

Weekly Current Affairs 06th November to 11th November 2023 - Bengali

National News

Bharat Botanics To Open India's Largest Cold Oil Production Facility In Gujarat

Recently, Bharat Botanics announced the opening of its cutting-edge wood-pressed Cold Oil processing facility in Gondal, Rajkot Gujarat. This 16,000 square feet automated facility is one of its kind, promoting 100% hygiene and transparency, marking a significant step towards healthier living, sustainability, and providing healthy edible oils for every customer it serves.

Mr. Manish Popat, Co-Founder of Bharat Botanics, emphasizes, 'We're excited to announce the expansion of our production capacity to meet the exponential rise in demand for our products from the 12,000 direct B2C customers we have served.'

He further stated, 'At Bharat Botanics' facility, seeds are crushed using traditional "Wooden Ghani's" with the cold-pressed technique, resulting in natural, chemical-free edible oils rich in healthy nutrients, natural flavor, and a scintillating aroma.'

Parshottam Rupala Inaugurated The Pavilion Of Department Of Animal Husbandry And Dairying

Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Parshottam Rupala, inaugurated the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying's pavilion on the World Food India event 2023. The event was not only a celebration of India's rich food culture but also a testament to the nation's commitment to sustainable agriculture and livestock practices. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying played a pivotal role as a partner department in the World Food India event, showcasing its dedication to the advancement of the livestock and dairy sector. Joining Minister Parshottam Rupala at the inauguration was Minister for State of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Dr. L. Murugan, demonstrating the collective effort of the Ministry to foster growth and innovation in this crucial domain. The function held during the event received an exceptional guest of honor in the form of the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu. Her presence at the event underlined the significance of the livestock and dairy sector in India's agricultural landscape.

KVIC Chairman inaugurates five-days 'Diwali Utsav' on the theme of 'Vocal for Local'

In line with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's appeal for the promotion of locally-made products, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has taken a significant step towards fostering economic self-reliance for artisans in rural India. Under the leadership of Shri Manoj Kumar, Chairman of KVIC, the 'Diwali Utsav' Gramshilpa, Khadi Lounge was inaugurated in Connaught Place, New Delhi. This initiative aims to connect people with the spirit of 'Vocal for Local' during festive occasions. The 'Diwali Utsav' Gramshilpa, Khadi Lounge, and associated initiatives exemplify a concerted

effort to amplify the 'Vocal for Local' message. As citizens embrace locally-made products, they not only celebrate festivals but also contribute to the economic empowerment of rural artisans, aligning with the transformative vision set forth by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde unveils Shivaji Maharaj statue in J&K's Kupwara

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, along with other dignitaries, inaugurated a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in the Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir on November 7. The statue, a symbol of cultural pride, was installed at the 41 National Rifle (Maratha LI) camp, which is located in close proximity to the Line of Control (LoC) separating India and Pakistan. During the inauguration ceremony, Chief Minister Shinde expressed his pride in having a magnificent equestrian statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj situated near the India-Pakistan border. This event signifies the importance of preserving cultural heritage even in challenging regions.

CJI DY Chandrachud Inaugurates Mitti Cafe In Supreme Court

Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud inaugurated 'Mitti Cafe', a unique establishment situated within the Supreme Court premises. This cafe stands out for being entirely managed by individuals with disabilities, encompassing those who are visually impaired, have cerebral palsy, and are paraplegic. The cafe's management team comprises individuals with diverse abilities, breaking down barriers and setting an inspiring example. The Chief Justice expressed his hope that the legal community, including lawyers, would rally behind this initiative, emphasizing the importance of support for the differently-abled. Chief Justice Chandrachud shared that 'Mitti Cafe' has already established 38 outlets in various parts of the country. Moreover, he highlighted the cafe's extraordinary service during the COVID-19 pandemic, where they provided six million meals, showcasing the potential of inclusive employment and meaningful contributions by differently-abled individuals.

Bengali



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Start Date: 20 Nov 2023

Supreme Court: Nationwide Ban On Use Of Barium And Other Prohibited Chemicals In Firecrackers

In a recent clarification, the Supreme Court of India emphasized that its directive, issued in the 2021 order, banning the use of barium and other prohibited chemicals in firecrackers applies not only to the National Capital Region but to the entire country. This clarification arose during the hearing of an application seeking compliance from the Rajasthan government regarding the apex court's orders, underscoring that these directives are binding on every state in India. In October 2018, the Supreme Court took a significant step by imposing a ban on the production and sale of all crackers except 'green crackers' and those designed to emit reduced emissions, commonly referred to as improved crackers. The court also prohibited the manufacture and sale of 'joined crackers,' which are long rows of crackers joined together.

International News

"Bhutan's King Wangchuck Arrives in Delhi for Talks with Prime Minister Modi"

Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck recently arrived in India on a highly anticipated trip, receiving a red carpet welcome. The visit holds significant importance as it coincides with renewed efforts by Bhutan and China to resolve their longstanding border dispute. New Delhi is closely monitoring these negotiations due to potential implications for India's security interests, particularly in the Doklam tri-junction.

