



Career Strategists IAS

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1. Kho-Kho World Cup 2025.

The trophy and mascot for the Kho-Kho World Cup 2025 have been unveiled. This World Cup will be held in India for the first time. The trophy and mascot have been named Tejas and Tara respectively. Tejas symbolizes talent and energy, while Tara symbolizes guidance and aspiration. The venue for the event will be the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Delhi, and it will be held from 13 to 19 January 2025.



2. Centralized Pension Payment System

The Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has introduced the Centralized Pension Payment System (CPPS), which will be implemented in all regional offices across the country. More than 68 lakh pensioners will benefit from this system. CPPS is a decentralized pension distribution system, under which the regional offices of EPFO will enter into agreements with only 3-4 banks.



3. Bhubaneswar to host 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention 2025.

Odisha's capital Bhubaneswar will host the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention from January 8-10, 2025. This is the first time Bhubaneswar will host this biennial convention. The convention will be attended by members of the Indian diaspora community from over 50 countries. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated on 9 January to recognize the contribution of the overseas Indian community in India, which is being celebrated every year since 2003.



4. Tamil Nadu begins its first 'Jallikattu' event of 2025

Tamil Nadu's first Jallikattu event of 2025 was held on January 4 at Thachankurichi village in Pudukottai district. The event marks the beginning of the Pongal festival and the Jallikattu season. More than 600 bulls and 350 bull mentor participants took part in this prestigious event, which showcases the rich cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu.



5. Lionel Messi becomes the first football player to receive the US Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Lionel Messi, captain of the Argentine men's football team, will receive the United States' highest civilian award "The Presidential Medal of Freedom" at a ceremony held at the White House on January 5, 2025. He is the first male football player to be awarded this award. The award will be given to 19 other distinguished persons by US President Joe Biden.



6. Appointment of CEO of Delhi Waqf Board.

Lieutenant Governor (L-G) VK Saxena has approved the appointment of IAS officer Azimul Haque as the CEO of Delhi Waqf Board. However, the L-G accused the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government of showing negligence in the matter and not following legal procedures. The post of CEO was vacant since 28 November 2024, due to which the key functions of the board, such as salary distribution of imams and other employees, were delayed and employees faced difficulties.



7. BCCI to get new secretary and treasurer.

Devjit Saikia, former Assam cricketer, is going to be appointed as the new secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), while Prabhtej Singh Bhatia of Chhattisgarh State Cricket Association (CSCS) will be appointed as the new treasurer. Both the candidates had applied alone for their respective posts and they will be elected unopposed at the BCCI Special General Meeting (SGM) held in Mumbai on January 12, 2025.



8. Red Panda

On the occasion of Christmas 2024, two red pandas, 'Vishal' and 'Koshi', were brought from Rotterdam Zoo in the Netherlands to Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PMZP) in Darjeeling. This is the first red panda brought from a foreign state after a decade. PMZP, which was established in 1958, operates the most successful conservation breeding program for red pandas in India.





Career Strategists IAS

1. Which country will host the Kho-Kho World Cup 2025?

- A - India
- B - Pakistan
- C - Bangladesh
- D - Sri Lanka

The trophy and mascot for the Kho-Kho World Cup 2025 have been unveiled. This World Cup will be held in India for the first time, in which 41 teams from 24 countries will participate. The trophy has been named Tejas and Tara, which symbolize talent-energy and guidance-aspiration respectively.



2. Which organization has recently introduced a centralized pension payment system in all its regional offices?

- A - Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)
- B - State Bank of India (SBI)
- C - Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)
- D - None of these

The Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has introduced the Centralized Pension Payment System (CPPS), which will benefit 68 lakh pensioners. In this system, pensioners can withdraw their pension from any bank, and the pension amount will be deposited directly into their account.



3. Where will the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Conference 2025 be organized?

- A - New Delhi
- B - Bhubaneswar
- C - Jaipur
- D - Chandigarh

Bhubaneswar will host the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention from January 8-10, 2025, which will be attended by Indian diaspora from over 50 countries. This is the first time Bhubaneswar is hosting this convention. The chief guest of the convention will be President of Trinidad and Tobago Christine Carla Kangaloo, who will address virtually on January 9.



4. 'Jallikattu' is organised in which state?

