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Friday, 08 March 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Friday, 08 March 2024

Glenn Saldanha announced resignation as chairman of Glenmark Life Sciences

- Glenmark Life Sciences Ltd said its Chairman Glenn Saldanha and non-executive director VS Mani have resigned following change in ownership of the company.
- Independent director Sridhar Gorthi has also tendered resignation, along with Saldanha and Mani.
- He is also stepping down as a member of the nomination and remuneration committee and operations committee of Glenmark Life Sciences.
- In September last year, Nirma Ltd had agreed to acquire 75 per cent stake in Glenmark Life Sciences for Rs 5,651.5 crore from Glenmark Pharmaceuticals.
- Mani also cited a similar reason for his resignation.
- On the other hand, Gorthi cited increasing professional commitments and "inability to devote the required time to discharge the role and responsibilities" for his resignation, while also stepping down from the membership of all the committees of the board.

Glenmark Life Sciences Ltd:

- Glenmark Life Sciences Limited is an India-based company that is primarily engaged in the business of development, manufacture and marketing of active pharmaceutical ingredients (API).
- Parent organization: Glenmark Pharmaceuticals
- Headquarters: India
- Founded: 2011

Q. Who has announced his resignation from the post of Chairman of Glenmark Life Sciences? **Glenn Saldanha**



Friday, 08 March 2024

AIM, Meta partner to establish Frontier Technology Labs in schools

- NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Meta announced their collaboration to set up Frontier Technology Labs (FTLs) in schools of strategic importance with an aim to democratize future technologies.
- According to an official statement, FTL is an advanced version of Atal Tinkering Lab equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure, including all components of the Tinkering Lab to empower students to innovate using technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Augmented & Virtual Reality, Blockchain, Cybersecurity, Robotics, 3D Printing, and Internet of Things.
- FTLs are a part of Meta's Education to Entrepreneurship initiative, launched in September 2023, to seamlessly connect students, youth, workforce, and micro-entrepreneurs with futuristic technologies, taking digital skilling to the grassroots.
- Till date, AIM has established 10,000 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) in schools across 722 districts in India.
- The objective of ATLs is to foster curiosity, creativity, and imagination in young minds; and inculcate skills such as design mindset, computational thinking, physical computing etc.

Q. Recently, NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has partnered with which tech giant to set up Frontier Technology Labs in schools? **Meta**



Friday, 08 March 2024

Yatin Bhaskar Duggal Wins First Prize in National Youth Parliament Festival 2024

- Yatin Bhaskar Duggal from Haryana won the first prize in the National Youth Parliament Festival, 2024, while Vaishna Pitchai from Tamil Nadu won the second prize and Kanishka Sharma from Rajasthan the third prize.
- The National Youth Parliament is being organised this year based on the theme of 'Young Voices: Engage and Empower for Nation's Transformation'.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla emphasized the importance of youth in India's progress towards becoming a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047, highlighting their thinking capability, innovation, and work ethic.

Parliament of India

- Founded: 26 January 1950
- Preceded by: Constituent Assembly of India
- Seats: 788 (245 Rajya Sabha; 543 Lok Sabha)

Q. Yatin Bhaskar Duggal, Who won the First Prize in National Youth Parliament Festival 2024, hails from which state? **Haryana**



Friday, 08 March 2024

Kerala introduces its first generative AI teacher 'Iris'

- Kerala, known for its strides in education, has taken another innovative step by introducing its first generative AI teacher, Iris. Developed in collaboration with Makerlabs Edutech Private Limited, Iris marks a significant advancement in the integration of artificial intelligence in education.
- Named Iris, the humanoid was unveiled at KTCT Higher Secondary School in Thiruvananthapuram.
- According to Makerlabs, Iris was built as part of the Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL), a 2021 NITI Aayog project to boost students' extracurricular activities in schools.
- Iris can speak three languages and also answer difficult questions, along with features including voice assistant, interactive learning, manipulation capabilities, and mobilities.
- Equipped with a dedicated Intel processor and a coprocessor for maneuvering tasks, the robot offers seamless performance and responsiveness. With its Android App interface, users can easily control and interact with the robot for a personalized learning experience," it says on its website.

Q. Which Indian state has introduced its first generative AI teacher 'Iris'? Kerala



Friday, 08 March 2024

India's GDP growth likely to moderate to 6.8% in FY25: Crisil

- After expanding by 7.6 per cent in the current fiscal, the country's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth is likely to decelerate to 6.8 per cent in the fiscal 2025 as higher interest rates and lower fiscal impulse will temper domestic demand, Crisil Ratings said.
- The economic growth in the next fiscal will also moderate due to normalization of the net tax impact on GDP seen in FY2024 and as uneven growth in key trade partners will restrict healthy export recovery.
- Despite this, India will retain its position as the fastest-growing large economy, the rating agency said.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has projected the real GDP growth for 2024-25 at 7 per cent.
- The recent data from the National Statistical Office (NSO) showed that the country's economy is expected to grow at 7.6 per cent in 2023-24.
- According to the rating agency, there will be near-and medium-term challenges posed by geopolitical uncertainties, global indebtedness, uneven economic recovery, climate change and technological disruptions.