IIT Madras Sets Its First International Campus On Zanzibar Island In Tanzania

IIT Madras has become the first Indian Institute of Technology to establish an international campus on the picturesque Zanzibar Island in East Africa. Inaugurated by the President of Zanzibar, Hussein Ali Mwinyi, this historic initiative signifies a brighter educational future, facilitated by a memorandum of understanding between India and Tanzania, ushering in a new era of global education and cooperation.

The establishment of the IIT Madras Zanzibar Campus represents a remarkable achievement for both India and Tanzania.

This endeavor reflects the Indian government's commitment to spreading the excellence of India's education system to international arenas.

While the initial campus is located in the Bweleo district, approximately 15 kilometers south of Zanzibar Town, there are plans for a permanent campus to be jointly developed by the Government of Zanzibar and the Government of India.

India and Bhutan Enhance Bilateral Ties with New Initiatives

India and Bhutan have recently announced several key initiatives to strengthen their bilateral relationship. During a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bhutan King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, both countries discussed trade, technology, and cross-border connectivity. This comes at a time when China and Bhutan are in negotiations to resolve their border dispute.

The two nations have agreed to conduct a "final location survey" for a proposed rail link between Kokrajhar in Assam, India, and Gelephu in Bhutan, which is set to be built with Indian support.

Additionally, there is consideration for establishing another rail link between Banarhat in West Bengal, India, and Samtse in Bhutan, aimed at enhancing cross-border connectivity.

Widespread Displacement Crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

The conflict in the eastern province of North Kivu, DRC, between M23 rebels and government-backed militias has worsened since October. This conflict is causing massive displacement, and the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM) is deeply concerned about the humanitarian situation. As of October 2023, the number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in the DRC has reached a record high of 6.9 million. This is a result of ongoing conflict and rising violence, creating one of the largest internal displacement crises globally. Most of the internally displaced people, about 5.6 million, are concentrated in the eastern provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri, and Tanganyika. Conflict is the main reason for this displacement, with up to one million people being forced to leave their homes in North Kivu due to the M23 conflict.

Klyuchevskaya Sopka Volcano's Eruption in Kamchatka, Russia

The highest active volcano in Eurasia, Klyuchevskaya Sopka, recently erupted on the Kamchatka Peninsula in Russia, spewing a significant amount of ash into the air. This eruption marked the third time it erupted in the year 2023. While no injuries were reported, authorities took precautionary measures by closing schools in two nearby towns.

The eruption sent ash clouds soaring to a height of 13 kilometers (8 miles) above sea level.

This was the third eruption in 2023, following earlier eruptions in April and June.

The eruption didn't result in any reported injuries, but authorities closed schools in Ust-Kamchatsk and Klyuchy, two towns with populations of approximately 5,000 residents each.

Klyuchy is located about 30 kilometers (20 miles) from the volcano, and Ust-Kamchatsk is 50 kilometers (30 miles) away.

Russia pulled out of Treaty of Conventional Armed Forces in Europe

Russia has formally withdrawn from the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), citing NATO's expansion as a barrier to cooperation. The move follows Russia's recent revocation of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and a test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile. Signed in 1990 after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the CFE aimed to limit conventional arms and prevent a rapid build-up of forces between Cold War rivals. Moscow, holding an advantage in conventional weaponry at the time, was initially reluctant to embrace the pact. They argued that NATO countries had been bypassing restrictions as the alliance

expanded, rendering the pact irrelevant to Russia's security concerns. NATO accused Russia of non-compliance with the CFE for years, pointing to Moscow's suspension of participation in 2007 and complete withdrawal in 2015. Russia, after a full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, officially denounced the CFE in May 2023. The U.S. and its allies had linked ratification of the adapted 1999 CFE to Russia's withdrawal of troops from Georgia and Moldova, a linkage Moscow contested.

State News

NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd's First 50 MW Dayapar Wind Project In Kutch, Gujarat

NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NTPC REL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NTPC, has marked a significant milestone in its renewable energy journey by declaring the commercial operation of its first project. This project, a 50 MW wind farm located in Dayapar, Kutch, Gujarat is a first-of-its-kind effort in India's renewable energy journey. NTPC REL's debut project, the 50 MW wind farm at Dayapar, Kutch, Gujarat, officially commenced its commercial operations on November 4, 2023. Dayapar Wind stands out as the first capacity in India to be declared commercial under the new Indian Electricity Grid Code and General Network Access Regime. The commissioning of Dayapar Wind is just the first step in NTPC REL's ambitious growth plan. Currently, the company has 15 other renewable energy projects under various stages of execution, with a combined capacity of 6,210 MW. These projects promise to significantly enhance the renewable energy capacity of NTPC Group.

