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**Thursday, 25 July 2024**

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





सत्यमेव जयते

## Government of Rajasthan

Thursday, 25 July 2024

### **Rajasthan govt to spend Rs 215 cr in FY25 on education scholarship scheme**

- The Rajasthan government plans to spend Rs 215 crore during the current financial year (FY25) on a scholarship scheme to help meritorious students study in top foreign and Indian universities.
- The government has renamed the scheme as the Swami Vivekananda Scholarship for Academic Excellence (SVS).
- It was instituted by the previous Congress government under the name of the Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship for Academic Excellence.
- In 2021-22, when the scheme was launched, 73 students benefited from it, and over Rs 5 crore were allocated to it.
- In 2023-24, the state government spent over Rs 107 crore and the number of students who benefited from it rose to 372.
- The scholarship programme makes studying at top institutions a reality by covering living expenses, tuition fees, and additional academic expenses.

### **The students are classified into categories based on family income:**

- E1 (less than Rs 8 lakh per year), E2 (families whose income is between Rs 8 lakh to Rs 25 lakh per year), and E3 (over Rs 25 lakh per year).

**Q.** Which state government plans to spend Rs 215 crore in FY25 on education scholarship scheme? **Rajasthan**





Thursday, 25 July 2024

## **Former Dutch deputy PM nominated to continue as EU commissioner**

- Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof announced the nomination of former Deputy Prime Minister Wopke Hoekstra to continue as a commissioner in the new European Commission.
- In a letter to Ursula von der Leyen, the President-elect of the European Commission, Schoof expressed the Dutch government's strong support for Hoekstra's continuation in the role.
- Hoekstra succeeded Frans Timmermans as European Commissioner for Climate Action last year after Timmermans returned to the Netherlands to lead the Green-Left-Labor alliance.
- Earlier Von der Leyen received approval from the European Parliament for a new term and is now in the process of forming the new European Commission.
- Hoekstra's experience as minister of finance from 2017 to 2022 aligns well with this preference.
- Additionally, he has also served as minister of foreign affairs and deputy prime minister.

**Q.** Who will continue as a commissioner in the new European Commission? **Wopke Hoekstra**





**Thursday, 25 July 2024**

## **South African president signs into law climate change bill**

- South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has signed into law the Climate Change Bill, which seeks to set out a national response to climate change, including mitigation and adaptation actions.
- The Climate Change Act enables the alignment of policies that influence South Africa's climate change response to ensure that South Africa's transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy and society is not constrained by policy contradictions.
- The law also sets out to enhance the country's ability and capacity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build climate resilience, while reducing the risk of job losses and promoting opportunities for new job opportunities in the emerging green economy.
- The law has the aim of strengthening coordination between national sector departments and providing policy setting and decision-making to enable South Africa to meet its commitments in Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement as the country is one of more than 190 members of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change who are parties to the Paris Agreement.

**Q.** Which African country has signed the Climate Change Bill, which seeks to set out a national response to climate change, including mitigation and adaptation actions? **South Africa**





Thursday, 25 July 2024

## Secret Service deputy director to lead agency after Kimberly Cheatle resigns

- Ronald Rowe Jr., the Secret Service deputy director, was tapped as the acting director of the embattled agency while the Biden administration searches for a new leader following the near-assassination of former President Donald Trump at a campaign rally in Pennsylvania earlier this month.
- The agency's current director, Kimberly Cheatle, resigned, one day after enduring blistering criticism by bipartisan lawmakers on the House Oversight Committee for the agency's failures in nearly allowing a 20-year-old sniper to kill Trump during a Pennsylvania campaign rally on July 13.
- Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas announced the appointment of Rowe, a 24-year veteran of the Secret Service.
- Biden, in fact, personally appointed Kimberly Cheatle as Secret Service director in August 2022 after growing close to her when Cheatle protected both Bidens during the Obama administration when Biden was vice president.

**Q.** Name the incumbent deputy Director of United States Secret Service who has been elevated to Director post after Kimberly Cheatle resigns? **Ronald Rowe Jr.**





**Thursday, 25 July 2024**

## **India rises to 82nd in Henley Passport Index 2024, gains visa-free access to 58 countries**

- In a significant boost to Indian travelers, the Henley Passport Index 2024 has ranked the Indian passport at the 82nd position, allowing citizens visa-free access to 58 foreign destinations.
- Popular tourist spots like Indonesia, Maldives, and Thailand are among the countries that Indian passport holders can now visit without the hassle of securing a visa.
- This ranking places India alongside Senegal and Tajikistan.
- Singapore has claimed the title of the world's most powerful passport, offering its citizens visa-free entry to an astonishing 195 countries.
- Following closely, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, and Japan hold the second spot with visa-free access to 192 destinations each.
- Austria, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, South Korea, and Sweden share the third position, with their passports granting visa-free entry to 191 countries.
- The United Kingdom, alongside New Zealand, Norway, Belgium, Denmark, and Switzerland, ranks fourth, offering visa-free access to 190 destinations.

