



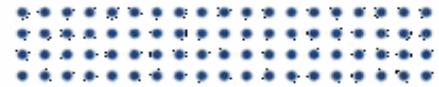
Prime Reader

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**January
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- International
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- Awards & Recognitions
- Sports
- Economy & Business
- Appointments & Resignation
- Defence
- Books & Authors
- Important Days
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Sanjiv Aggarwal appointed as NIIF's CEO and MD, to take charge in Feb!

Aggarwal has significant experience in the infrastructure and energy sectors. He joined Actis, a leading global investor in sustainable infrastructure, in 2008, where he became a partner in 2010. He has recently been responsible for Actis' energy investments in Asia, including India. Before joining Actis, Aggarwal worked with Citigroup and ANZ Investment Bank in the Indian energy and infrastructure sectors.

Indra Mani Pandey appointed as 4th SG of BIMSTEC; becomes 1st Indian to hold the post?

In a significant development, Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey, a seasoned diplomat from India, officially assumed the role of Secretary General (SG) of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). This appointment marks a crucial chapter in the organization's leadership, with Ambassador Pandey succeeding Tenzin Lekphell of Bhutan. Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey becomes the fourth Secretary General of BIMSTEC, succeeding Tenzin Lekphell. The official announcement was made through a foreign ministry press release, confirming that Ambassador Pandey will hold the position for a tenure of three years.

Germany win United Cup title after thrilling final tie against Poland!

Reigning Olympic champion Alexander Zverev saved two match points in a remarkable comeback to win his singles tie in an epic three-setter and then helped clinch the United Cup final for Germany in the deciding mixed doubles match. Zverev showed plenty of stamina in returning from the previous finish to rally from a set down and two match points and defeat Hurkacz.

President Droupadi Murmu Honoured Winners of Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2022!

President Draupadi Murmu posthumously conferred the prestigious Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award upon Savita Kanswal. The award, presented to her father Radheshyam Kanswal, is a testament to Savita's exceptional achievements in the field of mountaineering. Savita Kanswal made history by becoming the first Indian woman mountaineer to conquer both Mount Everest (8848 m) and Mount Makalu (8485 m) within an astonishing span of 16 days. This remarkable feat showcased not only her physical prowess but also her unwavering determination to achieve greatness at the young age of 25.

Bengali Writer Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay Named for 2023 Kuvempu Award!

He has authored more than 90 books, including travelogues and fiction for children. He received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1989 for his novel Manabajamina and

became a fellow of the Sahitya Akademi in 2021. Bengali writer and novelist, Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay (87), has been honoured with the Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar 2023 by the Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Trust.

Zerodha Fund House Launches India's 1st Growth Liquid ETF Scheme Named 'Zerodha Nifty 1D Rate Liquid ETF'!

Zerodha Fund House on Wednesday announced a new scheme and India's first growth liquid exchange-traded fund (ETF)—Zerodha Nifty 1D Rate Liquid ETF. The fund is expected to be listed on the NSE and BSE exchanges by January 24. The Zerodha Nifty 1D Rate Liquid ETF replicates the Nifty 1D Rate Index, which measures the returns generated by market participants lending in the overnight market. The ETF primarily invests in TREPS (Treasury Bills Repurchase) traded on the CCIL (Clearing Corporation of India Ltd) platform.

RBI doubles minimum capital requirement to Rs 200 crore for SFBs!

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the minimum capital requirement for small finance banks (SFBs) to Rs 200 crore and permitted Payments Bank to upgrade as SFBs. Incidentally, the net worth of all SFBs currently in operation is in excess of Rs 200 crore. Issuing the revised guidelines, the RBI said that for Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs) desirous of voluntarily transiting into SFBs, the initial requirement of net worth would be at Rs 100 crore, which will have to be increased to Rs 200 crore within five years from the date of commencement of business.

World Bank raises GBP 1.5 billion in 5-year sustainable development bond?

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), representing the World Bank, has successfully priced a 5-year bond in Great British Pound sterling (GBP) set to mature in October 2028. The Sustainable Development Bond aims to raise GBP 1.5 billion from investors, contributing to financing sustainable development initiatives in World Bank member countries.

P Santhosh, Chief General Manager at Canara Bank, has been appointed as the Managing Director of National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL)!

Natarajan Sundar, a seasoned banking veteran who previously served as Deputy Managing Director at State Bank of India, is the second high-ranking official to resign from NARCL before completing the designated tenure. Last August, Karnam Sekar, the then Chairman of NARCL, also stepped down without providing a specific reason, leaving the organization amid uncertainty. Sundar had assumed the role of Managing Director on May 30, 2022, for a two-year term, similar to the tenure of his predecessor, Karnam Sekar. Both resignations occurred before completing the stipulated two-year period, raising questions about the stability and management structure of NARCL.

ADB Sells Dual-Tranche \$3.75 Billion 3-Year and \$1.5 Billion 10-Year Global Benchmark Bonds?

ADB marked a strong start to the New Year with this pair of global dollar benchmarks in our core market topping off a fortnight of benchmark issuance across other non-core currencies including Australian dollar, New Zealand dollar, and pound sterling, said ADB Treasurer Pierre Van Peteghem. Not only were we able to print ADB's largest trades in a single outing, but the combined orderbook represented the largest-ever level of subscription we have seen to date.

State Bank of India (SBI) said it had completed the placement of \$250 million senior unsecured Green floating rate notes, referred to as 'The Green Notes'!

State Bank of India (SBI) said it had completed the placement of \$250 million senior unsecured Green floating rate notes, referred to as 'The Green Notes'. This issuance, maturing on December 29, 2028, is part of SBI's \$10 billion medium-term note program and was conducted through a private placement facilitated by its London branch, the bank said in a statement.

IndusInd Bank introduces Samman RuPay Credit Card for Government Employees?

IndusInd Bank on Tuesday launched its UPI-enabled IndusInd Bank Samman RuPay Credit Card, in association with with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) especially for government sector employees. The cards have been launched for government sector employees to provide them with a range of exclusive benefits and enhance their overall banking experience.