- A - Tamil Nadu
- B - Kerala
- C - Karnataka
- D - Gujarat

Jallikattu was organised at Thachankurichi village in Pudukottai district of Tamil Nadu on 4 January 2025, which marks the beginning of Pongal festival and the Jallikattu season. More than 600 bulls and 350 participants took part in the event. The event began in the presence of District Collector M. Aruna.



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5. Lionel Messi will be honored with which award at the White House on 5 January 2025?

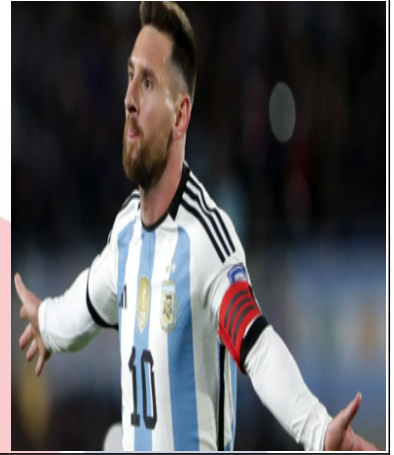
A - The Golden Boot Award

B - The Presidential Medal of Freedom

C - FIFA Player of the Year

D - The Ballon d'Or

Lionel Messi, Argentina's football captain, will receive "The Presidential Medal of Freedom" from US President Joe Biden at the White House on 5 January 2025. He is the first male football player to receive this honor. The award has been given to him for his exceptional contribution to the field of football.



6. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Delhi Waqf Board recently?

A - Azimul Haque

B - Inzamam-ul-Haq

C - Usman Khawaja

D - Irfan Pathan

Lieutenant Governor (L-G) V.K. Saxena approved the appointment of IAS officer Azimul Haque as CEO of Delhi Waqf Board. However, the L-G accused the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government of not following legal procedures and delaying the appointment by a month. Under the Delhi Waqf Act, 1995, the board had to send a panel of two names to the state government but only one name was sent, thereby violating the procedure.



7. Who has been elected unopposed as the new secretary of BCCI recently?

A - Devjit Saikia

B - Prabhtej Singh

C - Sourav Ganguly

D - Sachin Tendulkar

Devjit Saikia, former Assam cricketer, is going to be appointed as the new secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and Prabhtej Singh Bhatia, the representative of Chhattisgarh State Cricket Association, as the new treasurer. Both had applied alone and will be elected unopposed at the BCCI Special General Meeting (SGM) held in Mumbai on January 12, 2025.



8. Recently, two red pandas were brought from the Netherlands to the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park in Darjeeling, India. What were they named?

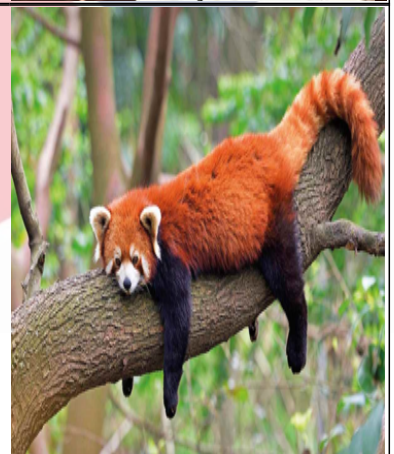
A - Vishal and Koshi

B - Ravi and Shivani

C - Himalaya and Parvati

D - Himanshi and Himanshu

On the occasion of Christmas 2024, two red pandas, 'Vishal' and 'Koshi', were brought from the Rotterdam Zoo in the Netherlands to the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PMZP) in Darjeeling. These are the red pandas brought from a foreign country after a decade. PMZP, which was established in 1958, operates the most successful protected breeding program for red pandas in India.





One Liner

1. When will the Kho-Kho World Cup 2025 be organized in India? - **13 to 19 January**
2. What is the full form of EPFO? - **Employees Provident Fund Organization**
3. When is Pravasi Bharatiya Divas celebrated? - **9 January**
4. What is Jallikattu? - **Traditional game of Tamil Nadu, in which bulls and humans fight.**
5. Footballer Lionel Messi belongs to which country? - **Argentina**
6. Who is the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Delhi? - **V.K. Saxena**
7. Who has been made the treasurer of BCCI recently? - **Prabhtej Singh**
8. What is the scientific name of Red Panda? - **Ailurus fulgens**
9. CSIR developed indigenous technology for the production of what? - **Paracetamol**
10. How many countries' teams will participate in the Kho-Kho World Cup 2025? - **4 countries**

