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# Daily News Analysis

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**Monday, 29 April 2024**

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





**Monday, 29 April 2024**

## **Dhaka, Bangkok Sign Five Bilateral Documents**

- Bangladesh and Thailand signed five bilateral documents for visa exemption, cooperation on energy, tourism and customs matters and negotiation of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries.
- The documents -an agreement, three Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and a Letter of Intent (LoI)- were inked in presence of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Thailand Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin in Bangkok following a bilateral meeting between the two leaders.
- The documents are agreement on visa exemption for holders of official passports; MoU on energy cooperation; MoU on cooperation and mutual assistance in customs matters; MoU on cooperation in the field of tourism; and LOI to commence negotiations on a free trade agreement (FTA) by the year 2024.
- The Bangladesh prime minister went to Thailand on a six-day official visit to Thailand at the invitation of her Thai counterpart.

**Q.** Recently Bangladesh signed five bilateral documents with which country for cooperation on visa exemption, energy, tourism and customs matters and negotiation of Free Trade Agreement (FTA)?  
**Thailand**





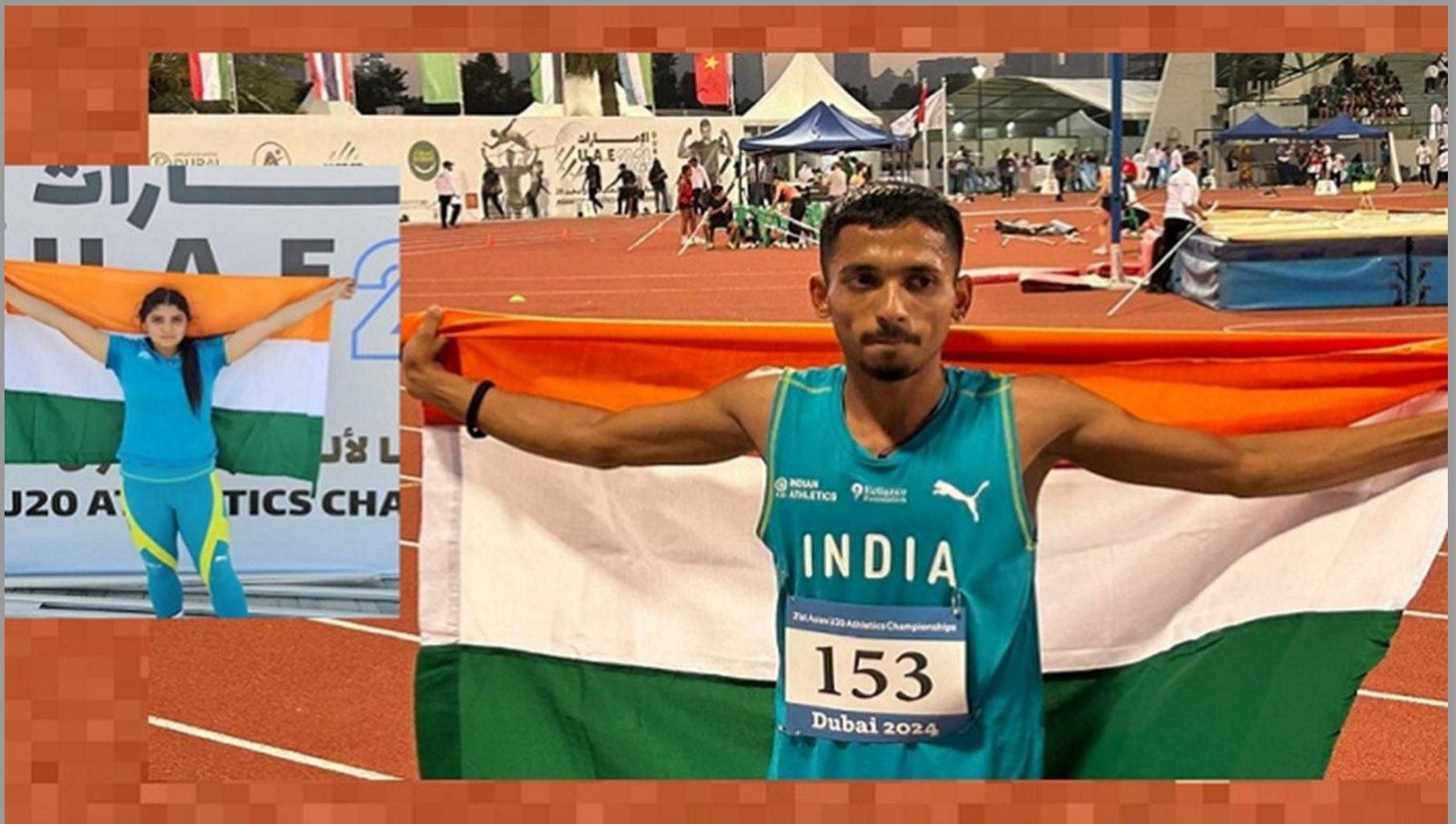
**Monday, 29 April 2024**

## **Indian And Russian Companies To Manage Sri Lanka's Mattala Airport**

- An Indian firm has been jointly entrusted the management responsibilities of Sri Lanka's Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport along with another Russian company. Sri Lanka's Cabinet of Ministers has approved the transfer of management responsibilities for the Airport in the southern region of the island.
- As per the proposal submitted to the Cabinet by Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Aviation, Nimal Siripala De Silva, the selected Indian and Russian firms will manage the airport for a period of 30 years.
- This decision, aligned with the recommendations of the negotiation committee appointed by Sri Lanka's Cabinet of Ministers, marks a significant step in international collaboration in aviation management.

