute of Public Administration and vice-chairman of the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority
- ✓ He was the founder coordinator of the National Centre of Disaster Management, now known as the National Institute of Disaster Management.
- ✓ Sharma is also a resource person to Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) and all Administrative Training Institutes (ATIs) for disaster management.

## WINNERS OF PADMA AWARDS 2022 – A REPORT



**Padma Vibhushan (4)**

| SN | Name                                    | Field                    | State / Country |
|----|---|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Ms. Prabha Atre                         | Art                      | Maharashtra     |
| 2  | Shri Radheyshyam Khemka<br>(Posthumous) | Literature and Education | Uttar Pradesh   |
| 3  | General Bipin Rawat<br>(Posthumous)     | Civil Service            | Uttarakhand     |
| 4  | Shri Kalyan Singh<br>(Posthumous)       | Public Affairs           | Uttar Pradesh   |

**Padma Bhushan (17)**

|   |                                  |                |                   |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 5 | Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad            | Public Affairs | Jammu and Kashmir |
| 6 | Shri Victor Banerjee             | Art            | West Bengal       |
| 7 | Ms. Gurmeet Bawa<br>(Posthumous) | Art            | Punjab            |
| 8 | Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee     | Public Affairs | West Bengal       |

|    |  |                          |                          |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9  | Shri Natarajan Chandrasekaran                          | Trade and Industry       | Maharashtra              |
| 10 | Shri Krishna Ella and Smt. Suchitra Ella* <b>(Duo)</b> | Trade and Industry       | Telangana                |
| 11 | Ms. Madhur Jaffery                                     | Others-Culinary          | United States of America |
| 12 | Shri Devendra Jhajharia                                | Sports                   | Rajasthan                |
| 13 | Shri Rashid Khan                                       | Art                      | Uttar Pradesh            |
| 14 | Shri Rajiv Mehrishi                                    | Civil Service            | Rajasthan                |
| 15 | Shri Satya Narayana Nadella                            | Trade and Industry       | United States of America |
| 16 | Shri Sundararajan Pichai                               | Trade and Industry       | United States of America |
| 17 | Shri Cyrus Poonawalla                                  | Trade and Industry       | Maharashtra              |
| 18 | Shri Sanjaya Rajaram <b>(Posthumous)</b>               | Science and Engineering  | Mexico                   |
| 19 | Ms. Pratibha Ray                                       | Literature and Education | Odisha                   |
| 20 | Swami Sachidanand                                      | Literature and Education | Gujarat                  |
| 21 | Shri Vashishth Tripathi                                | Literature and Education | Uttar Pradesh            |

**Padma Shri (107)**

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|----|---|--------------------------|---------------|
| 22 | Shri Prahlad Rai Agarwala                                 | Trade and Industry       | West Bengal   |
| 23 | Prof. Najma Akhtar  | Literature and Education | Delhi         |
| 24 | Shri Sumit Antil  | Sports                   | Haryana       |
| 25 | Shri T Senka Ao   | Literature and Education | Nagaland      |
| 26 | Ms. Kamalini Asthana and Ms. Nalini Asthana* <b>(Duo)</b> | Art                      | Uttar Pradesh |
| 27 | Shri Subbanna Ayyappan                                    | Science and Engineering  | Karnataka     |
| 28 | Shri J K Bajaj  | Literature and Education | Delhi         |

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|----|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 29 | Shri Sirpi Balasubramaniam           | Literature and Education | Tamil Nadu        |
| 30 | Srimad Baba Balia                    | Social Work              | Odisha            |
| 31 | Ms. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay        | Science and Engineering  | West Bengal       |
| 32 | Ms. Madhuri Barthwal                 | Art                      | Uttarakhand       |
| 33 | Shri Akhone Asgar Ali Basharat       | Literature and Education | Ladakh            |
| 34 | Dr. Himmatrao Bawaskar               | Medicine                 | Maharashtra       |
| 35 | Shri Harmohinder Singh Bedi          | Literature and Education | Punjab            |
| 36 | Shri Pramod Bhagat                   | Sports                   | Odisha            |
| 37 | Shri S Ballesh Bhajantri             | Art                      | Tamil Nadu        |
| 38 | Shri Khandu Wangchuk Bhutia          | Art                      | Sikkim            |
| 39 | Shri Maria Christopher Byrski        | Literature and Education | Poland            |
| 40 | Acharya Chandanaji                   | Social Work              | Bihar             |
| 41 | Ms. Sulochana Chavan                 | Art                      | Maharashtra       |
| 42 | Shri Neeraj Chopra                   | Sports                   | Haryana           |
| 43 | Ms. Shakuntala Choudhary             | Social Work              | Assam             |
| 44 | Shri Sankaranarayana Menon Chundayil | Sports                   | Kerala            |
| 45 | Shri S Damodaran                     | Social Work              | Tamil Nadu        |
| 46 | Shri Faisal Ali Dar                  | Sports                   | Jammu and Kashmir |
| 47 | Shri Jagjit Singh Dardi              | Trade and Industry       | Chandigarh        |
| 48 | Dr. Prokar Dasgupta                  | Medicine                 | United Kingdom    |
| 49 | Shri Aditya Prasad Dash              | Science and Engineering  | Odisha            |
| 50 | Dr. Lata Desai                       | Medicine                 | Gujarat           |

