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Monday, 02 September 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Monday, 02 September 2024

India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Maldives sign Charter and MoU for establishment of Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat

- India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Mauritius recently signed the Charter and MoU for the establishment of the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) Secretariat in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- The CSC aims to address security and stability challenges in the Indian Ocean Region through regional cooperation among its member states.
- National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, representing India, signed the documents alongside representatives from the Maldives, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka.

Key Focus Areas of CSC:

- Maritime Safety and Security.
- Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation.
- Combating Trafficking and Transnational Organised Crime.
- Cyber Security and Protection of Critical Infrastructure and Technology.
- Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief.

Q. Which four countries signed the Charter and MoU for establishing the Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat in Colombo? **India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Mauritius.**



Monday, 02 September 2024

Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council Signs MoU with Visa for 3 Years Partnership Worth Up to \$1 Million

- The Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Visa for a three-year partnership valued at up to one million US dollars.
- This collaboration aims to upskill at least twenty thousand youth across ten states in India with tourism-relevant skills.
- The initiative is a significant step towards harnessing the immense potential of India's tourism industry, which is expected to drive economic growth and generate millions of jobs across the country.

Visa :

- Visa Inc. is an American multinational payment card services corporation headquartered in San Francisco, California. It facilitates electronic funds transfers throughout the world, most commonly through Visa-branded credit cards, debit cards and prepaid cards.
- Founded: September 18, 1958
- Founder: Dee Hock
- CEO: Ryan McInerney

Q. Which organization signed a three-year MoU with Visa to upskill twenty thousand youth in India's tourism sector?
Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council.



Monday, 02 September 2024

Indian Army Launches Project NAMAN to Support Veterans & Families

- The Indian Army has launched the first phase of Project NAMAN, aimed at providing dedicated support and services to Defence pensioners, veterans, and their families. Chief of the Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi, emphasized the importance of the project in ensuring that veterans and their families receive the care and support they deserve.
- **First Phase Implementation:** 14 Common Services Centres have been established across key locations in India.
- **Locations:** New Delhi, Jalandhar, Leh, Dehradun, Lucknow, Jodhpur, Bengdubi, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Secunderabad, Saugor, Guntur, Ahmedabad, and Bangalore.
- **Future Expansion:** The project aims to establish approximately 200 centres across the country over the next 2 to 3 years.

key facts about the Indian Army:

- **Establishment:** The Indian Army was officially established on April 1, 1895, as part of the British Indian Army, and it became the national army of independent India in 1947.

Q. What is the name of the Indian Army project launched to provide support and services to Defence pensioners, veterans, and their families? **Project NAMAN**



Monday, 02 September 2024

PM Modi lays foundation stone of Vadhvan Port in Palghar

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Vadhvan Port in the Palghar district of Maharashtra. He also inaugurated various fisheries projects and distributed transponders and Kisan Credit Cards to fishermen.

Key Points:

- Project Cost:** The Vadhvan Port project is estimated to cost approximately ₹76,000 crore.
- Objective:** To establish a world-class maritime gateway that enhances trade and economic growth by accommodating large container vessels and ultra-large cargo ships.
- Location:** Vadhvan Port will be situated near Dahanu town in Palghar district, Maharashtra.
- Significance:** The port will be one of India's largest deep-water ports, providing direct connectivity to international shipping routes, which will help reduce transit times and costs.
- Fisheries Projects:** 218 fisheries projects worth around ₹1,560 crore were inaugurated or have their foundation stones laid to enhance sector infrastructure and productivity.
- Vessel Communication System:** The National Rollout of the Vessel Communication and Support System was launched at a cost of around ₹364 crore. It includes the phased installation of one lakh transponders on fishing vessels in 13 coastal states and Union Territories.

Q. What is the estimated cost of the Vadhvan Port project laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Maharashtra?
₹76,000 crore.



Monday, 02 September 2024

India to Host Inaugural World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Goa

- The Government is gearing up to host the inaugural World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to bolster India's media and entertainment industry and extend its global influence.
- The Summit is being held in Goa from November 20th to November 25th this year.

Key Points:

- **Objective:** To enhance India's media and entertainment industry and extend its global influence.
- **Union Minister Involvement:** Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw launched 25 Challenges under the 'Create in India Challenge – Season 1' on August 22nd in preparation for WAVES.
- **Focus Areas:** The Summit will focus on entertainment economics and technology, with challenges covering animation, filmmaking, gaming, comics, and music.
- **Purpose of Challenges:** Designed to inspire and empower participants to explore new horizons, showcase their talents, and contribute to India's narrative in the global media and entertainment industry.
- **Participation:** WAVES 2024 invites both seasoned professionals and enthusiastic amateurs to participate in shaping the future of entertainment.

