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December 17-18, 2023

Swarved Mahamandir:

(Importance level-3/5)

- ➔ **PM Modi launched world's largest meditation centre Swarved Mahamandir. Swarved Mahamandir is a magnificent seven-floor temple with 125 petal lotus domes. It is located in Umaraha area of Varanasi.**
- ➔ The Prime Minister Modi and UP CM Yogi Adityanath took a tour of the center that can seat 20,000 people at a time for meditation. The Mahamandir houses the idol of Sadguru Sadafal Deoji Maharaj, a 19th century spiritual leader and the founder of Vihangam Yoga.

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Minorities Rights Day:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Minorities Rights Day is observed on 18th December. To protect the rights of the minority communities every year on 18 December, Minorities Rights Day is observed in India. This day is celebrated by the National Commission for Minorities.**
- ➔ Theme for 2023: ‘Celebrating Diversity and Inclusion’. United Nations on 18 December 1992 adopted the statement on the individual’s rights belonging to Religious or Linguistic National or Ethnic Minorities.



Surat Diamond Exchange:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Surat Diamond Exchange-world's largest office inaugurated by PM Modi. Surat Diamond bourse covers a constructed area of 6.7 million square feet and was completed in July at cost of 32 billion.**
- ➔ The bourse comprises a state of the art 'Customs Clearance House' for import-Export, a jewellery mall for retail jewellery businesses and a facility for international banking and safe vaults.

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Minister Bhupinder Yadav:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **In 2022, India reported 112 tiger attack deaths with most in Maharashtra(85), according to Minister Bhupinder Yadav.**
- ➔ Over 5 years, tiger attacks caused 302 human deaths. Measures are proposed by the National Tiger Conservation Authority to mitigate clashes with compensations amounting to over INR 14.78 crores provided in 2022.



Kotak Mahindra Bank & IIT Kanpur:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Kotak Mahindra Bank, IIT Kanpur launched Kotak School of Sustainability. Kotak School of Sustainability is India's first fully integrated school of sustainability is India's first fully integrated school of sustainability at IIT Kanpur funded by KMBL through its CSR program.**
- ➔ To address the challenges of global warming and promote pedigree education, research and outreach, IIT Kanpur and the Kota Mahindra bank limited joined hands to launch Kotak School of Sustainability.

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Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2023:

(Importance level-3/5)

- **PM Modi inaugurated Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2023 in Varanasi, launching multi-lingual and Braille translations of classic tamil literature. The event celebrated the age-old connection between Tamil Nadu and Kashi with PM highlighting the shared cultural heritage.**
- The Tamil Sangamam is aimed to help continue empowering India's heritage and strengthening the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

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‘Bhashini’:

(Importance level-4/5)

- In a groundbreaking move, Prime Minister Narendra Modi utilized an AI-powered Indian language translation tool, ‘Bhashini’, during a recent speech in Uttar Pradesh.
- The tool, developed by the government, aims to facilitate real-time translation, fostering communication across diverse linguistic communities within the country.
- Bhashini stands out as an innovative initiative that draws on the collective efforts of tens of thousands of individuals in India. The project involved people contributing data from their native languages, forming open-source language datasets.

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Genrobotics:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Genrobotics, a Kerala-based startup, has emerged as a frontrunner in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for social change.**
- ➔ The company achieved significant recognition by being adjudged among the top three AI startups in India at the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) Summit 2023.
- ➔ The prestigious event, organized by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in New Delhi from December 12-14, witnessed Genrobotics securing its place in the spotlight.

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NCRB:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Adulteration is a more serious problem than what it looks like to many people. Nothing can be as dangerous as adulterated food for the human body.**
- ➔ The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) recently revealed alarming data that sheds light on the severity of the issue, especially in the city of Hyderabad and its surrounding areas. The NCRB data pointed out that Hyderabad topped the nation in food adulteration cases in 2022.
- ➔ In close second place was Andhra Pradesh, trailing after Telangana. Among 19 major Indian cities, a total of 291 cases of adulterated food were reported, with a staggering 246 cases emerging from Hyderabad alone. This unsettling trend underscores a pressing concern for the city's food safety.

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DRDO:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ In a groundbreaking display of technological prowess, India has achieved a global first by demonstrating the capability of its indigenous Akash missile system to engage four aerial targets simultaneously at a range of 25 kilometers.
- ➔ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) proudly announced this historic achievement, highlighting India's unique position as the first country to possess such a capability within a single firing unit.

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SAMAR:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **In a significant triumph for its indigenous design and development capabilities, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has proudly announced the successful test firing of its Surface to Air Missile for Assured Retaliation (SAMAR) air defence missile system.**
- ➔ This accomplishment marks a milestone for the IAF's strategic self-reliance efforts. SAMAR is a quick reaction surface-to-air missile system, ingeniously crafted by the IAF's 7 Base Repair Depot (BRD) and 11 BRD, in collaboration with Simran Flowtech Industries and Yamazuki Denki.
- ➔ Notably, the system repurposes old Russian-origin Vypel R-73 and R-27 air-to-air missiles, demonstrating an innovative approach to maximize existing resources.



Mental health, job satisfaction:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Reducing Social Media usage by 30 minutes improves mental health, job satisfaction while frequent users find it difficult to focus on their work, a study has found.**
- ➔ Researchers at Ruhr University Bochum and the German Center for Mental Health, Germany found that refraining from Social media gave people more time to do their job.



International Migrants Day 2023:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **International Migrants Day 2023, observed annually on December 18, serves as a global platform to recognize and appreciate the significant contributions of migrants while shedding light on the challenges they face.**
- ➔ This day serves as a reminder to reflect on and celebrate the invaluable contributions of millions of migrants worldwide, recognizing their role as dynamic agents for the development in both their countries of origin and destination.
- ➔ The theme for International Migrants Day 2023 is "Promoting Safe Migration".

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Haryana:

(Importance level-4/5)

- **In a historic turn of events at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Rajkot, Haryana emerged victorious in the 2023 Vijay Hazare Trophy, securing their first-ever title with a 30-run triumph over Rajasthan in the summit clash.**
- The victory marked one of the greatest campaigns in Indian domestic cricket history, as Haryana showcased their dominance by remaining unbeaten throughout the tournament.

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First ever Khelo India Para Games:

- ➔ The first ever Khelo India Para Games concluded in New Delhi. Haryana won the inaugural title by securing 105 medals including 40 gold, 39 silver and 26 bronze.
- ➔ Uttar Pradesh came second with 62 medals including 25 gold, 23 silver and 14 bronze. Tamil Nadu finished third with 20 gold, 8 Silver and 14 bronze medals.

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