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Thursday, 07 November 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Thursday, 07 November 2024

Veteran Folk Singer Sharda Sinha Passes Away

- Renowned folk singer Dr. Sharda Sinha passed away in New Delhi at the age of 72.
- Achievements and Awards: Sharda Sinha, known for her contributions to Bhojpuri and Maithili folk music, was honored with prestigious awards including the
- Padma Bhushan (2018), Padma Shri (1991), and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award.
- Popularly Known as Bihar Kokila: Celebrated as the “Bihar Kokila,” Dr. Sinha made a significant mark in Indian folk music, singing primarily in languages like Maithili, Bhojpuri, and Magahi.
- Birth and Early Life: Born on October 1, 1952, in Supaul, Bihar, Dr. Sinha overcame societal barriers to become one of Bihar's foremost cultural ambassadors.
- Contributions to Folk Music: Besides folk songs, she sang about the lives of Girmitiya or indentured laborers, which gained immense popularity. Her devotional song "Jagdamba Ghar Mein Diyara" was especially acclaimed.

Q. Sharda Sinha was renowned for singing in which regional language of India? **Maithili**



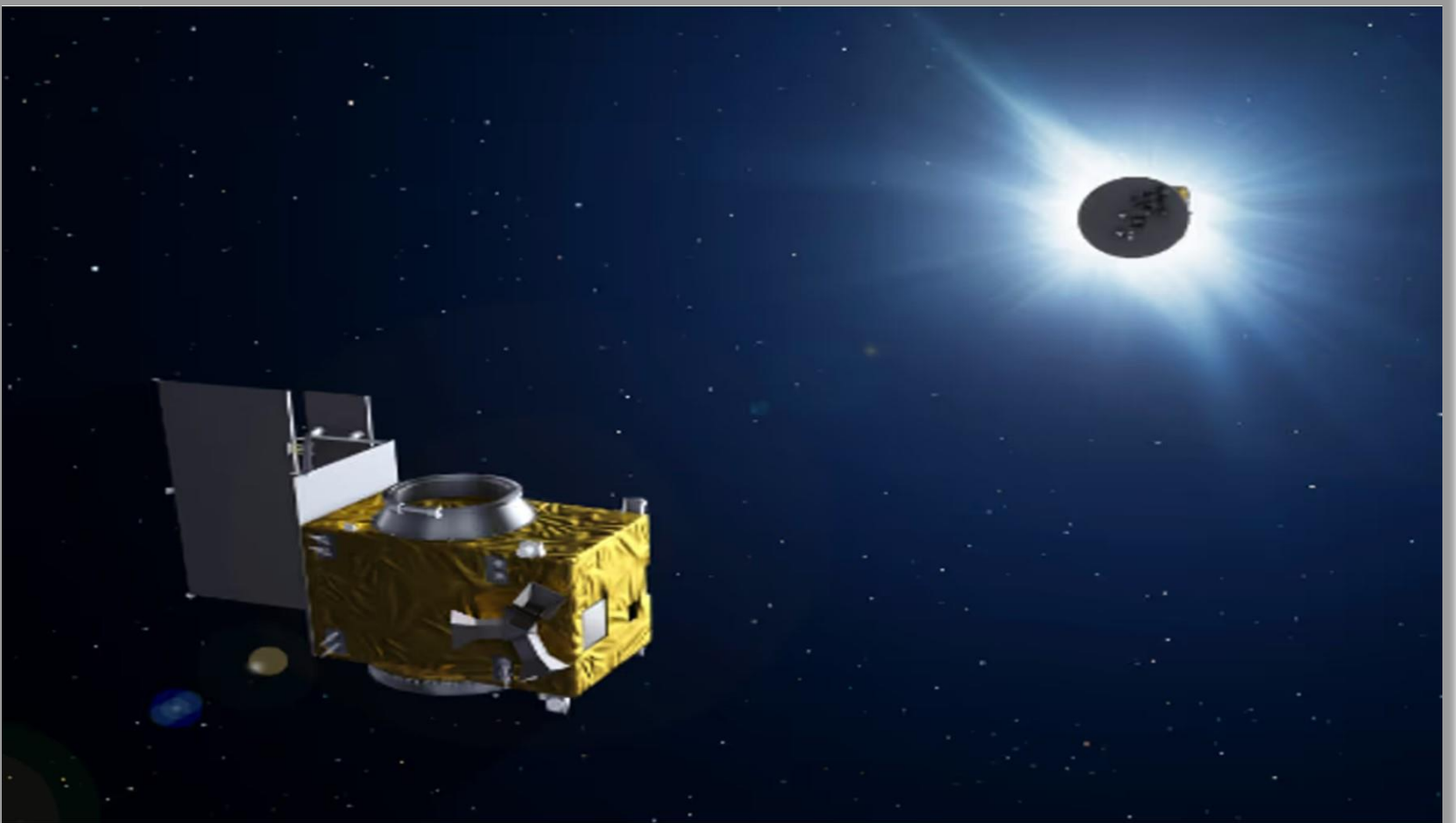
INDIAN ARMY INDUCTS 550 'ASMI' MACHINE PISTOLS

