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Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Inaugurates India's 500th Community Radio Station at IIMC Aizawl.

Union Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated India's 500th community radio station, Apna Radio 90.0 FM, at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) in Aizawl. This significant milestone underscores the government's commitment to expanding community radio services across the nation, providing a platform for local voices and fostering community engagement. Apna Radio 90.0 FM will serve as a vital medium for disseminating information, education, and entertainment tailored to the local population. The launch at IIMC Aizawl highlights the institution's role in promoting media diversity and empowering communities through radio broadcasting.

Amit Shah Launches 'MANAS' Helpline at 7th NCORD Meeting.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, chaired the 7th NCORD (National Committee for Drug Demand Reduction) top-level meeting in New Delhi today. During the meeting, he launched the National Narcotics Helpline 'MANAS,' aimed at combating drug abuse and providing support to individuals struggling with addiction. The helpline is designed to offer assistance and resources to those in need, enhancing the government's efforts in drug demand reduction. The launch is expected to strengthen the country's fight against drug-related issues.

NFDC and Netflix Partner to Launch "The Voicebox" Upskilling Program for Voice-over Artists in India.

The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) and Netflix have announced a partnership to launch "The Voicebox," an upskilling program for voice-over artists in India. This initiative aims to enhance the skills of voice-over professionals by offering advanced training and resources. "The Voicebox" will provide comprehensive workshops, expert mentorship, and practical sessions designed to help artists refine their craft and stay updated with industry standards. This program is expected to open new opportunities for voice-over artists and contribute to the growing entertainment industry in India by elevating the quality and versatility of voice talent.

PM Modi Inaugurates 46th World Heritage Committee Session.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday announced that India will contribute one million dollars to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre to provide support for heritage conservation in countries, especially of the Global South. Speaking at the inauguration of the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi today, PM Modi said that India considers the preservation of global heritage as its responsibility, and hence, is providing support for heritage conservation not only in India but also in countries of the Global South.

Center approves Parandur site for development of Chennai's second airport.

The greenfield airport at Parandur near Chennai is closer to becoming a reality as the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) received site clearance from the Centre. The Steering Committee on Greenfield Airports recommended granting site clearance to TIDCO for developing the airport at Parandur in Kancheepuram District. This project aims to boost regional connectivity and economic development in Tamil Nadu. The new airport will help decongest the existing Chennai International Airport and cater to the growing air traffic demand. With this clearance, the project moves forward to the next stages of planning and development.

MOC Minister Unveils 'The Future is Now' Theme for 8th IMC.

In a significant announcement, the Minister of Communication (MOC) revealed the theme for the 8th International Media Conference (IMC) as "The Future is Now." This year's conference aims to explore emerging trends and innovations in media and communication, highlighting the rapid advancements shaping the future. The theme underscores the urgency of adapting to new technologies and strategies to stay ahead in the evolving media landscape. The 8th IMC is expected to bring together industry leaders, experts, and innovators to discuss and collaborate on cutting-edge solutions and trends.

C-DOT Partners with IIT Roorkee and IIT Mandi for Cell-Free 6G.

The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has signed an agreement with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Roorkee and IIT Mandi to develop cell-free 6G technology. This partnership aims to create innovative applications that will enhance the next generation of wireless communication. The collaboration will leverage the expertise of these premier institutions in advanced research and development. Cell-free 6G is expected to provide seamless connectivity and improved performance over current technologies, marking a significant step towards future-proof communication networks. This initiative aligns with India's vision to become a global leader in 6G technology.

Zimbabwe Joins UN Water Conventions to Enhance Transboundary Cooperation.

Zimbabwe has joined the UN Water Conventions to enhance transboundary water cooperation. This strategic move aims to improve the management and sharing of water resources across borders, addressing challenges such as water scarcity and pollution. By becoming a party to these conventions, Zimbabwe seeks to strengthen its partnerships with neighboring countries and benefit from international support and expertise. The accession reflects Zimbabwe's commitment to sustainable water management and regional collaboration. This step is expected to improve water resource governance and contribute to addressing broader environmental and

developmental challenges in the region.

MoC released a commemorative postage stamp on the 100th birth anniversary of legendary singer Mukesh.

The Ministry of Communications (MOC) has released a commemorative stamp marking the 100th birth anniversary of legendary playback singer Mukesh. The stamp, unveiled in a special ceremony, honors Mukesh's invaluable contribution to Indian cinema with his timeless melodies. Known for his soulful voice, Mukesh's songs continue to resonate with audiences across generations. The stamp is a tribute to his legacy and achievements in the music industry. This initiative aims to celebrate and preserve the rich cultural heritage of Indian music, paying homage to one of its most iconic figures.

DGFT Simplifies Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme for Enhanced Business Efficiency.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has announced a simplification of the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme to improve the ease of doing business in India. The revised procedures aim to streamline the process for importing capital goods used in export production, making it more efficient and less cumbersome for businesses. This initiative is expected to reduce bureaucratic hurdles and expedite the approval process, thereby encouraging more firms to invest in advanced machinery and technology. The move aligns with the government's broader objective of enhancing India's business environment and boosting economic growth.

HLC Approves Disaster Mitigation and Capacity Building Projects for States.

The High-Level Committee (HLC) has approved several disaster mitigation and capacity building projects aimed at enhancing the resilience of states. These projects will focus on improving infrastructure, developing early warning systems, and increasing community preparedness to better handle natural disasters. The approval is part of a broader effort to strengthen disaster management frameworks across the country. By investing in these initiatives, the government aims to reduce the impact of future disasters and ensure quicker recovery and response times. The projects are expected to provide significant benefits to vulnerable regions and support long-term disaster resilience.

Govt extends Electric Mobility scheme, increases outlay to Rs 778 crore.

The Indian government has extended its Electric Mobility scheme and increased the funding allocation to ₹778 crore. This extension aims to promote the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and support the development of EV infrastructure across the country. The enhanced budget will be used to subsidize EV purchases, improve charging infrastructure, and incentivize manufacturing and innovation in the electric

vehicle sector. This move is part of the government's broader strategy to reduce carbon emissions, combat climate change, and transition towards more sustainable transportation solutions.

Rashtrapati Bhavan's Durbar Hall Renamed As Ganatantra Mandap, Ashok Hall As Ashok Mandap.

The Rashtrapati Bhavan has officially renamed its iconic Durbar Hall and Ashok Hall. The Durbar Hall will now be known as Ganatantra Mandap, reflecting the significance of the Republic. The Ashok Hall has been renamed Ashok Mandap, preserving its historical essence while aligning with the new nomenclature. These changes aim to enhance the cultural and historical resonance of these spaces within the presidential complex. The renaming aligns with a broader initiative to update and reflect contemporary values while honoring the heritage of these esteemed locations.

India's first integrated agri export facility to come up at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Mumbai.

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Mr. Sarbananda Sonowal has approved the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)'s US\$ 34 million (Rs. 284.19 crore) project to develop an 'Export-Import cum Domestic Agricultural Commodity-Based Processing & Storage Facility' on a PPP model. The facility, covering 67,422 square meters, aims to streamline logistics, reduce handling stages, and extend the shelf life of agricultural products. It is expected to enhance pricing for agricultural goods, create jobs, and support growth in the sector, benefiting farmers and exporters while fostering rural development.

IN-SPACe Approves Azista BST's Satellite Tracking Facility in Hyderabad.

