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Saturday, 24 February 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Saturday, 24 February 2024

India & Denmark agree to expand their partnership in defence, security & new technology

- India and Denmark have agreed to work towards expanding their partnership into new areas, including defence, security and new technology.
- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met the visiting Danish Foreign Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen at the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi.
- The two Ministers exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.
- As 2024 marks 75 years of diplomatic ties between India and Denmark, both ministers unveiled a joint logo.
- The Ministers noted the significant outcomes under the umbrella of the Indo-Danish Green Strategic Partnership and agreed to finalise a mid-term review of the Green Strategic Partnership at the earliest in 2024.
- Both sides also decided to explore the possibilities of a Danish contribution to the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.
- They agreed to work towards an enhanced strategic perspective for a Comprehensive Green Strategic Partnership once the existing Joint Action Plan ends in 2026.
- The Ministers also signed a mobility and migration partnership agreement between India and Denmark and decided to explore the possibilities of establishing a partnership on the recruitment of Indian healthcare professionals for employment in Denmark.

Q. Recently with which country, India has agreed to work towards expanding their partnership into new areas, including defence, security and new technology? **Denmark**



Saturday, 24 February 2024

GMBF Global to host Mahabiz 2024 in Dubai

- The Gulf Maharashtra Business Forum (GMBF) Global is preparing to host Mahabiz 2024 in Dubai.
- With the theme "Connect with Opportunities to Progress," the event aims to bring together over 700 entrepreneurs and business leaders from India, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Africa to encourage collaboration and uncover new business prospects.
- A panel discussion will focus on the opportunities in Maharashtra, while success stories will offer participation and guidance from accomplished entrepreneurs.
- The recent signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and the UAE adds significance to Mahabiz 2024, providing expanded opportunities for collaboration and trade between the two nations. Serving as a platform for local and global businesses, including Indian organizations, Mahabiz 2024 aims to forge meaningful partnerships and drive progress in the global landscape.

Q. Which event will GMBF Global host in Dubai with the theme "Connect with opportunities for progress"? **Mahabiz 2024**



Saturday, 24 February 2024

ADB approves \$23 mn loan to boost fintech education, research in Gujarat

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 23 million loan to enhance access to quality fintech education, research, and innovation at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) in India.
- GIFT is a state-owned enterprise established to promote and cultivate fintech ecosystems and financial services in India.
- It is the country's first international financial services centre and has become a fast-growing area for helping and developing local startups.
- In partnership with globally reputed institutes and universities, the statement said the IFI will offer fintech training programmes which are aligned with industry and international standards.
- According to the statement, the ADB programme will support research on innovative solutions and technologies in climate fintech, regulatory technology, social inclusion, and gender equality in finance. The project will help establish a state fintech readiness index and develop new solutions to emerging technologies.
- Established in 1966, ADB is owned by 68 members, including 49 from the region.

Q. How much loan ADB has approved to promote fintech education, research, and innovation at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) in India? **USD 23 million**



