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Current Affairs

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Animesh Kujur wins 200m gold in Indian Open U23 Athletics



1. Animesh Kujur wins 200m gold in Indian Open U23 Athletics

Odisha sprinter Animesh Kujur claimed his second gold medal at the Indian Open U23 Athletics Competition. He won the men's 200m final with a meet record time of 20.65 seconds, surpassing his previous record of 20.87 seconds set in 2023. This victory followed his 100m dash win just a day earlier, where he secured his first gold with a time of 10.40 seconds.



Foot notes:

- Animesh Kujur from Odisha Reliance Foundation Athletics High Performance Centre (HPC), won gold in both the 100m and 200m events.
- His dominant performances in both sprints earned him the **Best Athlete (Male)** award at the tournament.

About Odisha:

Chief Minister: Mohan Charan Majhi

Capital: Bhubaneswar

Governor: Raghubar Das

2. India-Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND-2024 begins

The Eighth edition of the India-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise, KAZIND-2024, began today in Uttarakhand. The Indian Armed Forces, represented by a battalion from the KUMAON Regiment, comprise 120 personnel. This exercise aims to improve joint military capabilities for counter-terrorism operations, focusing on semi-urban



and mountainous terrains. It will also promote the sharing of best practices and enhance defence cooperation, interoperability, and camaraderie between the two armies.

Foot notes:

- The Indian Armed Forces are represented by 120 personnel, primarily from a battalion of the KUMAON Regiment, along with additional personnel from other services and the Indian Air Force.
- The Kazakh contingent mainly includes personnel from the Kazakhstan Land Forces and Airborne Assault Troopers, highlighting their commitment to strengthening bilateral military relations.
- KAZIND has been an annual exercise since 2016, facilitating tactical knowledge sharing and improved coordination between the two nations' military forces.
- The joint drills focus on counter-terrorism strategies, peacekeeping efforts, and humanitarian assistance during natural disasters.

3. Parth Mane won double gold at the ISSF Junior World Championship

Parth Mane claimed the title of World Junior Champion by winning the air rifle gold medal at the World Junior Shooting Championship in Lima, Peru. He triumphed over China's Huang Liwanlin by a narrow margin of 0.7 points. Despite trailing before the final shot, where the Chinese competitor had scored a perfect 10.9, Parth delivered a 10.6 on his last shot, while Huang managed only 9.6, securing the gold for Mane.



Foot notes:

- Mane delivered an impressive performance in the 24-shot final, scoring 250.7.
- He narrowly defeated China's junior Asian champion, Huang Liwanlin, by 0.7 points. Braden Peiser from the USA won the bronze medal. Victor Lindgren of Sweden, a silver medallist at the Paris Olympics, finished in fourth place.
- India was on top of the medals table with five gold and three bronze. China was second with two gold and a silver.

4. 'Raksha Kandasamy' won the Croatia International and Belgium Junior Tournament Titles

Young Indian badminton player Raksha Kandasamy extended her impressive streak by securing consecutive titles at the Croatian International and Belgium Junior tournaments. The 16-year-old showcased her dominance by remaining undefeated in both events, winning all five of her matches on her path to victory.



Foot notes:

- Raksha Kandasamy defeated England's Leona Lee 21-9, 21-5 to win the Croatian International final in Samobor on Sunday.
- In the semifinals, she overcame Bulgaria's Stefani Stoeva 21-14, 21-23, and in the quarterfinals, she beat Poland's Joanna Rudna 21-11, 21-10.
- In the Belgium Junior tournament, Raksha dominated Belgium's Tammi van Wonterghem 21-5, 21-8 in the quarterfinals.
- Ireland's Siofra Flynn put up a tough fight in the semifinals, but Raksha won 21-8, 19-21, 25-23.
- Raksha secured the Belgium Junior title by defeating Germany's Gloria Poluektov 21-14, 10-21, 22-20 in the final in Herstal.

5. India's Great Virat Kohli Achieved the Fastest 27000 Runs Milestone

Virat Kohli became the fastest cricketer to reach 27,000 international runs, surpassing the previous record held by Sachin Tendulkar. He achieved this milestone during the second Test match against Bangladesh in Kanpur.