IOB Introduced Savings Account Portability Online Scheme to Transfer Savings Account Online?

To initiate an account transfer, customers need to log in to the IOB website (www.iob.in) and access the 'Transfer of Savings Accounts' section. Enter the account number and registered mobile number. A one-time password (OTP) will be sent to the registered mobile number. Once the OTP is entered, one may specify the desired branch for transfer and submit. A new page opens, revealing the account number and the name and code of the destination branch, confirming the successful transfer, according to a statement.

Justice BR Gavai Nominated As Chairperson of SCLSC; Justice Sanjiv Khanna Nominated as Executive Chairman of NALSA!

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has nominated Justice Bhushan Ramakrishna (BR) Gavai, a judge of the Supreme Court of India, as the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC). He succeeds Justice Sanjiv Khanna, the senior most puisne judge of the Supreme court. SCLSC was established

under Section 3A of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Zerodha Fund House Launches India's 1st Growth Liquid ETF Scheme Named 'Zerodha Nifty 1D Rate Liquid ETF'?

Zerodha Fund House on Wednesday announced a new scheme and India's first growth liquid exchange-traded fund (ETF)—Zerodha Nifty 1D Rate Liquid ETF. The fund is expected to be listed on the NSE and BSE exchanges by January 24. The Zerodha Nifty 1D Rate Liquid ETF replicates the Nifty 1D Rate Index, which measures the returns generated by market participants lending in the overnight market. The ETF primarily invests in TREPS (Treasury Bills Repurchase) traded on the CCIL (Clearing Corporation of India Ltd) platform.

Karnataka Bank & Digivridhi Partners to offer Financial Service to Dairy Farmers?

This partnership with DGV will provide seamless and innovative end-to-end digital product offerings to the dairy farmers and provide access to institutional credit, while easing and digitizing payments across the dairy value chain."The services will be made available at village dairy co-operative societies, associated with milk unions of Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF). To begin with, the services are now made available to milk societies associated with the Chamarajanagar Milk Union and will be rolled out to farmers of other unions in rapid succession, a release from the bank here said.

SBI raising USD 300mn through medium Term bonds; S&P and Fitch assigned BBB Rating?

State Bank of India (SBI) is in the market to raise about \$ 300 million through medium-term notes to garner resources for lending international customers. The fundraising round by India's largest bank comes after it mopped up \$1 billion last week. The new issue is likely to be concluded on Thursday and it has a green shoe option to raise extra amounts based on market conditions and pricing trends, said market sources. SBI is raising the money to meet the requirements of customers of its global business, said a bank executive

IPPB & Hindustan Zinc Partners to Offer Financial Inclusion Services in Rajasthan?

In a ground breaking alliance set to transform the financial landscape of rural Rajasthan, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) & Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL – a subsidiary of Vedanta Group) join forces to pioneer inclusive financial solutions. The collaboration will ensure in creating a lasting impact on the lives of community beneficiaries around Hindustan Zinc's operational areas. The MoU between IPPB & HZL was signed by Shri Gursharan Rai Bansal – Chief Sales & Marketing Officer, IPPB and Shri Arun Misra – CEO, Hindustan Zinc. "Joining hands with Hindustan Zinc Ltd. To provide financial inclusion services to its beneficiaries will help IPPB foray into

the domain of serving population benefitted by the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities by prominent corporates in India. This alliance with HZL marks a very important milestone for us to expand our ambit of doorstep banking service delivery to the unserved and underserved people in this country,” said Shri Gursharan Rai Bansal, Chief Sales & Marketing Officer, IPPB.

Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav launches book titled ‘Modi: Energising a Green Future’?

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, heading the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), has recently unveiled an insightful book titled "Modi: Energising A Green Future". Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, heading the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), has recently unveiled an insightful book titled “Modi: Energising A Green Future”. This book, a significant addition to environmental literature, is published by Pentagon Press in collaboration with the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation.

Union Minister Giriraj Singh Releases “Panchayats Free From GBV – A Handbook for Elected Representatives”!

Shri Giriraj Singh also released “Panchayats Free From Gender-Based Violence - A Handbook for Elected Representatives” on the occasion. The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj in collaboration with UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund) India. Union Minister Giriraj Singh, Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) released a handbook titled “Panchayats Free From Gender-Based Violence (GBV) – A Handbook for Elected Representatives” during the virtual inauguration of the one-day National Workshop on Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in New Delhi, Delhi.

General Manoj Mukund Naravane, the former Chief of Army Staff (CoAS) of the Indian Army, has penned his autobiography titled “Four Stars of Destiny: An Autobiography.”

In a remarkable literary venture, General Manoj Mukund Naravane, the former Chief of Army Staff (CoAS) of the Indian Army, has penned his autobiography titled “Four Stars of Destiny: An Autobiography.” Scheduled to be published in January 2024 by Penguin Veer, an imprint of Penguin Random House India, the book delves into the diverse experiences that have shaped Gen MM Naravane’s character, spanning from his childhood to his illustrious years in the armed services.

ICG & SAIL Signs MoU to Increase Indigenous Content Ship?

2023 was a landmark year for Ministry of Defence (MoD) as giant strides were made towards realising the vision of the Government, led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, to create a strong, secure, self-reliant, and inclusive India. Efforts to achieve ‘Aatmanirbharta’ in defence and Armed Forces modernisation surged ahead with

renewed thrust, with the country witnessing record defence exports and all-time high defence production. Strengthening border Infrastructure, utilising Nari Shakti and ensuring Ex-Servicemen Welfare have been at the core of the functioning of MoD under the guidance of Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh and these have moved forward with unprecedented pace and vigour.

Rs 45,000 crore committed for development of Indian tourism in first IWDC meeting!

the first meeting of Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC), chaired by the Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways(MoPSW), committed an investment of Rs 45,000 crore for development of river cruise tourism in India. The maiden edition of Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC) in Kolkata culminated with many firsts in an effort to ramp up capacity and augment viability of inland waterways of the country. The meet, chaired by the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal was attended by key stakeholders including ministerial representations from states as well as prominent stakeholders including policy makers and the industry leaders.

