

PLUTUS ACADEMY

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

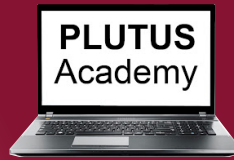


PLUTUS ACADEMY WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

22/04/2024 TO 28/04/2024

Basement C-59 Noida, Opposite to Priyagold Building Gate, Sector-2, Pocket-1, Noida

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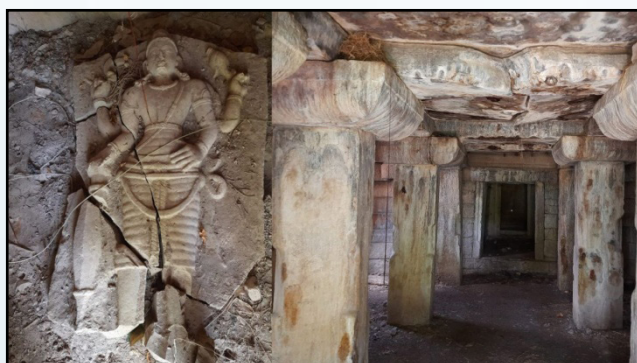
National News

PM MODI GRACES 2550TH BHAGWAN MAHAVEER NIRVAN MAHOTSAV



On the auspicious occasion of Mahaveer Jayanti, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 2550th Bhagwan Mahaveer Nirvan Mahotsav at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The event paid tribute to the 24th Tirthankar, Bhagwan Mahaveer, whose teachings of Ahimsa (Non-Violence), Satya (Truthfulness), Asteya (Non-Stealing), Brahmacharya (Chastity), and Aparigraha (Non-attachment) have illuminated the path of peaceful coexistence and universal brotherhood.

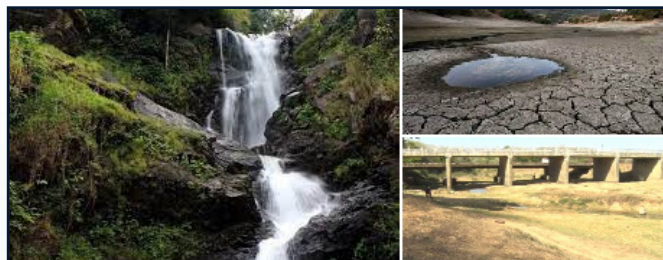
NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES UNVEIL TELANGANA'S ANCIENT HERITAGE



Archaeologists in Telangana have unearthed three remarkable sites, each offering distinct insights into the region's ancient history. Among these discoveries are over 200 megalithic monuments nestled within dense forests, an exceptional Iron Age megalithic site displaying unique architectural styles, and two rock art sites revealing ancient artistic expressions. These findings not only illuminate Telangana's past

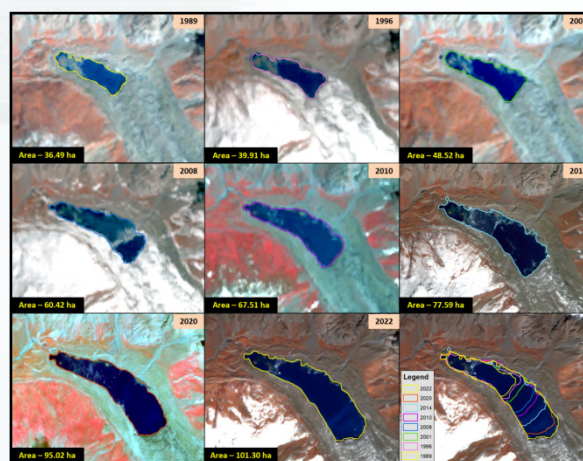
but also emphasize the necessity for continued exploration and preservation endeavors.

LAKSHMANA TIRTHA RIVER DRIES UP AMIDST DROUGHT AND HEAT



The Lakshmana Tirtha River, renowned for its scenic beauty in the Kodagu District of Karnataka, has succumbed to severe drought and intense heat. Originating from the forests in Kutta, it extends about 180 km before merging into the Cauvery River. However, this year, the river has dried up entirely, exacerbating the water crisis in the region.

SATELLITE INSIGHTS: EXPANSION OF GLACIAL LAKES IN THE INDIAN HIMALAYAS



The Himalayan Mountains, known as the “Third Pole” for their vast glaciers, are experiencing significant changes due to global climate shifts. Glacial retreat leads to the formation and enlargement of lakes, posing risks like Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs). Monitoring these changes is challenging but essential for understanding environmental impacts and managing risks.

INDIA'S LARGEST CLIMATE CLOCK UNVEILED AT CSIR HQ FOR EARTH DAY CELEBRATION



In celebration of Earth Day, the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) recently unveiled India's largest Climate Clock at its headquarters in New Delhi. This initiative underscores CSIR's commitment to raising awareness about climate change and its adverse impacts.

