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Thursday, 01 August 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Thursday, 01 August 2024

Indian Team Shines at the 56th International Chemistry Olympiad

- At the 56th International Chemistry Olympiad, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the Indian team showcased exceptional talent and hard work, winning a total of four medals. The event saw participation from 327 students representing 94 countries.

Highlights of India's performance include:

- Gold Medal: Devesh Bhaiyya from Jalgaon, Maharashtra
- Silver Medals: Avanish Bansal from Mumbai, Maharashtra, and Harshin Posina from Hyderabad, Telangana
- Bronze Medal: Kashyap Khandelwal from Mumbai, Maharashtra
- The Indian team was expertly guided by Prof. Gulshanara Shaikh and Dr. Shraddha Tiwari, whose mentorship played a crucial role in the team's success. This achievement not only underscores the students' dedication and proficiency in chemistry but also places India firmly on the global map of scientific excellence.

Q. Who won the gold medal for India at the 56th International Chemistry Olympiad held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia? **Devesh Bhaiyya**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

Sanjay Shukla Assumes Role as Managing Director of National Housing Bank

- Sanjay Shukla has officially assumed the position of Managing Director (MD) of the National Housing Bank (NHB) as of July 30, 2024. With over three decades of experience in housing and retail asset finance, Shukla is a seasoned Chartered Accountant renowned for his expertise in transforming financial institutions.
- Preeti Sudan, former union health secretary, appointed as UPSC chairperson.

Career Highlights:

- Began career in 1991 as an officer at LIC Housing Finance Limited.
- Founding Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Centrum Housing Finance Limited (CHFL) from October 2016.
- Led CHFL to significant growth and stability.
- Prior role as Managing Director and CEO of Cent Bank Home Finance Ltd (CBHFL), enhancing assets under management and improving asset quality within three years.

Q. Who assumed the position of Managing Director of the National Housing Bank? **Sanjay Shukla**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

Preeti Sudan Appointed as Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)

- Preeti Sudan, former Union Health Secretary and current UPSC member, has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
- She replaces Manoj Soni, who resigned earlier this month due to personal reasons.
- Manoj Soni became a UPSC member in 2017 and took over as Chairperson on May 16, 2023. The UPSC conducts the Civil Services Exam (CSE) to recruit candidates for top government services such as IAS, IPS, and IFS.

Preeti Sudan:

- Preeti Sudan is an IAS officer from the 1983 batch of the Andhra Pradesh cadre. She has nearly 37 years of experience in various government administration spheres.

Key Roles:

- Union Health Secretary: Served for three years until July 2020, playing a crucial role during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Other Positions: Held roles as Secretary of the Department of Food and Public Distribution, and served in the ministries of Women and Child Development and Defence.

Q. Which former Union Health Secretary has recently been appointed as the Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)? **Preeti Sudan**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

Maharashtra Government Signs MoU with NSDC

- The Maharashtra government and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) signed an MoU to establish a skill-based certificate courses center in Pune.

Training and Job Opportunities:

- NSDC will provide training based on the skill requirements of different countries.
- The aim is to create job opportunities for students abroad.
- The government will provide space for the proposed training center at the Government Distance Education Tantra Niketan Sanstha premises in Pune.

Background Context:

- The MoU signing follows the announcement of several youth and skill development schemes by Deputy Chief Minister and Finance and Planning Minister Ajit Pawar in the additional budget for 2024-25.
- Key initiatives include the Mukhyamantri Karya Prashikshan Yojana and the establishment of a Center of Excellence in technical education, applied knowledge, and skill development.

Q. Who announced the youth and skill development schemes in the additional budget for 2024-25 that preceded the MoU between the Maharashtra government and NSDC? **Ajit Pawar**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

ADB Approves \$400 Million Loan to Uzbekistan

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved two policy-based loans totaling \$400 million to support Uzbekistan's efforts in enhancing its financial markets and developing a sustainable, market-led power sector.

Loan Allocation:

- Power Sector Reform Program:
- Amount: \$300 million
- Purpose: Budget support for subprogram 2 to improve the power sector's structure, legal and regulatory framework, and governance.
- Goal: Encourage private sector investment and promote financial sustainability in the power sector.

Financial Markets Development Program:

- Amount: \$100 million
- Purpose: Support subprogram 2 to implement regulatory and institutional reforms.

