



## Rapid Fire Current Affairs

### India and U.N. Peacekeeping Mission

India **will deploy an all-woman platoon of peacekeepers as part of a battalion to the United Nations Interim Security Force** in Abyei (on the border between South Sudan and Sudan).

This will be **India's largest single unit of women peacekeepers in a U.N.** mission since the deployment of the **first-ever all-women's contingent in Liberia in 2007.**

India is **one of the largest troop-contributing nations to the U.N. peacekeeping missions.**

**Read More:** [U.N. Peacekeeping Mission](#)

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### Rajasthan's 'Tree Teacher'

A primary school teacher in Rajasthan's Barmer district has achieved a record in the **family forestry campaign by planting four lakh trees** and connecting 1.2 lakh people **with his drive during the last 24 years.**

Fondly called a "tree teacher", **Bheraram Bhakhar works to prevent desertification** in western Rajasthan through his diligent work. **Harit Pranam (green salutation)** introduced by the environmentalist-teacher has **become popular among the people for greetings.**

**Read More:** [Desertification](#)

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### Global South Summit

India **will host a special virtual summit, the Voice of Global South summit,** on January 12 and 13.

The **summit under the theme 'Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose'** envisages bringing together countries of the Global South **to share their perspectives and priorities on a common platform.** More than **120 countries are being invited** to participate in this Summit.

Global South **refers to the developing and the less-developed countries of the world.** India's ongoing Presidency of the [G20](#) **provides a special and strong opportunity for those countries that are not part of the G20 process** to share their ideas and expectations from the G20.

**Read More:** [Global South](#)

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## **World's First Palm-leaf Manuscript Museum**

**Recently, Asia's first Palm leaf Manuscript Museum was inaugurated in Kerala.**

The Museum **is a repository of the administrative, socio-cultural and economic facets of the Travancore kingdom** spanning a period of 650 years (till the end of 19th century). It has 187 manuscripts one of which accounts for the famous **Battle of Colachel (1741) wherein the Travancore king defeated the Dutch East India Company** at Colachel (TN).

The **museum has eight galleries representing many segments:** 'History of Writing', 'Land and people', 'Administration', 'War and peace', 'Education and Health', 'Economy', 'Art and culture' and 'Mathilakam Records'.

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