Q. According to CRISIL Ratings, India's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth is likely to decline to what percent in FY 2025? **6.8%**

AIRBUS



Friday, 08 March 2024

Airbus signs pact with IIM Mumbai to offer aviation training to professionals

- European aviation major Airbus has signed a contract with Indian Institute of Management Mumbai to offer aviation training to professionals.
- Aimed at equipping these professionals with industry-ready skills under Airbus Beyond programme, Indian Institute of Management Mumbai (IIM Mumbai), as part of the initiative will offer short-term aviation courses to aspiring and working professionals.
- Airbus Beyond is an Airbus company that readies professionals for aerospace industry challenges, as per the company.
- The programme offers courses in the areas of aviation logistics, supply chain management, operations excellence, cargo handling, strategic procurement, business analytics and digitisation. Under the pact, IIM Mumbai will organise courses, onboard students and provide infrastructure and logistical support.
- On the other hand, Airbus on its part, will provide trainers and training material from the Airbus Beyond catalogue for short-term courses in the initial phase and co-curate long-term courses and certify their trainers in the later phase.

Q. Recently which European aviation major has signed a contract with Indian Institute of Management Mumbai to offer aviation training to professionals? **Airbus**

Scheme Promoting Widow Remarriage

Friday, 08 March 2024

Jharkhand government initiates landmark Widow Remarriage Promotion Scheme

- Under the Vidvah Punar Vivah Yojna, the first of its kind in Jharkhand, Chief Minister Champai Soren digitally gave Rs 2 lakhs each to two widows in Palamu district.
- Seven widows in the state will be getting two lakhs each as part of their remarriage.
- The scheme has set forth specific eligibility criteria to ensure that the assistance reaches those in genuine need.
- Beneficiaries must be of marriageable age and not employed as government employees, pensioners, or income tax payers.
- Furthermore, to avail of the benefits, eligible widows must apply within one year from their remarriage date and are required to submit the death certificate of their late husband, ensuring a streamlined and transparent process.
- In addition to the remarriage scheme, the Chief Minister announced an increase in the honorarium for Anganwadi workers to Rs 9,500 and for helpers to Rs 4,750 per month.
- This move is set to benefit the workforce dedicated to child development and maternal health.
- Furthermore, the first installment of old age pension was transferred to the bank accounts of 1,58,218 individuals, showcasing the government's broader commitment to supporting its vulnerable citizens.

Q. Under the recently launched Vidvah Punar Vivah Yojna by Jharkhand government, how much money will be given to the Beneficiaries? **Rs. 2 Lakhs**



Friday, 08 March 2024

US firm Micron, IIT Roorkee to develop highly skilled workforce in India

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee inked a MoU with semiconductor leader Micron to help foster innovation and develop a highly skilled local workforce.
- The partnership which aims to bolster India's goal of self-reliance in the semiconductor sector, will help further research into the field of technology, provide experiential learning opportunities for students, and facilitate industry-relevant training.
- The Micron Semiconductor Lab will prioritise the technical skills, processes and resources for student internships and fellowships via specialised master's and doctoral degree programmes.
- The first India-made chip from the Rs 22,500 crore Micron semiconductor plant in Gujarat is set to arrive in December this year.

Micron Technology

- CEO: Sanjay Mehrotra
- Headquarters: Idaho, United States
- Subsidiaries: Micron Semiconductor India Private Limited, etc.

Q. Which American semiconductor firm has inked a MoU with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee to help foster innovation and develop a highly skilled local workforce? **Micron Technology**



Friday, 08 March 2024

India's latest carrier Fly 91 gets air operator certificate

- Goa-based regional airline FLY91 received the Air Operator Certificate (AOC) from aviation regulator DGCA.
- Aviation veteran Manoj Chacko-backed Fly 91 took to the skies for the first time, operating from Manohar International Airport, Mopa, Goa to Bengaluru.
- As per officials, the airline, which initially started with an investment of Rs 200 crore, had taken delivery of its first ATR 72 aircraft and chose "IC" as its code, which has a history in India – being of the erstwhile Indian Airlines.
- The airline received its no-objection certificate (NOC) in April last year.
- It is expected to get four more ATR-72 by September and also plans to add six turboprops annually over the next five years.
- FLY91 received its first ATR 72-600, one of the two aircraft leased from Dubai Aerospace Enterprise.
- The airline has already been allocated its first set of routes under the government's regional air connectivity scheme UDAN.
- Under UDAN, the airline will connect Sindhudurg, Jalgaon, Nanded in Maharashtra and Agatti in Lakshadweep.

Q. Name India's Goa-based regional airline which received the Air Operator Certificate (AOC) from aviation regulator DGCA? **Fly 91**



Friday, 08 March 2024

CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum signs MoU to deploy the Pine Needles-based fuel-making technology

- An MoU was signed between CSIR Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun and UCOST under the aegis of the "Adarsh Champawat" mission on deploying the technology of making fuel from Pine Needles in Champawat.
- Under this agreement, the CSIR - Indian Institute of Petroleum will implement two major technologies at the grassroots level in Champawat.
- The selected technologies include a briquetting unit with a capacity of 50 kg per hour based on Pine Needles and 500 units of Improved Cookstoves for rural households.
- An extended field trial study will be conducted regarding energy conservation and its environmental impact.
- The briquetting unit will be established in the Energy Park in Champawat as a part of the Women Empowerment initiative.
- The briquettes produced will be used as fuel in homes and local industries.

Q. Under which mission An MoU was signed between CSIR Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun and UCOST on deploying the technology of making fuel from Pine Needles in Champawat? **Adarsh Champawat**



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