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Saturday, 23 November 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Saturday, 23 November 2024

Armenia Becomes 104th Full Member of International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- Armenia has officially joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as its 104th full member.
- The Instrument of Ratification was exchanged in New Delhi between Armenia's Ambassador to India, Vahagn Afyan, and the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Abhishek Singh.
- This exchange finalizes Armenia's ratification of the Framework Agreement on the Establishment of the ISA, an initiative led by India and France to promote solar energy adoption globally.
- The agreement, originally signed on November 16, 2023, in Yerevan, came into effect for Armenia on November 15, 2024.
- India serves as the Depository State for the ISA Framework Agreement.

ISA :

- Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana, India.
- Founding Members: India and France.
- Objective: To promote the use of solar energy in member countries and enhance global energy sustainability.
- Total Members: 104 (as of November 2024).

Q. Which country recently became the 104th full member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

Armenia



Saturday, 23 November 2024

Science & Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh Launches VISION Portal

- Launch Event: Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network (VISION) in New Delhi.
- Objective: The portal aims to promote education, skill development, and innovation, particularly among underprivileged children, by providing mentorship and training opportunities.

Highlights:

- Focus on democratizing startup skills and extending opportunities to students in remote areas.
- Encourages innovation and entrepreneurship to bridge gaps in education and technology.
- Recognized as a step towards achieving Vision India 2047, which envisions India as a global leader in technology, education, and economic growth.
- Significance: Supports India's growing ecosystem in startups, biotechnology, and space technology by empowering the next generation.

Q. Which portal was recently launched by Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh to promote education and innovation among underprivileged children? **VISION Portal (Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network)**

संगीत नाटक अकादेमी, नई दिल्ली
उस्ताद बिस्मिल्लाह खाँ युवा पुरस्कार
USTAD BISMILLAH KHAN YUVA PURASKAR
2022 & 2023

Saturday, 23 November 2024

82 Young Artists to Receive Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar

- Event: Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, will confer the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for 2022 and 2023 in New Delhi.
- Award Overview: A total of 82 young artists will be honored for their exceptional contributions to the fields of music, dance, drama, folk and tribal art forms, puppetry, and allied performing arts.

Award Details:

- Total Recipients: 82 young artists honored for the years 2022 and 2023.
- Instituting Body: Sangeet Natak Akademi.
- Award Named After: Bharat Ratna Ustad Bismillah Khan, a legendary shehnai maestro.
- Eligibility: Young performing arts practitioners up to the age of 40 years.
- Inception Year: 2006.

Purpose of the Award:

- To encourage and motivate young artists in the fields of music, dance, drama, folk and tribal art forms, and other allied performing arts.

Q. Which award is conferred by the Sangeet Natak Akademi to outstanding young artists under 40 in the fields of music, dance, and drama? **Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar**



Saturday, 23 November 2024

Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi Conferred Honorary General Rank by Nepali Army

- **Event:** General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) of the Indian Army, was conferred the Honorary General rank of the Nepali Army by Nepal's President Ram Chandra Poudel during a special ceremony in Kathmandu.
- **Significance:** This tradition underscores the strong military ties between India and Nepal and reflects their longstanding friendship.

Visit Details:

- **Duration:** Five-day official visit to Nepal.
- **Invitation by:** Nepali Army COAS General Ashok Raj Sigdel.
- **Delegation:** A five-member team, including Sunita Dwivedi, Chairperson of the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA).
- **Reception:** Received at Tribhuvan International Airport by Major General Prem Dhoj Adhikari, Head of Nepali Army's Department of Military Operations.

Q. Which Indian Army Chief was recently conferred the Honorary General rank of the Nepali Army by Nepal's President? **General Upendra Dwivedi**



Saturday, 23 November 2024

Tata Power and ADB Sign \$4.25 Billion Pact for Strategic Energy Projects

- Event: Tata Power signed an MoU with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Baku, Azerbaijan, to evaluate financing worth \$4.25 billion for various strategic energy projects.

Purpose: To support projects aimed at:

- Strengthening India's power infrastructure.
- Promoting renewable energy, clean energy, and decarbonization initiatives.
- Enhancing energy transition and battery storage solutions.

Key Projects:

- 966-MW Solar Wind Hybrid Project.
- Pumped Hydro Storage Project.
- Capex for strengthening distribution networks.

Significance:

- Drives India's clean and renewable energy capacity expansion.
- Supports modernizing power infrastructure to ensure sustainable growth.

