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Thursday, 04 January 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR

Gwanggu Lee

Managing Director & CEO



Thursday, 04 January 2024

Kia India Appoints Gwanggu Lee as New MD and CEO

- Kia India announced it is appointed Gwanggu Lee as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO).
- Lee will be replacing Tae Jin Park, who has been the India head of the South Korean carmaker for the last four years.
- Lee has held leadership positions in various capacities in both developed and developing economies, including roles in the US, Canada, Italy, Mexico, Kia Headquarters in Central and South America, and Kia Europe Headquarters in Germany.
- Kia unveiled its Sonet facelift on December 14.
- The South Korean carmaker unveiled the Seltos facelift in July this year.

Kia:

- Owner: Hyundai Motor Company
- Founded: 11 December 1944, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, South Korea
- Subsidiaries: Kia Canada, Kia Motors India, Kia Motors Australia
- Founder: Kim Cheol-ho
- Headquarters: Seoul, South Korea

Q. Who has been appointed as the new MD and CEO by Kia India? **Gwanggu Lee**



Thursday, 04 January 2024

Tech Mahindra appoints ex-Infosys veteran Richard Lobo as chief people officer

- Tech Mahindra announced the appointment of Richard Lobo, former Infosys executive vice-president and head of human resources, as its chief people officer.
- Lobo worked with Infosys for nearly 23 years.
- He quit Infosys in August to work as an HR consultant and strategic advisor at edtech unicorn Byju's.
- Byju's had appointed Lobo as an exclusive advisor to help transform its human resources function.
- At Infosys, Lobo held various leadership roles, most recently serving as its EVP and Head of Human Resources.
- Tech Mahindra recently appointed former LTI chief marketing officer (CMO) Peeyush Dubey as its CMO.

Tech Mahindra:

- Headquarters: Pune
- Founder: Anand Mahindra
- Founded: 1986
- Parent: Mahindra Group

Q. Tech Mahindra has appointed former Infosys veteran _____ as Chief People Officer. **Richard Lobo**



Thursday, 04 January 2024

SpaceX launches 1st batch of satellites for mobile phone connectivity anywhere on Earth

- Elon Musk-run aerospace company SpaceX has launched the first batch satellites to connect mobile phone users anywhere on the planet.
- Six of the 21 new Starlink satellites just launched support the company's new 'Direct to Cell' service announced in 2022.
- The six Starlink satellites on this mission with 'Direct to Cell' capability will further global connectivity and help to eliminate dead zones.
- They'll enable SpaceX to test it with ordinary 4G LTE-compatible phones on T-Mobile in the US, before the text messaging service goes live in multiple countries this year.
- SpaceX will then add voice and data (and IoT devices) later in 2025 as more D2C satellites come online.
- Starlink satellites with Direct to Cell capabilities enable ubiquitous access to texting, calling, and browsing wherever you may be on land, lakes, or coastal waters. Direct to Cell will also connect IoT devices with common LTE standards, according to the company.

Q. Which space agency launched the first batch of satellites for mobile phone connectivity anywhere on Earth? **spacex**



Thursday, 04 January 2024

Chadian Opposition Leader Succes Masra Appointed Transitional PM

- Chad's transitional government has appointed former opposition leader Succes Masra, who recently returned to the country following exile, as prime minister.
- This move comes after months of political unrest and opposition protests against the military rulers who assumed power in April 2021 after the death of longtime leader Idriss Deby Itno.
- Succes Masra, the president of The Transformers party, emerged as a prominent figure in opposition to the military rulers who took control of Chad last year.
- His strong opposition to the regime, which came to power after Deby's death, reflects the broader sentiment against the military's involvement in governance.
- Masra's return from exile marks a pivotal moment in Chad's political landscape, signaling a potential shift towards civilian governance.

Q. Who has been appointed as Prime Minister by the provisional government of Chad? **Former opposition leader Succes Masra**



Thursday, 04 January 2024

MoU signed between QCI and KVIC in Ahmedabad, Gujarat

- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and Quality Council of India (QCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the quality of Khadi products, empower artisans and offer quality products under the 'Made in India' banner for Khadi at Kochrab Ashram in Ahmedabad.
- The collaboration between the two organizations is aimed at creating 'World Class Khadi Products' as per the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
- As per the MoU, the Quality Council of India will assist KVIC in various activities including training to enhance the quality of Khadi and Village Industries products, improve their productivity and marketability both domestically and internationally.
- Along with this, it will support KVIC by empowering Khadi artisans and promoting Khadi products through various mediums.
- Besides, this collaboration will give a new identity to Khadi as 'Made in India' products, which will increase the production and sale of Khadi products as a symbol of quality across the world.
- This will provide new employment opportunities to Khadi artisans with greater productivity and efficiency by equipping them with advanced skills and knowledge.

