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# Daily News Analysis

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**Monday, 30 September 2024**

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**DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR**



Monday, 30 September 2024

## Tourism Ministry Launches 'Paryatan Mitra' and 'Paryatan Didi'

- The Ministry of Tourism has launched the Paryatan Mitra and Paryatan Didi initiatives on the occasion of World Tourism Day.
- The objective of this initiative is to enhance the tourist experience by connecting them with local ambassadors and storytellers who are proud representatives of their destinations.
- **Focus on Women and Youth:** Special emphasis is given to training women and youth in creating unique tourism products such as heritage walks, food tours, craft tours, nature treks, and homestay experiences.
- **Tourism and Digital Literacy Training:** Participants receive training in tourism-related skills as well as digital literacy, ensuring that their offerings are visible and accessible to a global audience.

### Tourism Ministers:

- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Cabinet Minister
- Suresh Gopi, Minister of State

**Q.** Which groups are specifically targeted for training under the Paryatan Mitra and Paryatan Didi initiatives? **Women and youth.**



Monday, 30 September 2024

## India, Uzbekistan sign investment treaty to boost investor confidence

- India and Uzbekistan have signed a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) in Tashkent, aiming to enhance investor confidence. The treaty was signed by India's Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, and Uzbekistan's Deputy Prime Minister, Khodjayev Jamshid Abdukhakimovich.
- **Investor Protection:** The BIT ensures protection for Uzbek investors in India and Indian investors in Uzbekistan, following international standards and precedents.
- **Minimum Standards and Non-Discrimination:** It guarantees a minimum standard of treatment, non-discrimination, and offers an independent forum for dispute resolution through arbitration.
- **Transparency and Compensation:** The treaty includes provisions for transparency, transfer of funds, and compensation for losses.

### Significance:

- The BIT reflects both nations' commitment to strengthening economic cooperation and is expected to boost bilateral investments, creating a more resilient investment environment for businesses in both countries.

### Uzbekistan:

- Capital: Tashkent
- President: Shavkat Mirziyoyev
- Prime Minister: Abdulla Aripov
- Currency: Uzbek sum

**Q.** Who represented India during the signing of the Bilateral Investment Treaty with Uzbekistan? **Nirmala Sitharaman.**



**Monday, 30 September 2024**

## **Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav announces theme of 9th Ayurveda Day**

- Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav announced the theme for the 9th Ayurveda Day as "Ayurveda Innovation for Global Health." The 9th Ayurveda Day will be celebrated on 29th October, coinciding with Dhanwantari Jayanti (Dhanteras), a significant day in Indian tradition.
- **Theme Focus:** The theme emphasizes Ayurveda's potential to contribute to the global health system through innovative practices.
- **Annual Celebration:** Ayurveda Day has been celebrated annually since 2016, promoting Ayurveda as a key part of India's traditional holistic healthcare system.
- **Significance:** The celebration highlights India's commitment to promoting Ayurveda both nationally and globally as a vital component of healthcare.

**Q.** What is the theme of the 9th Ayurveda Day?  
**Ayurveda Innovation for Global Health.**



Monday, 30 September 2024

## Bangladesh All-Rounder Shakib Al Hasan Announces Retirement

- Bangladeshi all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has announced his retirement plan, just a day before the second and final Test match against India in Kanpur.

### Key Achievements:

- **T20 World Cup:** Shakib participated in every T20 World Cup since 2007 and finished the 2024 edition as the tournament's all-time leading wicket-taker with 50 wickets.
- **International Career:** Debuting in 2006, he is the only cricketer to achieve 14,000 runs and 700 wickets across all formats.
- **T20 and ODI Records:** Shakib is the third-highest wicket-taker in T20 Internationals with 149 wickets and one of only two cricketers to score more than 7,000 runs and take over 300 wickets in ODIs.

### Bangladesh:

- Capital: Dhaka
- President: Mohammed Shahabuddin
- Currency: Taka

**Q.** Which Bangladeshi cricketer announced his retirement before the second Test match against India in Kanpur?  
**Shakib Al Hasan.**



**Monday, 30 September 2024**

## **US announces agreement with Iraqi government to end military mission fighting IS group by next year**

- The United States has announced an agreement with the Iraqi government to conclude the military mission of the American-led coalition against the Islamic State (IS) group by next year.

### **Two-Phase Transition: The transition will occur in two phases:**

- **Phase 1 (until September 2025):** The coalition mission against ISIS will end, and forces will vacate some bases.
- **Phase 2 (until 2026):** The US will continue a limited military presence in Iraq to support counter-ISIS operations in Syria.
- **Continued Operations:** Despite ending the main military mission, US troops will remain in Iraq in a different capacity to ensure ongoing counter-ISIS efforts.
- **Context:** This agreement comes amid growing tensions in the Middle East, particularly with escalating conflicts involving Iran-backed groups Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza, posing risks of a wider regional conflict.

