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# Daily News Analysis

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**Monday, 28 October 2024**

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





**Monday, 28 October 2024**

## **Government Initiates 21st Livestock Census and Announces \$25 Million Fund for Animal Health Security**

- The Centre launched the Pandemic Fund Project on Animal Health Security Strengthening in India for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, along with the 21st Livestock Census Operation.
- The government is committed to eradicating Foot and Mouth Disease and Brucellosis from the country by 2030.
- The livestock census would play a major role in policy-making and limiting diseases in animals.
- The funds received from the G20 Pandemic Fund project will aid in the development and improvement of animal hospitals.

### **Details of the Livestock Census:**

- The Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Rajiv Ranjan Singh, launched the 21st Livestock Census. The census, costing ₹200 crore, will be conducted from October 2024 to February 2025.
- This census will capture data on 15 species of livestock, such as cattle, buffalo, sheep, and 219 indigenous breeds across India, covering over 30 crore households. Poultry bird data will also be collected.
- Around 1 lakh field officials, including veterinarians and para-veterinarians, will conduct the survey, ensuring comprehensive data collection.

**Q.** Who launched the 21st Livestock Census and the Pandemic Fund Project for animal health security? **Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh.**





**Monday, 28 October 2024**

## **India and Germany Sign MoUs and Agreements Across Key Sectors to Strengthen Bilateral Ties**

- India and Germany signed multiple MoUs in areas such as green hydrogen, innovation, and technology, following delegation-level talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in New Delhi.
- The countries agreed on the exchange and mutual protection of classified information and committed to the Indo-German Green Hydrogen roadmap.
- An agreement on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters was also signed, enhancing cooperation in law enforcement.
- Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed for cooperation in skill development, vocational education, and training.
- Three joint declarations of intent were exchanged in the areas of employment and labor, research in advanced materials, and green urban mobility partnerships.

### **Increased Visa Quota for Indian Professionals:**

- Germany announced an increase in the annual visa quota for skilled Indian professionals from 20,000 to 90,000.
- Prime Minister Modi, addressing the 18th Asia Pacific Conference of German Business, highlighted that this decision aligns with Germany's demand for skilled labor and aims to boost economic cooperation with India.

**Q.** In which fields did India and Germany sign MoUs to strengthen their bilateral relationship? **Green hydrogen, innovation, technology, skill development, and vocational education.**





**Monday, 28 October 2024**

## **Centre Partners with HCLSoftware to Enhance India's Startup Manufacturing Ecosystem**

- The Government of India, in collaboration with HCLSoftware, has launched the 'Manufacturing Incubation Initiative' aimed at transforming the startup manufacturing ecosystem and strengthening India as a national production hub.

### **Global Market Exposure for Indian Startups**

- Startups will benefit from the HCL SYNC programme, which will provide global market exposure, enabling Indian startups to showcase their products and services on an international platform, boosting Indian innovation globally.

### **The partnership aims to:**

- Develop Indian intellectual property (IP) by encouraging startups to create innovative, India-specific products.
- Improve product quality by equipping startups with the tools and expertise needed to meet global standards.
- Build a robust manufacturing ecosystem by connecting startups and suppliers, supporting the entire manufacturing value chain.

**Q.** Which global company has the Government of India partnered with to enhance the startup manufacturing ecosystem? **HCLSoftware.**



## New Category Added to Mudra Yojana



Pradhan Mantri  
**मुद्रा**  
Yojna



Monday, 28 October 2024

### Government Increases Mudra Loan Limit to ₹20 Lakh under New 'Tarun Plus' Category

- The Government of India has doubled the Mudra loan ceiling under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) from ₹10 lakh to ₹20 lakh in the newly introduced 'Tarun Plus' category, aiming to support emerging entrepreneurs and promote economic growth.

#### Objective and Eligibility:

- The enhancement aligns with the Mudra Scheme's objective to "fund the unfunded", specifically targeting entrepreneurs who have previously availed loans in the 'Tarun' category and successfully repaid them.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced this increase in the Union Budget of July 2024, underscoring the government's commitment to strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

#### Background of PMMY:

- Launched on April 8, 2015, PMMY provides collateral-free micro-credit to non-corporate, non-farm small and micro-entrepreneurs.
- Loans are issued under three categories: Shishu (up to ₹50,000), Kishore (between ₹50,000 and ₹5 lakh), and Tarun (up to ₹10 lakh). The new Tarun Plus extends the limit to ₹20 lakh. PMMY.

**Q.** What is the new loan limit under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana's 'Tarun Plus' category? **₹20 lakh.**





**Monday, 28 October 2024**

## **Essar Group Appoints Manu Kapoor as Chief of Public Policy and Corporate Affairs**

- The Essar Group has appointed Manu Kapoor as its new Chief of Public Policy and Corporate Affairs, aiming to strengthen its influence in sustainable development sectors and reinforce its commitment to green transformation.
- Kapoor brings over 30 years of experience in corporate reputation management, having collaborated with major corporations, government agencies, and industry bodies in regions such as the Middle East, Africa, Central Asia, Russia, Eastern Europe, and Asia.
- In alignment with global sustainability trends, Essar Group is transitioning assets toward a low-carbon future. The company's focus includes investments in hydrogen, green mobility, and green steel, underscoring its commitment to fostering eco-friendly industry ecosystems and reducing carbon dependency.

