



CURRENT AFFAIRS 10th Jan 2024

National News

1.Ujjain Unveils India's First Hygienic Food Street 'Prasadam'



Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya recently inaugurated 'Prasadam,' the nation's first healthy and hygienic food street, in a grand ceremony at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.

Spanning an impressive 939 square meters, "Prasadam" stands as a symbol of holistic development. Positioned near the Mahakaleshwar Temple, it is designed not just as a food street but as a multifaceted destination contributing to various aspects of community life. The food street comprises 17 shops, each offering a unique culinary experience.

"Prasadam" goes beyond offering a culinary delight. It provides an array of facilities, including a dedicated kids' play area, drinking water facility, CCTV surveillance, ample parking, public conveniences, and spacious seating areas. These facilities are aimed at enhancing the overall experience for visitors and locals alike.

International News

2. Gabriel Attal Becomes France's Youngest-Ever Prime Minister At 34



French President Emmanuel Macron has made a significant political move by appointing Gabriel Attal as the new prime minister of France.

At 34 years old, Attal not only becomes the youngest prime minister in the country's history but also the first openly gay official to hold this prestigious position.

Attal's appointment comes in the midst of a cabinet reshuffle initiated by Macron to breathe new life into his government. With the departure of outgoing Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne, Attal is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the direction of the administration.

3. U.S. Designates Countries Including China, North Korea, Pakistan For Religious Freedom Violations



The United States, led by Secretary of State Antony Blinken, has identified several nations as 'Countries of Particular Concern' due to severe violations of religious freedom.

This decision aligns with the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, emphasizing the commitment to advancing freedom of religion globally.

China, North Korea, Pakistan, Cuba, Eritrea, Iran, Nicaragua, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Myanmar have been labeled as 'Countries of Particular Concern.'

Algeria, Azerbaijan, the Central African Republic, Comoros, and Vietnam are placed on the 'Special Watch List' for tolerating severe religious freedom violations.

Defence News

4.Indian Navy's P-8I Aircraft Reaches Guam For Exercise Sea Dragon 24



The Indian Navy marked its presence in the Pacific, on January 9th, 2024, with the arrival of a P-8I aircraft at Guam, USA.

This deployment signals the navy's participation in the fourth edition of Ex Sea Dragon 24, an Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise spearheaded by the US Navy.

Ex Sea Dragon 24 fosters collaboration and interoperability among the navies of the US, Australia, South Korea, Japan, and India. The exercise aims to refine coordination

and communication through professional interactions both on the ground and in the air, as per the Indian Navy's official statement.

5.DRDO Launches Assault Rifle 'Ugram' For Indian Army



The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India, in a significant advancement, introduced 'Ugram,' an advanced 7.62 x 51 mm calibre assault rifle. 'Ugram,' meaning 'ferocious' in Sanskrit, aligns with the operational needs of India's armed forces, paramilitary, and state police units.

The rifle, notable for its effective range of 500 meters and lightweight design of under four kilograms, was developed at the DRDO's Pune-based Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE).

With a 20-round magazine capacity, Ugram offers versatility through its single and full-auto firing modes. Its design parallels the modern AK and AR type rifles, yet stands out with a distinctive rivet-free construction, enhancing its robustness and reliability in various combat scenarios.

Banking News

6.IndusInd Bank Introduces 'Samman RuPay Credit Card' For Government Employees



In a strategic collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), IndusInd Bank has launched the UPI-enabled 'Samman RuPay Credit Card,' exclusively tailored for government sector employees.

The Samman RuPay Credit Card combines traditional credit card advantages with advanced UPI features, streamlining financial transactions.

Benefits include cashback on various expenditures, complimentary movie tickets, no cash advance charges, and surcharge waivers for IRCTC and fuel transactions.

The card not only offers financial incentives but also aims to simplify and enrich the day-to-day transactional experience for government employees. Users can link RuPay credit cards to UPI IDs, facilitating secure and convenient payment transactions.

Business News

7.LIC Approves Acquisition Of 10% Stake In NHB-Promoted Company



In a recent regulatory filing, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) announced its board's approval to acquire up to 10% stake in a new company promoted by the National Housing Bank (NHB).

The investment is targeted towards residential mortgage-backed securities and will be made through equity contribution in one or more tranches.

While the specific details about the company in question have not been disclosed, LIC's move signals a strategic venture into the residential mortgage sector. The decision aligns with LIC's broader financial portfolio and underscores its commitment to diversifying investments in promising sectors.

8.PFC Secures RBI Approval For IFSC Finance Company In GIFT City



Reserve Bank of India (RBI) greenlights Power Finance Corporation (PFC) to establish a finance company within Gujarat's GIFT City, an International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).

The RBI issued a no objection letter on January 9, signaling approval for PFC's venture into setting up a finance company at GIFT City. This move is anticipated to elevate PFC's standing in the financial sector.

Prior to this milestone, PFC had already entered into an initial agreement with the Gujarat government. The agreement focused on PFC providing comprehensive financial support for the state's projects related to power generation, transmission, and distribution.

Important Days News

9.World Hindi Day 2024



Every year on January 10th, the world celebrates World Hindi Day, a day dedicated to recognizing the cultural significance and global influence of the Hindi language. In 2024, the theme of the World Hindi Day is “Hindi–Bridging Traditional Knowledge and Artificial Intelligence”.

The journey of Hindi to this global stage began in 1949 with a momentous occasion – its first address at the United Nations General Assembly. In 2006, under the leadership of then-Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, the first Vishwa Hindi Diwas was officially observed, marking January 10th as World Hindi Day on the global calendar.

World Hindi Day serves as a platform to celebrate and promote using Hindi in various spheres. Educational institutions hold events like essay writing competitions, poetry recitals, and plays to highlight the beauty and depth of the language....