

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.

TIGER RESERVES IN TN		
Name of tiger reserves	Area (sqkm)	No.of tigers (2018 census)
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.Veeraswamy 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 Muthukannammal, 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

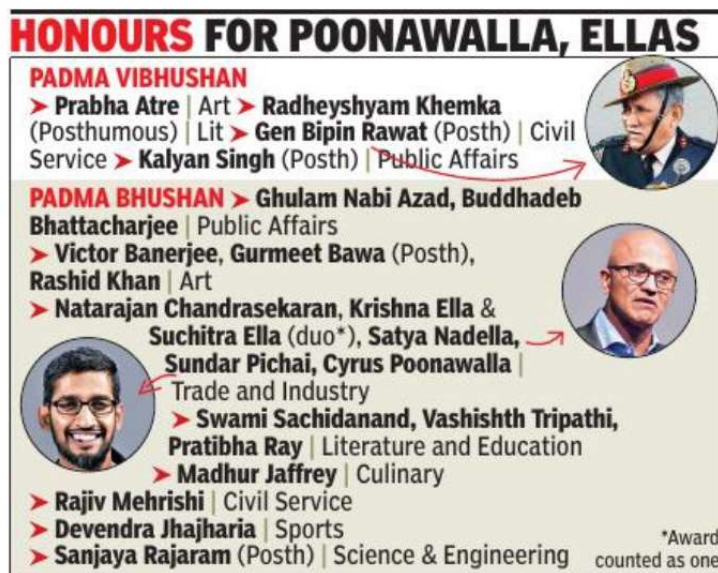
- **India's economy - is estimated to grow by 9% in the current fiscal year, according to the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) World Economic Outlook**
- ✓ This is slightly lesser than the agency's earlier forecast of 9.5%, amidst the impact of the third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - ✓ The IMF 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



- ✓ 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 Ballesh 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 (Posthumous)	Literature and Education	Uttar Pradesh
3	General Bipin Rawat (Posthumous)	Civil Service	Uttarakhand
4	Shri Kalyan Singh (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 (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* (Duo)	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 (Posthumous)	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)

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* (Duo)	Art	Uttar Pradesh
27	Shri Subbanna Ayyappan	Science and Engineering	Karnataka
28	Shri J K Bajaj	Literature and Education	Delhi

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

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 (Posthumous)	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 (Posthumous)	Literature and Education	Jharkhand
65	Shri Shaibal Gupta (Posthumous)	Literature and Education	Bihar
66	Shri Narasingha Prasad Guru	Literature and Education	Odisha
67	Shri Gosaveedu Shaik Hassan (Posthumous)	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 (Posthumous)	Medicine	Madhya Pradesh
81	Shri Darshanam Mogilaiah	Art	Telangana
82	Shri Guruprasad Mohapatra (Posthumous)	Civil Service	Delhi
83	Shri Thavil Kongampattu A V Murugaiyan	Art	Puducherry
84	Ms. R Muthukannammal	Art	Tamil Nadu
85	Shri Abdul Khader Nadakattin	Others - Grassroots 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. Prabhaben 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 (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

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 (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