International News

NORTH KOREA TESTS NEW MISSILES: INCREASING TENSIONS



In a recent announcement on April 20, 2024, North Korea revealed the testing of a new anti-aircraft Pyoljji-1-2 missile and a super large strategic cruise missile Hwasal-1 Ra-3 warhead in the West Sea of Korea. These tests, conducted on April 19, 2024, mark a significant escalation in tensions between North Korea, South Korea, and the United States.

INDIA-KUWAIT RELATIONS STRENGTHENED WITH INAUGURAL HINDI RADIO BROADCAST



The Indian Embassy in Kuwait announced the launch of the first-ever Hindi radio broadcast in Kuwait, a significant step to deepen ties between the two nations. Initiated by Kuwait's Ministry of Information, the program will air every Sunday on FM 93.3 and AM 96.3, highlighting the bond between India and Kuwait.

NEPAL HOSTS INAUGURAL RAINBOW TOURISM CONFERENCE



Mayako Pahichan Nepal, in collaboration with the Nepal Tourism Board, orchestrated the groundbreaking first International Rainbow Tourism Conference. This one-day event marks a significant leap forward in fostering diversity and inclusivity within Nepal's tourism industry, positioning the country as a welcoming destination for the sexual minority community in South Asia.

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE FOR TIGER LANDSCAPES CONFERENCE: BHUTAN'S EARTH DAY INITIATIVE



On Earth Day 2024, Bhutan is spearheading the Sustainable Finance for Tiger Landscapes Conference. With a goal of mobilizing \$1 billion over a decade, the conference aims to preserve tiger habitats critical for biodiversity and supporting millions of people.

States News

THE 34TH SENG KHIHLANG FESTIVAL CONCLUDES IN WAHIAJER, MEGHALAYA



The 34th Seng Kihlang festival, a revered event for adherents of the Khasi Indigenous Faith, recently concluded in Wahiajer, Meghalaya. Spanning from April 19, 2024, the festival celebrated the unity and traditions of the indigenous community. At the heart of this annual gathering lies the symbolic exchange of the Monolith, a cherished ritual that represents the enduring spirit of unity among believers. This year, the esteemed Monolith was received in Wahiajer from Seng Khasi Shaid Shaid, located in the West Khasi Hills.

LARGEST TEMPLE FESTIVAL THRISSUR POORAM 2024 CELEBRATED



The southern Indian state of Kerala is renowned for its rich cultural tapestry, encompassing a diverse array of religions, landscapes, rituals, and histories. Amidst this vibrant melting pot, one festival stands out as a true embodiment of Kerala's profound cultural heritage – the Thrissur Pooram.

Appointments News

CITROEN INDIA ROPES IN MS DHONI AS BRAND AMBASSADOR



In a strategic move to enhance its brand presence and awareness in the Indian market, French carmaker Citroen has engaged cricketing legend Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its brand ambassador. The Stellantis Group company, which is a relatively new entrant in the competitive Indian passenger vehicle market, aims to find a firm footing and strengthen its brand identity through this association.

INDIA'S GITA SABHARWAL APPOINTED AS UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR IN INDONESIA



The United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, has appointed Gita Sabharwal of India as the new UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia. Sabhar-

wal assumed her post on Monday, bringing with her nearly three decades of experience in development, supporting climate transition, sustainable peace, governance, and social policy, while leveraging digital technology and data to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

NAIMA KHATOON BREAKS GLASS CEILING, BECOMES FIRST WOMAN VICE-CHANCELLOR OF AMU



In a historic move, President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Professor Naima Khatoon as the first woman Vice-Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), breaking a century-old glass ceiling. The appointment, seen as part of the BJP government's outreach to Muslim women, comes days ahead of the second phase of the Lok Sabha election.

Agreements News

ISKCON AND NSDC COLLABORATE FOR TRIBAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT



In a bid to empower tribal and underprivileged youth across India, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) have joined forces. The partnership aims to provide vocational training to marginalized communities, initially focusing on Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh.

Banking News

HDFC LIFE LEADERSHIP TRANSITION: KEKI MISTRY APPOINTED CHAIRMAN



In a significant move, banker Deepak S Parekh has resigned from his positions as chairman and non-executive director of HDFC Life Insurance, effective April 18, 2024.

Following this, Keki Mistry, who has been associated with the company since December 2000, has been unanimously appointed as the new Chairman of HDFC Life Insurance.

Mistry's extensive experience and leadership within the organization make him a natural choice for this pivotal role.

RAZORPAY AND AIRTEL PAYMENTS BANK INTRODUCE UPI SWITCH: REVOLUTIONIZING PAYMENT INFRASTRUCTURE



In a groundbreaking collaboration, Razorpay and Airtel Payments Bank have unveiled the UPI Switch, a cutting-edge cloud-based infrastructure designed to revolutionize the landscape of digital payments. This innovative product promises to enhance success rates by 4-5% and handle an impressive 10,000 transactions per second (TPS), offering businesses unprecedented efficiency and scalability.

