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## Current Affairs

21 Feb, 2025

### Vyomesh Kapasi appointed as Head of Products at Kotak Mahindra Bank



#### 1. Vyomesh Kapasi appointed as Head of Products at Kotak Mahindra Bank

Vyomesh Kapasi has been appointed as the Head of Products at Kotak Mahindra Bank. With extensive experience in banking and financial services, he will be responsible for driving product innovation and strategy. Kapasi's leadership aims to enhance customer-centric solutions and digital banking initiatives. His appointment aligns with Kotak Mahindra Bank's vision of expanding its product portfolio and market reach. He is expected to play a key role in strengthening the bank's competitive edge in the industry.



#### Foot notes:

- **Leadership Role:** Vyomesh Kapasi has been appointed as the Head of Products at Kotak Mahindra Bank, a leading private sector bank in India.
- **Expertise:** Kapasi brings over two decades of experience in the banking and financial services industry, with expertise in product development, marketing, and digital transformation.
- **Previous Roles:** Before joining Kotak Mahindra Bank, Kapasi held leadership positions at several prominent banks and financial institutions, including Citibank and HDFC Bank.
- **Key Responsibilities:** As Head of Products, Kapasi will be responsible for driving product innovation, development, and management across the bank's retail and corporate banking businesses.

- **Growth Strategy:** Kapasi's appointment is expected to support Kotak Mahindra Bank's growth strategy, focusing on digital transformation, product innovation, and customer-centricity.

## **2. Canyon Resources Limited appointed Dean Horton as Non-Executive Director**

Canyon Resources Limited has appointed Dean Horton as a Non-Executive Director. Horton brings extensive experience in corporate strategy, finance, and resource sector management. His expertise is expected to support the company's growth initiatives, particularly in bauxite exploration and development. The appointment aligns with Canyon Resources' focus on strengthening its leadership team. Horton will play a key role in guiding the company's strategic decisions and governance.



### **Foot notes:**

- **Experience:** Dean Horton brings over 25 years of international experience in corporate finance, which will be valuable in his new role.
- **Background:** Horton has worked with leading financial institutions across Australia, Africa, the Gulf Region, Hong Kong, and Indonesia, giving him a broad perspective.
- **Role:** As Non-Executive Director, Horton will contribute to the growth and development of Canyon Resources Limited, leveraging his expertise in corporate finance and international business.
- **Industry:** Canyon Resources Limited is likely involved in the natural resources sector, given the company's name and the appointment of a finance expert with international experience.
- **Expectations:** Horton's appointment is expected to support Canyon Resources Limited's strategy and growth plans, although specific details are not available.

## **3. BPCL & Eco Wave Power Partner to Develop Wave Energy in India**

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has partnered with Eco Wave Power to develop wave energy solutions in India. This collaboration aims to harness the potential of ocean waves as a renewable energy source, contributing to the country's sustainable energy goals. Eco Wave Power, known for its innovative wave energy technology, will work with BPCL to explore feasible locations along India's coastline. The partnership aligns with India's commitment to



diversifying its renewable energy portfolio and reducing dependence on fossil fuels. By leveraging wave energy, BPCL and Eco Wave Power seek to enhance India's clean energy infrastructure and promote environmental sustainability.

**Foot notes:**

- **Renewable Energy Collaboration:** Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has partnered with Eco Wave Power, an Israeli renewable energy company, to develop wave energy in India.
- **Huge Potential:** India has a vast coastline of over 7,500 km, offering immense potential for harnessing wave energy, which is a promising source of renewable energy.
- **Eco Wave Power's Technology:** Eco Wave Power's innovative technology harnesses wave energy using floating buoys, converting the kinetic energy into electricity, which is then transmitted to the power grid.
- **Sustainable Energy Mix:** The partnership aims to contribute to India's renewable energy targets, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and mitigating climate change by promoting a cleaner and sustainable energy mix.
- **Pilot Project and Expansion:** The partnership plans to initiate a pilot project in India, with the goal of expanding wave energy capacity in the country, creating new opportunities for sustainable energy growth and development.

**4. Rohit Sharma Reaches 11,000 ODI Runs**

Indian cricketer Rohit Sharma has reached the milestone of 11,000 runs in One Day Internationals (ODIs). He achieved this feat during an ongoing match, further solidifying his status as one of India's greatest limited-overs batsmen. Known for his elegant stroke play and record-breaking performances, Rohit is now among the elite players with 11,000 ODI runs. His consistency and ability to play big innings have been crucial for India's success. This achievement adds to his impressive career, which includes multiple double centuries and captaincy accolades.



