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## Current Affairs

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### Today's Important News

India's 1st Telecom Centre of Excellence to come up in Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur

#### 1. India's 1st Telecom Centre of Excellence to come up in Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur

- The Uttar Pradesh (UP) government has announced plans to build India's first Telecom Centre of Excellence in Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee. The state government has announced to shell out as much as Rs 30 crore in establishing a research centre at IIT Roorkee in Saharanpur.
- According to the state government, the new centre will not just widen UP's participation in technology and innovation but will also propel the telecommunications sector.



#### Foot Note:

#### About UP:

**Capital:** Lucknow

**Governor:** Anandiben Patel

**Chief Minister:** Yogi Adityanath

**National Park:** Dudhwa National Park

#### 2. NMCG Launches Global River Cities Alliance at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Dubai

- The alliance includes countries such as Egypt, Netherlands, Denmark, Ghana, Australia, Bhutan, Cambodia, Japan, and river-cities of The Hague (Den Haag) from the Netherlands, Adelaide from Australia, and Szolnok of Hungary.
- GRCA is a unique alliance covering 275+ global river-cities in 11 countries, international funding agencies and knowledge management partners and is first of its kind in the world. The launch of GRCA, signifies a momentous step in global efforts toward river conservation and sustainable water management.



### 3. India's emission intensity reduced by 33% between 2005 and 2019

- India firmly believes that equity and climate justice must be the basis of climate action and this can be ensured only when the developed countries take the lead in combating climate change, Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav said here at the COP28.
- Delivering the national statement at the high-level segment during the ongoing annual climate conference, Mr Yadav also highlighted India's contribution to the global actions in restricting temperature rise by reducing emission intensity much ahead of the promised target year as mentioned in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), country's action plan for dealing with the impacts of climate change.



### 4. IRCON International shares tank over 8% as govt launches OFS to sell up to 8% stake

- The government last evening announced that it would sell up to 8% stake in the company via the OFS at a floor price of Rs 154 per share.
- The plan includes selling 4% of the company, with an option to sell an additional 4% if the offer is oversubscribed, it said in a stock exchange filing. "Offer for Sale in IRCON opens tomorrow for Non Retail investors. Retail investors can bid on Friday. Govt. would divest 8% equity including Green Shoe option," posted DIPAM Secretary on X platform.



### 5. India Chosen as the Flagship Nation for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Green Voyage 2050 Project

- Due to the global nature of international shipping having diversity of stakeholders of all nationalities involved, emission from the maritime transport sector is addressed by the IMO through the International



Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). India is a signatory to this Convention.

- The Government of India has implemented all MARPOL regulations pertaining to carbon emissions on Indian Ships. At present, the regulations mainly pertain to reduction of carbon emission through enhanced energy efficiency and achieving a progressively enhanced (yearly) carbon intensity reduction.

## 6. ACKO Partners with PhonePe to Facilitate Insurance Accessibility for Millions

- ACKO General Insurance and PhonePe have joined forces to revolutionize the landscape of insurance accessibility in India. This strategic collaboration aims to provide users with a comprehensive range of car and bike insurance products directly through the PhonePe platform.
- The collaboration between ACKO and PhonePe is a strategic alliance that leverages the strengths of both entities. ACKO, known for its customer-centric approach, combines forces with PhonePe's extensive distribution network.



### Foot Note:

**About ACKO General Insurance:**

**Founded:** 2016

**Headquarters :** Mumbai

**CEO :** Sanjeev Srinivasanv

## 7. Google Introduces Gemini: An AI Model Engineered to Mimic Human Behavior

- Google took its next leap in artificial intelligence with the launch of project Gemini, an AI model trained to behave in human-like ways that's likely to intensify the debate about the technology's potential promise and perils.
- The rollout will unfold in phases, with less sophisticated versions of Gemini called "Nano" and "Pro" being immediately incorporated into Google's AI-powered chatbot Bard and its Pixel 8 Pro smartphone.



### Foot Note:

**About Google :**

**Established :** 1998

**Headquarters :** California, United States of America (USA)

**CEO :** Sundar Pichai

## 8. Vishnu Deo Sai to be sworn in as Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh

- Mohan Yadav along with his two deputies Jagdish Devda and Rajendra Shukla took oath. Meanwhile, Vishnu Deo Sai will sworn in as the CM of Chhattisgarh in Raipur. Along with Sai, Vijay Sharma and Arun Sao will take the oath as the deputy CMs.
- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Mohan Yadav took oath as the chief minister of Madhya Pradesh. Apart with Yadav, Jagdish Devda and Rajendra Shukla took oath as deputy CMs of the state. Meanwhile, Rajasthan chief minister Bhajan Lal Sharma will take oath on December 15.



### Foot Note:

#### About Chhattisgarh:

**Governor:** Biswabhusan Harichandan

**Capital:** Nava Raipur

**National park:** Indravati National Park

**Wildlife Sanctuaries:** Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary

## 9. NHAI Inks Agreement to Develop Multi Modal Logistics Park at Nagpur at a cost of Rs. 673 crores

- The MMLP will be developed in an area of 150 acres under the Public Private Partnership model at an estimated cost of Rs.673 crore. This project is poised to be the first MMLP in Maharashtra under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan, making it a significant milestone in the country's development.
- The MMLP will be developed in three phases. The Phase-I with an investment of Rs. 137 crore is expected to be completed in two years. MMLP will cater to about 9.47 million metric tonnes (MMT) cargo in the horizon period of 45 years and will give huge boost to the industrial zones in the catchment region such as Nagpur, Wardha, Chandrapur and Gondiya.




## 10. India's Retail Inflation 5.55 per cent in November 2023

- India's retail inflation surged sharply to 5.55 per cent in November after falling to a four-month low of 4.8 per cent in October, according to data released by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.
- The uptick in retail inflation has been attributed to a sharp rise in food prices. Notably, the food inflation for November registered at 8.70 per



cent. While inflation remains within the RBI's comfort zone, the surge in inflation could make the central bank's job difficult going forward.



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