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Current Affairs
08 Oct, 2024

Bank of Baroda onboards Sachin Tendulkar as Global Brand Ambassador



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1. Bank of Baroda onboards Sachin Tendulkar as Global Brand Ambassador

Bank of Baroda has signed cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar as its global brand ambassador. This partnership aligns with shared values of excellence and trust, as the bank embarks on its next phase of transformation and growth. The bank's first campaign named 'Play The Masterstroke' will also feature the cricketing legend.



Foot notes:

- **Consumer Education:** Focus on financial literacy and fraud prevention programs.
- **Engagement Programs:** Involvement in customer and employee engagement initiatives.
- **New Product Launch:** Bank of Baroda introduced the 'bob Masterstroke Savings Account', a premium savings account.
- **Target Audience:** The account is tailored for clients seeking high-end banking services.
- **Key Features:** It offers best-in-class features, reliability, and focuses on long-term financial planning.

2. India tops medal tally with 21 medals in ISSF Junior World Championship 2024

India topped the medal tally at the 4th ISSF Junior World Championships 2024, securing a total of 24 medals: 13 gold, 3 silver and 8 bronze. Italy finished second with 13 medals (5 gold, 4 silver, and 5 bronze), while Norway placed third with 10 medals (4 gold, 3 silver, and 3 bronze). The championships, organized by the International Shooting Sport

Federation (ISSF), took place in Lima, Peru, from September 26 to October 7, 2024. A total of 553 shooters from 53 countries participated, with India sending the largest contingent of 61 shooters.

Foot notes:

- **First Medal:** Kanak opened India's medal account with a bronze in the women's 10m air pistol individual event.
- **First Individual Gold:** Mane Parth Prakash secured India's first individual gold medal in the men's 10m air rifle event.
- **Mukesh Nelavalli:** Won a total of six medals: one individual gold, three team golds, and two individual bronzes.
- **Individual Medals:** Indian shooters won 15 individual medals: 5 gold, 3 silver, and 5 bronze.
- **Team Medals:** In team events, India achieved 11 medals: 8 gold and 3 bronze.



About ISSF:

Presidents: Vladimir Lisin

Headquarters: Munich, Germany

Founded: 1907

3. India to Host World Pickleball Championship Series for the First Time

Mumbai will host the World Pickleball Championship (WPC) Series from November 12-17, 2024. The event, organized by the All India Pickleball Association (AIPA), will feature 650 players from 6-7 countries including Australia, Vietnam, Taiwan, Poland, and Singapore.

Foot notes:

- **Milestone for Indian Sports:** The All India Pickleball Association (AIPA) will host the World Pickleball Championship (WPC) Series in India for the first time.
- **Event Details:** The championship will take place in Mumbai from November 12th to 17th, 2024.
- **Global Participation:** Approximately 650 players from 6-7 countries, including Australia, Vietnam, Taiwan, Poland, and Singapore, are expected to participate.
- **Success of Indian Teams:** Indian teams previously secured Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals at the WPC legs in Vietnam and Bali.
- **Significant Sporting Event:** The WPC will feature international teams competing in various categories, attracting pickleball enthusiasts worldwide.



AIPA President: Arvind Prabhoo

Founder Pickleball Global: Jan Papi

4. Telangana Teams Secure Bronze at 34th Junior National Throwball Championship 2024

The 34th Junior National Throwball Championship 2024 concluded successfully at the University College of Science, Saifabad, Hyderabad, showcasing exciting matches and strong performances from the Telangana teams. Organized by the Telangana Throwball Association, the event featured intense competition from participants nationwide.



Foot notes:

- **Bronze Medals:** Both the Telangana Boys and Girls teams won bronze medals in their respective categories.
- **Dignitaries Present:** The event was attended by several dignitaries, Dr. Subeer Khan, MD of SSMPE (chief guest) Mr. Naresh Mann (Secretary General of Throwball Federation of India), Sai Krishna, CEO of Budds Buddy .
- **Boys' Category:** Telangana Boys' team won the third-place play-off against Madhya Pradesh with scores of 15-09 and 15-11.
- **Girls' Category:** The Girls' team defeated Kerala in their play-off with scores of 15-11 and 15-13, securing their podium finish.

5. St. Lucia Kings clinches first CPL title

After an 11-year wait, the Saint Lucia Kings won their first Caribbean Premier League (CPL) title on September 6, defeating the defending champions, Guyana Amazon Warriors, in a thrilling final. This victory made Saint Lucia the fifth team to win the CPL, ending their status as the only original franchise without a title. The Kings had a long history in the CPL without success. In 2023, they finished third but were eliminated in the playoffs. However, this year, they delivered a remarkable performance to secure the championship.



Foot notes:

- **Key Partnership:** Roston Chase (39*) and Aaron Jones (48*) formed an 88-run fifth-wicket partnership to lead the Saint Lucia Kings to victory.
- **Challenging Start:** The Kings were struggling at 51/4 and needed 66 runs from the last 30 balls.
- **Strong Finish:** Chase and Jones scored 47 runs in the 16th and 17th overs, reaching the target with 11 balls to spare. The match ended on a wide bowled by Imran Tahir.

