

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense, lush green forest. Several cars are visible on the road, including a white car, a blue car, and a dark car. The road has white dashed lines for lane markings. The overall scene is vibrant and scenic.

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# DAILY NEWS DECODE

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# INDIA-DENMARK COOPERATION ON GREEN FUELS



- India & Denmark agreed to initiate joint research and development on green fuels including green hydrogen, during the Joint S&T Committee meeting on 14th January 2022.
- The Joint Committee discussed national strategic priorities and developments in Science, Technology, and Innovation of both countries with a special focus on green solutions of the future - strategy for investments in green research, technology, and innovation at the virtual meeting.
- The committee emphasised on development of bilateral collaboration on mission-driven research, innovation, and technology development, including climate and green transition, energy, water, waste, food, and so on as agreed by the two Prime Ministers while adopting the Green Strategic Partnership - Action Plan 2020-2025.

# NUSANTARA



- Indonesia's parliament passed a law approving the relocation of its capital from slowly sinking Jakarta to a site 2,000 kilometres away on the jungle-clad Borneo island that will be named "Nusantara".
- The House of Representatives vote provides the legal framework for the move, which was first tipped by President Joko Widodo in April 2019, citing rising sea levels and severe congestion on densely populated Java island.
- Home to more than 30 million people in its greater metro area, Jakarta has long been plagued by serious infrastructure problems and flooding exacerbated by climate change.
- The new capital will cover about 56,180 hectares in East Kalimantan province on the Indonesian part of Borneo.

# How Republic Day tableaux are selected ?



- The Defence Ministry is responsible for the parade and is the coordinating body for the tableaux.
- Around September every year the Defence Ministry invites all the states, the UTs, Central Government departments, and a few constitutional authorities to participate in the parade through tableaux.
- The participants have to showcase elements relevant to their state/ UT/ department, within the overarching theme.
- The theme given to participants this year was around 75 years of India's Independence which includes India@75 - Freedom struggle, Ideas @ 75, Achievements @ 75, Actions @ 75 and Resolve @ 75.



- **The Defence Ministry also shares the basic guidelines about what all the tableaux can or should include.**
- **How are the tableaux selected?**
- **The Defence Ministry constitutes an expert committee of distinguished persons from fields like art, culture, painting, sculpture, music, architecture, choreography, etc, who help in shortlisting the tableaux from the proposals.**
- **First, the submitted sketches or designs of the proposals are scrutinized by this committee, which can make suggestions for any modifications in the sketch or design.**
- **The sketch should be simple, colorful, easy to comprehend and should avoid unnecessary detail.**
- **It should be self-explanatory, and should not need any written elaboration.**
- **If there is a traditional dance involved with the tableau, it should be a folk dance, and the costumes and musical instruments should be traditional and authentic and the proposal should include a video clipping of the dance.**
- **Once approved, the next stage is for the participants to come up with three dimensional models for their proposals, which are again examined by the expert committee for final selection, taking in view several criteria.**

- In making the final selection the committee looks at a combination of factors, looking at the visual appeal, impact on the masses, idea/ theme of the tableaux, degree of detail involved, accompanying music, among other factors.
- Only those who are shortlisted, are informed about the next round.
- The Defence Ministry recommends the participants to try and not engage any firm or fabricator that are involved in creation of two tableaux, including their own.
- The Defence Ministry provides each participant with one tractor and one trailer, and the tableau should fit on that.
- However, the participant can replace their ministry-provided tractor or trailer with other vehicles, but the total number should not be more than two vehicles.
- The tableaux of two different states/ UTs cannot be too similar.
- The tableaux cannot have any writing or use of logos, except for the name of the state/ UT/ department, which should be written in Hindi on the front, English on the back, and a regional language on the sides.

