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India's logistics costs:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ A report by National Council of Applied Economic Research shows that India's logistics costs are between 7.8-8.9% of the National GDP.
- ➔ The government plans to lower this by 5 points by 2030. National Logistics Policy implemented aiming at enhancing last-mile delivery, minimizing transport issues. DPIIT aims to improve India's ranking in World Bank's Logistics Performance Index to below 25th.



150 elephant corridors:

(Importance level-4/5)

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- **The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in coordination with the State Forest Departments have validated 150 elephant corridors across 15 elephant range states in India.**
- In order to protect elephants, their habitat, address issues relating to man-animal conflict and ensure the welfare of elephants kept in captivity, the Government of India established Project Elephant as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 1992.



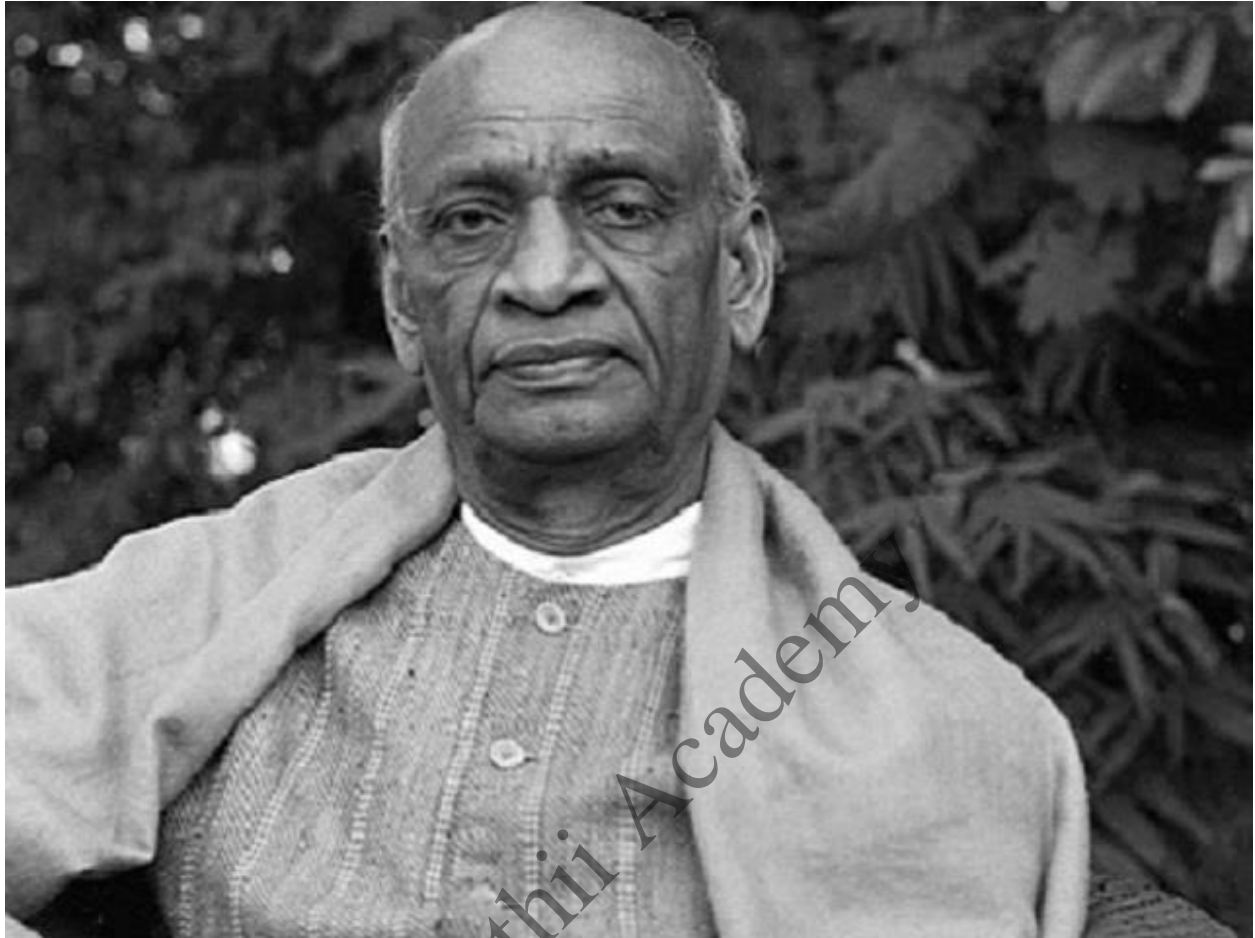
Death Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel:

(Importance level-3/5)

- **Death Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel is observed on 15th December every year. Sardar Vallabhai Patel was an Indian independence nationalist who served as the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of India.**
- He organized Kheda, Borsad and Bardoli non-violent civil disobedience satyagraha against the British Raj. His work towards national integration made him recognized as the “iron Man of India”.

