



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DECEMBER 12, 2024

AWARDS

- **Champions of the Earth Award**
- ✓ The United Nations honored ecologist Madhav Gadgil with the Champions of the Earth Award, which is the UN's highest environmental recognition.



- ✓ Gadgil's contributions focus on the Western Ghats, a vital biodiversity hotspot in India.
- ✓ Madhav Gadgil chaired the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, and studied the impacts of population growth and development.
- ✓ In 2011, they recommended declaring the entire Western Ghats an Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA).
- ✓ They also suggested banning mining, quarrying, and new thermal power plants in sensitive areas.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **India to Launch 'Bharat Antariksha Station' by 2035**

- ✓ The announcement of the 'Bharat Antariksha Station' marks a milestone, and is expected to be operational by 2035.



- ✓ An Indian astronaut is also anticipated to land on the moon by 2040, which reflects India's growing capabilities in space technology.
- ✓ The proposed space station aims to enhance India's presence in low Earth orbit and will support scientific research and international collaboration.
- **Google Unveils 'GenCast' for Weather Forecasting**
- ✓ Google's DeepMind team recently launched GenCast, a new AI model that excels in weather prediction and has surpassed the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).



- ✓ GenCast provides faster and more accurate forecasts, extending up to 15 days.
- ✓ Unlike earlier versions, it offers multiple forecasts. Users receive at least 50 different weather scenarios.
- ✓ This variety allows for a comprehensive understanding of potential weather outcomes.

SPORTS

- **D. Gukesh Becomes Youngest World Chess Champion**

- ✓ Indian Grandmaster Dommaraju Gukesh became the youngest chess champion in the world.



- ✓ Gukesh made history as he clinched 18th World Chess Championship defeating Ding Liren of China in the 14th and the final match of the FIDE World Chess Championship in Singapore.
- ✓ Gukesh beat the record previously held by Garry Kasparov who got the crown at age of 22.
- ✓ Gukesh is the second world champion from India after Viswanathan Anand, who won the title four times.

