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Current Affairs
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Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, a retired Indian Supreme Court judge appointed to the BICC



1. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, a retired Indian Supreme Court judge appointed to the BICC

Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, a retired judge of the Indian Supreme Court, has been appointed to the Board of International Commercial Courts (BICC). Known for his expertise in constitutional and commercial law, Justice Kaul brings years of judicial experience to this global platform. His appointment reflects his significant contributions to the legal field and highlights India's growing influence in international judicial forums.



Foot notes:

- Justice Kaul has had a distinguished career, serving as a judge of the Supreme Court of India from 2017 to 2023.
- He has extensive judicial experience, having served as the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and the Madras High Court.
- Justice Kaul has delivered several notable judgments, including the ruling that privacy is a fundamental right in India.
- His appointment to the BICC reflects his international recognition as a jurist and his expertise in commercial law.
- The BICC is a commercial court that aims to resolve business disputes efficiently and effectively, and Justice Kaul's appointment is expected to enhance its credibility and expertise.

2. Wipro appoints Ranjita Ghosh as Global Chief Marketing Officer

Wipro has announced the appointment of Ranjita Ghosh as its Global Chief Marketing Officer. With a wealth of experience in marketing and brand strategy, Ghosh is set to lead Wipro's global marketing initiatives, focusing on enhancing the company's brand presence and driving growth in key markets. Her appointment underscores Wipro's commitment to innovation and customer-centric strategies in a competitive global landscape.



Foot notes:

- Ghosh was previously the CMO of Wipro's Asia Pacific, Middle East & Africa (APMEA) strategic market unit.
- She takes over from Laura Langdon, who has decided to explore career opportunities outside Wipro.
- As Global CMO, Ghosh will lead all marketing activities for Wipro across its geographies, shaping the company's brand and contributing to its growth.
- She will report to Hari Shetty, Chief Strategist & Technology Officer.
- Ghosh has nearly two decades of diverse experience in the global technology services industry, with expertise in sales, business development, growth marketing, and ecosystem partnerships.
- She has managed marketing for multiple high-value portfolios and led teams across North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific.

3. Oil India Limited Appointed Abhijit Majumder as CFO

Oil India Limited has appointed Abhijit Majumder as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Majumder, with extensive experience in financial management and strategic planning, will oversee the company's financial operations and drive its fiscal strategies. His leadership is expected to strengthen Oil India's financial framework and support its growth objectives in the energy sector.



Foot notes:

- Majumder will replace Rupam Barua, the former Executive Director (F&A), and hold the position of Director (Finance).
- Majumder brings over 32 years of experience in financial management, corporate governance, and risk management, making him a seasoned professional in the field.
- He is a member of the Institute of Cost & Management Accountants of India and holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Law, as well as a post-graduate diploma in Forex Management.

- Majumder's appointment marks a significant milestone for Oil India, bringing in a professional with extensive experience in financial management and corporate governance.
- As a state-owned Maharatna company, Oil India is engaged in the exploration, development, and production of crude oil and natural gas.

4. Shahu Tushar Mane won gold in the men's 10m Air Rifle event

Shahu Tushar Mane clinched the gold medal in the men's 10m Air Rifle event, showcasing exceptional skill and precision. His victory highlights his dedication to the sport and marks a significant achievement in his shooting career. Mane's performance reinforces India's growing prominence in international shooting competitions.



Foot notes:

- Mane, representing Indian Railways, clinched his first senior national title, winning the 24-shot final by a narrow margin.
- He delivered a near-perfect performance, shooting nothing below 10.1 in the final, and held off a late surge by Dhanush Srikanth.
- Srikanth finished just 0.1 points behind Mane, with a score of 252.2, while Rajasthan's Yash Vardhan won the bronze medal.
- The 22-year-old from Kolhapur began shooting in 2015 and has already won an ISSF World Cup gold in the air rifle mixed team and an individual silver in the Youth Olympics.
- Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil, a former world champion, set a new world record en route to winning the junior title, while Haryana's Himanshu won gold in the youth category.
- The championship is being held at the MP State Academy Shooting range in Bhopal, featuring top shooters from across India competing in various events.

5. Nusrath Fatima Won Silver at Junior World Pencak Silat

Nusrath Fatima secured the silver medal at the Junior World Pencak Silat Championship, demonstrating remarkable talent and determination in this traditional martial art. Her achievement brings pride to the nation and highlights her potential to excel further in international competitions. Fatima's success also shines a spotlight on Pencak Silat, inspiring young athletes to pursue the sport.



Foot notes:

- The championship took place from December 18 to 22, with Nusrath competing in the 58 kg Junior category.
- This martial art form originated in Southeast Asia and involves strikes, grappling, and throwing, as well as the use of weaponry.
- Hailing from Sankoo, Kargil, Nusrath's victory highlights the untapped potential in India's far-flung regions like Ladakh.
- Nusrath's achievement emphasizes the importance of nurturing sports at the grassroots level and integrating athletes from every corner of the country into national and international platforms.
- The Government of India's efforts to promote sports infrastructure in remote areas have played a vital role in fostering talent like Nusrath.
- Nusrath's silver medal brings attention to the potential of youth from border regions, contributing to the nation's aspirations in international sports competitions.

6. Justice V. Ramasubramanian Appointed NHRC Chairperson

Justice V. Ramasubramanian, a distinguished former judge of the Supreme Court of India, has been appointed as the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Known for his judicial acumen and dedication to upholding justice, his appointment is expected to strengthen the Commission's efforts in promoting and protecting human rights across the country. Justice Ramasubramanian's leadership is anticipated to bring valuable insights and enhance the effectiveness of the NHRC's initiatives.



