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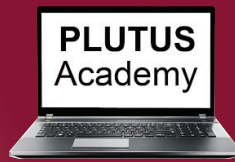
PLUTUS ACADEMY

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS



PLUTUS ACADEMY WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS
25/12/2023 TO 31/12/2023

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PAKISTAN SUCCESSFULLY TESTS ADVANCED ROCKET SYSTEM FATAH-II



Pakistan's military successfully conducted a flight test of the indigenously developed guided multi-launch rocket system Fatah-II, showcasing a significant advancement in its missile capabilities.

With a 400-kilometer range, Fatah-II significantly expands Pakistan's strike capabilities compared to the previous Fatah-1 system (250 kilometers). This enhances strategic deterrence and provides greater operational flexibility.

The system features "state-of-the-art avionics, sophisticated navigation system, and unique flight trajectory," according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), ensuring high accuracy in hitting designated targets.

The successful test underlines Pakistan's growing self-reliance in defense technology.

Fatah-II represents the culmination of years of research and development by Pakistani scientists and engineers.

NATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT DRAUPADI MURMU GIVES ASSENT TO THREE CRIMINAL CODE BILLS



On December 25, President Draupadi Murmu granted her assent to three groundbreaking criminal code bills, marking a significant shift in India's legal landscape.

These bills, namely the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Act, received parliamentary approval and are poised to replace the age-old Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Indian Evidence Act of 1872.

The trio of bills aims to redefine various offenses and their corresponding punishments.

Notably, the legislation provides a clear definition of terrorism and introduces a novel section titled "Offences Against the State." Strikingly, it abolishes sedition as a crime, replacing it with a more contemporary framework.

GWALIOR ACHIEVES GUINNESS RECORD WITH 'LARGEST TABLA ENSEMBLE' AT TANSEN FESTIVAL



Gwalior, often hailed as the City of Music, recently witnessed an extraordinary spectacle as 1500 tabla performers converged at the historic Karna Mahal of Gwalior Fort.

The event, known as 'Tabla Darbar,' unfolded as part of the annual 'Tansen Samaroh' music festival at the iconic Karna Mahal of Gwalior Fort on the evening of December 25th, drawing attention and acclaim from distinguished guests, including Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav.

A team of three from the Guinness Book of World Records was present to personally supervise and

document this unprecedented 'Tabla Darbar' performance. The meticulous recording process added an official seal to the city's musical achievement.

HEALTH MINISTER LAUNCHED 'MEDTECH MITRA' TO ADVANCE HEALTH SOLUTION



Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, introduced 'MedTech Mitra,' a strategic initiative aimed at nurturing the talents of young innovators in the country.

The platform seeks to shape their research, knowledge, and logic while providing essential support for obtaining regulatory approval.

The strategic initiative is designed to provide comprehensive support to MedTech innovators, aiding them in refining their research, knowledge, and logic, while also facilitating regulatory approvals for their healthcare solutions.

UNION MINISTER ANURAG SINGH THAKUR INITIATED 'MY BHARAT' CAMPAIGN



Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Singh Thakur, recently addressed the youth

after the launch of the MY Bharat campaign, expressing confidence in India's remarkable progress on the global stage.

He emphasized the significant strides made across various sectors, attributing the success to the government's initiatives.

The minister commended the growth of India's startup ecosystem, emphasizing that the country has surged to become the third-largest in the world, surpassing the United Kingdom.

The minister also lauded the Make in India program for transforming India into the seventh-largest manufacturer of mobile phones globally.

PM MODI TO SOON FLAG OFF AMRIT BHARAT TRAIN WITH PUSH-PULL TECHNOLOGY



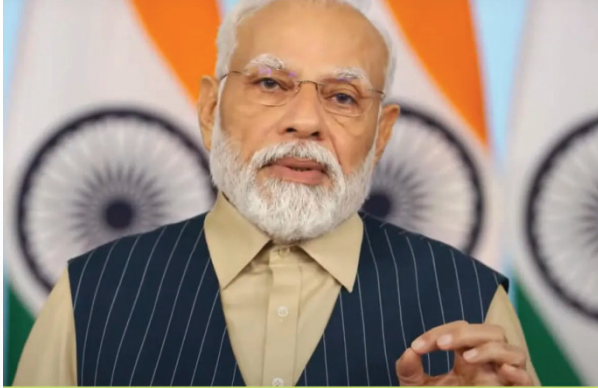
India's rail network continues to evolve, with the recent unveiling of the Amrit Bharat train, set to be flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw highlighted the advanced features of the train, emphasizing the incorporation of push-pull technology for enhanced speed and passenger comfort.

