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NMDC Ltd has launched a portal 'Samman' for its former employees.

NMDC Ltd has launched a portal 'Samman' for its former employees. The portal, unveiled at the company's head office in Hyderabad on March 28 by CMD (additional charge) Amitava Mukherjee in the presence of senior officials, is for former employees to manage medical claims, view personal profiles, dependent details and application status online. The user-friendly portal is designed to ensure on-time reimbursements and easy access to all services, bringing comfort and convenience to the former employees.

Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra launched the myCGHS app for Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) beneficiaries.

Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra launched the myCGHS app for the iOS ecosystem of devices, designed to enhance access to electronic health records, information, and resources for Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) beneficiaries. Developed by the technical teams of the National Informatics Centre (NIC) Himachal Pradesh and NIC Health Team, myCGHS is a convenient mobile application offering features aimed at enhancing information and accessibility for CGHS beneficiaries. The myCGHS app facilitates a wide range of services, including: booking and cancellation of online appointments, downloading the CGHS card and index card, accessing lab reports from CGHS labs; checking medicine history, checking medical reimbursement claim status, accessing referral details, locating nearby wellness centres, etc. The app features security features like 2-factor authentication and the functionality of mPIN, ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of users' data.

New Senegalese President Bassirou Diomaye Faye appointed Ousmane Sonko as prime minister in his first act as president.

New Senegalese President Bassirou Diomaye Faye appointed Ousmane Sonko as prime minister in his first act as president. Ousmane Sonko, a former tax inspector, is the current Prime Minister of Senegal. Sonko was the PASTEF candidate in the 2019 presidential election, ultimately placing third.

Shiny Wilson, a name synonymous with Indian athletics, has been nominated as a member of the Asian Athletic Commission.

Shiny Wilson, a name synonymous with Indian athletics, has been nominated as a member of the Asian Athletic Commission. She emerged as the national champion in the 800 meters in 1981, marking the beginning of a career. Shiny Wilson represented India in more than 75 instances in international competitions. In the 1986 Asian Games in Seoul, Shiny secured a silver medal in women's 400m, finishing behind PT Usha. The duo, along with MD Valsamma and Vandana Rao, clinched the gold medal in the women's 4x400m relay. In the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima, Shiny clinched

a bronze medal in the women's 800m event. Furthermore, Usha, Shiny, G. V. Dhanalakshmi, and Kutty Saramma bagged the silver medal in the women's 4x400m relay.

Sheyphali B. Sharan has assumed charge as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB) upon superannuation of Manish Desai.

Sheyphali B. Sharan has assumed charge as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB) upon superannuation of Manish Desai. Ms. Sharan is an officer of the 1990 batch of Indian Information Service. During an illustrious career spanning over three decades, she has held cadre portfolios of largely looking after media publicity work as Press Information Bureau officer for Ministries such as Finance, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. She has also served as the Spokesperson for Election Commission of India. In addition, she has worked on Central Staffing Scheme Deputations as Director in Ministry of Health (Department of Traditional Systems of Medicine/AYUSH (2002-2007)) and Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs 2013-2017).

Tata International Limited appointed Rajeev Singhal as its Managing Director (MD).

Tata International Limited appointed Rajeev Singhal as its Managing Director (MD). Singhal whose appointment to the new position is effective from April 1, succeeds Anand Sen, who superannuated on March 31, 2024. Prior to this, Singhal was Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Tata International. Singhal brings over 36 years of experience to his new position, having transitioned from Tata Steel, where he served in various positions including Vice President for marketing and sales for flat products.

Democratic Republic of Congo's President Felix Tshisekedi has appointed the country's first-ever female prime minister, naming planning minister Judith Suminwa Tuluka.

Democratic Republic of Congo's President Felix Tshisekedi has appointed the country's first-ever female prime minister, naming planning minister Judith Suminwa Tuluka. Judith, a former planning minister, makes history as the first woman to hold the position. She takes over from Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde Kyenge, who served as prime minister from 2021 to 2024.

Sorin Investment Fund Chairman Sanjay Nayar has taken over as ASSOCHAM president for 2024-25.

Sorin Investment Fund Chairman Sanjay Nayar has taken over as ASSOCHAM president for 2024-25. He replaced SpiceJet Chairman and MD Ajay Singh, who completed his tenure as the chamber's president. He established KKR India operations in 2009 after leaving Citigroup. At KKR, Sanjay led investments of around

USD 14 billion in private equity, real estate, and infrastructure, and credited with private equity being the largest at approximately USD 10 billion valuation. Nayar was recently appointed as a non-official member of the Board of Trade, Government of India, representing the private sector, and is a member of the National Startup Advisory Council. He is also a member of the Board of the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF).

Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi was sworn in for his third term as the President of Egypt.

Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi was sworn in for his third term as the President of Egypt on 2 April 2024, at the Egyptian Parliament's headquarters in the New Administrative Capital. President Sisi won the presidential election held in December 2023 with an overwhelming majority. He won 89.6 percent of the vote in the December election, with a turnout of 66.8 percent of more than 67 million registered voters. El-Sissi was first elected as president in mid-2014, then reelected in 2018.

Axis Capital has appointed Atul Mehra as its managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO).

Axis Capital has appointed Atul Mehra as its managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO). The appointment is subject to receipt of requisite approvals. Mehra, who was formerly with JM Financial, will oversee both the investment banking and institutional equities businesses of Axis Capital. His appointment comes after the departure of Axis Capital's current MD & co-CEO Salil Pitale. Mehra is a veteran dealmaker with over three decades of experience and was the joint MD at JM Financial.

Senior IAS Officer Ravi Kota officially took over as the new Chief Secretary of Assam.

Senior IAS Officer Ravi Kota officially took over the reins as the new Chief Secretary of Assam. He succeeded Paban Kumar Borthakur, who recently retired from the position. He will continue to hold the charge of Industries, Commerce & Public Enterprises Department after assuming the Office of the Chief Secretary, Assam on 31/03/2024. Kota is the first doctorate holder to take charge as Chief Secretary of Assam. He will also hold the additional responsibilities of CS, Industries, Commerce, Public Sector Enterprises, and Additional Special Secretary of Finance. During his 30-year career, he worked in various positions in the Central and State governments.

Indian hockey players Hardik Singh and Salima Tete were named Balbir Singh Sr. Award Player of the Year for 2023 in the men's & women's categories, respectively at the Hockey India Awards 2023 in New Delhi.

Indian hockey players Hardik Singh and Salima Tete were named Balbir Singh Sr. Award Player of the Year for 2023 in the men's & women's categories, respectively at the Hockey India Awards 2023 in New Delhi. Indian men's team vice-captain Hardik

Singh was a part of the bronze medal-winning hockey team at the Tokyo 2023 Olympics and won the Asian Games 2023 gold medal last year. The 25-year-old also won the Midfielder of the Year award. Salima Tete, an Olympian, was in the women's team that won the bronze medal at the Asian Games in Hangzhou last year. Tete was also selected as the winner of the Asian Hockey Federation's Emerging Player of the Year Award in 2023.