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|----|--|---------------------------|----------------|
| 51 | Shri Malji bhai Desai                              | Public Affairs            | Gujarat        |
| 52 | Ms. Basanti Devi                                   | Social Work               | Uttarakhand    |
| 53 | Ms. Lourembam Bino Devi                            | Art                       | Manipur        |
| 54 | Ms. Muktamani Devi                                 | Trade and Industry        | Manipur        |
| 55 | Ms. Shyamamani Devi                                | Art                       | Odisha         |
| 56 | Shri Khalil Dhantejvi<br><b>(Posthumous)</b>       | Literature and Education  | Gujarat        |
| 57 | Shri Savaji Bhai Dholakia                          | Social Work               | Gujarat        |
| 58 | Shri Arjun Singh Dhurve                            | Art                       | Madhya Pradesh |
| 59 | Dr. Vijaykumar Vinayak Dongre                      | Medicine                  | Maharashtra    |
| 60 | Shri Chandraprakash Dwivedi                        | Art                       | Rajasthan      |
| 61 | Shri Dhaneswar Engti                               | Literature and Education  | Assam          |
| 62 | Shri Om Prakash Gandhi                             | Social Work               | Haryana        |
| 63 | Shri Narasimha Rao Garikapati                      | Literature and Education  | Andhra Pradesh |
| 64 | Shri Girdhari Ram Ghonju<br><b>(Posthumous)</b>    | Literature and Education  | Jharkhand      |
| 65 | Shri Shaibal Gupta<br><b>(Posthumous)</b>          | Literature and Education  | Bihar          |
| 66 | Shri Narasingha Prasad Guru                        | Literature and Education  | Odisha         |
| 67 | Shri Gosaveedu Shaik Hassan<br><b>(Posthumous)</b> | Art                       | Andhra Pradesh |
| 68 | Shri Ryuko Hira                                    | Trade and Industry        | Japan          |
| 69 | Ms. Sosamma Iype                                   | Others - Animal Husbandry | Kerala         |
| 70 | Shri Avadh Kishore Jadia                           | Literature and Education  | Madhya Pradesh |
| 71 | Ms. Sowcar Janaki                                  | Art                       | Tamil Nadu     |

|    |   |                                   |                |
|----|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 72 | Ms. Tara Jauhar                           | Literature and Education          | Delhi          |
| 73 | Ms. Vandana Kataria                       | Sports                            | Uttarakhand    |
| 74 | Shri H R Keshavamurthy                    | Art                               | Karnataka      |
| 75 | Shri Rutger Kortenhorst                   | Literature and Education          | Ireland        |
| 76 | Shri P Narayana Kurup                     | Literature and Education          | Kerala         |
| 77 | Ms. Avani Lekhara                         | Sports                            | Rajasthan      |
| 78 | Shri Moti Lal Madan                       | Science and Engineering           | Haryana        |
| 79 | Shri Shivnath Mishra                      | Art                               | Uttar Pradesh  |
| 80 | Dr. Narendra Prasad Misra<br>(Posthumous) | Medicine                          | Madhya Pradesh |
| 81 | Shri Darshanam Mogilaiah                  | Art                               | Telangana      |
| 82 | Shri Guruprasad Mohapatra<br>(Posthumous) | Civil Service                     | Delhi          |
| 83 | Shri Thavil Kongampattu A V<br>Murugaiyan | Art                               | Puducherry     |
| 84 | Ms. R Muthukannammal                      | Art                               | Tamil Nadu     |
| 85 | Shri Abdul Khader Nadakattin              | Others - Grassroots<br>Innovation | Karnataka      |
| 86 | Shri Amai Mahalinga Naik                  | Others - Agriculture              | Karnataka      |
| 87 | Shri Tsering Namgyal                      | Art                               | Ladakh         |
| 88 | Shri A K C Natarajan                      | Art                               | Tamil Nadu     |
| 89 | Shri V L Nghaka                           | Literature and Education          | Mizoram        |
| 90 | Shri Sonu Nigam                           | Art                               | Maharashtra    |
| 91 | Shri Ram Sahay Panday                     | Art                               | Madhya Pradesh |
| 92 | Shri Chirapat Prapandavidya               | Literature and Education          | Thailand       |
| 93 | Ms. K V Rabiya                            | Social Work                       | Kerala         |

