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Current Affairs

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Today's Important News

With just Rs 150 base airfare, take a 50-minute flight
from Lilabari to Tezpur in Assam



1. With just Rs 150 base airfare, take a 50-minute flight from Lilabari to Tezpur in Assam

- Not just this route, there are many more flights where the base ticket price is less than Rs 1,000. All of them are operated under the regional air connectivity scheme that provides various incentives for the airline operators.
- According to an analysis shared by travel portal ixigo with PTI, there are at least 22 routes where the base airfares are less than Rs 1,000 per person, with the lowest being Rs 150 for flights connecting Lilabari and Tezpur in Assam.



2. Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong to Step Down, Hands Over Power to Deputy Lawrence Wong

- Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, after two decades in office, will step down on May 15, passing the baton to his deputy, Lawrence Wong. The transition marks a significant moment for Singapore as it prepares for new leadership amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.



- Lee, aged 72, will formally advise the city-state's president to appoint Wong, currently serving as deputy prime minister and finance minister, as his successor. Wong, with unanimous support from lawmakers in the long-ruling People's Action Party, will be sworn in at the national palace on the same day.

Foot Note:

About Singapore:

Prime Minister: Lee Hsien Loong

President: Tharman Shanmugaratnam

3. Nyishi Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh celebrates Longte festival

- The Nyishi tribe in Arunachal Pradesh enthusiastically celebrates the Longte festival, one of their biggest cultural events. Unlike many other tribal festivals, Longte prohibits the sacrifice of animals, instead adorning altars with decorative white feathers and bamboo decorations.
- The Longte festival is a significant cultural event for the Nyishi tribe in Arunachal Pradesh. It is marked by its unique tradition of abstaining from animal sacrifice, opting instead for symbolic decorations using feathers and bamboo.



Foot Note:

About Arunachal Pradesh:

Capital: Itanagar

Chief Minister: Pema Khandu

Governor: Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik

4. Chitrakoot's Stunning Glass Skywalk Bridge in Uttar Pradesh

- In a remarkable feat of engineering and tourism development, the state of Uttar Pradesh has unveiled its first-ever glass skywalk bridge, located at the enchanting Tulsi (Shabari) Waterfall in Chitrakoot. This innovative and visually stunning structure, shaped like Lord Ram's bow and arrow, is poised to become a premier eco-tourism destination for visitors to the region.
- The glass skywalk bridge, constructed at a cost of Rs 3.70 crore, seamlessly blends into the natural surroundings of the Kodand forest area, where the cascading Tulsi Waterfalls are situated.



Foot Note:

About Uttar Pradesh:

Capital: Lucknow

Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath

Governor: Anandiben Patel

5. The government directs e-commerce firms to remove Bournvita, other drinks from the 'health drinks' category

- The government has asked all the e-commerce companies to remove drinks and beverages, including Bournvita, from the health drinks category from their portals.
- “National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), a statutory body constituted under section (3) of the Commission of Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act 2005 after its inquiry under Section 14 of CRPC Act 2005 concluded that there is no ‘health drink’ defined under FSS Act 2006, rules and regulations submitted by FSSAI and Mondelez India Food Pvt Ltd,” the Commerce and Industry Ministry said in an advisory to all e-commerce companies.



6. LIC Increases Equity Stake in Hindustan Unilever by Over 5%

- In a recent move, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) announced that its stake in FMCG major Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) has surpassed 5%. The Corporation augmented its shareholding in HUL from 4.99% to 5.01% of the company’s paid-up capital by acquiring additional shares from the open market. This increase amounted to a purchase of 3,05,000 equity shares, bringing LIC’s total shares in HUL to 11,77,18,555.
- LIC procured the additional shares on April 12th, with an average cost of Rs 2,248.59 per unit. This transaction marks a significant move by LIC to strengthen its position in one of India’s leading FMCG companies.



7. Former Revenue Secretary Tarun Bajaj to Head US-India Tax Forum

- The US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF) has appointed former Revenue Secretary and ex-Secretary of Economic Affairs Tarun Bajaj as the head of the US-India Tax Forum. Bajaj, 61, joined the USISPF as an advisor to the Board of Directors in January and will now spearhead the US-



India Tax Forum.

- A 1988-batch Haryana Cadre IAS officer, Bajaj served as Revenue Secretary. During his tenure with the Indian government, he played a pivotal role in shaping fiscal policies and promoting economic growth.

8. Sunrisers Hyderabad Shatter IPL Record with Mammoth 287-Run Total Against RCB

- Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) took the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 by storm, crushing their opponents Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) with a record-breaking total of 287 runs for the loss of just 3 wickets. Pat Cummins-led team had scored 277 for 3 in its second match of the ongoing edition against Mumbai Indians at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad, breaking the then record of 263 for 5, set by RCB against the now-defunct Pune Warriors India in 2013 in Bengaluru.
- The Sunrisers' astonishing performance surpassed their own previous record of the highest-ever team total in IPL history, which they had set just a few matches earlier against Mumbai Indians. This latest feat has cemented SRH's reputation as a formidable batting unit, capable of overwhelming any bowling attack on their day.



9. Senior IPS Officer Anurag Kumar appointed as Joint Director of CBI

- In a significant development in India's law enforcement landscape, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of senior IPS officer Anurag Kumar as the Joint Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). This move, which comes into effect immediately, underscores the government's confidence in Kumar's leadership and expertise to serve in this crucial role.
- Anurag Kumar is a 2004 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer from the Assam-Meghalaya cadre. Prior to his new appointment, he was serving in the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), a premier organization under the Ministry of Home Affairs that focuses on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of police forces across the country.



10. Kristalina Georgieva Re-appointed as IMF Managing Director

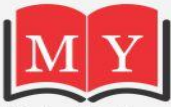
- Kristalina Georgieva has been re-appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a new 5-year term starting on 1 October 2024. She was the sole candidate nominated for the position this year, and her appointment was made by the IMF executive board.
- The IMF managing director is appointed by the executive board, which can choose a managing director through either voting or consensus. In 2004, the IMF adopted a policy of appointing a Managing Director through consensus. Candidates for the MD post can be nominated by an IMF Fund Governor or an Executive Director.



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