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Wednesday, 28 February 2024







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MoU signed to achieve improvement in nutritional status of adolescent girls in 5 Utkarsh Districts

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of AYUSH signed an MOU in New Delhi to achieve improvement in the nutritional status of adolescent girls in five Utkarsh Districts.
- The event which was chaired by Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani and AYUSH Minister Sarbananda Sonowal was part of a wider collaboration between the ministries to leverage traditional knowledge, promotion of wellness through joint yoga protocols, and promote diet diversity through the consumption of locally grown wholesome foods.
- This collaboration aims to leverage traditional knowledge and promote wellness through joint yoga protocols, as well as encourage diet diversity by promoting the consumption of locally grown wholesome foods.
- In the first phase, the focus may be on improving the anaemic status of adolescent girls (14-18 years) in five aspirational districts of five states namely Assam (Dhubri), Chhattisgarh (Bastar), Jharkhand (Paschimi Singhbhum), Maharashtra (Gadchiroli), and Rajasthan (Dhaulpur).
- This project will cover approximately 10,000 Anganwadi Centres in the five districts. The aim is nutritional improvement among approximately 95,000 adolescent girls in anaemia prone districts.

Q. The Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of AYUSH have signed an MoU to improve the nutritional status of adolescent girls in how many districts? **Five**















Wednesday, 28 February 2024

Maryam Nawaz becomes first woman Chief Minister of West Punjab

- In Pakistan, Maryam Nawaz, the daughter of three-time Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, became the first woman Chief Minister of West Punjab.
- The PML-N won 137 seats in the Punjab Assembly while independents backed by former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) won 113 seats in the recently held elections.
- Maryam Nawaz was born in 1973 in Pakistan's Lahore city. She is the daughter of former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.
- In 2012, she entered politics. Maryam led the PML-N to victory in the 2013 Pakistan elections upon being elected as the president of the party.
- In 2017, Maryam was also included in the BBC's 100 Women list, recognizing influential women worldwide. In December 2017, she was featured on The New York Times list of 11 Powerful Women Around the World for the year 2017.
- Note: On the Indian side of the border, Congress's Rajinder Kaur Bhattal has been the only woman chief minister of Punjab.
- Q. Who has become the first woman Chief Minister of West Punjab, a province of Pakistan? Maryam Nawaz















Wednesday, 28 February 2024

Palestinian PM Mohammad Shtayyeh resigns over Gaza war

- Minister Palestinian Prime Mohammad Shtayyeh announced his resignation due to the escalating violence in the West Bank and the war in Gaza.
- The resignation comes as the Palestinian Authority (PA) comes under intense pressure from the United States to reform and improve its governance in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.
- In his resignation letter to Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas, he said the decision to resign came in light of the unprecedented escalation in the West Bank and Jerusalem and the war, genocide and starvation in the Gaza Strip.
- As per the Health Ministry in Gaza, at least 29,782 Palestinians have been killed and 70,043 injured during Israel's military assault on Gaza since the 7th of October.
- The PA was set up in the mid-1990s as an interim government pending Palestinian independence after the Palestine Liberation Organisation signed the Oslo Accords with Israel. It is headquartered in the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah and exercises nominal selfrule in parts of the territory.
- Q. Name Palestinian Prime Minister, who has recently resigned over Gaza war? Mohammad Shtayyeh















Vijay Shekhar Sharma Resigned As Paytm Payments Bank Chairman

- Paytm CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma resigned as nonexecutive chairman and board member of Paytm Payments Bank, amid ongoing regulatory challenges faced by the digital payments giant.
- Due to persistent non-compliance and ongoing material supervisory concerns, the Reserve Bank of India has prohibited PPBL from accepting deposits and credits from any customer after March 15.
- Former Central Bank of India Chairman Srinivasan Sridhar, retired IAS officer Debendranath Sarangi, former Executive Director of Bank of Baroda Ashok Kumar Garg, and retd IAS Rajni Sekhri Sibal have joined the Board as Independent Directors.
- Born in 1978 in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, Vijay Shekhar Sharma is the founder and CEO of One97 Communications and its consumer brand Paytm.
- Sharma established the mobile wallet Paytm in 2011.