**Foot notes:**

- **Second-fastest Indian:** Rohit Sharma is the second-fastest Indian cricketer to reach 11,000 ODI runs, achieving this feat in 261 innings, behind only Virat Kohli who reached this milestone in 222 innings.
- **Fourth Indian to reach 11,000 runs:** Rohit Sharma joins an elite group of Indian cricketers, including Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, and Virat Kohli, who have scored 11,000 runs or more in ODIs.



- **Consistency and performance:** Rohit Sharma's ODI career has been marked by remarkable consistency and performance, with an average of 49.05 and a strike rate of 92.69.
- **Breaking Sachin Tendulkar's record:** Rohit Sharma has broken Sachin Tendulkar's record to become the second-fastest player to reach 11,000 ODI runs.
- **Leading from the front:** As the Indian captain, Rohit Sharma's achievement is a testament to his leadership and batting prowess, inspiring his teammates and cementing his place among the top-tier batsmen globally.

### 5. Shami becomes fastest Indian bowler to reach 200 ODI wickets

Mohammed Shami has become the fastest Indian bowler to reach 200 wickets in One Day Internationals (ODIs). He achieved this milestone in fewer matches than any other Indian bowler, showcasing his exceptional skill and consistency. Known for his lethal pace and ability to swing the ball, Shami has been a key asset for India's bowling attack. His achievement places him among the world's top fast bowlers in ODI history. This record further cements his reputation as one of India's finest pacers.



#### Foot notes:

- **Fastest Indian Bowler:** Shami achieved this milestone in just 104 matches, surpassing Ajit Agarkar's previous record of 133 matches.
- **Second-Fastest Globally:** He is also the second-quickest bowler globally to reach 200 ODI wickets, tied with Saqlain Mushtaq and only behind Mitchell Starc, who achieved the feat in 102 matches.
- **Fewest Balls:** Shami reached the milestone using the fewest balls - 5126 deliveries - beating Mitchell Starc's previous record of 5240 balls.
- **Five-Wicket Haul:** Shami's achievement was marked by a stellar performance, taking 5/53 against Bangladesh in the ICC Champions Trophy.
- **India's Leading Wicket-Taker:** He also surpassed Zaheer Khan to become India's leading wicket-taker in 50-over ICC events, with 60 scalps in just 19 innings.

### 6. Tata Power Partners with AWS to Drive India's Smart Energy Transition

Tata Power has partnered with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to accelerate India's smart energy transition. This collaboration aims to leverage cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and machine learning to enhance energy efficiency and grid management. By adopting AWS's advanced digital solutions, Tata Power seeks to optimize renewable energy integration and improve customer experiences. The partnership aligns with India's sustainability goals,



promoting cleaner and smarter energy solutions. This initiative will help Tata Power drive innovation in power distribution and support the nation's shift towards a greener future.

**Foot notes:**

- **Digital Transformation:** Tata Power has partnered with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to embark on a data-driven transformation, leveraging cloud computing, artificial intelligence (AI), and IoT to build a smarter, more efficient power ecosystem.
- **Modernizing Digital Infrastructure:** The partnership aims to modernize Tata Power's digital infrastructure, enhancing operational efficiencies, grid resilience, and consumer-centric energy management.
- **Key Benefits:** The collaboration will enable real-time analytics, automation, and decentralized power generation to optimize supply and demand, ensuring sustainability and operational efficiency.
- **Technology Adoption:** Tata Power has migrated 23 mission-critical applications to AWS, adopted a server-less architecture with AWS Step Functions, and created two specialized data lakes for power generation and renewables.
- **India's Energy Future:** The partnership supports India's transition to a greener, smarter, and more consumer-centric energy ecosystem, aligning with the country's goal to lead global energy demand growth over the next two decades.

### 7. V Anantha Nageswaran's Term as Chief Economic Advisor Extended

The Indian government has extended the term of V. Anantha Nageswaran as the Chief Economic Advisor (CEA). Nageswaran, who was appointed in 2022, has played a key role in shaping India's economic policies. His extension ensures continuity in economic decision-making amid global and domestic challenges. Under his leadership, India has focused on growth-driven reforms, fiscal stability, and digital economy expansion. His continued tenure is expected to provide strategic insights for the country's economic roadmap.