Shashwat Goenka, Vice Chairman of the RPSG Group, has been named in Young Global Leader for 2024 by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Shashwat Goenka, Vice Chairman of the RPSG Group, has been named in Young Global Leader for 2024 by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The other three Indians included in WEF 2024's list of Young Global Leaders are- FSN E-Commerce Ventures CEO and owner of the Nykaa brand Adwaita Nayar, Jubilant Group Director Arjun Bhartia and Vedanta Ltd Non-Executive Director Priya Agarwal Hebbbar. For the past 20 years, the WEF Forum of Young Global Leaders has been leading the charge in nurturing a special community of leaders committed to addressing the world's most urgent challenges. Shashwat Goenka is an Indian business executive and the youngest scion of the Kolkata-based RPSG Group. He serves as the Director of the Group and is responsible for leading the conglomerate's foray into new business ventures.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has deferred the implementation of currency derivative regulations by a month to 3 May 2024.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has deferred the implementation of currency derivative regulations by a month to 3 May 2024. RBI had tightened rules on currency derivatives to curb speculative trading. National Stock Exchange (NSE) and BSE have directed their member brokers to take note of RBI notification dated January 5, 2024, stating that trade in currency derivatives can only be undertaken for hedging purposes after April 5, 2024. This means that traders are expected to use these instruments to mitigate forex risk rather than for speculative trading. The breakdown of market participants includes proprietary traders, hedgers, and retail investors. These changes indicate a tightening of regulations aimed at aligning currency derivatives trading with their intended purpose of hedging forex risk.

The Reserve Bank of India will establish a Digital India Trust Agency (DIGITA) to stop the mushrooming of illegal lending apps.

The Reserve Bank of India will establish a Digital India Trust Agency (DIGITA) to stop the mushrooming of illegal lending apps. The proposed agency will enable verification of digital lending apps and maintain a public register of verified apps. Apps not carrying the 'verified' signature of DIGITA should be considered unauthorised for the purpose of law enforcement, this will serve as a pivotal checkpoint in the fight against financial crimes in the digital realm. DIGITA would be entrusted with the responsibility

of vetting digital lending apps. Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of India has shared a list of 442 digital lending apps with the IT Ministry to whitelist with Google.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has announced the final set of rules on surrender value from 1st April 2024.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has announced the final set of rules on surrender value from 1st April 2024. The surrender value is expected to remain the same or even lower if policies are surrendered up to a period of within three years. A surrender value in insurance is the sum disbursed by the insurer to the policyholder when terminating the policy prematurely. If surrendered during the policy term, the policyholder receives the earnings and savings component. This provision offers a way to access funds in case of need before the policy matures. The proposed slabs for the surrender value percentages are: > 30% of total premiums paid if surrendered during the second year > 35% of total premiums paid if surrendered during the third year > 50% of total premiums paid if surrendered between the fourth and seventh years > 90% of total premiums paid if surrendered during the last two years.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched the new version of SCORES (SEBI Complaint Redress System) i.e., SCORES 2.0.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched the new version of SCORES (SEBI Complaint Redress System) i.e., SCORES 2.0. SCORES strengthens the investor complaint redress mechanism in the securities market by making the process more efficient through auto-routing, auto-escalation, monitoring by the designated bodies and reduction of timelines. SCORES 2.0, introduces auto-routing of complaints to the concerned regulated entity to eliminate time lapses. It has reduced and uniform timelines for redressal of investors complaints across the securities market, 21 calendar days from date of receipt of complaint. The new version of SCORES also offers two- levels of review, the first one by the designated body, SEBI would step in at the second review if the investor is still dissatisfied.

Karnataka Bank has raised around Rs600 crore through qualified institutional placement by issuing shares to institutional investors.

Karnataka Bank has raised around Rs600 crore through qualified institutional placement by issuing shares to institutional investors. The qualified institutional placement (QIP) opened on 21 March 2024 and closed on 27 March 2024. Private lender Karnataka Bank's committee of directors approved the allotment of shares worth Rs600 crore at a price of Rs227 apiece to qualified institutional investors. Novaa One Capital acted as the sole advisor to the entire capital raise of Rs1,500 crore, while Ambit and Avendus Capita acted as the book-running lead managers for the QIP.

Bajaj Auto, Tata Motors and Coal India among top five Index performers in FY24.

Financial markets wrapped up FY24 on a strong note with the domestic equity indices Nifty 50 and Sensex achieving their most robust performance in 3 fiscal years. The Bajaj Group firm emerged as the top-performing large cap on the Nifty 50 in FY24, delivering an exceptional return of 142.52% on investments made over the past 12 months. The auto major also witnessed significant market cap growth, soaring up to 120% to reach Rs2,54,000 crore as of 1st April 2024. Securing the second spot, the Tata Group's auto major boasted a hefty return of 136.67% on investments generated over the last 12 months. Notably, the company's luxury arm, Jaguar and Land Rover, along with its expansion in the electric vehicle (EV) segment, were major growth drivers, propelling the market cap by 139.60% in FY24. The world's largest state-owned coal producer emerged as Nifty 50's third best-performing large cap of FY24, delivering a return of 118.73% on investments made over the past year.

Reserve assets rose by USD 34.8 billion, net claims of NRI decreased by USD 12.2 billion: RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) disclosed the latest figures concerning India's International Investment Position (IIP) as of December 2023 showing a decline in net claims of non-residents on India, plunging by USD 12.2 billion during the period from October to December 2023, culminating at USD 370.4 billion by the end of December 2023. A contributor to this shift is the rise in reserve assets, soaring by USD 34.8 billion during the third quarter of 2023-24. This dip in net claims is primarily attributed to a substantial surge in Indian residents' overseas financial assets, amounting to USD 40.7 billion, outpacing the increase in foreign-owned assets within India, which stood at USD 28.5 billion. This surge in reserve assets constitutes over 85 percent of the increase in foreign assets held by Indian residents.

The Government of India has approved a simple reversionary bonus for Postal Life Insurance (PLI) Scheme and Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) Scheme for fiscal year 2024-25.

The Government of India has approved a simple reversionary bonus for Postal Life Insurance (PLI) Scheme and Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) Scheme for fiscal year 2024-25. There is no change in the rate. The rates of bonus for the Financial Year 2024-25 will be applicable from 1st April 2024. Under the Postal Life Insurance Scheme, rate of bonus will be ₹76 per thousand of sum assured for whole life assurance (WLA). Similarly, for endowment assurance (EA) (including joint life and children policies), it will be ₹52 per thousand of sum assured. Anticipated endowment assurance (AEA) will fetch ₹48 per thousand of sum assured. In case of convertible whole life assurance (CWLA), whole life bonus rate would be applicable, but on conversion, endowment assurance bonus rate will be applicable. Rate of terminal bonus will be ₹20 per sum assured of ₹10,000, subject to maximum of ₹1,000 for

WLA and EA policies with term of 20 years or more. According to the notification, the rate for WLA will be ₹60 per thousand of sum assured. Similarly, for EA (including children policy), rate will be ₹48 per thousand of sum assured.

