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Thursday, 03 October 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Thursday, 03 October 2024

8th India-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise KAZIND-2024 Begins.

- Exercise KAZIND-2024 is the 8th edition of the joint military training exercise between India and Kazakhstan. This annual bilateral exercise is a key component of the growing defense and strategic cooperation between the two countries, focusing on counter-terrorism, peacekeeping operations, and fostering interoperability between their armed forces.

Here are some key aspects of KAZIND-2024:

1. Participants:

- Indian Army: Typically represented by a contingent from a specialized unit such as an infantry battalion or a counter-terrorism task force.
- Kazakhstan Army: Represented by units that specialize in mountain warfare and counter-terrorism operations.

2. Objectives:

- Enhancing Interoperability: The exercise aims to improve the ability of the Indian and Kazakhstani forces to operate together, particularly in peacekeeping and counter-terrorism operations.

Q. Where is the KAZIND-2024 exercise being conducted? **Kazakhstan**



Thursday, 03 October 2024

IL&FS Group Appoints Nand Kishore as New CMD.

- The IL&FS Group (Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services) has appointed Nand Kishore as its new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD).
- Prior to his appointment as CMD, he played a crucial role as a board member and was instrumental in implementing various initiatives to resolve the group's debt crisis.

IL&FS Group:

- IL&FS Group (Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited) is a major Indian infrastructure development and financial services company, established in 1987.

Key Aspects of IL&FS Group:

1. Business Overview:

IL&FS was primarily involved in infrastructure development and financing, operating across various sectors such as:

- **Roads and Highways:** Developed large road projects, including expressways.
- **Power and Energy:** Involved in financing and developing power plants and renewable energy projects.
- **Water and Waste Management:** Projects related to urban infrastructure, waste management, and water supply.
- **Real Estate and Transportation:** Projects like metro rail systems and urban transportation infrastructure.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new CMD of IL&FS Group? **Nand Kishore**



Thursday, 03 October 2024

U.S. President Joe Biden Approves \$567 Million Support for Taiwan

- U.S. President Joe Biden has approved a \$567 million military support package for Taiwan, aimed at bolstering the island's defense capabilities amidst increasing tensions with China.

Key Points:

- Purpose of the Support:
- The funding is intended to enhance Taiwan's self-defense capabilities and deter potential aggression from China.
- The package is likely to include advanced weaponry, military equipment, and training.

Bipartisan Support:

- The move reflects a bipartisan consensus in the U.S. Congress regarding the importance of supporting Taiwan's defense.
- It also aligns with U.S. commitments under the Taiwan Relations Act, which mandates that the U.S. provide Taiwan with the means to defend itself.

Geopolitical Context:

- Relations between China and Taiwan have become increasingly strained, with China asserting its claim over Taiwan and conducting military exercises near the island.

Q. How much military aid has President Biden approved for Taiwan? **\$567 million**



Thursday, 03 October 2024

IIFA 2024 Awards: Complete List of IIFA 2024 Winners

- The IIFA 2024 Awards recently took place, celebrating the best in Indian cinema over the past year.
- At the IIFA 2024 Awards, Shah Rukh Khan won the Best Actor award for his performance in Jawan, while Rani Mukerji bagged the Best Actress award for her role in Mrs. Chatterjee vs. Norway.
- The event highlighted the best in Indian cinema over the past year and featured a mix of exciting performances and memorable speeches.

Here are the major winners from the event:

- Best Film: Animal (Directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga)
- Best Actor: Shah Rukh Khan for Jawan
- Best Actress: Rani Mukerji for Mrs. Chatterjee vs. Norway
- Best Director: Vidhu Vinod Chopra for 12th Fail
- Best Supporting Actor: Anil Kapoor for Animal
- Best Supporting Actress: Shabana Azmi for Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani
- Best Actor in a Negative Role: Bobby Deol for Animal
- Best Music: Animal
- Outstanding Contribution to Indian Cinema: Jayantilal Gada and Hema Malini
- Achievement Award for 25 Years in Cinema: Karan Johar

Q. Who won the Best Actor award at the IIFA 2024 Awards?
Shah Rukh Khan



Thursday, 03 October 2024

Nigeria secures fresh \$1.57 billion loan from World Bank

- Nigeria has secured a \$1.57 billion loan from the World Bank to support three key projects aimed at enhancing governance and addressing crucial challenges in education, healthcare, and climate change.
- This financing package includes a \$1.5 billion loan and a \$70 million grant, focusing on improving primary healthcare services and governance systems.

The funding will be allocated as follows:

- **HOPE-GOV Programme:** \$500 million will be directed towards improving governance in the education and health sectors, aiming to tackle issues related to financial and human resource management.
- **Primary Healthcare Provision Strengthening Program (HOPE-PHC):** This initiative will receive \$570 million, with a focus on reducing maternal and under-five mortality rates and enhancing the resilience of Nigeria's health infrastructure.
- It is expected to benefit around 40 million Nigerians, especially in underserved areas.

