

Current Affairs

29th April, 2024



Today's Important News

Sharjah Teacher Gina Justus Wins Regional Cambridge
Dedicated Teacher Award

1. Sharjah Teacher Gina Justus Wins Regional Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Award

- Gina Justus, an English High School teacher at the Sharjah Girls Branch in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), has been named the regional winner for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region at the prestigious 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards. This achievement celebrates her outstanding mentorship and dedication to charity work.
- The 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards witnessed an unprecedented number of nominations, with more than 14,840 submissions from 141 countries worldwide. Justus's recognition as the Regional Winner in the MENA region is a testament to her exceptional contributions to the field of education.



2. NTPC Kanti, the first station among NTPC, started Girl Empowerment Mission 2024

- NTPC Kanti was among the first stations to start the GEM program pan NTPC. The GEM (Girl Empowerment Mission) program aims to empower girls by providing them with the education and skills necessary for their holistic development.



- NTPC Kanti inaugurated the Girl Empowerment Campaign. The program was inaugurated by Mr. Manoj Sinha, General Manager. A total of 40 girls from various villages of Kanti Block are participating in the Girl Empowerment Campaign, representing 8 schools.

Foot Note:

About NTPC:

Founded : 7 November 1975

Headquarters: New Delhi

CEO: Gurdeep Singh

Founder: Government of India

3. Adani's Vizhinjam Port Approved as India's First Transshipment Hub

- Adani Group's Vizhinjam Port in Kerala has received approval from the government to operate as India's inaugural transshipment port. This designation is significant as it allows cargo to be transferred from large vessels to smaller ones, contributing to India's goal of becoming a manufacturing hub. Presently, a substantial portion of India's transshipment cargo is handled by ports abroad, such as those in Colombo and Singapore.
- The Ministry has sanctioned Adani's Vizhinjam Port to function as a transshipment hub, marking a milestone for India's maritime sector. This approval is essential for the establishment of customs facilities at the port, facilitating smoother operations.



4. Washington University in St Louis, India's Social Justice Min plan tie-up for deprived students

- The Washington University in St. Louis and India's Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment have finalised a partnership for academic research, student exchange and generating global leaders in different fields of social justice, according to top officials.
- The wide-ranging tie-up for a research partnership was proposed in a meeting here between Union MoS for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale and Director of Advancement, International Programs, Eric Yin, of the 171-year-old Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.



5. RBI's Guidelines for Voluntary Transition of Small Finance Banks to Universal Banks

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued comprehensive guidelines outlining the voluntary transition path for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) seeking to become Universal Banks. These guidelines set specific eligibility criteria and procedural requirements for such a transition, aiming to ensure financial stability and operational effectiveness in the banking sector.
- To qualify for conversion, SFBs must meet stringent criteria including a minimum net worth of 1,000 crore, sustained profitability over the last two financial years, low non-performing asset (NPA) ratios, and a diversified loan portfolio. Additionally, listed status on a recognized stock exchange and a satisfactory track record of performance for at least five years are prerequisites.



Foot Note:

About RBI:

Founded: 1 April 1935

Headquarters : Mumbai

Governor : Shaktikanta Das

6. Sana Mir appointed as the ambassador of ICC Woman's T20 World Cup Qualifier

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the appointment of Pakistan cricket legend Sana Mir as the ambassador for the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier. Mir, who represented Pakistan in 226 international games, with 137 of them as captain, will bring her invaluable experience to the event.
- The Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier will witness 10 teams battling it out for two coveted spots at the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 in Bangladesh. The teams have been divided into two groups of five, with the top two from each group progressing to the semi-finals. The winners of the semi-finals will secure their place in the T20 World Cup later this year.



Foot Note:

About ICC:

Headquarters: Dubai

Founded: 15 June 1909

CEO: Geoff Allardice

Chairman: Greg Barclay

7. India triumphs over South Korea for historic Archery Gold

- India's men's recurve team defeated South Korea at the Archery World Cup, marking their first win against the champions in a World Cup final. The victory, led by Dhiraj Bommadevara, Tarundeep Rai, and Pravin Jadhav, ends a 14-year wait for a World Cup gold. The win adds to India's tally at the season-opening Stage 1 World Cup, with five golds, one silver, and a bronze.



Foot Note:

About South Korea:

Capital: Seoul

Prime minister: Han Duck-soo

8. Sunil Kumar Yadav (IRS) Appointed as Director of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs

- The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has welcomed a new addition to its leadership team. Sunil Kumar Yadav, an officer from the Indian Revenue Service (IRS), has been appointed as the Director of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- The appointment of Sunil Kumar Yadav was made under the Central Staffing Scheme, as per an order issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT). The order specifies that Yadav's tenure as Director of MoHUA will be for a period of five years from the date of assuming charge or until further orders, whichever comes earlier.



9. Hitachi Payment Services Introduces Upgradable ATMs in India

- Hitachi Payment Services has unveiled new upgradable ATMs in India, allowing banks to adapt their machines into Cash Recycling Machines (CRMs) as per evolving needs. Manufactured under the 'Make in India' initiative, these ATMs offer flexibility and efficiency to banks, potentially revolutionizing the Indian ATM industry.
- These upgradable ATMs enable banks to safeguard their investments and expand services, including cash deposit facilities, based on business needs and market conditions. They eliminate the need for expensive replacements and lengthy installations, ensuring banks are future-ready for changing market requirements.



Foot Note:

About Hitachi Payment Services:

Founded: 2005

CEO: Sumil Vikamsey

Headquarters: Mumbai

10. SJVN Collaborates with THDC India Limited to develop a High-Performance Water Sports Academy at Uttarakhand

- SJVN signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with THDC India Limited for the development of a High-Performance Water Sports Academy in Tehri, Uttarakhand in the benign presence of Smt. Geeta Kapur, CMD, SJVN and Sh. Shallinder Singh, Director (Personnel), THDC at New Delh
- Geeta Kapur stated that as per the MoU, SJVN will provide financial assistance of Rs. One Crore to THDC for establishing an advanced gymnasium as an integral part of the High-performance Water Sports Academy.



Foot Note:

About SJVN:

Founded: 1988

Headquarters: Shimla

CEO: Surendra Lal Sharma

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