

PLUTUS ACADEMY

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS



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06/05/2024 TO 12/05/2024

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International News

CHINA SEND CHANG'E-6 PROBE TO COLLECT MOON'S FAR SIDE SAMPLE



In a groundbreaking endeavor, China has launched the Chang'e-6 probe on an ambitious mission to collect samples from the far side of the Moon. If successful, China will etch its name in history as the first country to retrieve lunar samples from the enigmatic far side, a feat yet unaccomplished by any other nation.

NEPAL'S POPULATION TRENDS AND DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS



Nepal's population growth rate has hit a historic low, standing at 0.92% per annum over the past decade, the slowest in the last eighty years, as reported by the National Statistics Office (NSO). The current population stands at approximately 29.2 million, with a growth of 2.7 million from mid-April 2011 to mid-April 2021.

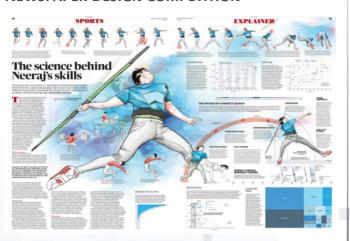
SCIENTISTS UNVEIL WORLD'S DEEPEST BLUE HOLE IN MEXICO



In a groundbreaking discovery detailed in Frontiers in Marine Science, researchers have revealed the Taam Ja' Blue Hole in Mexico's Chetumal Bay as the deepest known blue hole on Earth, descending to a staggering depth of 1,380 feet. Surpassing the previous record-holder, the Sansha Yongle Blue Hole, by 480 feet, this abyss presents a tantalizing opportunity for scientific exploration and the potential discovery of new marine life.

National News

THE HINDU TRIUMPHS AT 6TH INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER DESIGN COMPETITION



In a remarkable feat, The Hindu secured three prestigious awards at the 6th International Newspaper Design Competition organized by newspaperdesign. in. The accolades were garnered for their exceptional explainer page titled "The science behind Neeraj's skills," shedding light on Neeraj Chopra's remarkable journey and success in athletics.

State News

PREVENTING CHILD MARRIAGE IN RAJASTHAN: RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT'S DIRECTIVE



In response to a public interest litigation (PIL) on child marriage, the Rajasthan High Court has issued a directive aimed at curbing the practice in the state. With the approaching Akshay Tritiya festival, notorious for child marriages, the court has emphasized the responsibility of sarpanchs and panchayat members in preventing such unions.

Agreements News

INDIA AND GHANA STRENGTHEN FINANCIAL INTEGRATION FOR ENHANCED TRADE



India and Ghana are poised to integrate their payment systems, UPI and GHIPSS, to facilitate instant and cost-effective fund transfers between the two nations. Within six months, NPCI's UPI is set to be operational on Ghana's GHIPSS platform, marking a significant step in financial collaboration.

Appointments News

UNICEF India Welcomes Kareena as National Ambassador



Bollywood actress Kareena Kapoor Khan has been appointed as the National Ambassador for UNICEF India. This prestigious role comes as a recognition of her long-standing association with the organization since 2014, where she has served as a Celebrity Advocate.

VISA APPOINTS SUJAI RAINA AS INDIA COUNTRY MANAGER



Visa, the global digital payments platform, has appointed Sujai Raina as the new Country Manager for India. In this role, Raina will be responsible for leading and executing Visa's strategic initiatives in the Indian market, partnering with clients and the broader payments ecosystem.

Banking News

ACADEMY REC RECEIVES RBI APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH SUBSIDIARY IN GIFT CITY



In a significant development, REC Ltd., under the Ministry of Power, has obtained approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to establish a subsidiary in Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (GIFT), Gandhinagar. This move reflects REC's strategic initiative to diversify its portfolio and tap into new avenues for growth within the burgeoning hub of financial services in India.

RBI REPORT: 97.76% OF RS 2000 CURRENCY NOTES RETURNED



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has disclosed that 97.76% of the Rs 2000 denomination banknotes have been reabsorbed into the banking system, leaving only Rs 7,961 crore in circulation with the public. Since the announcement of their withdrawal from circulation on May 19, 2023, the total value of Rs 2000 banknotes has significantly decreased.

