

25th February 2023

INTERNATIONAL

1) Bhutan National Digital Identity

- Bhutan has taken a step towards modernising its digital infrastructure. The Himalayan kingdom has just found its first-ever digital citizen.
- The Bhutan National Digital Identity mobile wallet, Royal Highness The Gyalsey (Prince) Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck has become the first digital citizen of Bhutan.
- The system in question uses cutting-edge technology to provide citizens with safe and verifiable credentials that can prove their identity.

2) Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar

- Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said his country has received \$700 million funds from the China Development Bank.
- The deposit comes as Pakistan has been struggling with its external debt and has barely enough dollars to cover less than three weeks' worth of imports.
- Finance Minister Ishaq Dar referred to the deposit as a "lifeline" for Pakistan.



3) World Bank announced \$2.5 billion

- The World Bank announced \$2.5 billion in additional grant financing from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to support Ukraine's budget and maintain essential services.

4) Bill Gates has acquired a minority stake in Heineken Holding NV

- Bill Gates has acquired a minority stake in Heineken Holding NV, the controlling shareholder of the world's second-largest brewer, for about \$902 million.













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- The Microsoft founder and philanthropist picked up 3.8% of Heineken Holding, according to a filing by the Dutch regulator AFM.
- He bought 6.65 million shares in Heineken Holding, in his individual capacity, and another 4.18 million shares through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Trust.

5) India and Guyana

- India and Guyana have agreed to cooperate in the oil and gas sector, including long-term crude purchase from the South American country and investment in its upstream sector.
- Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri met Guyana president Mohamed Irfaan Ali.



6) Financial Action Task Force

- The Financial Action Task Force, a global organization that monitors financial crime, suspended Russia's membership after finding that Moscow (Russia)'s conflict in Ukraine breached the FATF's principles.

7) India emerged as 7th biggest nation ready to adopt crypto in 2023

- According to HedgewithCrypto research, India emerged as 7th biggest nation ready to adopt crypto in 2023.
- Australia is the biggest country when it comes to the adoption of cryptocurrency in 2023 with a score of 7.37 out of 10.
- The sale of cryptocurrency and other digital assets is legal and regulated in Australia. Following this, USA ranks as the second biggest country in crypto adoption with a score of 7.07 out of 10. Currently, there 33,630 crypto ATMs throughout the country.

NATIONAL

1) Reserve Bank of India













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- The Reserve Bank of India imposed several restrictions on five cooperative banks, including on withdrawals, in the wake of the deteriorating financial condition of the lenders.
- The restrictions will remain in place for six months, the Reserve Bank of India said in separate statements. With restrictions in place, the banks, without prior approval of RBI, cannot grant loans, make any investment, incur any liability, and transfer or otherwise dispose of any of its properties.

2) 'Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava cultural festival at Talkatora Stadium in Delhi on 25th February 2023

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava cultural festival at Talkatora Stadium in Delhi on 25th February 2023.
- Prime Minister Modi addressed the gathering on the occasion.
- 'Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava' cultural festival is being organized to celebrate Karnataka's culture, traditions, and history.
- It is in line with the Prime Minister's vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. The festival, being held under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, will provide an opportunity for hundreds of artists to showcase Karnataka's cultural heritage through dance, music, drama, and poetry.



4) The Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud

- The Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud announced that the Supreme Court has launched "neutral citations" of judgments to ensure a uniform pattern of citing its decisions.
- Earlier, the Supreme court informed that steps had been taken for the introduction and implementation of a uniform, reliable and secure methodology for identifying and citing decisions in the apex court, namely the neutral citations system, to ensure a uniform pattern of citing all decisions of the top court.

STATE NEWS

1) Janki Chatti in Kharsali to Yamunotri Dham













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- The Uttarakhand government has signed a contract to construct a 3.38 km ropeway from Janki Chatti in Kharsali to Yamunotri Dham.
- To be built at a cost of Rs 166.82 crore, the ropeway will cut down the travel time from the current 2-3 hours to just 20 minutes. At present pilgrims have to trek for 5.5 km to reach Yamunotri Dham from Kharsali.
- The contract was signed by Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board with two private construction company, namely SRM Engineering Solutions Pvt. Ltd. and FIL Industries Pvt. Ltd. in the presence of Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami.



2) Kerala government has launched robotic scavenger, "Bandicoot",

- The Kerala government has launched robotic scavenger, "Bandicoot", to clean sewages in the temple town of Guruvayur, becoming the first state in the country to use robotic technology to clean all its commissioned manholes.
- Water Resources Minister, Roshi Augustine, launched Bandicoot under the Guruvayur Sewerage Project in Thrissur district by the Kerala Water Authority (KWA), as part of the 100-day action plan of the state government.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) 'Best International Film'

- SS Rajamouli's directorial, 'RRR' has bagged the 'Best International Film' award at the Hollywood Critics Association Film Awards.
- The film director Rajamouli and actor Ram Charan accepted the award with joy and pride. It has also won three more awards at the HCA film awards. Before bagging the 'Best International Film' award, 'RRR' won three awards at HCA – 'Best Action Film', 'Best Stunts', and 'Best Original Song'.











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