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Tuesday, 09 January 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

Iga Swiatek honored as Best Polish Athlete of the Year for 2nd year in a row

- Tennis world No.1 Iga Swiatek won the award of Poland's Sportsman of the Year for 2023.
- The Sportsman of the Year is considered to be one of the most prestigious sport prizes in Poland.
- The prestigious award ceremony was organized by Poland's oldest sports newspaper, Przegląd Sportowy, which recognizes the achievements and contributions of Polish sportspeople across various disciplines.
- Swiatek's victory was widely expected as the 22-year-old won six titles in 2023. The Pole defended her crown at Roland Garros and she also took the highest podium in Warsaw (WTA 250), Stuttgart and Doha (WTA 500) and WTA 1000 China Open in Beijing. Then she ended her season in a perfect way by winning the WTA Finals in Cancun, Mexico.
- Swiatek received the Best Polish Athlete of the Year award at the 89th Polish Sports Personality of the Year gala, which was held in Warsaw.
- The 22-year-old, who was unable to attend the ceremony due to her participation in the 2024 United Cup in Australia. The award was received by her father Tomasz Swiatek.

Q. Iga Swiatek, who won the award of Poland's Sportsman of the Year for 2023, is related to which sport? **Tennis**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

Christopher Nolan wins his first Golden Globe, Cillian Murphy wins Best Actor

- The Golden Globe Awards 2024 has officially begun. Hosted by stand-up comedian and actor Jo Koy, the 81st Golden Globe Awards is taking place at The Beverly Hilton.
- Robert Downey Jr bagged the Best Supporting Actor for Oppenheimer while Christopher Nolan won the Best Director for the same film.

Check out the list of winners:

- Best Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama: Cillian Murphy, Oppenheimer
- Best Actress in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy: Emma Stone, Poor Things
- Best Supporting Actor in a Motion Picture: Robert Downey Jr., Oppenheimer
- Best Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture: Da'Vine Joy Randolph, The Holdovers
- Best TV Series- Comedy or Musical: The Bear
- Best TV Series - Limited, Anthology or TV Movie: Beef (Netflix)
- Best Actor in a TV Series (Drama): Kieran Culkin, Succession
- Best Actress in a TV Series (Drama): Sarah Snook, Succession
- Best Actor in a TV Series (Musical or Comedy): Jeremy Allen White — The Bear

Q. Who won Best Actor in a Motion Picture at the Golden Globe Awards 2024? **Cillian Murphy**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

Szymon Marciniak Named World's Best Referee of 2023

- Szymon Marciniak of Poland was named the 2023 Men's World Best Referee by the International Federation of Football Historians and Statistics (IFFHS).
- The 42-year-old Pole won the award with 175 points, followed by Daniele Orsato of Italy with 95 and France's Clement Turpin with 64.
- Marciniak had also won the 2022 award after his performance officiating the 2022 FIFA World Cup final.
- In 2023, he refereed the UEFA Champions League final between Manchester City and Inter Milan in Istanbul.

IFFHS:

- Formation: 1984
- Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland
- President: Saleh Irfan Bahwini

Q. Who has been named the 2023 Men's World Best Referee by the International Federation of Football Historians and Statistics? **Szymon Marciniak**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

Tata Electronics sign an MoU with Tamil Nadu government

- Tata Electronics signed an MoU with Tamil Nadu government and pledged investment worth Rs.12,082 crore.
- The planned investment will be used to expand Tata's mobile phone enclosure manufacturing unit in Hour and to build a new plant to assemble mobile phones, including iPhones.
- It's likely to create 40,500 new jobs. Tata will also build employees accommodation as part of investment.
- As per reports, Pegatron, Apple's Taiwan supplier, is also expected to invest Rs 1,000 crore to expand production. In addition to this, Hyundai Motors has also committed Rs 6,180 crore, a part of the investment will be utilised for electric vehicle (EV) battery and car manufacturing.

Tamil Nadu:

- Capital: Chennai
- Governor: R. N. Ravi
- Chief minister: M. K. Stalin

Q. Recently, Tata Electronics signed an MoU with which state government and pledged investment worth Rs.12,082 crore? **Tamil Nadu**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

Sheikh Hasina re-elected as Bangladesh's Prime Minister for a fourth term

- PM Sheikh Hasina has won an overwhelming majority in Bangladesh's parliamentary election, giving her party — the Awami League — a fourth consecutive term.
- After an election campaign fraught with violence and a boycott from the main opposition party, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), it is confirmed as per several media reports that Hasina's party has won 216 seats out of 299.
- Independent candidates took 52 parliamentary seats, while the Jatiya Party — the third largest in the country — took 11.
- Meanwhile, Prime Minister Hasina was re-elected to parliament from the Gopalganj-3 constituency.
- The win also means the 76-year-old has become the country's longest-serving leader.