AMPIN Energy Transition has secured a 25-million-euro long-term financing investment from OeEB, the Development Bank of Austria.

AMPIN Energy Transition has secured a 25-million-euro long-term financing investment from OeEB, the Development Bank of Austria. This funding aims to bolster AMPIN's renewable energy portfolio expansion, including establishing a one-GW solar cell and module production unit in Odisha. Such investments align with the government's objectives to amplify renewable energy capacities, diminish CO2 emissions, and strengthen local manufacturing for better supply chain control.

The name of L&T Finance Holdings (LTFH) has been changed to L&T Finance Ltd following approval from the Registrar of Companies (RoC).

The name of L&T Finance Holdings (LTFH) has been changed to L&T Finance Ltd following approval from the Registrar of Companies (RoC). Mumbai-headquartered L&T Finance, formerly known as L&T Finance Holdings, is a leading non-banking financial company (NBFC), offering a range of financial products and services. The approval from ROC for name change with the issuance of the fresh Certificate of Incorporation on 28 March 2024, signifies the accomplishment of all objectives outlined in the amalgamation scheme. The new name, L&T Finance Ltd is effective March 28, 2024. To comply with regulatory requirements following the merger, the certificates of registration of L&T Finance, and L&T Infra Credit, were surrendered to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

TATA AIG General Insurance Company Limited has launched "Travel Guard Plus", a comprehensive travel insurance product that redefines complete coverage for travellers.

TATA AIG General Insurance Company Limited has launched "Travel Guard Plus", a comprehensive travel insurance product that redefines complete coverage for travellers. TATA AIG's Travel Guard Plus has been meticulously designed to meet people's diverse travel needs with a wide range of plans where 41 different types of covers has been packaged to meet the need of customers. TATA AIG's Travel Guard Plus provides coverage for a range of situations including Loss of Personal Baggage, Compassionate Travel/Stay, Accommodation extension, Up-gradation to Business class, Personal Accident in India. Customer can choose from 3 add-on bundles - Cruise Bundle, Travel Plus Bundle, Accident Bundle which caters to cruise related contingencies, frequent flyer cover, coma cover, adventure sports cover. Key features in Travel Guard Plus: Annual Multi Trip cover with higher single per trip duration of up to 180 days; Single Trip with an option of single policy up to 365 days.

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the opening ceremony of RBI@90, a program marking 90 years of the Reserve Bank of India in Mumbai.

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the opening ceremony of RBI@90, a program marking 90 years of the Reserve Bank of India in Mumbai. He also released a commemorative coin to mark 90 years of RBI. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) commenced its operations on the 1st of April in 1935 and enters its 90th year. Established in 1935, RBI functions as the nation's central bank, following the recommendations of the Hilton Young Commission and governed by Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. In 1937, the Central Office of the Reserve Bank was also shifted from Kolkata to Mumbai.

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) grew by 56 percent year-on-year in H2 2023 to 65.77 billion, up from 42.09 billion in H2 2022.

India's ubiquitous Unified Payments Interface (UPI) grew by 56 percent year-on-year (y-o-y) in H2 2023 to 65.77 billion, up from 42.09 billion in H2 2022. While the total value of transactions surged by 44 percent from Rs69.36 trillion to Rs99.68 trillion during the same period, according to the latest data from the India Digital Payments Report for H2 2023. UPI remained the dominant player in the payment system in India, though the average ticket size declined by 8 percent from Rs1,648 to Rs1,515. This decline was predominantly propelled by the surge in person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions, according to the report. The point of sale (PoS) terminals grew by 26 percent to 8.56 million, with private sector banks dominating the space with 73 percent market share and public sector banks accounting for 18 percent. Bharat QR (BQR) usage grew by 32 percent to 5.96 million, while UPI QRs grew by 57 percent to 317 million.

Canara Bank launched a slew of new products, including a loan scheme to meet shortfall of hospital expenditure.

Canara Bank launched a slew of new products, including a loan scheme to meet shortfall of hospital expenditure. A healthcare-focused loan product called Canara Heal is aimed at meeting the shortfall of hospitalisation expenditure while settling through TPA healthcare insurance claims of self and/or dependents. The loan for meeting hospital expenses will be available at 11.55 percent per annum on a floating basis and 12.30 percent at fixed interest rate basis. The bank also introduced a customised savings account for women called Canara Angel with unique features such as cancer care policy, pre-approved personal loan Canara ReadyCash and online loan against term deposit product Canara MyMoney. The bank also unveiled 'Canara UPI 123PAY ASI', a user-friendly payment interface, and 'Canara HRMS Mobile App for Staff', an HR management solution for the bank's employees.

PhonePe partnered with Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Ltd (Star

Health Insurance) to offer 'Star Comprehensive Insurance Policy'.

PhonePe partnered with Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Ltd (Star Health Insurance) to offer 'Star Comprehensive Insurance Policy'. With this partnership, PhonePe users will now be able to avail 'Star Comprehensive Insurance Policy' on the PhonePe app with coverage up to Rs1 Crore. With this launch, PhonePe further expands the options available to its users in the health insurance category. Through this partnership, for the first time, Star Health Insurance's Comprehensive Health Insurance will be offered to customers with a monthly premium payment plan, pioneered by PhonePe – a first-of-its-kind initiative in the industry. Users can also opt to pay their premium with the UPI AutoPay mandate and enjoy added convenience.

A METOC seminar 'Meghayan-24' was conducted by SNOM and INMAC at Southern Naval Command on 28 March 2024.

A METOC (Meteorological and Oceanographic) seminar 'Meghayan-24' was conducted by School of Naval Oceanology & Meteorology (SNOM) and Indian Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre (INMAC) at Southern Naval Command on 28 March 2024. The seminar was based on the theme 'At the Frontline of Climate Action' as promulgated by WMO for the year 2024. The inaugural address was delivered by Admiral R Hari Kumar, Chief of the Naval Staff through virtual mode.

The Indian Air Force has commenced a 10-day war exercise called 'Gagan Shakti-2024' from 1st April to 10 April 2024 in Pokhran.

The Indian Air Force has commenced a 10-day war exercise called 'Gagan Shakti-2024' from 1st April to 10 April 2024 in Pokhran. The exercise aiming to demonstrate its formidable might and capability to execute high-intensity operations in a realistic environment, involving all air force bases and assets across the country. The exercise is being conducted at various locations across the country, including the Pokhran Field Firing Range in Jaisalmer. The Indian Army will provide logistics support for the mega exercise, facilitating a comprehensive pan-India movement of approximately 10,000 IAF personnel and ammunition in order to validate the Operational Rail Mobilisation Plan (ORMP) aspects of the IAF.