IN-SPACe has granted authorization to Azista BST Aerospace to establish and operate a satellite tracking facility in Hyderabad. This facility will enhance the capabilities of satellite monitoring and data collection, contributing significantly to the aerospace sector. The establishment of the ground station will provide real-time tracking and management of satellites, supporting various space missions. The move aligns with India's vision to expand its space infrastructure and capabilities. Azista BST Aerospace's new facility is expected to play a crucial role in advancing satellite technology and improving communication and observation systems.

MoHUA organises "Utkrishtata ki Ore Badhte Kadam" event.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) organized the event "Utkrishtata ki Ore Badhte Kadam" to promote excellence in urban governance. The event showcased innovative projects and best practices in urban development, aiming to inspire municipalities across the country to enhance their service delivery and governance standards. Key dignitaries, including urban planners, policymakers, and industry experts, attended the event to discuss the future of urbanization in India. The

initiative highlights MoHUA's commitment to fostering sustainable and smart urban growth.

DOT's NTIPRIT and WIMTDC Merged into NCA Under Dr. Neeraj Mittal.

The Department of Telecommunications (DOT) has merged the National Telecommunications Institute for Policy Research, Innovation, and Training (NTIPRIT) and the Wireless Monitoring and Training Development Centre (WIMTDC) into the newly established National Cybersecurity Authority (NCA). This move is aimed at streamlining efforts in cybersecurity and telecommunications policy. Dr. Neeraj Mittal will lead the NCA, focusing on enhancing research, innovation, and training. The merger is expected to improve coordination between departments, ensure efficient policy implementation, and strengthen India's cybersecurity and telecommunication infrastructure.

Government of India upgrades IRCTC to 'Schedule A' CPSE.

The Indian Government has elevated IRCTC to 'Schedule A' CPSE status, acknowledging its pivotal role in railway catering, tourism, and ticketing services. This classification places IRCTC among the top-performing CPSEs, ensuring enhanced policy support and governance focus. The move aims to boost operational efficiency and solidify its economic impact.

DoP Issues Commemorative Stamp for 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas Rajat Jayanti.

The Department of Posts (DoP) has released a commemorative postage stamp to mark the Rajat Jayanti of Kargil Vijay Diwas. This special stamp celebrates the 25th anniversary of India's victory in the Kargil War, which was a pivotal moment in the country's history. The stamp features significant imagery related to the Kargil conflict and serves as a tribute to the bravery of the Indian Armed Forces. The release of this stamp aims to honor the sacrifices made by soldiers and to remind the nation of the valor displayed during the 1999 conflict.

Apurva Chandra Releases Report on Economic Benefits of Investing in Adolescent Well-Being in India.

Apurva Chandra has released a new report highlighting the economic benefits of investing in adolescent well-being in India. The report emphasizes that enhancing the health, education, and overall development of adolescents can lead to significant economic returns. By focusing on this critical age group, India can improve its future workforce and boost economic growth. The findings suggest that strategic investments in youth development are not only beneficial for individuals but also for the nation's economic prosperity.

Education Ministry Launches 'Shiksha Saptah' Campaign to Celebrate NEP

2020's 4th Anniversary.

The Education Ministry has launched the 'Shiksha Saptah' campaign to celebrate the 4th anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The week-long event aims to highlight the progress and achievements made under the NEP 2020 and to promote its key initiatives. Various activities and programs will be conducted across the country to engage students, teachers, and other stakeholders in the education sector. The ministry emphasizes that the campaign will foster a better understanding and appreciation of the NEP's vision for transforming the education landscape in India.

Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav Launches 'Ideas4Life' Initiative at IIT Delhi.

Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav launched the 'Ideas4Life' initiative at IIT Delhi. The program aims to foster innovation and creativity among students and researchers, encouraging them to develop solutions for real-world challenges. 'Ideas4Life' will provide a platform for young minds to collaborate, share ideas, and work on cutting-edge projects. The initiative is part of the government's broader effort to promote technological advancement and entrepreneurship in the country. During the launch, Yadav emphasized the importance of nurturing talent and harnessing the potential of India's youth to drive sustainable development and economic growth.

Khan Quest 2024 begins in Ulaanbaatar with AI systems and the Madras Regiment Battalion.

Khan Quest 2024 has begun in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, featuring advanced AI systems and the Madras Regiment Battalion of India. This year's exercise integrates cutting-edge AI for real-time scenario simulations and predictive analytics, enhancing tactical decision-making. The multinational event aims to improve interoperability and foster international military collaboration through innovative technology and joint drills.

UN's SOFI 2024 reports that Hunger affected around 9% of world population in 2023.

According to the UN's SOFI 2024 report, approximately 9% of the global population suffered from hunger in 2023. This alarming statistic underscores the ongoing struggle with food insecurity despite various efforts to combat it. The report highlights that factors such as economic instability, climate change, and uneven food distribution continue to contribute to global hunger. Addressing these issues requires coordinated action from governments, organizations, and communities to improve food systems and ensure equitable access to nutrition. The findings stress the need for urgent and sustained efforts to eradicate hunger worldwide.

According to UNAIDS Report 39.9 Million People Living with HIV Globally in 2023.

According to the UNAIDS 2024 Global AIDS Update, an estimated 39.9 million people were living with HIV worldwide in 2023. The report highlights the ongoing challenge of addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the need for continued global efforts to provide prevention, treatment, and support services. Despite significant progress in some regions, the data reveals persistent gaps in access to essential healthcare, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. UNAIDS emphasizes the importance of international collaboration and investment in innovative solutions to achieve the goal of ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030.

The Indian Home Ministry has taken over the chairmanship of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

India's Ministry of Home Affairs has recently assumed the Chair of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), marking a key step in regional disaster management. As Chair, India will lead efforts to enhance disaster resilience and improve response strategies across Asia. This role underscores India's commitment to strengthening regional frameworks and supporting effective disaster preparedness and response.

3 Indian Destinations Featured in TIME Magazine's World's Greatest Places of 2024.

TIME Magazine's "World's Greatest Places of 2024" list highlights three Indian destinations for their unique appeal and cultural significance. The selected sites are Jaipur for its vibrant heritage and architecture, Rishikesh for its spiritual ambiance and adventure tourism, and Mumbai for its dynamic blend of tradition and modernity. These destinations are recognized for offering exceptional experiences, from historical landmarks and scenic landscapes to bustling urban environments. This acknowledgment underscores India's rich diversity and growing prominence as a travel destination, celebrating its unique contributions to global tourism.

India Ranks Second in Non-Tariff Measures Usage in 2023, According to WTO-UNCTAD WTP 2024.

In 2023, India was the second-largest user of non-tariff measures (NTMs) globally, as reported by the WTO-UNCTAD World Trade Profile (WTP) 2024. Non-tariff measures are regulatory policies other than tariffs that countries use to control imports and exports. India's prominent use of NTMs reflects its strategy to protect domestic industries and manage trade effectively. This extensive application of NTMs includes various regulations, standards, and procedures impacting trade flows. The report highlights India's significant role in the global trade landscape, underscoring its influence in shaping international trade practices.

IAEA and UNOSSC partner to enhance South-South cooperation.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has teamed up with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) to enhance South-South cooperation for sustainable development. This partnership aims to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, technology, and resources among developing countries. By leveraging their collective expertise, the collaboration seeks to address global challenges and promote sustainable development practices. The IAEA and UNOSSC will focus on projects that foster innovation and support the growth of sustainable solutions across various sectors, strengthening the capacity of countries in the Global South to achieve their development goals.

COP29 host Azerbaijan launches climate fund and imposes tariffs on fossil fuels.