WB forecasts 2024 Global Growth to slow for 3rd Consecutive Year to 2.4%; India to Grow at 6.4% in FY25?

The WB has kept India's GDP growth forecast unchanged at 6.3% for FY 2023-24 and 6.4% for FY 2024-25 driven by robust investment and services. It will edge up to 6.5% in FY26. India is expected to maintain the fastest growth rate among the world's largest economies, but its post-pandemic recovery is expected to slow. The World Bank on Tuesday kept its FY25 economic growth projection for India unchanged at 6.4 per cent, mainly on account of strong domestic demand, rising public infrastructure spending and strong private-sector credit growth. However, it projected that the private consumption growth might taper off due to high food inflation and diminishing pent-up demand.

LIC to pick up to 10% equity stake in NHB promoted 'RMBS' entity?

Insurance behemoth Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is planning to acquire up to 10 percent equity stake in a company promoted by the National Housing Bank (NHB). The Board of Directors of LIC on Monday gave their approval to the proposal to invest in the NHB promoted entity that would focus on residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS), according to a regulatory filing by LIC with the stock exchanges.

DRDO launches Assault Rifle 'Ugram' for Indian Army?

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India, in a significant advancement, introduced 'Ugram,' an advanced 7.62 x 51 mm calibre assault rifle. This rifle, embodying a blend of indigenous design, development, and production, was unveiled in Pune by Dr. Shailendra V. Gade, Director General of

Armament and Combat Engineering Systems at the DRDO. This development marks a key achievement in collaboration with the private sector, specifically with Hyderabad-based Dvipa Armour India Private Limited.

IIT Madras to Establish New Campus in Kandy, Sri Lanka?

The proposal for the new campus was announced as part of the Budget 2024 by Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremasinghe, who also serves as the Finance Minister. Location: The campus will be situated in Kandy, Sri Lanka, a city known for its rich cultural and historical significance, The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras), a leading engineering institute in India, is set to expand its horizons by establishing a new campus in Kandy, Sri Lanka. This move is a significant development in educational collaboration between India and Sri Lanka.

India Ranks 2nd in MSCI EM Index; China Tops?

The controversy around Adani Group and the subsequent meltdown in the stock market have dragged down India's weightage in MSCI's emerging-market benchmark. Taiwan's weighting in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index rose to 14.2 per cent, behind leader China's at 31.2 per cent, while India's fell to the third spot with 13 per cent, according to Bloomberg-compiled data. India had overtaken Taiwan in August to claim the second spot. India has secured a 2nd rank in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) index by surpassing Taiwan. The first spot is grabbed by China

Bloomberg Index Services Ltd to Include India's FAR Bonds into its EM Index from September 2024?

The proposal calls for India FAR bonds to be incorporated into the Bloomberg EM Local Currency Indices in a phased manner during a five-month period beginning in September 2024. After complete inclusion, the Bloomberg Emerging Market ten percent Country Capped Index will have 10% of India's FAR bonds as a cap. Bloomberg Index Services Ltd (BISL) proposed the incorporation of India's Fully Accessible Route (FAR) bonds into its Emerging Market (EM) Local Currency Index. As per the proposal, the inclusion of Indian government bonds will be a phased implementation plan spanning over 5 months starting in September 2024.

India and UK sign LOA and principles for defense cooperation in R&D and result in!

India and U.K. on January 9 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for bilateral international cadet exchange programme and also a Letter of Arrangement (LoA) on defence collaboration in Research and Development. These were signed after the bilateral talks between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his British counterpart Grant Shapps in London. This is the first visit by an Indian Defence Minister to U.K. after over two decades, the last visit was by George Fernandes in 2002. Multiple attempts in the last few years for Mr. Singh's official visit to the U.K.

did not materialise due to scheduling and other issues.

Sebi appoints G Ram Mohan Rao as executive director for a period of 3 years!

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has appointed G Ram Mohan Rao as Executive Director (ED) for a period of three years. Rao will be handling the investigation department and the internal inspection department. He has been with the markets regulator for over 25 years during which he has supervised diverse portfolios such as inspections, litigation, recovery, investor awareness, grievance redressal, etc. Prior to the appointment, Rao was the regional director of the Eastern Regional Office of Sebi.

India Ratings raises GDP growth forecast for FY'24 to 6.7% from 6.2%?

India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has revised upwards its GDP growth estimate for FY24 to 6.7 per cent from 6.2 per cent earlier. The revision is led by a number of factors, including the resilience of the Indian economy (which grew 7.6 per cent yoy in 2QFY24); sustained government capex; the deleveraged balance sheet of corporates/ banking sector; prospects for a new private corporate capex cycle; and sustained momentum in business and software services exports, coupled with remittances from across the world .

Housing Minister Hardeep S Puri acknowledges contribution of DDA in ensuring inclusion of economically weaker sections in Delhi's development?

Speaking at the occasion Shri Puri said that the most remarkable contribution of the DDA has been its efforts to ensure that the economically weaker and vulnerable sections of society are not left behind in the ambition of creating a city that keeps pace with the evolving times. It has successfully provided houses under the In-Situ Slum Rehabilitation Project and is also in the process of conferring ownership rights to the residents of 1,731 unauthorised colonies of Delhi under PM UDAY. Addressing the gathering, Lt. Governor Shri V K Saxena said, "As a chairman of DDA, I have been personally involved in all DDA's projects since last one and half years. And I would proudly state that I am very impressed with the hard work put up by them in shaping the national capital."

2023 Creative Arts Emmy Awards | 'The Last of Us', 'The White Lotus', 'The Bear' win big!

The 75th Creative Arts Emmy Awards took place over two nights between January 6 and 7 and witnessed shows like The Last of Us, The White Lotus, The Bear and Beef come on top with multiple wins. The show also honoured achievements in non-fiction, animation and variety programming, with sports documentary series Welcome To Wrexham winning 5 awards. The highest number of wins by a fiction programme went to The Last of Us, with eight nods. Nick Offerman, who played the character Bill in the post-apocalyptic series based on the popular video-game franchise, won his first

Emmy at the show. The event was held at the Peacock Theater in downtown Los Angeles, California, USA.