Thursday, 07 November 2024

Indian Army Inducts 550 'Asmi' Machine Pistols for Northern Command

- The Indian Army has inducted 550 indigenously developed 'Asmi' machine pistols into its Northern Command, in alignment with the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan for defense self-reliance.
- Development and Manufacturing: Designed by Colonel Prasad Bansod in collaboration with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the weapon is manufactured by an Indian company based in Hyderabad.
- Compact and lightweight design: 'Asmi' is designed for quick manoeuvrability in confined spaces, making it ideal for close-quarters battle (CQB) environments where speed and agility are crucial.
- Semi-bullpup configuration: Its unique semi-bullpup design allows 'Asmi' to function efficiently both as a pistol and a submachine gun, enabling single-handed operation, a feature that is especially useful for quick response in intense combat situations.
- High firing rate: The 'Asmi' can deliver a high rate of fire, which is critical for suppressing enemy positions in close encounters.

Q. Which indigenously developed machine pistol was recently inducted by the Indian Army into its Northern Command to boost self-reliance? **Asmi**



Thursday, 07 November 2024

India to Launch European Space Agency Mission PROBA-3 and US Joint Mission NISAR

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) will launch the European Space Agency's Proba-3 mission using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from Sriharikota. This commercial mission is managed through NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), marking another significant international collaboration for ISRO.
- About Proba-3 Mission: The Proba-3 mission, a solar observation mission, consists of two small satellites designed to study the Sun's corona. These satellites will form a tandem orbit and operate as a virtual giant satellite, with one blocking the Sun's disk for uninterrupted corona observation.
- NISAR Mission with NASA: The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission, jointly developed by ISRO and NASA, is scheduled for launch in February 2025. NISAR will provide high-resolution mapping of Earth every 12 days, using L-band and S-band synthetic aperture radar.
- Gaganyaan Mission Update: The assembly of Gaganyaan, India's first human spaceflight program, is underway, with an unmanned crew test mission targeted for late December or early January.

Q. Which European Space Agency mission is ISRO set to launch from Sriharikota to study the Sun's corona? **PROBA-3**



Thursday, 07 November 2024

Indian Boxer Mandeep Jangra Wins WBF Super Featherweight World Title

- **Historic Win:** Indian boxer Mandeep Jangra clinched the World Boxing Federation (WBF) Super Featherweight world title in the Cayman Islands, becoming the first Indian to achieve a world title in a professional boxing category.
- **Victory Details:** Jangra defeated Britain's Conor McIntosh with a 10-0 unanimous decision, marking a significant milestone in Indian boxing.
- **Career Highlights:** Jangra, a 2014 Commonwealth Games silver medalist, has won 11 out of his 12 professional fights, including seven by knockout, with only one career defeat.

World Boxing Federation (WBF) :

- Formation: 1988
- Headquarters: Luxembourg
- President: Howard Goldberg

Q. Who became the first Indian boxer to win the World Boxing Federation (WBF) Super Featherweight world title? **Mandeep Jangra**

WOODEN SPACE LAUNCH



Thursday, 07 November 2024

Japan Launches World's First Wooden Satellite, LignoSat, for Space-Grade Wood Testing

- Japan launched LignoSat, the world's first wooden satellite, to test if wood can serve as a space-grade material.
- Design and Materials: Developed by researchers at Kyoto University, LignoSat is made from honoki wood, a type of magnolia traditionally used for sword sheaths, which was identified as the most suitable timber for space after a 10-month experiment aboard the ISS.
- Satellite Construction: LignoSat was assembled using a traditional Japanese craft technique, avoiding screws or glue.
- Mission Objectives: Scheduled to orbit Earth for six months, LignoSat will test wood's durability in extreme temperatures and its effectiveness in shielding semiconductors from space radiation.

Japan:

- Capital: Tokyo
- Emperor: Naruhito
- Prime Minister: Shigeru Ishiba
- Currency: Japanese yen

Q. Which country launched the world's first wooden satellite, LignoSat, to test wood as a space-grade material? **Japan**



Thursday, 07 November 2024

Rajasthan signs 2 MoUs in hospitality sector with Saudi Arabia-based firms

Key MoUs Signed with Saudi-Based Companies

- Rajasthan signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Saudi firms, aiming to enhance the hospitality sector.
- The MoUs were signed with Riyadh-based Swiss Hospitality Company and Jeddah-based C Ventures.

