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Monday, 14 October 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Monday, 14 October 2024

Japanese atomic bomb survivors' group Nihon Hidankyo wins Nobel Peace Prize 2024

- Nihon Hidankyo, a Japanese group of atomic bomb survivors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, has won the Nobel Peace Prize 2024.
- The group also known as Hibakusha was recognised for its tireless efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and for demonstrating through witness testimony that nuclear weapons must never be used again. The award was announced at the Norwegian Nobel Institute in Oslo.
- Iranian human rights activist Narges Mohammadi won the prize in 2023, when she was honoured for her work fighting the oppression of women in Iran.

Key Facts about the Nobel Peace Prize

- Established: In 1895 by Alfred Nobel.
- First Award: Given in 1901 to Henry Dunant and Frédéric Passy.
- Purpose: Honors contributions to peace, conflict resolution, diplomacy, and human rights.
- Awarding Body: Chosen by the Norwegian Nobel Committee.
- Notable Laureates: Include Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela, and Malala Yousafzai.
- Annual Event: Awarded on December 10 in Oslo, Norway.

Q. For what efforts was Nihon Hidankyo recognized with the Nobel Peace Prize 2024? **To prevent the use of nuclear weapons and promote nuclear disarmament.**



Monday, 14 October 2024

India-ASEAN Collaboration on Digital Public Infrastructure and Artificial Intelligence

- India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have emphasized collaboration on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in key sectors such as education, healthcare, agriculture, and climate action. In a joint statement, both parties stressed the importance of sharing knowledge, experiences, and best practices to foster DPI development across the region.

Highlights of the India-ASEAN collaboration include:

- Financial Technology & Innovation: Recognized as key drivers for enhancing bilateral economic partnerships.
- Cybersecurity Cooperation: Identified as a critical element of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI): Both sides agreed on the need to develop policies, risk management frameworks, and infrastructure to responsibly utilize AI technologies.

Q. What sectors are India and ASEAN focusing on for collaboration in Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)? **Education, healthcare, agriculture, and climate action.**



Monday, 14 October 2024

India and Laos Sign Multiple Agreements in Key Areas, Including Defence Cooperation

- India and Lao PDR signed six Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in fields such as defence cooperation, customs, audio-visual collaboration, and heritage preservation.
- India will provide \$1 million financial assistance to a project for improving nutrition security in Laos through food fortification under the India-UN Development Partnership Fund.

Diplomatic Meetings:

- The MoUs were signed in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Lao counterpart, Sonexay Siphandone, in Vientiane, Lao PDR.
- PM Modi also met the President of Lao PDR, Thongloun Sisoulith, and discussed bilateral relations. President Sisoulith expressed gratitude for India's humanitarian assistance after Typhoon Yagi.

Key Areas of Cooperation:

- Discussions between India and Lao PDR covered development partnership, disaster management, renewable energy, heritage restoration, and defence collaboration.
- Both nations reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral ties in these areas.

Q. How many Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) did India and Laos sign? **6**



Monday, 14 October 2024

Centre Declares Hizb-Ut-Tahrir a Terrorist Organization

Designation as Terrorist Organization:

- The Central Government has declared Hizb-Ut-Tahrir and all its related manifestations and front organizations as terrorist organizations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

Reason for Declaration:

- Hizb-Ut-Tahrir is accused of involvement in the radicalization of youth, encouraging them to join terrorist organizations like ISIS, and raising funds for terrorist activities.
- The organization aims to establish a global Islamic Caliphate, including in India, by overthrowing democratically elected governments through jihad and terrorist activities.

Use of Social Media:

- The group is actively promoting terrorism through social media platforms, secure apps, and Dawah meetings to influence youth toward terrorism.

What is UAPA?

- The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) is an Indian law aimed at preventing terrorism and unlawful activities that threaten the nation's security.

Q. Which organization has the Centre declared a terrorist organization under the UAPA? **Hizb-Ut-Tahrir**



Monday, 14 October 2024

Noel Tata Appointed Chairman of Tata Trusts After Ratan Tata's Demise

- Following the death of Ratan Tata, India's globally-recognized tycoon, his half-brother Noel Tata has been appointed as the new chairman of Tata Trusts.
- The announcement was made a day after Ratan Tata's passing.
- Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT) was founded in 1919 with a sum of Indian currency ₹8 million.
- Tata Trusts, the philanthropic arm of the Tata Group, holds a 66% majority stake in Tata Sons, one of India's largest business conglomerates with annual revenues exceeding \$100 billion.
- Noel Tata, 67, is the son of Naval Tata (Ratan Tata's father) and Simone Tata.
- He has long been associated with the Tata Group, serving on the boards of several Tata companies, including Tata Trusts.
- Noel Tata holds prominent leadership roles, including Chairman of Tata International Limited, Voltas, and Tata Investment Corporation, and Vice-Chairman of Tata Steel and Titan Company Limited.
- He also leads Tata's apparel retail division, Trent Limited, which has seen significant growth under his leadership.
- Between 2010 and 2021, Noel Tata led Tata International, the group's global trading and distribution firm, significantly increasing its revenue from \$500 million to over \$3 billion.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of Tata Trusts following Ratan Tata's Demise? **Noel Tata.**



