

CURRENT AFFAIRS 06th Mar. 2024

National News

1. Minister Hardeep S Puri Inaugurates 201 CNG Stations And GAIL's First Small Scale LNG Unit



Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, overseeing Petroleum and Natural Gas as well as Housing and Urban Affairs, dedicated 201 CNG Stations and India's inaugural Small Scale LNG Unit of GAIL to the nation via video conferencing.

The establishment of GAIL group's 201 CNG stations across 52 Geographical Areas signifies a significant stride towards achieving sustainability goals and environmental responsibility.

2. Government Raises Minimum Age For Postal Voting To 85 Years



In a significant development, the Indian government, following consultations with the Election Commission of India (ECI), has revised the minimum age criterion for senior citizens to avail the postal ballot voting facility.

The decision, which comes into effect immediately, raises the eligibility age from 80 to 85 years, marking a pivotal change in the electoral process aimed at ensuring greater convenience for the nation's elderly population.

3.South Eastern Coalfield Limited's Gevra Mine Set To Become The Largest Coal Mine In Asia



South Eastern Coalfield Limited's (SECL) Gevra mine, located in Chhattisgarh, is on the verge of becoming the largest coal mine in Asia.

The mine recently received environmental clearance to enhance its production capacity to 70 million tons per annum, up from the existing 52.5 million tons.

This expansion marks a pivotal moment not only for SECL but also for the nation's energy sector, as India moves to bolster its coal production capabilities.

4.India's First Underwater Metro Train Service Launched In Kolkata By PM Modi



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's pioneering underwater metro train service in Kolkata, ushering in a landmark achievement in the nation's infrastructure and urban development.

The service, which is a significant component of the Kolkata Metro's East-West corridor, is designed to enhance connectivity between Howrah and Salt Lake, the twin cities of West Bengal's capital.

The Ministry of Railways revealed that 10.8 kilometers of the East-West Metro route would be underground, complemented by 5.75 kilometers of elevated sections.

International News

5.Hungary Parliament Elects New President: Tamas Sulyok



Hungary's parliament recently appointed a new president following the resignation of the previous head of state amidst a scandal involving a controversial pardon granted in a child sexual abuse case.

The appointment of Tamás Sulyok, a former head of Hungary's Constitutional Court, sparked debate among opposition parties calling for direct presidential elections.

Tamás Sulyok, a 67-year-old lawyer, assumed the presidency after a secret parliamentary vote, receiving 134 votes in favor and five against.

State News

6.Kerala Welcomes 'Iris' Its First Generative AI Teacher



Kerala school has introduced Iris, a humanoid teacher, marking a significant milestone in the realm of educational technology.

Developed in collaboration with Makerlabs Edutech Private Limited, Iris represents a pioneering effort to make learning more interactive, engaging, and accessible.

Iris is designed to be more than just a robotic presence in the classroom; it is a generative AI entity capable of conducting interactive learning sessions.

With the ability to communicate in three languages, Iris can tackle a wide array of questions, making it a versatile and invaluable educational tool.

7.IIHR Kicks Off 3-Day Horticulture Fair In Hessarghatta, Bengaluru



Bengaluru, famously known as the Garden City, is poised to become the epicenter of cutting-edge advancements in the horticulture sector.

The Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR) is gearing up to host the three-day National Horticultural Fair 2024 at its Hessarghatta premises, situated on the outskirts of Bengaluru.

This event, themed “Nextgen Technology-led Horticulture for Sustainable Development,” promises to be a showcase of the nation’s most advanced technologies and practices in horticulture.

8.India’s 1st Dolphin Research Centre Inaugurated In Patna

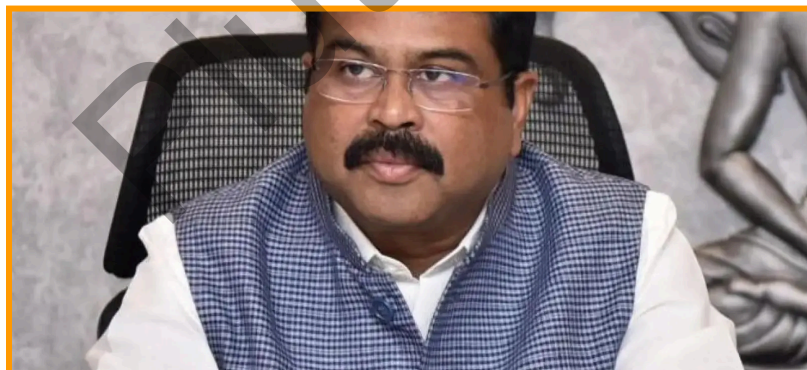


India’s first National Dolphin Research Center (NDRC) was officially inaugurated by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

This landmark facility, built at a cost of Rs 30 crore, is situated on the banks of the Ganges River within the Patna University campus.

The NDRC’s primary objective is to aid researchers and students in understanding the behavior and ecology of freshwater dolphins, particularly the endangered Gangetic dolphin.

9.Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Inaugurates Management Education Center At NALCO, Angul



The Union Minister for Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, inaugurated the Centre of Management Education jointly established by IIM Mumbai and IIM Sambalpur.

The inauguration took place at the NALCO Training Institute in Angul, Odisha, amidst the presence of Shri Sridhar Patra, CMD, NALCO.

The center aims to enhance logistics and supply chain activities through digitization and specialized skill development programs.

Defence News

10.Raksha Mantri Inaugurates 'Chola' Building At Naval War College, Goa



Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the new Administrative & Training building at the Naval War College (NWC), Goa on March 5, 2024.

The modern edifice, named the 'Chola', pays homage to the mighty maritime empire of the Chola dynasty of ancient India.

The event marked a significant milestone in the history of the NWC, reinforcing its commitment to excellence in military education and nurturing maritime thought.

Economy News

11.India's February Services PMI: Growth Eases To 60.6



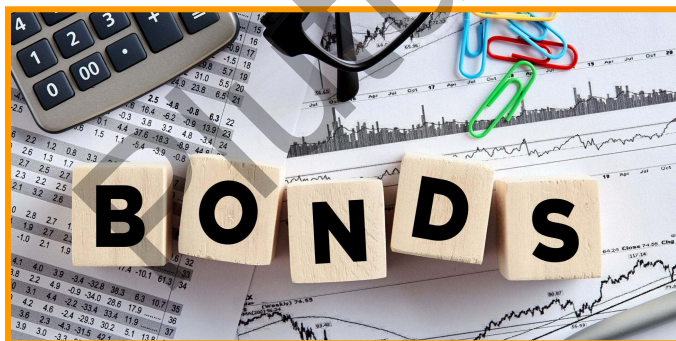
In February, India's service sector sustained its growth trajectory, supported by positive demand trends. The Purchasing Managers' Index for India's services sector dropped to 60.6 in February from January's six-month high of 61.8.

Despite the decline, the index remained comfortably above the neutral mark of 50.0, indicating a sharp rate of expansion well above historical averages.

New business from abroad continued to rise for the thirteenth consecutive month, with gains reported from various regions including Australia, Asia, Europe, the Americas, and the UAE.

12.After JP Morgan, Bloomberg To Include Indian Bonds In EM Index

Bloomberg has announced the inclusion of India's Fully Accessible Route (FAR) bonds in its Emerging Market (EM) Local Currency



Government Index and related indices, with a phased approach over ten months starting January 31, 2025.

Bloomberg will phase in the inclusion of FAR bonds over a ten-month period, starting January 31, 2025. Weight of FAR bonds will increase in increments of 10% of their full market value each month until October 2025 when they will be fully weighted....