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Wednesday, 04 September 2024

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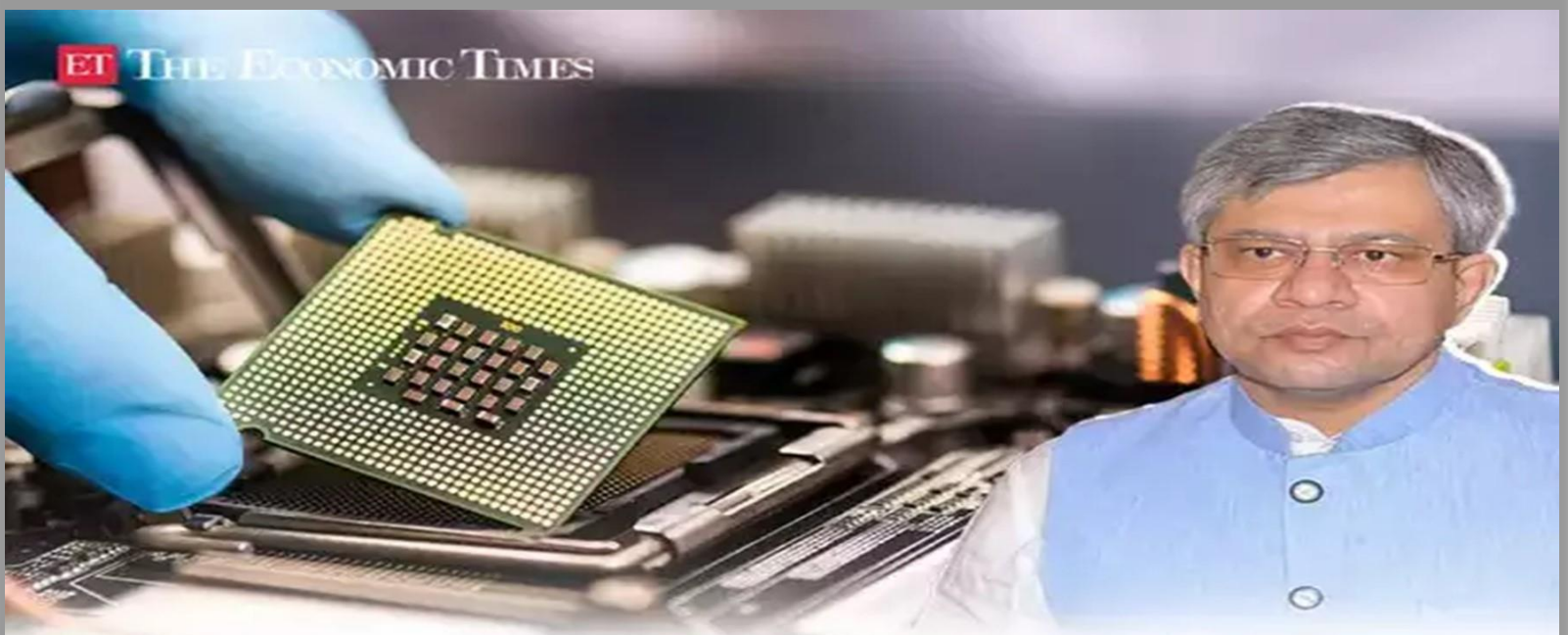
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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



CABINET APPROVES KAYNES SEMICON'S GUJARAT CHIP UNIT

Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Cabinet approves proposal of Kaynes Semicon to setup a semiconductor unit in Gujarat

- Union Cabinet has approved Kaynes Semicon Pvt Ltd's proposal to establish a semiconductor manufacturing unit in Sanand, Gujarat.
- **Investment:** ₹3,300 crore allocated for this semiconductor facility.
- **Production Capacity:** The new unit will produce 60 lakh chips per day.
- **Industries Served:** The facility will cater to automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecom, and mobile phone industries.
- **Program Details:** This initiative is part of the "Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India," launched in December 2021 with a total outlay of ₹76,000 crore.
- **Overall Development:** Four semiconductor units, including this one, are under construction with a combined investment of nearly ₹1.5 lakh crore and a total production capacity of around seven crore chips per day.