**Q.** An Indian firm has been given the management responsibility of which airport in Sri Lanka jointly with another Russian company? **Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport**





**Monday, 29 April 2024**

## **Ekta Dey, Ranvir Singh & Anurag Singh Kaler Clinch Gold For India At 21st Asian U20 Athletics Championships**

- In Athletics, Indian athletes dominated the men's and women's 3,000 metre steeplechase events at the 21st Asian U20 Athletics Championships to swell the gold medal tally to three on the second day of competitions in Dubai.
- Ekta Dey claimed gold in the women's 3,000 metre steeplechase with a time of 10:31.92 seconds, while Ranvir Singh was victorious in the men's competition, winning the gold medal in 9:22.62 seconds.
- Earlier, Anurag Singh Kaler won gold in the men's shot-put event. Overall Indian athletes won seven medals. In the morning session, race walker Aarti set the ball rolling, bagging a hard-fought bronze medal in the women's 10,000 metre.
- Later, throwers added three more medals, including gold to the team's tally. Defending champion Siddharth Choudhary settled for bronze with a throw of 19.02 metres scored in the second attempt. Amanat Kamboj added silver to the team's tally. Her best throw was 50.45 metres. Aman Choudhary also won bronze in the men's 400 metres with a timing of 47.53 seconds.

**Q.** Ekta Dey, who claimed gold at the 21st Asian U20 Athletics Championships, is related to which sport?  
**steeplechase**





Monday, 29 April 2024

## **Economic think-tank NIPFP projects India's FY25 GDP growth at 7.1%**

- Economic think-tank National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) has estimated India's GDP growth at 7.1 per cent for the current fiscal, using high-frequency models.
- NIPFP, in a series of tweets, said the Centre is on a fiscal consolidation path through buoyancy in taxes and revenue expenditure compression.
- The economic think tank said that in 2023-24, states' capex growth is robust due to significant capex transfers from the Centre.
- While the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Fitch Ratings have estimated India's growth at 7 per cent, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), S&P Global Ratings and Morgan Stanley projected a 6.8 per cent growth rate for FY25.
- The International Monetary Fund has applauded India for maintaining fiscal discipline in an election year, saying that the Indian economy is doing well and continues to be the world's bright spot.