Paytm Payments Bank:

- Headquarters: Noida, India
- Founded: 28 November 2017
- Founder: Vijay Shekhar Sharma
- CEO: Surinder Chawla
- Q. Who has resigned as as non-executive chairman and board member of Paytm Payments Bank? Vijay Shekhar Sharma















Sweden set to become NATO member

- Sweden has cleared its final obstacle to joining Nato after Hungary's parliament voted to ratify the bid.
- The Nordic nation applied to join the defence alliance after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.
- Every member must approve a new joiner, and Hungary had delayed, accusing Sweden of being hostile to it.
- Sweden and its eastern neighbour Finland, both long considered militarily neutral, announced their intention to join Nato in May 2022.
- Finland formally joined in April last year, doubling the length of the alliance's border with Russia.

Sweden:

- Capital: Stockholm
- Prime Minister: Ulf Kristersson
- Currency: Swedish krona
- Q. Which nation has recently passed its final hurdle to join NATO? **Sweden**















Wednesday, 28 February 2024

Jana Small Finance Bank gets RBI nod to reappoint Ajay Kanwal as MD & CEO

- Jana Small Finance Bank has got approval from the Reserve Bank of India to re-appoint Ajay Kanwal as its managing director and chief executive officer for three years from March 21, 2024. His tenure will be till March 20, 2027.
- Janalakshmi Financial Services became Jana Finance Bank in March 2018. Kanwal has more than 33 years of experience in financial services and has held various leadership positions in his banking career. He has launched several strategic growth initiatives while building and managing diverse teams "across geographies", said a statement.
- He was a senior adviser to private equity firm TPG Capital and global payments company Mastercard. Kanwal holds a bachelor's degree in engineering in electronics and telecommunication from Marathwada University and a master's degree in management studies from the University of Bombay.
- On February 14, Bengaluru-based Jana Small Finance Bank was listed at a 4 per cent discount of its initial public offering price.
- Q. Who has been re-appoint as MD & CEO of Jana Small Finance Bank? Ajay Kanwal















PM Modi lays foundation stone for Sikkim's first railway station at Rangpo

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Sikkim's first railway station at Rangpo.
- It was among the over 2,000 rail infrastructure projects worth about Rs 41,000 crore unveiled by the prime minister.
- The station will be a part of the under-construction 45-km rail line from Sevoke near Siliguri in West Bengal to Rangpo in Sikkim. It will have 14 tunnels and 22 bridges.
- The track on the Sevoke-Rangpo section of the Northeast Frontier Railway will have the capacity to handle 25 ton and trains can run at a maximum speed of 110 kmph.
- There will be three stations between Sevoke and Rangpo Riyang, Teesta and Melli, all in West Bengal.
- The project was awarded to IRCON International in May 2010 at a cost of ₹ 4,084.69 crore and the original deadline was May 2015.

Sikkim:

Capital: Gangtok

• Chief minister: Prem Singh Tamang

Governor: Lakshman Acharya

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Sikkim's first railway station in ____. Rangpo









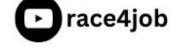






Adani Defence Opens South Asia's Largest Ammunition, Missile **Complex In UP**

- In a landmark achievement for India's defence sector, two mega facilities to make ammunition and missiles by Adani Defence & Aerospace, India's leading private sector defence manufacturer, were inaugurated today.
- These cutting-edge facilities, which are first of their kind in the private sector in India, will provide a significant boost to the nation's self-reliance and technological advancement in defence.
- Spanning across 500 acres, the facility located in Kanpur is slated to emerge as one of the largest integrated ammunition manufacturing complexes in South Asia. It is geared to produce top-tier small, medium, and large calibre ammunition catering to the needs of the armed forces, paramilitary forces, and police. Operations have already commenced with the production of small calibre ammunition, with an initial output of 150 million rounds, estimated to cover 25 per cent of India's annual requirement.
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- The ammunition complex started operations in less than two years of its announcement by the Adani Group during the Uttar Pradesh Investors' Summit in 2022.
- Q. Recently, Adani Defense opened South Asia's largest ammunition and missile complex in which city of UP? Kanpur















