

December - 27

TAMIL NADU

R Parthiepan - Golden Visa

- ❖ Actor-filmmaker R Parthiepan has become the first Tamil actor to receive Golden Visa from the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ The coveted recognition has been accorded to him for his contribution to the field of cinema.
- ❖ The UAE Golden Visa is a long-term residence visa system, extending from five to 10 years, and is automatically renewed.
- ❖ It is granted to achievers from various fields, professionals, investors, and those with promising abilities.



Tolkappiyam

- ❖ The Hindi translation of Tolkappiyam and the Kannada translations of 9 works of Classical Tamil literature were recently issued by the Minister of State for Education.
- ❖ Tamil literature goes back to the Sangam Era, named after the assembly (sangam) of poets.

- ❖ Tolkappiyam was authored by Tolkappiyar and is considered the earliest of Tamil literary work.
- ❖ Though it is a work on Tamil grammar, it also provides insights on the political and socio-economic conditions of the time.



NATIONAL

Abhyas

**Aeronautical Development Establishment
Defence Research & Development Organisation
Bengaluru - 560 093**

High – speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) - ABHYAS

High – speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) offer a realistic threat scenario for practice of weapon systems. HEAT – ABHYAS is an expendable high speed unmanned aerial target, being developed at ADE. The layout of ABHYAS is shown below.

The specification of ABHYAS is shown below:

Sl. No.	Parameter	ABHYAS	Sl. No.	Parameter	ABHYAS
1.	Altitude (m)	5000	6.	Length (mm)	2385
2.	Max Speed (M)	5	7.	Diameter (mm)	180
3.	Endurance(min)	45	8.	Weight (kg)	75
4.	Turn (g)	2.0	9.	Engine Thrust (kg)	24
5.	Fuel	Jet A1 / ATF	10.	Ferry Range (km)	500

ABHYAS is launched from a mobile launcher with the help of two 68 mm rockets, which are manufactured at the ordnance factories. At the end of launch phase a booster release mechanism releases the boosters. The fuselage for ABHYAS has been designed by adopting the LAKSHYA – PTA low body. A small gas turbine engine, which weighs 2 kg and produces the necessary thrust to sustain the aircraft in flight has been identified for ABHYAS. The engine has been integrated on the ABHYAS airframe and test run with the aircraft fuel system and S – Airintake has been completed.

ABHYAS is designed for autonomous flying with the help of an autopilot, under development. ABHYAS has augmentation systems of RCS, Visual and IR for weapon practice. Besides, ABHYAS can also play the role of a jammer and decoy.

ABHYAS has completed its design phase and has successfully completed the first Experimental Launch without the engine on 23rd June 2012. The ABHYAS on launcher before launch and booster release after the launch phase are shown below.

- ❖ DRDO has successfully conducted the flight test of Indigenously developed Abhyas from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast, Odisha.

- ❖ Abhyas is a High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) System developed to meet the requirement of aerial targets of the Indian Armed Forces.
- ❖ It is designed for autonomous flying with the help of an autopilot.
- ❖ It was developed indigenously by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), a Bengaluru-based DRDO laboratory.

Tusshar Kapoor - Golden Visa



- ❖ Bollywood actor Tusshar Kapoor was awarded Golden Visa.
- ❖ He joins a growing list of Indian movie stars, including Mohanlal and Shah Rukh Khan, who has received the coveted 10-year residency.
- ❖ In 2019, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) implemented a new system for long-term residence visas.
- ❖ Thereby it is enabling foreigners to live, work and study in the UAE without the need of a national sponsor and with 100 percent ownership of their business.

India - 3rd top country hosting unicorns

- ❖ Adding 33 “unicorns” in a single year has helped India displace the United Kingdom to be third in the list of countries that are home to such enterprises valued at over \$1 billion each.
- ❖ The US and China, which occupy the first two ranks, are way ahead, according to the data compiled by Hurun Research Institute.

- ❖ US and China are home to 74 percent of the unicorn universe.



Vernacular Innovation Program




- ❖ It is launched by Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog.
- ❖ It is an initiative to lower the language barrier in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship such that it will systematically decouple creative expressions and languages of transaction.

- ❖ It seeks to enable innovators and entrepreneurs to have access to the innovation ecosystem in 22 scheduled languages.
- ❖ AIM has identified and will be training a Vernacular Task Force (VTF) in each of the 22 scheduled languages.
- ❖ It will assist in overcoming linguistic barriers and empowering innovators in the farthest parts of the country.