|     |                                     |                          |  |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 94  | Shri Anil Kumar Rajvanshi           | Science and Engineering  | Maharashtra                              |
| 95  | Shri Sheesh Ram                     | Art                      | Uttar Pradesh                            |
| 96  | Shri Ramachandraiah                 | Art                      | Telangana                                |
| 97  | Dr. Sunkara Venkata Adinarayana Rao | Medicine                 | Andhra Pradesh                           |
| 98  | Ms. Gamit Ramilaben Raysingbhai     | Social Work              | Gujarat                                  |
| 99  | Ms. Padmaja Reddy                   | Art                      | Telangana                                |
| 100 | Guru Tulku Rinpoche                 | Others - Spiritualism    | Arunachal Pradesh                        |
| 101 | Shri Brahmanand Sankhwalkar         | Sports                   | Goa                                      |
| 102 | Shri Vidyanand Sarek                | Literature and Education | Himachal Pradesh                         |
| 103 | Shri Kali Pada Saren                | Literature and Education | West Bengal                              |
| 104 | Dr. Veeraswamy Seshiah              | Medicine                 | Tamil Nadu                               |
| 105 | Ms. Prabhaven Shah                  | Social Work              | Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu |
| 106 | Shri Dilip Shahani                  | Literature and Education | Delhi                                    |
| 107 | Shri Ram Dayal Sharma               | Art                      | Rajasthan                                |
| 108 | Shri Vishwamurti Shastri            | Literature and Education | Jammu and Kashmir                        |
| 109 | Ms. Tatiana Lvovna Shaumyan         | Literature and Education | Russia                                   |
| 110 | Shri Siddhalingaiah<br>(Posthumous) | Literature and Education | Karnataka                                |
| 111 | Shri Kaajee Singh                   | Art                      | West Bengal                              |
| 112 | Shri Konsam Ibomcha Singh           | Art                      | Manipur                                  |
| 113 | Shri Prem Singh                     | Social Work              | Punjab                                   |
| 114 | Shri Seth Pal Singh                 | Others - Agriculture     | Uttar Pradesh                            |

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|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 115 | Ms. Vidya Vindu Singh               | Literature and Education | Uttar Pradesh    |
| 116 | Baba Iqbal Singh Ji                 | Social Work              | Punjab           |
| 117 | Dr. Bhimsen Singhal                 | Medicine                 | Maharashtra      |
| 118 | Shri Sivananda                      | Others - Yoga            | Uttar Pradesh    |
| 119 | Shri Ajay Kumar Sonkar              | Science and Engineering  | Uttar Pradesh    |
| 120 | Ms. Ajita Srivastava                | Art                      | Uttar Pradesh    |
| 121 | Sadguru Brahmeshanand Acharya Swami | Others - Spiritualism    | Goa              |
| 122 | Dr. Balaji Tambe<br>(Posthumous)    | Medicine                 | Maharashtra      |
| 123 | Shri Raghuvendra Tanwar             | Literature and Education | Haryana          |
| 124 | Dr. Kamlakar Tripathi               | Medicine                 | Uttar Pradesh    |
| 125 | Ms. Lalita Vakil                    | Art                      | Himachal Pradesh |
| 126 | Ms. Durga Bai Vyam                  | Art                      | Madhya Pradesh   |
| 127 | Shri Jyantkumar Maganlal Vyas       | Science and Engineering  | Gujarat          |
| 128 | Ms. Badaplin War                    | Literature and Education | Meghalaya        |

STUDY