



### 1. Manoj Soni takes oath as UPSC chairman

- Eminent educationist Manoj Soni took oath as the chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Soni, who joined the Commission as member on June 28, 2017, has been performing the duties of the UPSC chairman since April 5, 2022. Prior to his appointment in the UPSC, Soni has served three terms as Vice-Chancellor.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About UPSC:

**Founded:** 1 October 1926

**Chairperson:** Manoj Soni

### 2. Home Minister Amit Shah to inaugurate Training Programme on Legislative Drafting in New Delhi

- Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate a Training Programme on Legislative Drafting in New Delhi. The Programme is being organised by the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies in collaboration with Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracies.



- It is aimed at creating an understanding of the principles and practices of legislative drafting among officers of Parliament, State Legislatures and various ministries, statutory bodies and other government departments.

### 3. India & Bangladesh launch '50 Start-ups Exchange Programme'

- India and Bangladesh have recently jointly launched the '50 Start-up Exchange Programme' to promote collaboration and exchange between the start-up ecosystems of the two countries. The objective of the program is to strengthen bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh by promoting cooperation in start-up and innovation sectors.
- It provides a platform for entrepreneurs, investors and stakeholders from both the countries to connect and collaborate. The '50 Start-up Exchange Program' facilitates knowledge sharing and learning opportunities between Indian and Bangladeshi start-ups.



#### Foot Notes:

##### About Bangladesh:

**Capital:** Dhaka

**Prime Minister:** Sheikh Hasina Wazed

**President:** Mohammad Shahabuddin

### 4. International Day of Light is observed every year on 16<sup>th</sup> May

- The International Day of Light is observed every year on 16 May to highlight the role of light in science, culture and art, education, and sustainable development, and in fields as diverse as medicine, communications, and energy. Through the researches accumulated over 2,000 years of time, the true nature of light or namely the photon was discovered.
- The celebration of the day offer to UNESCO an opportunity to fulfill its mission of promoting international cooperation in the basic sciences and STEM Education, and will contribute to achieving the objective to render science, technology and innovation accessible to all with a focus on Africa



### 5. Laos begins to prepare for ASEAN Tourism Forum 2024

- Lao tourism authorities are preparing to host the annual ASEAN Tourism Forum in 2024, which will take place in the Lao capital Vientiane on Jan. 22-27. The

theme of the forum will be **“Quality and Responsible Tourism — Sustaining ASEAN Future”**.

- The Lao government is promoting the country’s potential as a nature-based tourism destination. Many foreign tourists have visited the Southeast Asian country to explore scenic attractions as well as local lifestyles and traditions. In the first three months of 2023, more than 831,000 foreign tourists came to Laos, compared with just 211,898 overseas visitors in the first six months of 2022 during the COVID-19 pandemic.



## 6. Ashutosh Dixit appointed as Vice Chief of the Air Staff

- On 15 May Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit was appointed as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff. He has commanded the Mirage 2000 Squadron, a frontline fighter base in the Western Sector and a major fighter training base.
- He has held various positions at Air Headquarters, including Principal Director Air Staff Requirements, Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Projects) and Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Plans). He has participated in missions like 'Safed Sagar' and 'Rakshak'. Prior to this appointment, he was the Air Defense Commander of the Southern Air Command and the Senior Air Officer in the South Western Air Command.



### Foot Notes:

#### Indian Air Force (IAF):

**Establishment** : 26 January 1950

**Headquarters** : New Delhi

**Chief of Defense Staff (CDS)** : General Anil Chauhan

**Chief of the Air Staff (CAS)** : Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhary

**Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS)** : Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh

## 7. Duroflex appoints Virat Kohli as Brand Ambassador

- Duroflex, has combined forces with cricket icon, Virat Kohli to further their mission of advocating the significance of quality sleep in fostering a long healthy life. Virat Kohli's strong alignment with the brand's mission has led him to take on the role of brand ambassador for Duroflex.



- This powerful collaboration is poised to transform the conversation around the vital role of quality sleep in enhancing overall well-being, driving home the message to a broader audience.

### 8. Vedanta appoints Sonal Srivastava as its new CFO

- Vedanta Limited has appointed Sonal Srivastava as its Chief Financial Officer with effect from June 1, 2023. Sonal Srivastava had served as the Chief Financial Officer for Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa operations at Holcim Group. She will work with internal and external stakeholders to develop and deliver business goals.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Vedanta Limited:

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

**Founded:** 25 June 1965

**CEO:** Sunil Duggal

### 9. Pasang Dawa Sherpa became the second person to conquer Everest for the 26th time

- 46 year old Pasang Dawa Sherpa, has become the second person to climb Mount Everest for the 26th time. The Himalayan database confirms that Pasang Dawa Sherpa has previously climbed Everest 25 times, including two in 2022.
- He has been climbing Everest almost every year since his first successful climb in 1998. Kami Rita, a climber who is a U.S. Leading the team, and is the first person to conquer Mount Everest for the 26th time.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Nepal:

**Capital :** Kathmandu

**Prime Minister :** Pushpa Kamal Dahal

**President :** Ram Chandra Paudel

### 10. CML Biotech installs world's 1st integrated blood collection tube manufacturing machine



- Angamaly-based CML Biotech Ltd., one of the largest manufacturers of blood collection tubes in India, has installed the world's first integrated machine 'Husky –Ichor', for manufacturing of blood collection tubes. The integrated machine comprises machine mould, hot runner, dowsers, dehumidifier, chiller, temperature controller and dryer. Normally, these functions are carried out in different machines.
- The machine is manufactured by Canada-based Husky Technologies, a global leader in injection moulds and moulding machines. The machine, set up at a cost of ₹12 crore, is capable of manufacturing 8 lakh blood collection tubes per day.



**Foot Notes:**

**About CML Biotech:**

**Managing Director :** Paul Jacob

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