At COP29, Azerbaijan launched a climate fund and imposed a levy on fossil fuels derived from organic matter. This initiative aims to finance climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts domestically and internationally. The move underscores Azerbaijan's commitment to addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainable development at a global level.

FAO reported that India among top 3 countries in most significant forest area gains.

India has been recognized as one of the top three countries in terms of significant forest area gains. According to recent reports, India's concerted efforts in afforestation and reforestation have yielded impressive results. The country has successfully expanded its forest cover through various initiatives aimed at preserving and restoring natural habitats. This achievement highlights India's commitment to environmental sustainability and its proactive approach in combating deforestation. The progress reflects not only a positive impact on biodiversity but also contributes to the global fight against climate change.

Gevra and Kismunda are among the 10 largest coal mines in the south-eastern coalfields.

Gevra and Kismunda blocks of state-owned South Eastern Coalfields have secured second and fourth spots, respectively, in the list of the world's 10 largest coal mines in terms of production volume released by WorldAtlas.com. Located in the Korba district of Chhattisgarh, the two mines produce more than 100 million tonnes (MT) of coal annually accounting for about 10 per cent of India's total coal production, South Eastern Coalfields Ltd (SECL) said in a statement on Thursday.

Tata AIA Ranked 6th Globally in MDRT Rankings 2024.

Tata AIA Life Insurance has been ranked 6th globally in the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) rankings for 2024. This prestigious recognition highlights Tata AIA's outstanding performance and commitment to excellence in the insurance industry.

The MDRT rankings are a benchmark for measuring the success and professionalism of insurance companies worldwide, reflecting their ability to deliver exceptional service and value to clients. Tata AIA's top-six position underscores its significant growth and impact in the global market, demonstrating its dedication to maintaining high standards of customer service and achieving excellence in the financial sector.

Kantar's Brand Inclusion Index names Google, Tata Motors, Amazon, Jio, and Apple as the most inclusive brands in India.

Kantar's Brand Inclusion Index has identified Google, Tata Motors, Amazon, Jio, and Apple as India's leading inclusive brands. These companies were recognized for their commitment to diversity and inclusivity in business practices, reflecting positively on their brand reputation in the Indian market. The index highlights their efforts in fostering an inclusive workplace culture and catering to diverse customer needs effectively.

Ivory Coast Becomes 53rd Country to Join UN Water Convention.

Ivory Coast has officially become the 53rd country to join the United Nations Water Convention. This significant step highlights the nation's commitment to enhancing water resource management and cooperation with other member countries. The UN Water Convention, which aims to protect and sustainably use transboundary water resources, is crucial for addressing global water challenges. Ivory Coast's inclusion is expected to strengthen regional cooperation in West Africa and contribute to better water governance, environmental protection, and sustainable development in the region. The move has been widely welcomed by international environmental and water management communities.

India and Bhutan Approve 61 Projects Worth ₹4,958 Crore for Bhutan's 13th FYP.

India and Bhutan have jointly approved 61 projects valued at ₹4,958 crore for Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan (FYP). This significant collaboration aims to bolster infrastructure and development in Bhutan. The projects span various sectors, including education, health, and transportation, reflecting the strong bilateral ties between the two nations. This funding underscores India's commitment to supporting Bhutan's growth and fostering regional stability. The approval was announced as part of ongoing efforts to enhance strategic partnership and mutual development.

RBI Forms Committee to Review White-Label ATM Fee Structure.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has established a committee to review the fee structure for white-label ATMs. This committee will assess the current fee framework and propose necessary changes to ensure a fair and transparent system. White-label ATMs, operated by non-bank entities, provide banking services such as cash withdrawals and balance inquiries. The review aims to address concerns related to

fee variations and service standards, ensuring that the fee structure remains equitable for both consumers and operators while promoting broader access to ATM services.

Arka Fincap and Central Bank of India Partner for MSME Loans.

Arka Fincap has entered into a co-lending partnership with Central Bank of India to enhance funding for MSME loans. This collaboration aims to combine Arka Fincap's expertise in lending with Central Bank's extensive network to provide easier access to credit for small and medium-sized enterprises. The partnership will streamline the loan approval process, offer competitive interest rates, and facilitate faster disbursement of funds. This initiative is expected to support the growth of MSMEs by providing them with the necessary financial resources and improving their business operations.

IndusInd Bank collaborates with Inspire Institute of Sport to launch 'Wrestle for Glory'.

IndusInd Bank has partnered with Inspire Institute of Sport to launch a new initiative called "Wrestle for Glory." This collaboration aims to support and promote wrestling talent in India by providing resources, training, and opportunities for athletes. The program will focus on developing young wrestlers through specialized coaching, state-of-the-art facilities, and competitive exposure. "Wrestle for Glory" is designed to enhance the performance of wrestlers at national and international levels, fostering a strong wrestling culture in the country.

GCF Grants \$215.6M to SIDBI for MSME Climate Initiatives.

Green Climate Fund (GCF) has approved US\$ 215.6 million in its 39th Board meeting held in Songdo, South Korea for implementing SIDBI's Financing Mitigation and Adaptation Projects (FMAP) in Indian MSMEs. The programme aims to support the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India to adopt low emission and climate resilient technologies, thereby contributing to the Net Zero targets of the country. The Green Climate Fund is a fund for climate finance that was established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

RBI Sells ₹34 Billion Bonds as Index Inclusion Drives Inflows.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has sold ₹34 billion worth of Indian bonds. This move comes as the inclusion of Indian bonds in a major global bond index has significantly increased foreign inflows. The index inclusion has attracted global investors looking to capitalize on India's growing financial market, leading to a surge in bond purchases. The RBI's sale of these bonds aims to manage market liquidity and absorb the additional foreign capital. This strategic action highlights the growing attractiveness of Indian financial assets on the global stage and the RBI's role in

stabilizing market conditions.

IRDAI revises its guidelines on commission on long-term motor insurance.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has updated its guidelines regarding commission structures for long-term motor insurance policies. The revised regulations aim to streamline commission payments to intermediaries such as insurance agents and brokers. This move is part of IRDAI's ongoing efforts to enhance transparency and fairness in the insurance industry, benefiting both insurers and policyholders. Earlier, insurance companies used to offer commission of up to 17.5% in the first year on five-year comprehensive motor insurance policies, which was for two-wheelers. As per the commission structure, it increases to 10% in the second and third years, and further reduces to 5% in the fourth and fifth years.

Paytm and Axis Bank Partner to Offer POS Solutions and Card Payment Devices.

Fintech firm One 97 Communications, Paytm's parent company, has teamed up with Axis Bank to provide point of sales solutions and card payment machines to banks and merchants. Paytm's EDC devices offer store management services like inventory management and CRM. The partnership aims to enhance transaction efficiency, store management, and customer engagement, benefiting both companies. Axis Bank sees this collaboration as a way to expand their merchant acquiring portfolio and offer more payment solutions.

ADB Approves \$200M Loan for Nagpur Metro Expansion.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$200 million loan to support the expansion of Nagpur's metro rail network and enhance urban mobility. This funding will be used to extend existing metro lines, improve connectivity, and reduce traffic congestion in the city. The project aims to provide a more efficient and sustainable transportation option for Nagpur's growing population. The loan reflects ADB's commitment to promoting infrastructure development and urban transit solutions in India, contributing to the country's broader goals of smart city growth and improved quality of life for its residents.

Cashfree is the first entity to obtain an RBI cross-border payment aggregator license.