Defence exports have recorded Rs21,083 crore (approx. US\$ 2.63 Billion) in the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24, a growth of 32.5% over the last fiscal when the figure was Rs15,920 crore.

Defence exports have recorded Rs21,083 crore (approx. US\$ 2.63 Billion) in the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24, a growth of 32.5% over the last fiscal when the figure was Rs15,920 crore. The recent figures indicate that the defence exports have grown by 31 times in the last 10 years as compared to FY 2013-14. The private sector and the Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) have contributed about 60% and 40% respectively. In addition, there has been a rise in the number of export authorisations issued to the defence exporters during FY 2023-24. From 1,414 export

authorisations in FY 2022-23, the number jumped to 1,507 in FY 2023-24.

A two-day Coastal Security Exercise 'Sagar Kavach 01/24' involving all maritime security agencies was conducted in UT of Lakshadweep from 1 to 2 April 2024.

A two-day Coastal Security Exercise 'Sagar Kavach 01/24' involving all maritime security agencies was conducted in UT of Lakshadweep from 1 to 2 April 2024. Assets of Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, Marine Police, Fisheries, Customs and other security agencies were engaged in the exercise. Validation of effectiveness of Coastal Security mechanism while dealing with asymmetric threat emanating from the sea were undertaken. The exercise witnessed enhanced preparedness, response mechanism, surveillance capabilities coordination between the coastal security stake holders.

NTPC Ltd has shut down its 220 MW Barauni Thermal Power Station Stage 1 in Bihar.

NTPC Ltd has shut down its 220 MW Barauni Thermal Power Station Stage 1 in Bihar. The 220 MW power unit was closed permanently on 31 March 2024. The Barauni Thermal Power Station Stage-I consisted of two units of 110 MW each. The thermal power plant in Begusarai district of Bihar has a total capacity of 720 MW. It comprised two units of 110 MW each and another two units of 250 MW each. NTPC bought the Barauni Thermal Power Station from the Bihar State Power Generation Company in December 2018. At that time, the power plant had two units of 110 MW each and two units of 250 MW each (under construction).

Mahindra Aerostructures has signed a multi-year contract worth around USD 100 million with Airbus Atlantic Group entity.

Mahindra Aerostructures has signed a multi-year contract worth around USD 100 million with Airbus Atlantic Group entity. Under the contract, the company will supply close to 2,300 varieties of metallic components to Airbus Atlantic in France from its manufacturing base in India. The contract adds to existing MASPL programmes to deliver parts directly to Airbus at their facilities in France and Germany. MASPL has been a direct supplier to Airbus Group since 2015, and partners with Airbus on numerous initiatives.

The Indian government has raised Rs16,500 crore in 2023/24 by selling its stakes in about 10 state-run companies.

The Indian government has raised Rs16,500 crore in 2023/24 by selling its stakes in about 10 state-run companies, about 9 percent lower than its internal target of Rs 18,000 crore. However, lower stake sale receipts have been partly made up by higher dividends that the government received from state-run companies. In 2023/24, the government received about Rs63,000 crore as dividends, above its target of Rs50,000 crore. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambition of privatising state-run

firms has taken a back seat due to general elections that start on 19 April 2024.

Indian Oil has signed a binding term sheet with Panasonic Energy Co. Ltd for manufacturing cylindrical lithium-ion cells in India.

Indian Oil has signed a binding term sheet with Panasonic Energy Co. Ltd for manufacturing cylindrical lithium-ion cells in India. The deal was made in anticipation of demand for batteries for two-and three-wheel vehicles as well as energy storage systems, in Indian markets. Apart from fulfilling domestic requirements, investments in setting up local manufacturing will set up a complete supply chain ecosystem improving India's self-reliance, fortifying India's position in the global energy landscape.

Prestige Group has entered into a strategic deal worth Rs 2,001 crore with the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and Kotak AIF.

Prestige Group has entered into a strategic deal worth Rs 2,001 crore with the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and Kotak AIF. The deal is dedicated towards the development of residential projects in prominent locations across 4 cities in India. The deal is aimed at catalysing the development of early-stage residential projects, ensuring the company's commitment to prudent expansion and diversified growth. Given the increasing demand and consolidation in the sector, this deal will help in accelerating growth and expansion. These funds will fuel the development of greenfield residential projects across the cities of Bengaluru, Mumbai, Goa, and NCR with a combined Gross Development Value (GDV) of over Rs 18,000 crore, contributing significantly to the top line.

A joint venture of state-owned RVNL and Salasar Techno Engineering has bagged a transmission project worth around Rs60 crore in central African nation Rwanda.

A joint venture of state-owned RVNL and Salasar Techno Engineering Limited (STEL) has bagged a transmission project worth around Rs60 crore in central African nation Rwanda. The order has been secured from Energy Development Corporation Limited (EDCL) and to be executed in 18 months. The Rwanda Transmission System Reinforcement and Last Mile Connectivity project (TSRLMC) worth USD 7.152 million equivalent to Rs596.21 million is for plant design, supply and installation of 45.8 km, 110 KV double circuit Rukarara-Huye-Gisagara transmission lines.

World Bank projected Indian economy to grow at 7.5 percent in 2024.

World Bank projected Indian economy to grow at 7.5 percent in 2024, revising its earlier projections for the same period by 1.2 percent. Overall, growth in South Asia is expected to be strong at 6.0 percent in 2024, driven mainly by robust growth in India and recoveries in Pakistan and Sri Lanka. According to the report, South Asia is expected to remain the fastest-growing region in the world for the next two years, with

growth projected to be 6.1% in 2025. In India, which accounts for the bulk of the region's economy, output growth is expected to reach 7.5% in FY23/24 before returning to 6.6% over the medium term. In Bangladesh, output is expected to rise by 5.7% in FY24/25, with high inflation and restrictions on trade and foreign exchange constraining economic activity. Following the contraction in FY22/23, Pakistan's economy is expected to grow by 2.3% in FY24/25 as business confidence improves.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved a acquisition of an 8% stake in MG Motor India by IndoEdge India Fund – Large Value Fund (LVF) Scheme.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved a acquisition of an 8% stake in MG Motor India by IndoEdge India Fund – Large Value Fund (LVF) Scheme. The acquisition of shares in MG Motor India will grant IndoEdge India Fund 8.70% of the voting and economic rights. IndoEdge is a large-value fund tailored for accredited investors. It is a scheme offered by IndoEdge India Fund, a contributory determinate trust registered under the Securities and Exchange Board of India as a Category II Alternative Investment Fund, complying with the SEBI (AIF) Regulations, 2012.