An essential feature of the Amrit Bharat train is its use of semi-permanent couplers, which eliminate the possibility of shocks within the train.

The Amrit Bharat train prioritizes passenger comfort through thoughtful amenities. Each seat is equipped with charging points, catering to the increasing reliance on electronic devices during travel.

INDIAN PM CROSSES 2 CRORE SUBSCRIBERS, LEAVING WORLD LEADERS IN THE DUST



Indian PM Crosses 2 Crore Subscribers, Leaving World Leaders in the Dust

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has cemented his dominance in the digital realm, becoming the first world leader to surpass the 2 crore subscriber mark on YouTube.

With over 4.5 billion views on his channel, Modi has left his global peers trailing far behind, highlighting his adeptness at utilizing social media for public engagement.

Modi enjoys a commanding lead in both subscribers and views, with Former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro a distant second at 64 lakh subscribers, less than a third of Modi's total.

IOA FORMS AD HOC COMMITTEE TO GOVERN SUSPENDED WFI

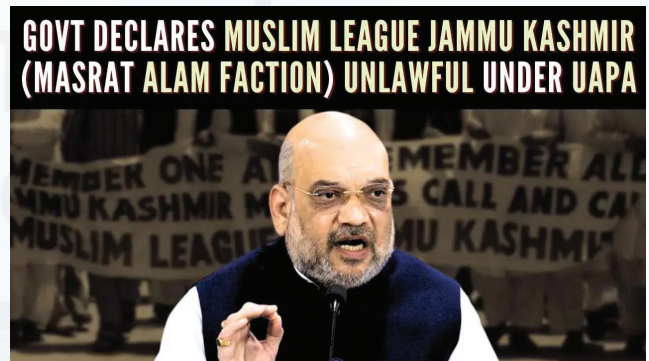


In response to the suspension of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) by the Sports Ministry, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has established a three-member ad hoc committee to oversee the day-to-day operations of the WFI.

The Sports Ministry took action three days after the WFI elected new office bearers, including Sanjay Singh as president. The ministry accused the WFI of violating its own constitution and instructed the IOA to form an ad-hoc panel.

The committee is tasked with overseeing various aspects of WFI's operations, including athlete selection, international event participation, organizing sports activities, managing finances, handling the website, and other related responsibilities.

MHA DECLARES MUSLIM LEAGUE JAMMU KASHMIR (MASARAT ALAM FACTION) UNLAWFUL UNDER UAPA



The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has designated the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) as an "unlawful association" for a five-year period under the anti-terror Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The Ministry revealed that the outfit had been actively raising funds through various sources, including Pakistan and its proxy organizations, to perpetrate unlawful activities.

The organization's objectives included seeking the freedom of Jammu and Kashmir from India, aspiring to merge the region with Pakistan, and establish Islamic rule.

AYODHYA RAILWAY STATION TO BE RENAMED AS AYODHYA DHAM



The holy city of Ayodhya is gearing up for a major transformation, with the renaming of its iconic railway junction and the inauguration of a brand new airport.

The Ayodhya Dham railway station is now a state-of-the-art facility that seamlessly blends ancient Indian architecture with modern amenities. The station building resembles a majestic temple, adorned with domes, pillars, arches, and murals depicting the life and glory of Lord Rama.

Located about 25 kilometers from the city, the new airport is poised to become a game-changer for Ayodhya's connectivity and accessibility. The airport will cater to both domestic and international flights, making it easier for pilgrims and tourists from all over the world to reach the holy city.