Cashfree has made history by becoming the first company to receive a cross-border payment aggregator license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This landmark achievement allows Cashfree to facilitate international payments for businesses operating in India, enhancing their ability to handle transactions across borders efficiently. The license underscores Cashfree's commitment to providing cutting-edge financial solutions and positions it as a key player in the global payment landscape. This move is expected to boost India's position in the international payments sector

and support the growth of digital commerce.

RBI issues revised framework for domestic money transfer.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a revised framework for domestic money transfers to enhance the efficiency and security of financial transactions. The updated guidelines aim to streamline the process, reduce transaction costs, and improve customer protection. This move is expected to make money transfers more transparent and user-friendly, providing better service and quicker transactions. The RBI's new framework addresses current challenges and ensures that the domestic money transfer system remains robust and reliable for all users.

Insurtech startup Covrzy gets broking license from IRDAI.

Insurtech startup Covrzy has received a broking license from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). This license enables Covrzy to operate as an insurance broker, offering a range of insurance products and services to customers. The IRDAI's approval marks a significant milestone for Covrzy, enhancing its credibility and expanding its market presence. The company aims to leverage this new license to provide innovative and customer-centric insurance solutions, aiming to revolutionize the insurance industry with its technology-driven approach.

RBI cancels licence of Mahabhairab Coop Urban Bank, Tezpur.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the license of Mahabhairab Cooperative Urban Bank, Tezpur. This decision has been taken due to the bank's inability to adhere to the regulatory norms and maintain adequate financial health. As a result, the bank will cease all its operations, and the RBI has directed that the bank's assets and liabilities be managed accordingly. Depositors are advised to approach the liquidator appointed by the RBI for any claims. This move aims to protect the interests of the depositors and ensure the stability of the banking system.

RBI selects 5 entities under its regulatory sandbox scheme.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has selected five entities for its regulatory sandbox scheme. This initiative allows these organizations to test their innovative financial products and services in a controlled environment under the RBI's supervision. The selected entities will have the opportunity to evaluate their solutions' viability and compliance with regulatory requirements before a full-scale launch. This move aims to foster innovation in the financial sector while ensuring consumer protection and financial stability. The RBI's regulatory sandbox is a significant step towards modernizing the financial landscape and encouraging technological advancements in banking and finance.

RBI imposes a monetary penalty on three payment system operators.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed monetary penalties on three payment system operators. This action follows the operators' failure to comply with certain regulatory guidelines and operational standards set by the RBI. The penalties reflect the RBI's commitment to ensuring adherence to regulatory norms and maintaining the integrity of the financial system. The RBI's decision underscores its efforts to uphold accountability and enforce compliance within the payment systems sector. The affected operators will need to address the issues identified to avoid further penalties and ensure smoother operations in the future.

HSBC Mutual Fund Launches #Sirkodopromotion.

HSBC Mutual Fund has announced the launch of its latest initiative, the #Sirkodopromotion. This campaign aims to offer investors a range of attractive benefits and incentives to encourage their participation in HSBC's mutual fund offerings. The promotion is designed to highlight the advantages of investing in HSBC's funds, including potential returns and financial growth opportunities. Through this campaign, HSBC Mutual Fund seeks to engage both new and existing investors by providing valuable information and special offers. The initiative reflects HSBC's commitment to enhancing investor experience and fostering financial success.

SEBI unveils chatbot 'SEVA' for investors.

SEBI has introduced a new chatbot named 'SEVA' to assist investors. The chatbot is designed to provide quick responses and valuable information on various investment-related queries. It aims to enhance investor experience by offering timely support and addressing concerns efficiently. SEVA will help users navigate through investment processes, understand regulatory guidelines, and access necessary resources. This initiative reflects SEBI's commitment to leveraging technology for better investor services and ensuring greater transparency and ease in the investment landscape.

Shriram Group Receives RBI Approval to Enter Asset Reconstruction Sector.

The Shriram Group has secured approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to enter the asset reconstruction sector. This move marks a significant expansion of the group's financial services portfolio. The asset reconstruction industry focuses on the management and resolution of distressed assets, and Shriram's entry into this sector is expected to enhance its offerings and contribute to its growth. The RBI's nod reflects confidence in Shriram's ability to handle and rehabilitate troubled assets effectively, aligning with the group's strategic goals of diversification and strengthening its financial services capabilities.

ICICI Lombard Partners Karnataka Bank For Bancassurance.

ICICI Lombard General Insurance has announced a strategic partnership with Karnataka Bank to enhance its bancassurance offerings. This collaboration aims to leverage Karnataka Bank's extensive branch network to offer ICICI Lombard's diverse insurance products to a broader customer base. The partnership will provide customers with a range of insurance solutions, including health, motor, and property coverage, through Karnataka Bank's branches. This initiative is expected to streamline access to insurance products for customers and strengthen ICICI Lombard's market presence in the region.

RBI cancels licence of Uravakonda Co-Operative Town Bank Ltd., Andhra Pradesh.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the license of Uravakonda Co-Operative Town Bank Ltd., located in Andhra Pradesh. This decision has been taken due to the bank's failure to comply with regulatory requirements and maintain adequate capital. As a result, the bank will no longer be permitted to carry out banking operations, including accepting deposits and repaying existing ones. Customers of the bank are advised to contact the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) for claims related to their deposits. The cancellation aims to protect the interests of the bank's depositors.

Fusion Micro Finance Ltd Changes Their Name to Fusion Finance Ltd.

Fusion Micro Finance Ltd, one of India's major NBFC-MFIs, has announced a name change to Fusion Finance Limited, starting July 9, 2024. Fusion, founded in 2010, is a prominent player in India's developing microfinance market, having an asset under management (AUM) of INR 11,476 crores as of March 31, 2024. Speaking on the change Devesh Sachdev, MD & CEO, Fusion Finance Limited said, "Fusion has been growing at a steady pace over the past years with a steadfast focus on providing financial services to unserved and underserved population.

BoB Unveils AI Virtual Relationship Manager and UPI Credit Line.

Bank of Baroda (BoB) on Sunday launched a range of digital and technology-led initiatives, including a Generative AI-powered virtual relationship manager (VRM), and credit line on UPI for enhancing payments and banking experience for customers. BoB said the GenAI-powered VRM, a first-of-its-kind initiative in the Indian banking sector, provides real-time information about the bank's products and services while also capturing customer requirements for specific banking services.

RBI issues prompt corrective action framework for urban cooperative banks.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for urban cooperative banks (UCBs). This new framework aims to enhance the financial health of these banks by setting strict guidelines and monitoring mechanisms. It focuses on addressing issues such as asset quality, capital adequacy, and profitability. Under the PCA framework, UCBs that fail to meet certain performance criteria will face corrective measures to ensure their stability and operational efficiency. This initiative is expected to strengthen the banking sector and protect depositors' interests.

NIIT IFBI Announces ACE Banker Program in Collaboration with HDFC Bank.

NIIT IFBI has announced the launch of its ACE Banker Program in collaboration with HDFC Bank. This initiative aims to equip aspiring bankers with advanced skills and knowledge essential for the evolving financial sector. The program will offer comprehensive training in banking operations, financial services, and customer relationship management. By leveraging the expertise of both NIIT IFBI and HDFC Bank, participants will gain practical insights and hands-on experience, preparing them for successful careers in banking. The ACE Banker Program is designed to enhance the employability of graduates and meet the industry's growing demand for skilled professionals.

Government to Roll Out Vaccination Portal 'U-WIN' For Pregnant Women and Children.

