

INTERNATIONAL

1) Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual Report 2022

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual Report 2022 revealed that Pakistan received loans of \$5.58 billion, making it the largest recipient of ADB-funded programs/projects in the year 2022.

- Out of the total lending, Pakistan received concessional funding of \$2.67 billion from the bank, highlighting the dire economic situation in the country.

- This significant lending reflects the severity of the economic crisis in Pakistan, which has been compounded by political and geopolitical uncertainties.

2) India and the United Kingdom

- India and the United Kingdom have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for collaboration on science and innovation.

- The agreement was signed at the UK-India Science Innovation Council meeting, chaired by UK Science Minister George Freeman and Indian Minister of State for Science and Technology Dr Jitendra Singh.

- The MOU aims to deepen collaboration between the two countries in science and drive economic growth, job creation, and improve the lives of people around the world.



3) "AJEYA WARRIOR-23"

- The 7th edition of the joint military exercise "AJEYA WARRIOR-23" is currently underway at Salisbury Plains in the United Kingdom from 27 April to 11 May 2023.

- This biennial training event with the United Kingdom alternates between the United Kingdom and India, and the last edition was held in Chaubatia, Uttarakhand in October 2021.

4) Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in New Delhi





- India will host the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in New Delhi On July 3–4, which will be Russian President Vladimir Putin's first visit to the country since the conflict in Ukraine.

- The agenda for the Summit, which is anticipated to centre on counter-terror, Afghan stability, inclusive connectivity efforts including Chabahar Port & INSTC, aside from India's extensive outreach to Eurasia, will be finalised at the SCO Foreign Ministers meeting next week in Goa on May 4-5.

NATIONAL

1) National Medical Devices Policy

- The Indian Government has taken steps for National Medical Devices Policy to implement the PLI Scheme for medical devices and establish 4 Medical Devices Parks in Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

- At present, 26 projects worth Rs 1206 crore have been approved under the scheme, with an investment of Rs 714 crore realized.



2) Shivalik Small Finance Bank

- Shivalik Small Finance Bank has announced a strategic partnership with Arya.ag, a grain commerce platform, to provide financing to small farmers against warehouse receipts.

- The collaboration will enable Arya.ag to further its mission of driving financial inclusion for farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in India.

- Through the partnership, Shivalik Small Finance Bank will offer loans to farmers and FPOs under Warehouse Receipt Finance, using the stored crops as collateral.

- The business correspondent model partnership will facilitate loan disbursement, credit assessment, documentation, and recovery. This partnership will help in promoting financial inclusion in rural areas and strengthening the agriculture ecosystem in India.

3) Global power technology company, Cummins Inc

- Global power technology company, Cummins Inc, has entered into a definitive agreement with Tata Motors Ltd to manufacture a range of low-to-zero-emissions technology products in India.

- The two companies have established a new business entity, TCPL Green Energy Solutions Private Ltd (GES), a wholly-owned subsidiary under the existing joint venture, Tata Cummins Private Limited (TCPL) in



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India.

- The partnership aims to develop and manufacture sustainable technology products, including hydrogenpowered internal combustion engines, fuel delivery systems, battery electric powertrains, and fuel cell electric systems, through the Accelera by Cummins brand.

4) IIT Kanpur's C3iHub, a cybersecurity Technology Innovation Hub

- IIT Kanpur's C3iHub, a cybersecurity Technology Innovation Hub, has launched a Cybersecurity Skilling Programme with support from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).

- The programme, which focuses on models, tools, and techniques for enforcing security, strives to provide students with a greater grasp of the technological fundamentals of cyberspace and cyber problems. It also introduces real-time cybersecurity approaches and procedures.



5) Darwin's theory of evolution

- More than 1800 scientists, educators, and scientific enthusiasts in India have criticized the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) for their decision to eliminate Darwin's theory of evolution from science textbooks for classes 9 and 10.

6) India-UK Science & Innovation Council meeting

- During the India-UK Science & Innovation Council meeting, chaired by Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh and attended by UK Minister George Freeman, it was announced that the two countries will collaborate to establish the India-UK "NET Zero" Innovation Virtual Centre.

- Dr Singh highlighted India's impressive technological and innovative capabilities, which have been recognized worldwide, and emphasized that India is on its way to becoming a major economic force under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi.