STATE NEWS

MANIPUR INITIATES SAANS CAMPAIGN 2023-24 FOR PNEUMONIA PREVENTION



In a significant move aimed at addressing childhood pneumonia, Dr. Sapam Ranjan Singh, the State Health and Family Welfare Minister of Manipur, re-

cently inaugurated the SAANS Campaign 2023-24 in Imphal.

SAANS, which stands for Social Awareness and Action to Neutralize Pneumonia, is an annual campaign implemented in states and Union Territories. The primary objective of

SAANS is to accelerate action against childhood pneumonia, a leading cause of child mortality.

SAANS will initiate a public awareness campaign to educate communities about effective pneumonia prevention strategies. This includes promoting practices such as breastfeeding, age-appropriate supplemental feeding, and vaccination.

BIHAR POLICE TO LAUNCH 'MISSION INVESTIGATION@75 DAYS' FROM JANUARY 1, 2024



The Bihar Police has announced the implementation of 'Mission Investigation@75 Days,' aiming to streamline and expedite the criminal justice process in the state.

Starting from January 1 next year, investigators will be mandated to complete the investigation of cases within 75 days of the registration of First Information Reports (FIRs).

The initiative aims to ensure that investigations, including the filing of chargesheets, are concluded within 75 days of the registration of FIRs.

VASUDEV DEVNANI ELECTED AS THE SPEAKER OF RAJASTHAN ASSEMBLY



The 16th Rajasthan Assembly witnessed a significant development as Vasudev Devnani, a seasoned BJP MLA with five terms under his belt, was unanimously elected as the Speaker.

The motion for his appointment was moved by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma and seconded by Congress leader and Tonk MLA Sachin Pilot, reflecting a rare unity between the ruling party and the opposition.

Devnani's appointment brings caste diversity to the government, following the selection of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma (Brahmin) and two Deputy CMs (Rajput and Scheduled Caste).

KSRTC UNVEILS 'NAMMA CARGO' LOGISTICS IN KARNATAKA



Minister for Transport for Karnataka, Ramalinga Reddy inaugurated the initiative under the brand name "Namma Cargo," introducing cargo services on KSRTC route buses.

The launch event saw the deployment of 20 cargo trucks to kickstart the 'Namma Cargo' services in various districts across the state.

Minister Reddy announced ambitious plans for the 'Namma Cargo' services, with a goal to induct 100 trucks within the first month of operation. Looking ahead, KSRTC aims to escalate the number of cargo trucks to 500 within a year.

AMIT SHAH REVEALS CHANDIGARH PROJECTS WORTH 368 CRORE RUPEES



In a significant development for the city of Chandigarh, Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated nine projects with a total investment of 368 crore rupees.

Additionally, he laid the foundation stone for three ambitious projects valued at 32 crore rupees. This marks a substantial commitment to the infrastructural and developmental growth of Chandigarh.

Amit Shah also flagged off a fleet of Chandigarh Police cars, collectively valued at 3.75 crore rupees. Among them, a state-of-the-art police control vehicle named 'Eagle' was introduced. This move aims to enhance the operational capabilities and efficiency of law enforcement in the city.

INCIDENT OF AMMONIA GAS LEAKAGE REPORTED IN ENNORE REGION, CHENNAI



Late on Tuesday night, a fertilizer plant in North Chennai's Ennore area experienced an ammonia gas leak, leading to the hospitalization of around 50 people.

The gas leak occurred from an underwater pipeline that runs from the sea to the fertilizer manufacturing facility of Coromandel International Limited.

The affected individuals experienced symptoms such as breathlessness, burning in their eyes, throat, nose, and chest. In the aftermath of the incident, local residents expressed anger and concern, demanding the immediate closure of the factory.

AYODHYA AIRPORT TO BE RENAMED MAHARISHI VALMIKI AIRPORT



Ayodhya, the holy city in Uttar Pradesh, is all set to get its first international airport, marking a significant development in its pilgrimage and tourism potential.

The airport currently boasts the lengthy name "Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram International Airport."

The Yogi Adityanath government is reportedly considering renaming it "Maharishi Valmiki Airport," honoring the revered poet who authored the epic Ramayana.