Q. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and _____ signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the quality of Khadi products, empower artisans and introduce quality products under the 'Made in India' banner for Khadi at Kochrab Ashram Ahmedabad . **Quality Council of India (QCI)**



Thursday, 04 January 2024

Randhir Jaiswal succeeds Arindam Bagchi as new MEA spokesperson

- Senior diplomat Randhir Jaiswal assumed charge as the new spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) succeeding Arindam Bagchi.
- Bagchi has been appointed India's permanent representative to the United Nations (UN) and other international organisations in Geneva.
- Jaiswal, a 1998 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, was serving as India's consul general in New York in his previous posting.
- In his over two decades of service, Jaiswal served in Cuba, South Africa, Portugal and at India's permanent mission to the UN in New York.
- He also served as a joint secretary at the MEA's headquarters in New Delhi looking after India's relations with countries in western Europe.
- Jaiswal, who hails from Bihar, was serving as the consul general in India's mission in New York from July 2020.
- Bagchi, a 1995-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) official, took over as spokesperson of the MEA in March 2020 and handled a number of critical issues and developments including the eastern Ladakh border row, India's COVID-19 response and New Delhi's G20 presidency.
- In Geneva, Bagchi, an additional secretary, succeeds Indra Mani Pandey.

Q. Who will replace Arindam Bagchi as the new spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs? **Randhir Jaiswal**



Thursday, 04 January 2024

PM Vishwakarma Yojana scheme launched in J&K

- In a significant step towards empowering the craftsman community of state, Jammu and Kashmir became the first UT of country to implement prestigious PM Vishwakarma Yojana (PMVY) with the start of training for first batch of 30 trainees (Vishwakarmas) in Darzi Craft at ITI Shopian.
- The scheme will be operationalised in all districts of J&K soon.

Background:

- PMVY is an ambitious initiative of Central Government in September 2023 by the PM, Narendra Modi.
- The scheme aims for recognition of artisans and crafts of people through PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card as well basic training of five to seven days and advanced training of 15 days or more, with a stipend of Rs. 500 per day.
- The scheme will also provide modern toolkit of Rs 15000 free of cost to trained Vishwakarmas besides linkage with credit based soft loans and marketing support for expansion of their business will also be provided under the Yojana.

Q. Which province of India became the first UT of country to implement prestigious PM Vishwakarma Yojana (PMVY)? **Jammu and Kashmir**



COMPETITION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Thursday, 04 January 2024

CCI okays Punjab State Power Corporation's acquisition of GVK Power plant

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of 100 per cent shareholding of GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited by Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd.
- Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd, is a fully owned undertaking of the government of Punjab.
- The erstwhile Punjab State Electricity Board (PSEB), was a statutory body formed on 1st February, 1959 under the Electricity Supply Act, 1948.
- The PSEB was “unbundled” by the Government in 2010 into two separate entities — Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) and Punjab State Transmission Corporation Limited (PSTCL).
- GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited, incorporated in December 1997, is a wholly owned subsidiary of GVK Energy Limited which in turn is the subsidiary of GVK Power and Infrastructure Limited.
- It is engaged in power generation through a 540 coal based thermal power plant.

Q. The CCI has approved the proposed acquisition of 100 per cent shareholding of GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited by which State Power Corporation? **Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd.**



Thursday, 04 January 2024

upGrad's KnowledgeHut CEO Subramanyam Reddy quits

- Subramanyam Reddy, who is the founder and chief executive of upGrad-owned edtech company Knowledgehut, has resigned from his position after serving nearly 13 years at the company.
- As per sources, Reddy submitted his resignation last month and is currently on a notice period.
- The other two co-founders of Knowledgehut include Madhavarapu Nagaraju and Manjunath V.
- While Nagaraju already quit the company ahead of the acquisition by upGrad in August 2021, Manjunath is currently leading the company's business strategy and marketing.
- During the same period, upGrad attained a unicorn status after raising fresh funds from Temasek and others.
- KnowledgeHut is a knowledge training company for individuals and corporate offices, operating across 70 countries and 6 continents.
- Apart from offering off-the-shelf accredited training courses, it also customises training content to cater to diverse and specific needs of customers across domains.
- The firm has built an AI driven immersive platform called PRISM to offer agile-focused courses, scrum and full stack development across various categories.