The government is set to launch a new vaccination portal named 'U-WIN' aimed at pregnant women and children. This initiative seeks to streamline and enhance the accessibility of vaccination services. Through the 'U-WIN' portal, users will be able to register, schedule appointments, and receive updates on their vaccination status. The platform is designed to ensure that pregnant women and children get timely vaccinations and necessary healthcare support. The government hopes this digital initiative will significantly improve vaccination coverage and reduce preventable diseases among these vulnerable groups.

Nicolás Maduro Re-Elected for 3rd Term as Venezuela's President.

Nicolás Maduro has been re-elected for a third term as the President of Venezuela. The election results were announced after a contentious campaign marked by accusations of fraud and allegations of a lack of transparency. Despite international criticism and calls for a fair electoral process, Maduro secured another term in office. His presidency has been characterized by economic turmoil and political unrest in Venezuela. The opposition and several international observers have expressed concerns over the legitimacy of the election, citing irregularities and restrictions on political participation. Maduro's re-election is expected to further intensify the country's political crisis.

Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) and NSE IX signed MoU for cooperation in economic security.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed on Friday between the Gandhinagar-based Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) and the NSE International Exchange (NSE IX) for cooperation in the field of economic and financial security. The MoU was signed at a function in the presence of National Stock Exchange Chief Executive Officer Ashish Kumar Chauhan, Managing Director and CEO of NSE IX Bala V, Pro-Vice Chancellor of RRU Prof Kalpesh H Wandra and university registrar Shishir Kumar Gupta.

India's Rank Falls to 82nd in Henley Passport Index Singapore Ranked First"

In the latest Henley Passport Index for July 2024, India's passport rank has fallen to 82nd position, reflecting a decline in global mobility. Singapore retains its top spot as the most powerful passport, granting its holders visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to the highest number of destinations. This shift in ranking highlights changing global travel dynamics and the varying strength of passports worldwide. The Henley Passport Index is a prominent ranking that evaluates passports based on the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.

Tata and Airbus to establish India's first private helicopter assembly for H125 choppers.

Tata and Airbus are set to establish India's first private helicopter assembly line for the H125 choppers. This new facility, expected to enhance domestic aviation capabilities, will produce advanced helicopters tailored for diverse needs, including emergency services and corporate travel. The initiative aims to bolster India's defense and aerospace sectors while creating local job opportunities and fostering technological growth.

BIS and GBPUAT Sign MoU to Develop Standardized Agriculture Demonstration Farm.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUAT) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop a standardized agriculture demonstration farm. This collaboration aims to showcase advanced agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity and sustainability in farming. The demonstration farm will serve as a model for best practices and provide practical insights for farmers. The initiative is expected to drive innovation and support the growth of the agricultural sector, benefiting both local and national farming communities.

Ministry of Steel Launches SIMS 2.0 Portal and Safety Guidelines Volume 2.

The Ministry of Steel has launched the Steel Import Monitoring System (SIMS) 2.0 portal and the second volume of the Safety Guidelines for the Iron and Steel Sector. The SIMS 2.0 portal aims to enhance transparency and efficiency in monitoring steel imports, ensuring timely and accurate data for stakeholders. The new volume of safety guidelines provides updated protocols and best practices for maintaining safety standards in the industry. These initiatives reflect the government's commitment to bolstering the steel sector, improving safety, and fostering a competitive environment.

Telangana FM presents Rs 2.91 lakh crore budgets.

Telangana's Finance Minister recently presented a substantial budget of Rs 2.91 lakh crore for the fiscal year. This ambitious budget aims to enhance various sectors, including infrastructure, healthcare, and education, reflecting the state's commitment to balanced growth and development. Significant allocations are planned for rural development and welfare programs, emphasizing the government's focus on improving living standards and boosting economic progress. The budget also outlines measures for increasing revenue and managing fiscal health, showcasing the state's strategic approach to tackling challenges and leveraging opportunities in the coming year.

Union Minister G.Kishan Reddy Launches Mineral Exploration Hackathon and National DMF Portal in Hyderabad.

Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, launched the Mineral Exploration Hackathon in Hyderabad, emphasizing innovative mineral exploration techniques. The event, attended by Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister, Shri Vijay Kumar Sinha, along with officials from the Ministry of Mines, state government, and industry, focuses on utilizing AI and ML to analyze geophysical data and integrate various mineral exploration datasets. The goal is to uncover new mineral targets, especially deep-seated ore bodies. During the event, Shri G. Kishan Reddy also launched the National District Mineral Foundation (DMF) Portal.

Govt extends R P Goyal's additional charge as NHPC CMD by 3 months.

The government has extended R P Goyal's additional charge as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) for an additional three months. Goyal, who has been serving in this role temporarily, will continue to oversee the operations and strategic direction of NHPC. This extension ensures stability in leadership during this period, allowing for the ongoing implementation of important projects and initiatives. The decision reflects the government's confidence in Goyal's capabilities and his contributions to the organization.

India likely to grow at 7.5% in FY25.

India is projected to achieve a growth rate of 7.5% in the fiscal year 2025. This optimistic forecast is based on robust economic recovery and favorable domestic conditions. Analysts suggest that the country's economic performance will be supported by strong consumer demand, ongoing infrastructure development, and a stable political environment. The growth is expected to contribute significantly to India's rising status as a major global economic player. Government policies and strategic investments are anticipated to play a crucial role in sustaining this positive momentum throughout the year.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh Receives Lifetime Achievement Award.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh has been honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to public service and governance. The award recognizes his dedicated efforts in various roles, including his work in science and technology, administrative reforms, and development projects. Singh has been a prominent figure in Indian politics, known for his commitment to improving the quality of life for citizens and fostering innovation. The accolade celebrates his enduring impact on the nation and his exemplary leadership throughout his career.

President Droupadi Murmu Appoints 6 New Governors, Reshuffles 3, and Designates New Lieutenant Governor for Puducherry.

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed six new governors and reshuffled three existing ones in a major administrative overhaul. The new appointments include governors for various states, reflecting a strategic shift in the leadership across the nation. Additionally, a new Lieutenant Governor has been designated for Puducherry, filling the position with a fresh face to address local governance challenges. This reshuffle aims to streamline administrative functions and strengthen governance across different regions. The move is expected to bring renewed focus and efficiency to the roles, enhancing the overall effectiveness of the administrative machinery.

UltraTech Acquires 32.72% Stake in India Cements for ₹3,954 Crore.

UltraTech Cement has signed an agreement to acquire an additional 32.72% stake in India Cements for ₹3,954 crore. This move will significantly increase UltraTech's ownership in India Cements, strengthening its position in the Indian cement market. The acquisition aligns with UltraTech's strategy to expand its market presence and consolidate its foothold in key regions. This strategic investment underscores UltraTech's commitment to growing its business and enhancing its competitive edge. The deal is expected to provide long-term benefits by leveraging synergies between the two companies and capitalizing on the expanding demand in the construction sector.

Heartbreak for Harmanpreet's India as Sri Lanka win maiden Women's Asia Cup title.

In a dramatic turn of events, Sri Lanka has won its first-ever Women's Asia Cup title, leaving Harmanpreet Kaur's India heartbroken. The final, held on [date], saw Sri Lanka's remarkable performance overshadowing India's efforts. Despite a valiant effort by the Indian team led by Harmanpreet, Sri Lanka's consistent and strategic play led them to victory. This historic win marks a significant milestone for Sri Lankan women's cricket, as they clinch the Asia Cup for the first time. The Indian team, though disappointed, showed great sportsmanship and determination throughout the tournament.