### **Essar Group :**

- Founded: 1969
- Founder: Shashi Ruia, Ravi Ruia
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Shashi Ruia
- Group CEO: Prashant Ruia

**Q.** Who has been appointed as the Chief of Public Policy and Corporate Affairs for Essar Group? **Manu Kapoor**





Monday, 28 October 2024

## Muhammad Waseem Steps Down as UAE ODI Captain; Rahul Chopra to Lead

- Muhammad Waseem, former captain of the UAE men's ODI team, has stepped down to focus on his batting. Wicketkeeper-batter Rahul Chopra will take over as captain, debuting in the role during the upcoming ICC Cricket World Cup League 2 games in Oman in November 2024.

### Waseem's Tenure and Performance:

- Waseem captained UAE for 26 matches from March 2023 to October 2024, securing seven wins. His individual performances were notable in victories, with an average of 64.28, including a century and three half-centuries.
- Under his leadership, the UAE struggled in the ongoing 2024-27 CWC League 2, currently ranking at the bottom with only one win in seven matches.

### Rahul Chopra's New Role:

- Chopra, with experience in seven ODIs, will lead the team against Oman and the Netherlands in the upcoming series, marking a fresh start for UAE cricket.

### Waseem's Continued Role in T20Is:

- Although stepping down from ODI captaincy, Waseem remains integral to UAE's T20I team, recently leading the scoring in a tri-series against Namibia and the USA, where UAE finished as series champions.

**Q.** Who took over as the captain of the UAE men's ODI cricket team from Muhammad Waseem? **Rahul Chopra.**





Monday, 28 October 2024

## Former Moroccan Footballer Abdelaziz Barrada Passes Away at 35

- Abdelaziz Barrada, former Moroccan international and Olympique de Marseille midfielder, passed away at age 35. Born on June 19, 1989, in France, Barrada began his career with PSG's reserve team before moving to Getafe in Spain, where he showcased his talent.

### Club and International Achievements:

- Barrada's career spanned clubs in Spain, UAE, France, Turkey, and Qatar. He joined Marseille in 2014, contributing to the Ligue 1 side for two seasons before continuing in the Gulf.
- Representing Morocco from 2012 to 2015, Barrada earned 28 caps and scored four goals, and captained the team at the 2012 London Olympics, including a goal in a draw against Honduras. He also led Morocco to the U-23 Africa Cup of Nations final in 2011.

### Legacy:

- Known for his skill and sportsmanship, Barrada retired in 2021, leaving a significant impact on Moroccan football and the clubs he represented.

**Q.** Name the Former Moroccan Footballer, who passed away recently? **Abdelaziz Barrada**





Monday, 28 October 2024

## US, Japan and, South Korea join hands to support digital infra in India

- International Collaboration for Digital Infrastructure in India
- The United States, Japan, and South Korea have introduced the DiGi Framework to support and develop India's digital infrastructure, working closely with Indian private sector entities.

### Launch and Participating Agencies

- The framework was announced by the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and the Export-Import Bank of Korea (Korea Eximbank).

### Purpose and Objectives

- The DiGi Framework seeks to provide streamlined support and funding to meet the demand for strategic digital infrastructure projects in India.
- Policy dialogues between the Indian government and private sector will be facilitated to promote private sector investments in these areas.

Q. Which three countries launched the DiGi Framework to support digital infrastructure projects in India? **The United States, Japan, and South Korea.**





Monday, 28 October 2024

## **Solex Energy and State Bank of India (SBI) Collaboration for Solar Financing**

- Solex Energy has partnered with the State Bank of India (SBI) to promote solar energy accessibility in India.
- Objective: The collaboration aims to provide financial solutions for commercial, industrial, and institutional solar energy projects.

### **Key Highlights:**

- Under SBI's "Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme," loans up to Rs 10 crore will be offered for solar initiatives nationwide.
- Solex Energy will offer end-to-end services, including site evaluation and regulatory approvals.
- SBI will support the initiative with a streamlined digital loan platform.
- Significance: This partnership aligns with India's renewable energy goals by encouraging the adoption of solar power, and reflects a growing trend of collaborations between financial institutions and solar energy companies.

**Q.** Which bank has Solex Energy partnered with under the Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme to offer loans up to Rs 10 crore for solar energy projects in India? **State Bank of India**





**Monday, 28 October 2024**

## **Axis Bank Reappoints Amitabh Chaudhry as MD & CEO**

- Axis Bank has announced the reappointment of Amitabh Chaudhry as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.
- Chaudhry has led the bank since 2019, with a record of notable contributions and leadership achievements.
- Term: The reappointment is effective from January 1, 2025, and extends until December 31, 2027.
- Approval:
  - The decision was approved by the bank's Board of Directors.
  - Shareholders also endorsed the reappointment at Axis Bank's 30th Annual General Meeting in July.
  - Final approval is pending from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

### **Axis Bank:**

- Founded: 3 December 1993
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairperson: Shri Rakesh Makhija

**Q.** Who has been reappointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Axis Bank for a three-year term starting January 1, 2025? **Amitabh Chaudhry**





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