**Foot notes:**

- **Background:** Nageswaran took charge as CEA in January 2022, bringing with him over 25 years of experience in academia, consulting, and the private sector.
- **Economic Survey:** As CEA, Nageswaran is responsible for drafting the annual Economic Survey, which was recently tabled in Parliament, forecasting GDP growth of 6.3-6.8% in FY26.

- **Deregulation Advocacy:** Nageswaran has made a strong case for deregulation, particularly at the state level, to spur capital formation and drive employment and output growth.
- **Expertise:** He holds a doctorate from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and has taught at several business schools and institutes of management in India and Singapore.

### **8. India receives global award for road safety**

India has received a prestigious global award for its efforts in improving road safety. The recognition highlights the country's initiatives in reducing accidents, enhancing infrastructure, and implementing stricter traffic regulations. Various government programs, including the adoption of advanced technologies and awareness campaigns, have contributed to this achievement. The award reinforces India's commitment to making roads safer for commuters and reducing fatalities. This global acknowledgment is expected to further encourage innovative road safety measures across the nation.



#### **Foot notes:**

- **Commitment to Road Safety:** India is a signatory to the Brasilia Declaration, committing to reduce road accidents and fatalities by 50% by 2020.
- **National Road Safety Program:** The Indian government has launched initiatives like the National Road Safety Program, aiming to reduce road crash fatalities and injuries through improved road safety management and institutional reform.
- **World Bank Support:** The World Bank has provided significant support to India's road safety efforts, with a \$250 million program to strengthen road safety management and reduce road crash fatalities and injuries.
- **State-Level Initiatives:** Several Indian states, such as Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh, have developed their own crash data management systems, with support from the World Bank.
- **Global Recognition:** While I couldn't find information on a specific global award, India's efforts to improve road safety have been recognized globally, with the country participating in international conferences and forums on road safety.

### **9. International Mother Language Day observed on 21st February**

International Mother Language Day is observed on 21st February each year to promote linguistic diversity and multilingual education. The day was first proclaimed by UNESCO in 1999 to honor the importance of preserving indigenous languages. It commemorates the 1952 movement in Bangladesh, where students sacrificed their lives for the

recognition of the Bengali language. The theme for each year highlights the role of languages in fostering cultural identity and sustainable development. This observance encourages global efforts to protect and revitalize endangered languages.

**Foot notes:**

- **Background:** IMLD was proclaimed by UNESCO in 1999 to recognize the importance of mother languages in promoting cultural diversity, tolerance, and dialogue.
- **Date Significance:** February 21st commemorates the day in 1952 when students in Bangladesh (then East Pakistan) demonstrated for the recognition of Bengali as an official language, leading to the sacrifice of several lives.
- **Objectives:** IMLD aims to promote linguistic diversity, preserve endangered languages, and encourage language education and multilingualism.
- **Global Celebrations:** IMLD is celebrated globally through various events, including language festivals, cultural programs, and linguistic competitions.
- **Theme:** Each year, IMLD is celebrated with a specific theme; for example, the 2023 theme was "Multilingual education – a necessity to transform education."



### 10. Nagaland's Forest Project Recognized with SKOCH Award

Nagaland's forest conservation project has been honored with the prestigious SKOCH Award for its outstanding efforts in environmental protection. The initiative focuses on sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, and community participation. Through innovative approaches, the project has contributed to afforestation, wildlife preservation, and climate resilience. The recognition highlights Nagaland's commitment to ecological sustainability and conservation-driven development. This award serves as an encouragement for further green initiatives in the region.



**Foot notes:**

- **Project Objective:** The NFMP aims to promote forest conservation, improve forest ecosystems, and support income generation through rehabilitation of jhum (shifting cultivation) areas.
- **Key Focus Areas:** The project focuses on three main areas: Forestry Intervention and Biodiversity Conservation, Livelihood Improvement and Community Development, and Institutional Strengthening.
- **Implementation and Coverage:** The NFMP is implemented by the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Nagaland, and supported



by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). It covers 185 villages across 11 districts, spanning over 79,000 hectares of forest land.

- **Livelihood Support:** The project aims to form 555 self-help groups (SHGs) to provide livelihood support and empower local communities.
- **Award Significance:** The SKOCH Award is one of India's highest independent honors, recognizing excellence in governance, public service, and social development.



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