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#### 18th November

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

## 1) Bank of America (BofA), Japan and India

- In a fund manager survey (FMS) conducted by Bank of America (BofA), Japan and India emerged as the most favored markets in the Asia Pacific region.
- The survey revealed that Japan holds the top position with a net 45 percent overweight, followed by India at 25 percent.
- In contrast, Thailand, China, and Australia are perceived as less attractive, with net underweight figures of 13 percent, 9 percent, and 9 percent, respectively.

## 2) Midhili cyclonic storm

- The Northeast Bay of Bengal is currently under the influence of a cyclonic storm named "Midhili," causing widespread concern and disruptions in the region.
- Government authorities in several northeastern states have issued alerts following substantial rainfall, and the impact of the storm has been felt across various areas, affecting not only daily life but also cultural events.

#### **NATIONAL**

# 1) Two solar-powered 'mini-cruise'

- Two solar-powered 'mini-cruise' ships are set to commence operations in the sacred Saryu River in Ayodhya, just ahead of the inauguration of the Ram Temple in January next year.
- Varanasi-based Alaknanda Cruise, under the leadership of director Vikas Malviya, will pioneer this unique service, providing an immersive experience centered around the life and teachings of Lord Ram.















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## 2) Indian patent office

- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the Indian patent office has achieved an unprecedented milestone by granting a record-breaking 41,010 patents in the current fiscal year, up until November 15.
- This remarkable figure starkly contrasts with the 2013-14 fiscal year when only 4,227 patents were granted.

#### 3) Second Voice of Global South Summit

- The recently concluded Second Voice of Global South Summit marked a significant virtual gathering hosted by India on November 17.
- This summit, a follow-up to the January event, showcased India's commitment to fostering collaboration among countries in Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania - collectively known as the Global South. The inaugural summit, themed "Energy Security and development: Roadmap to Prosperity," united 125 nations to discuss shared perspectives in preparation for the G20 Leaders Summit in September 2023.

## 4) India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade

- India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) predicts a remarkable surge in the country's e-commerce exports, projecting a potential rise from the current \$1.2 billion to an impressive \$200 billion within the next six to seven years.
- The DGFT, Santosh Kumar Sarangi, shared these insights at the 'E-commerce Exports' conference organized by Ficci, underlining the vast potential inherent in India's e-commerce sector.

#### **STATE NEWS**

# 1) Cricket World Cup and Virat Kohli's extraordinary feat of completing 50 centuries

In a decision resonating with the euphoria of India's semi-final victory in the Cricket World Cup and Virat Kohli's extraordinary feat of completing 50 centuries in one-day cricket, a wax statue immortalizing the star cricketer is poised to join the distinguished ensemble at the Wax Museum within Jaipur's Nahargarh Fort.



















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#### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) Ashok Vaswani as Managing Director & CEO

The Board of Directors of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. made a significant announcement on Friday, appointing Ashok Vaswani as Managing Director & CEO, and a key managerial personnel of the bank.

This appointment is set for a three-year term, commencing from January 1.

## 2) NITI Aayog Appoints Four Distinguished Fellows under Fellowship Guidelines

- NITI Aayog, the eminent policy think tank of the Government of India, has recently added four new Distinguished Fellows to its ranks for a period of one year.
- 1) Prof. (Dr.) Anoop Singh: A Maestro in Macroeconomics
- 2) Dr. O.P Agarwal: Transforming Urban Transport
- 3) Dr. Ajai Chowdhry: Pioneering the Electronics Industry
- 4) Sh. V. Lakshmikumaran: Legal Luminary in Taxation
- These individuals, known for their extensive work experience and expertise in various domains, are expected to contribute significantly to addressing key social, economic, and technical challenges facing the nation.

#### 3) Alok Sharma

• Senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Alok Sharma has been appointed as the new director of the Special Protection Group (SPG), the elite security unit responsible for safeguarding the Prime Minister.















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#### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

## 1) World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence.

- The United Nations has designated November 18 as the "World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence."
- This day serves as a global initiative to address the pervasive issue of child sexual exploitation, abuse, and violence that affects countless young individuals worldwide.

## 2) World Prematurity Day

- Premature birth is a significant global health concern, often leading to infant deaths and various health complications.
- Recognizing the gravity of this issue, World Prematurity Day is observed annually to raise awareness about the challenges faced by premature babies and their families. Every year, World Prematurity Day is observed on November 17.

#### **OBITUARY**

## 1) British novelist Antonia Susan Byatt has passed away

Acclaimed British novelist Antonia Susan Byatt, widely known as A.S. Byatt, passed away at the age of 87. With a literary career spanning almost six decades, Byatt left an indelible mark on the literary world.

# 2) B. N. Goswamy has passed away

- Renowned art historian and prolific writer, B. N. Goswamy, breathed his last at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh on Friday at the age of 90.
- His passing marks the end of an era in the world of art scholarship and leaves behind a legacy that has enriched the understanding of Pahari paintings.















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