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Current Affairs

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Today's Important News

PM Modi, Sheikh Hasina inaugurate key rail link, 2 other India-backed projects

1. PM Modi, Sheikh Hasina inaugurate key rail link, 2 other India-backed projects

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated three projects via virtual mode, including a key rail link between Tripura's Nischintapur and Gangasagar in the neighbouring country.
- Three Indian-assisted development projects were jointly inaugurated by Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh via video conferencing.



2. Turkey recalls envoy to Israel, 'writes off' Netanyahu

- Turkey said it was recalling its ambassador to Israel and breaking off contacts with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in protest at the bloodshed in Gaza. Ankara announced the decisions on the eve of what promises to be a difficult visit to Turkey by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken.
- Palestinian ally Turkey had been mending torn relations with Israel until last month's start of the Israel-Hamas war. But its tone hardened against both Israel and its Western supporters -- particularly the United States -- as the fighting escalated and the death toll among Palestinian civilians soared.



3. Kilonova explosion in space could disrupt earth for 1000 years

- Based on recent scientific findings, researchers are analysing the potential consequences of a neutron star collision in close proximity to Earth, concluding that these phenomena, known as kilonovae, could pose an existential threat to humanity.
- The immensely effective collision of ultra-dense neutron stars, every single containing a mass equal to somewhere around one billion tons in just a mere teaspoon, results in a particle explosion able of annihilating our planet's ozone layer. This would render the Earth susceptible to ultraviolet radiation for the subsequent 1,000 yrs, constituting an extinction-amount occasion.



4. Indian envoy slams Canada on Nijjar killing: 'Direction came from high level'

- Indian high commissioner to Canada Sanjay Kumar Verma said that neither Canada nor its allies have shown concrete evidence related to Hardeep Nijjar's killing.
- Amid New Delhi's stand on the diplomatic standoff with Canada, Indian high commissioner to Canada Sanjay Kumar Verma has urged Ottawa to release evidence to back up its allegation in connection with the killing of pro-Khalistan militant Hardeep Singh Nijjar.



5. National medical commission may form experts' panel to decide on live broadcast of operations

- New Delhi, Nov 1 (PTI) The National Medical Commission (NMC) will constitute a committee to assess the implications of live broadcast of surgical procedures on patients, the issue of consent and the importance of dissemination of knowledge through such exercises.
- The various aspects of live surgeries will be debated upon and assessed and the committee will have stakeholders from patient groups, associations, doctors and academics, Dr Yogendra Malik, member of NMC's Ethics and Medical Registration Board.



6. Kotak Mahindra Bank to sell 51% stake in Kotak General Insurance to Zurich Insurance for Rs 4,051 crore

- Kotak Mahindra Bank will sell majority stake in subsidiary Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company to Zurich Insurance Company for Rs 4,051

crore. Kotak Mahindra Bank, Kotak Mahindra General Insurance and Zurich Insurance have finalised agreements for a deal in which Zurich will invest around Rs 4,051 crore to obtain a 51% stake in Kotak General Insurance.

- This investment will be a combination of fresh capital infusion and share purchase, the bank said in a stock exchange filing.



Foot Note:

About Kotak Mahindra Bank:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founder: Uday Kotak

Founded: 21 November 1985

7. UCO Bank realigns growth strategy with focus on profitable corporate lending

- State-owned lender Uco Bank is implementing a strategic shift in its growth plan, concentrating on the pursuit of a "profitable" corporate loan portfolio expansion while identifying retail, MSME, and agriculture as its key drivers of growth in the coming quarters.
- This shift in perspective concerning the bank's corporate loan portfolio coincides with the delayed rate cut expectations, attributed to global inflation and geopolitical uncertainties.



Foot Note:

About UCO Bank:

Headquarters: Kolkata

CEO: Ashwani Kumar

Founded: 6 January 1943, Kolkata

Founder: Ghanshyam Das Birla

8. India versus South Africa is the 'boro match' Kolkata, Eden Gardens and the world have been waiting for

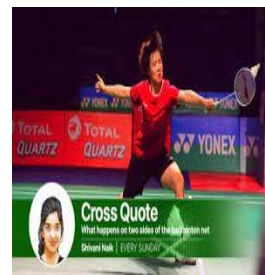
- The steel barricades at the entrance of the Eden Gardens creaked as hundreds of fans pushed each other to capture the photographs of South Africa cricketers de-boarding from the team bus. The fans waved banners and newspaper cutouts of Quinton de Kock and Kagiso Rabada, and chanted their names in the forenoon frenzy.
- Some of the South African cricketers, delightfully shocked, waved them back and the bunched-up crowd roared in joy. "Cheer us,



tomorrow too,” shouted one of the support staff members.

9. Swinging between jolly jokes and sobbing tears, He Bingjiao keeps her elegant game going

- He Bingjiao knew she would be playing one of her Chinese teammates in the semifinals of the French Open last week because that's how the draw had stacked them up.
- Speaking to the BWF after her quarterfinal, she was asked in jest if she would share the dinner table that night with her mate-slash-opponent or join them ahead of the semis the next morning, at breakfast.



10. IRDAI's new CIS mandate for health insurance to foster trust, reduce grievances

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has asked insurers to provide updated customer information sheets (CIS) for health insurance policies highlighting all key policy details in simple terms from January 1, 2024.
- From type of policy to coverage details to waiting period to limit and sub-limits to exclusions to free-look period to portability to guidance on procedure for claims submission and contact details for filing complaints will be available "in simple language ..



Foot Note:

About IRDAI:

Headquarters: Hyderabad

Founded: 1999

CEO: Debasish Panda

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