Aditya Birla Group enters jewellery market with ₹5,000 Crore brand Indriya.

The Aditya Birla Group has ventured into the jewellery market with its new brand, Indriya, backed by an investment of ₹5,000 crore. This move marks the conglomerate's diversification into the luxury goods sector, aiming to capture a significant share of the Indian jewellery market. Indriya will offer a wide range of high-quality jewellery, combining traditional craftsmanship with contemporary designs. The launch reflects Aditya Birla Group's strategic focus on expanding its consumer-centric portfolio and strengthening its presence in the retail industry.

Rigoberta Menchú Tum and Victor González Torres Receive Gandhi Mandela Award 2020.

Rigoberta Menchú Tum and Victor González Torres have been honored with the Gandhi Mandela Award 2020. Menchú Tum, a Guatemalan indigenous rights activist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, has been recognized for her lifelong dedication to social justice and indigenous people's rights. Victor González Torres, a Mexican philanthropist and businessman, has been acknowledged for his significant contributions to healthcare and education in underprivileged communities. The Gandhi Mandela Award celebrates individuals who have made outstanding efforts in promoting peace, compassion, and community service, reflecting the values of Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela.

Lewis Hamilton Triumphs in 2024 Belgian Grand Prix for Mercedes.

In an impressive display of skill, Lewis Hamilton secured victory in the 2024 Belgian Grand Prix, driving for Mercedes. The race, held at the Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps, saw Hamilton dominate from start to finish, showcasing his exceptional driving prowess and the strong performance of his Mercedes car. This win marks Hamilton's first Belgian Grand Prix victory of the season and reinforces his status as a leading contender in the championship. The result also adds crucial points to Mercedes' Constructors' Championship bid, further intensifying the competition as the season progresses.

Jamsetji Tata's Corporate Success Strategies New Book to be Released Soon.

A new book titled "Jamsetji Tata's Corporate Success Strategies" is set to be released soon. This insightful publication delves into the life and strategies of Jamsetji Tata, a pioneering industrialist whose visionary leadership transformed India's corporate landscape. The book aims to offer readers valuable lessons and strategies that contributed to Tata's extraordinary success. By exploring Tata's innovative approaches and principles, the book seeks to provide modern business leaders with practical guidance for achieving excellence in their own ventures. This release is highly anticipated in the business world, promising to be a significant addition to corporate literature.

EQT Private Cap Asia exits RBL Bank and sells entire stake for Rs 1,091 cr.

EQT Private Capital Asia, formerly known as Baring Private Equity Asia, on Thursday exited RBL Bank by selling its entire 7.89 per cent stake in the private sector lender for Rs 1,091 crore through an open market transaction. EQT Private Capital Asia through its vehicle Maple II BV sold shares of RBL Bank through a bulk deal on the BSE. As per the data available on the BSE, Maple II B V sold 4,78,40,700 shares, amounting to a 7.89 per cent stake in RBL Bank. The shares were offloaded at an average price of Rs 228.08 apiece, taking the transaction value to Rs 1,091.15 crore.

Odisha govt presents Rs 2.65 lakh crore budget for FY'25.

The Odisha government has presented a substantial budget of ₹2.65 lakh crore for the financial year 2024-25. This budget reflects the state's commitment to enhancing infrastructure, education, and healthcare. Key allocations include significant investments in rural development and social welfare programs aimed at improving the quality of life for residents. The budget also emphasizes sustainable development and economic growth, with a focus on attracting investment and fostering innovation. This comprehensive fiscal plan is designed to address the state's diverse needs and drive its progress over the coming year.

Curator Rahaab Allana Receives France's Officier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Curator Rahaab Allana has been honored with France's prestigious title, Officier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. This distinguished accolade recognizes Allana's significant contributions to the arts and culture sector. Known for his innovative approach and commitment to promoting art and culture, Allana has been a pivotal figure in shaping the cultural landscape. The award is a testament to his influence and dedication. The Officier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres is one of France's highest honors in the arts, celebrating individuals who have made exceptional contributions to artistic and literary fields.

Nita Ambani Re-Elected as IOC Member for Paris 2024 Olympics.

Nita Ambani has been re-elected as a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) ahead of the Paris 2024 Olympics. Her re-election marks a continuation of her influential role in global sports governance. As a prominent advocate for sports development in India, Ambani's position within the IOC is significant in shaping the future of Olympic events and promoting international sports cooperation. Her renewed membership underscores the trust and recognition she has earned within the global sports community. This re-election is expected to enhance India's representation and influence in the upcoming Paris Games.

Filmmaker Shekhar Kapur appointed IFFI festival director.

Filmmaker Shekhar Kapur has been appointed as the Festival Director of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). Known for his significant contributions to Indian cinema, Kapur brings a wealth of experience and creative vision to the role. His appointment is expected to enhance the festival's international stature and bring fresh perspectives to the event. IFFI, held annually in Goa, showcases a diverse range of films from around the world and aims to promote the art of filmmaking. Kapur's leadership is anticipated to further elevate the festival's reputation and impact on the global cinema landscape.

CCI approves equity stake allotment in Aakash to Ranjan Pai's Manipal Group.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the allotment of an equity stake in Aakash Educational Services to Ranjan Pai's Manipal Group. This strategic move aims to strengthen the collaboration between Aakash, a leading test preparation and educational services provider, and Manipal Group, a renowned entity in the education sector. The partnership is expected to enhance educational offerings and expand their reach to more students across India. By combining their resources and expertise, both organizations aim to deliver high-quality education and create a more robust educational ecosystem.

IOC Elects French Alps for 2030 Winter Games, Salt Lake City-Utah for 2034.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has selected the French Alps to host the 2030 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. This marks a significant return to France for the Winter Games, which were last held in Albertville in 1992. Additionally, Salt Lake City, Utah, has been chosen to host the 2034 edition, bringing the Winter Games back to the United States after a gap of 32 years since the 2002 Salt Lake City Games. These selections reflect the IOC's commitment to leveraging existing infrastructure and promoting sustainability in Olympic venues.

Himachal CM releases 'Ek Refugee Scientist' autobiography.

The Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh has released the autobiography titled "Ek Refugee Scientist." This book provides an insightful account of the author's journey,

highlighting the challenges and triumphs experienced as a refugee who pursued a career in science. The release event was attended by various dignitaries and served as a platform to discuss the book's impact on understanding the refugee experience and contributions to science. The autobiography aims to inspire readers with its story of perseverance and achievement in the face of adversity.

Indian Oil Corporation and the Indian Navy have signed an MoU to promote hydrogen e-mobility.

Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and the Indian Navy have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance hydrogen e-mobility. The partnership aims to explore the use of hydrogen as a clean fuel alternative for naval and civilian applications. This collaboration supports India's goal of enhancing sustainable transportation solutions and reducing carbon emissions. The agreement highlights the commitment of both organizations to drive innovation in the energy sector and contribute to the nation's green energy objectives. Through this initiative, Indian Oil and the Indian Navy will work together to develop and implement hydrogen-based technologies.

Shah Rukh Khan First Bollywood Actor to Receive Custom Gold Coin from Grevin Museum Paris.

Shah Rukh Khan has made history by becoming the first Bollywood actor to be honored with a customized gold coin by the renowned Grevin Museum in Paris. This prestigious accolade celebrates his significant impact on global cinema and his status as a cultural icon. The Grevin Museum, known for its wax figures of notable personalities, now extends its recognition to Khan with this unique tribute. The gold coin features an intricate design representing Khan's contributions to the film industry, marking a historic milestone in the world of Bollywood and further elevating his international stature.

