

The week from 15 January 2024 to 21 January 2024

Iran and Pakistan engaged in a cross-border exchange of missile strikes in Balochistan. Iran initiated the strikes against militants in Pakistan, prompting retaliatory strikes by Pakistan on militant targets in Iran. Despite the brief escalation, both nations quickly moved towards normalization.

The annual World Economic Forum took place in Davos from January 15 to 19, focusing on topics such as Artificial Intelligence, war, uncertainty, climate, and China's economy. India's economic influence and global initiatives were prominent subjects of discussion.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah attended the 60th Raising Day of the Sashastra Seema Bal in Tezpur, Assam. This central armed police force, established after the Indo-China war of 1962, guards India's borders with Nepal and Bhutan.

Creating a record of sorts, Ujjain's Mahakaleshwar temple sent 5 lakh laddus weighing 50 gm each to Ayodhya for the "Pran Pratistha" ceremony at the Ram Temple. The laddus are meant to be distributed to devotees as prasad on the occasion.

The 9th India International Science Festival was held in Faridabad from January 17 to 20 with the theme "Science and Technology: Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal." The festival aimed to recognize the achievements of science enthusiasts and promote scientific temper among students and citizens.

China asserted that the political "reunification" of Taiwan with Beijing is inevitable, responding to the election of anti-China William Lai Ching-te as the self-governing island's President-elect. China has long claimed the culturally similar semi-conductor pioneer of Taiwan as its territory.

Japan achieved a milestone by landing its Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) on the lunar surface on January 20, becoming the fifth country to land a spacecraft on the moon. The mission aimed for pinpoint accuracy, to become the first-ever rover to land within 100 meters.

In the Men's doubles final of the 2024 India Open Badminton tournament on January 21, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty lost 21-15, 11-21, 21-18 to Koreans Seo Seungjae and Kang Minhyuk at the KD Jadhav Indoor Stadium, New Delhi. It was the pair's second loss at a tournament final in as many weeks after their defeat at the Malaysia Open earlier.



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