Foot notes:

- The 35-year-old Virat Kohli has reached 27,000 runs across all formats, entering an elite group of batters that includes Sachin Tendulkar, Ricky Ponting, and Kumar Sangakkara.
- He surpassed Tendulkar's record to become the fastest batter to reach 27,000 runs, achieving the milestone in just 594 innings.
- This is 29 innings quicker than Tendulkar, who reached the same milestone in 623 innings in 2007.
- Sri Lankan cricketer Kumar Sangakkara achieved the mark in 2015 during his 648th innings.
- Ricky Ponting reached the milestone in his 650th innings for Australia.

6. Nand Kishore appointed as CMD of IL&FS Group

The IL&FS Group appointed Nand Kishore as its new Chairman and Managing Director. Previously serving as the Managing Director, Kishore's elevation to CMD was approved by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the company stated.



Foot notes:

- Nand Kishore is a 1981 batch officer of the Indian Audit and Account Service and retired as Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General.
- He managed audits for the Ministries of Defence, Railways, and Communications, including their departments and public sector units.

- Kishore was appointed as a Director on the newly formed Board of the Company by the central government on October 1, 2018.
- He served as Executive Director from December 21, 2020, and became Managing Director of IL&FS on October 3, 2022.

7. A.K. Saxena Takes on Additional Role as CMD at RINL

Shri A.K. Saxena, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of MOIL (Manganese Ore India Limited), PSU under the Ministry of Steel has taken on the additional responsibility of CMD at RINL (Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited), the corporate entity of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

Foot notes:

- The government has appointed Ajit Kumar Saxena with the additional charge of CMD at RINL.
- He will assume the role during the absence of Atul Bhatt, who is on leave until November 30th.
- Atul Bhatt is set to retire on November 30th, prompting Saxena to take charge to enhance RINL's conditions and growth.



About Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd:

Founded: 1982

Headquarters: Visakhapatnam

8. Ravi Ahuja appointed as CEO of Sony Pictures Entertainment

Sony Group Corporation has appointed Ravi Ahuja as the new CEO of Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE). Ahuja is eager to lead SPE and collaborate with talented colleagues globally. He joined SPE in 2021, overseeing all production businesses for Sony Pictures Television (SPT) and serving as Chairman of Global Television Studios in India.

Foot notes:

- Ahuja has managed SPE's M&A activities, including acquiring Industrial Media, Bad Wolf, and Pixomondo, and selling GSN Games to Scopely.
- Under his leadership, SPT and its production companies have produced numerous award-winning television series.
- Before joining SPE, he was President of Business Operations and CFO at Walt Disney Television.
- Ahuja has held various senior positions, including CFO at Fox Networks Group and Virgin Entertainment Group, Inc.



9. The International Day of Older Persons is observed on October 1

The International Day of Older Persons is observed on October 1 each year to raise awareness about the opportunities and challenges associated with aging populations. It aims to encourage families, community groups, and stakeholders to address the issues faced by older individuals.



Foot notes:

- Theme: “Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide.”
- The United Nations General Assembly declared October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons through resolution 45/106 in 1990.
- The day was first celebrated on October 1, 1991.
- In 1982, the World Assembly on Ageing adopted the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing, which laid the groundwork for the International Day of Older Persons.

10. Senior IAS officer 'Anurag Jain' appointed as Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh

The Madhya Pradesh government has named 1989-batch IAS officer Anurag Jain as the new chief secretary of the state. Jain, 59, had been on central deputation since May 30, 2020. He was recently relieved from his position as secretary in the Union Ministry of Road, Transport, and Highways by the central government.



Foot notes:

- Anurag Jain served as joint secretary in the Prime Minister’s Office a decade ago and twice as secretary to former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
- He also held the positions of acting chairman and acting managing director of the Export-Import Bank of India from December 2013 to February 2014.
- Anurag is set to retire in August 2025 and is the seniormost IAS officer in the Madhya Pradesh cadre.

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal

Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel

Chief Minister: Dr. Mohan Yadav

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