Saturday, 24 February 2024

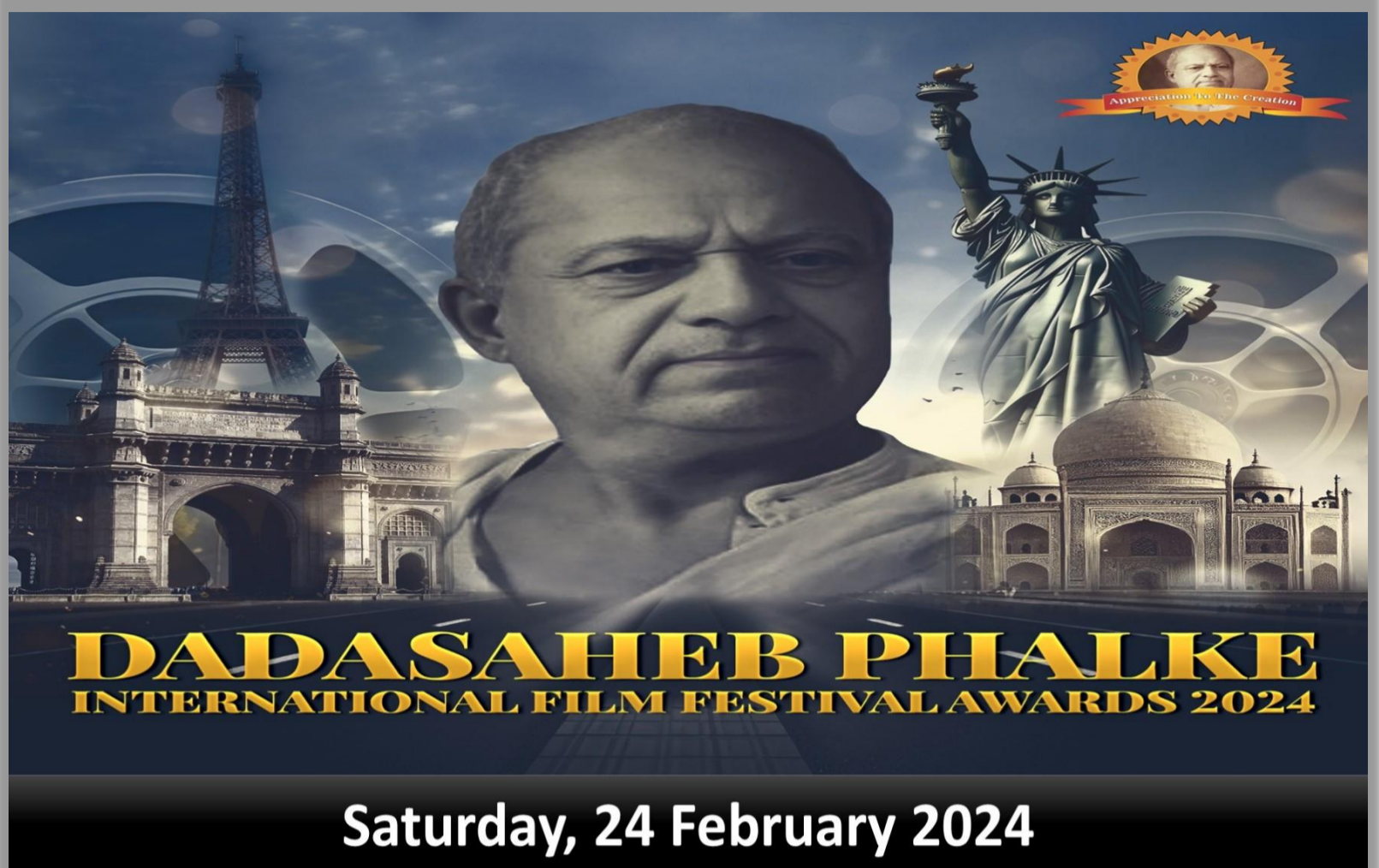
Oil India signs MoU with The Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore

- Oil India Limited (OIL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), a public sector company, to explore opportunities in the domain of green hydrogen, including green ammonia, green methanol and other derivatives.
- The two companies will also collaborate in decarbonising initiatives like carbon dioxide sequestration, and partner in any other potential avenues for decarbonisation/clean energy transition/green fuels/renewable energy etc., which may present synergy between the parties and serve common business interests, according to an OIL statement.
- The MoU was executed by Santanu Kumar Saikia, General Manager (Business Development), OIL, and R. Manikkuttan, Executive Director (Production Co-ordination), FACT.

Oil India:

- Founded: 18 February 1959
- Headquarters: Duliajan (headquarters), Noida (corporate office)
- Chairman & MD: Dr. Ranjit Rath

Q. Which Petroleum company signed an MoU with public sector company Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) to explore opportunities in the field of green hydrogen including green ammonia, green methanol and others? **Oil India Limited**



Dadasaheb Phalke Awards 2024

- The coveted Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards were held in Mumbai.
- The highlight was Shah Rukh Khan winning the Best Actor award for his film Jawan, whereas Rani Mukerji won Best Actress for Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway.

Dadasaheb Phalke Awards 2024 some winners list:

- Best Film: Jawan
- Best Film (Critics): 12th Fail
- Best Actor: Shah Rukh Khan (Jawan)
- Best Actress (Critics): Kareena Kapoor (Jaane Jaan)
- Best Actress: Rani Mukerji (Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway)
- Best Director (Critics): Atlee (Jawan)
- Best Director: Sandeep Reddy Vanga (Animal)
- Best Actor (Critics): Vicky Kaushal (Sam Bahadur)
- Best Music Director: Anirudh Ravichander (Jawan)
- Best Playback Singer (Male): Varun Jain and Sachin Jigar (Tere Vaste from Zara Hatke Zara Bachke)
- Best Playback Singer (Female): Shilpa Rao (Besharam Rang from Pathaan)
- Best Actor in a Negative Role: Bobby Deol (Animal)
- Best Actor in a Comic Role: Ayushmann Khurranna (Dream Girl 2)

Q. Who won the Best Actor in a Supporting Role at 2024 Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards? **Anil Kapoor**