President Droupadi Murmu's Visit On Uttarakhand Foundation Day

On November 9, Uttarakhand observes its 23rd Foundation Day, and President Draupadi Murmu will participate, marking the first instance in 23 years that a President has been part of Uttarakhand's Foundation Day program. India's President, Smt Droupadi Murmu, is on a visit to Uttarakhand from November 7 to 9, 2023. This three-day visit carries immense importance for both the state and the President, aligning with the celebration of Uttarakhand Foundation Day. This day commemorates the state's establishment and honors its distinct cultural identity. President Droupadi Murmu participated at the 35th convocation of Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology in Pantnagar. This event highlighted the significance of education and agricultural technology in the region, emphasizing the crucial role of agriculture in Uttarakhand's economy.

Economy News

UBS Raises India's GDP Forecast to 6.3% for FY24

Foreign brokerage UBS recently revised its FY24 real GDP growth estimate for India, raising it to 6.3%. The brokerage's chief economist, Tanvee Gupta Jain, highlighted various factors contributing to this uptick despite challenges such as slower global growth and upcoming elections.

Rankings & Reports News

"India Leads in Workplace Burnout: 59% Report Burnout Symptoms, Reveals Survey"

A recent survey conducted by the McKinsey Health Institute in 2023 shed light on the state of employees' well-being in workplaces, with India taking the lead in workplace burnout. According to the survey, a staggering 59% of Indian respondents reported experiencing burnout symptoms. The survey revealed that burnout was more prevalent among certain demographic groups. Younger workers, aged 18 to 24, were particularly affected. Additionally, employees in smaller companies and those in non-managerial roles reported higher levels of burnout. This report comes shortly after NR Narayana Murthy, co-founder of Infosys, made controversial remarks on social media, suggesting that young people should work 70 hours a week to boost the country's productivity. While some business leaders defended this perspective, others criticized it for seemingly promoting an unhealthy "overwork culture."

Adani Green Energy Surpasses 8.4 GW Capacity Mark, Leading India's Renewable Energy Sector

Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the largest renewable energy company in India, reaching an installed capacity of 8.4 gigawatts (GW) last week. This remarkable achievement is attributed to the commissioning of a 0.15 GW solar power park in Rajasthan, further solidifying AGEL's position in the market. AGEL stands out as a leader in India's renewable energy landscape, boasting a 5 GW capacity in the solar segment alone, which is the largest in the country. Among its industry peers, AGEL faces competition from ReNew, which comes close with an 8.3 GW capacity, while Tata Power and Greenko Energies each have nearly 4 GW capacity. State-owned NTPC follows with a green energy capacity of 3.2 GW.

WHO Confirms India's Achievement In Decreasing TB Incidents

The World Health Organization's (WHO) 'Global TB Report 2023' highlighted that India's commitment to combating tuberculosis (TB) has yielded impressive results. The Union Health Ministry, in a statement on Wednesday, emphasized the significant progress made by India in case detection and the overall impact on the TB program. The WHO's 'Global TB Report 2023' lauds India's efforts in improving case detection, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report notes that India has successfully reversed the impact of COVID-19 on the TB program, highlighting the resilience and adaptability of the healthcare system. One of the notable achievements outlined in the report is the improvement in TB treatment coverage. According to the data, India has reached a treatment coverage of 80% for estimated TB cases. This marks a significant increase of 19% compared to the previous year, showcasing the effectiveness of India's TB treatment programs.

Business News

STPI Launches LEAP AHEAD Initiative For Startups to get Access to Investment, Mentorship & Global Connect

The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (Meity) Secretary, Shri S Krishnan, recently launched the LEAP AHEAD initiative, a collaborative effort between the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) and The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Delhi-NCR. This initiative aims to support and accelerate the success of tech startups in India, particularly those in the scaling stage, growth stage, product diversification or planning expansion into new geographical locations. With funding support of up to Rs.1 Crore and a comprehensive three-month mentorship program, this initiative is set to be a game-changer for the Indian startup ecosystem.

InterGlobe Enterprises ties up with US-based Archer for air taxi service

InterGlobe Enterprises, a major shareholder in IndiGo, has announced a strategic partnership with Archer Aviation Inc, a US-based company specializing in electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft. The collaboration aims to introduce and operate an all-electric air taxi service in India. InterGlobe Enterprises, a majority shareholder in IndiGo. Archer Aviation Inc, a New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) listed company specializing in eVTOL aircraft. InterGlobe sees the partnership as an opportunity to provide a futuristic, sustainable, and cost-competitive air transport solution in India. Archer views India as a significant market for eVTOL aircraft, given its large population and urban congestion challenges.

Agreement News

RBI Appoints Manoranjan Mishra As Its New Executive Director

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Manoranjan Mishra as the new Executive Director, effective from November 1, 2023. With over three decades of experience in the RBI and a strong background in various aspects of banking and finance, Mishra's appointment brings a wealth of expertise to the central bank. Mishra has a post-graduate degree in economics and an MBA in banking and finance. Additionally, he obtained a master's degree in finance and financial regulation from Aston Business School in the United Kingdom. His strong academic qualifications have enhanced his abilities in the finance field. Before his promotion to the prestigious position of Executive Director, Manoranjan Mishra held the position of Chief General Manager in the Department of Regulation.