IRDAI eases norms for insurer investment in infrastructure debt funds?

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has relaxed certain norms on investment in infrastructure debt funds (IDFs) of non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) by insurance companies. Previously, insurers were permitted to invest in IDFs backed by the central government on a case-by-case basis. The regulator has done away with the requirement for case-by-case approval for IDF as a measure to encourage investments by insurers in the sector and to increase the ease of doing business.

CBRE India's report: Maharashtra Contributes Highest Share of MSMEs in India; TN & UP among top 3!

According to the report, Maharashtra, TN, and UP contributed to nearly 40% of the total MSMEs registered in India. Maharashtra holds 38.09 lakh MSMEs, followed by Tamil Nadu (TN) with 22.32 lakh MSMEs, and UP stands out with 20.95 lakh registered MSMEs. Rajasthan with 16 lakh and Gujarat with 15.96 lakh MSMEs were the other top destinations for registered units in India. Note: As of 8 January 2023, official data from the Ministry of MSME reveals a substantial presence of 2.21 crore registered MSMEs, excluding Udyam Assist Portal registrations.

Coal India Ltd Enters into MoU with National Skill Development Corporation to set up Multi Skill Development Institutes under each Subsidiary?

As agreed in the MoU, one MSDI will be set up in each subsidiary with CCL, BCCL, MCL, NCL & SECL covered in the first phase, and the remaining subsidiaries in the second phase. The existing infrastructure available at CIL subsidiaries will be developed as MSDIs. The project will cover one-time capex for repurposing of existing infrastructure as MSDIs and Recurring & Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) expenses per year. This initiative underscores CIL's commitment to foster skill development and creating sustainable employment for local youth in coal-bearing areas. The project will help the youth of command areas in getting market-oriented skill training and entering into formal sector employment/entrepreneurship.

India's GDP may grow 7.3% in FY24: Govt's first advance estimates?

The National Statistical Office (NSO) has projected the Indian economy to grow at 7.3 per cent in 2023-2024 — higher than the Reserve Bank of India's estimate of 7 per cent — assuming an investment-led recovery in the world's fifth largest economy. This beats the Street estimates by a wide margin. Most economists have assumed India's gross domestic product (GDP) to grow between 6.5 per cent and 6.7 per cent during the ongoing financial year. In FY23, GDP expanded 7.2 per cent.

GAIL Limited and Vitol Asia have signed a long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) agreement?

Sandeep Kumar Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director of GAIL, said the long-term deal will help bridge India's demand and supply gap of natural gas. He added, "India is a significant and growing LNG market, and we are excited to bring LNG supply from our global LNG portfolio to meet this rising natural gas demand in India." GAIL currently owns and operates a network of over 16,000km of natural gas pipelines on a pan-India basis and is working to develop multiple pipeline projects to better serve its customers.

Ravindra Kumar Tyagi Appointed as CMD of Power Grid Corporation!

Tyagi, aged 57, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his new role. He is an alumnus of Punjab Engineering College (PEC), Chandigarh, holding a degree in Electrical Engineering. Furthering his expertise, he completed his M.Tech in Energy Studies from the prestigious IIT Delhi. His academic credentials are further bolstered by his status as a 'Fulbright Scholar' from Carnegie Mellon University, USA.

FAO Food Price Index drops by 13.7% in 2023!

For 2023 as a whole, the index was 13.7 per cent lower than the average value over the preceding year, with only the international sugar price index higher over the period. The FAO Cereal Price Index increased 1.5 per cent from November, as wheat, maize, rice, and barley prices all rose, partly reflecting logistical disruptions that hindered shipments from major exporting countries. For the year as a whole, the index was 15.4 per cent below the 2022 average, reflecting well-supplied global markets, although FAO's All Rice Price Index (part of the FAO Cereal Price Index) registered a 21 per cent increase, largely owing to concerns about the impact of El Niño on rice production and in the aftermath of export restrictions imposed by India.

Individual income inequality has significantly declined during FY14-FY22!

Individual income inequality has significantly declined during FY14-FY22 because of a "great migration" at the bottom of the pyramid, even as individual's weighted mean income has risen from ₹3.1 lakh to ₹11.6 lakh during FY14-FY21, according to SBI's economic research department (ERD). Gini coefficient estimated using ITR (Income Tax Return) data of taxable income of individuals show that individual income inequality has significantly declined from 0.472 to 0.402 during FY14-FY22, per a ERD report.

Top 3 States contribute 40% of registered MSMEs in India!

Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh collectively contribute nearly 40 per cent of all registered micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India, per a

CBRE-CREDAI report. As of December 2023, there are over 3 crore MSMEs registered in the country, according to government data. Uttar Pradesh has secured a significant position among the top three States, holding a 9 per cent share in the national MSME landscape. This is due to policy initiatives like 50 per cent interest subsidy for micro units (capped at ₹25 lakh), an annual infrastructure interest subsidy of up to 50 per cent for approved projects with 10 acres or more (capped at ₹2 crore), 100 per cent stamp duty exemption in select regions, and other supportive measures.

ACC clears appointments of several officers at Joint Secretary equivalent posts!

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointments of several officers for Joint Secretary / Joint Secretary equivalent posts on Monday. Here is the full list of newly appointed officers: Aswani Srivastava (IRTS) has been appointed as Joint Secretary in the Department of Food & Public Distribution. He has been appointed to post for a period with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post, for a tenure of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

ACC Acquires Remaining 55% Stake in ACCPL at an Enterprise Value of Rs 775 Cr!

As per the company, the enterprise value includes cash and cash equivalent of Rs 35 crore. The entire acquisition is funded through internal accruals. The company stated that the complete acquisition will bolster the market leadership of ACC as well as Ambuja Cements in the North India market. ACC shares were last seen trading 1.30 per cent lower at Rs 2,346.40. At this price, the stock has slipped 4.71 per cent in a year. This move will enhance ACC's cement capacity and progress on the overall target of 140 MTPA capacity of Adani's cement business by 2028 from the current 77.40 MTPA.