- Both leaders emphasized the need for strengthened Science & Technology cooperation between the two nations.

STATE NEWS





1) 'Heritage Festival 2023'

- The tourism department of the Goa government is set to hold the 'Heritage Festival 2023' from April 28 to 30 at Saligao village in North Goa.

The festival aims to promote cultural tourism in the state by showcasing its traditions, culture, and arts.
A spokesperson of the tourism department said that the festival will feature various performances, such as dances, heritage walks, culinary delights, musical shows, and more.

2) Fit India Champion, Arjun Vajpai

- Fit India Champion, Arjun Vajpai has achieved a significant feat by becoming the first Indian man to reach the summit of Mt. Annapurna 1.

- This mountain, located in Nepal, is the tenth highest peak in the world, standing at an elevation of 8,091 metres (26,545 ft) above sea level. Arjun accomplished this climb on April 17 and has now become the first Indian mountaineer to scale all 7 peaks that are over 8,000 metres high.

- It is worth noting that Mt. Annapurna 1 is considered the most perilous mountain among the 14 that stand over 8,000 metres in height.



3) Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act

- The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act (CLND) 2010 is a law in India that establishes the legal framework for addressing liability in the event of a nuclear incident.

- This legislation is responsible for determining compensation for those affected by the incident and making nuclear facility operators liable for any harm caused.

- Despite its intention to safeguard citizens and the environment, the law has been met with difficulties and debates.

SPORTS

1) Jaden Pariat

- Jaden Pariat, a young Indian racing talent representing Argenti Motorsport, has demonstrated his exceptional skills by securing a podium position in the opening round of the ROKiT British F4 Championship held at Donington Park.





- He has become the second Indian racer to achieve an international podium in a Tatuus F4 car, following Kush Maini's feat in 2017.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Ratan Tata, the Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons

- Ratan Tata, the Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, has been awarded the Order of Australia (AO), which is Australia's highest civilian honour.

- The announcement was made by Australia's High Commissioner to India, Barry O'Farrell. The award was given to Tata in recognition of his contributions towards strengthening the bilateral relations between India and Australia.

- Tata has been a strong supporter of the 2022 India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement, and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is said to have the largest workforce of any Indian company in Australia, with around 17,000 employees.



2) 68th edition of the Hyundai Filmfare Awards

- On April 27, 2023, the 68th edition of the Hyundai Filmfare Awards took place at the Jio World Conventional Centre in Mumbai.

- This year's ceremony was co-hosted by Salman Khan, Ayushmann Khurrana, and Maniesh Paul, marking Salman Khan's first time as a host for the event.

- The awards were presented in collaboration with Maharashtra Tourism. The award ceremony was a platform for many up-and-coming artists to achieve their dreams of receiving the prestigious Black Lady trophy.

3) Alessandra Korap, an indigenous Munduruku woman from the Brazilian Amazon

Alessandra Korap, an indigenous Munduruku woman from the Brazilian Amazon, has been recognized with a 2023 Goldman Environmental Prize, an esteemed award that acknowledges the efforts of six activists from six continents who work at the grassroots level to safeguard the environment.
Since its establishment in 1989, the Goldman Prize has celebrated leaders who engage in local initiatives that result in positive environmental changes through citizen or community involvement.



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IMPORTANT DAYS

1) World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2023

- April 28 marks the global observance of World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2023, aiming to raise awareness regarding the significance of safeguarding workers against occupational hazards, illnesses, and accidents.

- This occasion offers a chance for individuals and organizations to promote a workplace environment that gives utmost importance to the well-being and safety of workers.

- The International Labour Organization (ILO) selects the theme for World Day for Safety and Health at Work, and for this year, it is "A safe and healthy working environment as a fundamental principle and right at work".

OBITUARY

1) Uttarakhand minister Chandan Ram Dass passed away

- Uttarakhand minister Chandan Ram Dass passed away at the state's Bageshwar district hospital. Dass, MLA (member of legislative assembly) from Bageshwar constituency, held the portfolio of social welfare and transport.

- The Uttarakhand government has decided to close all offices of the state government for a day. The government also declared a three-day mourning.

- Since 2007, the BJP leader has represented Bageshwar in four consecutive assemblies, but he became a minister for the first time in Pushkar Singh Dhami's cabinet.



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