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MY

Current Affairs

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Today's
Important News

Abhay Thakur appointed as India's next
ambassador to Myanmar



1. Abhay Thakur appointed as India's next ambassador to Myanmar

- Senior Indian diplomat Abhay Thakur has been appointed as the country's next ambassador or top envoy to Myanmar. This was announced by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on March 26. Abhay Thakur is a 1992-batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS). He is currently working as an Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- Thakur's appointment as India's envoy to Myanmar comes at a crucial juncture or important time. Myanmar has been witnessing widespread violent protests demanding the restoration of democracy since the military seized power in a coup on February 1, 2021.



Foot Note:

About Myanmar:

Capital: Naypyidaw

Prime Minister: Min Aung Hlaing

2. Iconic Indian Brand Amul Launches Fresh Milk in the US

- In a significant move, the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), the organization behind the iconic Amul brand, is set to launch its

fresh milk products in the United States for the first time. This expansion marks a major milestone for the brand, as it aims to cater to the Indian diaspora and Asian population in the US.

- Within a week, GCMMF will introduce four variants of fresh milk in the US market. The milk collection and processing will be handled by MMPA, while GCMMF will be responsible for the marketing and branding of Amul fresh milk.



Foot Note:

About US:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

3. Election Commission Keeps Close Eye On Election Process Through The 'cVIGIL' App

- The Election Commission is keeping a close eye on the election process through the cVIGIL app. It is a single app for recording, reporting and resolving violations of model code of conduct. Through this app, online complaints regarding violations of model code of conduct can be made by capturing photos, videos etc.
- The cVIGIL app of Election Commission has become an effective tool in the hands of people to flag election code violations. The citizens can report Model Code of Conduct and expenditure violations through this app. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv kumar said that the cVIGIL empowers citizens to report model code of conduct violations and assured action within 100 minutes.



4. World Theatre Day observed on March 27

- World Theatre Day is celebrated every year on March 27. In 1961, the International Theatre Institute (ITI) proposed that there should be a day every year to celebrate the importance of theatre. Every year on this day, a certain message is spoken about by a renowned theatre performer.
- While people usually consider the acting and narration of a story as a play, there are multiple elements like the writer, director, actors, sound producer, costume designer, light and set designer, show caller and more who works tirelessly to successfully execute the entire performance.



5. Mumbai overtakes Beijing to become Asia's billionaire capital for the first time

- Mumbai has pipped Beijing to become Asia's billionaire capital for the first time. Indian billionaires' cumulative wealth reached US\$1 trillion, surpassing China's average wealth per billionaire (US\$3.2 billion vs US\$3.8 billion), according to the 2024 Hurun Global Rich List.
- This phenomenal rise is mirrored by India's addition of 94 new billionaires in a single year, surpassing China's 55 and solidifying India's position as the second-largest contributor to the global billionaire population.



6. ICG Ship Samudra Paheredar Reaches Manila Bay, Philippines

- In a significant move aimed at showcasing India's commitment to maritime cooperation and environmental stewardship, the Indian Coast Guard ship 'Samudra Paheredar' has docked at Manila Bay, Philippines, on a three-day visit.
- The arrival of this specialized Pollution Control Vessel marks a pivotal moment in India's engagement with ASEAN countries, emphasizing shared concerns regarding marine pollution and bolstering bilateral ties with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).



Foot Note:

About Philippines:

Capital: Manila

President: Bongbong Marcos

7. Private Banks Expand ATM Network While PSU Banks Decrease

- In the 12 months ending January 2024, public sector banks (PSUs) reduced their Automated teller machine (ATM) network by 1,343 machines to 1,36,173 ATMs. In contrast, private banks expanded their ATM network by adding 3,502 ATMs, bringing their total to 79,225 machines. This highlights the diverging strategies between PSU and private banks regarding ATM deployment and network expansion.
- PSBs have primarily reduced their offsite ATM deployment, which decreased to 93,381 from 96,243 a year ago and 87,160 two years ago. This reduction may be



attributed to factors such as profitability concerns due to capped charges and uncertainty surrounding new regulations that could increase operational costs.

8. Bharat Biotech Starts Clinical Trials Of Tuberculosis Vaccine MTBVAC In India

- Bharat Biotech has begun clinical trials of the Spanish anti-tuberculosis vaccine among adults in India, the Hyderabad-based pharmaceutical company announced. The vaccine candidate called MTBVAC is the first live attenuated vaccine of mycobacterium tuberculosis isolated from a human.
- BCG (Bacillus, Calmette and Guérin), is an attenuated variant of the bovine TB pathogen. It is at least a 100 years old and has a limited effect on pulmonary tuberculosis, which is responsible for the transmission of the disease.



9. Razia Baig of Qadir Ali Baig Foundation passed away at 73

- Razia Baig, chairperson of Qadir Ali Baig Theatre Foundation and wife of the late Qadir Ali Baig, passed away. She was 73. She co-founded Qadir Ali Baig Theatre Foundation with her son Mohammad Ali Baig.
- Remembered for her husband's 'New Theatre Hyderabad' adaptations, she also shared her love for Hyderabad cuisine through newspaper columns. Surrounded by family and theatre luminaries, she left an indelible mark on the theatre fraternity. Her son Mohammad Ali Baig hailed her as a guiding light and mentor.



10. ISRO's POEM-3 mission accomplishes zero orbital debris mission

- The PSLV-C58 Mission was accomplished on January 1, 2024. After completing the primary mission of injecting all satellites into their desired orbits, the terminal stage of PSLV was transformed into a 3-axis stabilized platform, the POEM-3. The stage was de-orbited from 650 km to 350 km, which facilitated its early re-entry, and was passivated to remove residual propellants to minimize any accidental break-up risks.
- POEM-3 was configured with a total of 9 different experimental payloads to carry out technology demonstrations and scientific experiments on the newly developed indigenous systems. Out of these, 6 payloads were delivered by NGEs through IN-SPACE. The mission objectives of these payloads were met in a month.



Foot Note:

About ISRO:

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

Headquarters: Bengaluru


Founded: 15 August 1969

Chairman: Sreedhara Somanath

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