**Q.** Economic think-tank NIPFP has estimated India's FY25 GDP growth to be what percent? **7.1%**





Monday, 29 April 2024

## Sudhir Kakar, "Father of Indian Psychology", dies at 85

- Sudhir Kakar, the "Father of Indian Psychology", died on 22 April 2024 at the age of 85. Sudhir Kakkar was a famous writer and cultural critic.
- Kakar wrote several books and articles on the intersection of psychoanalysis with Indian culture, mythology and religion.
- Among his major books, 'The Inner World: A Psychoanalytic Study of Childhood and Society in India' was quite famous.
- His works in this book questioned the traditional Western psychoanalytic approach, providing unique insight into the Indian psyche.
- Sudhir Kakar has also written several fictional books, which mainly include: The Seeker & A Book of Memory

**Q.** Name the "Father of Indian Psychology", who passed away recently? **Sudhir Kakar**





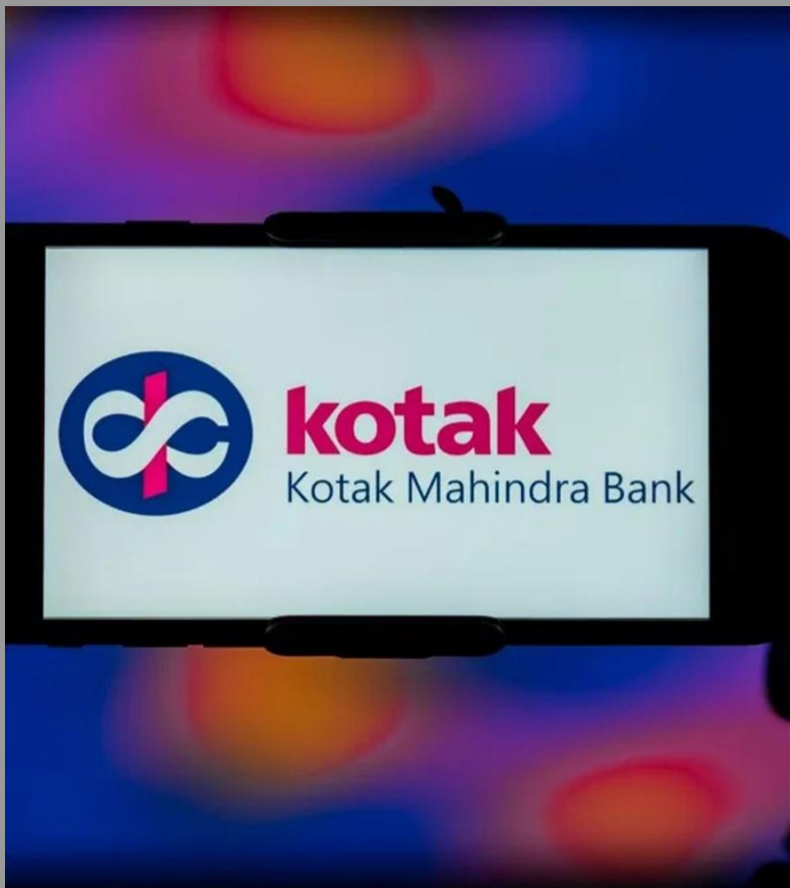
Monday, 29 April 2024

## 60-year-old woman wins Miss Universe Buenos Aires pageant

- Alejandra Marisa Rodríguez, 60, is a lawyer and journalist from La Plata, the capital city of Argentina's Buenos Aires Province.
- She has won the title of Miss Universe Buenos Aires 2024.
- Rodríguez's triumph marks a historic moment as she becomes the first woman of her age to win such a prestigious beauty pageant.
- Initially, Miss Universe contestants had to be unmarried and childless, aged between 18 and 28, since its establishment in 1952.
- However, the pageant's recent decision permits women aged 18 to 73 to participate, disregarding previous criteria.
- She is the winner of the Miss Universe Buenos Aires 2024.
- Now, Ms Rodríguez is gearing up to represent Buenos Aires in the Miss Universe Argentina competition in May 2024.
- If she wins, she will compete in the Miss Universe World competition in Mexico on September 28, 2024.

