

Current Affairs

02nd May, 2024



Today's Important News

UN's 1st International Conference on DPI held
under India's Leadership in New York

1. UN's 1st International Conference on DPI held under India's Leadership in New York

Under the leadership of India, the conference titled "Digital Public Infrastructure, Transformative Technology for Citizens" took place at the UN headquarters in New York, United States. The aim was to leverage technology to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promote inclusivity. At the event, India introduced its Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) framework as a universal standard.



KeyPoints:

- Global leaders, tech innovators, and policy experts convened to discuss the global adoption of DPI.
- India Stack exemplified successful integration of technology into citizen services, fostering international cooperation for the development of digital infrastructure globally.
- The focus of the conference was on employing technology to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promote inclusivity.
- DPI comprises interconnected open technology standards designed to serve the public interest.

About UN:

Headquarters: New York

Founded: 24 October 1945

2. Kathmandu Tops The List Of Cities With Unhealthy Air in The World

The Ministry of Health and Population of Nepal has urged residents to wear masks due to the alarming increase in air pollution levels in the Kathmandu valley. According to IQAir, an organization that measures real-time pollution in 101 cities worldwide, Kathmandu has been ranked as the most polluted city globally. New Delhi, Chiang Mai (Thailand), Hanoi (Vietnam), Bangkok (Thailand), and Dhaka (Bangladesh) follow in the ranking for most polluted cities. Avoid unnecessary outdoor activities, refrain from traveling, and stay away from highly polluted areas. It also increases the risk of asthma, cancer, and other diseases.



3. India to host the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting

- India confirms its dedication to protecting Antarctica's fragile environment and promoting scientific research in the area.
- The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India, along with the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), will organize the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46) and the 26th Meeting of the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP 26).
- These meetings are scheduled to take place from May 20 to May 30, 2024, in Kochi, Kerala.



The purpose is to discuss and plan measures for preserving Antarctica's environment and ensuring responsible exploration. Over 56 countries have ratified the Treaty, showcasing global support for its principles.

4. Indian Army and Punit Balan Group Collaborate to Develop India's First Constitution Park

- The Indian Army and the Punit Balan Group collaborated to open India's first Constitution Park in Pune.
 - Lt. Gen. Ajai Kumar Singh led the inauguration ceremony.
 - The event highlighted the significance of citizens fulfilling their responsibilities as stated in the Constitution.
 - The aim is to propel India towards development by 2047, emphasizing the role of citizens in this journey.
- Lt. Gen. Ajai Kumar Singh highlighted the global significance of the Indian Constitution, which not only grants Fundamental Rights but also underscores



Fundamental Duties. He stressed the need for citizens to comprehend their rights and fulfill their duties, as outlined in the Constitution, for the realization of a developed India by 2047.

About Indian Army:

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS): General Anil Chauhan

Chief of the Army Staff (COAS): General Manoj Pande

5. ISRO Released ISSAR 2023 Report on Vulnerability of Space Assets to Collisions

Sreedhara Panicker Somanath, the Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), unveiled the Indian Space Situational Assessment Report (ISSAR) for 2023. This report was put together by ISRO's System for Safe and Sustainable Space Operations Management (IS4OM).



The report looked into the safety of satellites and other objects in outer space. It checked how vulnerable they are to things like asteroids, comets, and man-made debris. This assessment aims to make sure that space operations are done safely and can continue in a sustainable way.

KeyPoints:

- A total of 3143 objects originating from 212 launches and on-orbit break-up events were added to the space object population in 2023, compared to 2,533 objects from 179 launches in 2022.
- Since the beginning of Indian Space era, a total of 127 Indian satellites (including the satellites of private operators/academic institutions) have been launched till 31st December 2023.

About ISRO:

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

6. India to host BWF World Junior Badminton Championships 2025, Guwahati

Guwahati will host the BWF World Junior Championships in 2025. The championships will take place at the Badminton Association of India's (BAI) National Centre of Excellence in the northeastern region of India. Usually, the Junior Worlds start with a team event followed by individual events across five categories. Both events will be held



at the BAI National Centre of Excellence. The decision to host the championships in Guwahati was confirmed during the BWF Council meeting on April 28. India last hosted the World Juniors in Pune in 2008. Saina Nehwal won India's only gold medal in the junior major that year by defeating Sayaka Sato to become world champion.

About BWF:

Headquarters: Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

President: Poul-Erik Høyer Larsen

Founded: 5 July 1934

7. Maushumi Chakravarty Assumes Charge Of Director General Of Akashvani News

Maushumi Chakravarty assumed charge as Director General of Akashvani News on May 1. A 1991 batch IIS officer, Chakravarty has vast experience having served in various capacities under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, including its media organizations the Press Information Bureau and Central Bureau of Communication.



In her career spanning over three decades, she has also worked on deputation basis in the National Human Rights Commission and as P.S. to Cabinet Minister. Chakravarty assumed the charge after superannuation of Vasudha Gupta as Principal DG.

About Akashvani News:

Headquarters : Akashvani Bhavan Sansad Marg, New Delhi

CEO:Prasar Bharati

8. Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan Assumes Charge As vice Chief Of Naval Staff

Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, AVSM, VSM assumes charge as Vice Chief of Naval Staff on 01 May 2024. On assuming charge, the Flag Officer paid homage to Bravehearts that made the supreme sacrifice in service of the nation by placing a floral wreath at the National War Memorial.



- The Flag Officer joined the Indian Navy on July 1st, 1987.
- His expertise lies in Communication and Electronic Warfare.
- He attended the National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla.
- He also studied at the Joint Services Command and Staff College in Shrivenham, UK.
- Additionally, he is an alumnus of the College of Naval Warfare in Karanja.

- He furthered his education at the United States Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, USA.

9.AMU Professor Mohammad Rihan Took Charge as Director General of NISE

Dr. Mohammad Rihan, a Professor from the Electrical Engineering Department at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh has assumed the role of Director General (DG) at the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE). He will serve at NISE on deputation for an initial term of 3 years, with the potential for an extension of up to 2 years.

The former DG Dr. Arun Kumar Tripathi was appointed Vice-Chancellor of Uttarakhand Ayurved University (UAU), Dehradun, Uttarakhand in 2023. He is also a Scientist G at the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).



About NISE:

Headquarters: Gurgaon

Founded: 24 October 2013

10. World Tuna Day is observed on 2nd May

World Tuna Day, observed annually on May 2nd, is dedicated to raising awareness about the critical importance of tuna conservation. Tuna is popular for its numerous health benefits, as it provides Omega-3 fatty acids, protein, and vital vitamins. But, tuna populations face significant threats due to overfishing and unsustainable fishing practices.

World Tuna Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about the pressing issue of overfishing and the need for international cooperation to address this global problem. It also serves as a reminder of the importance of sustainable fisheries management practices and the need to reduce bycatch and incidental catches of unwanted species.



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