

<u>21 JANUARY 2025</u>

ΜY

IBT INSTITUTE PVT. LTD

Current Affairs

Karnataka Clinch Vijay Hazare Trophy For Record 5th Time



1. Karnataka Clinch Vijay Hazare Trophy For Record 5th Time

Karnataka clinched the Vijay Hazare Trophy for a record fifth time, showcasing their dominance in Indian domestic cricket. In a thrilling final, they defeated Tamil Nadu by a significant margin, thanks to standout performances from their bowlers and batsmen. Rohan Kadam played a crucial role, anchoring the innings with a match-winning knock. Karnataka's bowlers, led by Vidhwath Kaverappa, dismantled Tamil Nadu's batting lineup effectively. This victory reaffirmed Karnataka's status as a powerhouse in Indian domestic cricket, blending experience with emerging talent. **Foot notes:**



- Karnataka set a formidable target of 348 runs, with Smaran Ravichandran scoring a blistering 101 off 92 balls and Abhinav Manohar contributing 79 off 42 balls.
- Vidarbha's chase ended at 312 all out, despite a valiant century by Dhruv Shorey, who scored 110 runs.
- Karnataka's bowlers, including Vasuki Kaushik, Prasidh Krishna, and Abhilash Shetty, delivered disciplined performances to restrict Vidarbha's batting lineup.
- This win marks Karnataka's fifth Vijay Hazare Trophy title, with previous wins in 2013-14, 2014-15, 2017-18, and 2019-20.
- Karnataka's victory is a testament to their strong team performance, with multiple players contributing to their success throughout the tournament.

2. Ali Al-Ismail Appointed Country Manager for Saudi Arabia by Snowflake



<u>21 JANUARY 2025</u>

Ali Al-Ismail has been appointed as the Country Manager for Saudi Arabia by Snowflake, a leading data cloud company. In this role, he will oversee Snowflake's operations, drive business growth, and strengthen its presence in the Saudi market. Al-Ismail brings extensive experience in technology and leadership, making him well-equipped to align Snowflake's innovative solutions with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. His appointment reflects Snowflake's commitment to expanding its footprint and supporting digital transformation initiatives in the region. This



move marks a significant step in enhancing Snowflake's strategic partnerships and delivering data-driven solutions to organizations in Saudi Arabia.

Foot notes:

- Ali will be responsible for driving the company's growth in Saudi Arabia, developing relationships with customers and partners, and expanding the local team.
- He brings nearly 20 years of experience in sales leadership and business development, having held senior roles at companies like Oracle, Microsoft, and Cisco.
- Ali's top priority is to empower customers to harness the full potential of their data to drive successful business outcomes, supporting the Kingdom's digital transformation through Vision 2030.
- He will drive the adoption of Snowflake's AI Data Cloud across various industries, including public sector, financial services, oil and gas, manufacturing, and retail.
- Ali's appointment underscores Snowflake's commitment to growing its local business and supporting the Kingdom's vision to build a data-ready workforce and develop a data-driven economy.

3. Rajnath Singh honours Aryamitra Nath of Morigaon with Defence Minister's medal

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has honoured Aryamitra Nath from Morigaon, Assam, with the prestigious Defence Minister's Medal. The recognition was awarded for Aryamitra's exemplary courage and dedication to societal welfare, showcasing the values upheld by the Indian Armed Forces. Hailing from a small town, Aryamitra's achievements serve as an inspiration to many, reflecting the spirit of patriotism and resilience. The ceremony highlighted the Defence Ministry's commitment to recognizing





individuals who contribute to national pride and security. This accolade underscores the importance of young role models in fostering a sense of responsibility and service toward the nation.

Foot notes:

- Aryamitra Nath has been recognized for his outstanding contributions and bravery, although the specific details of his achievements are not mentioned.
- The Defence Minister's medal is a prestigious award that acknowledges exceptional service and dedication to the nation.
- Rajnath Singh, as the Defence Minister, has been instrumental in promoting and recognizing the efforts of individuals who have made significant contributions to the country's defence and security.
- The award ceremony likely took place in a formal setting, where Rajnath Singh presented the medal to Aryamitra Nath, acknowledging his bravery and selflessness.
- This recognition is a testament to the government's commitment to honoring and rewarding individuals who have demonstrated exceptional courage and dedication to the nation.