Q. Name the founder and chief executive of upGrad-owned edtech company Knowledgehut, who has resigned from his position after serving nearly 13 years at the company? **Subramanyam Reddy**

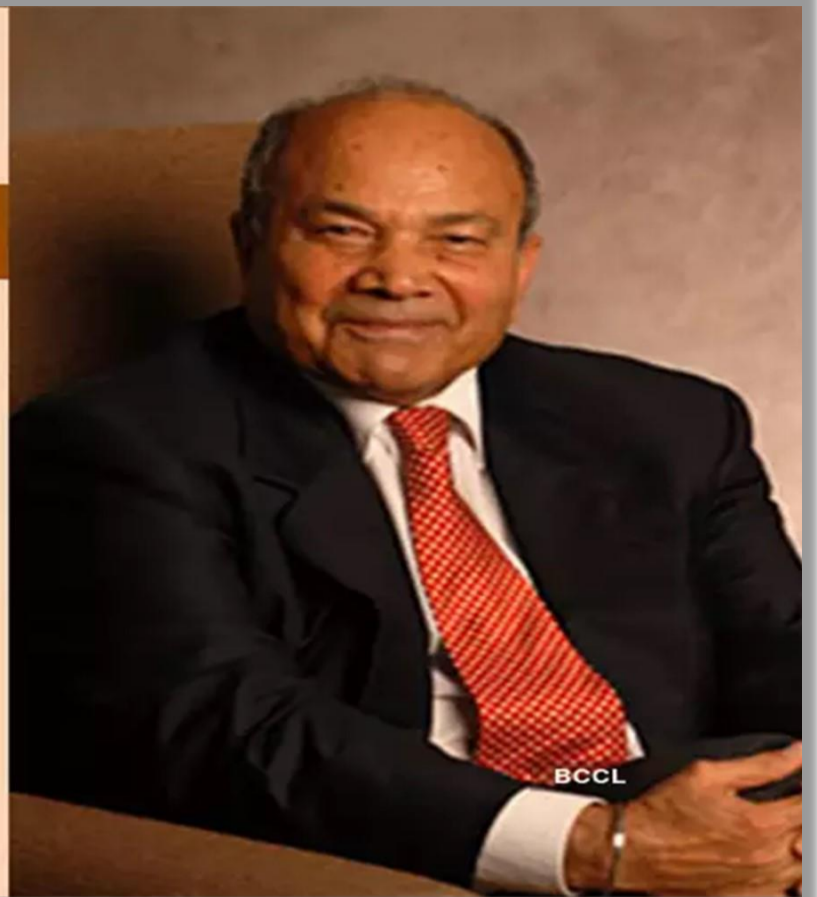


Padma Bhushan

Prof. Ved Prakash Nanda

Literature & Education | USA

- Eminent Law Professor and Jurist, significantly involved in the international law community
- Vice Provost at the University of Denver, and Honorary President of the World Jurist Association



Thursday, 04 January 2024

Prominent Indian-American Legal Scholar Ved Prakash Nanda Passes Away

- In a profound loss to the legal community, Padma Bhushan awardee Professor Ved Prakash Nanda, a stalwart in the field of international law and education, breathed his last on January 2, 2024.
- Recognised globally for his exceptional contributions, Prof. Nanda's impact on legal education resonated across borders.
- A distinguished Indian-American, Professor Ved Prakash Nanda received the prestigious Padma Bhushan award in Literature and Education on March 20, 2018.
- As a professor of International Law at the University of Denver, Colorado, he carved a significant niche in academia.
- His illustrious career included roles such as the Past President of the World Jurist Association, Honorary President of the Ved Nanda Center for International and Comparative Law, and advisory positions in esteemed institutions like the American Society of International Law and the United States Institute of Human Rights.
- In February 2004, Nanda received the "Gandhi, King, Ikeda Award for Community Peace Building" from Soka Gakkai International and Morehouse College.
- In 1990, he was honored with the "World Legal Scholar" award by the World Jurist Association in Beijing, China.
- Note: He served as the Sanghchalak of Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS), America Zone.

Q. Name the Prominent Indian-American Legal Scholar and Padma Bhushan awardee who died recently? **Professor Ved Prakash Nanda**



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