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Saturday, 21 December 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Saturday, 21 December 2024

India-France Collaboration on Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum

- Project: Development of Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum (YYBNM) in New Delhi, spanning 1,55,000 square meters, as part of the Central Vista Redevelopment.
- Partnership: Collaboration with France Museums Développement (FMD) to leverage expertise in adaptive reuse and museum design, inspired by projects like the Louvre and Grand Palais.
- Vision: Celebrates India's civilizational history, blending heritage preservation with modern narratives of inclusivity and diversity.
- Historic Significance: Reimagines North and South Blocks while preserving their architectural heritage, aligned with France's "Grands Projets."
- Cultural Bonds: Builds on a 2020 Letter of Intent and strengthened by the Prime Minister's Paris visit in 2023.
- Global Impact: Aims to become a global cultural landmark, setting benchmarks for sustainable heritage preservation and international cooperation.

Q. Who is collaborating on the Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum (YYBNM)? **India & France Museums Développement (FMD)**



Saturday, 21 December 2024

DRDO, IIT Delhi, and industry partners sign 10 agreements at a DIA-CoE event

- The DRDO-Industry-Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA-CoE) hosted an event titled 'DRDO-Industry-Academia - Global Approach to Readiness of Indigenous Military Applications' (DIA-GARIMA) at IIT Delhi.
- As part of the event, 10 tripartite agreements were signed between DRDO, IIT Delhi, and industry partners, focusing on advancing indigenous military technologies.

Transfer of Technology of Light Weight Bullet Resistant Jacket (ABHED- Advanced Ballistic High Energy Defeat) to:

- 1. MIDHANI (Mishra Dhatu Nigam), Rohtak
- 2. SMPP Pvt Ltd, Delhi
- 3. AR Polymers (MKU)- Kanpur
- 4. Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for development of Indigenous Ballistic Material with Reliance Industries Ltd.

MoA for limited series production of Extreme Cold Weather Clothing with:

- 5. Aeronav Industrial Safety Appliance, Delhi
- 6. Arnaf Industries Ltd
- 7. Arrow Garments, Tirupur

Q. Which company signed an MoA for the development of Indigenous Ballistic Material?
Reliance Industries Ltd.



Saturday, 21 December 2024

UP, Manipur govts sign MoU for 'Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat' programme

- An MoU was signed between the Uttar Pradesh and Manipur governments for the implementation of the 'Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat' programme.
- Programme Duration: The MoU will be effective from the signing date and remain valid for three years, with the possibility of a three-year renewal upon mutual consent.
- Objective: The program aims to foster interaction and mutual understanding between people of different states and Union Territories (UTs) through state/UT pairing.
- Key Activities: Cultural Exchange Programmes covering language learning, culture, traditions, music, tourism, cuisine, sports, and best practices sharing.
- Unity in Diversity: The programme emphasizes strengthening unity amid India's diversity, promoting a shared sense of nationhood.
- Role of Technology: In the age of technology and mobility, the programme highlights the importance of cultural exchanges to enhance human bonding and contribute to nation-building.

Q. What MoU was signed between Uttar Pradesh and Manipur governments? **For the implementation of the 'Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat' programme**



Saturday, 21 December 2024

Centre, ADB ink \$42 million loan to strengthen coastal protection in Maha

- The Central Government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$42 million loan to provide coastal and riverbank protection in Maharashtra.
- Objective of the Loan: The loan aims to increase resilience of local communities and ecosystems by restoring and stabilising Maharashtra's coastline, protecting coastal communities' livelihoods.
- Hybrid Approaches to Coastal Erosion: The project incorporates offshore reefs, rock protection, and nature-based solutions like beach and dune nourishment to combat coastal erosion.
- Advanced Climate Change Technologies: Advanced technologies will predict climate change impacts, such as sea-level rise and extreme weather, and enhance coastal management through remote sensing and satellite imagery.
- Community Resilience and Economic Sectors: Enhanced coastal protection aims to improve community resilience and support the tourism and fishery sectors, which are severely impacted by coastal erosion and poor management.

Q. What is the primary goal of the \$42 million loan from ADB? **To increase resilience of local communities and natural ecosystems in Maharashtra through coastal protection.**



Saturday, 21 December 2024

ADB signs loan agreement with Sri Lanka for transmission projects

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed an agreement with the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) to provide \$150 million for transmission projects in Sri Lanka.
- Loan Approval: The loan was approved by ADB in November 2024 after a thorough due diligence process assessing technical, economic, and social merits.
- Project Implementation: The funds will support transmission projects as part of the long-term transmission plan, to be implemented from 2025 to 2027.
- Grid Stability: The projects will enhance the reliability and stability of Sri Lanka's power grid.
- Renewable Energy Integration: Transmission assets funded by this loan will enable the integration of large-scale renewable energy projects into the national grid.
- Key Infrastructure Developments: The financing will support the construction of six new grid substations, 87 km of 132 kV transmission lines, 45 km of 220 kV transmission lines, and the augmentation of two existing substations.