Foot notes:

- Justice Ramasubramanian is a former Supreme Court judge, who completed his law degree from Madras Law College and was enrolled as a member of the bar on February 16, 1983.
- His appointment was made by the President of India, based on the recommendation of a selection committee headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The post of NHRC Chairperson had been lying vacant since June 1, after Justice Arun Kumar Mishra completed his tenure.
- As the new Chairperson, Justice Ramasubramanian will lead the NHRC in promoting and protecting human rights in India, including inquiring into human rights violations and reviewing laws related to human rights.

7. India Rises to 49th Rank in Network Readiness Index 2024

India has climbed to the 49th position in the Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2024, reflecting significant progress in digital infrastructure, connectivity, and innovation. This improvement highlights the country's efforts to enhance its digital ecosystem and promote technological advancements. India's rise in the NRI rankings underscores its growing importance in the global digital economy and its commitment to fostering a more connected and digitally inclusive future.



Foot notes:

- India's score surged from 49.93 in 2023 to 53.63 in 2024, highlighting substantial progress in enhancing its digital landscape.
- The country's rise in rankings is a direct result of government policies and strategic initiatives aimed at boosting connectivity, innovation, and digital services.
- The flagship program has been instrumental in driving digital transformation, with significant improvements in broadband access, digital literacy, and online government services.
- The program has enabled internet connectivity in rural areas, bridging the digital divide and enhancing the delivery of e-governance services.
- India's launch of 5G services and its vision for 6G technology have positioned the country as a global leader in the digital realm.
- India ranked 1st in AI Scientific Publications, AI Talent Concentration, and ICT Services Exports, and 2nd in FTTH/B, Mobile Broadband Internet Traffic, and International Internet Bandwidth.

8. Dr. Vishakha Tripathi Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Vishakha Tripathi has been honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her exceptional contributions to her field. With a distinguished career marked by significant achievements, Dr. Tripathi has made a lasting impact through her dedication, expertise, and leadership. This prestigious award celebrates her outstanding work and the influence she has had on her industry and community.



Foot notes:

- The award acknowledges Dr. Tripathi's lifelong dedication to compassion, philanthropy, and selfless service, which has left a lasting impact on society.

- As the leader of Jagadguru Kripalu Parishat (JKP), Dr. Tripathi oversaw various initiatives, including providing free medical care to nearly 500,000 people annually and educating over 60,000 girls.
- She spearheaded charitable initiatives, distributing essential supplies to underprivileged individuals and ensuring dignity and safety for women through the construction of hundreds of toilets in Pratapgarh.
- Dr. Tripathi demonstrated exemplary leadership during times of crisis, coordinating relief efforts during the flooding in Vrindavan and contributing to the PM CARES Fund during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The APVS recognized Dr. Tripathi's monumental contributions, stating that her life continues to inspire those striving to create a better world.

9. National Consumer Rights Day observed on 24th December

National Consumer Rights Day is observed on 24th December each year to raise awareness about the rights of consumers and to promote the protection of consumer interests. The day highlights the importance of fair trade practices, consumer education, and the need for robust mechanisms to address grievances. In 2024, this observance serves as a reminder of the continued efforts needed to safeguard consumers against exploitation and to ensure their access to goods and services of acceptable quality.



Foot notes:

- **Objective:** The day aims to educate consumers about their rights, promote awareness about consumer protection laws, and encourage responsible consumer behavior.
- **Consumer Protection Act:** The Consumer Protection Act, 1986, is the primary legislation governing consumer rights in India, providing a framework for redressal of consumer grievances.
- **Theme for 2024:** The theme for National Consumer Rights Day 2024 is "Empowering Consumers through Knowledge and Action," emphasizing the importance of consumer education and awareness.
- **Events and Activities:** Various events, such as seminars, workshops, and rallies, are organized across India to promote consumer awareness and celebrate National Consumer Rights Day.
- **Consumer Rights:** The day highlights the six basic rights of consumers, including the right to be informed, the right to choose, the right to seek redressal, and the right to consumer education.

- **Importance:** National Consumer Rights Day serves as a reminder of the importance of protecting consumer interests and promoting fair business practices in India.

10. Legendary Filmmaker Shyam Benegal passed away

Legendary filmmaker Shyam Benegal has passed away, leaving behind an indelible mark on Indian cinema. Known for his pioneering work in parallel cinema, Benegal's films often explored social, political, and cultural issues with depth and sensitivity. His contributions to the industry earned him numerous accolades, including national awards, and his legacy continues to inspire filmmakers and audiences alike. His passing is a significant loss to the world of Indian cinema.



Foot notes:

- Benegal was born in December 1934 in Hyderabad, southern India. He earned an Economics degree from Osmania University and established the Hyderabad Film Society.
- **Career Highlights:** Benegal was a renowned director, editor, and screenwriter who pioneered a new wave cinema movement in the 1970s. His notable films include "Ankur" (1974), "Nishant" (1975), "Manthan" (1976), and "Bhumika" (1977).
- **Awards and Recognition:** Benegal received widespread critical acclaim and numerous awards for his contributions to Indian cinema.
- **Mentorship:** He mentored top Indian actors, including Shabana Azmi, Smita Patil, Naseeruddin Shah, and Om Puri.
- **Television Work:** Benegal directed the landmark 53-episode television series "Bharat Ek Khoj," based on Jawaharlal Nehru's book "Discovery of India."
- **Legacy:** Benegal is survived by his wife Nira Benegal and daughter Piya. His passing has been mourned by the film fraternity and fans, with tributes pouring in on social media.

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