# Kohima war cemetery



- It is a memorial dedicated to soldiers of the 2nd British Division of the Allied Forces who died in the Second World War at Kohima, the capital of Nagaland, India, in April 1944.
- As per CWGC, Kohima War Cemetery has a feature that is possibly not shared by any other cemetery in the world, that is a tennis court.
- It is one of 23,000 World War graves across the continents maintained by the CWGC.
- Present-day Nagaland and adjoining Manipur comprised the only theatre of World War II in the Indian subcontinent.
- On April 3, 1944, a Japanese force of 15,000 had attacked Kohima and its 2,500 strong garrison.
- Those who had fallen in the defence of Kohima were buried on the battlefield, which later became a permanent CWGC cemetery.

- **Designer Colin St. Clair Oakes incorporated the tennis court into the design of the cemetery.**
- **The other four unusual sites listed by CWGC are the World War I “crater cemeteries” - Zivy Crater and Litchfield Crater - in the Pas de Calais region in France ((These craters were caused by mine explosions).**
- **Another site listed is the Nicosia (Waynes Keep) Cemetery or the “cemetery in no man’s land” in Cyprus, requiring the presence of armed guards, because the cemetery is on the border of a patch of land disputed between the southern and northern parts of the island since the 1970s.**

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# South Africa Launches 1st 'made In Africa' Satellites



- South Africa has launched its first satellite constellation developed entirely in the continent of Africa. Three locally produced nanosatellites, which made up the country's first Maritime Domain Awareness Satellite (MDASat) constellation, were launched from Cape Canaveral in the United States, as part of American aerospace company SpaceX's Transporter-3 mission.
- Transporter-3, SpaceX's third dedicated rideshare mission, carried a total of 105 spacecraft for various organisations and governments, including CubeSats, microsats, PocketQubes and orbital transfer vehicles.

# Dubai opens its Infinity Bridge for traffic for the first time



- Iconic 'Infinity Bridge' in Dubai, United Arab Emirates has been formally opened to traffic for the first time on 16th January 2022. Its design resembles a mathematical sign for infinity ( $\infty$ ).
- It represents the limitless, infinite goals of Dubai. It consists of six lanes in each direction and a combined 3-metre track for pedestrians and cyclists. It is 300 meters long and 22 meters wide.
- The bridge consists of six lanes and improves the link between Deira and Bur Dubai. It features a combined 3-metre track for pedestrians and cyclists.



- **First announced in 2018, the Infinity Bridge is part of an Al Shindagha Corridor Project.**
- **Consisting of six lanes in each direction, the bridge has an arch-shaped like the infinity symbol - which symbolises Dubai's unlimited ambitions.**

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# India & Japan conducted Maritime Partnership Exercise in Bay of Bengal



- A Maritime Partnership Exercise was held between the Indian Navy and Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) in the Bay of Bengal in a non-contact mode amid COVID-19.
- The Indian side was represented by Indian Naval Ships (INS) Shivalik and INS Kadmatt while JMSDF Ships Uraga and Hirado participated from the Japanese side.
- Strengthening bilateral relations, promoting defence cooperation, enhancing mutual understanding and interoperability, and sharing best practices between IN and JMSDF.



# 2021 was among the seven warmest years on record: UN body



- UN's World Meteorological Organization said on Wednesday that 2021 was one of the seven warmest years on record. The average global temperature in 2021 was about 1.11°C above the pre-industrial era levels, the data sets compiled by the WMO showed.
- The hottest seven years have all been recorded since 2015, with 2016, 2019 and 2020 topping the list, it said.

# Giant panda's gut bacteria help it remain chubby on bamboo diet: Study



- Researchers of the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, have found that gut bacteria help giant pandas remain chubby despite being on low-quality diet.
- The study reveals that during bamboo-eating season, gut microbiota help pandas gain more weight and store more fat.
- This compensates for the lack of nutrients during their leaf-eating season and helps them remain chubby overall.

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# **Newly-found exoplanet will be consumed by host star in 1 mn yrs: Study**



- **NASA's TESS Mission has spotted exoplanets, named TOI-2337b, TOI-4329b and TOI-2669b, that are dangerously close to their host stars and will be consumed by them.**
- **TOI-2337b will be consumed in less than one million years, sooner than the time estimated for any other currently known planet.**
- **The planets could have masses between 0.5 and 1.7 times Jupiter's mass.**