The owner of Formula 1, Liberty Media, has acquisition of MotoGP in a \$4.2 billion deal.

The owner of Formula 1, Liberty Media, has acquisition of MotoGP in a \$4.2 billion deal. Liberty, who has owned F1 since 2017, will take an 86 percent stake of the motorbike racing series' parent company, Dorna Sports, with the current management retaining 14 percent. The transaction reflects an enterprise value of 4.2 billion euros for Dorna/MotoGP and an equity value of 3.5 billion euros.

The new scheme Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme 2024 (EMPS 2024) Implemented by the Ministry of Heavy Industries, has come into effect from 1st April 2024 after the end of the FAME scheme on 31st March 2024.

The govt of India has started a new scheme Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme 2024 (EMPS 2024) Implemented by the Ministry of Heavy Industries, the new scheme has come into effect from 1st April 2024 after the end of the FAME scheme on 31st March 2024. The new INR 500 crore scheme has thus came into force from 1st April 2024 and continue till the end of July 2024. The new scheme will offer support of up to INR 10,000 per two-wheeler for about 3.33 lakh two-wheelers. For small three-wheelers (e-rickshaw and e-carts), the new scheme has provision for up to INR 25,000 subsidy for over 41,000 such vehicles. The financial support will be up to INR 50,000 in case of a large three-wheeler.

International Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) is annually observed on 31 March.

International Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) is annually observed on 31 March. The day is celebrating transgender people and raising awareness of discrimination faced by transgender people worldwide, as well as a celebration of their contributions to society. The first International Transgender Day of Visibility was held on March 31, 2009. It has since been spearheaded by the U.S.-based youth advocacy organization Trans Student Educational Resources. 2024 marks the 15th anniversary of Transgender Day of Visibility with celebrations planned across the globe.

Army Medical Corps celebrated its 260th Raising Day on 3rd April 2024.

Army Medical Corps celebrated its 260th Raising Day on 3rd April 2024. Raised in the year 1764, the Corps has rendered selfless service to the nation over centuries of progress, development, dedication & sacrifice, both in combat and in peace, living up to the Corps motto of 'Sarve Santu Niramaya' meaning 'let all be free from disease'. The AMC Raising Day celebrates the contributions of thousands of Officers, JCOs and other ranks of the Army Medical Corps who have been successful in impacting the lives of the Armed Forces personnel, families and veterans.

World Autism Awareness Day is celebrated every year on 2 April.

World Autism Awareness Day is celebrated every year on 2 April. The purpose of this observation is to spread awareness around the condition and to enhance efforts in educating, empowering and supporting people with this condition. Autism is caused due to a combination of genetic and environmental factors. The theme of World Autism Awareness Day 2024 is 'Empowering Autistic Voices'. World Autism Awareness Day was designated by a resolution passed by United Nations General Assembly on November 1, 2007. The UN General Assembly unanimously declared April 2 was World Autism awareness Day.

International Children's Book Day (ICBD) is celebrated annually on 2 April to promote reading and to inspire a love for books among children worldwide.

International Children's Book Day (ICBD) is celebrated annually on 2 April to promote reading and to inspire a love for books among children worldwide. Each year, the International Bureau of Children's Books (IBBY) chooses a new department to be the international sponsor of ICBD. IBBY Japan (JBBY) is honoured to be the official sponsor of ICBD 2024, under the theme "Cross the Seas on the Wing of your Imagination". ICBD was initiated by the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), a non-profit organization founded in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1953. The first International Children's Book Day was celebrated on April 2, 1967, coinciding with Hans Christian Andersen's birthday, the renowned Danish author best known for his fairy tales.

International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action is annually observed on 4 April.

International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action is annually observed on 4 April. The theme of International Mining Awareness Day 2024 is "Protecting Lives. Building Peace". On 8 December 2005, the General Assembly declared that 4 April each year would be observed as the UN Mine Awareness Day. It was first celebrated on 4 April 2006. It called for the establishment of national mine-operation capabilities in those countries with the assistance of the United Nations and related organizations. The purpose of this day is to get help for mine work. Raising awareness about landmines.

International Day of Zero Waste is celebrated every year on 30 March.

International Day of Zero Waste is celebrated every year on 30 March. Recognizing the urgency and importance of tackling waste, the UNEA adopted a resolution on 14 December 2022. In this, March 30 was declared as the International Day of Zero Waste. This proposal was brought by Turkey and 105 other countries joined in sponsoring it. The first International Day of Zero Waste was celebrated with enthusiasm across the world in 2023. This day is organized by UNEP and UN-Habitat. International Day of Zero Waste aims to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

At the top of the Forbes World's Billionaires List 2024 is Mukesh Ambani whose net worth shot up to \$116 billion, from \$83 billion.

American business magazine Forbes released its "Forbes World's Billionaires List 2024: The Top 200", which features 200 Indians, up from 169 last year. At the top of the list is Mukesh Ambani whose net worth shot up to \$116 billion, from \$83 billion, making him the first Asian to break into the \$100 billion club. Mukesh Ambani retained his position as the 9th richest person in the world is both India's and Asia's richest person. Gautam Adani is the second richest Indian as per the list as he added \$36.8 billion to cement his position. Overall in the list, he is at No.17 with a fortune of \$84 billion. The richest woman in India remains Savitri Jindal who is now the fourth richest in India, up from sixth a year ago. She has a net worth of \$33.5 billion. Bernard Arnault, with a total net worth of \$233 billion, topped the list, followed by Elon Musk (\$195 billion), Jeff Bezos (\$194 billion), Mark Zuckerberg (\$177 billion), Larry Ellison (\$114 billion), Warren Buffett (\$133 billion), Bill Gates (\$128 billion), Steve Ballmer (\$121 billion), Mukesh Ambani (\$116 billion), and Larry Page (\$114 billion).

Romania and Bulgaria partially joined Europe's Schengen travel zone.

Romania and Bulgaria partially joined Europe's Schengen travel zone, marking a new step in the two countries' integration with the European Union. The two countries reached an agreement late last year to join the continent's free-travel area by air and sea after Austria opposed full membership, including land crossings, saying Romania and Bulgaria needed to do more to prevent irregular migration. Created in 1985, the Schengen area allows more than 400 million people in the European Union to travel

freely without internal border controls. As partial members, the Schengen zone now comprises 29 members – 25 of the 27 EU member states as well as Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Only 3 percent of Bulgarian goods are transported by air and sea, the remaining 97 percent by land. The two countries have joined a regional police initiative with Austria, Greece and Slovakia to counter the flow of irregular migration.

UNICEF India, the International Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) Delhi and the IIT Bombay jointly launched a 10-week Digital Health Enterprise Planning Course.