Q. What agreement was signed between ADB and the Ceylon Electricity Board? **To provide \$150 million for transmission projects in Sri Lanka.**



Saturday, 21 December 2024

Cambodia, UN agency sign MoU to strengthen cooperation on water supply

- Cambodia's Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology, and Innovation (MISTI) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) signed an MoU to advance sustainable water access and climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Targeted Investments for Vulnerable Communities: The collaboration serves as a model for how focused investments can drive transformative change, especially for vulnerable communities in Cambodia.
- Support for SDG 6: This initiative supports Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, focusing on Clean Water and Sanitation.
- Goals of the Partnership: The partnership aims to implement innovative and scalable solutions to improve water access and build climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Project Implementation: The MoU formalizes joint efforts to plan, design, and execute projects that enhance water supply systems while ensuring sustainability and inclusivity.

Q. What MoU was signed between Cambodia's MISTI and UNOPS? **To advance sustainable water access and climate-resilient infrastructure in Cambodia.**



Saturday, 21 December 2024

Lebanon secures 7.3-million-USD deal with France for green agriculture project

- Lebanon secured a 7.3-million-USD agreement with France to boost green agriculture development.
- Parties Involved: The agreement was signed between the French Development Agency and the CIHEAM Montpellier.
- Targeted Impact: The project aims to help approximately 2,500 Lebanese farmers transition to green agriculture and support over 150 cooperatives and private traders in improving agricultural products.
- Awareness and Policy Support: The project will also raise awareness about eco-friendly agriculture and support public policies facilitating this transition.
- About CIHEAM Montpellier: CIHEAM Montpellier is one of the four institutes of CIHEAM, a France-based Mediterranean intergovernmental organization with 13 member states.
- France's Support for Lebanon: France is a key political partner for Lebanon, providing support at the UN for resolutions defending Lebanon's sovereignty and supporting Lebanon's stability, unity, and independence.

Q. What is the value of the agreement between Lebanon and France for green agriculture development? **7.3 million USD.**



Saturday, 21 December 2024

World Bank Approves \$800 Million Loan for Amaravati Development

- The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved an \$800 million loan under the Amaravati Integrated Urban Development Programme. The programme aims to establish Amaravati, the proposed capital of Andhra Pradesh, as a well-managed, climate-resilient city that fosters economic growth and improves the quality of life for its residents.

Urban Transformation and Growth

- India's urban population is expected to double to 950 million by 2050, and Amaravati is positioned to model sustainable and liveable urban growth. The programme will support the development of infrastructure and institutions to create economic opportunities, particularly for women, youth, and vulnerable groups. Currently, Amaravati houses about 1,00,000 residents, with a master plan for a 217 sq km area expected to accommodate 3.5 million people by 2050.

Q. Which organization approved an \$800 million loan for Amaravati's development? **World Bank**



Saturday, 21 December 2024

US and India Strengthen Space Partnership

- The United States and India are advancing their collaboration in the space sector, focusing on human spaceflight, joint space exploration, and fostering commercial partnerships between their respective space industries. This partnership aims to harness the growing space economy and achieve shared strategic interests.

Key Agreements and Initiatives

- The collaboration builds on the commitment made by US President Joe Biden and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June 2023 to explore new frontiers in space cooperation. India's signing of the Artemis Accords has further solidified the partnership, spanning civil, security, and commercial space sectors.

High-Level Engagement at NASA

- Senior US officials, including Principal Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finan and Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, along with Indian Ambassador Vinay Kwatra, visited the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. They held discussions with representatives from NASA, ISRO, and space industry leaders to identify new opportunities for collaboration.

Q. Which two countries are advancing their partnership in the space sector, including human spaceflight and joint exploration? **The United States and India.**

Om Prakash Chautala

1935-2024



Saturday, 21 December 2024

Former Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala Passes Away

- Former Haryana Chief Minister and Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) leader Om Prakash Chautala passed away at the age of 89 at his residence in Gurugram.

Political Career Highlights

- Om Prakash Chautala was the son of Chaudhary Devi Lal, who served as India's 6th Deputy Prime Minister.
- Chautala served as the Chief Minister of Haryana for a record four terms, beginning in December 1989, with his last term spanning from 1999 to 2005.

Life and Legacy

- Born in January 1935, Chautala was a prominent figure in Indian politics, known for his influence and leadership in Haryana.
- His career was marred by controversy, including his conviction in a recruitment scam related to the appointment of junior basic teachers during 1999–2000.

Q. Who was the former Haryana Chief Minister who passed away at the age of 89? **Om Prakash Chautala.**



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