ICICI BANK INTRODUCES UPI FOR NRIS USING INTERNATIONAL MOBILE NUMBERS



ICICI Bank has unveiled a groundbreaking feature allowing non-resident Indian (NRI) customers to utilize Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions in India through their international mobile numbers. This innovation aims to simplify daily payments for NRIs by eliminating the need to register an Indian mobile number with their NRE/NRO accounts, thereby enhancing convenience.

Business News

INFIBEAM'S CCAVENUE EXPANDS MERCHANT ACCESS THROUGH SHIVALIK SFB PARTNERSHIP



Infibeam Avenues' CCAvenue, a leading payments platform, has entered into a strategic partnership with Shivalik Small Finance Bank (SFB) to enhance merchant access. Through this collaboration, merchants registered with CCAvenue will gain access to Shivalik SFB's extensive customer base. The integration will enable account holders of the bank to make payments seamlessly on websites powered by CCAvenue, leveraging Shivalik SFB's internet banking service.

BAJAJ AUTO SET TO REVOLUTIONIZE TRANSPORTATION WITH WORLD'S FIRST CNG MOTORCYCLE





Bajaj Auto, led by Managing Director Rajiv Bajaj, is all set to introduce a groundbreaking innovation in the world of motorcycles. Amidst soaring petrol prices, the company is gearing up to launch the world's first CNG-powered motorcycle on June 18, 2024. This move aims to provide consumers with a cost-effective alternative for daily commuting, promising lower running costs compared to traditional petrol-powered bikes

Defence News

BENGALURU'S FLYING WEDGE DEFENCE UNVEILS INDIA'S FIRST INDIGENOUS BOMBER UAV



Flying Wedge Defence, a Bengaluru-based defense and aerospace technology firm, recently revealed the FWD-200B, India's inaugural indigenous bomber unmanned aircraft. With a focus on cost-effectiveness and self-reliance, the firm aims to position India as a leader in innovative defense solutions.

Summits and Conferences News

26TH ASEAN-INDIA SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING IN NEW DELHI



The 26th ASEAN-India Senior Officials' Meeting took place in New Delhi, co-chaired by Secretary (East) Jaideep Mazumdar and Permanent Secretary Albert Chua of Singapore. Discussions encompassed the three pillars of engagement—political-security, economic, and socio-cultural—reviewing ASEAN-India relations as outlined in the ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2021-2025). Key topics included the implementation of the Prime Ministers' 12-Point Proposal and preparations for the upcoming ASEAN-India Summit in Vientiane.

Awards News

2024 PULITZER PRIZE WINNERS ANNOUNCED



The prestigious Pulitzer Prizes for 2024 were announced on May 7, 2024, by Columbia University in the United States of America. The awards.

considered the most prestigious in the fields of journalism and arts, were conferred by Columbia University on the recommendation of the Pulitzer Prize Board. The winners will be formally recognized at a ceremony later, presided over by the president of Columbia University.

OXFORD BOOKSTORES HONOURS EXCELLENCE IN **BOOK DESIGN AND VISUAL ARTS**



Oxford Bookstores announced Bhavi Mehta as the winner of the 9th edition of the Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize. Mehta's winning entry was the book jacket for "The Book Beautiful" published by Hachette India and authored by Pradeep Sebastian.

Defence News

BORDER ROAD ORGANISATION CELEBRATES 65TH **RAISING DAY**



The Border Road Organisation (BRO), a crucial defence infrastructure organization, celebrated its 65th Raising Day on May 7, 2024. A ceremony was organized in New Delhi to mark the occasion, presided over by the Union Defence Secretary, Giridhar Aramane. The defence secretary praised the BRO for its remarkable contribution to building infrastructure in inhospitable areas and challenging weather conditions.

INDIAN ARMY AND IAF CONDUCT JOINT EXERCISE IN PUNJAB



The Indian Army's Kharga Corps, under the aegis of the Army's Western Command, successfully conducted a three-day joint exercise with the Indian Air Force (IAF) at multiple locations in Punjab. The exercise aimed to refine processes and validate the employment of attack helicopters in support of mechanized operations in developed terrain. The exercise, titled "Gagan Strike-II," incorporated various force multipliers, including Apache and ALH-WSI helicopters, Unarmed Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), and special forces of the Indian Army.