IOA ropes in BPCL as principal sponsor for four years.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has announced a major sponsorship deal with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL). BPCL will serve as the principal sponsor of the IOA for the next four years. This partnership aims to enhance the development and promotion of sports in India by providing financial support and resources. BPCL's involvement is expected to contribute significantly to the growth of Indian athletes and the overall sports infrastructure. The agreement marks a significant milestone for both organizations, highlighting BPCL's commitment to supporting sports and the IOA's dedication to advancing athletic excellence in the country.

TOLIC Wins Rajbhasha Gaurav and Nagar Rajbhasha Awards.

Tolic has been honored with the prestigious Rajbhasha Gaurav Samman and Nagar Rajbhasha Samman awards. The Rajbhasha Gaurav Samman is awarded for outstanding contribution to the promotion of Hindi language, while the Nagar Rajbhasha Samman recognizes efforts to enhance the use of Hindi in municipal settings. Tolic's dedication and significant work in advancing Hindi through various initiatives have earned this recognition. These awards highlight Tolic's commitment to fostering the use of Hindi and promoting its importance in both national and local contexts.

Arunachal Pradesh Dy CM presents Rs 993 crore deficit budget for FY25.

The Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh has presented a budget for the fiscal year 2025 with a deficit of ₹993 crore. This budget reflects the financial challenges faced by the state, aiming to address key development priorities and infrastructure needs. Despite the significant deficit, the government plans to invest in crucial sectors such as health, education, and rural development to boost economic growth and improve living standards. The budget highlights the state's commitment to long-term progress and resilience amid fiscal constraints.

UP Introduces Upvan Yojna and Heritage Tree Adoption to Improve Green Cover.

The Uttar Pradesh government has launched two new initiatives to enhance green cover in urban areas. The "Upvan Yojna" aims to increase greenery through extensive tree planting and the development of parks. Additionally, the "Heritage Tree Adoption Scheme" encourages citizens to adopt and care for historic trees, preserving their ecological and cultural value. These programs are designed to improve air quality, beautify cities, and promote environmental sustainability. The government's efforts underscore its commitment to creating a greener and healthier living environment for urban residents.

Meghalaya government launches its own OTT platform Hello Meghalaya.

The Meghalaya government has launched its own OTT platform, "Hello Meghalaya," aimed at showcasing regional content and promoting local talent. This new digital platform will offer a variety of programs, including movies, series, and documentaries, all in the local languages of Meghalaya. It is designed to provide a space for local filmmakers and content creators to reach a wider audience and highlight the unique cultural and artistic heritage of the state. The initiative also seeks to enhance digital infrastructure and promote the state's rich traditions and stories on a broader scale.

Assam CM Launches Amrit Brikshya Andolan 2.0 App for Major Tree Plantation Drive.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the Amrit Brikshya Andolan 2.0 app to support a large-scale tree plantation drive. This initiative aims to

enhance green cover across the state by encouraging widespread participation in planting trees. The app will facilitate tracking of planting activities, provide information on best practices, and engage citizens in environmental conservation efforts. The move is part of the government's broader strategy to combat climate change and promote sustainable development. Through this campaign, Assam hopes to significantly increase its forested areas and contribute to ecological balance.

PM Min Aung Hlaing Appointed Acting President of Myanmar.

Min Aung Hlaing, Myanmar's Prime Minister, has been appointed as the country's Acting President. This development follows the recent political turmoil and power shifts within the country. As the leader of the military-backed government, Min Aung Hlaing's new role as Acting President marks a significant change in Myanmar's political landscape. The move is expected to impact both domestic policies and international relations. Observers are closely monitoring the situation, as the new leadership will play a crucial role in shaping Myanmar's future amidst ongoing challenges.

Cmde D.K. Murali took over as Chairman and Managing Director of BECIL.

Cmde D.K. Murali, IN (Retd.), has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL). With a distinguished career in the Indian Navy, Cmde Murali brings extensive experience in leadership and strategic planning. His appointment is expected to steer BECIL towards enhanced growth and operational efficiency. The organization looks forward to leveraging his expertise to strengthen its position in the broadcasting and media sectors. Cmde Murali's leadership is anticipated to drive BECIL's future initiatives and projects, fostering innovation and excellence in the industry.

WMO and FAO Collaborate to Boost Agricultural Early Warning Systems.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has joined forces with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to enhance early warning systems for the agriculture sector. This collaboration aims to improve the accuracy and timeliness of weather forecasts and climate information, helping farmers better prepare for extreme weather events and climate-related challenges. By integrating advanced meteorological data with agricultural practices, the initiative seeks to boost resilience in the farming community and secure food production. The partnership represents a significant step toward mitigating the impacts of climate change on global agriculture.

Terrapay and SWIFT Partner for Global Account-to-Wallet Payments.

Terrapay has announced a strategic partnership with SWIFT to enhance global account-to-wallet payment capabilities. This collaboration aims to streamline and secure international transactions by leveraging SWIFT's extensive financial

messaging network and Terrapay's innovative payment solutions. Businesses and consumers will benefit from faster, more efficient, and transparent cross-border payments. The integration will simplify the process of transferring funds from bank accounts to digital wallets, expanding access to global markets and improving overall transaction experiences. This partnership marks a significant advancement in the evolution of global payments technology.

Abhinav Bindra Awarded Prestigious Olympic Order By IOC.

The International Olympic Committee Executive Board has decided to award India's first individual Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra with the Olympic Order for his outstanding services to the Olympic Movement. The award will be given during the 142nd IOC Session in Paris on 10th of August 2024. The Olympic Order is the highest award of the IOC, given for distinguished contributions to the Olympic Movement. 41-year-old Bindra, won the men's 10 meter air rifle event at the 2008 Beijing Games and became first Indian individual to win an Olympic gold medal. Bindra has also been a member of the IOC Athlete Commission since 2018.

Chandrayaan-3 Awarded World Space Award For Historic Milestone.

Chandrayaan-3 has been honored with the World Space Award for its historic achievement. This Indian space mission successfully landed on the Moon's south pole, a significant and challenging goal. The award recognizes the technological capabilities and efforts of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Chandrayaan-3's success has strengthened India's position in space science globally and set a new direction in the field of space exploration.

Oscar Piastrri Wins F1 Title At Hungarian Grand Prix.

The Australian Formula 1 (F1) racer Oscar Piastrri secured his first-ever F1 title victory at the Hungarian Grand Prix yesterday. The Australian rookie led a strong McLaren one-two finish alongside the British-Belgian racer Lando Norris. However, the race became dramatic when team orders late in the race saw Norris give up the lead, overshadowing the celebration. The drama began with McLaren's pit stop strategy during the second round of stops. Norris was brought in first to cover off Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton, who was mounting a significant challenge from behind.

Kristen Michal Appointed Estonia's New Prime Minister.

Kristen Michal has been appointed as Estonia's new Prime Minister. Michal, a prominent figure in Estonian politics, succeeds Kaja Kallas in the role. With a significant background in political strategy and public administration, Michal is expected to lead Estonia through its current challenges and advance its national interests. His appointment marks a pivotal shift in the country's leadership and aims to strengthen political stability and economic growth. Michal's leadership will be

closely watched as Estonia navigates both domestic and international issues in the coming years.

Federal Bank Appoints Krishnan Venkat Subramanian as New MD & CEO.

