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Tuesday, 05 November 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

Greece to open new consulates in India as ties deepen

- **New Consulates in India:** Greece plans to establish two additional consulates in Mumbai and Bengaluru to enhance its diplomatic presence.
- **Current Diplomatic Offices:** Greece currently has three offices in India: an Embassy in New Delhi and consulates in Chennai and Kolkata.
- **Strategic Partnership:** The initiative aligns with a broader effort to strengthen India-Greece relations, particularly after the strategic partnership framework adopted during PM Modi's visit to Athens in August 2023.
- **UN Security Council Role:** Greece's position as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for 2025-2026 is expected to facilitate new cooperation opportunities on global issues.
- **Collaboration Areas:** Both nations are focusing on deepening collaboration in trade, defence, shipping, and connectivity.
- **EU Partnership:** Greece is considered a valuable partner for India within the European Union.
- **High-Level Exchanges:** Recent high-level exchanges have generated momentum in bilateral relations, highlighting investment opportunities and maritime connectivity initiatives.

Q. Where will Greece establish new consulates in India? **Mumbai and Bengaluru.**



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

Duma Boko declared sixth President of Botswana

- New President Declared: Duma Boko of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) has been declared Botswana's sixth president.
- Electoral Law Overview: The election determines 61 members of the National Assembly and 609 local councilors, with a minimum of 31 parliamentary seats needed for a party to claim victory.
- Current Results: While counting is ongoing, the UDC has already secured 34 seats in the National Assembly.
- Ruling Party Seats: The Botswana Democratic Party (BDP), the incumbent party, has obtained four seats so far.
- Concession of Defeat: Incumbent President Mokgweetsi Masisi has conceded defeat based on preliminary counting results indicating the BDP has lost power.

Botswana

- Capital: Gaborone
- Currency: Pula
- National language: Setswana

Q. Who has been declared Botswana's sixth president? **Duma Boko of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC).**



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

Kindiki sworn in as Kenya's new Deputy President

- **New Appointment:** Kindiki Kithure has been sworn in as Kenya's new deputy president, following the impeachment of his predecessor.
- **Impeachment Details:** The former deputy president, Gachagua, was impeached by over two-thirds of legislators on October 17, facing allegations of corruption and inciting ethnic divisions.
- **Legal Challenge:** Gachagua is contesting the impeachment in the High Court in Nairobi, claiming the charges are unfounded and the hearings were unfair.
- **Appointment Timeline:** President William Ruto nominated Kindiki for the deputy role the day after Gachagua's impeachment.
- **Party Divisions:** Gachagua's impeachment exposed rifts within the ruling United Democratic Alliance (UDA) and tensions between Ruto and Gachagua.
- **Accusations of Insubordination:** Gachagua faced accusations of insubordination for opposing government policies on forced evictions amid heavy rains.
- **Concerns in Kenya:** Kindiki assumes office during a period marked by arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances, raising alarms among human rights groups and foreign envoys.

Q. Who has been sworn in as Kenya's new deputy president?
Kindiki Kithure



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

ADB approves 85 million USD loan to Nepal

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved an \$85 million loan for irrigation modernization in Nepal.
- Project Name: The initiative is called the Irrigation Modernization Enhancement Project.
- Target Audience: The project aims to benefit approximately 56,000 farm households across five provinces in Nepal.
- Agricultural Contribution: Nepal's agriculture sector contributes 26% to the country's gross domestic product (GDP).
- Growth Challenges: Agricultural growth has stagnated at 2.7% annually, largely due to unreliable irrigation and climate-related hazards.
- Food Security Issues: Climate events like floods, droughts, and heat waves have intensified food insecurity and reduced resilience in the sector.
- Area of Impact: The project will upgrade over 31,000 hectares of agricultural command areas, involving 100 farmer-managed irrigation systems.
- Total Project Cost: The overall cost of the project is \$133.64 million.

Q. ADB approves 85 million USD loan to Nepal. In context to same what is the name of the project for irrigation modernization in Nepal? **The Irrigation Modernization Enhancement Project.**



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

Economist Bibek Debroy passes away

- Bibek Debroy, an eminent economist and chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, passed away at the age of 69.
- He had a medical history of diabetes, hypertension, and heart issues, including a pacemaker.
- Professional Role: Debroy served as the chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council since September 2017.
- Literary Contributions: A prolific writer, he authored and edited numerous works, including translations of the Puranas, the four Vedas, 11 major Upanishads, as well as the Valmiki Ramayana and the Mahabharata.
- Awards: He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2015 for his contributions to literature and education.

Academic Background:

- Educated at Ramakrishna Mission School (Narendrapur) and Presidency College (Kolkata).
- He further studied at the Delhi School of Economics and Trinity College, Cambridge.