4. Indian Bank Partners with ACE Limited to Empower Farmers with Easy Financing Solutions

Indian Bank has partnered with ACE Limited to provide farmers with easy and accessible financing solutions. This collaboration aims to empower farmers by offering tailored financial products, including loans for purchasing agricultural machinery and equipment. By integrating ACE Limited's expertise in farm equipment with Indian Bank's robust financial network, the partnership seeks to enhance agricultural productivity and rural development. The initiative aligns with the government's vision of fostering financial inclusion and strengthening the



agricultural sector. Through this collaboration, farmers will benefit from simplified loan processes, competitive interest rates, and improved access to modern farming tools. **Foot notes:**

- The partnership will offer farmers access to affordable loans, helping them to purchase essential equipment, seeds, and other inputs, thereby increasing their productivity and income.
- Indian Bank will leverage ACE Limited's expertise in agricultural financing to design customized loan products that cater to the specific needs of farmers, making it easier for them to manage their finances and grow their businesses.



- The collaboration will also focus on providing farmers with digital financial solutions, enabling them to access credit, make payments, and manage their accounts effortlessly, reducing the burden of traditional banking methods.
- By joining forces, Indian Bank and ACE Limited aim to reach a large number of farmers across the country, promoting financial inclusion and contributing to the growth of the agricultural sector.
- This partnership is expected to have a positive impact on the farming community, enabling them to improve their livelihoods and contribute to the country's food security.

5. Odisha Warriors Triumph Over Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers in Women's Hockey India League

The Odisha Warriors emerged victorious against the Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers in a thrilling finale of the Women's Hockey India League. Displaying exceptional teamwork and skill, the Warriors secured a narrow but well-deserved win. Captain Deep Grace Ekka led from the front, inspiring her team with a solid defensive performance. The match also highlighted the attacking prowess of the Warriors, with Neha and Lalremsiami contributing crucial goals. This victory marks a significant achievement for Odisha Warriors, reinforcing their dominance in Indian women's hockey.



Foot notes:

- The Warriors' win takes them to the top of the points table with eight points, and they're looking strong in the tournament. Michelle Fillet also scored a powerful goal, and Neha Goyal sealed the win with a late goal.
- The Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers did manage to score through Udita, but it wasn't enough to mount a challenge against the Warriors' dominant performance.
- The Warriors' clinical finishing and strong team play were key to their victory, and they're definitely a team to watch in the league.
- Their previous match against the Bengal Tigers had ended in a 1-1 draw, but this time the Warriors made sure to take the win in style.
- With this victory, the Odisha Warriors are sending a clear message to their opponents, and they're looking to maintain their momentum and challenge for the title.

6. District Court of Western Australia Judge appointed as a Supreme Court Judge

Judge Sarah Meredith from the District Court of Western Australia has been appointed as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia. Her appointment reflects her



extensive legal expertise and commitment to upholding justice. Judge Meredith has garnered respect for her work in criminal, civil, and appellate matters during her tenure in the District Court. She will now contribute to the Supreme Court, the highest judicial body in the state, overseeing complex and significant cases. This elevation highlights her remarkable career trajectory and dedication to the legal profession.



Foot notes:

- She graduated from Murdoch University in 1994 with a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce, and was admitted to practice in December 1996, starting her career in an international accounting firm before joining an international law firm.
- Justice Whitby was a Supreme Court Registrar for 11 years, during which she also served as Principal Registrar and Master of the Court, and as a Magistrate of Stirling Gardens Magistrates Court, gaining valuable insight into the workings of the Supreme Court.
- She was appointed a judge of the District Court of Western Australia in June 2021, where she gained experience in presiding over criminal and civil cases, further developing her judicial skills.
- Justice Whitby's appointment to the Supreme Court is a significant milestone in her career, and she is expected to bring her expertise and experience to the role, contributing to the Court's decision-making process.
- Her appointment is also a testament to the talent and dedication of the judges in the District Court of Western Australia, and demonstrates the opportunities for career advancement and professional growth within the judiciary.

7. Nykaa ropes in Rasha Thadani as Brand Ambassador for Nykaa Cosmetics

Nykaa has announced Rasha Thadani as the new brand ambassador for Nykaa Cosmetics. The young star, known for her fresh and vibrant persona, perfectly aligns with the brand's ethos of empowering individuality and self-expression. With this collaboration, Nykaa aims to strengthen its appeal among younger audiences, highlighting its diverse range of beauty products. Rasha will feature in upcoming campaigns, promoting Nykaa's innovative cosmetics line. This partnership marks a strategic move to connect with Gen Z and millennial consumers. **Foot notes:**







- Rasha Thadani is making her Bollywood debut in Azaad, and she embodies the vibrant and trend-forward ethos of Nykaa Cosmetics, making her a perfect fit as the brand ambassador.
- As the new face of Nykaa Cosmetics, Rasha will be promoting the brand's highquality beauty solutions that cater to the needs of Gen Z and millennials.
- Nykaa is thrilled to welcome Rasha into their family, and they believe she will help redefine trends and promote creativity and self-expression through beauty.
- Rasha's youthful charm and beauty will undoubtedly help Nykaa Cosmetics connect with a younger audience and showcase their innovative products.
- Adwaita Nayar, Executive Director of Nykaa, expressed her excitement about Rasha joining the team, saying that she is a great fit for the brand's values and aesthetic.
- With Rasha on board, Nykaa Cosmetics is poised to take the beauty industry by storm, offering consumers a wide range of products that promote individuality and self-expression.