Bangladesh:

- Capital: Dhaka
- President: Mohammed Shahabuddin
- Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

Q. Sheikh Hasina re-elected as Bangladesh's Prime Minister for a fourth term. In context to same she belongs to which party? **Awami League**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

OPPO India CMO Damyant Singh Khanoria steps down

- Damyant Singh Khanoria, chief marketing officer (CMO) at global smartphone brand OPPO India, has stepped down from his position after three years at the helm.
- Khanoria joined OPPO in December 2020 from Apple.
- He reported to Elvis Zhou, President, OPPO India.
- He earlier had a around 12-year stint with sportswear major adidas.
- Khanoria is an industry veteran with over 23 years of experience.
- Over the years, OPPO India has built a strong portfolio of products across price segments featuring best-in-class technology to ensure that users stay ahead of the curve.

Q. Name the chief marketing officer (CMO) at global smartphone brand OPPO India, who has stepped down from his position after three years at the helm? **Damyant Singh Khanoria**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

Vietnam's VinFast, TN govt join hands to set up \$2 bn EV facility in India

- Vietnam's leading electric vehicle (EV) manufacturer VinFast and the Tamil Nadu state government announced a partnership to build a \$2 billion EV facility in the country, with an intended commitment of \$500 million for the first phase of the project, spanning five years from the commencement date.
- The establishment of VinFast's integrated EV facility in Tamil Nadu is anticipated to generate approximately 3,000-3,500 employment opportunities locally.
- This move indicates a significant step in VinFast's expansion into the world's third-largest vehicle market, which is also waiting for Elon Musk-run Tesla to enter the country.
- Situated in Thoothukudi, the VinFast Tamil Nadu project aims to evolve into a first-class electric vehicle production hub in the region, with an annual capacity of up to 150,000 units.
- Construction of the plant is anticipated to begin in 2024.
- The project will also pave the way for green transportation development, targeting 30 per cent of newly registered private cars to be electric.

Q. Name Vietnam's leading electric vehicle (EV) manufacturer who has announced partnership with Tamil Nadu government to build a \$2 billion EV facility in the country? **VinFast**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

US' 1st fully private spacecraft starts journey to Moon

- US-based Astrobotic Technology's Peregrine lunar lander has successfully started the historic mission to the Moon, aiming to bring America back to the lunar terrain after about 50 years.
- The US has not attempted a moon landing since Apollo 17 in December 1972.
- The lander lifted off aboard United Launch Alliance's brand new rocket Vulcan Centaur from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.
- After dwelling in a stable orbit and performing system checkouts, it aims to attempt the historic landing on February 23.
- Peregrine is Astrobotic's first lander mission, and the team plans to become the first commercial company to successfully land a spacecraft on the lunar surface.
- The lander carries a total of 20 payloads, or cargo, including 5 from NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) initiative.
- The payload teams have missions that vary from seeking indications of water-ice near the lunar surface to demonstrating a rover swarm.
- After landing on the Moon in February, Peregrine will spend approximately 10 days gathering valuable scientific data studying Earth's nearest neighbour and helping pave the way for the first woman and first person of colour to explore the Moon under Artemis.

Q. What is the name of the US-based Astrobotic Technology's Lunar Lander, which has successfully started the historic mission to the Moon, aiming to bring America back to the lunar terrain after about 50 years?

Peregrine



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

South Africa wicketkeeper-batter Heinrich Klaasen retires from Test cricket

- South Africa wicketkeeper-batter Heinrich Klaasen has retired from from Test cricket.
- Heinrich Klaasen, one of the finest middle-order batters in ODI cricket, has played only 4 Tests over 4 years.
- His most recent assignment in whites for India came when he kept wickets for South Africa in a home Test against the West Indies in March 2023.
- Klaasen is a seasoned first-class player, having played 85 games and scoring 5347 runs at a stellar average of 46.
- He hit 12 hundreds and 24 fifties in his career.
- Note: Klaasen's retirement comes days after their former captain Dean Elgar brought down the curtains on his celebrated Test career. Elgar led South Africa in his farewell Test against India in Cape Town.

Q. Name the South Africa wicketkeeper-batter who has announced to retire from from Test cricket recently? **Heinrich Klaasen**



Tuesday, 09 January 2024

India signs Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024 with Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

- India and Saudi Arabia signed a bilateral agreement under which New Delhi has been allocated a quota of 1,75,025 pilgrims for this year's annual Haj pilgrimage.
- A total quota of 1,75,025 pilgrims from India has been finalised for Haj 2024 with 1,40,020 seats being reserved for pilgrims to proceed through Haj Committee of India whereas 35,005 pilgrims would be permitted to proceed through private operators.
- The Government's initiative for encouraging participation under the Ladies without Mehram (LWM) category was also discussed and lauded.

What is Haj?

- Haj is an annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, the holiest city for Muslims.
- Hajj is a mandatory religious duty for Muslims that must be carried out at least once in their lifetime by all adult Muslims who are physically and financially capable of undertaking the journey, and of supporting their family during their absence from home.
- Location: Mecca
- Country: Saudi Arabia
- Founder: Abraham (historical) & Muhammad (current form)

Q. Recently India signs Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024 with which country under which New Delhi has been allocated a quota of 1,75,025 pilgrims for this year's annual Haj pilgrimage? **Saudi Arabia**




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