Rohit Rishi Appointed As Executive Director At Bank Of Maharashtra

Rohit Rishi has assumed the position of Executive Director at the Bank of Maharashtra. The appointment is for a tenure of three years, starting from November 1, 2023 in place of Shri A.B. Vijayakumar. His extensive experience, academic qualifications, and professional acumen make him a valuable addition to the bank's leadership team. Rohit Rishi's professional journey started in 1995 when he joined Indian Bank as an Industrial Development Officer. With over 28 years of experience, he has successfully navigated through diverse aspects of the banking industry. Throughout his career, Rishi has demonstrated his ability to thrive in diverse roles, contributing significantly to the growth and transformation of the organizations he served.

Appointment News

Heeralal Samariya Appointed as the New Chief Information Commissioner

In an official announcement dated November 6, 2023, Shri Heeralal Samariya was appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner in the Central Information Commission. He formally assumed his new role on the same day. A swearing-in ceremony was held in the Central Information Commission to mark the assumption of office by the new appointees. During the ceremony, Shri Heeralal Samariya administered the oath of office to the newly appointed Information Commissioners.

Hitesh Kumar S Makwana appointed Surveyor General of India

The Central Government of India announced a series of significant appointments and postings for senior bureaucrats, reinforcing its commitment to efficient governance and administrative leadership. These appointments span various ministries and departments, each entrusted with critical responsibilities. Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana, an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) official of the Tamil Nadu cadre, has been appointed as the Surveyor General of India. Prior to this appointment, he served as an Additional Secretary in the Union Home Ministry. Anurag Agarwal, an IAS official from the Punjab cadre, now assumes the role of Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor in the Ministry of External Affairs, bringing his administrative expertise to international diplomacy and finance.

N. Srikant Appointed As Additional Secretary In MNRE

Andhra Pradesh cadre IAS officer N. Srikant has been appointed as the additional secretary of the Union Ministry of Power and New and Renewable Energy, as per an official release. This marks a new chapter in Mr. Srikant's illustrious career, adding to his already impressive list of accomplishments in the field. Mr. Srikant, a 1998-batch officer of the All India Services, has a rich and diverse career trajectory. Mr. Srikant has consistently demonstrated leadership and innovation throughout his career. During his tenure as the Energy Secretary in Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Srikant played a crucial role in implementing cost-effective measures that resulted in substantial economic savings for the state.

NPCI Appoints Pankaj Tripathi as 'UPI Safety Ambassador'

In a significant move to enhance awareness and security on digital payment platforms, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has appointed Bollywood actor Pankaj Tripathi as the "UPI Safety Ambassador." This strategic partnership aims to address growing concerns about the safety of digital payment systems, particularly the United Payments Interface (UPI). The NPCI officially announced its collaboration with Pankaj Tripathi on the social media platform X (formerly known as Twitter). In a video, the acclaimed Bollywood actor shed light on various initiatives by NPCI, including UPI, RuPay and IMPS, aimed at simplifying digital payments and ensuring their security. Tripathi emphasized the extensive reach of UPI payments, spanning cities, towns and even the remotest villages across the country.

Banking News

RBI Announces Phased Discontinuation of Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (I-CRR)

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has unveiled a plan to gradually discontinue the Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (I-CRR) in response to evolving liquidity conditions. This strategic move aims to ensure that the financial system remains stable and money markets operate smoothly. The RBI has outlined a phased release of the I-CRR funds. On September 9, 25% of the I-CRR will be released, followed by another 25% on September 23. The remaining 50% of the I-CRR will be released on October 7. The RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das, introduced the I-CRR, mandating all scheduled banks to maintain a 10% reserve ratio on the increase in their net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) between May 19, 2023, and July 28, 2023. The objective was to absorb surplus liquidity stemming from various factors, including the reintroduction of ₹2,000 notes into the banking system.

HSBC India Launches E-Bank Guarantees to Modernize Trade Finance

HSBC India, in collaboration with the National E-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL), has introduced electronic bank guarantee services, a groundbreaking initiative that aims to streamline trade finance processes. This digital solution is designed to replace the traditional and time-consuming paper-based bank guarantee system.

Axis Bank Partners With IRMA To Promote Financial Inclusion And Literacy In India

Recently, Axis Bank and the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the Axis Bank Chair for financial inclusion at IRMA. This chair will play a pivotal role in advancing financial inclusion and financial literacy in India, aligning with the vision of equitable and sustainable transformation for the nation.

Science & Technology News

Wolbachia: A Bacterial Symbiont with Intriguing Biological Roles

Wolbachia is a type of intracellular bacteria that infects a wide range of arthropods, including insects and other invertebrates. It has garnered significant attention in recent years due to its intriguing biological properties and potential applications in various fields.