UNICEF India, the International Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) Delhi and the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) jointly launched a 10-week Digital Health Enterprise Planning Course. It aims to bridge tech knowledge gaps among healthcare professionals. Rolling out from 17 April 2024, the course aims to equip healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, healthcare administrators and allied health professionals with the skills to support the digital transformation of the healthcare sector. Policymakers, IT professionals, and individuals involved in healthcare technology implementation are also can take the course. The 10-week course includes nine modules and covers a range of topics crucial to digital health implementation.

WHO has launched 'CoViNet', to accurate detection, monitoring and assessment of coronaviruses of public health importance.

WHO has launched Coronavirus Network 'CoViNet', to facilitate and coordinate global expertise and capacities for early and accurate detection, monitoring and assessment of SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV and novel coronaviruses of public health importance. CoViNet expands on the WHO COVID-19 reference laboratory network established during the early days of the pandemic. Initially, the lab network was focused on SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, but will now address a broader range of coronaviruses, including MERS-CoV and potential new coronaviruses. CoViNet is a network of global laboratories with expertise in human, animal and environmental coronavirus surveillance. The network currently includes 36 laboratories from 21 countries in all 6 WHO regions.

As per report released by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), India is expected to lose around 5.8 percent of daily working hours due to rising temperatures by 2030.

As per report released by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), India is expected to lose around 5.8 percent of daily working hours due to rising temperatures by 2030. The report also mentions that climate change will contribute to the spread of disease, leading to lower government revenues and higher spending requirements as fiscal expenditure is required for

mitigating such adverse effects and building resilience. An additional 1.2 percent of GDP was spent on government food subsidies in the fiscal year 2022 in India as part of policies aimed at reducing rural poverty. The report also notes that deep opportunities are available to leverage women's economic and social talents as care demands may decrease in step and women's roles in different sectors.

BMW Group and Tata Technologies have signed an agreement to form a joint venture to set up an automotive software and IT development hub in India.

BMW Group and Tata Technologies have signed an agreement to form a joint venture to set up an automotive software and IT development hub in India. The two firms have signed an agreement to form a JV with the aim to establish an automotive software and IT development hub in Pune, Bengaluru, and Chennai. The main development and operations activities will be established in Bengaluru and Pune. In Chennai, the focus shall be on business IT solutions. The JV will deliver automotive software, including Software-defined Vehicle (SDV) solutions for BMW Group's premium vehicles and digital transformation solutions for its business IT.

Tejas Networks Ltd signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Telecom Egypt (TE), ITIDA to replicate implementing Bharatnet and NKN projects in Egypt.

Tejas Networks Ltd signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Telecom Egypt (TE), ITIDA (Information Technology Industry Development Agency), National Telecom Institute to replicate implementing Bharatnet (Rural Broadband Project) and NKN (National Knowledge Network) projects in Egypt. Other broad areas of cooperation include capacity building of Egyptian engineers and technicians on state-of-the-art telecom and networking technologies and establishing local manufacturing and R & D facilities for Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) products. Tejas Network will setup technical support services in Egypt both for customers within the country as well as for the larger Africa and Middle East region.

The SatCom Industry Association of India (SIA-India) and ABRASAT, the Brazilian Satellite Communications Association, have signed a MoU to propel advancements in the space sector.

The SatCom Industry Association of India (SIA-India) and ABRASAT, the Brazilian Satellite Communications Association, have signed a MoU to propel advancements in the space sector. This strategic partnership aims to foster collaboration and drive innovative ventures and technological cooperation between India and Brazil. It aims to strengthen business expansion and cooperation between India and Brazil in various sectors, enabling seamless regional and global connectivity. The partnership will explore new market dynamics, infrastructure development, technological advancements, entrepreneurship, funding sources, and private investments.

National Power Training Institute (NPTI) and PTC India Ltd have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a CoE for Research & Development in the Energy Domain.

National Power Training Institute (NPTI) and PTC India Ltd have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Research & Development in the Energy Domain, with a focus on promoting sustainable development goals. The outcomes of the CoE's Research and Development endeavours will be disseminated to the power sector through Training and Capacity building. Under the MoU, NPTI and PTC India Limited will collaborate to undertake research, development, and knowledge sharing through the CoE. The MoU was signed in the office of Ministry of Power, New Delhi on 28th March 2024 by Director General, NPTI, Dr Tripta Thakur and by Senior Vice President (HR), PTC India Ltd, Koel Singhal.

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd has signed a contract with Cochin Shipyard Limited for the supply of six sets of LM2500 gas turbines (GT) and GT Auxiliaries (GTAE), spares, tools for Indian Navy's NGMV project.

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has signed a contract with Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi, for the supply of six sets of LM2500 gas turbines (GT) and GT Auxiliaries (GTAE), spares, tools for Indian Navy's Next Generation Missile Vessel (NGMV) project. Hindustan Aeronautics has secured a contract from CSL to supply turbines, auxiliaries and other tools worth Rs1,173.42 crore. The project is expected to be executed from FY 2026 to FY 2029.

The Quality Council of India (QCI) has signed a MoU with Laghu Udyog Bharati (LUB) to enhance awareness and participation in the MSME Competitive Lean Scheme (MCLS).

The Quality Council of India (QCI) has signed a MoU with Laghu Udyog Bharati (LUB) to enhance awareness and participation in the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Competitive Lean Scheme (MCLS) among the members of Laghu Udyog Bharati (LUB). The MoU outlines a roadmap for collaborative initiatives, including awareness programs, camps, and consultations at state and district levels, to facilitate the adoption of lean principles and sustainable practices under the scheme among the LUB members. To ensure smooth implementation, a designated nodal officer from each organization will act as a single point of contact for all MCLS-related matters.

Meta has partnered with the Press Trust of India (PTI) under its third-party fact-checking programme in India.

Meta has partnered with the Press Trust of India (PTI) under its third-party fact-checking programme in India. The partnership will enable PTI to identify, review,

and rate content as misinformation across Meta platforms. Meta's fact-checking programme in India includes partnerships with independent fact-checking organisations that assist users in identifying, reviewing, verifying information, and helping to prevent the spread of misinformation on its platforms. Under the initiative, Meta partners with fact-checkers certified through the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN), who identify, review, and rate viral misinformation across Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has issued a directive, effective from 1st April 2024, to link their Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) Beneficiary ID with their Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) ID.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has issued a directive, effective from 1st April 2024, to link their Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) Beneficiary ID with their Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) ID. According to a memorandum by CGHS Director Manoj Jain, all existing beneficiaries must complete this linking process within 30 days. The linking of the CGHS beneficiary ID with the Ayushman Bharat ID is aimed at creating digital health identification of CGHS beneficiaries and storing their digital health records.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has extended the last date for geo-tagging of properties till 30 June 2024, in a move to give another opportunity to taxpayers to register their property with the civic body.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has extended the last date for geo-tagging of properties till 30 June 2024, in a move to give another opportunity to taxpayers to register their property with the civic body. The extension has been given as a large number of taxpayers were not able to register their properties at the MCD portal due to technical glitches or other issues. According to the order, many taxpayers were yet to complete the mandatory geo-tagging of their properties. If a taxpayer fails to geo-tag their property, they cannot avail the rebate on the lumpsum payment of tax by June 30 in the current financial year 2024-25. Geo-tagging of properties refers to assigning a unique latitude/longitude coordinate to a property on a GIS map by selecting the current location against any Unique Property Identification Code (UPIC) so that all properties have their location identified against a unique latitude-longitude position.