Centre extends PMGKAY free foodgrain scheme for another 5 years till 2029?

Ahead of the 2024 general elections, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday gave its approval to extend the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), a free foodgrain scheme that benefits over 800 million people, for five years, starting from the new year. This will entail an estimated expenditure of Rs 11.80 trillion. The annual expenditure on the scheme is projected to be around Rs 2.4 trillion, assuming a monthly expenditure of nearly Rs 20,000 crore on a pro-rata basis. However, the additional subsidy burden for the last three months of the current financial year is expected to be just Rs 6,000 crore, according to government sources.

Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates the country's 1st Healthy & Hygienic Food Street, 'PRASADAM,' at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok, in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh!

“PRASADAM will connect common citizens in every corner of the country with pure and safe local and traditional food. This endeavour will align common people and tourists to safe and healthy eating habits.” This was stated by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare as he inaugurated the country’s 1st Healthy & Hygienic Food Street, 'PRASADAM,' at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok, in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh today. He was joined by Dr. Mohan Yadav, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh, Shri Rajendra Shukla ji Deputy Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh State, Shri Narendra Shivaji Patel, Minister of State for Public Health and Family Welfare of Madhya Pradesh State and Shri Anil Firojiya, Member of Lok Sabha.

World Hindi Day 2024- January 10!

January 10 is celebrated annually as World Hindi Day to spread awareness about the significance of Hindi as an international language across the world and the day is especially observed by Indian embassies abroad

Earth’s Rotation Day 2024 – January 8!

The concept of Earth rotation dates back to ancient Greece in 470 BC. However, it wasn’t until 1851 that French physicist Léon Foucault provided concrete proof with his famous pendulum experiment. This experiment showcased at the Pantheon in Greece and the Paris Observatory, became a cornerstone in demonstrating Earth rotation, a fact that had long been theorized but never conclusively proven.

National Youth Day 2024- January 12?

India celebrates the National Youth Day, on 12th January every year on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary. Since 1984, the nation has marked the day by urging the youth to live up to the values, principles and beliefs that Vivekananda embraced. India celebrates the National Youth Day, on 12th January every year on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary. Since 1984, the nation has marked the day by urging the youth to live up to the values, principles and beliefs that Vivekananda embraced.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2024- January 9!

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), also known as Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day, is celebrated on 9 January to recognise the remarkable contributions and accomplishments of the Overseas Indian community (Indian diaspora) across the world to the development of India. PBD Convention is the flagship event of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India (GoI).

World Day for War Orphans 2024!

World Day of War Orphans is observed every year on January 6 to highlight the plight of children orphaned by wars and conflicts. The day aims to raise awareness about the trauma experienced by orphans and the social, psychological and physical obstacles they often need to overcome to lead a normal life.

Gabriel Attal Appointed as Youngest-ever PM of France; PM Élisabeth Borne Resigns.

At 34, he is the youngest PM in modern French history, outranking even Socialist Laurent Fabius who was 37 when he was appointed by François Mitterrand in 1984. Mr Attal replaces Élisabeth Borne, who resigned after 20 months in office. Throughout that time she struggled with a lack of a majority in parliament. Gabriel Attal, who is currently education minister, certainly makes an eye-catching appointment. He will now have the task of leading the French government into important European Parliament elections in June. His rise has been rapid. Ten years ago he was an obscure adviser in the health ministry, and a card-carrying member of the Socialists. He will also be the first openly gay occupant of Hôtel Matignon. He was previously in a civil partnership with another Macron whizz-kid, the MEP Stéphane Sejourne.

India, Saudi Arabia ink Haj agreement with over 1.75 lakh pilgrim quota for 2024!

India and Saudi Arabia on Sunday signed a bilateral agreement under which New Delhi has been allocated a quota of 1,75,025 pilgrims for the annual Haj pilgrimage in 2024. Minority Affairs Minister Smriti Irani accompanied by Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan signed the Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024 with Saudi Minister of Hajj and Umrah Dr. Tawfiq bin Fawzan in Jeddah.

Canada's Brookfield set to Acquire ATC India for USD 2.5 bn!

New Delhi, January 5 (Language) Canada-based Brookfield is all set to acquire the Indian business of American Tower Corporation in a mega deal worth US \$ 2.5 billion. ATC India also includes an enterprise value of US\$2 billion and a 'damage institute charge' with a lease effective from October 1, 2023.

Franz Beckenbauer, Germany's World Cup Winning Football Player & Manager, Passed Away.

Franz Beckenbauer, widely regarded among the greatest football players of all time, has died at the age of 78. Beckenbauer was captain of the West Germany team that won the World Cup in 1974 and he later led them to the title as a manager once again in 1990. He is one of just three men to have won the World Cup as both player and manager. He also won the European Championship with West Germany in 1972.

India to Chair & Host UNESCO's World Heritage Committee in July 2024.

The decision to hold the 46th session in India was confirmed during the 19th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee in 2023. This decision, stemming from a proposal by Indian authorities in consultation with the UNESCO Director-General, reflects the collaborative efforts between India and UNESCO in fostering global cooperation in education, arts, science, and culture to promote world peace.

Indore, Bhopal, Udaipur nominated for International Wetland City Accreditation.

India has nominated three cities for Wetland City Accreditation (WCA) under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, according to a statement by the environment ministry on Thursday. The cities are Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), and Udaipur (Rajasthan). India has nominated Indore, Bhopal and Udaipur for the Wetland City Accreditation (WCA) scheme under the Ramsar Convention, which helps cities gain international recognition for their efforts to protect their natural or human-made wetlands.

Odisha Govt Signs MoU with NDDDB to Set up new GMP facility to Produce Anthrax & ENT Vaccines?

