

Current Affairs - 31st July 2024

International

1. **** Hamas Chief Ismail Haniyeh Killed In Iran****



- Hamas's political chief, Ismail Haniyeh, was assassinated in Tehran, Iran. Haniyeh and one of his bodyguards were killed when their building was struck. Haniyeh was in Tehran to attend the inauguration ceremony of Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian on July 30.

National

2. **** Jia Rai: Youngest & Fastest Para-Swimmer to Cross the English Channel****



- Jia Rai, a 16-year-old from Mumbai, has set a new world record as the youngest and fastest para-swimmer to cross the English Channel. Rai, who has Autism Spectrum Disorder, completed the 34-kilometer swim from Abbot's Cliff in England to Pointe de la Courte-Dune in France in 17 hours and 25 minutes. Her remarkable achievement highlights her determination and endurance.

3. ****Periyar Tiger Reserve's Innovative Wind Turbine Installation****



- Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Thekkady has installed a wind turbine to power real-time monitoring cameras and Wi-Fi connectivity within its expansive forest. This groundbreaking initiative marks a significant advancement in the reserve's efforts to enhance conservation technology and communication. It underscores PTR's commitment to sustainable and innovative conservation methods.

Appointment

4. ****Former Union Health Secretary Preeti Sudan to Head UPSC from August 1****



- Preeti Sudan, the former Union Health Secretary, will assume the role of Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on August 1, 2024. This appointment is made under Article 316 A of the Constitution. Sudan's extensive experience in public administration is expected to bring valuable insights to the commission.

Defense

5. ****Indian Army Launches E-SeHAT Tele-Consultancy for Veterans****



- The Indian Army introduced the Electronic Services e-Health Assistance and Tele-consultation (E-SeHAT) module for Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) beneficiaries. This service allows veterans to receive online medical consultations from their homes. The initiative aims to provide timely and quality medical care remotely, enhancing healthcare delivery for veterans.

6. ****ICG Launches 'Suvidha Software Version 1.0' to Enhance Training Protocols****



- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched 'Suvidha Software Version 1.0' during the inaugural 'Annual Operational Sea Training Conference' in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This advanced software aims to improve training protocols and maintain consistency across all ICG platforms. The software is expected to streamline training and operational efficiency.

Finance & Banking

7. ****Shriram Capital Receives RBI Approval to Launch ARC****



- Shriram Capital received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to establish an Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC). The approval, granted after Shriram Capital's application in November 2023, marks a significant step for the company. The ARC will help manage and resolve distressed assets, contributing to the stability of the financial system

8. ****SEBI Launches AI Chatbot 'SEVA' for Investors****



- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced 'SEVA,' an AI-powered chatbot designed to assist investors with a range of functions. This initiative aims to enhance the investor experience and improve accessibility to crucial market information. SEVA is expected to provide real-time assistance and streamline the process of obtaining investment-related information.