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Saturday, 28 December 2024

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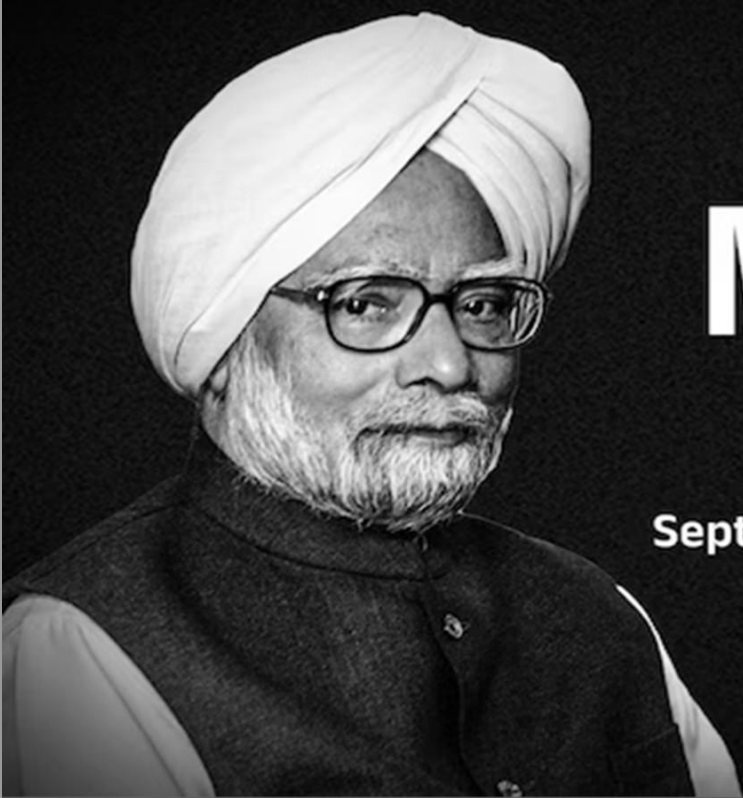
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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



MANMOHAN SINGH

September 26, 1932 - December 26, 2024

Saturday, 28 December 2024

Former PM Dr Manmohan Singh passes away at 92

- Former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh passed away in New Delhi. He was 92.

Personal Details

- Born on September 26, 1932, in Punjab, undivided India.
- Passed away in New Delhi at the age of 92.
- Married to Gursharan Kaur; the couple has three daughters.

Academic Achievements

- Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Economics from Panjab University.
- First Class Honours in Economics from the University of Cambridge (1957).
- D.Phil in Economics from Oxford University (1962).

Career Milestones

- Joined Indian government in 1971 as an Economic Advisor in the Commerce Ministry.
- Held key positions:
 - Chief Economic Advisor
 - Finance Secretary
 - Governor of the Reserve Bank of India
- Finance Minister (1991–1996): Introduced the 1991 economic reforms, liberalising India's economy.

Q. What role did Dr. Singh play in the 1991 economic reforms? **As Finance Minister, he introduced policies that liberalised India's economy, ending the License-Permit Raj.**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

Shooting: Vijayveer Sidhu wins Men's 25m rapid fire Pistol title at 67th National Championship

- Key Highlights from the 67th National Shooting Championship Competitions (NSCC)

Men's 25m Rapid-Fire Pistol (RFP) Event

- Gold Medal: Vijayveer Sidhu (Punjab) defeated Gurpreet Singh (Army Marksmanship Unit) 28-25 in the title round, clinching his maiden men's RFP title.
- Bronze Medal: Shivam Shukla (Air Force) secured third place with a score of 23.

Qualification Scores:

- Vijayveer Sidhu: 581 (qualified in second position).
- Ankur Goel (Uttar Pradesh): Topped qualification with 585.
- Gurpreet Singh: Sixth position with 575.

Performance in Finals:

- Vijayveer showcased consistent accuracy, dominating from the second series onwards.

Q. Who won the men's 25m rapid-fire pistol title at the 67th NSCC? **Vijayveer Sidhu from Punjab won the title.**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

NF Railway signs MoU with IRCON for maintenance of electrification infrastructure

- Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) collaborates with IRCON for the maintenance of electrification infrastructure, including Overhead Equipment (OHE) and Power Supply Installation (PSI).
- Target divisions: The maintenance initiative covers the Lumding and Tinsukia divisions of NFR.
- Need for trained personnel: Rapid commissioning of sections has increased maintenance demands, requiring experienced personnel for scheduled maintenance and breakdown attention.