BHARATPE INTRODUCES BHARATPE ONE: REVOLUTIONIZING PAYMENT SOLUTIONS



In a significant move, BharatPe has unveiled BharatPe One, an innovative all-in-one payment device set to redefine digital transactions. This cutting-edge product integrates POS, QR, and speaker functionalities into a single device, promising unparalleled convenience for merchants and customers alike.

PAYU RECEIVES RBI'S IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL AS PAYMENT AGGREGATOR



In a significant development, PayU, the digital financial services provider, has obtained the coveted in-principle authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to function as a Payments Aggregator (PA) under the Payment Settlements Act, 2007. This approval, after a year-long process, marks a pivotal moment for PayU's operations in India.

Economy News

RECORD DIRECT TAX COLLECTIONS EXCEED BUDGET ESTIMATES IN FY 2023-24



In a significant development, provisional figures released by the Ministry of Finance reveal that net direct tax collections for the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 have surpassed Union Budget Estimates by a substantial margin of Rs. 1.35 lakh crore, marking a remarkable increase of 7.40%. The provisional direct tax collections stand at Rs. 19.58 lakh crore, showcasing a robust growth of 17.70% compared to the preceding FY 2022-23.

Sports News

RED BULL'S MAX VERSTAPPEN CLAIMS MAIDEN CHINESE GRAND PRIX VICTORY



In a display of sheer dominance, Max Verstappen of Red Bull Racing claimed a resounding victory at the long-awaited Chinese Grand Prix, extending his lead in the 2024 World Championship. The Dutchman's triumph marked the first Formula One race in China in five years, and he left no room for doubt, leading from start to finish.

GUKESH ETCHES NAME IN CHESS HISTORY AS YOUNGEST CHALLENGER



In a remarkable achievement, Indian chess prodigy Dommaraju Gukesh, aged just 17, has made history by winning the FIDE Candidates tournament, becoming the youngest-ever challenger in the history of the World Chess Championship. Not only that, but Gukesh is also the first teenager to win the prestigious tournament...

Defence News

RASHTRIYA RAKSHA UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH STARBURST AEROSPACE



Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) in Gandhinagar, India, and Starburst Aerospace of France have signed a significant memorandum of understanding (MoU) aimed at advancing innovation in aerospace, defence, and homeland security. This collaboration, aligned with the India-France Strategic Partnership, includes the creation of a 100 million euros venture capital fund and export promotion support for Indian startups.

HONOURING THE VALIANT: BRIGHTON'S TRIBUTE TO INDIAN SOLDIERS



In a move to honour the courageous Indian soldiers who fought valiantly in the First and Second World Wars, the Brighton and Hove City Council in England has taken a commendable step. They have decided to hold an annual multi-faith event at the town's India Gate memorial this October, recognizing the pivotal role played by these warriors from the undivided Indian subcontinent.

Awards News

MOHAMMED SALEM'S AWARD-WINNING PHOTOGRAPH AT WORLD PRESS PHOTO 2024



Mohammed Salem is a Palestinian photographer who works for the news agency Reuters. In 2024, he won a very important award called the World Press Photo of the Year award. The World Press Photo award is a prestigious international competition for photojournalists (photographers who capture news events).

RATAN TATA RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2021



Renowned industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of the Tata Group, was honored with the esteemed KISS Humanitarian Award 2021 at a ceremony held at his Mumbai residence. The award, initiated in 2008 by Achyuta Samanta, recognizes individuals and organizations epitomizing humanitarian efforts globally....

Ranks and Reports News

UNFPA REPORT HIGHLIGHTS ON INDIA'S POPULATION



In its recent report titled “Interwoven Lives, Threads of Hope,” the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) sheds light on India’s demographic landscape. With a current estimated population of 1.44 billion, India maintains its status as the most populous country globally. Notably, 24% of this vast populace falls within the age bracket of 0-14 years, indicating a significant youth demographic.

GEMS & JEWELLERY EXPORT TRENDS IN FY23-24: A DETAILED OVERVIEW

| ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD EXPORTS | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--|
| FY23-24 | in \$ million | |
| PLAIN GOLD JEWELLERY EXPORTS | 6792.24 | |
| GROSS GOLD JEWELLERY * | 11230 | |
| GROSS EXPORT OF COLOURED GEMS | 478.71 | |
| EXPORT OF PLATINUM JEWELLERY | 163.5 | |

Source: GJEPC *PLAIN GOLD AND STUDED

In the fiscal year 2023-24, India experienced a significant decline in its gems and jewellery exports by 14.94%, amounting to US\$32.02 billion compared to US\$37.6 billion in the previous year. The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) released provisional data highlighting this downturn...