**Q.** What is India's rank in the Henley Passport Index 2024 allowing citizens visa-free access to 58 foreign destinations?

**82**





Thursday, 25 July 2024

## **South Korean space agency to spend 380.8 billion won to build 3 industrial parks**

- The Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA) announced to spend 380.8 billion won ( equivalent to \$274.8 million) for the next seven years to build three industrial parks for the space industry.
- According to KASA, the Budget will be spent to build an industrial complex for space vehicles.
- The other two industrial parks will be built for development of civilian satellites and training of professionals for the space industry.
- South Korea aims to land a homegrown spacecraft on the moon in 2032 and Mars in 2045, with massive investments in space exploration.

### **KASA**

- Formation: 27 May 2024
- Type: Governmental organisation
- Headquarters: Sacheon, South Korea
- President: Yoon Yeongbin

**Q.** Name the newly formed Korean space and aeronautics agency which has announced to spend 380.8 billion won to build three industrial parks for the space industry? **Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA)**





**Thursday, 25 July 2024**

## **French Alps to host 2030 Winter Olympics and Paralympic Games**

- The International Olympic Committee announced French Alps as the hosts for the 2030 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, but awarded so under the condition that France sticks towards financial commitments.
- The Olympic Winter Games are returning to France for the fourth time, and the first time in 38 years, since Albertville 1992.
- Sports will be organised in four clusters, from Lake Geneva and the northern Alps to the Mediterranean Sea in the south, in order to make use of as many existing venues as possible.
- While addressing the 142nd IOC Session in Paris, France President Emmanuel Macron told IOC members that he would request the next French Prime Minister to give financial “guarantee” in order to host the Games.
- France is the only candidate to host the Games but the funding has been in question because there is no government in place following inconclusive snap elections.

### **International Olympic Committee**

- Formation: 23 June 1894
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- President: Thomas Bach
- Director General: Christophe De Kepper

**Q.** The International Olympic Committee announced which nation as the hosts for the 2030 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games? **France**





Thursday, 25 July 2024

## Tennis: Andy Murray confirms he will retire after Paris Olympics

- Andy Murray confirmed that he will retire after the Paris Olympics, closing another chapter in tennis's golden age.
- The 37-year-old, a two-time Olympic champion, is planning to play in the singles and doubles at his fifth Games.
- The Scot has played with a metal hip since 2019 and suffered ankle damage earlier this year before undergoing surgery to remove a spinal cyst, which ruled him out of singles at Wimbledon.
- He has won 46 titles in all and banked around \$65 million in prize money.
- The British star's success came in an era dominated by Federer, Djokovic and Rafael Nadal.
- The so-called 'Big Three' have hoovered up 66 Grand Slam titles between them but time is catching up with the icons of the sport.
- Federer won 20 majors before he retired in 2022.
- Nadal, a 22-time Grand Slam winner, is 38 years old and has played just six tournaments all year as he battles injury.
- Djokovic, 37, the holder of 24 majors, has been deposed as Australian Open and Roland Garros champion in 2024.

**Q.** Name the British professional tennis player who has announced that he will retire after the Paris Olympics? **Andy Murray**





**Thursday, 25 July 2024**

## **Bibhuti Bhusan Nayak elected new president of ICMAI**

- Bibhuti Bhusan Nayak has been elected unanimously as the new President of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI) for the 2024-25 period.
- He will succeed Ashwin Dalwadi, who was the president for the 2023-24 period.
- TCA Srinivasa Prasad has been elected as the vice president of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India for 2024-25

## **Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI)**

- Formation: 28 May 1959
- Secretary: CMA Kaushik Banerjee
- Parent organization: Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India

**Q.** Who has been elected unanimously as the new President of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI) for the 2024-25 period? **Bibhuti Bhusan Nayak**





Thursday, 25 July 2024

## **KVS Manian appointed as MD & CEO of Federal Bank for three years**

- The RBI approved the appointment of Krishnan Venkat Subramanian as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Bank.
- The appointment was under Section 35B of the Banking Regulation Act, 2013, for a period of 3 (three) years, with effect from September 23, 2024.
- Krishnan Venkat Subramanian was the Joint Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited till April 30, 2024, spearheading Corporate, Banking, Commercial banking, Private Banking, and Asset Reconstruction businesses.
- Prior to this assignment, he was the Head of the Consumer Bank with the bank and was instrumental in the early period of setting up the Consumer Bank from 2003 to 2014.

### **Federal Bank**

- Founded: 23 April 1931
- Founder: K. P. Hormis
- Headquarters: Kerala, India
- MD & CEO: Shyam Srinivasan

**Q.** Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of the Federal Bank? **Krishnan Venkat Subramanian**





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