The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) has partnered with HP India to introduce 'HP Future Impact Leaders - IICA Certified Environmental – Social - Governance (ESG) Professional Programme'.

The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) has partnered with HP India to introduce 'HP Future Impact Leaders - IICA Certified Environmental – Social - Governance (ESG) Professional Programme'. This initiative aims to promote sustainability and empower corporate social responsibility (CSR) professionals to

emerge as leaders in navigating the intricacies of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) frameworks. Under this programme, HP India in collaboration with IICA, will offer 100 percent scholarships to 75 candidates, enabling them to pursue advanced education in ESG without financial barriers.

A meeting was held for the launch of the report titled “Synchronizing energy transitions towards possible Net-Zero for India: Affordable and clean energy for All” prepared by IIM-Ahmedabad as part of a study project.

A meeting was held for the launch of the report titled “Synchronizing energy transitions towards possible Net-Zero for India: Affordable and clean energy for All” prepared by IIM-Ahmedabad as part of a study project. Report was sanctioned in November 2021 by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India with part-funding (one-third) from Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL). The launch was held in Committee Room ‘A’, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi on 3rd April, 2024. The report was launched by Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India. The report attempts to answer key questions related to India’s energy trajectory such as how much energy does India need to achieve high value of Human Development Index (HDI). Net-zero is not possible without substantial nuclear power and Renewable Energy (RE) generation by 2070. To achieve net-zero energy systems by 2070, the electricity sector will need to decarbonize well before that.

India plans to build its first privately managed strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) by 2029-30.

India plans to build its first privately managed strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) by 2029-30, granting the operator the freedom to trade all of the stored oil. Allowing a fully commercial SPR mirrors the model adopted by countries such as Japan and South Korea, which allow private lessees, mostly oil majors, to trade the crude. So far, India has allowed only partial commercialisation for its three existing SPRs in southern India, which have a combined capacity of 36.7 million barrels. India plans to build two new SPRs - the first a 18.3 million barrels cavern at Padur in southern Karnataka state, and then a 29.3 million barrels SPR in eastern Odisha state - with private partners allowed to trade all of the oil locally.

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu launched India’s first home-grown gene therapy named “CAR-T cell therapy” for cancer at IIT Bombay.

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu launched India’s first home-grown gene therapy named “CAR-T cell therapy” for cancer at IIT Bombay. India’s first CAR-T cell therapy is developed through collaboration between the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and Tata Memorial Hospital in association with industry partner ImmunoACT. A CAR T-cell therapy involves modifying a patient’s T cells (a type of immune system cell) in the laboratory and using them to attack and destroy cancer

cells. The NexCAR19 CAR-T therapy is developed by Prof Rahul Purwar, Department of Bio-sciences and Bio-engineering along with his team at IIT Bombay, at the startup ImmunoACT which he co-founded with his students, and with doctors at Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai.

Adani Green Energy becomes first company in India to surpass 10,000 megawatt (MW) renewable energy capacity in its operational portfolio.

Adani Green Energy becomes first company in India to surpass 10,000 megawatt (MW) renewable energy capacity in its operational portfolio. The company's operational portfolio comprises 7,393 MW of solar capacity, 1,401 MW of wind capacity, and 2,140 MW of wind-solar hybrid capacity. This achievement underscores Adani Green and its development partners' commitment to advancing towards the target of 450 GW of renewable energy by 2030. Adani Green's operational portfolio of 10,934 MW will provide electricity to over 5.8 million homes and prevent approximately 21 million tonne of annual carbon-dioxide emissions.

ISRO has unveiled a new introductory-level online training programme called 'Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)'.

ISRO has unveiled a new introductory-level online training programme called 'Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)' which is aimed to attract youngsters to the field of space science and technology. It is particularly targeted at postgraduate and final-year undergraduate students who are pursuing physical sciences and technology. The space agency will conduct the START 2024 programme during April and May. The START programme is part of ISRO's efforts to help Indian students become professionals in the sphere of space science and technology.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has re-imposed the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) order for solar photovoltaic (PV) modules from 1st April 2024.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has re-imposed the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) order for solar photovoltaic (PV) modules from 1st April 2024. In FY24, the ALMM was put on hold for the entire fiscal year to provide relief to solar PV manufacturers, who were faced with limited domestic availability. However in February 2024, the Ministry put the reimposition under abeyance "till further orders". Each project where the solar PV modules have been received at the project site by 31 March 2024 and is unable to get commissioned by that day, on account of reasons beyond the control of the renewable power developer, would be examined separately. The list also applies to solar PV rooftop and PM KUSUM, which are subsidised.

The National Highways Authority of India's "One Vehicle, One FASTag" rule

came into force from 1st April 2024.

The National Highways Authority of India's "One Vehicle, One FASTag" rule, which aims to discourage using single FASTag for multiple vehicles or linking multiple FASTags to a particular vehicle, came into force from 1st April 2024. The NHAI had extended the "One Vehicle, One FASTag" initiative's compliance deadline to March-end over problems facing Paytm users. To enhance the efficiency of the electronic toll collection system and provide seamless movement at toll plazas, the NHAI has taken the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative.

The Department of Posts Bihar Circle has decided to release a special cover to commemorate 250 years of the release of the world's first postal stamp, the 'Copper Stamp' which was issued from Patna (Azimabad).

The Department of Posts Bihar Circle has decided to release a special cover to commemorate 250 years of the release of the world's first postal stamp, the 'Copper Stamp' which was issued from Patna (Azimabad). This was released by Chief Postmaster General of Bihar Postal Circle, Anil Kumar. The Copper Stamp issued in Patna (Azimabad) 250 years ago was a pioneering initiative in the field of postal services.

As many as 19 traditional products and crafts of Assam, including 'Bihu Dhol', 'Jaapi' and several items of the Bodo community, have been accorded the geographical indication (GI) tag.

As many as 19 traditional products and crafts of Assam, including 'Bihu Dhol', 'Jaapi' and several items of the Bodo community, have been accorded the geographical indication (GI) tag. 13 of these products are specifically linked to the Bodos, who form the largest tribal group in the state. 6 prestigious GI Tags have been granted to traditional crafts with support from NABARD, RO Guwahati, and facilitated by Padma Shri Dr Rajani Kant, GI Expert. The 13 items that have received the GI tag include three agricultural products - Gongar Dunjia, Keradapini and Khardwi - and six musical instruments - Kham, Serja, Thorkha, Jotha, Gongona and Sifung. Assam Asharikandi Terracotta Craft, Assam Pani Mateka Craft, Sarthebari Metal Craft and Assam Mising Handloom Products are the other products that received the GI tags.

