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Wednesday, 18 September 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

PM Modi launches flagship women empowerment scheme 'SUBHADRA' in Odisha

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Odisha's flagship women-centric initiative, Subhadra Yojana.
- The scheme aims to empower women and provide financial independence.
- Eligible women between the ages of 21 and 60 will receive ₹50,000 over five years.
- The initiative is expected to cover over one crore women.
- Modi initiated the transfer of ₹1,250 crore into the bank accounts of 25.11 lakh women during his visit.
- Foundation of Railway and National Highway Projects
- Modi laid the foundation for railway projects worth ₹2,800 crore.
- He also inaugurated national highway projects worth over ₹1,000 crore, aimed at improving connectivity in Odisha.

Launch of Awaas+ 2024 App

- The Prime Minister launched the 'Awaas+ 2024' app to survey additional households under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G).

What is Awaas+ 2024 Scheme?

- The Awaas+ 2024 scheme is part of the PMAY-Gramin initiative, aiming to identify and survey additional rural households that were missed in earlier phases.

Q. What is PMAY-Urban 2.0? Providing affordable housing for all urban residents by 2024



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Mumbai airport bags CII's national award for Excellence in Energy Management

- Aspiring for 'Net-Zero Emissions' in the next five years, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) has bagged the CII's national award for Excellence in Energy Management.
- The CSMIA has been honoured with the prestigious Energy Efficient Unit Award for Excellence in Energy Management by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) at the 25th CII National Awards at a function held in Hyderabad.
- The award was given in recognition of the airport's outstanding contributions towards sustainable energy management and proactive efforts in reducing its environmental footprint.
- The CSMIA has taken several steps to optimise energy consumption, resulting in the reduction of 8.26 per cent net energy use in the last six years.
- CSMIA has continuously invested in several energy efficient projects by replacing major conventional equipment with energy efficient products with cutting-edge technology.
- The airport remains focussed on integrating innovative, energy-efficient practices across every aspect of its operations, reinforcing its position as a leader in sustainable aviation.

Q. What award did CSMIA recently receive for its energy management efforts? **CII's Energy Efficient Unit Award for Excellence in Energy Management**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Arvind Kejriwal resigns, Atishi became new Delhi CM till next elections

- Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal resigned as the Chief Minister of Delhi hours after party leader and Cabinet minister Atishi was named as his successor.
- The development came three days after Kejriwal walked out of Tihar Jail on interim bail in the CBI's case linked to the Delhi excise policy case against him and announced that he will step down as the Delhi CM.

Why did AAP's Atishi, named as Delhi's new chief minister?

- The 43-year-old Atishi who holds 14 portfolios, including finance, education and revenue and was among those holding the fort while Arvind Kejriwal was in jail, will be the third woman chief minister of Delhi after Congress' Sheila Dikshit and BJP's Sushma Swaraj.
- Atishi, given credit for many of the AAP government's achievements in the education sector, was inducted into the Delhi cabinet in March 2023 and has been playing a crucial role both in the government as well as the party when AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal was arrested on March 21 in connection with the excise policy case.

Q. Who became the new CM of Delhi after Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal resigned? **Atishi Marlena Singh**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Australia, UAE reach agreement on free trade deal

- Australia and the UAE have concluded negotiations on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.
- **Tariff Reduction:** The agreement will eliminate tariffs on over 99% of Australian products entering the UAE.
- **Export Growth:** Australian exports to the UAE are expected to increase by AUD 678 million (USD 457.3 million) annually.
- **Investment Opportunities:** The deal will attract investment from the UAE's sovereign wealth funds into Australia's critical minerals sector.
- **UAE's Sovereign Wealth Funds:** The UAE is home to some of the largest sovereign wealth funds globally.
- **Strategic Importance:** The trade agreement supports Australia's goal of becoming a renewable energy superpower by facilitating significant investment.
- **Trade and Investment Figures:** Two-way trade between Australia and the UAE was valued at AUD 9.9 billion (USD 6.6 billion) in 2023, with two-way investment at AUD 20.6 billion (USD 13.8 billion).
- **Next Steps:** Both countries are preparing to formalize the legal treaty text, with signing expected later in 2024.

Q. How does the Australia-UAE trade agreement align with Australia's renewable energy goals? **Facilitates investment, supporting Australia's goal of becoming a renewable energy superpower.**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Sweden to lead NATO's land forces in Finland

- Sweden has announced its readiness to take command of NATO's multinational forward land forces to be stationed in Finland.

Approval and Framework

- NATO approved the deployment of these forces in Finland at a meeting of allied defense ministers in June.
- The deployment requires a "framework nation" to oversee and implement the forward presence.

Details and Planning

- Specific details, such as the exact location in Finland and the size of Sweden's contribution, have not been disclosed.
- Initial plans involve staff officers and an increase in training efforts.

Future Discussions

- The deployment plans will be further discussed at the upcoming NATO defense ministers meeting in February.

Deployment Plan

- The plan includes rotating soldiers from several NATO countries for training in Finland.
- The presence can be adjusted or increased based on the evolving security situation.

