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Friday, 20 December 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Friday, 20 December 2024

FIFA Best Football Awards 2024: Honoring Excellence In The Beautiful Game

- The FIFA Awards ceremony in Doha was a dazzling event, celebrating the outstanding talents of the world's best in men's and women's football.
- Venue: Aspire Academy, Doha, Qatar.
- Purpose: Celebrating outstanding contributions to football by players, coaches, and fans.
- Theme: Showcasing football as the world's most beloved sport.

Key Winners and Recognitions

- Best Men's Player: Vinicius Jr (Real Madrid).
- Achievements: Led Real Madrid to victories in La Liga and the Champions League, displaying exceptional skill and determination.
- Best Women's Player: Aitana Bonmati (Barcelona & Spain).
- Achievements: Secured a continental quadruple with Barcelona and a Nations League title with Spain.

Q. What was the theme of the FIFA Awards ceremony? **Showcasing football as the world's most beloved sport.**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Kiran Mazumdar gets 'Jamsetji Tata Award' for biosciences movement in India

- Biocon Group Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw was conferred the prestigious Jamsetji Tata Award by the Indian Society for Quality (ISQ) for pioneering the biosciences movement in India.
- Award Recipient: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Chairperson of Biocon Group.
- Award Name: Jamsetji Tata Award, presented by the Indian Society for Quality (ISQ).
- Recognition: Honored for her pioneering contributions to the biosciences movement in India.
- Award Significance: Instituted in 2004, the Jamsetji Tata Award recognizes business leaders who have significantly contributed to Indian society.
- Event Details: Announced at the ISQ Annual Conference 2024 held in Bengaluru.
- Presentation: The award was presented by Janak Kumar Mehta, President of ISQ and CMD of TQM International.
- Lifetime Achievement: Acknowledged for her trailblazing journey since 1978 as a first-generation entrepreneur, establishing Biocon Limited and associated companies to serve customers globally.

Q. Who received the Jamsetji Tata Award 2024?
Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Chairperson of Biocon Group.



Friday, 20 December 2024

RBI lifts restrictions on ECL Finance, Edelweiss ARC after compliance

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has lifted business restrictions imposed on ECL Finance and Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) – both part of the Edelweiss Group – in May this year, after being satisfied with the remedial measures undertaken by the companies to address the central bank's concerns.
- Entities Involved: ECL Finance and Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC), part of the Edelweiss Group.
- Background: In May 2024, the RBI imposed business restrictions on both entities.
- Restrictions on ECL Finance: Directed to cease structured transactions related to wholesale exposures, except for account repayment or closure in the normal course of business.
- Restrictions on Edelweiss ARC: Prohibited from acquiring financial assets, including security receipts (SRs), and reorganizing SRs into senior and subordinate tranches.
- Reason for Restrictions: Regulatory concerns raised by the Reserve Bank of India.

Q. When were the restrictions on ECL Finance and Edelweiss ARC imposed by the RBI? **In May 2024.**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Jasprit Bumrah surpasses legendary Kapil Dev at Gabba, becomes most successful Indian bowler on Australian soil

- Jasprit Bumrah surpassed Kapil Dev for the most Test wickets by an Indian bowler on Australian soil.
- New Milestone: Bumrah reached 52 Test wickets in Australia, surpassing Kapil Dev's 51 wickets.
- Top Performers on the List: Bumrah leads with 52 wickets, followed by Kapil Dev (51), Anil Kumble (49), Ravichandran Ashwin (40), and Bishan Singh Bedi (35).
- Current Match Situation: Australia, with a 185-run lead, is at 73/6 in their second innings, with Bumrah, Akash Deep, and Mohammed Siraj each taking two wickets.

Key Wickets:

- Bumrah dismissed Marnus Labuschagne at the Gabba in Brisbane, surpassing Kapil Dev's record.
- He later took the wicket of Usman Khawaja and Labuschagne in quick succession, with a straight delivery and an offside delivery respectively.

Q. Who did Jasprit Bumrah surpass for the most Test wickets by an Indian on Australian soil? **Kapil Dev.**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Moldova joins International Solar Alliance

- Moldova has joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) by signing the ISA Framework Agreement.
- Signatories: The agreement was signed by India's Minister of External Affairs S. Jaishankar and Moldovan Deputy Prime Minister Mihai Popsoi in New Delhi.
- Recent Membership Addition: Last month, Armenia became the 104th full member of ISA.

International Solar Alliance (ISA) Overview

- Purpose and Mission: ISA is an inter-governmental treaty-based organization aimed at catalyzing solar growth by reducing the cost of financing and technology.
- Launch: ISA was jointly launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President François Hollande on November 30, 2015, in Paris during the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) to the UNFCCC.
- Framework Agreement: The ISA Framework Agreement was opened for signature on November 15, 2016, in Marrakech, Morocco, at COP22.