The MoU was signed by Ramashis Hazra, Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AH&VS) from Odisha, and Sunil Sinha, Senior General Manager from NDDDB. This project, aligned with the state's 5-T Charter for transformative healthcare and disease management in livestock and poultry, aligns with the state's commitment to improving animal health. Currently, the OBPI's satellite unit in Berhampur produces 22 lakh doses of Anthrax Spore Vaccine (ASV) and 14 lakh doses of Enterotoxaemia Vaccine (ENTV) annually using conventional methods. The new GMP facility, adhering to WHO and Indian regulatory standards, will significantly increase production and ensure world-class quality vaccines. With the GMP facility operational, annual production is expected to reach 2 crore doses of ASV and 50 lakh doses of ENTV. This ambitious project involves an investment of Rs. 52 crore, with NDDDB providing crucial consultancy and support throughout the setup process.

MoU signed between Indian Railways and CII to promote and facilitate green initiatives!

The MoU was signed and exchanged on 4th January, 2024 between Shailendra Singh, Principal Executive Director/ME (EnHM & Project), Seema Arora, Deputy Director General, CII in the presence of other senior officers. Indian Railways, as a major stakeholder of transportation sector in India shared the responsibility of environment protection. IR itself has set "Net Zero Carbon Emission" target by the year 2030. Indian Railways have significant number of Railway stations, Production units, major workshops and other establishments, for which various green initiatives have been taken with the objective of environment protection and reducing the carbon footprints.

Henley Passport Index 2024: Indian Passport Ranks 80th; Gives visa free Entry to 62 countries.

Indians can get visa on arrival in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Maldives, Myanmar, Timor-Leste, Iran, Bolivia, Burundi, Cape Verde Islands, Comoro Islands, Djibouti, Gabon, Madagascar, Seychelles, Mauritania, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Samoa, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. With this, the Indian passport has risen by 3 ranks compared to 2023. India is followed by countries like Bhutan, Chad, Egypt, Jordan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Angola, Mongolia, Mozambique, Tajikistan, Madagascar, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Senegal, Algeria, Cambodia and Mali on the list.

India's first 31-metre U-grinder roped in for Bengaluru suburban rail project.

To speed up the most awaited Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project, the engineering team will use 31-metre-long U-grinder that helps to build tracks immediately. U-grinders are generally used in the construction of metro tracks and for the first time in the country, 31-metre-long U-grinders are being roped in for a public transport project.

National Maritime Domain Awareness centre to be ready in three years.

The Indian Navy's Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC) in Gurugram, the nodal agency for maritime information and monitoring, set up after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, is on track to be upgraded into the National Maritime Domain Awareness (NMDA) centre in about three years. The Navy's Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC), the nodal agency for maritime data fusion set up after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, will soon become a National Maritime Domain Awareness (NDMA) centre, with all stakeholders having their presence there, two defence officials said on Thursday.

National Road Safety Week – January 11 to 17 2024

National Road Safety Week, a crucial initiative in India, is observed annually from January 11 to 17. The 2024 observance marks the 35th year of this vital campaign. Aimed at raising awareness about road safety, this week-long event plays a significant role in educating citizens about responsible driving, pedestrian safety, and the need for improved road infrastructure.

PM Modi to visit Ayodhya on December 30; to inaugurate projects worth ₹11100 crore.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Ayodhya on December 30, Saturday, and will inaugurate projects worth ₹11,100 crore, including the Ayodhya Airport and the Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station. The Prime Minister will also flag off two new

Amrit Bharat trains and six new Vande Bharat trains. Weeks ahead of the consecration ceremony of the Ram Temple, PM Modi will also inaugurate four new roads in the temple city.

ACC Appoints Aruna Nayar as Secretary to Railway Board in IRMS.

Ms. Aruna Nayar, Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS) Officer of 1987 Batch and Level-16 empanelled IRMS officer has been appointed as Secretary, Railway Board and taken over charge on 06.01.2024. She was earlier functioning in Railway Board as Additional Member, Staff since May, 2023 and as Principal Executive Director/Staff, Railway Board from Feb, 2022 to May, 2023. The Appointments Committee of Cabinet on 05.01.2024 appointed her as Secretary, Railway Board in IRMS Level-16. Ms. Nayar is also the first IRPS officer to be empanelled in IRMS in Level-16.

WB CM Mamata Banerjee Launches 'Yogyasree' for SC/ST students in West Bengal.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has recently introduced a comprehensive social welfare scheme named "Yogyasree." The initiative aims to provide free training modules for Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in West Bengal, specifically targeting entrance and competitive examinations. This move comes ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, reflecting the government's commitment to educational empowerment.

Overview of EAM S Jaishankar's visit to Nepal on 4 & 5 January 2024

Overview of EAM S Jaishankar's visit to Nepal on 4 & 5 January 2024. The Union External Affairs Minister (EAM) Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar visited Nepal on 4 & 5 January 2024. He was invited by the Foreign Minister of Nepal, Narayan Prakash Saud to co-chair the 7th India-Nepal Commission meeting in Kathmandu." External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar will visit Kathmandu from 04-05 January 2024 on the invitation of the Foreign Minister of Nepal, Mr. N.P. Saud for co-chairing the 7th meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Commission.

The counting of votes for the Bangladesh elections concluded, and PM Sheikh Hasina has won a historic fifth term in office.

Amid low turnout and boycott of the Bangladesh general elections, incumbent Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has secured her fifth term in office after her Awami League Party secured absolute majority in the polls. After voting took place on Sunday, the counting of votes saw the Awami League take an early lead, winning 216 seats out of 224 seats on Sunday. The outcome of the rest of the seats is still unannounced, the Election Commission of the country said.

Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel Inaugurated the International Kite Festival 2024 in Ahmedabad.

Gandhinagar 07 January 2024: On the occasion of the inauguration of the International Kite Festival-2024, Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, stated that the nation's economy is scaling new heights due to the development of industries and business, thanks to the futuristic ideology and visionary leadership of Prime Minister. Noteworthy that the International Kite Festival-2024 is being held at Sabarmati Riverfront, Vallabhasadan in Ahmedabad from 7th to 14th January in which 153 international kite flyers from 55 countries, 68 national kite flyers from 12 states, 865 kite flyers from 23 cities of Gujarat are going to participate.

