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Saturday, 17 August 2024

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 www.race4job.com

 raceinstitute@gmail.com

 Chaitanyapuri, Dilsukhnagar, Ameerpet, KPHB,
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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Saturday, 17 August 2024

India's new rocket SSLV-D3 lifts off with earth observation satellite (EOS-08)

- India's new rocket Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV-D3) lifted off with an earth observation satellite-08 (EOS-08) weighing 175.5 kg.
- **Piggyback Satellite:** Chennai-based start-up Space Rickshaw's small satellite SR-0 also launched on this mission.

Key Technology:

- SSLV has a payload capacity of 500 kg to Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- Developed by ISRO to meet the global market trend for smaller satellites.
- Rocket Specifications:
- SSLV is 34 meters tall and weighs about 119 tons.
- The cost of the rocket is approximately Rs 56 crore.

Mission Objective:

- Complete the SSLV Development Project.
- Enable operational missions by Indian industry and public sector organization NewSpace India Ltd. (NSIL).

Q. What satellite did India's new rocket SSLV-D3 launch alongside the piggyback satellite SR-0? **Earth Observation Satellite-08 (EOS-08)**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

India adds three new Ramsar sites to wetlands network, bringing the total to 85

- India has recently added three new wetlands to its list of Ramsar sites, taking the total number to 85. This is significant for government exams, particularly in sections related to environment and ecology.

The newly added sites are:

- Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu,
- Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu, and
- Tawa Reservoir in Madhya Pradesh.

Key Points:

- Ramsar Convention:
- Established: 1971 in Ramsar, Iran.
- Objective: Conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.
- India's Involvement: India became a signatory on February 1, 1982.
- Importance: Focus on maintaining wetlands for biodiversity conservation and sustaining human life through their ecosystem services.

Q. Which state in India now has the highest number of Ramsar sites after the addition of three new sites, bringing the total to 85? **Tamil Nadu**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

President Droupadi Murmu approves 103 Gallantry Awards for Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces

- President Droupadi Murmu approved 103 gallantry awards for personnel of the Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces on the eve of Independence Day, showcasing India's recognition of bravery and valor in the defense of the nation. Here's how this development relates to government exams:

Key Points:

- Total Awards: 103 gallantry awards approved.
- Types of Awards:
- 4 Kirti Chakras (second-highest peacetime gallantry award).
- 18 Shaurya Chakras (third-highest peacetime gallantry award).
- 1 Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry), 63 Sena Medals (Gallantry), 11 Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry), and 6 Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).

Posthumous Awards:

- Kirti Chakras: Three out of the four Kirti Chakras were awarded posthumously.
- Shaurya Chakras: Four Shaurya Chakra recipients were also awarded posthumously.

Q. How many gallantry awards were approved by President Droupadi Murmu on the eve of Independence Day 2024? **103**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

Senior IAS officer Govind Mohan appointed New Union Home Secretary

- Govind Mohan has been appointed as the new Union Home Secretary, succeeding Ajay Kumar Bhalla.

Current Position:

- Prior to this appointment, Govind Mohan was serving as Secretary in the Ministry of Culture.
- He will first join as Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Career Background:

- Govind Mohan is a 1989-batch IAS officer from Sikkim.
- He has previously served as joint secretary and additional secretary in the Union Home Ministry before his current role.

Challenges and Responsibilities:

- His immediate challenge will be overseeing the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, which are mandated to be held by September 30 as per a Supreme Court directive.
- Ensuring peaceful elections and managing security concerns in the region will be critical tasks.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new Union Home Secretary, succeeding Ajay Kumar Bhalla? **Govind Mohan**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

Senior IRS Officer Rahul Navin appointed Director of Enforcement Directorate

- Senior IRS officer Rahul Navin has been appointed as the full-time Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED), a crucial development in India's fight against financial crimes.

Background:

- Navin previously served as the Special Director (OSD) in the ED and became Acting Director after the tenure of Sanjay Kumar Mishra ended in September 2023.
- He joined the ED in 2019 and played a key role in India's mutual evaluation by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

Significant Contributions:

- Navin has authored a book titled "Information Exchange and Tax Transparency: Tackling Global Tax Evasion and Avoidance."
- His tenure saw high-profile arrests, including those of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren in money laundering cases.
- He ensured security for ED teams working in challenging environments, such as West Bengal.