Invitation to Saudi Arabia for Investment Summit

- A delegation led by Rajasthan's Minister of State for Industry and Commerce, K.K. Vishnoi, invited Saudi Arabia to participate as a partner country in the 'Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024.'

Saudi Arabia's Economic Significance

- Saudi Arabia, a major economy in West Asia, has robust business sectors in petrochemicals, engineering, real estate, and renewable energy, which align with Rajasthan's economic priorities.

Pro-Business Policy Reforms in Rajasthan

- The delegation highlighted Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma's pro-business policies to attract foreign investments and stimulate business growth in the state.

Q. Which state recently signed two MoUs in the hospitality sector with Saudi Arabia-based firms? **Rajasthan**



Thursday, 07 November 2024

PhonePe & Bharat Connect Partner To Launch Easy Contributions For National Pension System

- PhonePe, in partnership with Bharat Connect (previously BBPS), has introduced a feature allowing users to make contributions to the National Pension System (NPS) directly through the PhonePe app. This addition provides millions of PhonePe users with a secure and convenient way to contribute to their NPS accounts.

NPS Benefits for Users:

- NPS serves as a significant tax-saving instrument, aiding individuals in building a retirement corpus and ensuring financial security. Previously, contributions to NPS accounts were only possible through PFRDA, NSDL, CAMs, KFinTech websites, and banks. PhonePe's integration now allows wider access, especially for underserved populations, enhancing digital financial inclusion.

Q. Which fintech company has partnered with Bharat Connect to enable National Pension System (NPS) contributions on its platform? **PhonePe**



Thursday, 07 November 2024

South Africa Launches Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS) to Boost Indian Tourism

Introduction of the Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS):

- The South African government introduced the Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS) to increase tourism from India and China. Currently, Indian tourists constitute 3.9% and Chinese tourists 1.8% of all international arrivals in South Africa. A 10% rise in tourism could contribute 0.6% to economic growth and create jobs, as highlighted by the Department of Home Affairs.

Goals of the TTOS:

- TTOS addresses barriers in tourism growth, including lengthy visa processing for groups and language challenges. Approved tour operators will benefit from expedited visa processing and reduced bureaucracy, facilitating group travel from India and China.

Dedicated Processing Team for TTOS Applications:

- A team of adjudicators will process TTOS applications, ensuring faster service. Approved operators will be accountable for any legal issues arising with their tourists.

Q. Which country recently launched the Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS) to attract more tourists from India and China? **South Africa**



Thursday, 07 November 2024

Jammu and Kashmir Assembly passes resolution for restoration of special status

Resolution Passed for Special Status Restoration:

- The Jammu and Kashmir Assembly passed a resolution urging the Government of India to engage in dialogue with elected representatives to explore constitutional mechanisms for restoring the special status of the Union Territory. This move was met with protest by BJP members.

Key Points of the Resolution:

- The resolution highlighted the importance of the former special status in safeguarding the identity, culture, and rights of Jammu and Kashmir's people, and expressed concern over its unilateral revocation. It further stated that any restoration process should uphold national unity and address the aspirations of the people.

Support and Opposition in the Assembly:

- Deputy Chief Minister and National Conference legislator Surinder Choudhary introduced the resolution. BJP Leader of the Opposition, Sunil Sharma, opposed the resolution, calling it out of order and not part of the House's scheduled business.

Q. Which Assembly recently passed a resolution seeking the restoration of its special status? **The Jammu and Kashmir Assembly.**



Thursday, 07 November 2024

Warner named Sydney Thunder captain, returns to leadership role in Australian cricket after 6 years

- David Warner has been named the captain of Sydney Thunder for the KFC Big Bash League (BBL) 2023-24, following the successful review of his lifetime leadership ban.
- Warner's ban, imposed by Cricket Australia due to his involvement in the 2018 sandpaper scandal, was lifted after he appealed the sanction.
- Having retired from international cricket, Warner is now expected to be available for the entire Big Bash season. He replaces Chris Green as the Thunder's captain, though Green will remain with the team.
- Warner, who had a brief involvement with Sydney Thunder in BBL|01, played only one match but made a memorable impact with a match-winning 102*.
- He becomes the Thunder's captain 14 years after being named the inaugural leader of the team.
- After finishing last in the previous season, Sydney Thunder has made significant changes to their roster, including the addition of players like Nic Maddinson, Wes Agar, Sam Billings, Sherfane Rutherford, and Lockie Ferguson during the international player draft. The team also boasts some of the country's most promising young batters.

Q. Who has been appointed as the captain of Sydney Thunder for the KFC Big Bash League 2023-24? **David Warner**



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