

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS 27th Feb 2024**

### **National News**

#### **1.Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurates Major Railway And Road Infrastructure Projects**



Prime Minister Modi led the inauguration and laying of foundation stones for several vital infrastructure encompassing railway modernization, road overpasses, and underpasses, aiming to enhance connectivity, safety, and efficiency.

The objective of this initiative is to enhance station facilities by implementing modern infrastructure, thereby improving the overall passenger experience.

The scope of the project involves the redevelopment of 553 railway stations spread across 27 states and union territories. The investment for this ambitious endeavor is estimated to exceed Rs 19,000 crore.

#### **2.India Unveils Largest Solar-Battery Project, Pioneering Renewable Energy Innovation**

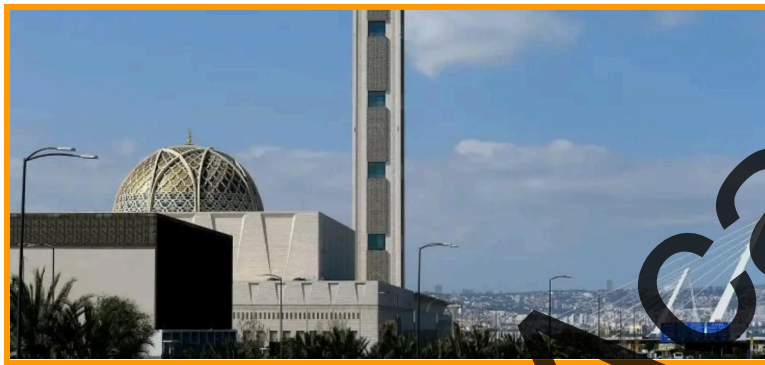


India Unveils Largest Solar-Battery Project, Pioneering Renewable Energy Innovation

The Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has commissioned India's largest solar-battery energy storage system (BESS) in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh. This large-scale integration of solar and battery storage represents a pioneering leap in renewable energy generation and utilization in India. The project addresses peak energy demand by storing solar energy during the day and releasing it during evening hours, ensuring grid stability and reliability.

## International News

### **3. Algeria Inaugurates World's Third-Largest Mosque**



Algeria celebrated the grand opening of what has been acclaimed as “Africa’s largest mosque” and the third-largest mosque in the world. Known as Djamaa El-Djazair, this monumental structure is more than just a mosque; it’s an architectural marvel and a modernist wonder. Featuring the tallest minaret (A tall, thin tower) globally, standing at 265 meters, this structure has the capacity to host 120,000 worshippers.

## State News

### **4. PM Modi Inaugurates Sikkim's First Railway Station In Rangpo**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi ceremonially laid the foundation stone for Sikkim's inaugural railway station in Rangpo, marking a significant moment in the state's history. The station's design is deeply rooted in local culture, heritage, and architecture. The inauguration of the Rangpo railway station is part of a larger initiative to enhance rail infrastructure nationwide.

With over 2,000 projects valued at approximately Rs 41,000 crore, this ambitious endeavor aims to revolutionize transportation networks, fostering connectivity and economic development.

## Defence News

### 5. Adani Group Launches South Asia's Largest Ammunition And Missiles Complex In U.P.



The Adani Group has inaugurated the Ammunition & Missiles Complex in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, along with Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande, inaugurated the complex.

This complex, owned by Adani Defence, marks the first phase of the state's defense corridor and is dedicated to the brave warriors of the Balakot strike.

The complex is expected to generate approximately 4,000 jobs, with a significant multiplier effect benefiting MSMEs and the local ecosystem.

## **6. Defence Minister Approves Financial Incentive Scheme For Armed Forces Personnel Excelling In Asian Games**



Shri Rajnath Singh has demonstrated unwavering support for Armed Forces personnel who excelled in the 19th Asian Games and 4th Asian Para Games, held in Hangzhou, China, during September-October 2023.

The Ministry of Defence has announced a Financial Incentive Scheme to reward the Medal Winners, aiming to foster Recognition and Motivation among these athletes as they prepare for the Paris Olympics Games 2024.

Under this initiative, Gold medal winners in both the Asian Games and Asian Para Games will receive a Cash Reward of Rs 25 lakh each, Silver medalists will be awarded Rs 15 lakh each, and Bronze medalists will receive Rs 10 lakh each.

## **Economy News**

## **7. NSSO Survey Shows Poverty Down To 5%: NITI Aayog CEO**





NITI Aayog CEO B V R Subrahmanyam highlights key findings from the latest NSSO consumer expenditure survey, revealing a significant reduction in poverty levels to below 5% in India.

He emphasizes the growing prosperity evident in both rural and urban areas, as indicated by the substantial increase in per capita monthly household expenditure. Per capita monthly household expenditure more than doubled in 2022-23 compared to 2011-12. The gap between urban and rural consumption has decreased from 84% in 2011-12 to 71% in 2022-23.