Punjab Becomes 1st State to Map All Accident-Prone Sites in Mappls.

Punjab, known for its vibrant culture and rich heritage, has achieved a significant milestone in road safety. The state has become the first in India to meticulously map all 784 accident black spots using the Mappls App, a cutting-edge navigation system developed by MapMyIndia. The announcement, made by Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav marks a groundbreaking initiative for enhancing road safety in the region.

Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change launched the 5th training under the Amrit Dharohar Capacity Building Scheme on 6th January 2024.

Ministry of Tourism (MoT) in collaboration with Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) launched the 5th training under the Amrit Dharohar Capacity Building Scheme on 6th January 2024 for local community members, boat owners, and Forest department officials of Chilika Lake. Under this initiative, two training programmes of 15 days each namely Alternative Livelihood program (ALP), and Paryatan Navik Certificate (PNC) will be conducted.

Music Maestro & Padma Awardee Ustad Rashid Khan Passed Away.

Taking to official handle on X, the Karnataka CM posted, "Deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Ustad Rashid Khan at 55. A legend in the world of music, his voice and artistry will forever echo in the hearts of his fans worldwide. His departure is not just a loss to Indian classical music but to all who appreciated his extraordinary talent."

Renowned Hindi Poet Hariram Dwivedi Passed Away.

Noted Hindi and Bhojpuri poet, lyricist and litterateur Pandit Hariram 'Hari Bhaiya' Dwivedi passed away after a prolonged illness, his family said on Tuesday. He was 87. According to his family members, Dwivedi -- who had been ailing for a long time,

died on Monday afternoon at his residence in the Mahmoorganj area of this Uttar Pradesh district. His last rites will be performed at Manikarnika Ghat on Tuesday.

DGCA Revises New Flight Duty Time Rules for Flight Crew to Reduce Pilot Fatigue & Enhance Flight Safety.

With a view to address and mitigate concerns on pilot fatigue through a data driven approach, DGCA collected and analyzed extensive numbers of pilot rosters along with pilot fatigue reports submitted by airline operators. Based on the study and analysis, some of the key areas inducing fatigue such as maximum Flight Duty Period, Night Duty, Weekly Rest Period, Flight Duty Period Extension etc. were identified. The revised FDTL regulations have been formulated after extensive data analysis and feedback from various stakeholders which includes airline operators, pilot associations and individuals. The world-wide best practices (FAA – USA and EASA – EU) have also been taken into consideration in amending the regulations while keeping in mind the specific operating environment in India.

MoHFW Notifies Revised Pharma Manufacturing Rules under Schedule M to Ensure Quality Control.

The revised Schedule M includes the introduction of a pharma quality system (PQS), quality risk management (QRM), product quality review (PQR), and specific guidelines for the qualification and validation of equipment. It also mandates a computerised storage system for all drug products. With an aim to bring better compliance with quality standards, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) notified the revised rules under Schedule M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, in the Gazette of India on Saturday. Schedule M prescribes the good manufacturing practices (GMP) for pharmaceutical products.

Indian Navy Received the 1st Indigenous Drishti 10 Starliner Drone from Adani Defence and Aerospace?

The Indian Navy received the first indigenously made unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) 'Drishti 10 Starliner' from the Adani Defence and Aerospace on Wednesday, with Admiral R Hari Kumar hoping that the drone "may turn out to be a third eye in the sky" for securing maritime domain witnessing increasing challenges of conflict.

NSPAAD Launches 'Report Fish Disease' Mobile App to Monitor Disease Outbreaks?

Aimed at boosting India's aquaculture sector, the National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) project has introduced a mobile app 'Report Fish Disease' to track and monitor fish diseases across the country. The mobile application intends to empower fish farmers with a convenient and efficient platform to report diseases on their farms. Its intuitive and user-friendly interface enables easy accessibility to fish farmers.

NASA Tested Rotating Detonation Rocket Engine in USA!

On September 27, engineers successfully tested a 3D-printed rotating detonation rocket engine (RDRE) for 251 seconds, producing more than 2,630 kg (5,800 lbs) of thrust. This sustained burn meets several mission requirements, such as deep-space burns and landing operations. In a recent hot fire test at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, the agency achieved a new benchmark in developing RDE technology. On September 27, engineers successfully tested a 3D-printed rotating detonation rocket engine (RDRE) for 251 seconds, producing more than 2,630 kg (5,800 lbs) of thrust.

Dun & Bradstreet and Jupiter Wagons Unveiled Indian Railway Freight Activity Index?

Florida(United State of America)- based Dun & Bradstreet (D&B), in collaboration with Jupiter Wagons Ltd., unveiled the Indian Railway Freight Activity (IRFA) Index during the 15th International Railway Equipment Exhibition (IREE 2023) in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, Delhi from 12th to 14th October 2023. It is a quarterly report providing a comprehensive and data-driven assessment of the dynamics of Indian Railway freight activity.

Indian Navy's P-8I Participates in 4th Edition of ASW Exercise Sea Dragon 24 at Guam, USA?

The Indian Navy marked its presence in the Pacific, on January 9th, 2024, with the arrival of a P-8I aircraft at Guam, USA. This deployment signals the navy's participation in the fourth edition of Ex Sea Dragon 24, an Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise spearheaded by the US Navy. Ex Sea Dragon 24 fosters collaboration and interoperability among the navies of the US, Australia, South Korea, Japan, and India. The exercise aims to refine coordination and communication through professional interactions both on the ground and in the air, as per the Indian Navy's official statement.

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Swedish Researchers Developed Electronic Soil for Hydroponics?

This innovative soilless cultivation method, termed hydroponics, harnesses a sophisticated root system activated through a novel cultivation substrate. With hydroponics, the prospect of cultivating food in urban landscapes under meticulously controlled conditions becomes a tangible reality. Linköping University's Prof. Stavrinidou highlights the crucial importance of their breakthrough amidst global challenges, stating, 'Growing world population and climate change show existing agricultural methods alone can't sustain our planet's food needs.'