Q. How much total loan has the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved to support Uzbekistan's financial markets and power sector? **\$400 million.**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

North Korea Appoints New Ambassadors to Vietnam and Singapore

- Ri Sung-guk has been appointed as North Korea's new ambassador to Vietnam, replacing Kim Myong-gil. The position had been vacant since April 2019.
- Ri Kil-song, a former vice foreign minister, has been appointed as the new ambassador to Singapore.

Background:

- The delay in appointments was due to North Korea's border shutdown related to COVID-19.
- This is the first time in over three years that North Korea has named new ambassadors since appointing Ri Ryong-nam as ambassador to China in 2021.

Border Easing:

- North Korea has been easing its border restrictions since August 2023.
- New top envoys from China, Mongolia, and Cuba have been allowed to begin their official duties in North Korea since last year.

Q. Who has been appointed as North Korea's new ambassadors to Vietnam? **Ri Sung-guk**

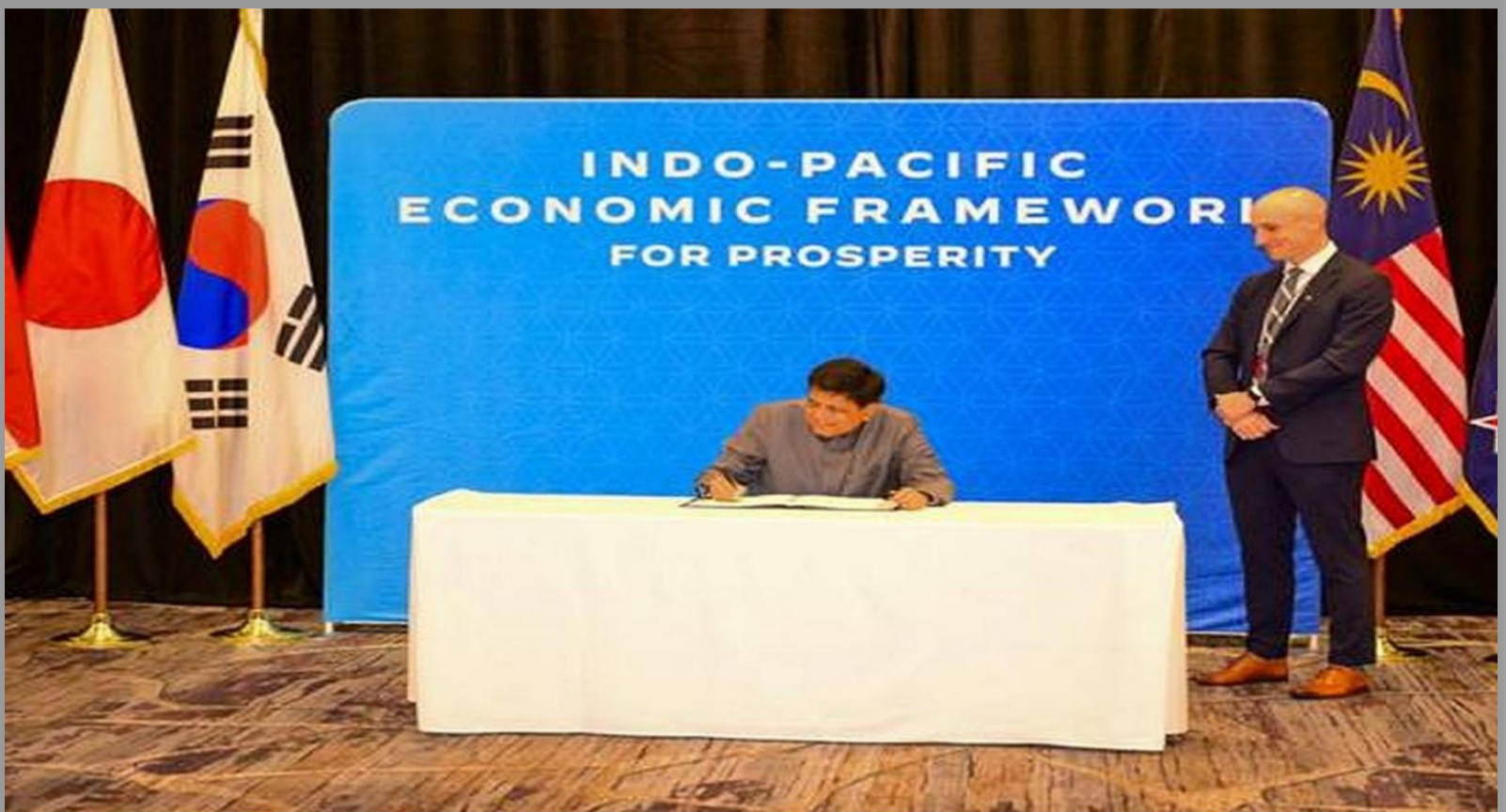


Thursday, 01 August 2024

India To Host First Multinational Air Exercise 'Tarang Shakti 2024'

