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Current Affairs

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China Unveils World's First Carbon Fiber High-Speed Train



1. China Unveils World's First Carbon Fiber High-Speed Train

China has built the world's first passenger train made from carbon fibre, a material that makes it much lighter and more energy-efficient than conventional trains. The metro train – known as Cetrovo 1.0 or the Carbon Star Rapid Transit – was unveiled in Qingdao, in the eastern province of Shandong, on July 17.



Foot Note:

- Completed in-factory testing
- Ready for operation in coastal city later this year
- Developed by Qingdao Sifang Rolling Stock Co
- Subsidiary of China Railway Construction Corporation

About China:

Capital: Beijing

Prime Minister: Li Qiang

President: Xi Jinping

2. PM Modi Announces \$1 Million Grant to UNESCO

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced India's contribution of one million dollars to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre to support heritage conservation globally, particularly in the Global South. This announcement was made during the inauguration of the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.



Foot Note:

- India is dedicated to preserving global heritage
- Provides support both domestically and in the Global South
- New certificate program in world heritage management in India
- Trains young professionals in heritage conservation
- Enhances skills and knowledge in cultural heritage preservation

About UNESCO:

Founded:1945

Headquarters: Paris

3. Assam's Charaideo Maidam Nominated for UNESCO World Heritage Site

Charaideo Maidam has been nominated to become North East India's first UNESCO World Heritage Site in the cultural category. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced this nomination at the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee held from July 21-31 in New Delhi. If accepted, Charaideo Maidam will be India's 43rd World Heritage Site, joining Kaziranga National Park and Manas National Park, which are listed under the natural category.



Foot Note:

- Burial mounds for Ahom kings and nobles (13th-18th century)
- Resemble grassy hillocks, considered sacred by the Ahom community
- Each Maidam marks the resting place of an Ahom ruler or dignitary
- Believed to contain remains and valuable artifacts

About Assam:

Capital: Dispur

Governor:Gulab Chand Kataria

Chief Minister:Himanta Biswa Sarma

4. SIDBI To Build \$1B Fund For Green Financing With \$215 M

The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), which received approval of funding of \$ 215.6 m from the Green Climate Fund, will create a corpus of \$1 billion for 'financing mitigation and adaptation projects' (FMAP) of Medium and Small Enterprises (MSMEs). The board of the Green Climate Fund, which is an entity set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), approved a \$200 million loan and \$15.6 million grant for capacity building to SIDBI.



Foot Note:

- SIDBI press release announces FMAP facility
- Provides nearly 10,000 concessional loans to MSMEs

- Promotes low-emission, climate-resilient technologies
- Expected reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 35.3 million tonnes
- Adaptation activities lead to substantial water savings

About SIDBI:

Founded: 1990

Headquarters: Lucknow

CEO: Shri Sivasubramanian Ramann

5. AIM, WIPO Join Hands To Boost Innovation In Global South

The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) at NITI Aayog and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) on July 22, joined hands towards building joint innovation programmes in the Global South. Union Minister for Education and Skill Development Dharmendra Pradhan said that innovation is India's strength.



Foot Note:

- AIM and WIPO partnership to share India's innovation models globally
- Enhances understanding of IPR from the school level
- Unlocks global innovation potential
- Promotes inclusive and sustainable economic growth
- Sherif Saadallah (WIPO Academy): IP is crucial for innovation, youth development, and achieving SDGs

6. Abhinav Bindra Awarded Prestigious Olympic Order by IOC

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has honored Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medallist, with the prestigious Olympic Order. This recognition will be formally presented during the 142nd IOC Session in Paris on August 10, 2024, a day before the closing of the Paris Olympics. The Olympic Order, the IOC's highest award, acknowledges distinguished contributions to the Olympic Movement.

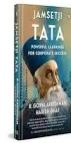


Foot Note:

- Bindra won the men's 10-meter air rifle event at the 2008 Beijing Olympics
- First Indian to secure an individual Olympic gold
- Member of the IOC Athlete Commission since 2018
- Will receive the Olympic Order at the 142nd IOC Session in Paris
- Award recognizes notable contributions to the Olympic Movement and significant services to the Olympic cause

7. A Book Title Jamsetji Tata: Powerful Learnings For Corporate Success

Interwoven with engaging real-life stories and interesting anecdotes that went into the making of India's popular brands such as Tata Tea, Tata Motors, Titan and Tanishq. This unique account brings alive the vision of Jamsetji Tata and what we can learn from it.



Foot Note:

- From Empress Mills to the Iron and Steel Plant
- Establishment of IISc to building the Taj Mahal Hotel
- Jamsetji's vision elevated India
- R. Gopalakrishnan and Harish Bhat offer insights
- Entrepreneurial principles behind a lasting enterprise

8. Kush Maini Wins Maiden Formula 2 Sprint Race at Hungarian Grand Prix

Indian driver Kush Maini clinched his first Formula 2 Sprint Race victory at the Hungarian Grand Prix after initial winner Richard Verschoor was disqualified due to a technical infringement. This win marks a significant achievement for Maini, who is 23 years old and drives for Invicta Racing.



Foot Note:

- Kush Maini won his first Formula 2 Sprint Race at the Hungarian Grand Prix
- Richard Verschoor's disqualification allowed Maini to win
- Added 10 points, bringing his total to 66
- Moved to P8 in the Formula 2 Drivers Standings, surpassing Kimi Antonelli

9. PR Sreejesh Announces Retirement After Paris Olympics 2024

Indian hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh, a pivotal figure in the sport, has announced that he will retire from international hockey following the Paris Olympics 2024. This decision marks the end of an illustrious career, characterized by significant achievements and a lasting impact on the team.



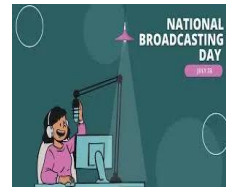
Foot Note:

- Sreejesh debuted internationally in 2006
- Key player in Indian hockey's resurgence
- Experienced team's failures at Beijing 2008 and London 2012 Olympics
- Demonstrated leadership and perseverance
- Played crucial role in securing bronze at Tokyo 2021

10. National Broadcasting day observed on 23rd July

National Broadcasting Day in India, observed annually on July 23, commemorates the evolution of the country's broadcasting landscape since its inception in 1927. This day

highlights the pivotal role broadcasting has played in India's development, educational outreach, and cultural preservation. As India observes another National Broadcasting Day, it envisions a future where broadcasting continues to adapt and serve as a crucial instrument for national unity, education, and citizen empowerment.



Foot Note:

- Indian broadcasting began in June 1923 with Radio Club of Bombay's first transmission
- Organized broadcasting started on July 23, 1927, with the Indian Broadcasting Company (IBC)
- July 23 is celebrated as National Broadcasting Day

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