- **Bowling Performance:** Saint Lucia's bowlers restricted Guyana to 102/7 after 18 overs, but the Warriors finished with 138 runs.
- **Captain's Praise:** Post-match, captain Faf du Plessis commended the team's resilience and consistent performance, highlighting their belief in the squad's depth.

6. Sanath Jayasuriya appointed as new head coach of Sri Lanka men's cricket team

Sanath Jayasuriya has been appointed as the head coach of Sri Lanka's men's team until the 2026 T20 World Cup, after initially serving in an interim role since July. His successful tenure, which included Sri Lanka's first ODI series win against India in 27 years, a Test victory against England away after 10 years, and a 2-0 home Test series sweep over New Zealand, earned him the full-time position.



Foot notes:

- Key player in Sri Lanka's 1996 ODI World Cup-winning team.
- Served as Member of Parliament from 2010-2015.
- Played 445 ODIs, scoring 13,430 runs at an average of 32.36.
- Hit 28 centuries and 68 half-centuries.
- His first assignment as head coach will be the forthcoming limited-overs matches against West Indies, in Dambulla and Pallekele.

7. Yorkshire Appoints Anthony McGrath as Men's Head Coach

Yorkshire has appointed Anthony McGrath as their new men's head coach, taking over from former West Indies cricketer Ottis Gibson. McGrath, 49, has signed a five-year contract and returns to his home county, where he developed as an all-rounder and earned 28 caps for England, including four Test matches. He began his coaching career at Yorkshire after retiring in 2013 and later moved to Essex, where he initially served as assistant coach to Chris Silverwood.



Foot notes:

- **Coaching Career at Essex:** McGrath became head coach of Essex after Chris Silverwood left for the England role, leading the team to a Championship and T20 Blast double in 2019 and the Bob Willis Trophy in 2020.
- **Recent Achievements:** Under his guidance, Essex finished second in Division One and were T20 Blast finalists in 2023.
- **Expanded Role:** In 2023, McGrath took on additional responsibilities as director of cricket following a management restructuring.

- **New Role at Yorkshire:** McGrath will lead Yorkshire, who have been promoted back to Division One after their relegation in 2022 and a 48-point deduction in 2023 due to a racism scandal.

8. Prasanth Kumar Re-elected as President of AAI

Prasanth Kumar, CEO of GroupM Media India, has been re-elected as president of the Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for 2024-25. This decision was made during the AAAI's annual general meeting in Mumbai. The AAAI, established in 1945, is a not-for-profit trade association representing advertising agencies. He also served as vice-president of AAAI from 2020 to 2022.



Foot notes:

- With over two decades of experience in advertising, Kumar is a veteran at GroupM and has previously worked with Pepsi, The Hindu, The Media Edge, and McCann Erickson.
- **Vice-President Appointment:** Rana Barua, Group CEO of Havas India, South East & North Asia, has been re-elected as Vice-President, marking his third term.
- **Leadership Goals:** Barua and Prasanth Kumar aim to drive advancements in the advertising industry.
- **New Board Members:** Other newly elected board members include Sam Balsara, Tanya Goyal, Tapas Gupta, Vishandas Hardasani, Mohit Joshi, Santosh Kumar, Kunal Lalani, Rohan Mehta, Chandramouli Muthu, Vikram Sakhuja, Kalyan Sarkar, and K Srinivas.

About AAAI:

President: Francesca Rossi

Founded: 1979

9. John Hopfield & Geoffrey Hinton won 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics

Scientists John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton were awarded the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics for their groundbreaking discoveries and innovations that enable machine learning in artificial neural networks, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The prize includes a sum of 11 million Swedish crowns (\$1.1 million), which is shared among the winners if there are multiple recipients.



Foot notes:

- Hinton, known as the "Godfather of AI," holds Canadian and British citizenship and works at the University of Toronto, while Hopfield is American and works at Princeton.
- The Nobel committee stated that the laureates applied concepts from physics to create methods underpinning modern machine learning.
- Ellen Moons highlighted their work in designing artificial neural networks, which function as associative memories and detect patterns in large datasets, influencing daily life through facial recognition and language translation.
- While celebrating the scientific achievements, Moons also emphasized the ethical responsibility in managing AI's rapid development.
- Hinton, who shares concerns about AI's future, left Google to freely discuss the risks posed by the technology he helped pioneer.

10. Indian Air Force Day is celebrated on 8 October

As India gears up to celebrate the 92nd Indian Air Force Day on October 8, 2024, the nation comes together to honor the exceptional dedication and sacrifices of its air warriors. This important occasion highlights the Indian Air Force's (IAF) remarkable evolution from its modest beginnings to becoming one of the world's most powerful aerial forces.



Foot notes:

- **Theme:** "Bhartiya Vayu Sena - Saksham, Sashakt, Atmanirbhar," meaning Potent, Powerful, and Self-Reliant.
- **Focus:** The theme emphasizes the self-reliance and modernization of the IAF, reflecting India's vision for strong defense capabilities.
- **Main Celebrations:** Celebrations will take place at Marina Beach in Chennai, featuring an air show from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Key Invitees:** Expected attendees include Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin, and other military and civil dignitaries.

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