Q. Which Indian company signed an MoU with ADB for \$4.25 billion financing to support renewable and clean energy projects? **Tata Power**



Saturday, 23 November 2024

K Sanjay Murthy Assumes Charge as Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India

Appointment Details:

- **New CAG:** K Sanjay Murthy, a 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from the Himachal Pradesh cadre.
- **Predecessor:** He succeeds Girish Chandra Murmu, who demitted office on Wednesday.
- **Appointed by:** President Droupadi Murmu, as per a notification from the Ministry of Finance.

Previous Roles:

- Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education.
- Additional Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- CEO, National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation.
- Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- Himachal Pradesh Government: Served in various roles before his tenure at the Centre.

Q. Who has recently assumed office as the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India? **K Sanjay Murthy**



Saturday, 23 November 2024

Tunisia and Kuwait Sign Cooperation Agreements in Various Sectors

- Tunisia and Kuwait signed a series of cooperation deals during the 4th Tunisian-Kuwaiti Joint Commission.

Key Agreements Signed:

- Upgrading railway lines for phosphate transport.
- Cooperation in meteorology and climate sciences.
- Labour exchange in the private sector.
- Air services, industrial exports, and tourism.
- Other Sectors of Promising Cooperation:
- Pharmaceutical industry, agriculture, and mining.

Historical Context:

- Kuwait is one of the first Arab countries to invest in Tunisia and has benefited from Tunisian expertise in health and education sectors.

Tunisia:

- Capital: Tunis
- President: Kais Saied
- Prime Minister: Kamel Madouri
- Currency: Tunisian dinar

Q. Which two countries signed several cooperation agreements during the 4th Tunisian-Kuwaiti Joint Commission? **Tunisia and Kuwait**



Saturday, 23 November 2024

London Tops World's Best Cities 2025 Ranking; No Indian Cities in Top 100

- **Top Rank:** London has been ranked #1 in the World's Best Cities 2025 for the tenth consecutive year, followed by New York and Paris.

Ranking Criteria:

- The rankings, released by Resonance Consultancy in partnership with Ipsos, evaluate cities based on:
- **Livability:** Quality of natural and built environments.
- **Lovability:** Quality of life, including culture, dining, and nightlife.
- **Prosperity:** Economic opportunities and human capital support.
- **Survey Data:** The 2025 rankings incorporated perception-based data, surveying over 22,000 people across 31 countries, reflecting global aspirations to live, work, and visit major urban centers.

Q. Which city has been ranked as the World's Best City for 2025 for the tenth consecutive year? **London**



Saturday, 23 November 2024

Nokia Extends Deals with Microsoft Azure and Bharti Airtel for Enhanced Network Capabilities

- Nokia has extended its multi-year deal with Microsoft Azure for five years to enhance data centre scalability and reliability.
- Key Focus: The agreement aims to improve global network infrastructure by supplying data centre routers and switches.
- Technology Deployment: Nokia will provide its 7250 IXR-10e platform for multi-terabit interconnectivity and continue to supply custom-designed management top-of-rack switches.
- SONiC Collaboration: The partnership will deepen efforts on open-source SONiC (Software for Open Networking in the Cloud) to enhance data centre network roles, including chassis-based support.

Nokia and Bharti Airtel Agreement:

- Deal Value: Nokia entered a multi-year, multi-billion-dollar agreement with Bharti Airtel to deploy 4G and 5G equipment across various cities in India.

Q. Which two companies did Nokia extend multi-year deals with for enhancing network infrastructure and 5G capabilities? **Microsoft Azure and Bharti Airtel**



Saturday, 23 November 2024

India and Australia Sign Air-to-Air Refuelling Agreement for Enhanced Defence Cooperation

- India and Australia have further solidified their defence relationship by signing an air-to-air refuelling agreement. This agreement, announced during bilateral talks between India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Australia's Minister for Defence Industry Pat Conroy, is aimed at improving the operational capabilities of both nations' air forces.

Refuelling Operations and Interoperability

- Under the new arrangement, the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) will be able to refuel Indian aircraft entering Australian airspace. The KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport aircraft will be used for this purpose, enhancing the endurance and operational range of Indian aircraft. The Indian Air Force, which currently uses older Ilyushin-78 tankers, will benefit from improved interoperability with the RAAF's more modern refuelling systems. However, it is still unclear if Australian aircraft will receive similar refuelling support in the eastern Indian Ocean.

Q. Which aircraft will be used by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) to refuel Indian aircraft under the new agreement? **KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport aircraft**



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