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KPIT Technologies:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **KPIT Technologies has unveiled Sodium-ion battery technology which aims to reduce costs by 25-30% compared to lithium-ion batteries used in EVs.**
- ➔ The Na-battery boosts 80% capacity retention, offers faster charging and is applicable in vehicles and grid storage. The firm seeks to decrease India's dependence on battery imports, promoting sustainability and strategic partnerships.

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8th Brahmaputra Valley Film Festival:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **The 8th Brahmaputra Valley Film Festival started with an enthralling ceremony, signaling significant cinematic and cultural celebrations in Northeast India.**
- ➔ Festival Director, Tanushree Hazarika emphasized the festival's aim to elevate unheard voices, empower filmmakers and extend geographic reach, fostering diversity in storytelling.

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Barracuda:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Barracuda, said to be India's fastest solar-electric boat was launched at Aroor in Alappuzha District of Kerala. Named after the swift, long fish, Barracuda was designed by Navalt and can be deployed as a workboat to ferry up to 12 passengers and cargo.**
- ➔ The 14 metre-long, 4.4 metre-wide vessel can attain a top speed of 12.5 knots and has a range of 7 hours on a single charge.

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S&P Global Mobility:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **In the automotive sector, India has stood out as a significant example of progress, surpassing its counterparts in the world's largest markets.**
- ➔ According to S&P Global Mobility forecasts, India is set to witness a remarkable 36% growth in its light vehicle market in 2023, reaching 4.8 million units—a testament to the country's resilience and quick recovery in the post-pandemic era.

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Pune:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **In a momentous occasion for India, Pune has etched its name in the prestigious ‘Guinness World Record‘ books by hosting the largest reading activity in collaboration, surpassing China’s previous record.**
- ➔ On December 14th, 2023, from 8-10 am at SP College, a remarkable total of 3,066 parents gathered to read aloud to their children, creating a magical atmosphere and leaving an indelible mark in history.

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Bihar government:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth an impressive Rs 50,530 crore have been successfully inked with Bihar government approximately 300 companies, reflecting a resounding success for Bihar.**
- ➔ These agreements span diverse sectors, underlining the state's appeal to investors. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, a key participant in the summit, took a significant step towards bolstering Bihar's economic landscape.
- ➔ He unveiled the Bihar Logistics Policy 2023, with a vision to establish world-class infrastructure for both industrial and social advancement.

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Indian Navy:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **The Indian Navy is set to re-induct a refurbished 22-year-old fast attack craft, INS Tarmugli, in a ceremonial commissioning ceremony at the naval dockyard in Visakhapatnam.**
- ➔ This event marks a significant milestone, as INS Tarmugli returns to active service more than seventeen years after being gifted to the Maldives and subsequently returned to India in May of the current year.
- ➔ “The ship has a unique distinction of having served under the flag of two nations with three names during her distinguished service till date,” stated a Navy spokesperson. Originally commissioned in the Indian Navy as INS Tillanchang, a Trinkat Class ship, it served actively until 2006.

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No.7:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ In a move echoing the tribute to cricket legends, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has decided to retire the iconic No.7 jersey worn by former captain MS Dhoni. This decision follows the precedent set by Sachin Tendulkar's No.10, retired in 2017.
- ➔ Going forward, no other Indian cricketer will sport the No.7 jersey. The retirement of jerseys is a unique tradition in cricket, symbolizing the reverence for legendary players. Sachin Tendulkar's No.10 was the first to be retired, and now, MS Dhoni's No.7 joins this exclusive list.

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Vijay Amritraj and Leander Paes:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Indian Tennis legends Vijay Amritraj and Leander Paes became the first Asian men to be inducted into the international Tennis Hall of Fame.**
- ➔ It has made India the 28th nation to be represented in the prestigious institution. Leander Paes, an 18 time Grand Slam Champion in doubles and mixed doubles is honored in the player category. Vijay Amritraj is honored in the Contributor category.

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