Adani Enterprises' subsidiary Kutch Copper commenced operations through the first unit of its greenfield copper refinery project at Mundra, Gujarat.

Adani Enterprises' subsidiary Kutch Copper commenced operations through the first unit of its greenfield copper refinery project at Mundra, Gujarat. Marking the Adani Portfolio's debut in the metal industry, the company will invest nearly \$1.2 billion to set up a a copper smelter with 0.5 MTPA capacity in the first phase. Overall, the plant will have a 1 MTPA and will be set up over two phases. Once completed, Kutch Copper will be the world's largest single-location custom smelter, benchmarking ESG performance standards while leveraging state-of-the-art technology and digitalisation.

The company expects to create 2,000 direct and 5,000 indirect employment opportunities.

Tim McGovern, a visual effects veteran who earned an Oscar for his work on 1990's Total Recall, passed away in Washington, USA.

Tim McGovern, a visual effects veteran who earned an Oscar for his work on 1990's Total Recall, passed away in Washington, USA. A digital effects pioneer, McGovern was a Visual Effects Society board member for nearly two decades. He served as vice chair as well as founding co-chair of the Ves Awards committee. In October, McGovern received the Ves Founders Award and was bestowed lifetime Ves membership.

Veteran American actress Barbara Rush died in Los Angeles, USA.

Veteran American actress Barbara Rush died in Los Angeles, USA. Rush won a Golden Globe Award in 1954 for the most promising newcomer in 'It Came from Outer Space'. Her career spanned across seven decades and has appeared in numerous films and television shows. Barbara Rush garnered increased recognition following her role in the critically acclaimed 1956 drama 'Bigger Than Life'.

WHO launched S.A.R.A.H., a digital health promoter prototype.

The World Health Organization (WHO) launched S.A.R.A.H., a digital health promoter prototype with enhanced empathetic response powered by generative artificial intelligence (AI). S.A.R.A.H. is a Smart AI Resource Assistant for Health that represents an evolution of AI-powered health information avatars, using new language models and cutting-edge technology. It can engage users 24 hours a day in 8 languages on multiple health topics, on any device. The S.A.R.A.H. project strives for continuous learning and development of a prototype that can inspire reliable, responsible and accessible information.

Microsoft and OpenAI have unveiled plans to construct a artificial intelligence technology supercomputer named "Stargate".

Microsoft and OpenAI have unveiled plans to construct a artificial intelligence technology supercomputer named "Stargate". Estimated to cost a \$100 billion, this ambitious project underscores the escalating demand for advanced data centres capable of supporting cutting-edge AI applications, heralding a new era in AI development. The venture is anticipated to be primarily financed by Microsoft, eclipsing existing data centre costs by over 100-fold. Scheduled for launch in 2028, Stargate is poised to lead a series of supercomputers envisioned by Microsoft and OpenAI over the next 6 years, as part of a comprehensive strategy aimed at unlocking the full potential of AI.

Venturi Astrolab Inc has unveiled a groundbreaking prototype of a lunar rover, the Flexible Logistics and Exploration (FLEX) vehicle.

Venturi Astrolab Inc has unveiled a groundbreaking prototype of a lunar rover, the Flexible Logistics and Exploration (FLEX) vehicle. During a successful field test near Death Valley National Park in California, the FLEX rover demonstrated its agility over rugged terrain, showcasing its potential for future lunar missions. The test highlighted the rover's capabilities, including setting up a vertical solar array. If NASA integrates FLEX into the Artemis program, it will mark the return of a passenger-capable rover to the lunar surface since Apollo 17 in 1972. With a speed comparable to the record-setting Apollo 17 rover, FLEX can navigate the moon's terrain efficiently. The rover weighs over 1,100 pounds with a cargo capacity of 3,300 pounds, enabling two astronauts to travel for eight hours on a single charge.

The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has delivered two Dornier 228 planes to the Guyana Defence Force.

The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has delivered two Dornier 228 planes to the Guyana Defence Force. The planes arrived at Cheddi Jagan International Airport aboard two Boeing C-17 Globemaster military transport planes. The development comes more than a year after the Guyanese president and his delegation had visited an HAL facility in India.

Anupama Upadhyaya defeats Tanya Hemanth (India) to win the women's singles title of the Orlen Polish Open 2024, held from 20th to 24 March 2024 in Wilanow Sports Centre, Warsaw, Poland.

Anupama Upadhyaya defeats Tanya Hemanth (India) to win the women's singles title of the Orlen Polish Open 2024, held from 20th to 24 March 2024 in Wilanow Sports Centre, Warsaw, Poland. The Indian pair M.R. Arjun and Dhruv Kapila won the men's doubles title by defeating Denmark's William Kryger Boe and Christian Faust Kjær in the finals. Denmark's Victor Ørding Kauffmann won the men's singles title by defeating Jia Heng Jason Teh (Singapore) in the finals. The 46th edition of the Polish Open, an International Challenge event was organized by the Polish Badminton Association with sanctions from Badminton Europe and the Badminton World Federation (BWF). It offered a total prize money of USD 15,000.

Italy's Jannik Sinner won the men's singles title at the Miami Open 2024 tennis tournament in Florida.

Italy's Jannik Sinner won the men's singles title at the Miami Open 2024 tennis tournament in Florida. Sinner beat Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov 6-3, 6-1 in the 72-minute-long final at Hard Rock Stadium. The ATP Masters 1000 win also lifts Sinner to the No. 2 spot in the men's singles tennis rankings. This was also Sinner's third ATP title of the year after the Australian Open and the Rotterdam Indoors

crowns. The USA's Danielle Collins beat Kazakh fourth seed Elena Rybakina 7-5, 6-3 to claim what was her first WTA 1000 singles tennis title of her career. Collins became only the fourth American after Serena Williams, Venus Williams and Sloane Stephens to win the Miami Open singles crown.

Team India ended the Youth World Boxing Cup 2024 in Budva, Montenegro, with 26 medals.

Team India ended the Youth World Boxing Cup 2024 in Budva, Montenegro, with 26 medals. The impressive medal haul consisted of 5 gold, 9 silver, and 12 bronze medals, helping India to finish as the runner-up in the tournament. In the Youth Women's Bouts, Chanchal Chaudhary, Nikita Chand, Parthavi Grewal, and Phalasal Akansha claimed gold medals in their respective weight categories. The silver medals were clinched by B. Nandita, Nisha, Anjali Kumari Singh, Rudrika, Khushi Pooniya, and Nirjhara Bana, showcasing India's strength across various weight divisions. The Youth Women also secured an impressive 5 bronze medals. The exceptional performances at the Youth World Boxing Cup earned Team India the runner-up trophy.