Q. Who was appointed as the full-time Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in 2023? **Rahul Navin**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

Paetongtarn Shinawatra to be Nominated as Thailand's New PM

- Thailand's Pheu Thai Party has announced that Paetongtarn Shinawatra will be nominated as the country's new Prime Minister in an upcoming Parliament vote.
- If elected, Paetongtarn Shinawatra will become Thailand's second woman Prime Minister.
- She will also be the third member of the Shinawatra family to hold this position, following her father, Thaksin Shinawatra, and her aunt, Yingluck Shinawatra.
- Former Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin was removed from office by a Constitutional Court ruling over an ethical violation.
- The court found him guilty of appointing a Cabinet member involved in an alleged bribery case.

Q. Who has been nominated by Thailand's Pheu Thai Party for the position of Prime Minister following the removal of Srettha Thavisin? **Paetongtarn Shinawatra**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

Hockey India retires jersey number 16 in honour of PR Sreejesh

- Hockey India has officially retired jersey number 16 from the national senior men's team to honor goalkeeper PR Sreejesh, recognizing his significant contributions to the sport.
- No player from the senior men's team will wear this jersey number in the future.

Honors and Recognition:

- PR Sreejesh is acclaimed as the 'God of Modern Indian Hockey' by Hockey India.
- He announced his retirement after a distinguished career that included winning back-to-back Olympic bronze medals in 2020 and 2024.
- New Role: Following his retirement, Sreejesh will be appointed as the coach of the junior men's hockey team.

Q. Which jersey number has Hockey India retired in honor of goalkeeper PR Sreejesh? **16**

ADB

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Saturday, 17 August 2024

ADB approves \$30 mn grant to improve healthcare services in Tajikistan

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned a \$30 million grant aimed at enhancing healthcare services in Tajikistan.
- In a recent gazette notification, the state government announced the appointment of Anand Mahindra, chairperson of Mahindra and Mahindra Group, as the chairman of the Board of Governors of Young India Skill University. Additionally, Srinivas C Raju, a noted industrialist and educationalist, has been appointed as a member of the board and designated as co-chairman.
- According to the gazette, Anand Mahindra and Srinivas C Raju will serve as chairman and co-chairman of the university, respectively, for a term of one year. This follows the enactment of the Young India Skills University, Telangana (Public-Private Partnership) Act, 2024, which came into effect on August 14. The Act outlines the need for these appointments to guide the university's development and operations.

ADB:

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank based in Manila, Philippines, established in 1966. It has 68 member countries and focuses on reducing poverty and promoting economic growth in Asia and the Pacific. The ADB provides loans, technical assistance, and grants for various development projects, including infrastructure and healthcare.

Q. What is the purpose of the \$30 million grant approved by the ADB for Tajikistan? **Healthcare**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

Tanzanian President replaces Health Minister

- Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan has replaced the country's health minister and reinstated two other members of the Cabinet.
- Ummu Mwalimu has been removed as Health Minister. Jenista Mhagama, previously minister of state in the Prime Minister's Office, has been appointed as the new Health Minister.

Reinstatements:

- William Lukuvi and Palamagamba Kabudi have been reinstated to the Cabinet.
- Kabudi is now the Minister of Constitutional and Legal Affairs.
- Lukuvi has been appointed Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office for policy, parliament, and coordination, replacing Mhagama.

Additional Adjustments:

- Pindi Chana has been reassigned from the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.
- Angellah Kairuki, former Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism, has been appointed as a presidential adviser.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new Health Minister of Tanzania following the recent Cabinet reshuffle? **Jenista Mhagama**



Saturday, 17 August 2024

Telangana govt appoints Anand Mahindra as Skill university chairman

- The state government has issued a gazette notification, confirming the appointment of Anand Mahindra, chairperson of Mahindra and Mahindra Group, as the chairman of the Board of Governors of Young India Skill University.
- The government also appointed Srinivas C Raju, better known as Srini Raju, a prominent industrialist and educationalist, as a member of the board who is designated to act as co-chairman of the university.
- As per the gazette notification, Anand Mahindra and Srini Raju would serve as chairman and co-chairman of the varsity, respectively, for a period of one year.
- The state government has enacted the Young India Skills University, Telangana (Public-Private Partnership) Act, 2024, which officially came into force on August 14.
- Under the provisions of the Act, the state government deemed it necessary to appoint a chairperson and members of the Board of Governors to lead the University.

Q. Which state government has Anand Mahindra, chairperson of Mahindra and Mahindra Group, as the chairman of the Board of Governors of Young India Skill University?

Telangana



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 www.race4job.com

 raceinstitute@gmail.com

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