Algeria inaugurates Africa's largest mosque

- Algeria inaugurated a gigantic mosque on its Mediterranean coastline after years of political upheaval transformed the project from a symbol of state-sponsored strength and religiosity to one of delays and cost overruns.
- Built by a Chinese construction firm throughout the 2010s, the Great Mosque of Algiers features the world's tallest minaret, measuring at 869 feet (265 meters).
- The third largest mosque in the world and largest outside Islam's holiest cities, its prayer room accommodates 120,000 people.
- Its modernist design contains Arab and North African flourishes to honor Algerian tradition and culture as well as a helicopter landing pad and a library that can house up to 1 million books.

Algeria:

• Capital: Algiers

President: Abdelmadjid Tebboune

Prime minister: Nadir Larbaoui

Currency: Algerian Dinar

Q. Which country has recently inaugurated Africa's largest gigantic mosque on its Mediterranean coastline? Algeria



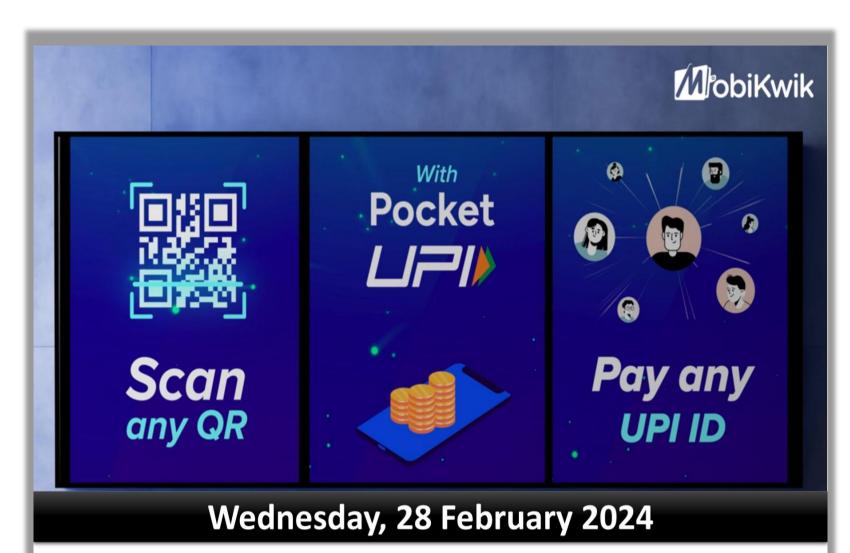












Sikkim govt to create fixed deposits of Rs 10,800 in name of newborns

- Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang announced a new scheme under which the government will make a fixed deposit of Rs 10,800 in the name of a newborn.
- Addressing the 'Jan Bharosa Sammelan' in Soreng district, Tamang announced the 'Sikkim Sishu Samriddhi Yojana' ahead of the assembly elections in the state.
- He said the fixed deposit will mature and the money can be withdrawn when the child turns 18.
- The Himalayan state has the lowest population in the country at 6.10 lakh, according to the 2011 census. Tamang's government has been taking a slew of measures to encourage couples to have more babies to fend off concerns over the aging population.
- Among these are additional increments for government employees having two or three children, maternity leaves of one year for female government employees, and financial grants for non-working mothers.
- Q. Under which scheme, Sikkim government will make a fixed deposit of Rs 10,800 in the name of a newborn? Sikkim Sishu Samriddhi Yojana



















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