Saturday, 24 February 2024

Former Lok Sabha Speaker Manohar Joshi passes away

- Former Maharashtra chief minister Manohar Joshi passed away due to age-related health complications. He was 86.
- Manohar Joshi was a veteran leader who had served as Lok Sabha speaker and Maharashtra chief minister.
- In his long public life, Mr. Joshi endeared himself to people, earned admiration for his sharp wit and intellect and was loved by leaders cutting across party-line.
- Joshi's political career began with his involvement in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and later became a member of the Shiv Sena. In the 1980s, Joshi emerged as a key leader within the Shiv Sena, known for his organisational skills and grassroots connect.
- Manohar Joshi's most significant political milestone came in 1995 when he was appointed as the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. He succeeded Sharad Pawar of the Indian National Congress, marking the first time the Shiv Sena had assumed power in the state. He was also elected as a Member of Parliament and was the Lok Sabha Speaker from 2002 to 2004 when the Vajpayee government was in power.

Q. Manohar Joshi, who passed away recently, was the former chief minister of which state? **Maharashtra**



Saturday, 24 February 2024

India and Netherlands reaffirm their commitment to expand their bilateral defence cooperation

- India and Netherlands have reaffirmed their commitment to expand their bilateral defence cooperation particularly in maritime and industrial domains.
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh held a bilateral meeting with the Netherlands Defence Minister Kajsia Ollongren in New Delhi. During the meeting, both the leaders expressed keenness to work together to enhance maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.
- Mr Singh suggested that Dutch Original Equipment Manufacturers could be encouraged to integrate Indian vendors into their supply chain ecosystem. According to the Defence Ministry, both sides were in agreement to encourage more interactions between the defence industries, and in high-tech sectors of semiconductors and clean energy.

Netherlands:

- Capital: Amsterdam
- Monarch: Willem-Alexander
- Prime Minister: Mark Rutte
- Currency: Euro (€)

Q. Recently India and which country have reaffirmed their commitment to expand their bilateral defense cooperation especially in the maritime and industrial sectors?

Netherlands



Saturday, 24 February 2024

Doctor Who and James Bond actor Pamela Salem passes away

- James Bond actress Pamela Salem has died at the age of 80.
- Throughout her career, Salem starred in James Bond film Never Say Never Again as well as popular TV shows Eastenders and Doctor Who.
- The actress starred as Toos in The Robots of Death storyline in Doctor Who in 1977, before returning to the show as Professor Rachel Jensen in Remembrance of the Daleks in 1988. In the late 1980s, she featured in 37 EastEnders episodes as Joanne.
- She would also go on to star in hit shows such as ER and The West Wing. Salem was also known to younger audiences at the time with her role in the children's TV show Into The Labyrinth.

Q. Pamela Salem, who passed away recently, was a famous _____. **Actress**



Saturday, 24 February 2024

Trilateral exercise 'Dosti-16' kicks off in Maldives

- Indian and Sri Lankan coast guard ships reached the Maldives to take part in the trilateral coast guard exercise Dosti 16.
- This year marked a significant development with Bangladesh participating as an observer, indicating a widening scope for the exercise and underlining the growing importance of maritime collaboration in tackling evolving challenges.
- Dosti exercises, which began in 1991 between India and Maldives, aim to enhance mutual operational capabilities and promote cooperation in maritime emergencies.
- Sri Lanka's inclusion in 2012 broadened the exercise's focus, emphasizing collaborative efforts in sea accident management, pollution control, and coast guard protocols.

Q. 'Dosti-16' is a Trilateral exercise between which countries? **Maldives, India, and Sri Lanka**



USISPF Welcomes

Board of Director

Salil ParekhChief Executive Officer and Managing
Director, Infosys**Saturday, 24 February 2024**

Infosys CEO & MD Salil Parekh joins USISPF on its board of directors

- Salil Parekh, CEO and managing director at Infosys, has joined the US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum as a member of its board of directors.
- An industry veteran with nearly three decades in the IT services industry, executing business turnarounds and managing successful acquisitions, Parekh, in his capacity as Infosys CEO, sets the strategic direction of one of India's most notable IT giants while nurturing a strong leadership team to drive its execution.
- Salil's recent addition to the USISPF Board accentuates the success story of Indian IT giants in the US For years. Infosys has been a household name in India, and IT services are one of India's biggest exports to the United States, said USISPF president and CEO Mukesh Aghi.

USISPF :

- The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF), formed in 2017, is an independent non-profit, non-governmental, and non-partisan organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices across both countries.

Q. Name the CEO and MD of Infosys who has joined the board of directors of USISPF? **Salil Parekh**



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