

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DECEMBER 23, 2023

NATIONAL

- **Lok Sabha passes Bill on CEC, EC appointment**
- ✓ The Lok Sabha has passed the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023. The Bill replaces the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991.



- ✓ Till the Supreme Court ruling, Election Commissioners and Chief Election Commissioners (CECs) had been appointed by the President after recommendations by the government.
- ✓ According to the Bill, the search committee, headed by the Law Minister and comprising two Union Secretaries, will shortlist five names for consideration of the selection committee for appointment as the CEC and ECs.
- ✓ The selection committee, which would be headed by the Prime Minister and comprise a Union Minister nominated by the Prime Minister, and the leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, will select members of the Election Commission.

➤ **Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita Bill, 2023 (BNSS)**



- ✓ Contrary to what Union Home Minister Amit Shah told the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, the amended Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita Bill, 2023 (BNSS) does not provide a blanket exemption to doctors in cases of death due to negligence; instead, it prescribes a maximum two-year imprisonment in such cases, slightly lower than the punishment for other cases.
- ✓ The amended Section 106 (1).

AWARDS

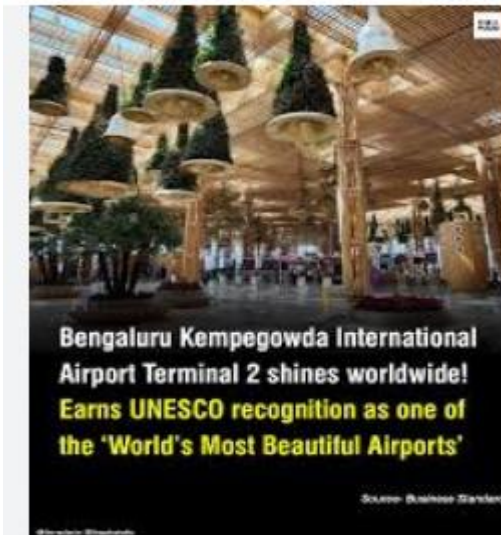
- **UNESCO Awards Spotlight Indian Heritage Conservation Efforts**
- ✓ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has recognized four Indian projects for their outstanding contributions to cultural heritage conservation in the Asia-Pacific region.



- ✓ The resilient urban revitalization project of Rambagh Gate and Ramparts in Amritsar, Punjab, received the highest honor, the “Award of Excellence.”
- ✓ The Church of Epiphany in Haryana and Bikaner House in Delhi were bestowed with the “Award of Merit” for their exemplary conservation efforts.
- ✓ These projects showcase India’s diverse architectural heritage and dedication to preserving its historical treasures.

- **UNESCO’s ‘Most Beautiful Airports’**

- ✓ In a recent announcement from UNESCO's Prix Versailles 2023, Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) Terminal 2 (T2) has achieved global acclaim, being recognized as one of the 'world's most beautiful airports.'



- ✓ The airport was honored with the prestigious 'Special Prize for an Interior' in recognition of its outstanding design.
 - ✓ This global acknowledgment emphasizes the airport's commitment to exceptional design and architectural brilliance on an international level.
- **Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize**
- ✓ The renowned Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize has named poet-critic Sukrita Paul Kumar as its sixth recipient for her book, "Salt & Pepper: Selected Poems".



- ✓ This prestigious award recognizes outstanding literary work from around the globe, promoting world peace, literature, art, education, and human rights.
- ✓ Founded in 2018 by US-based publisher Peter Bundalo, the Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize has established itself as a valuable platform for celebrating literary excellence and championing human rights and world peace.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ Namdapha Flying Squirrel

- ✓ An nocturnal flying squirrel has resurfaced in Arunachal Pradesh after going missing for 42 years.



- ✓ The Namdapha flying squirrel (*Biswamoyopterus biswasi*) was last described in 1981 based on a single individual found in the 1,985 sq. km. Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh's Changlang district.
- ✓ **One of the largest arboreal squirrels**, all populations has at least some reddish-brown above and pale under-parts, but otherwise, there are significant geographic variations in the colours.

IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ National Farmers Day – December 23

- ✓ National Farmer's Day 2023, also known as Kisan Diwas, is celebrated on December 23 in India to honor and recognize the invaluable contribution of farmers to the country's socio-economic fabric.



- ✓ This day marks the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, a former prime minister of India and a dedicated advocate for the welfare of farmers.

- ✓ During his political career, Charan Singh introduced several welfare schemes for farmers.
- ✓ Charan Singh's multifaceted efforts included writing extensively on zamindari abolition and land reforms, leaving an indelible mark on India's agricultural history.

