

11 and 12 april National News

President of India Inaugurates Homoeopathy Symposium on World Homoeopathy Day



The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, inaugurated a two-day Homoeopathy Symposium organized by the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy in New Delhi on World Homoeopathy Day (April 10, 2024). The theme of the symposium, "Empowering Research, Enhancing Proficiency," is highly relevant in the 21st century.

International News

India-Kazakhstan to Enhance Counter-Terror Cooperation in Response to Moscow Attacks



In the wake of the recent terrorist attack in Moscow, believed to be perpetrated by extremists from Central Asia potentially influenced by Pakistani seminaries, India and Kazakhstan convened in Astana to bolster their collaboration against terrorism.

Business News

KABIL and CSIR-IMMT Forge Alliance for Critical Minerals Advancement



In a significant move toward bolstering India's mineral security, Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (CSIR-IMMT) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Technical & Knowledge cooperation. The agreement aims to leverage CSIR-IMMT's technical prowess in various domains crucial for mineral processing and metal extraction.

India Invokes Peace Clause for Fifth Consecutive Time at WTO



India has once again utilized the peace clause at the World Trade Organization (WTO) for the fifth consecutive time, citing rice subsidies exceeding the prescribed limit during the 2022-23 marketing year. Despite breaching the 10% domestic support ceiling, India faces no immediate repercussions due to the peace clause provision, agreed upon at the 2013 Bali ministerial.

General Insurance Industry Growth in FY24: A Comprehensive Overview



In FY24, the non-life insurance industry experienced a notable growth of 12.78% in gross direct premium, reaching Rs 2.89 trillion. However, this growth fell short of the Rs 3 trillion mark due to a slowdown in health, motor, and crop insurance segments. General insurers recorded a 14.24% year-on-year growth, with public sector insurers at 8.99% and private sector counterparts at 17.53%.

Ranks and Reports News

India Ranks Second in Hepatitis B and C Cases Worldwide



The World Health Organisation's (WHO) 2024 Global Hepatitis Report reveals that India is second only to China in the number of Hepatitis B and C infections, with 3.5 crore cases. Hepatitis, characterized by liver inflammation, poses significant health risks and can be fatal. The report highlights that 254 million people are affected by Hepatitis B and 50 million by Hepatitis C globally.

Banking News

ICICI Lombard Partners with Policybazaar to Expand Insurance Distribution



In a strategic move aimed at enhancing insurance distribution across India, ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company has forged a partnership with Policybazaar. This collaboration aims to leverage Policybazaar's digital platform to offer a wide range of insurance products to approximately 10 million customers.

HDFC Bank Becomes First Private Bank to Open Branch in Lakshadweep



Private lender HDFC Bank has opened a branch at Kavaratti Island in Lakshadweep, making it the only private sector bank to have a presence in the Union Territory. This branch is aimed at upgrading the banking infrastructure in Lakshadweep by offering a wide range of services with a focus on personal banking and digital banking solutions. The branch will provide customized digital solutions, including QR-based transactions for retailers, to cater to the financial needs of individuals, families, and businesses in the region.

Ranks and Reports News

Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024: Unveiling the State of Global Startup Ecosystem



In 2024, the global unicorn landscape witnessed significant developments and challenges, as outlined in the Hurun Global Unicorn Index. While the United States maintained its lead with 703 unicorns and China followed with 340, India ranked third with 67 unicorns. However, India experienced a notable decline in unicorn creation for the first time since 2017, attributed primarily to a lack of investment despite robust stock market performance.

Schemes News

NTPC Limited to Launch New Edition of Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GEM)



NTPC Limited, India's largest power company, is set to unveil a new version of its flagship corporate social responsibility initiative, the Girl Child Empowerment Mission

(GEM). This program aligns with the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (Save the Girl Child, Educate the Girl Child) campaign launched by the Government of India.

Sangeet Natak Akademi Organizes 'Shakti – A Festival of Music and Dance' in Shaktipeeths



The Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA) is organizing the festival 'Shakti – A Festival of Music and Dance' from April 9 to 17, 2024. The festival is celebrated in seven different Shaktipeeths (sacred sites) across the country. The event is being organized under the Kala Pravah series to revive the temple traditions in the country during the auspicious Navratri period...