Q. Which country recently joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA)? **Moldova.**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Govt appoints Ram Mohan Rao Amara as SBI MD for a period of three years

- Ram Mohan Rao Amara has been appointed as one of the Managing Directors (MD) of State Bank of India (SBI) for a three-year term.
- Recommendation: The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) recommended Rao's name for the position in September 2024.
- Vacancy: The MD position became vacant after CS Setty assumed charge as the Chairman of SBI in August 2024.
- Previous Role: Prior to his appointment as MD, Rao was serving as the Deputy Managing Director and Chief Risk Officer at SBI.
- Banking Career: Rao began his banking career with SBI in 1991 as a probationary officer.
- Expertise: He has expertise in credit, risk, retail, and international banking.
- Key Assignments: Rao managed significant assignments for SBI in international markets like Singapore and the US.
- Leadership Roles: He served as the CEO of SBI's Chicago branch and later as the President and CEO of SBI California.

Q. Who was recently appointed as a Managing Director of SBI? **Ram Mohan Rao Amara.**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Sri Lanka wins agreement with IMF for tax relief

- President Anura Kumara Dissanayake announced flexibility with the IMF on Sri Lanka's state revenue tax regime, a promise from his election campaign.
- The tax threshold for the PAYE tax has been raised, with Rs 1,50,000 per month now tax-free (up from Rs 1,00,000).
- Other tax exemptions include VAT adjustments and withholding tax relief for retirees.

Tax Reform:

- Tax threshold raised to Rs 1,50,000/month (from Rs 1,00,000).
- VAT exemptions and withholding tax relief for retirees.

Vehicle Import Ban:

- Ban on private car imports, lifted February 2025.
- Passenger vehicles and special-purpose cars allowed from December 14, 2024.

Q. What is the new tax threshold for Sri Lanka under the recent reforms? **The new tax threshold is Rs 1,50,000 per month.**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Hindi poet Gagan Gill, English writer Easterine Kire among recipients of Sahitya Akademi Awards

- Hindi poet Gagan Gill and English writer Easterine Kire are among the 21 recipients of the annual Sahitya Akademi Awards, the organisation announced.
- Recommended by jury members in 21 languages, the awards recognise works in different categories including novels, short stories, poetry, essays and plays.
- Awards Details: Books published from 2018 to 2022 eligible, winners receive Rs 1 lakh, a plaque, and a shawl.
- Award Ceremony Date: March 8, 2025.
- Pending Language Awards: Bengali, Dogri, and Urdu awards will be announced later.

Here is the list of winners:

Poetry Award Winners:

- Gagan Gill for Main Jab Tak Aai Bahar (Hindi)
- K Jayakumar (Malayalam)
- Haobam Satyabati Devi (Manipuri)
- Dileep Jhaveri (Gujarati)
- Sameer Tanti (Assamese)
- Mukut Maniraj (Rajasthani)
- Dipak Kumar Sharma (Sanskrit)

Q. Who won the Sahitya Akademi Award for Hindi poetry in 2024? **Gagan Gill for her book "Main Jab Tak Aai Bahar."**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Ethiopian Parliament passes bill allowing foreign banks to operate in Ethiopia

- The Ethiopian House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR) passed a bill allowing foreign banks to operate in the country.
- New Proclamation: The Banking Business Proclamation was adopted, marking a key step toward liberalizing Ethiopia's banking sector.
- Majority Approval: The bill passed with a majority vote, reflecting Ethiopia's commitment to foreign investment in its financial sector.
- Economic Impact: The move is expected to attract foreign banks and investors, bringing vital capital to Ethiopia's economy.
- National Bank's Role: Mamo Mihretu, Governor of the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), emphasized the importance of the bill for economic stability and financial system strength.
- Historical Context: Ethiopia's banking sector had previously been closed to foreign banks.
- Prime Minister's Vision: Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has advocated for financial sector liberalization since 2018 as part of broader economic reforms aimed at boosting foreign investment and development.

Q. What recent legislation was passed by Ethiopia's House of Peoples' Representatives? **Allowing foreign banks to operate in the country.**



Friday, 20 December 2024

Veteran classical singer Pandit Sanjay Ram Marathe, 68, dies

- Veteran classical singer and harmonium maestro Pandit Sanjay Ram Marathe passed away at the age of 68 in Thane, Maharashtra, following a severe heart attack.
- He was admitted to a private hospital where he breathed his last.
- The eldest son of the legendary musician Pandit Ram Marathe, Pandit Sanjay Marathe leaves behind a rich legacy in Indian classical music and theatre.
- Renowned for his expertise in harmonium and soulful singing, he remained active in various performances this year to commemorate his father's birth centenary.
- In collaboration with his younger brother Mukund Marathe, he revived and staged the iconic Marathi musical play Sangeet Mandarmala as part of the centenary celebrations.
- The production was widely praised for its innovative approach while staying true to the roots of traditional Marathi musical theatre.

Q. Who was Pandit Sanjay Ram Marathe? A veteran classical singer and harmonium maestro.



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