Q. What was Bibek Debroy's position at the time of his passing? **Chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council.**



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

BPL Group Chairman T.P.G. Nambiar passes away

- TP Gopalan Nambiar, known as TPG, founder of BPL Group, passed away at 94.
- He was the father-in-law of BJP leader and former Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar.
- Nambiar had been unwell for some time.

Company Background:

- BPL Group, under Nambiar's leadership, became a major player in the consumer electronics industry in India.
- The company's portfolio included batteries, telephone equipment, packaging, electronic devices, and medical equipment, reflecting its diverse business interests.

Market Position:

- During the era of economic liberalization, BPL was considered highly competitive, especially in the television market.
- BPL invested heavily in brand promotion and held over a 15% market share in the television sector at its peak.

Q. Which company did TP Gopalan Nambiar found?
BPL Group.



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

IMF approves reviews for Kenya to receive 606 million USD

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved the seventh and eighth reviews of Kenya's program, allowing a disbursement of \$606 million.
- Purpose of Funds: The funds are intended to help Kenya rebuild its fiscal and external buffers and improve resilience to climate-related shocks.
- Total IMF Support: With this disbursement, the total funding under Kenya's current Extended Fund Facility (EFF) and Extended Credit Facility (ECF) programs will reach \$3.61 billion.
- Economic Resilience: Kenya's economy shows resilience, with growth exceeding the regional average, inflation on a downward trend, and external inflows supporting the shilling and external reserves.
- Fiscal Challenges: Kenyan authorities are working to boost domestic revenues to sustain priority spending areas, all while managing significant debt service obligations in a challenging socioeconomic environment.

IMF

- Managing Director: Kristalina Georgieva
- Founded: July 1944
- Parent organization: United Nations
- Founders: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White
- Subsidiaries: International Monetary Fund (Vietnam), etc.

Q. How much funding has the IMF approved for Kenya in its latest program review? **\$606 million.**



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

U-19 World Boxing Championships 2024: Krisha Verma claims Gold as Indian boxers make their mark

- Young Indian boxer Krisha Verma won the gold medal in the women's 75kg category at the inaugural U-19 World Championships, organized by World Boxing in Colorado, USA.
- Krisha defeated Germany's Simon Lerika with a unanimous 5-0 decision in the final.
- Silver Medalists: Five other Indian boxers secured silver medals:
 - Chanchal Chaudhary (women's 48kg) was disqualified in her final match.
 - Anjali Kumari Singh (women's 57kg) lost 0-5 to England's Mia-Tiah Ayton.
 - Vini (women's 60kg) lost via a 2-3 split decision to England's Ella Lonsdale.
 - Akanksha Phalaswal (women's 70kg) lost 1-4 to England's Lilly Deacon.
 - Rahul Kundu (men's 75kg) lost 1-4 to USA's Awinongya Joseph.

Q. Who won the gold medal in the women's 75kg category at the U-19 World Championships? **Krisha Verma**



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

ISRO launches India's first analog space mission

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has initiated the country's first analog space mission in Leh, Ladakh, to simulate life in an interplanetary habitat.
- Significance of the Mission: This mission is crucial as India plans to send a human to the Moon in the near future.
- Purpose of Analog Space Missions: Analog space missions are field tests conducted in Earth locations that mimic extreme space environments, playing a vital role in problem-solving for spaceflight research.
- Selection of Location: Ladakh was chosen due to its dry and cold climate, barren land, high-altitude terrain, and extreme isolation, which closely resemble Martian and lunar landscapes.
- Mission Duration: The mission will last for one month and aligns with India's objectives to establish lunar habitats for future interplanetary missions.
- Habitat Details: The mission features a compact, inflatable habitat named Hab-1, equipped with essentials such as a hydroponics farm, kitchen, and sanitation facilities, providing a self-sustaining environment.

Q. Why was Ladakh chosen as the location for the analog space mission? **Its geographical features closely resemble Martian and lunar landscapes.**



Tuesday, 05 November 2024

S.Korea, NASA to send co-developed solar coronagraph to ISS

- South Korea's national space agency, the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA), plans to send a solar coronagraph, developed in collaboration with NASA, to the International Space Station (ISS) to study the sun's corona and solar wind.
- Mission Details: The Coronal Diagnostic Experiment (CODEX) will be launched aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.
- Observation Capabilities: CODEX will be docked with the ISS's express logistics carrier, allowing it to observe the solar corona for up to 55 minutes during each 90-minute Earth orbit.
- Innovative Technology: CODEX is the world's first coronagraph designed to measure not only the density but also the temperature and velocity of the solar wind, aiding in understanding and predicting space weather.
- Importance of Solar Wind: Solar wind consists of a constant stream of particles and magnetic fields released from the sun's outer atmosphere, impacting space weather.
- Bilateral Cooperation: KASA has signed a joint statement with NASA to enhance cooperation in various areas of space and aerospace research.

Q. What solar research project is South Korea's national space agency planning to send to the ISS? **The Coronal Diagnostic Experiment (CODEX).**



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