

Current Affairs

29th February, 2024

Today's Important News

Namibia batter Jan Nicol Loftie-Eaton smashes fastest-ever T20I hundred



1. Namibia batter Jan Nicol Loftie-Eaton smashes fastest-ever T20I hundred

- Jan Nicol Loftie-Eaton, the dynamic Namibian batter, etched his name in cricketing history by scoring the fastest T20 International (T20I) century in a blistering innings against Nepal. Loftie-Eaton's extraordinary feat occurred during the first T20I of the Tri-Nation series on Tuesday, February 27, leaving fans and pundits in awe of his remarkable display of power-hitting.
- Facing Nepal's bowling attack, Loftie-Eaton demonstrated his prowess with the bat as he notched up a scintillating hundred off just 33 deliveries, eclipsing the previous record held by Nepal's Kushal Malla. Loftie-Eaton's explosive innings turned the match on its head, providing Namibia with the momentum needed to surge past the 200-run mark, eventually posting a formidable total of 206/4.



2. Shri Narendra Modi to inaugurate two Coal India first-mile connectivity projects worth Rs 1,400 crores

- Benchmark indices Nifty and Sensex traded flat on February 29 on account of monthly F&O expiry. Investors also remained cautious ahead of India's GDP data due later in the day. A significant development in the market is the



communication from SEBI to AMFI suggesting that mutual funds set up a framework for protecting investors in mid- and small-cap funds.

- The market has suddenly turned unpredictable amidst high volatility, and this uncertainty is expected to persist in the near term, according to analysts. Investors may wait for the volatility to subside before taking positions,

3. RBI Issues 2024 Master Direction on Filing Supervisory Returns

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has consolidated all relevant instructions regarding Supervisory Returns into a single Master Direction. To create a unified reference for all Supervisory Returns and to streamline the timelines for their filing.
- The issuance of this Master Direction is in exercise of powers conferred under various sections of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, as well as other relevant banking and financial regulations.



Foot Note:

About RBI :

Established : 1 April 1935

Headquarters : Mumbai

Governor : Shaktikanta Das

4. RBI Levies Penalties Totaling Nearly Rs 3 Crore on SBI, Canara Bank, and City Union Bank

- In a recent development, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken stern action against major banking institutions, including the State Bank of India (SBI), City Union Bank, and Canara Bank, for regulatory violations.
- Penalty on State Bank of India (SBI): SBI is slapped with a fine of Rs 2 crore for contravention of provisions outlined in the Banking Regulation (BR) Act, 1949, and the Depositor Education Awareness Fund Scheme, 2014.



Foot Note:

Penalty Amounts:

SBI: Penalty of Rs 2 crore.

City Union Bank: Penalty of Rs 66 lakh.

Canara Bank: Penalty of Rs 32.30 lakh.

Ocean Capital Market Ltd: Penalty of Rs 16 lakh.

5. Andreas Brehme, Scorer of Germany's 1990 World Cup Winning Goal, Passed Away

- Andreas Brehme, who scored from the penalty spot to seal victory for West Germany against Argentina in the 1990 World Cup final, passed away at the age of 63.
- He was a German professional football player and coach. A versatile left-back, Brehme spent two seasons with Bayern Munich between 1986-1988. He won the Bundesliga title in 1998 and German Cup in 1996 during his time at the club, with whom he also had a spell as manager from 2000-02.



6. Coal India and BHEL join forces for ammonium nitrate plant in Odisha

- Two of the country's top Maharatna CPSE entities Coal India Limited (CIL) and Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) formally signed a joint venture agreement (JVA) in Delhi for setting up an ammonium nitrate plant through surface coal gasification (SCG) technology route.
- The plant to come up in the Lakhanpur area of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, Odisha is planned to produce 2000 tons of ammonium nitrate per day initially. The annual production is slated at 6.60 Lakh tons which requires 1.3 million tonnes (mts) of coal.



7. Former Assistant Secretary General of UN Lakshmi Murdeswar Puri, Launches her book "Swallowing the Sun"

- Lakshmi Murdeswar Puri, Former Assistant Secretary General, UN and wife of Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched her debut book "Swallowing the Sun" in Mumbai. During the launch, Lakshmi Puri said that the novel is set up during the time of independence and the book is inspired by her parents and her roots from Maharashtra. She added that the book highlights women empowerment through the protagonist of the novel.
- She also informed that the book is highly inspired by various Abhangas from renowned Maharashtrian saints and poets. During the launch, industrialist Anand



Mahindra said that he is an ardent admirer of Lakshmi Puri's talent and congratulated her for the successful launch of the novel.

8. President Murmu appoints former SC judge Justice AM Khanwilkar as Chairperson of Lokpal

- Former Supreme Court judge, Justice AM Khanwilkar, assumed the role of the chairperson of India's anti-corruption watchdog, Lokpal, nearly two years after the post fell vacant. This development comes nearly two years after the position remained vacant, following the completion of Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose's term in May 2022.
- Justice (retired) Khanwilkar, aged 66 years, served as a judge of the apex court from May 13, 2016 to July 29, 2022. He was part of several constitution benches of the apex court which delivered important judgements.



9. Defence Secretary Collaborates in Co-Chairing High-Level India-Germany Defence Committee Meeting in Berlin

- Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane co-chaired the India-Germany High Defence Committee (HDC) meeting in Berlin on 27 Feb 2024 with the State Secretary, German Ministry of Defence Mr Benedikt Zimmer. Both sides discussed a range of bilateral security and defence issues, with a focus on developing the defence cooperation as a key pillar of the Strategic Partnership between India and Germany.
- They exchanged views on the regional security situation, discussed likely joint exercises with Germany in the Indo-Pacific, and deliberated on potential defence industrial projects and proposals. They emphasized on the need for a closer defence partnership and connecting the defence industries from both sides together. Of particular focus was the collaboration in high technology in defence.



Foot Note:

About Ministry of Defence :

Defence Minister : Rajnath Singh

Minister of State : Ministry of Defence

Defence Secretary : Giridhar Aramane

10. ISRO Retires Cartosat-2, High-Resolution Imaging Satellite After 17 Years of Service, Focused on Urban Planning

- Launched on January 10, 2007, the satellite weighed 680 kg and operated in a sun-synchronous polar orbit at an altitude of 635 km. Cartosat-2 performed 14.78 orbits around Earth in a day, contributing to its extensive data collection capabilities.
- Equipped with over 12,000 coupled charged devices, the satellite utilised “panchromatic and multi-spectral cameras” to generate high-resolution images. Applications included urban planning, road network monitoring, water distribution monitoring, and land use map creation.



Foot Note:

About ISRO :

Established: 15 August 1969

Headquarters: Bangalore, Karnataka

Chairman: S. Somanath

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