Progress in electrification:

- Electrification in Lumding and Tinsukia divisions is rapidly progressing, with most sections already electrified.
- The remaining 425 Route Kilometers (RKM) are expected to be commissioned by June next year.

IRCON's role:

- IRCON will handle maintenance and breakdown services for two years under the contract.
- This partnership leverages IRCON's expertise in infrastructure projects in challenging terrains.

Q. What is the duration of the IRCON contract for electrification maintenance in NFR? **Two years.**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

Equestrian: Inaara, Freya, Hussain win gold in team events at National Championships

- Gold Medal Winners at NEC: Inaara Mehta Luthria, Freya Thakkar, and Hayden Hussain from the Amateur Riders' Club (ARC) clinched gold at the National Equestrian Championships (NEC) in various team event categories.
- Inaara's Exceptional Performance: Inaara competed in the Dressage Team, Sub Junior category, scoring an impressive 78.63% on Secks Richtige, contributing to the team's gold medal win with an average team score of 226.18%.
- Team Performance in Dressage: Inaara was joined by teammates Ananya (73.35%), Subh (74.20%), and Pranav (68.78%) to achieve the highest score, with the second and third-place teams scoring 210.24% and 206.26%, respectively.
- Hayden Hussain's Show Jumping Success: In the Show Jumping Team (1m), Hayden, riding Cuba, faced 4 penalties in the first round but cleared the second round to win gold.
- Freya Thakkar's Show Jumping Performance: Despite being eliminated in the first round, Freya cleared the second round without penalties, securing a spot among the top riders.

Q. Who won the gold at the National Equestrian Championships (NEC) from the Amateur Riders' Club (ARC)? **Inaara Mehta Luthria, Freya Thakkar, and Hayden Hussain won gold at the NEC.**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

Mankind Pharma inks pact with Innovent for immunotherapy drug in India

- Mankind Pharma Ltd and Innovent Biologics have partnered to exclusively license and commercialize Sintilimab for cancer treatment in India.
- This collaboration aims to address challenges in cancer treatment and enhance patient access to innovative therapies in the region.
- Sintilimab, marketed as TYVYT in China, is co-developed by Innovent and Eli Lilly.
- Under the agreement, Mankind Pharma will have exclusive rights to register, import, market, sell, and distribute Sintilimab in India.
- Innovent will handle the manufacturing and supply of the product, ensuring consistent availability and quality standards.
- Innovent will receive upfront, regulatory, and commercial milestone payments, though specific payment details were not disclosed.

Mankind Pharma

- Industry: Pharmaceutical
- Founded: 1991
- Founders: Ramesh C. Juneja & Rajeev Juneja
- Chairman: Ramesh Juneja
- MD & Vice Chairman: Rajeev Juneja
- CEO: Sheetal Arora

Q. Who has Mankind Pharma partnered with for licensing Sintilimab in India? **Innovent Biologics to exclusively license Sintilimab in India.**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

Meghalaya teen receives Rashtriya Bal Puraskar

- Fifteen-year-old Kisen Wanniang from Meghalaya was conferred the 'Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar' for his exceptional bravery.
- Award Presentation: The award was presented by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, alongside 16 other children.
- Reason for Recognition: Wanniang was honored for his courageous act of saving four children from drowning.
- The Act of Bravery: Wanniang saved four children, aged 9 to 12, from the Maweitksar River during heavy rains in his village, Mawlangwir, South-West Khasi Hills.
- Circumstances: While washing clothes by the river, Wanniang heard cries for help and, without hesitation, jumped into the river to rescue the children, disregarding his own safety.
- Personal Background: Wanniang is the son of a single mother who works as a domestic help.
- Award Ceremony Details: The Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar was conferred on 17 children in seven categories for exceptional achievements at a ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre.