Q. How much is the fresh loan that Nigeria secured from the World Bank? **\$1.57 billion**



A K Saxena Assumes Additional Charge as CMD in RINL

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A K Saxena Assumes Additional Charge as CMD in RINL

- A.K. Saxena has assumed the additional charge as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), which operates the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.
- This appointment comes as the previous CMD, Atul Bhatt, is on leave until his retirement scheduled for November 30, 2024.
- Saxena is currently the CMD of Manganese Ore (India) Limited (MOIL) and will oversee RINL until a permanent successor is appointed.

RINL:

- Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) is a prominent steel manufacturing company in India, established in 1982. It operates the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), which is the first shore-based integrated steel plant in the country.

Here are some key aspects of RINL:

Overview

- **Location:** RINL is headquartered in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, where it has a significant steel production facility.
- **Production Capacity:** The plant has an annual capacity of around 7 million tonnes of liquid steel and produces a variety of steel products, including long products like bars and rods.

Q. Who has recently assumed the additional charge as CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited(RINL)? **A K Saxena**



Thursday, 03 October 2024

Army Sports Conclave Hosted By Indian Army

- The Army Sports Conclave was hosted by the Indian Army, in New Delhi.
- This event aimed to enhance India's sporting framework as the nation prepares to host the 2036 Olympics.

Key Highlights:

- **Collaboration Emphasis:** The conclave focused on fostering collaboration between various stakeholders, including the Indian Olympics Association, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), and national sports federations.
- The goal was to create a comprehensive strategy to boost India's performance in international sports.
- **Support for Athletes:** The Indian Army has a long tradition of supporting athletes, having established its Mission Olympics Wing in 2001.
- This initiative has trained over 9,000 sportspersons across 28 sports disciplines, illustrating the Army's commitment to developing talent at all levels.
- **Government Involvement:** The conclave was inaugurated by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, who praised the Indian Army's contributions to sports.
- He emphasized the need for a multi-agency approach to enhance sports culture in India, aiming for a strategic roadmap that includes both short-term and long-term plans for nurturing talent.

Q. What was the primary objective of the Army Sports Conclave? **To enhance collaboration for improving India's sports framework**



Thursday, 03 October 2024

Cruise Bharat Mission launched to promote Cruise Tourism

- The Cruise Bharat Mission was launched by the Indian government to significantly enhance cruise tourism in India.
- This five-year initiative aims to boost sea cruise passengers from 0.5 million to 1 million by 2029, while also creating approximately 400,000 jobs in the sector.

Key Features of the Mission:

Three Phases:

- Phase 1 (2024): Focus on market studies, modernizing existing cruise terminals, and forming alliances with neighboring countries.
- Phase 2 (2025-2027): Development of new cruise terminals and marinas, aiming to activate high-potential cruise locations.
- Phase 3 (2027-2029): Integration of cruise circuits across the Indian subcontinent and further development of infrastructure.
- Infrastructure Development: The mission emphasizes creating world-class infrastructure, including increasing the number of international cruise terminals from 2 to 10 and river cruise terminals from 50 to 100.

Q. What is the main goal of the Cruise Bharat Mission? **To enhance cruise tourism in India**



Thursday, 03 October 2024

Shigeru Ishiba formally elected Japan's PM (Ld)

- Japan's parliament has confirmed Shigeru Ishiba as the new prime minister.
- Members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) used their majority to confirm Ishiba's appointment.
- The 67-year-old replaces outgoing leader Fumio Kishida.
- Following the vote, Ishiba revealed his cabinet, comprising 19 ministers.
- Ishiba's appointment comes after he secured a narrow victory in a contest to lead the LDP, which has been in power for much of the past 80 years.
- Ishiba, who has in the past held at least three ministerial posts, had previously failed four times before to become LDP leader.
- Notable appointments in Ishiba's new cabinet include former Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato as finance minister, Gen Nakatani as defence minister, and Takeshi Iwaya as foreign minister.
- Only two of the ministers he appointed are women, down from five in the outgoing cabinet.
- Junko Mihara is set to take charge of children's policies; Toshiko Abe will oversee education.
- Kishida, who took office in 2021, stepped down after his government faced a series of political scandals.

Q. Who has been formally elected as Japan's Prime Minister?
Shigeru Ishiba



Thursday, 03 October 2024

Australian PM appoints envoy to combat Islamophobia

- The Australian government appointed Aftab Malik as the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.
- This initiative, announced by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, is part of the government's broader strategy to promote inclusivity and ensure that all Australians, regardless of race or religion, feel safe in their communities.
- Malik, who has significant experience in promoting social cohesion and countering hate, will start his three-year term on October 14, 2024.
- His role will involve engaging with the Muslim community, religious discrimination experts, and various levels of government to effectively address and combat Islamophobia.
- This appointment comes alongside the government's ongoing efforts, which include a \$90 million investment aimed at addressing the impacts of the current Middle Eastern conflict on communities in Australia.
- Malik was born in Britain to Pakistani parents and migrated to Australia in 2012 where he has worked in the state government of New South Wales promoting cohesion and countering hate and extremism.

Q. Who was appointed as the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia in Australia? **Aftab Malik**



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