Nature of Wolbachia: Wolbachia resides inside the cells of its host organisms, forming a symbiotic relationship.

Transmission: It is primarily transmitted vertically from mother to offspring, but horizontal transfer can also occur through mechanisms such as parasitoid wasps and other vectors.

Host Range: Wolbachia infects a diverse array of hosts, including insects like mosquitoes, ants, and butterflies, as well as some nematode species.

NASA's INFUSE Mission: Studying the Cygnus Loop Supernova Remnant

NASA recently launched a sounding rocket as part of its Integral Field Ultraviolet Spectroscopy Experiment (INFUSE) mission. This mission aims to study the Cygnus Loop, a 20,000-year-old supernova remnant located 2,600 light-years away from Earth. The Cygnus Loop offers a unique opportunity to explore the life cycle of stars and gain insights into how new star systems form in the universe. The primary objective of the INFUSE mission is to deepen our understanding of the formation of new star systems in the universe. By analyzing the properties and characteristics of the Cygnus Loop, scientists aim to unravel the complex processes that occur after a massive star undergoes a supernova explosion.

IBM And AWS Launched An Innovation Lab In Bengaluru

IBM and Amazon Web Services (AWS) have announced the launch of an Innovation Lab situated at the IBM Client Experience Center in Bengaluru, India. This marks a significant expansion of their collaborative services, with a focus on empowering mutual clients through the capabilities of generative artificial intelligence (AI). The newly established Innovation Lab stands as a testament to the commitment of IBM and AWS to facilitate experimentation with cutting-edge cloud-enabled technologies, including generative AI. Open to clients worldwide, the lab encourages exploration of joint solutions, testing prototypes, and validating proofs of value with the aim of accelerating innovation across various industries.

7 Ring Smart Ring Is Here to Enable Contactless Payments in India

Seven, a consumer electronic startup, has introduced the 7 Ring smart ring in India. The new wearable comes with an interesting standout feature, which is the ability to make contactless payments with its help. The 7 Ring smart wearable has a Zirconia Ceramic build and comes with scratch resistance, which can make the case both durable and stylish. It also has an IP68 rating for water and dust resistance. You can choose from the 7 size options available. The 7 Ring smart ring has an MRP of Rs 7,000 and can currently be ordered (by select people) for Rs 4,777 as an early bird offer via the company's website.

India's Aditya-L1 Recorded First-Ever Sight Of Solar Flares

ISRO's maiden solar mission, Aditya L1, has marked a significant achievement by capturing its first high-energy X-ray glimpse of solar flares. During its initial observation period starting from around October 29, the High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL10S) on board the Aditya-L1 spacecraft recorded the impulsive phase of solar flares, as announced by the space agency in a statement on Tuesday.

Samsung Unveils Its Generative AI Model Samsung Gauss

Seoul, November 10, 2023 – Samsung has taken a significant leap into the world of generative artificial intelligence (AI) with the public revelation of its groundbreaking model, Samsung Gauss. Named after the renowned mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauss, credited with establishing the normal distribution theory, Samsung Gauss marks the South Korean tech giant's ambitious stride toward utilizing AI to enhance the lives of consumers globally. The announcement was made at the Samsung AI Forum, an annual event that has been a focal point for experts and academics since 2017.

SpaceX Launched Its 29th Mission To Deliver Research Gear And Equipment To The ISS

SpaceX's Cargo Dragon embarked on its 29th mission to the International Space Station (ISS), launching from the iconic Pad 39 at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida at 8:28 p.m. EDT (Eastern Daylight Time) on November 9th. The timing was meticulously synchronized with Earth's rotation, aligning the seaside firing stand directly with the orbital plane of the space station—a prerequisite for rendezvous missions with objects hurtling through space at speeds exceeding 17,000 mph. The ascent to space unfolded seamlessly, and approximately 12 minutes after liftoff, the Dragon spacecraft was released to navigate autonomously. Pending successful progression, the spacecraft was scheduled to rendezvous with the space station docking at the lab's forward port.

'Mika' Becomes World's First AI Human-Like Robot CEO

In a groundbreaking move, Hanson Robotics and Dictador, a Polish run company, have appointed the world's first humanoid robot CEO named Mika. This innovative project aims to blend advanced artificial intelligence and machine learning with the unique values of the company. While this development sparks excitement about the potential of AI in leadership roles, it also raises concerns among workers about job security. Dictador, in collaboration with Hanson Robotics, has introduced Mika as the "official face" of the company. Mika utilizes advanced AI and machine learning algorithms to swiftly and accurately process data. However, concerns have been raised about a "significant delay" in Mika's response time, highlighting the evolving nature of AI technology.