**Q.** Who won the title of Miss Universe Buenos Aires 2024?  
**Alejandra Marisa Rodríguez**





Monday, 29 April 2024

## RBI Barred Kotak Mahindra Bank from Adding New Customers Online

- The recent scrutiny by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) placing restrictions on Kotak Mahindra Bank has left customers wondering about its impact on their banking experience.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank was directed by the RBI to stop signing up new customers via its online and mobile banking platforms and to stop issuing fresh credit cards with immediate effect.
- The curbs imposed by RBI come as a result of shortcomings identified in the bank's IT system during the years 2022 and 2023.
- This was done under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, which gives the RBI the power to direct banks “to prevent the affairs of any banking company being conducted in a manner detrimental to the interests of the depositors or in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the banking company”.

**Q.** Which bank was recently directed by the RBI to stop signing up new customers via its online and mobile banking platforms and to stop issuing fresh credit cards with immediate effect? **Kotak Mahindra Bank**





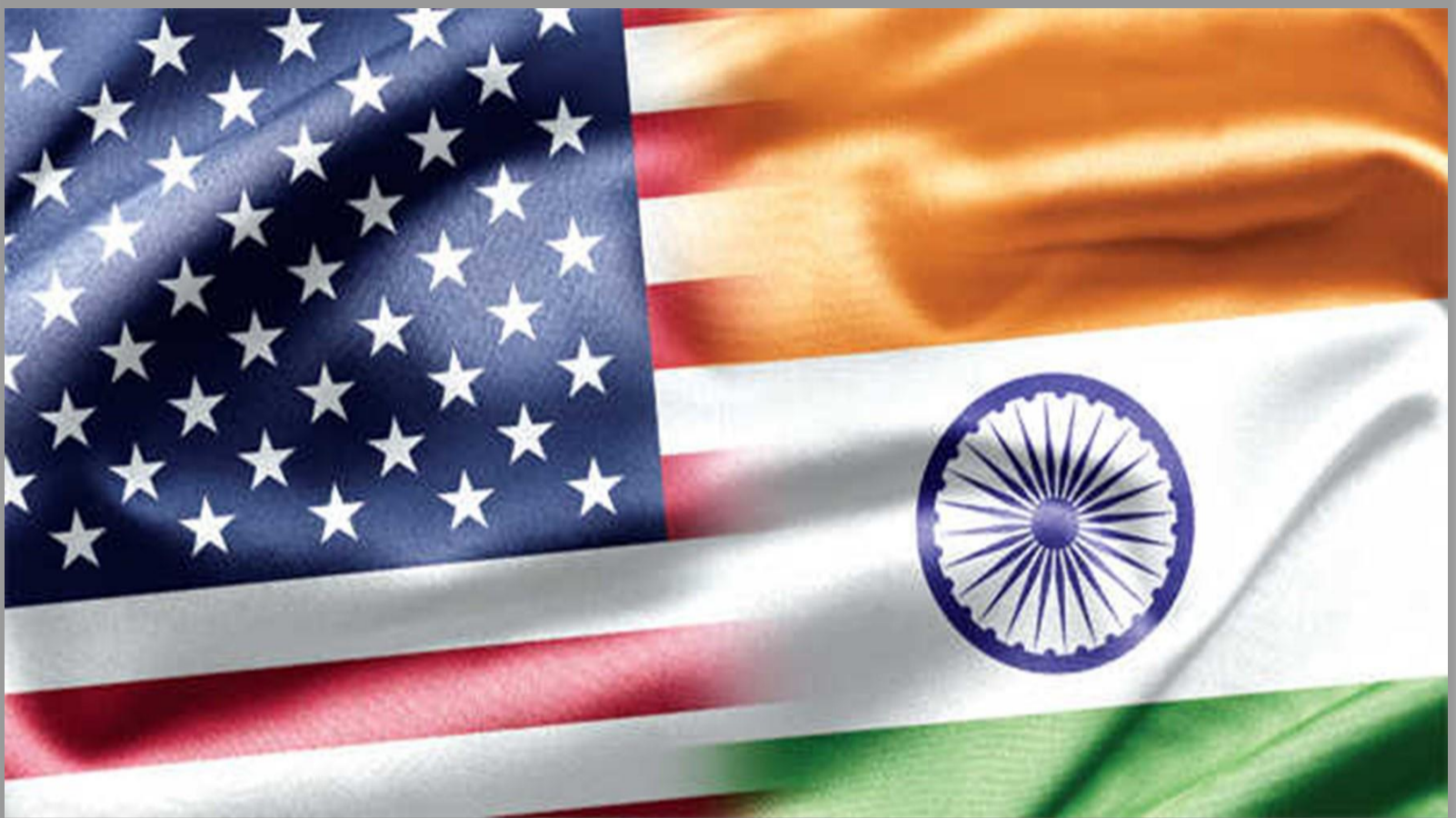
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## ICC Names Yuvraj Singh as Ambassador for Men's T20 World Cup 2024