8. FPSB India appoints Amisha Sethi as Senior Vice President

FPSB India has appointed Amisha Sethi as its Senior Vice President, a strategic move to strengthen its leadership team. Sethi brings a wealth of experience in business strategy and marketing, having held key positions in top organizations. Her appointment aligns with FPSB India's vision of advancing financial literacy and professional standards in financial planning. In her new role, Sethi will focus on driving growth initiatives and enhancing member engagement. This development underscores FPSB India's commitment to fostering innovation and excellence in the financial services sector.



Foot notes:

- Amisha Sethi brings over 15 years of experience in the financial services industry, with expertise in areas such as wealth management, financial planning, and business development.
- As Senior Vice President, Sethi will be responsible for driving business growth, developing strategic partnerships, and promoting the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certification in India.
- She will work closely with FPSB India's stakeholders, including financial planners, wealth managers, and other industry professionals, to advance the profession of financial planning in India.





- Sethi's appointment is expected to strengthen FPSB India's presence in the country and help increase the adoption of the CFP certification among financial professionals.
- Prior to joining FPSB India, Sethi held leadership roles at various financial services organizations, including Bajaj Capital and ICICI Bank, where she gained valuable experience in business development, marketing, and operations.

9. DigiHaat appoints Rahul Vij as Chief Operating Officer

DigiHaat has appointed Rahul Vij as its new Chief Operating Officer (COO), signaling a key leadership expansion. With extensive experience in operational strategy and digital innovation, Vij is set to drive the company's growth and streamline its marketplace operations. His expertise is expected to strengthen DigiHaat's vision of revolutionizing the digital marketplace for small and medium enterprises. As COO, Vij will focus on enhancing customer experience, expanding the



platform's reach, and optimizing operational efficiency. This appointment underscores DigiHaat's commitment to scaling new heights in the e-commerce sector.

Foot notes:

- Kirshan Agarwal, Director of DigiHaat, is thrilled to have Rahul on board, and believes he'll play an integral role in redefining the digital commerce landscape in India. Rahul is also excited to join the company and contribute to its growth, building an ecosystem of resilience and efficiency to deliver value to customers and stakeholders.
- He'll establish a culture of efficiency, innovation, and collaboration, and help build a foundation of proficiency and productivity. With his result-oriented approach, Rahul is expected to drive operational excellence and take DigiHaat to new heights.
- Rahul's appointment is a significant step for DigiHaat, and it's clear that the company is committed to empowering users to navigate the e-commerce landscape more conveniently.
- Overall, this is a great move for DigiHaat, and we can expect to see some exciting developments in the future.

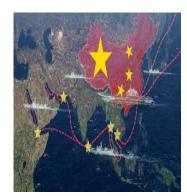
10. China Unveils World's Longest Tunnel, Enhances BRI Connectivity

China has unveiled the world's longest tunnel, a groundbreaking infrastructure project aimed at enhancing connectivity under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Spanning over 200 kilometers, the tunnel significantly improves transportation networks between key trade hubs in Asia and Europe. Constructed using cutting-edge technology, the



project demonstrates China's commitment to fostering regional economic integration and reducing transit times. The tunnel is expected to play a pivotal role in boosting international trade, further solidifying China's position as a global leader in infrastructure development. This ambitious feat underscores the nation's drive to expand its influence through sustainable and strategic connectivity projects.

Foot notes:



- The tunnel is a game-changer for trade and commerce, allowing for faster and more efficient movement of goods and people between China and other BRI countries.
- The BRI is a vast network of trade routes and infrastructure projects that spans across Asia, Europe, and Africa, aiming to promote economic cooperation and development among participating countries.
- The tunnel's construction is a testament to China's engineering prowess and its commitment to investing in infrastructure that benefits the global community.
- By enhancing BRI connectivity, the tunnel is expected to boost economic growth, create new job opportunities, and improve living standards for millions of people along the route.
- The project also underscores China's vision for a more interconnected and interdependent world, where countries can work together to achieve common goals and shared prosperity.