Schemes and Committees News

COLORS joins forces to support the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' initiative

COLORS, India's leading Hindi GEC, today announced its collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development's 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' initiative, to address the issue of girl child abandonment, through the launch of its new fiction show Doree. Television as a medium has played a huge role in holding a mirror to society and led to many women becoming agents of change. With an aim to bring societal change and address the gender bias against girl child, through this association COLORS aims to raise awareness about the social evil of girl child abandonment. In addition to launching a primetime show on the subject, as part of this association, COLORS will promote the 24-hour emergency toll free Child helpline number (1098) for those seeking assistance for any abandoned girl child across the nation.

Jal Diwali - "Water for Women, Women for Water Campaign" launched

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is poised to introduce a groundbreaking initiative called the "Women for Water, Water for Women Campaign" in collaboration with the Ministry's National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) and in partnership with the Odisha Urban Academy. This campaign, known as "Jal Diwali," is scheduled to kick off on November 7, 2023, and run through November 9, 2023.

MoHUA Rolls Out Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali Signature Campaign

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs is launching the Swachh Diwali Subh Diwali Campaign from November 6th to 12th 2023, under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 with an objective of celebrating Diwali in an environmentally responsible and sustainable way. It emphasizes the importance of local products, reducing single-use plastic and maintaining cleanliness during and after the festival. In this article, we will delve into the various aspects of this initiative. The Swachh Diwali Subh Diwali Campaign aims to promote a clean and eco-friendly celebration of Diwali. It seeks to raise awareness and motivate individuals to use locally made products, eliminate single-use plastic and prioritize cleanliness before and after Diwali. This initiative aims to instill a sense of environmental responsibility and align the cultural significance of Diwali with the Swachh Bharat mission and the principles of Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE).

Legal Literacy And Legal Awareness Program (LLAP) Reaches More Than 6 Lakh People

The Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Program (LLAP) under the DISHA scheme, facilitated by the Department of Justice, extends its reach to over 600,000 individuals through the collaborative efforts of 14 implementing agencies. Access to justice is a fundamental right enshrined in the Constitution

of India. The A2J Division of the Department of Justice (DoJ), Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India, has been diligently working to make this right a reality, especially in the North Eastern States and the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. Since 2012, the DoJ has been implementing the Access to Justice Scheme, focusing on legal empowerment, dissemination of information, and capacity development. The first phase concluded in 2017, followed by the successful completion of the second phase in March 2021. Now, a new scheme, 'Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice' (DISHA), has been launched to further the cause of access to justice in India.

IREDA Launches CSR Portal to Improve Transparency in CSR Initiatives

In a significant move towards reinforcing transparency and accountability, the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA), operating under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, has recently unveiled a dedicated Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) portal. This portal marks a crucial step in IREDA's commitment to social responsibility and sustainability, providing a platform to manage CSR initiatives with increased transparency and efficiency. The core objective of the newly launched CSR portal is to enhance transparency in managing CSR requests from various organizations and institutions. Accessible 24/7, the portal incorporates a comprehensive CSR policy and a proposal checklist, ensuring effective scrutiny of CSR requests. By embracing transparency and accessibility, IREDA aims to streamline the execution of its social welfare projects, making them easily accessible to the public.

Awards & Honors News

New York city wins first US National Gatka Championship

The 1st US National Gatka Championship recently concluded at The Sikh Center of New York Inc., drawing hundreds of spectators. Organized by the Gatka Federation USA, this championship aimed to manage, standardize, promote, and popularize Gatka, the Sikh Martial Art, in the United States. Under the aegis of the World Gatka Federation, the event witnessed spirited competition, with the Kansas Gatka Association securing the runner-up position and the NJ Gatka Association achieving third place. The championship saw over 100 enthusiastic participants, both boys and girls, representing different State Gatka Associations and Akharas in the United States. This event was jointly organized by the Gatka Federation USA in collaboration with the host state, the New York Gatka chapter, known as the New York Gatka Association.

Apolinaris D'Souza Honored With The 19th 'Kalakar Puraskar' Award

The 19th edition of the prestigious 'Kalakar Puraskar,' organized by the Carvalho Household of Kundapura in association with Mandd Sobhann, Mangaluru, was awarded to Apolinaris D'Souza, a prominent Konkani singer, lyricist, and composer. The award ceremony took place on the 5th of November 2023, during a public event held at Kalaagann, Mangaluru.

Grammy Awards 2024: Falguni Shah's 'Abundance in Millets' Nominated for Best Global Music Performance

Falguni Shah, a Grammy Award-winning Indian vocalist and songwriter, has been nominated for the Best Global Music Performance category at the 2024 Grammy Awards for her song "Abundance in Millets", which features a speech written and delivered by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The song was created to raise awareness of millets, a supergrain that has the potential to help alleviate world hunger. Shah is a strong advocate for millets and has been working to promote their cultivation and consumption in India and around the world.

Important Dates News

International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict 2023

The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict, observed on November 6th each year, is a significant global initiative aimed at raising awareness about the severe consequences of war and armed conflicts on the environment. This day was established by the United Nations to underscore the importance of safeguarding the environment as a source of security and peace while preventing its exploitation during military conflicts. The occasion calls on individuals, nations, and organizations to speak out and reiterate their commitment to protecting our threatened planet, even in the face of armed aggression.