The proposed name change aligns with the religious significance of the city and pays homage to Maharishi Valmiki, whose Ramayana immortalized the story of Lord Rama.

ECONOMY NEWS

DISINVESTMENT SET TO MISS FY24 TARGET, RAISES OVER RS 4 TRILLION IN A DECADE



As the specter of impending general elections looms, the government's privatization endeavors have slowed, opting for caution in the face of potential accusations of selling off national assets.

The ambitious disinvestment target for the current fiscal year is likely to be missed, with major plans, including Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), Shipping Corporation of India (SCI), and CONCOR, pushed to the backburner. Analysts suggest that substantive privatization may only resume after the April/May elections.

CEBR FORECASTS INDIA AS THIRD-LARGEST ECONOMY BY 2032, GLOBAL ECONOMIC LEADER BY CENTURY'S END



The Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) has recently released a

groundbreaking report projecting India's trajectory as the preeminent global economic superpower by

the close of the century.

This trajectory positions India to become the world's third-largest economy by 2032, outpacing economic stalwarts like Japan and Germany.

According to the latest World Economic League Table by CEBR, India's GDP is poised to exceed that of China by a staggering 90% and surpass that of the United States by 30%. This monumental shift is anticipated to materialize post-2080,

IMPORTANT DAYS NEWS

GOOD GOVERNANCE DAY 2023



December 25, 2023, is celebrated as Good Governance Day 2023 in honor of the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

This day pays tribute to Vajpayee's leadership and contributions to society, marked by his three terms as the Prime Minister of India.

The genesis of Good Governance Day can be traced back to December 23, 2014, when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was awarded the Bharat Ratna, along with Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (posthumously).

In recognition of this prestigious honor, the Narendra Modi-led government declared December 25 as Good Governance Day, aiming to celebrate Vajpayee's enduring legacy.

NATIONAL CONSUMER RIGHTS DAY 2023



National Consumer Rights Day is celebrated on December 24th to commemorate the passage of the Consumer Protection Act in 1986. This day highlights the significance of consumer rights and serves as a reminder of the need to protect consumers from various threats in the marketplace.

The Consumer Protection Act of 1986 outlines six fundamental rights for consumers:

| Sno. | Fundamental Right |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Right to Safety |
| 2 | Right to Choose |
| 3 | Right to be Informed |
| 4 | Right to be Heard |
| 5 | Right to Seek Redressal |
| 6 | Right to Consumer Education |

APPOINTMENTS NEWS

SEBI GIVES NOD TO APPOINT PRAMOD AGRAWAL AS BSE CHAIRMAN



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has given its nod to the appointment of Pramod Agrawal, the former Chief of Coal India, as the

Chairman of the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).

This regulatory approval paves the way for Agrawal to assume his role on the Governing Board of BSE, effective from January 17, 2024. The move comes as the term of the current Chairman, SS Mundra, concludes on January 16, 2024.

Agrawal is an alumnus of the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from IIT Mumbai. He furthered his education with a Master's degree in Design Engineering from IIT Delhi, showcasing a strong academic foundation in engineering.

BUSINESS NEWS

COCA-COLA SCORES A VICTORY LAP: SECURES 8-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH ICC AS GLOBAL CRICKET PARTNER



The iconic brand Coca-Cola has cemented its long-standing relationship with the sport, signing an eight-year deal as the global partner of the International Cricket Council (ICC) until the end of 2031.

This partnership marks a significant extension from their initial five-year agreement in 2019, solidifying Coca-Cola's position as a major player in the cricketing world.

This extended partnership stands as one of the longest-ever collaborations between the ICC and a single brand, highlighting the mutual strength and value both parties find in this association.

BANKING NEWS

INDIAN BANKS ACHIEVE 12.2% GROWTH IN FY23: RBI REPORT



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released a report applauding the performance of Indian banks and non-bank lenders, emphasizing the need for stronger governance and risk-management practices to fortify their balance sheets

Despite a remarkable 12.2% growth in the consolidated balance sheet of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) in 2022-23, the RBI underscored the importance of continued improvement.

The consolidated balance sheet of SCBs witnessed a remarkable 12.2% growth in 2022-23, marking the highest in nine years