**Q.** What agreement did the United States announce with the Iraqi government regarding its military mission? **To end the military mission against the Islamic State group by next year.**



Monday, 30 September 2024

## Sweden joins ISRO's Venus Orbiter Mission

- Sweden has officially joined the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM), as approved by the Union Cabinet.
- **Collaboration Details:** The Swedish Institute of Space Physics (IRF) will provide the Venusian Neutrals Analyser (VNA) instrument, which is a lightweight and efficient energetic neutral atom analyser. The VNA will investigate the interactions between solar particles and Venus' atmosphere and exosphere.
- **Mission Timeline:** The VOM is expected to launch in March 2028 and aims to explore Venus' atmosphere, geology, and generate extensive scientific data related to its thick atmosphere.
- **Funding:** The Union Cabinet has approved a budget of Rs. 1,236 Crore for the mission, with Rs. 824 Crore allocated for the spacecraft.
- **Integration and Expertise:** The VNA will be incorporated into the plasma package known as the Venus Ionospheric and Solar Wind Particle Analyser (VISWAS), developed by the Space Physics Laboratory (SPL) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The IRF was also the Principal Investigator for the plasma package in the European Space Agency's Venus Express mission from 2004-2014.

Q. When is the Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM) expected to launch? **March 2028**



Monday, 30 September 2024

## Malaysia and Indonesia renew local currency bilateral swap agreement

- Malaysia and Indonesia have renewed their Local Currency Bilateral Swap Agreement (LCBSA), facilitating the exchange of local currencies between Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) and Bank Indonesia (BI).
- **Agreement Value and Duration:** The renewed agreement is valued at RM24 billion (IDR 82 trillion) and will be effective for five years.
- **Background:** The renewal follows the initial agreement signed in 2019 and its subsequent renewal in 2022.
- **Objectives:** The LCBSA aims to enhance central banking cooperation, strengthen the resilience of both countries, and promote the use of local currencies in trade and investment.

### Malaysia:

- Capital: Kuala Lumpur
- Prime Minister: Anwar Ibrahim
- Currency: Malaysian ringgit

### Indonesia:

- Capital: Jakarta
- President: Joko Widodo
- Vice President: Ma'ruf Amin
- Currency: Indonesian rupiah

**Q.** What agreement was renewed between Malaysia and Indonesia to facilitate local currency exchange? **Local Currency Bilateral Swap Agreement (LCBSA).**





Monday, 30 September 2024

## Bharat Biotech teams up with CII

- Bharat Biotech has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The Society for Advancement of Human Endeavor (SAHE) to restore and rejuvenate historic stepwells at Ammapalli Temple and Salar Jung Museum in Telangana. This initiative is part of the Telangana government's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts to preserve cultural heritage, promote water conservation, and boost eco-heritage tourism in the state.
- **Partnership for Conservation:** Bharat Biotech, under CSR, collaborates with SAHE to preserve stepwells, which hold historical significance and can aid in water conservation.
- **Government Involvement:** The MoU signing took place in the presence of key Telangana officials, including Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture Minister Jupally Krishan Rao.
- **Cultural and Environmental Impact:** Bharat Biotech also joined hands with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to promote environmental sustainability and support eco-heritage tourism.
- **Stepwell Restoration:** Stepwells, dating back to the 13th century and Qutb Shahi period, played a crucial role in water supply for communities and are now being revived to address current groundwater challenges.

**Q.** Which organization signed an MoU with SAHE to restore historic stepwells at Ammapalli Temple and Salar Jung Museum under a CSR initiative in Telangana? **Bharat Biotech.**



Monday, 30 September 2024

## NPCI to Develop Digital Payments System for Trinidad and Tobago

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), through its international arm, NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), has signed an agreement with the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Trinidad and Tobago to develop a digital payments system modeled after India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- **International Collaboration:** NIPL will create a digital payments platform for Trinidad and Tobago, facilitating person-to-person and person-to-merchant transactions.
- **NPCI's Role:** As a quasi-regulator under the Reserve Bank of India, NPCI oversees India's retail payment systems, including UPI, which is widely used for digital payments in India.
- **Global Expansion:** Earlier, NIPL had agreed to build similar systems for Peru and Namibia and is in discussions with other countries in Africa and South America.
- **Digital Payments Growth:** The initiative demonstrates India's growing influence in the global digital payments ecosystem, contributing to financial inclusion in other nations.

**Q.** Which Indian organization has signed a deal to develop a digital payments system for Trinidad and Tobago, modeled on UPI? **NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)**

## Delhi Government Introduces One-Year Mandatory Service Bond for Medical Graduates



Monday, 30 September 2024

### Delhi Government Introduces Mandatory Service Bond for Medical Graduates

- The Delhi government has introduced a mandatory one-year service bond for medical graduates from both the All India Quota and State Quota, applicable to undergraduate (UG), postgraduate (PG), and super-speciality programs in Delhi's medical institutions.
- **Bond Requirement:** UG students must submit a bond of ₹15 lakh, and PG/super-specialty students a bond of ₹20 lakh, which will be forfeited if they do not serve the mandatory one-year period.
- **Service Obligation:** Graduates will serve in various medical institutions under the Government of the National Capital Territory (GNCT) of Delhi. UG graduates will be placed in Junior Resident (JR) roles, while PG graduates will serve as Senior Residents (SR).
- **Compensation:** The graduates will receive stipends equivalent to those paid to JRs and SRs, with increments for super-specialty graduates.
- **Deployment:** Graduates will be assigned to GNCT hospitals, including society hospitals, with possible postings in other healthcare institutions as needed.
- **Implementation:** This scheme will be effective from the next academic session. A committee, led by the Dean of Maulana Azad Medical College, will assess the need for additional JR and SR posts and create new positions if required.

**Q.** Which government has introduced a mandatory one-year service bond for medical graduates from both undergraduate and postgraduate programs in Delhi? **Delhi Government.**




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