India Celebrates 135th Birth Anniversary of CV Raman

November 7, 2023, marks the 135th birth anniversary of the renowned Indian physicist, Sir Chandrasekhar Venkata Raman, who is celebrated for his groundbreaking discovery of the Raman Effect. This discovery revolutionized the field of physics and earned him the prestigious Nobel Prize. As we pay tribute to this great scientist on his birth anniversary. Let's delve into some interesting facts about his life and contributions that continue to inspire generations of scientists and researchers.

Bengal



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+ কনটেন্ট + মক টেস্ট

Start Nov 24, 2023

World Radiography Day 2023 is Observed on 8th November

World Radiography Day is observed each year on November 8 to commemorate the groundbreaking discovery of X-radiation by German physicist Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen in 1895. This day holds special significance in the field of radiography, recognizing the vital role of radiographers and highlighting the importance of medical imaging in modern healthcare. Before the establishment of World Radiography Day, there was the European Day of Radiology, initiated on February 10, 2011. This observance aimed to commemorate the anniversary of Wilhelm Roentgen's passing on February 10, 1923, organized by the European Society of Radiology (ESR). World Radiography Day was officially established as an annual event on November 8, aligning with the anniversary of Roentgen's groundbreaking discovery of X-rays. This transition replaced the European Day of Radiology, which had previously been held on February 10.

National Education Day 2023: What is its history and theme

Date: November 11, 2023

Theme: Embracing Innovation

National Education Day is celebrated every year on November 11th to commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, India's first Education Minister. Azad was a visionary leader who played a pivotal role in shaping the country's education system. He was a strong advocate for universal primary education, girls' education, and free compulsory education for all children under the age of 14. He also played a key role in establishing some of India's most prestigious educational institutions, including the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the University Grants Commission (UGC).

The theme for National Education Day 2023 is "Embracing Innovation." This theme highlights the importance of innovation in education and the need to promote creative and progressive teaching methods.

Sports News

Max Verstappen wins Brazilian Grand Prix 2023

Brazilian Grand Prix, three-time champion Max Verstappen showcased his driving prowess by leading from start to finish and securing a well-deserved victory. The race, held at the Interlagos Circuit in São Paulo, provided a spectacular spectacle for Formula 1 fans around the world. Max Verstappen, representing Red Bull Racing, displayed exceptional control and skill as he led the race right from the beginning. His flawless performance on the track solidified his status as one of the sport's elite drivers. Max Verstappen's teammate, Sergio Perez, also of Red Bull Racing, delivered an impressive performance, securing the fourth position. This finish allowed Perez to create some distance between himself and Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton in the ongoing competition for the runner-up position in the championship.

Vidit Gujrathi, Vaishali R Claim Titles at FIDE Grand Swiss Chess Event

Indian chess players Vidit Gujrathi and R Vaishali achieved remarkable victories at the FIDE Grand Swiss Chess 2023 held on the Isle of Man, earning them a coveted spot in the prestigious Candidates Tournament. The Candidates Tournament is a crucial spot in determining a challenger for the reigning world chess champion. Let's delve into the details of their outstanding performances. Vidit Gujrathi's victory at the FIDE Grand Swiss Chess event was nothing short of remarkable, especially considering his initial setback with a defeat in the opening round. However, Vidit displayed exceptional resilience and skill, securing the title with a convincing victory against Alexander Predke in the final round, accumulating 8.5 points out of a possible 11. Vidit's triumph was a significant career milestone and he expressed his joy in an interview with the FIDE YouTube Channel, emphasizing the significance of winning this strong event and the opportunity to compete in the FIDE Candidates Tournament in Canada in April 2024.

Australian Cricketer Meg Lanning Announces Retirement From International Cricket

Australia women's national team captain Meg Lanning, a stalwart of the cricketing world, has officially announced her retirement from international cricket, marking the end of a remarkable career that spanned 241 matches and included seven World Cup titles. Lanning, at 31, leaves behind a legacy that will be remembered for her exceptional contributions both as a player and a captain. Meg Lanning, in her 13-year international career, played six Tests, 103 one-day internationals (ODIs), and 132 Twenty20 internationals (T20Is). Her decision to step away from international cricket comes after achieving unparalleled success and etching her name in cricketing history. Speaking at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in front of family and friends, Lanning reflected on her decision, stating, "I feel like now I've got nothing left to achieve on the international stage. For me, I can't be half in or half out with anything, and I guess that's where I've landed with this decision."

New Zealand's Rachin Ravindra and West Indies' Hayley Matthews Win ICC Player of the Month Awards

New Zealand's Rachin Ravindra has claimed his first ICC Men's Player of the Month award for his outstanding performances in the group stages of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 in India. The 23-year-old batter was in sparkling form, scoring a century and two half-centuries in six matches, finishing the month with 406 runs at an average of 81.20. Ravindra's most memorable performance came in the match against Australia, where he scored a blistering 116 in 89 balls. He also played a key role in New Zealand's opening day victory over defending champions England, scoring an unbeaten 123.