Q. Who was conferred the 'Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar' for bravery in 2024? **15-year-old Kisen Wanniang from Meghalaya**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

Osamu Suzuki, Former Suzuki Chairman Dies Aged 94

- Osamu Suzuki, former chairman of Suzuki Motor Corp., passed away at the age of 94 due to lymphoma.
- He led Suzuki Motor Corp. for over four decades, becoming a global icon in the auto industry.
- Suzuki began his journey with the company in 1958 and became its president in 1978.
- He served as the president for 28 years across two terms, making him the longest-serving head of the global automaker.
- In 2000, he took on the additional role of chairman while continuing as president.
- In June 2015, the presidency was transferred to his son, while Osamu Suzuki retained the chairman and CEO roles.
- He stepped down as CEO in 2016 following a fuel-economy misstatement but continued as chairman until 2021, retiring at the age of 91.

Suzuki

- Industry: Automotive
- Founded: October 1909
- Founder: Michio Suzuki
- Headquarters: Shizuoka, Japan
- President: Toshihiro Suzuki

Q. Name the former chairman of Suzuki Motor Corp. and a global icon in the auto industry who died recently? **Osamu Suzuki**

BBC NEWS

Saturday, 28 December 2024

Bald eagle officially declared US national bird after 250 years

- Bald Eagle Designation: President Joe Biden signed a law officially designating the bald eagle as the national bird of the United States.
- Historical Emblem: The bald eagle has been a US national emblem since 1782, appearing on the Great Seal, but was not officially recognized as the national bird until now.
- Symbolism: Bald eagles are viewed as symbols of strength, courage, freedom, and immortality and are indigenous only to North America.
- Legislation Initiators: The bill was spearheaded by Minnesota lawmakers, with the state hosting one of the largest bald eagle populations in the nation.
- Protection Laws: The bald eagle has been protected under the National Emblem Act of 1940, which prohibits its sale or hunting.
- Conservation Success: Bald eagles were once on the brink of extinction, but their population has significantly increased since 2009.

US

- Capital: Washington, D.C.
- Speaker: Mike Johnson (Republican Party)
- Attorney general: Merrick Garland
- President: Joe Biden, Donald Trump (20 Jan 2025 onwards)

Q. Which bird was officially designated as the national bird of the United States in 2024? **The bald eagle.**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

Fortis Healthcare appoints Leo Puri as new Chairman its Board of Directors

- **Appointment Announcement:** Fortis Healthcare Ltd has appointed Leo Puri as the Chairman of its Board of Directors.
- **Effective Date:** Leo Puri's appointment as Chairman begins on December 27, 2024.
- **Role Objective:** Puri will guide Fortis Healthcare's strategic direction and operations, focusing on innovation, growth, and industry leadership.
- **Independent Director Term:** His term as an independent director is for five years, subject to shareholder approval.
- **Other Board Memberships:** Puri is also on the boards of Tata Sons, Hindustan Unilever, and Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, showcasing his extensive expertise.
- **Leadership Experience:** With over four decades of experience, Puri has held leadership roles in major global and Indian organizations.
- **Company Overview:** Fortis Healthcare is a leading integrated healthcare provider in India, with verticals in hospitals, diagnostics, and day care specialty facilities.
- **Facility Network:** The company operates 28 healthcare facilities, including JVs and O&M facilities, with approximately 4,700 operational beds.

Q. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Fortis Healthcare Ltd? **Leo Puri.**



Saturday, 28 December 2024

Sachin Tendulkar becomes honorary member of Melbourne Cricket Club

- Indian cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar has been awarded honorary membership of the prestigious Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC), one of the oldest and most influential sporting institutions in Australia.
- Honorary Membership of MCC: Sachin Tendulkar has been awarded honorary membership of the Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC), a prestigious sporting institution in Australia founded in 1838.
- MCC's Role: MCC manages the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), one of the world's most revered cricket venues.
- Acknowledgment of Contribution: MCC celebrated Tendulkar's unparalleled impact on cricket, recognizing his global influence on the sport.

Tendulkar's Achievements at the MCG

- Record at the MCG: Tendulkar scored 449 runs in five Tests at the MCG, including one century and three fifties, at an average of 44.90 and a strike rate of 58.69.
- Significance: His performances came during a challenging era for Indian cricket, highlighting his ability to excel under pressure.

Q. Who awarded Sachin Tendulkar honorary membership?
The Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC)



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