### **Banking News**

#### **8. Vijay Shekhar Sharma Steps Down From Paytm Payments Bank Board**



In a significant development, Vijay Shekhar Sharma, the Founder and CEO of Paytm, has resigned from his role as part-time non-executive chairman and board member of Paytm Payments Bank.

This move comes amidst a restructuring of the bank's board in response to regulatory concerns and a directive from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to wind down operations by March 15.

Vijay Shekhar Sharma holds a 51% stake in Paytm Payments Bank, while One97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm, owns the remaining stake.

### Summit & conferences News

#### **9.US-India Cybersecurity Initiative Launched**

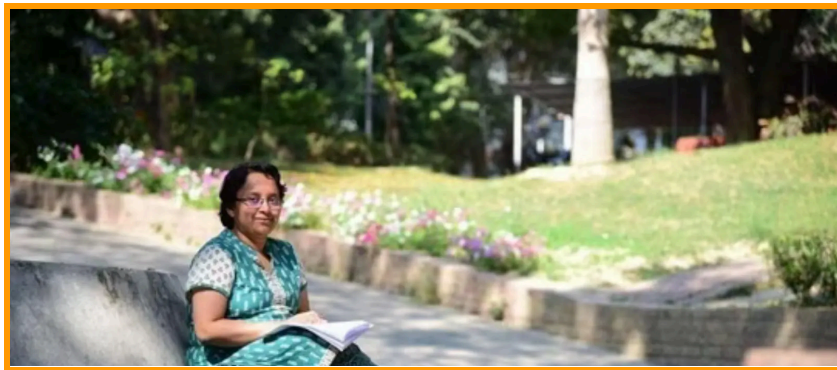


In a collaborative effort between the US Consulate and the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA), the first-ever US-India Cyber Security Initiative has been launched.

The initiative aims to Unite top cybersecurity experts globally, Foster people-to-people ties in cyberspace and Create jobs and develop cutting-edge solutions.

### Awards News

#### **10.Dr. Aditi Sen De Receives 2023 GD Birla Award**



In a world propelled by technological advancements, quantum computing emerges as a frontier of innovation. At its forefront stands Dr. Aditi Sen De, a distinguished physicist from the Harish Chandra Research Institute in Prayagraj.

Recently honored with the 2023 GD Birla Award for Scientific Excellence, Dr. De's groundbreaking contributions to quantum technologies mark a significant milestone in scientific research.

As the first woman recipient of the GD Birla Award for Scientific Excellence, Dr. De's achievements transcend individual recognition.

### Appointments News

#### **11. Maryam Nawaz Becomes First Woman Chief Minister Of Punjab**



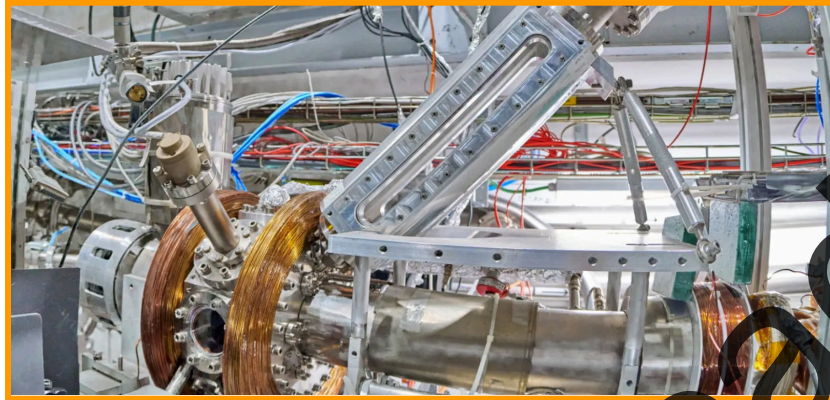
Maryam Nawaz, the daughter of Pakistan's former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and a senior leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party, has become the first woman Chief Minister of Punjab province.

Maryam Nawaz secured victory in the chief ministerial elections despite facing a walkout by lawmakers from Imran Khan's party-backed Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC).

She defeated Rana Aftab of the PTI-backed SIC in the election, marking a significant political triumph in the politically crucial Punjab province.

## Science & Technology News

### **12.Scientists Achieve First Successful Laser-Cooled Positronium For Quantum Research**



For the first time, an international collaboration of researchers has successfully demonstrated the laser cooling of Positronium, a short-lived hydrogen-like atom that provides an ideal testing ground for bound-state quantum electrodynamics. Positronium is a fundamental atom that comprises an electron ( $e^-$ ) and a positron ( $e^+$ ). Electrons and positrons are leptons, and they interact through electromagnetic and weak forces.

The results could pave the way for taking up advanced studies leading to improved understanding of the physical nature, comprising matter and antimatter facilitated through the interactions between light and charged matter....