Gujarat:

- Capital: Gandhinagar
- Governor: Acharya Devvrat
- Chief minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Q. Which company received Union Cabinet approval to set up a semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat, with an investment of ₹3,300 crore? **Kaynes Semicon Pvt Ltd.**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Cabinet Committee on Security approves procurement of 240 aero-engines for IAF's Su-30 MKI aircraft

- The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved the procurement of 240 advanced AL-31FP aero-engines worth ₹26,000 crore for the Indian Air Force's Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter jets.
- **Source and Manufacturing:** The engines will be sourced from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), with 54% of components indigenously produced. The engines will be manufactured at HAL's Koraput division in Odisha, with technology transfer from Russia.
- **Delivery Timeline:** The engines are expected to be delivered over the next eight years, starting from 2025.
- **Fleet Support:** HAL has previously delivered 113 AL-31FP engines, and approximately 900 engines will be required to support the entire lifecycle of the IAF's Su-30 fleet, which currently includes 260 aircraft.
- **Additional Sukhoi-30s:** The procurement plan includes 12 additional Sukhoi-30s to replace those lost in accidents.
- **Sukhoi-30 Upgrade:** HAL will upgrade the entire Sukhoi-30 fleet at a cost of ₹65,000 crore, incorporating indigenous Uttam AESA radar, advanced electronic warfare suites, updated avionics, enhanced weapon control systems, and new weaponry.

Q. What is the estimated cost for upgrading the entire Sukhoi-30 fleet by HAL, and what new technologies will be included? **₹65,000 crore**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Agriculture Minister to launch AgriSURE Fund, Krishi Nivesh Portal

- Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the AgriSURE Fund and Krishi Nivesh Portal in New Delhi.
- He also conferred the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund – AIF Excellence Awards to the top-performing banks and states under various categories to recognize and appreciate their efforts.
- The Award Ceremony inspired other Banks to enhance their performance and contribute to the overall success of the scheme.
- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme was launched in 2020 for creation of Post-harvest Management infrastructure and Community farming assets.
- Special campaigns are conducted to promote AIF scheme and in recognition of the efforts of various Banks and States in successfully implementing AIF scheme.
- Excellence awards are presented to them for fostering collective achievements, promoting excellence and inspiring future performance under AIF.

Q. What is the duration and total allocation of the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme? **From 2020 to 2030 with a total allocation of ₹1 lakh crore**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Sumit Antil, Nitesh Kumar win Gold at Paris Paralympics 2024

- **Gold Medal in Javelin:** Sumit Antil defended his gold medal in javelin at the Paris Paralympics 2024, setting a new record with a throw of 70.59 meters.
- **Gold Medal in Badminton:** Nitesh Kumar won the gold medal in the Men's Singles SL3 badminton event.
- **Silver Medals in Badminton:** Suhas Yathiraj won silver in the Men's Singles SL4 event, and Thulasimathi Murugesan claimed silver in the Women's Singles SU5 event.
- **Bronze Medals in Badminton:** Manisha Ramadass won bronze in the Women's Singles SU5 category, while Nithya Sre Sivan secured bronze in the Women's Singles SH6 category.
- **Bronze Medals in Archery:** In the Mixed Team Compound Archery event, Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar secured a bronze medal.
- **Silver Medal in Discus Throw:** Yogesh Kathuniya won silver in the Men's Discus Throw F56 Final, earning India its first medal on Day 5.
- **Medal Tally:** India's overall medal count reached 15, boosting the country to the 15th spot in the medal tally.

Q. Which Indian archers won bronze in the Mixed Team Compound event at the Paris Paralympics 2024? **Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Cambodian Deputy PM Kong Sam Ol passes away

- Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Royal Palace Minister Kong Sam Ol passed away at the age of 94 due to illness.
- **Legacy:** He dedicated his efforts to preserving Cambodia's independence, sovereignty, and the constitutional monarchy.

Career:

- Served as Minister of the Royal Palace since 1998.
- Held multiple government positions, including Minister of Agriculture (1986-1989 and 1993-1994).
- Member of the ruling Cambodian People's Party's permanent committee.
- Member of the National Assembly for Kampong Chhnang.
- Chairman of the National Committee for Organizing National and International Festivals.
- Deputy President of the Cambodian Red Cross.
- **Honor:** Conferred with the honorary title 'Samdech'.
- Successor: King Norodom Sihamoni appointed Kuy Sophal as the new Minister of the Royal Palace.

Q. Who succeeded Kong Sam Ol as Cambodia's Minister of the Royal Palace? **Kuy Sophal**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

South Africa announces new scheme to boost tourism from India

- South Africa has announced a new Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS) with an initial focus on the tourist markets of India and China.
- The scheme is set to be implemented from January next year.
- The aim of the scheme is to reform the visa system and is expected to increase jobs in the tourism sector.
- The TTOS will remove the key obstacles standing in the way of South Africa becoming a favoured tourism destination for the second and fifth largest economies in the world. According to the government, Indian tourists account for only 3.9 percent of all international visitors to South Africa.

