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Monday, 04 November 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Monday, 04 November 2024

India-Spain Bilateral Agreements and Strategic Cooperation

- India and Spain have signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) in the sectors of rail transport, customs, investment, and cultural exchanges. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the President of the Government of Spain, Mr. Pedro Sánchez, led the delegation-level talks in Vadodara, Gujarat.
- Sustainable Energy and Climate Action: Both nations expressed a commitment to collaborate on sustainable energy and climate adaptation, with Spain inviting India to join the International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA), founded in 2022 to combat drought vulnerabilities through adaptation measures.
- Anti-Terrorism Efforts: The leaders jointly condemned terrorism and violent extremism, underscoring the need for collective global action. Both countries emphasized the importance of swift justice for perpetrators and highlighted coordinated efforts against groups sanctioned by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), such as Al Qa'ida, ISIS, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, and Jaish-e-Mohammad.
- Consular Developments and Cultural Exchanges: India will open its first Consulate General in Barcelona, while Spain plans to establish a Consulate General in Bengaluru, strengthening people-to-people connections and consular services.

Q. Where is India opening its first Consulate General in Spain? **Barcelona.**



१७ वाँ स्थापना दिवस

राष्ट्रीय आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण

“हिमालयी क्षेत्र में आपदा घटनाओं का स्रोपानन प्रभाव”

मुख्य अतिथि

श्री अमित शाह

माननीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री, भारत सरकार

२८ सितंबर, २०२१ | सुषमा स्वराज भवन, नई दिल्ली

Monday, 04 November 2024

Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme: Empowering Volunteers for Disaster Preparedness

- The Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme was launched by Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan in New Delhi during the 20th Formation Day of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The scheme aims to train over 2.37 lakh community volunteers from organizations like the National Cadet Corps, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Service Scheme, and Bharat Scouts and Guides in disaster preparedness and response.
- Training and Inclusivity Target: The scheme sets a target to train at least 50% women volunteers, emphasizing inclusive community participation in disaster management.
- Funding and Coverage: Approved by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the scheme is backed by an outlay of over ₹470 crore under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and will focus on 315 of India's most disaster-prone districts.
- Vision and Impact: In alignment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, the scheme aims to prepare communities as first responders, with Yuva Aapda Mitra volunteers positioned as the first-line protectors in times of disaster.

Q. What percentage of volunteers are targeted to be women under the Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme? **At least 50%.**



Monday, 04 November 2024

VVS Laxman Appointed as Head Coach for India's Senior Men's Cricket Team

- Former Indian cricketer VVS Laxman has been appointed as the Head Coach of the Senior Men's Cricket Team for their upcoming tour of South Africa. Laxman, affiliated with the National Cricket Academy since 2021, has previously coached the Indian team on multiple occasions, including the recent tour of Zimbabwe in July 2024.
- Team Composition and Leadership: The 15-member squad, led by Suryakumar Yadav, was announced by the BCCI on October 25. Notable players include Hardik Pandya, Sanju Samson, and Rinku Singh. Suryakumar has led India to victory in the last two T20I series with a 3-0 margin each, aiming for a third consecutive win in South Africa.
- Upcoming Series Details: India will face South Africa in four T20 matches from November 8 to 15, 2024, across different venues. Key players Mayank Yadav, Shivam Dube, and Riyan Parag will be unavailable due to injuries.
- Past Records: India last played a T20I series against South Africa in December 2023, ending in a draw. During the final match of that series, Suryakumar Yadav scored a century, and Kuldeep Yadav achieved a five-wicket haul.

Q. Who has been appointed as the Head Coach of India's Senior Men's Cricket Team for the South Africa tour? **VVS Laxman.**



Monday, 04 November 2024

Dhanvantari Jayanti: PM Modi to Launch Major Healthcare Initiatives Worth ₹12,850 Crore

- On the occasion of Dhanvantari Jayanti and the 9th Ayurveda Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate and lay the foundation for healthcare projects worth ₹12,850 crore at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA). This includes an expansion under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) providing healthcare coverage for all senior citizens aged 70 and above.
- Infrastructure Development: PM Modi will launch Phase II of AIIA, featuring a Panchakarma hospital, Ayurvedic pharmacy, sports medicine unit, and incubation center. Additionally, three medical colleges will open in Mandsaur, Neemuch, and Seoni, Madhya Pradesh, along with facility extensions at AIIMS centers in Bilaspur, Kalyani, Patna, Gorakhpur, Bhopal, Guwahati, and New Delhi.

Q. What is the total worth of healthcare projects launched by PM Modi on Dhanvantari Jayanti?
₹12,850 crore.



Monday, 04 November 2024

Israel signs \$500 million deal to expand Iron Beam laser air defenses

- Israel's Ministry of Defense has signed a significant \$500 million contract with Rafael and Elbit Systems to expand the production of the Iron Beam laser air defense system, which is expected to be operational by next year.

Integration into Defense Framework

- The Iron Beam system will integrate into Israel's multi-layered defense setup as a complementary layer to the Iron Dome. This integration is anticipated to enhance Israel's defense capabilities against various threats, including rockets, drones, mortars, and cruise missiles, while offering lower operational costs.