Federal Bank has announced the appointment of Krishnan Venkat Subramanian as its new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Subramanian, who has a robust background in finance and banking, succeeds Shyam Srinivasan. His appointment is expected to steer the bank through its next phase of growth and innovation. With extensive experience in leadership roles across the financial sector, Subramanian is anticipated to drive strategic initiatives and enhance operational efficiency at Federal Bank. This move is seen as a significant step in strengthening the bank's leadership and expanding its market presence.

Telangana CM launches ₹1 lakh aid for Civil Services prelims qualifiers.

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy launched a unique programme to provide financial assistance to the Civil Services aspirants from Telangana, under which the candidates who qualify for the Mains exams will be provided with ₹1 lakh for preparation. Named "Rajiv Gandhi Civils Abhayahastam", the scheme will be helpful to about 400 candidates from Telangana region who qualify for the Mains every year.

Eurosport India Appoints Shikhar Dhawan as Brand Ambassador for MotoGP.

Eurosport India has appointed Shikhar Dhawan as the brand ambassador for MotoGP in India. This partnership aims to enhance MotoGP's visibility and connect with a broader audience through Dhawan's popularity and influence in Indian sports. Dhawan, a prominent cricketer, will engage in promotional activities, including advertisements and public appearances, to boost the MotoGP brand. The collaboration is expected to bring more attention to the MotoGP events in India and contribute to the growth of the motorsport's fan base in the country.

APC Appoints Deepa Malik as South Asia Sub-Regional Representative.

The Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) has appointed Deepa Malik, India's first female Paralympic medalist, as the Sub-Regional Representative for South Asia. This significant appointment marks a milestone in the representation of South Asian athletes on the global stage. Malik, who has previously made remarkable contributions to sports, will now play a key role in promoting and developing Paralympic sports across the region. Her new role will involve enhancing the visibility and support for athletes with disabilities, further strengthening the Paralympic movement in South Asia.

Gujarat To Provide Rented Accommodation To Construction Workers For Rs 5 Per Day.

On Thursday, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel launched the 'Shramik Basera' scheme, aimed at providing temporary accommodation to nearly 15,000 construction workers at a nominal rate of Rs 5 per day. The Chief Minister performed the ground-breaking ceremony for 17 new dwelling structures in Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Vadodara, and Rajkot. This initiative is expected to support workers with affordable housing and improve their living conditions, as stated in an official release.

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy Inaugurates NLFC and Launches Bhusanket Portal & Bhooskhalan App.

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the National Land Following Centre (NLFC) and launched the Bhusanket web portal and Bhooskhalan mobile app today. The NLFC aims to enhance land management and promote efficient land use practices. The Bhusanket portal provides farmers with real-time information on land data and agricultural practices, while the Bhooskhalan app facilitates the reporting and management of land-related issues. These initiatives are designed to improve agricultural productivity and streamline land management processes across the country.

BIS and IISc Bengaluru Sign MoU for Standardization.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru to promote standardization across various sectors. This collaboration aims to enhance research and development in standardization practices, improve quality assurance, and foster innovation. The MoU outlines joint efforts to develop and implement new standards, conduct training programs, and support the integration of advanced technologies. This partnership is expected to strengthen India's position in global standardization efforts and contribute to industrial and technological advancement.

HSBC appoints Georges Elhedery as group chief executive.

HSBC has appointed Georges Elhedery as the Group Chief Executive. Elhedery previously served as the Group Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Chairman at HSBC. His appointment marks a significant step for the global financial institution, which will now adopt a new strategy to strengthen its position in global markets. There are high expectations that Elhedery's leadership will drive HSBC to new heights.

Airports Authority and Rajasthan Govt Sign MoU for New Greenfield Airport in Kota.

AAI, Urban Development, Rajasthan government, and Civil Aviation Dept. signed an MoU for Kota Greenfield Airport. Rajasthan provides land; AAI manages construction on 440.086 hectares. Report in progress. CM Bhajanlal Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar,

Shikhar Agarwal, and T. Ravikant attended. Minister Ram Mohan Naidu and Speaker Om Birla reviewed. NOC and a two-year operational goal are set.

UPL University partners ISRO for R&D in chemical sciences.

UPL University of Sustainable Technology, an initiative by the UPL Group and the Space Application Centre (SAC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance research and innovation in chemical sciences. This collaboration is part of UPL's broader strategy to enhance academic excellence and foster global recognition, the company said in a statement.

Ireda to Invest ₹290 Crore in 900 MW Hydro Projects in Nepal.

The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (Ireda) has announced an investment of ₹290 crore in hydroelectric projects in Nepal. This investment will support the development of 900 megawatts (MW) of hydroelectric power capacity in the region. The move aims to strengthen energy cooperation between India and Nepal and boost the renewable energy sector in both countries. The projects are expected to enhance energy security and contribute to sustainable development goals. Ireda's investment reflects a commitment to regional energy partnerships and the promotion of clean energy solutions.

Lalianjuala Chhangate and Indumathi Kathiresan received the Player of the Year honors at the AIFF awards ceremony.

Lallianzuala Chhangte and Indumathi Kathiresan were honored with the Player of the Year awards at the AIFF (All India Football Federation) awards ceremony. Chhangte, known for his exceptional performances in the Indian Super League, was recognized for his contributions on the field. Kathiresan, a standout in women's football, received accolades for her impressive skills and leadership. The AIFF awards celebrate outstanding achievements in Indian football, and this year's ceremony highlighted the remarkable talents of these two players. Their awards reflect their hard work and dedication to the sport, marking a significant achievement in their careers.

Shreya Gupta Wins Bronze in Sabre at Commonwealth Junior and Cadet Championships 2024.

Prominent ace fencer of Jammu and Kashmir, Shreya Gupta, has set the ball rolling in fencing by winning her first-ever individual medal at the international level by clinching the Sabre category bronze medal in the ongoing Commonwealth Junior and Cadet Championship 2024 in Christchurch, New Zealand. Shreya, in a superb display of the game, completely outclassed Saunders Nicole of England in the table of 16 by a margin of 15-3, whereas in a medal bout, she secured a win over Hardge Gala of Australia by 15-13. In the semifinals.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan Launches Four Books on Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched four books celebrating Rashtrapati Bhavan, including titles like "Wings to Our Hopes - Volume 1" and "Rashtrapati Bhavan: The Heart of the Nation." The event emphasized the architectural and historical importance of the presidential residence, highlighting its cultural and political significance in India. Chouhan commended the books for their comprehensive portrayal of Rashtrapati Bhavan's heritage and contemporary relevance.

Uttarakhand Unveils World's First Gross Environmental Product Index.

Uttarakhand has introduced the world's first Gross Environmental Product Index (GEPI), marking a significant milestone in environmental management. The GEPI aims to assess the environmental impact of economic activities within the state, focusing on sustainability and conservation efforts. This innovative index will track environmental quality and resource usage, providing a comprehensive view of how economic growth aligns with ecological health. The initiative is expected to serve as a model for other regions seeking to integrate environmental metrics into economic planning and policy-making.

AIM and WIPO sign Lol for joint innovation programs in the Global South.

The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) have signed a Letter of Intent (Lol) to enhance innovation programs in the Global South. This partnership aims to bolster startup ecosystems by leveraging WIPO's intellectual property expertise and AIM's innovation initiatives. Focusing on technology transfer, global networking, and resources for entrepreneurs, the collaboration targets to empower innovators in developing countries for accelerated innovation and entrepreneurship.