- Ahead of the Men's T20 World Cup 2024 jointly hosted by the West Indies and the United States of America, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the legendary Indian all-rounder, Yuvraj Singh as their brand ambassador for the tournament which is set to begin on June 1.
- In the inaugural edition of the T20 World Cup in 2007, Yuvraj set the tournament alight by smashing six maximums in an over. India managed to win the trophy under the leadership of the legendary MS Dhoni.
- The ICC Men's T20 World Cup will be played from 1-29 June with co-hosts USA taking on Canada in the opening fixture at Grand Prairie Stadium in Texas. A total of 55 matches will be played by 20 teams across 9 venues, culminating in the final on 29 June in Barbados.

**Q.** Who has been named as the Ambassador for Men's T20 World Cup 2024? **Yuvraj Singh**





Monday, 29 April 2024

## USTR retains India in IP watchlist

- The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has retained India in the 'Priority Watchlist' and said that the country remains one of the world's 'most challenging' with respect to protection and enforcement of intellectual property (IP) rights, and patent issues continue to be of particular concern in India.
- Six other countries such as China, Russia, Indonesia, Chile, Argentina, Venezuela continue to remain in the list.
- The 14th ministerial-level meeting of the India-United States Trade Policy Forum (TPF) in January saw discussions on India's efforts to modernise its patent system and exchanged ideas on other patent, copyright, and trademark issues.
- However, it also pointed out that India has finalised the Patents (Amendments) Rules, 2024 that have the 'potential to reduce long-standing burdens on patent applicants'.
- The amendments will include changes to the procedures for pre-grant oppositions, an update to the reporting form for patent working, and decreased reporting time for reporting foreign applications.

**Q.** The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has retained India in the \_\_\_\_ list. '**Priority Watchlist**'





Monday, 29 April 2024

## Pedro Rocha named Spanish Football Federation president

- The Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) named Pedro Rocha as its new president and the successor to Luis Rubiales.
- The former vice-president replaces Rubiales, who had to step down in the wake of the turmoil caused by his unsolicited kiss of Spain forward, Jenni Hermoso in the celebrations following Spain's triumph in the Women's World Cup final in Australia in August 2023.
- Rocha's appointment came after he was the only candidate for the elections to the RFEF presidency, and the organization explained his appointment was "based on the calendar that was established for this procedure."
- However, Rocha's long-term future as the head of Spanish football could be brief, given that he is currently also under an ongoing corruption investigation into the RFEF known as 'Operation Brody.'
- The government explained it had taken the decision to allow a "period of regeneration" in the RFEF, although this move had led FIFA and UEFA to announce they would monitor the situation, given that FIFA rules mean football associations have to be able to act without third party influence.

**Q.** Who has been named the new president of Royal Spanish Football Federation? **Pedro Rocha**





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