



Current Affairs

30th April 2023

**Today's
Important News**

Siddhartha Mohanty appointed
as Chairman of LIC

1. Siddhartha Mohanty appointed as Chairman of LIC

- The government announced the appointment of Siddhartha Mohanty as the Chairperson of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) until June 29, 2024.
- He will serve as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer until June 7, 2025, as stated by LIC in a release. Mohanty, who is currently the Managing Director, had been serving as the interim Chairperson of the state-run life insurance company since March 14, replacing M R Kumar, whose term ended on March 13, 2023.



Foot Notes:

About LIC:

Chairperson: M R Kumar

Headquarters: Mumbai

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 100th episode of 'Mann ki Baat' broadcast globally

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio program 'Mann ki Baat' reached a significant milestone on Sunday, April 30th, with the broadcast of its 100th episode.
- The program, which started in October 2014, has become an essential component of the Indian government's outreach program and has addressed various social groups, including women, youth, and farmers
- The 100th episode of 'Mann ki Baat' was historic as it was broadcast live in the United Nations headquarters in New York. This program's significance has spurred community action and has become a key pillar of the government's citizen outreach program.



3. World Veterinary Day 2023 observed on 29th April

- World Veterinary Day is an annual event celebrated on the last Saturday of April to increase awareness about the important work of veterinarians in promoting animal health, welfare, and public health. This year, the event falls on April 29th. The aim of World Veterinary Day is to recognize the hard work and dedication of veterinary professionals in protecting the health and safety of animals and humans alike.
- This day is a celebration of the efforts made by veterinarians worldwide to improve animal welfare and health. It also serves as a platform for the global veterinary community to come together and seek support for their work.



4. India & Russia to explore possibility of accepting RuPay and Mir cards for hassle-free payments

- India and Russia are explore the possibility of accepting RuPay (India) and Mir cards (Russia) in each other's country for hassle-free payments, in Indian rupees and Russian ruble in their respective countries, amid sanctions imposed by the West on Moscow.
- The discussion regarding the opportunity of allowing acceptance of these cards, was held in the recent high-level Internal Governmental Commission meeting on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC).
- The meeting was co-chaired by India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Russia Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov



5. Centre launches revamped CGTMSE Scheme with additional Rs 9,000 cr corpus

- Union Minister for MSME, Shri Narayan Rane recently launched the revamped CGTMSE (Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises) Scheme in Mumbai.
- The scheme was jointly set up by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in 2000, to facilitate flow of institutional credit to Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs) sector. The government has announced an additional corpus of ₹9,000 crore in the Union Budget for FY 2023-24 to revamp CGTMSE.
- This will provide guarantee for additional ₹2 lakh crore to Micro & Small Enterprises.



6. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited now a Navratana

- The state-owned railway company Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) was in focus as the Indian Government upgraded its status to a 'Navratna' Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) from a 'Miniratna' category.
- The decision to upgrade RVNL was approved by the Finance Minister and is set to take effect from April 26, 2023.
- RVNL is a mid-cap company under the Ministry of Railways, with an annual turnover of Rs 19,381 crore and a net profit of Rs 1,087 crore for the year 2021-22.
- This makes it the 13th Navratna company among the CPSEs in India.



7. India's first cable-stayed bridge 'Anji Khad Bridge' completed successfully

- India's first cable-stayed railway bridge 'Anji Khad bridge' in Jammu & Kashmir, connecting Katra and Reasi Section of the Jammu-Baramulla line, is ready for use. The Anji Cable Stay bridge has been designed with a total of 96 cables. All the 96 cables were fully installed on 26 April 2023.
- The bridge has been completed in a record time period of 11 months, from June 2022 to April 2023. The total length of cable strand used in the construction of the bridge is 653 km. The Rs. 458 crore railway bridge has been developed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, a Government of India undertaking.



Foot Notes:

About Railways:

Founded: 16 April 1853

Headquarters: New Delhi

8. NPCI Bharat BillPay launches NOCS platform to process ONDC transactions

- The National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI) subsidiary, NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd (NBBL), has launched the NOCS platform to provide reconciliation and settlement services for transactions made on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) network.
- This platform will serve as the foundation for the ONDC network and enable secure and timely transfer of funds to network participants.



Foot Notes:

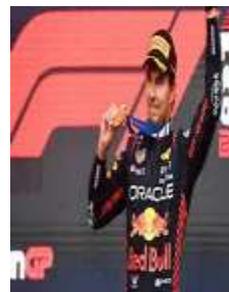
About NPCI:

Founded: 2008

Headquarters: Mumbai (Maharashtra)

9. Red Bull's Sergio Perez wins 2023 Azerbaijan Grand Prix

- Red Bull Racing driver Sergio Perez won the Azerbaijan Grand Prix on Sunday(30 April) in the Round 4 of 2023 Formula One World Championship.
- Perez finished the race first in 1 hour, 32 minutes and 42.436 seconds, outclassing his teammate Max Verstappen in Baku.
- Ferrari's Charles Leclerc took third place, Aston Martin's Fernando Alonso was fourth and Ferrari's Carlos Sainz came fifth.



10. Satwik SaiRaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty becomes first Indian Men's Doubles pair to win the Badminton Asia Championships Title

- In the Badminton Asia Championship 2023, the Indian pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy won the men's doubles title, held in Dubai on April 30, 2023.
- They defeated eighth-seeded Malaysian pair Teo Ee Yi and Ong Yew Sin in the final, 16-21, 21-17, and 21-19.
- With this win, the duo became the first Indian men's doubles pair to win the Badminton Asia Championships title.



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