NASA Launched Peregrine Mission One to Moon with Five Payloads?

Peregrine is scheduled to reach the lunar surface on Feb. 23, though it's unclear if that will happen: The lander suffered an anomaly shortly after being deployed from the Vulcan Centaur, and the mission team is working to fix it. If it does make it to the moon, Peregrine will gather vital information about the lunar surface using a suite of five NASA science instruments. The first private American moon spacecraft, Astrobotic's Peregrine lander, successfully launched from Florida on the first-ever mission of United Launch Alliance's Vulcan Centaur rocket.

China's Orienspace Launches its Maiden Rocket Gravity-1?

Orienspace's Gravity-1 rocket lifted off from Defu-15002 mobile sea platform in the Yellow Sea at 12:30 a.m. Eastern (0530 UTC) Jan. 11. Ignition of the solid rocket motors produced large plumes of exhaust, with debris visibly falling into the sea as the rocket climbed into the sky. The firm confirmed launch success shortly after. The three satellites, Yunyao-1 (18-20), were later tracked by 478 by 499-kilometer orbits with inclinations of 49.99 degrees by U.S. Space Force space domain awareness.

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Aditya L1 highlights: 'Looking forward to lot of scientific outcomes,' says ISRO chairman on maiden solar mission!

Aditya L1, the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) maiden solar mission, successfully entered its final manoeuvre to reach its destination and injected into its final orbit today. ISRO chief S Somanath told news agency ANI on Monday "Aditya-L1

is going to reach its L1 point on January 6 at 4pm and we are going to do the final manoeuvre to keep it there.”

First registration certificate issued for providing services as M2M Service Provider and WLAN/WPAN Connectivity Provider!

Government of India has identified that M2M/ Internet of Things (IoT) is one of the fastest emerging technologies across the globe, providing enormous beneficial opportunities for society, industry, and consumers. It is being used to create smart infrastructure in various verticals such as Power, Automotive, Safety & Surveillance, Remote Health Management, Agriculture, Smart Homes, Industry 4.0, Smart Cities, etc. using connected devices. Machine to Machine communication is going to play a major role and will contribute significantly towards the government of India initiative of Digital India and Make in India.

ISRO successfully tests Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel Cell on PSLV-C58's orbital platform POEM3?

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully tested a 100 W class Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel Cell based Power System (FCPS) in its orbital platform, POEM3 which was launched onboard PSLV-C58 on January 1, 2024. The ISRO said that the objective of the experiment was to assess Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel cell operation in space and to collect data to facilitate the design of systems for future missions.

Gensol Engineering Invests 2,000 Crore in Gujarat EV Manufacturing; Assam Launches India's First Electric Bike Taxi, "Baayu"!

Gensol Engineering Limited (GEL), a front-runner in renewable energy and electric mobility, has forged a groundbreaking partnership with the Government of Gujarat, setting the stage for India's sustainable future in the realm of electric vehicles (EVs). This significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was formalized during the investment promotion event for Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 and entails an INR 2,000 Crore investment in establishing an ultramodern Electric Vehicle manufacturing unit, Gensol EV, with the potential to generate around 1,500 employment opportunities in the area.

David Warner confirms his retirement from ODIs as well as Tests!

David Warner's Retirement from ODI & Test Cricket Matches has been a major shock for his fans, however. Warner announced his retirement from One Day International (ODI) on January 1, 2024, and from Test cricket on January 6, 2024, after playing his final at the SCG. He made his ODI debut in 2009 in Hobart, Tasmania, against South Africa. At the time of his retirement, he had played 161 ODIs, scoring 6,932 runs, and 111 Tests, amassing 8,695 runs. The opening batter, known for his aggressive demeanour on the ground, is 'Australia's fifth-leading run-scorer in Test history'.

Indian Olympic Association appoints ex-IPL official Raghuram Iyer as CEO?

After careful consideration and thorough interviews with the shortlisted candidates, the nomination committee unanimously selected Mr Raghuram Iyer for the role of CEO," the IOA said in a statement."His wealth of experience and proven track record in sports management and administration makes him an ideal candidate to lead the IOA in its mission to promote and develop Olympic sports in India," it said.

Mario Zagallo, Brazil's World Cup winning player and coach, dies at age 92!

Mario Zagallo, who won two World Cups as a player, one as a coach and another as an assistant coach for Brazil, has died. He was 92. He first person to win the World Cup both as a player and a manager, Zagallo is for many Brazilian football fans synonymous with patriotism, grit and glory. The only person to ever win four World Cup titles was also the last living member of Brazil's starting team in its first championship victory in the tournament in 1958.

Overview of India tour of South Africa 10th Dec 2023 – 7th January 2024?

The Indian cricket team toured South Africa from 10th December 2023 to 07th January 2024 to play Three Twenty20 International (T20I), Three One Day International (ODI), and two test matches. Indian cricket team won the ODI series while T20I and test series ended in a draw. The Indian cricket team toured South Africa from December 2023 to January 2024 to play three Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is), three One Day Internationals (ODIs) and two Test matches. The Test series formed part of the 2023–2025 ICC World Test Championship.

ICC Rule Changes in Cricket: Stumping Replays Limited; Concussion Substitute and BCCI's Decision!

In a significant alteration to cricket playing conditions, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has restricted the Decision Review System (DRS) for stumping incidents. Effective from December 12, 2023, teams can now only challenge caught-behind decisions with a separate DRS option, preventing misuse observed in the 2020 series against India. The amended rule mandates umpires to rely solely on side-on camera images for stumping reviews, eliminating the examination of potential snicks. This ensures a focused review for stumped incidents without allowing teams a free review for other modes of dismissal.

FIFA President Gianni Infantino Receives Award for International Sports Personality for 2023 in Dubai?

Fifa President Gianni Infantino has received the award for International Sports Personality of the Year at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Awards ceremony in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Fifa President Gianni Infantino has

received the award for International Sports Personality of the Year at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Awards ceremony in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Inspired by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum's love of sport, the awards were established in 2009, and recognise individual achievement in a broad range of sport-related fields.