INTERNATIONAL

UNSC Resolution 2615

United Nations S/RES/2615 (2021)

 **Security Council** Distr.: General
22 December 2021

Resolution 2615 (2021)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 8941st meeting, on 22 December 2021

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions on Afghanistan,

Stressing the important role that the United Nations will continue to play in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, as well as its continued support for the people of Afghanistan,

Expressing deep concern regarding the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, including food insecurity, and *recalling* that women, children, and minorities have been disproportionately affected,

Expressing appreciation for the strengthened efforts of the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan since 15 August 2021, *calling upon* the United Nations to take an active role in coordinating such assistance going forward, and *noting* the intention of this resolution is to provide clarity to ensure the continued provision of assistance in the future,

Recalling the expectations that the Taliban will adhere to the commitments made, including with regards to humanitarian access, safe passage, counter-terrorism, security, human rights, and counter-narcotics,


Reaffirming the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan, including those individuals and groups designated by the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), and ensuring the territory of Afghanistan should not be used to threaten or attack any country, to plan or finance terrorist acts, or to shelter and train terrorists, and that no Afghan group or individual should support terrorists operating on the territory of any country,


Determining that the situation in Afghanistan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* that humanitarian assistance and other activities that support basic human needs in Afghanistan are not a violation of paragraph 1 (a) of resolution 2255 (2015), and that the processing and payment of funds, other financial assets or

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- ❖ The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has unanimously passed this resolution to permit a carve-out in sanctions against the Taliban to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan.
- ❖ This carve-out covers urgently needed humanitarian assistance and other activities that support basic human needs in Afghanistan.
- ❖ The resolution (2615) mandates a review of the carve-out every six months.

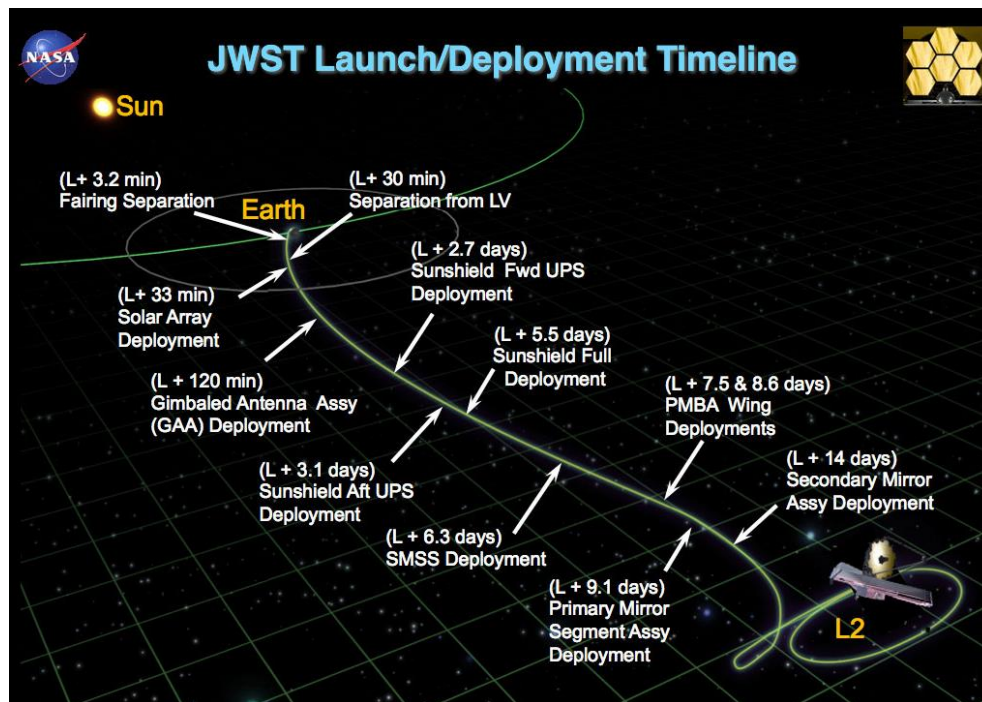
- ❖ It also requests that an Emergency Relief Coordinator brief the UNSC every six months on the delivery of assistance and any obstacles to implementation.
- ❖ It also “calls on all parties” to respect human rights and observe international humanitarian law.