Monday, 14 October 2024

Serbia and Turkey Sign Agreements to Boost Economic and Defence Cooperation

- Serbia and Turkey have signed multiple agreements to enhance cooperation in economic and defence sectors during Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's official visit to Serbia.
- Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic and President Erdogan discussed collaboration in trade, investment, and defence joint ventures.
- Eleven agreements were signed, covering areas such as free trade, energy transition, youth cooperation, and disaster management.
- President Vucic emphasized the role of Turkish investments in Serbia's development, particularly in infrastructure, energy, and trade.
- Erdogan referred to Serbia-Turkey relations as a "golden age" and highlighted significant growth in economic ties.
- The two leaders agreed to strengthen defence industry cooperation, focusing on drone technology and joint technological development.
- Both presidents stressed the importance of deepening commercial ties, with Vucic calling Serbia's economic growth a collaborative effort with Turkey.
- Vucic praised Turkey as "the greatest power in the Balkans" and welcomed continued Turkish support for peace and stability in the region.

Serbia:

- Capital: Belgrade
- Currency: Serbian Dinar

Q. How many agreements were signed between Serbia and Turkey during President Erdogan's visit? **Eleven agreements**



Monday, 14 October 2024

LSAM 12 Barge Launched: Strengthening India's Naval Ammunition and Missile Supply

- The sixth Missile Cum Ammunition Barge, LSAM 12 (Yard 80), part of an 8-barge project, was launched for the Indian Navy.
- The barges are being built by M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd (SEPPL), an MSME shipyard based in Visakhapatnam.
- The launch took place at M/s Vinayaga Marine Petro Ltd, Mira Bhayandar, Maharashtra (launch site of SEPPL).
- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed the contract for building 8 missile cum ammunition barges with SEPPL on 19 February 2021.
- These barges will support the Indian Navy by facilitating the transportation, embarkation, and disembarkation of ammunition and other articles to naval platforms at jetties and outer harbors.
- The barges are indigenously designed and built under Naval Rules and Regulations by the Indian Register of Shipping.
- Model testing of the barges was conducted during the design stage at the Naval Science and Technological Laboratory, Visakhapatnam. to the Make in India initiative by the Government of India.
- The project is a significant contributor

Q. What is the name of the sixth Missile Cum Ammunition Barge launched for the Indian Navy? **LSAM 12 (Yard 80).**



Monday, 14 October 2024

Adani Energy signs pact to operate electricity transmission lines in Kenya

- The Gautam Adani-led conglomerate has signed an agreement to build and operate key electricity transmission lines in Kenya for a duration of 30 years.
- Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL) signed a project agreement with the Kenya Electricity Transmission Company Ltd (Ketraco).

Objectives

- The project aims to upgrade Kenya's transmission infrastructure to address persistent power blackouts and ensure reliable electricity supply.

Funding and Costs

- AESL will raise all funding for the project in the form of debt and equity, which will be repaid over the 30-year period of the agreement.
- The estimated project cost is Kenyan shilling 95.68 billion (approximately USD 736 million), which will be finalized through a competitive bidding process managed jointly by Ketraco and AESL.
- The Government of Kenya will not incur any financial expenditure for this project.

Q. What agreement did the Gautam Adani-led conglomerate sign regarding electricity transmission in Kenya? **To build and operate key electricity transmission lines in Kenya for 30 years.**



Monday, 14 October 2024

Ivory Coast and Ghana Strengthen Cooperation on Cocoa and Cashew Nut Industries

- Ivory Coast and Ghana have signed an agreement to enhance cooperation in the cultivation, processing, and marketing of cocoa and cashew nuts, crucial agricultural products for both nations. The agreement was finalized at the conclusion of the first summit under the "Strategic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana" held in Abidjan.

Highlights:

- The goal is to improve the livelihoods of local farmers and promote economic growth.
- Côte d'Ivoire is the world's leading producer of raw cashew nuts, producing 1.2 million tonnes in 2023, compared to Ghana's 180,000 tonnes.
- Côte d'Ivoire is also the top global producer of cocoa with over 2 million tonnes, while Ghana produces less than 500,000 tonnes.
- Together, the two countries account for nearly 60% of the world's cocoa production.

Q. What agricultural products are central to the cooperation between Ivory Coast and Ghana? **Cocoa and cashew nuts.**



Monday, 14 October 2024

Hemant Jain Appointed President of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI)

- Hemant Jain has been appointed as the new President of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), succeeding Sanjeev Agrawal.
- Alongside Jain, Rajeev Juneja has been appointed as the Senior Vice President, and Anil Gupta as the Vice President of PHDCCI.

PHDCCI (PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry):

- Established: 1905 in Lahore, now Pakistan; it moved to India after Partition.
- Objective: To promote the growth of industry, trade, and commerce in India and improve the business environment.
- Regional Presence: PHDCCI has regional offices across India, supporting industries at local and national levels.
- It is headquartered in the city of New Delhi.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new President of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), succeeding Sanjeev Agrawal? **Hemant Jain.**



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