India-South Africa Tourism Relations:

- Historical Ties: Shared historical connections, including Mahatma Gandhi's time in South Africa.
- Tourism Agreements: Bilateral agreements and collaborations to boost tourism.

Promotion:

- **India:** Promotes South Africa's wildlife, landscapes, and culture.
- **South Africa:** Markets India for cultural and business travel.

Q. What is the goal of South Africa's new Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS starting January next year)? **To reform the visa system, increase jobs in the tourism sector, and making South Africa a preferred destination for tourists from India and China.**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

World Bank raises India's FY25 GDP growth forecast to 7% from 6.6% earlier

- The World Bank has revised India's GDP growth forecast for the financial year 2025 (FY25) upward to 7% from the previous estimate of 6.6%, as detailed in its latest India Development Update released.

Key Highlights:

Growth Drivers:

- **Public Infrastructure Investment:** Increased spending on infrastructure projects.
- **Household Investments:** Surge in investments within the real estate sector.

Supply Side Support:

- **Manufacturing Sector:** Expanded by 9.9%, contributing significantly to growth.
- **Resilient Services Activity:** Supported overall growth despite underperformance in agriculture.

Economic Position:

- **Dynamic Growth:** According to Auguste Kouame, World Bank's country director for India, the country is becoming more dynamic and is unlikely to fall into the middle-income trap if it continues its current policies and reforms.

Q. What is the revised GDP growth forecast for India in FY25 according to the World Bank? **7%**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Paris 2024 Paralympics: Key Points on Nithya Sre's Achievement

- **Bronze Medal Victory:** Nithya Sre won the bronze medal in the women's SH6 category at the Paris 2024 Paralympics by defeating Indonesia's Rina Marlina 21-14, 21-6.
- **Match Duration:** The 19-year-old Indian para shuttler secured the victory in just 23 minutes, despite a delay caused by technical issues following the previous medal ceremony.
- **SH6 Category:** The SH6 category is a newly introduced event for athletes of short stature who compete while standing.
- **India's Paralympics Medal Tally:** Nithya's win contributed to India's total of eight medals on the fifth day of the games, with five medals coming from badminton.
- **Previous Achievements:** Nithya had earlier won two bronze medals at the 2022 Asian Para Games and a gold at the Bahrain Para Badminton International Championships in May 2022.

Q. Who won the bronze medal for India in the women's SH6 category at the Paris 2024 Paralympics? **Nithya Sre**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Defence ministry to approve major Navy, Army projects worth over Rs 1 ₹1 trillion

- The Defence Ministry of India is set to approve major projects worth over ₹1 trillion to strengthen the Indian Navy and Army. Key initiatives include the construction of seven advanced stealth frigates under Project 17 Bravo for the Navy and the replacement of the Army's Russian-origin T-72 tanks with Future Ready Combat Vehicles (FRCVs).

Key Details:

Project 17 Bravo (Navy):

- The Indian Navy is poised to acquire seven new warships under Project 17 Bravo, the most advanced stealth frigates ever constructed in India.
- The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) is likely to approve a tender valued at around ₹70,000 crore under the 'Make in India' initiative.
- The tender will involve major Indian shipyards, including Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), Goa Shipyard Limited, and Larsen & Toubro.
- The new frigates are expected to significantly enhance the Indian Navy's capabilities by the early 2030s.

Q. What project involves the construction of advanced stealth frigates for the Indian Navy? **Bravo**



Wednesday, 04 September 2024

TotalEnergies to Make \$444 million Investment in JV with Adani Green

- Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) has entered into a strategic joint venture (JV) with TotalEnergies, involving an investment of \$444 million. The JV aims to manage a portfolio of solar projects with a total capacity of 1,150 MW. Both Adani Green and TotalEnergies will hold a 50% stake in the new entity.

Key Highlights:

Investment Details:

- TotalEnergies will invest \$444 million in the JV to accelerate the development of solar projects.
- The electricity generated from these projects will be sold through Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) and in the wholesale market.
- **Project Location:** The solar projects are part of the world's largest renewable energy plant located in Khavda, Gujarat, covering an area of 538 square kilometers.
- **AGEL's Contribution:** AGEL will contribute its existing assets to the JV and currently operates a renewable portfolio of 11.2 GW, the largest in India.
- **Impact of the Project:** Once completed, the plant will supply clean energy to over 16 million homes, generate 15,200 green jobs, and avoid approximately 58 million tons of CO2 emissions annually.

Q. What is the amount TotalEnergies is investing in the joint venture with Adani Green Energy? **\$444 million**
Development of Horticulture.



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