Q. Who launched the 'Create in India Challenge – Season 1' in preparation for the World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES)? **Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw.**



Monday, 02 September 2024

Dr T V Somanathan Takes Over as Cabinet Secretary

- Senior IAS officer Dr T.V. Somanathan took over as the new Cabinet Secretary following the superannuation of Rajiv Gauba.
- Dr. Somanathan, a 1987-batch IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre.
- Gauba, the longest-serving cabinet secretary, completed a five-year term upon his retirement.
- Tenure: Dr. Somanathan is appointed for a term of two years as Cabinet Secretary.

Previous Roles:

- He has served as Joint Secretary and Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office.
- He was also Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- In 1996, he joined the World Bank in Washington through the Young Professionals Program and worked as a Financial Economist for the East Asia & Pacific region. He was appointed Manager of the Budget Policy Group and became one of the Bank's youngest Sector Managers. From 2011 to 2015, he served as Director at the World Bank.
- Immediate Past Position: Before becoming Cabinet Secretary, he was the Finance Secretary and Secretary of the Department of Expenditure.

Q. Who has taken over as the new Cabinet Secretary following the superannuation of Rajiv Gauba? **Dr. T.V. Somanathan.**



Monday, 02 September 2024

UAE signs agreement with UNICEF to aid humanitarian efforts in Sudan

- The UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has signed an agreement with UNICEF.
- The contribution aims to alleviate the humanitarian crises and support the well-being of children and women in Sudan and South Sudan.
- Financial Support: The agreement provides \$7 million in humanitarian aid.

Allocation:

- **Sudan:** \$6 million for UNICEF's operations.
- **South Sudan:** \$1 million for UNICEF's activities.

Humanitarian Crisis:

- **Sudan:** The ongoing conflict has led to a severe crisis impacting children, with 13.6 million children needing urgent assistance.
- **Displacement:** Over six million people, including more than half who are children, have been displaced, making Sudan the epicenter of the largest child displacement crisis globally.

Q. Which country recently signed an agreement with UNICEF to provide \$7 million in humanitarian aid for Sudan and South Sudan? **UAE**



Monday, 02 September 2024

Government launches single simplified pension application form

- In a move to simplify the process for the pensioners, the government launched a single simplified pension application form and digital integration of Bhavishya with e-HRMS.
- The initiatives were launched by Minister of State for Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh.

Key Points:

- **Purpose:** To simplify the pension process and enhance ease of living for pensioners.
- **Simplified Pension Form:** Nine existing pension forms have been consolidated into a new single form, "Form 6-A," to streamline the pension application process.
- **Digital Integration:** Integration of Bhavishya with e-HRMS enables real-time tracking of pension applications. Pensioners will receive status updates through SMS and emails.
- **Bhavishya System:** An online system that allows tracking of pension sanction, payment processes, and download of ePPO (Pension Payment Order).
- **e-HRMS System:** Electronic Human Resource Management System that includes service records of government employees.
- **Family Pension Campaign:** A special campaign for family pension grievances has achieved over 96% redressal, addressing long-pending cases of dependent minor children, divyang daughters, widow/divorced daughters, dependent mothers, and widows of war veterans.

Q. What new form has been created to simplify the pension process as part of the recent government initiative? **Form 6-A.**



Monday, 02 September 2024

India and Saudi Arabia signed MoU to enhance bilateral cooperation in public sector auditing in Riyadh

- In a significant move to enhance bilateral cooperation in public sector auditing, India and Saudi Arabia signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Riyadh.
- The agreement was signed by Shri Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and Dr. Hussam Al-Angari, President of the Saudi General Court of Audit. The signing ceremony was also attended by Dr. Suhel Khan, the Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Objectives of the MoU:

- To foster collaboration and facilitate the exchange of expertise in public sector auditing.
- Key areas include joint training programs on financial, performance, and compliance audits, and the exchange of audit manuals and methodologies.
- **Additional Discussions:** Topics discussed included cooperation in international forums and Saudi Arabia's transition from cash to accrual accounting.
- **Significance:** The MoU aims to strengthen the relationship between the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Saudi General Court of Audit.

Q. Which organization will Saudi Arabia chair next year, following the MoU with India? **The Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI).**



Monday, 02 September 2024

India Wins Four Medals at Paris Paralympics 2024

- At Paralympic Games in Paris, India clinched four medals including a Gold, a silver and two bronze.
- The Games are organized by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and the Paris 2024 Organizing Committee.
- Historical significance: It will be the second time Paris has hosted the Paralympic Games, the first being in 1964.

Gold Medal:

- Avani Lekhara won the Gold in the women's 10m Air Rifle competition. She set a new Paralympic record with a score of 249.7, surpassing her previous record of 249.6 from the Tokyo Paralympics.

Bronze Medalists:

- Avani Lekhara also won a Bronze in the same event.
- Mona Agarwal won the first medal for India in the Paris Paralympics with a Bronze in the women's 10m Air Rifle competition, marking her debut at the Games.

Q. How many sports disciplines will be featured in the Paris Paralympics 2024? **22 sports disciplines**



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