

Headlines at a Glance - 22nd January 2022

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Amar Jawan Jyoti merged with eternal flame at National War Memorial in New Delhi

The Amar Jawan Jyoti flame at India Gate has been merged with the Eternal Flame at the National War Memorial, barely 400 metres away. This merger was accompanied by a military ceremony in New Delhi on Friday. Inaugurated on January 26, 1971, by the then prime minister Indira Gandhi, the Amar Jawan Jyoti was constructed as a memorial for Indian soldiers who were killed in action in the 1971 Indo-Pak war. India's victory at the end of this war led to the creation of Bangladesh. The National War Memorial, on the other hand, was inaugurated on February 25, 2019, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The names of as many as 25,942 soldiers have been inscribed on the National War Memorial.

SOURCE: *The Indian Express*

Indian Navy participates in ASW Exercise Sea Dragon-22

An Indian Navy P-8I long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft participated in multinational Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Exercise Sea Dragon-22 at Guam in the U.S. that saw the participation of Quad countries, Canada and South Korea. The two-week exercise began on January 5 and concluded on January 20. "The exercise was aimed to enhance interoperability among participating nations by evolving common tactics in response to emerging traditional and non-traditional security challenges in maritime domain," the Navy said in a statement. Naval aircraft from the U.S., India, Japan, Canada, Australia and South Korea – which included P8A, P8I, P1, CP140 Aurora and P3C Orion

maritime reconnaissance aircraft practised high-end ASW skills. "The aircrew also undertook professional interaction with other participants from friendly foreign countries," the Navy stated.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*

India, Sri Lanka extend science and tech cooperation for next 3 years

With focus on new areas such as waste-water technologies, biotech, sustainable agriculture, aerospace engineering, robotics, big data analytics, artificial intelligence, as well as industrial collaborations, India and Sri Lanka on Thursday extended the existing science and technology cooperation for three more years. "India and Sri Lanka have a great legacy of intellectual, cultural and religious interaction and relationship of more than 2,500 years. Trade and investment and cooperation in education and other sectors have gone up in recent times, and in this line, cooperation in science and technology becomes very critical," S.K. Varshney, Advisor and Head, International Cooperation, Department of Science and Technology (DST), said at the India-Sri Lanka 5th Joint Committee on S&T Cooperation.

SOURCE: *Business Standard*

NITI Aayog proposes to include EVs in RBI's PSL Guidelines

Banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) in India have the potential to achieve an electric vehicle (EV) financing market size of Rs 40,000 crore (USD 5 billion) by 2025 and Rs 3.7 lakh crore (USD 50 billion) by 2030. However, retail finance for EVs has been slow to pick up. Priority-sector lending aims to expand financial access and support employment opportunities in India. In order to meet these goals, the report highlights that the RBI may consider various EV segments and use cases based on five parameters: socio-economic potential, livelihood generation potential, scalability, techno-economic viability, and stakeholder acceptability. The report indicates that electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and commercial four-wheelers are early segments to prioritise under PSL.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*

Bhupender Yadav delivers India's statement at the Fourth Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav on Friday said the natural resources dependent community is an important aspect of tiger conservation and the 'people agenda' ranks prominently in India's 'tiger agenda'. "Approximately 4.3 million man-days of employment are being generated by 51 Tiger Reserves in India and funds from Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) are being utilized for promoting voluntary village resettlement from core areas of the Tiger Reserves," the Minister said while speaking at the 4th Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation virtually. The Conference is an important event for reviewing progress towards the Global Tiger Recovery Programme and commitments to tiger conservation.

SOURCE: *Hindustan Times*