Q. What is the role of the "framework nation" in NATO's forward land forces deployment? **It oversees and implements the forward presence of NATO forces.**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Double 1960 Olympic champion Otis Davis dies at 92

- Otis Davis, the Olympic champion in the 400 meters and 4×400 relay from the 1960 Rome Olympics, has died at age 92.

Career Highlights

- Davis began running the 400 meters competitively at 26 and became an Olympic champion shortly after.
- He was the first man to break 45 seconds in the 400 meters, with a time of 44.9 seconds in the 1960 Olympic final.
- Davis won gold in the 400 meters and anchored the US team to victory in the 4×400 meters relay.

Early Life and Education

- Born on July 12, 1932, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
- Served four years in the US Air Force and played on its basketball team.
- Initially joined the University of Oregon on a basketball scholarship but switched to athletics under coach Bill Bowerman.

Athletic Transition

- Started with high jump and long jump before focusing on sprinting events.

Q. What notable achievement did Otis Davis accomplish in the 1960 Rome Olympics? **Became the first man to break 45 seconds in the 400 meters and won gold in both the 400 meters and the 4×400 meters relay.**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Santosh Kashyap appointed as new head coach of Indian women's football team

- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has appointed Santosh Kashyap as the new head coach of the national senior women's team, replacing Chaoba Devi.
- Kashyap's first major task will be the SAFF Women's Championships in Kathmandu, Nepal, from October 17 to 30.
- A 29-member squad will begin their training camp in Goa starting September 20 in preparation for the championships.

Coaching Experience

- Kashyap is a former India international with nearly a decade of coaching experience in the I-League.
- He has managed clubs such as Mohun Bagan, Aizawl FC, and Mumbai FC.
- He has also served as assistant coach for NorthEast United FC and Odisha FC in the Indian Super League.

Support Staff

- Priya PV will serve as Kashyap's assistant coach.
- Raghuvir Pravin Khanolkar will be the goalkeeper coach.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new head coach of the national senior women's football team by AIFF? **Santosh Kashyap**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

India clinch fifth Asian Champions Trophy title, defend crown against China

- India defeated China 1-0 in a hard-fought final to win the Asian Champions Trophy 2024.
- The match was held at the Moqi Training Base in Hulunbuir, China.

Title Record

- This victory marks India's record-extending fifth Asian Champions Trophy title.
- India has now won the tournament consecutively in 2023 and 2024.
- China's Achievement:** China reached the final for the first time in the tournament's history. Their previous best finishes were two fourth-place positions in 2012 and 2013.
- India's Historical Performance:** India has won the Asian Champions Trophy four times previously: 2011, 2016, 2018 (joint winners with Pakistan), and 2023.
- Pakistan's Performance:** Pakistan finished third in the 2024 tournament by defeating South Korea in the bronze medal match.
- Tournament Standing:** India remains the most successful team in the tournament's history, with Pakistan being the second most successful team with three titles.

Q. When was the first Asian Champions Trophy held? **2011**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Infosys enters collaboration with UK's Metro Bank to digitalise operations

- Indian IT major Infosys has entered a long-term collaboration with British community bank Metro Bank to digitize the bank's operations.
- **Utilization of Infosys Topaz:** The collaboration will leverage Infosys Topaz, an AI-first suite of offerings, to enhance Metro Bank's digital capabilities, improve automation, refine data, and integrate advanced AI features.
- **Expected Benefits:** The partnership aims to increase operational efficiency and reduce costs for Metro Bank.

Cost Savings and Financial Goals

- Metro Bank expects to achieve £80 million in annualized cost savings this year through various initiatives.
- The bank is working towards reaching a mid-to-high teen return on tangible equity by 2027.

Here are some recent collaborations involving Infosys:

- **Metro Bank:** Infosys is helping digitize Metro Bank's operations using Infosys Topaz, aiming for £80 million in cost savings and improved efficiency.
- **JPMorgan Chase:** Partnered to enhance IT infrastructure and operational efficiency with technology solutions.

Q. How is Infosys working with Vodafone? **On digital transformation using AI and automation to improve network operations.**



Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways announces the appointment of Olympic Medals Winner Manu Bhaker as their New Brand Ambassador

- Manu Bhaker, the Double Olympic Medal Winner in Shooting, has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador for the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.

Background

- Bhaker, who won medals in shooting at the recent Summer Olympics in Paris, is the daughter of a Marine Engineer.
- She made history as the only Indian to win two individual Olympic medals in a single Olympics.

Celebration of Women Achievers

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal participated in an event celebrating women achievers from the maritime sector and other fields.

Honorees:

- **Lt Commander Vartika Joshi:** First Women's Skipper of the Indian Crew of INSV Tarini.
- **Sonali Banerjee:** First Lady Marine Engineer in the history of Indian Mercantile Marine.
- **Captain Teena Joey:** General Manager at JM Baxi Group, Chennai Branch.

Q. Who has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador for the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways? **Manu Bhaker**



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