Belgium to close all its nuclear power plants

- ❖ The Belgian Government has agreed in principle to close all its nuclear power plants by the year 2025.
- ❖ However, the government has decided to leave open the possibility of extending the life of two reactors if it will not be able to otherwise ensure the energy supply.
- ❖ The country has decided to phase out nuclear power plants while using gas as a bridge towards sustainable energy sources.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

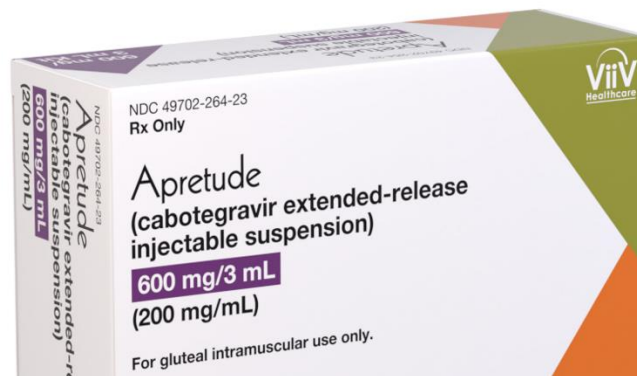
James Webb Space Telescope Mission



- ❖ NASA is all set to launch its much-awaited next-generation space telescope mission named “James Webb Space Telescope Mission”.
- ❖ It will be launched on Ariane 5 rocket, operated by Arianespace.

- ❖ It has been jointly developed by NASA, Canadian Space Agency (CSA), and the European Space Agency (ESA).
- ❖ As NASA's flagship astrophysics mission, it is planned to succeed the Hubble Space Telescope.
- ❖ JWST mission will provide improved infrared resolution and sensitivity as compared to Hubble Space Telescope.
- ❖ It is the 256th Ariane mission.

Apretude



- ❖ The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the USA approved the world's first injectable medication for reducing the risk of acquiring HIV.
- ❖ Apretude is an injectable drug.
- ❖ Its generic name is "cabotegravir extended-release injectable suspension".
- ❖ The drug provides an alternative to daily pills for HIV prevention, like Truvada and Descovy.
- ❖ These pills are effective up to 99% at preventing the sexual transmission of HIV.
- ❖ However, it must be taken every day to be effective.

STATES

State General Category Commission in Punjab

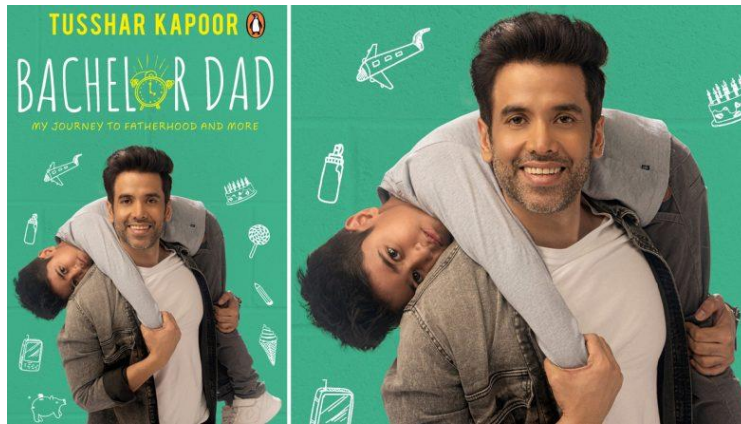
- ❖ Punjab Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, has approved to set up "State General Category Commission" for unreserved classes.
- ❖ The Commission will safeguard the interests of unreserved classes and help in the effective implementation of several welfare schemes.
- ❖ Commission will work for the welfare of the poor belonging to unreserved classes.

- ❖ Apart from Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have set up “state General Category Commission”.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Tusshar Kapoor's debut book

- ❖ Tusshar Kapoor has written his first book titled ‘Bachelor Dad’.
- ❖ The actor became a single father to son Laksshya Kapoor via surrogacy in 2016.
- ❖ He has shared his journey of being a single father in the new book.



SPORTS

Asian Champions Trophy



- ❖ India defeated Pakistan 4-3 to secure the bronze medal in the Asian Champions Trophy men’s hockey tournament held in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- ❖ South Korea defeated Japan 4-2 to win the title.



- ❖ Kanta Tanaka of Japan was declared the best player of the tournament while Suraj Karkera of India was adjudged the best goalkeeper.
- ❖ Jang Jonghyun of South Korea was the top scorer with 10 goals in the tournament.