- India will host its first multinational air exercise, 'Tarang Shakti 2024', in two phases starting on the 6th August in Sular, Tamil Nadu.
- In this exercise, nearly 30 countries will participate, and out of 30, ten countries will join the exercise with their fighter aircraft.
- The exercise will showcase India's defence prowess and provide a platform for participating militaries to foster interoperability.
- Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS), Air Marshal A P Singh, informed that the first phase is to be held in Sular, Tamil Nadu, from 6th to 14th August, and the second phase in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, from 29th August to 14th September.
- 10 countries, including Australia, Bangladesh, France, Germany, Greece, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the USA, and Singapore, will join the exercise with their aircraft, and 18 countries will attend as observers.

Q. India will host the first multinational air exercise 'Taranga Shakti 2024'. How many countries will participate in this exercise? **30 countries**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

India Elected as Vice-Chair of IPEF's Supply Chain Council

- India has been elected as the Vice-Chair of the Supply Chain Council (SCC) under the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF).

Leadership Positions:

- The 14 IPEF member countries elected leaders for three key supply chain bodies:
- Supply Chain Council (SCC): Chair - USA, Vice-Chair - India
- Crisis Response Network (CRN): Chair - South Korea, Vice-Chair - Japan
- Labor Rights Advisory Board (LRAB): Chair - USA, Vice-Chair – Fiji

IPEF Overview:

- The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) is an initiative led by the USA, launched by President Joe Biden on May 23, 2022, in Tokyo, Japan.
- IPEF aims to enhance economic cooperation and interaction among partner countries, fostering growth, stability, and regional prosperity.

Q. Who has been elected as the Vice-Chair of the Supply Chain Council (SCC) under the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)? **India**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

Navy's New Scorpene Submarines to Feature 'Made in India' Combat System

Scorpene Submarines Expansion:

- The Indian Navy is in the process of acquiring three additional Scorpene-class submarines from Mazagon Dockyards, in collaboration with the French Naval Group.
- The first six Scorpene submarines are expected to be delivered by the end of this year.

Indigenous Combat System:

- The new submarines will feature an indigenous combat management system developed by Bharat Electronics Limited, supported by French architectural design.
- This development marks a significant step towards achieving up to 60% indigenous content in the new submarines.

Strategic Objectives:

- The addition of three new submarines aims to enhance India's submarine fleet, which will include 21 new conventional submarines and around six nuclear-powered submarines (SSNs).
- This move addresses shortages and delays in submarine construction, critical for countering threats from China and Pakistan.

Q. What significant feature will the new Scorpene-class submarines for the Indian Navy include? **Indigenous combat management system**



Thursday, 01 August 2024

Roberto Linguanotto, Creator of Tiramisu, Passes Away

- Roberto Linguanotto, renowned as the "father of tiramisu," has passed away at the age of 81 after a prolonged illness.

Creation of Tiramisu:

- Linguanotto, along with Alba Campeol, is credited with creating the popular dessert tiramisu at the Le Beccherie restaurant in Treviso, Italy.
- The dessert, named "tiramisu" which means "pick me up" in Italian, was first introduced on the restaurant's menu in 1972.
- The creation of tiramisu began with Linguanotto's experiment with vanilla ice cream ingredients, where he combined mascarpone cheese, egg yolks, and sugar, leading to an unexpectedly creamy mixture.
- The addition of coffee-soaked ladyfingers and a dusting of cocoa powder transformed this mixture into the iconic dessert loved worldwide.
- Despite various claims about the dessert's origins, Linguanotto and Campeol are widely recognized for their role in popularizing tiramisu, which has since become a beloved treat across the globe.

Q. Name the father of tiramisu dessert, who passed away recently? **Roberto Linguanotto**



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