Key Contractors

- Rafael, the creator of the Iron Dome, and Elbit Systems, responsible for supplying the high-energy laser technology, are the primary contractors for this initiative. Elbit is expected to receive \$200 million from this deal.

Q. What is the value of the contract signed by Israel's Ministry of Defense to expand the Iron Beam laser air defense system, and which companies are involved in this initiative? **The contract is valued at \$500 million and involves Rafael and Elbit Systems.**



Monday, 04 November 2024

Shashwat Sharma to take over as MD, CEO of Airtel; Vittal named vice-chair

- Bharti Airtel has announced a significant restructuring of its leadership team, appointing Shashwat Sharma as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective January 1, 2026. He will replace incumbent Gopal Vittal, who has been at the helm for 12 years and will transition to the role of Vice-Chairman.

Succession Planning

- Gopal Vittal, in addition to his new position as Vice-Chairman, will serve as a nominee director on the Board of Airtel Africa Plc, providing strategic guidance. Over the next 14 months, Shashwat Sharma, currently the Chief Operating Officer (COO), will hold the title of CEO designate and oversee the entire consumer business, with Vittal mentoring him during this period.

Company Growth Under Current Leadership

- During Vittal's tenure, Airtel has experienced significant growth, increasing its revenue market share from 30% to 40% and raising its market capitalization fivefold to surpass \$100 billion. His prior experience includes a 20-year career at Hindustan Unilever.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director and CEO of Bharti Airtel ? **Shashwat Sharma**



Monday, 04 November 2024

Ballon d'Or 2024: Full list of winners as Rodri and Bonmati win top prizes

- Manchester City's Rodri became the first Spanish footballer since 1960 to win the prestigious Ballon d'Or award in men's football.
- With this win, 28-year-old Rodri becomes the first Premier League player to receive the Ballon d'Or since Cristiano Ronaldo did so in 2008 while at Manchester United.
- Rodri helped Manchester City win the Premier League title for the fourth consecutive time.
- Rodri also played a crucial role for the Spanish national team, contributing to their victory at the 2024 Euros in Germany, where they defeated England 2-1 in July. He was named Player of the Tournament.

Ballon d'Or 2024 Awards | Complete List Of Winners

- Men's Ballon d'Or: Rodri (Spain, Manchester City)
- Women's Ballon d'Or: Aitana Bonmati (Spain, FC Barcelona)
- Kopa Trophy: Lamine Yamal (Spain, FC Barcelona)
- Yashin Trophy: Emiliano Martinez (Argentina, Aston Villa)
- Men's Coach of the Year: Carlo Ancelotti (Italy, Real Madrid)
- Women's Coach of the Year: Emma Hayes (England, Chelsea/USA)

Q. Who won the 2024 Ballon d'Or for men's football? **Rodri**



Monday, 04 November 2024

Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak Award 2024

- The Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak has been awarded to 463 personnel of various States and Union Territories, Central Armed Police Forces and Central Police Organisations for the year 2024.
- Purpose: To recognize excellence, uphold high professional standards, and enhance the morale of officers in fields such as Special Operations, Investigation, Intelligence, and Forensic Science.
- Institution: Established by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 1st February 2024
- Annual Observance: Awarded each year on 31st October, marking Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's Birth Anniversary
- Eligibility: Members from Police Forces, Security Organizations, Intelligence Wings, and the National Security Guard for outstanding performance in operational and intelligence roles

Q. On which date is the Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak awarded each year? **31st October**



Monday, 04 November 2024

Indian Railways & Transport Ministry in Switzerland sign Mou to enhance technical cooperation

- The Indian Railways signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Environment, Transport and Communications of Switzerland to enhance technical cooperation between the two nations.
- MoU Between Indian Railways and Switzerland's Department of Environment, Transport, and Communications
- Parties Involved: Indian Railways & Switzerland's Department of Environment, Transport, and Communications
- Objective: To strengthen technical cooperation in railway technology, track maintenance, management, and construction.
- Purpose: This agreement supports the Government of India's initiative to modernize Indian Railways.
- Date of Original MoU: August 31, 2017, with a five-year validity

Q. Which Indian organization signed an MoU with Switzerland's Department of Environment, Transport, and Communications for technical cooperation?
Indian Railways

ON CAM: N. KOREA TESTS ITS NEW 'DEADLIEST' MISSILE



Monday, 04 November 2024

North Korea successfully tested new ballistic missile Hwasong-19

- North Korea has successfully test-fired the new Hwasong-19 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).
- North Korea carried out a crucial missile test that set milestones in perpetuating the absolute superiority of the country's armed forces, Guided by its leader Kim Jong-un.
- Missile Name: Hwasong-19 Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)
- Missile Specifications: The Hwasong-19 covered 1,001.2 kilometers, reached a maximum altitude of 7,687.5 kilometers, and flew for 86 minutes, marking the longest recorded flight duration for a North Korean missile.
- Description: Labeled by North Korea as an "ultra-powerful" offensive weapon and the ultimate version of its long-range missile series.

North Korea:

- Capital: Pyongyang
- General Secretary and President: Kim Jong Un
- Currency: Korean People's won

Q. Who guided North Korea's successful test of the Hwasong-19 missile? **Kim Jong-un**



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