West Indies' Hayley Matthews has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for October after her scintillating performances in the T20I series against Australia. The top-ranked all-rounder in the MRF Tyres ICC Women's T20I Player Rankings smashed an unbeaten 99 in the first match and followed it up with a match-winning 132 not out in the second match. She also claimed six wickets in the series. Matthews' performances helped West Indies to win the series 2-1, and she was named the Player of the Series.

ICC Suspends Sri Lanka Cricket's Membership Over Government Interference

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has taken a significant step by suspending Sri Lanka Cricket's membership, citing serious breaches of its autonomy and government interference. The move comes in the wake of the Sri Lankan government's decision to sack the cricket board due to the national team's disappointing performance in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023. The suspension follows a tumultuous World Cup campaign by the Sri Lankan cricket team, currently ranked ninth in the 10-team standings after a disappointing performance of winnings only two out of nine matches. The struggles were further exacerbated by conflicts within the Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) management. The turmoil within Sri Lankan Cricket reached its peak when Sports Minister Roshan Ranasinghe sacked the SLC management, appointing former World Cup-winning captain Arjuna Ranatunga as the head of a seven-member interim committee. However, this decision faced a swift overturn by the Court of Appeal, adding to the chaos within the cricketing administration.

Obituaries News

Former governor of Nagaland, P B Acharya passes away at 92

Padmanabha Balakrishna Acharya, a former governor of Nagaland and senior BJP leader, passed away in Mumbai on November 11, 2023, at the age of 92. Acharya was a respected figure in Indian politics and society, and his death is a significant loss. Acharya was born in Udupi, Karnataka, in 1931. He completed his matriculation from Christian High School, Udupi. He studied at the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial College (MGM College), Udupi, in 1949. After graduation, he worked in Mumbai and was associated with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), the student wing of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). He was also a member of the Mumbai University's senate and completed an LL.B degree from Mumbai University.

Defence News

'Surat' Becomes The First Navy Warship To Be Named After A City In Gujarat

On 6th November, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel unveiled the crest of the Indian Navy's latest warship 'Surat.' This event took place in the very city that the warship is named after, a historic first for the Indian Navy. The ceremony was graced by the presence of the Chief of Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar, Vice Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, and Rear Admiral Anil Jaggi, among other senior officers. 'Surat' holds the distinction of being the first warship named after a city in Gujarat. This tribute is significant because Surat has a remarkable maritime heritage. During the 16th to the 18th century, Surat was a thriving center for maritime trade and shipbuilding activities. The ships constructed in Surat were renowned for their longevity, with some vessels remaining in service for over a century. This historical connection adds depth and significance to the warship's name.

Indian Air Force Arrives For Dubai Air Show 2023

An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent has touched down at the Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai, signalling their participation in the prestigious Dubai Airshow, a biennial event set to enthrall aviation enthusiasts from November 13 to 17, 2023. Two of India's indigenous aircraft, the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas and the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv, are set to steal the spotlight at the Airshow. The Tejas will engage in both static and aerial displays, showcasing its prowess, while the Sarang Helicopter Display Team promises to mesmerize the audience with their exceptional formation aerobatics skills. The IAF's contingent, including the Tejas and Dhruv teams, made their journey to Dubai aboard the formidable C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, setting the stage for what promises to be a series of awe-inspiring performances. The grand spectacle is set to commence at the opening ceremony on November 13, where the Indian teams will join esteemed aerial display teams from around the world.

Bilateral Exercise BONGOSAGAR-23 and Coordinated Patrol CORPAT-23

Date: November 07-09, 2023

Location: Northern Bay of Bengal

Participants: Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy

Indian Navy Ships: Kuthar, Kiltan, and Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) Dornier

Bangladesh Navy Ships: Abu Bakr, Abu Ubaidah, and MPA

Joint patrolling along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL)

Maritime exercises to enhance interoperability, including communication drills, surface gun-shoots, tactical manoeuvres, and a steam past

Maiden Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) drills, including a Search and Rescue scenario at sea

Regular bilateral exercises and coordinated patrols strengthen mutual understanding and cooperation between the two navies.

The participation of indigenously built ships in the exercise is a testament to India's growing shipbuilding capabilities.

Books & Authors News

ISRO Chief Withdraws Release of his Autobiography 'Nilavu Kudicha Simhangal'

The Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), S Somanath, has decided to withdraw the publication of his forthcoming autobiography, titled 'Nilavu Kudicha Simhangal' (which roughly translates to 'Lions that drank the Moonlight'). The decision comes in the wake of a controversy surrounding alleged critical comments made by Somanath about his predecessor, K Sivan. The autobiography had

garnered attention due to these remarks, but Somanath clarified that his intent was not to criticize anyone.

