



Current Affairs

17th April, 2024

Today's Important News

Ahmad Al-Sabah appointed as New Prime Minister of Kuwait

1. Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah appointed as New Prime Minister of Kuwait

- Kuwait's Emir has appointed Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah as the new Prime Minister following the resignation of Sheikh Mohammed Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah. Sheikh Ahmad, born in 1952, brings extensive experience in finance and government, having held various ministerial positions.
- Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, born in 1952, holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a focus on Finance from the University of Illinois. He has a notable career history, including roles at Kuwait's Finance Center and the Central Bank of Kuwait.



Foot Note:

About Kuwait:

Capital: Kuwait City

Prime Minister: Ahmad Al Abdullah Al Sabah

2. Indira Gandhi International Airport is the 10th busiest airport

- More and more people are flying after the pandemic, making airports busier than ever. A report by the Airports Council International shows that in 2023, 8.5 billion passengers took to the skies worldwide – a huge jump of 27.2% from the previous year.
- This surge in numbers means the world is almost back to pre-pandemic travel levels, with a recovery rate of 93.8% from 2019. The Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi has secured 10th position, with a passenger traffic of 72.2 million flyers in 2023.



3. Government to Establish cotton Test Labs in 6 States for Kasturi Cotton

- The central government is planning to establish dedicated testing labs for high-grade Kasturi cotton in six states as part of a push to promote the Indian cotton brand globally.
- Currently, the certification of Kasturi cotton is conducted through a limited number of NABL-accredited labs, and the government aims to enhance the quality standards and global acceptance of Indian textiles through this initiative.



4. World Haemophilia day observed on 17th April

- World Hemophilia Day is celebrated on April 17th every year. This day is recognized worldwide to increase awareness of hemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders. The World Federation of Haemophilia established World Haemophilia Day in 1989.
- The date of April 17 was chosen to commemorate the birthday of the World Federation of Haemophilia's founder, Frank Schnabel. Haemophilia was first discovered around the 10th century, when people began to take a serious interest, particularly in male patients who died after suffering minor bleeding wounds.



Theme: "Equitable access for all: recognizing all bleeding disorders"

5. A Book 'India-the Road to Renaissance: A Vision and an Agenda' lauded in Hyderabad

- A Vision and an Agenda' written by former UN official Bhimeswara Challa was launched at Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) campus. Former IAS officer Dr Jayaprakash Narayan, former ASCI chairman K. Padamanabhaiah and former RBI Governor Dr D. Subba Rao attended the launch event.
- Retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer and former UN official Bhimeswara Challa unveiled his latest book India—the Road to Renaissance: A Vision and an Agenda at an event at the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Bella Vista campus.



6. SPACE India appointed Sanjana Sanghi as its Brand Ambassador

- Since its inception in 2001, SPACE India has been on a mission to integrate Astronomy and Space Science into school curricula nationwide, inspiring over 1.5 million students across 1,000 schools. The organization has been instrumental in demystifying rocket science and making space education accessible to all.
- Now, SPACE India has welcomed rising Bollywood star and UNDP Youth Champion, Sanjana Sanghi, as its Brand Ambassador. Sanjana's commitment to education and social activism aligns perfectly with SPACE India's vision to increase access to space education. As a gold medalist from Lady Shri Ram College, her dedication to excellence makes her an ideal advocate for the organization's educational initiatives.



7. Noted Carnatic Musician K G Jayan Passes Away

- Noted Carnatic musician K.G. Jayan died at his residence at Thripunitura in Ernakulam district of Kerala on April 16 He was 90. He was undergoing treatment for various ailments. His cremation will be held at the crematorium in Thripunitura at 5.30 p.m on April 17. Popular Malayalam actor Manoj K. Jayan is his son.
- KG Jayan was a known name in the Malayalam music industry and his compositions, especially his devotional tracks, were loved by all. With his twin brother KG Vijayan, who died in the '80s, Jayan came up with several tracks that continue to resonate with Malayalees. They were known as the "Jaya-Vijaya" duo.



8. Dharamsala to get India's first 'hybrid pitch'

- With their international cricket stadium here set to host two Indian Premier League matches, the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association (HPCA) is set to introduce SISGrass Hybrid Pitch Technology into their practice facilities. This move will ensure that the practice pitches are of top-notch quality, as traditional surfaces cannot withstand rigorous training schedules and tend to deteriorate quickly, limiting valuable practice opportunities for players.
- Based in the Netherlands, SISGrass, part of the SIS Pitches group of companies, is poised to take Indian cricket to new heights with its revolutionary investment in the first-ever hybrid pitch installation in the picturesque HPCA Stadium in Dharamshala.



9. Mohun Bagan pip Mumbai City to win maiden ISL League Shield

- A dominant Mohun Bagan defeated Mumbai City FC 2-1 to win their maiden ISL League Shield. This was Mohun Bagan's first victory over the two-time Shield Winners across four seasons as the Mumbai heavyweights were also unbeaten over them in previous eight matches, winning six of them.
- Liston Colaco (28th), and Jason Cummings (80th) struck for Mohun Bagan, while Lallianzuala Chhangte struck for Mumbai City FC against the run of play in the 89th minute when he converted a freekick from Yoell Van Nieff.



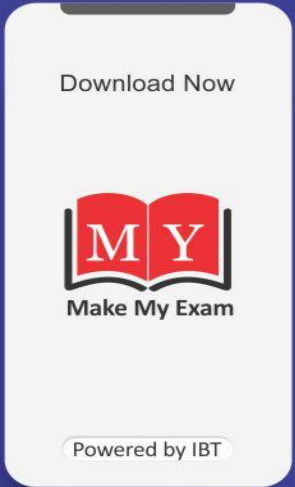
10. India's Exports Estimate To Reach 776.68 Billion Dollars In Financial Year 2023-24

- India's exports are estimated to reach 776.68 billion dollars in financial year 2023-24, surpassing last year's highest record. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in a release that that the overall exports in the preceding financial year, 2022-23, were 776.40 Billion dollars.
- The Ministry added that overall imports in the financial year 2023-24 are estimated to be 854.80 Billion dollars, exhibiting a negative growth of minus 4.81 per cent compared to the preceding financial year.



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