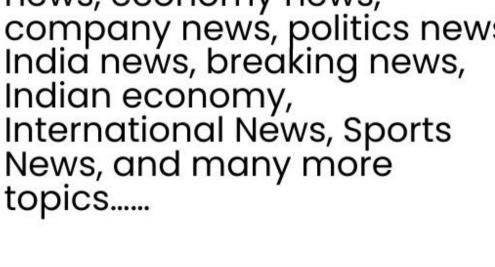


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NEWS





Rohan Bopanna With His Australian Partner Matthew Ebden Creates History In Men's Doubles Final At Miami Open

- Indian tennis star Rohan Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden clinched a historic victory in the men's doubles final at the Miami Open.
- The duo defeated Croatia's Ivan Dodic and American Austin Krajicek.
- The 44-year-old Bopanna became the oldest man to win an ATP Masters 1000 title and the second Indian to reach the finals of all nine ATP Masters 1000 events.
- With this win, he also regained the top spot in the ATP rankings.

2024 Miami Open:

- Edition: 39th
- Location: Miami Gardens, Florida, United States
- Men's singles: Jannik Sinner (Italy)
- Women's singles: Danielle Collins (United States)
- Men's doubles: Rohan Bopanna (India) / Matthew Ebden (Australia)
- Women's doubles: Sofia Kenin (United States) / Bethanie Mattek-Sands (United States)
- Q. Who won Men's singles title at 2024 Miami Open? Jannik Sinner















IOCL, Panasonic to form joint venture to make lithium-ion cells

- State-run Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) has announced it will form a joint venture with Japan's Panasonic Energy to manufacture cylindrical lithium-ion cells in India.
- The companies have now signed a binding term sheet to draw up a framework for the joint venture, after signing a heads of agreement on 21 January. A heads of agreement is a non-binding document outlining the main issues relevant to a tentative sale, partnership, or other agreement.
- The two companies are currently conducting a feasibility study on using battery technology to facilitate India's transition to clean energy. The filing said both companies aim to finalise details of their collaboration by this summer.
- development comes as lithium-ion manufacturing in India is gaining momentum with robust demand from both electric vehicles and battery energy storage systems (BESS).
- Q. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) will form a joint venture with which Japanese company to manufacture cylindrical lithium-ion cells in India? **Panasonic Energy**



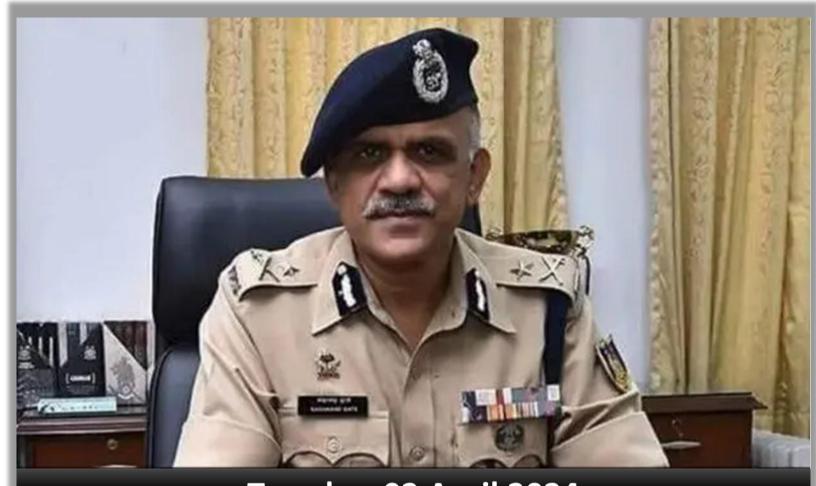












Senior IPS officer Sadanand Vasant Date takes over as NIA chief

- Senior IPS officer Sadanand Vasant Date Sadanand Vasant Date, who bravely fought terrorists during the 26/11 Mumbai attack, took over the reins of the National Investigation Agency (NIA).
- Date, a 1990 batch Indian Police Service officer of Maharashtra cadre, succeeded Dinkar Guptatakes over as NIA chief.
- Date has served two tenures in the Indian government in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as Deputy Inspector General and in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) as Inspector General.
- Date was awarded the President's Police Medal for gallantry in 2008 for his role in combating the terrorists who had launched the dastardly attacks on Mumbai in November 2008.
- The NIA, which is functioning as the central counterterrorism law enforcement agency of the country, was formed in the aftermath of the 2008 terror attacks.
- Date also received the President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service in 2007 and President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service in 2014.

Q. Who took charge as National Investigation Agency (NIA) chief? Sadanand Vasant Date















MS Dhoni becomes first wicketkeeper to complete 300 dismissals in T20 cricket

- Former CSK captain MS Dhoni became the first wicketkeeper to complete 300 dismissals in T20 cricket.
- Dhoni achieved the feat after taking DC opener Prithvi Shaw's catch in their PL 2024 match in Visakhapatnam.
- Dhoni has taken 213 catches and has effected 87 stumpings in T20 cricket so far.
- The next best wicketkeeper after Dhoni in terms of dismissals in T20s is Dinesh Karthik. The Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) wicketkeeper-batter has 274 dismissals to his name, ahead of former Pakistan cricketer Kamran Akmal with the same number of dismissals.

Most dismissals by a wicketkeeper in T20s

- 300 MS Dhoni
- 274 Kamran Akmal
- 274 Dinesh Karthik
- 270 Quinton de Kock
- 209 Jos Buttler
- Q. Who became the first wicketkeeper to complete 300 dismissals in T20 cricket? MS Dhoni















HDFC Bank proposes to sell 100% stake in its subsidiary HDFC Education

- HDFC Bank has decided to sell its 100 per cent stake in HDFC Education and Development Services Private Ltd.
- The transaction will be undertaken through the Swiss challenge method.
- HDFC Bank will finalise the purchaser on the basis of the completion of the Swiss challenge process, it said, adding that after which the bank and successful bidder would enter into definitive documentation for the purposes.
- HDFC Education is engaged in providing services to three education schools.
- Previously, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had granted approval to HDFC Bank to maintain its ownership in HDFC Edu for two years subsequent to the merger between Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC Ltd) and HDFC Bank.
- Q. HDFC Bank has decided to sell 100 percent of its stake in which of its subsidiaries? HDFC Education & Development Services Pvt Ltd















Hardik Singh and Salima Tete named 2023 Player of the Year at Hockey India awards

- Hockey India announced the sixth Hockey India Awards 2023 in New Delhi.
- Salima Tete and Hardik Singh were named the women's and men's player of the year, respectively.
- Hockey India started the annual Hockey India Awards in 2014 to honour India's best hockey players, former players and officials.

Winner of the Hockey India Annual Awards 2023:

- Hockey India Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award- Ashok Kumar
- Hockey India Baljit Singh Award for Goalkeeper of the Year - PR Sreejesh
- Hockey India Pargat Singh Award for Defender of the Year - Harmanpreet Singh
- Q. Who has been honoured with the Hockey India Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award? Ashok Kumar













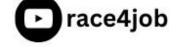


Yariv Levin becomes the acting Prime Minister of Israel

- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office says the Israeli leader will undergo surgery for a hernia.
- Yariv Levin will take charge as a acting prime minister.
- Yariv Gideon Levin is an Israeli lawyer and politician who serves as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice.

Israel:

- Capital: Jerusalem
- President: Isaac Herzog
- Currency: New shekel
- Q. Who has become the acting Prime Minister of Israel? Yariv Levin















Russia vetoes UN resolution on N Korea sanctions

- Russia exercised its veto power at the United Nations, blocking a resolution aimed at renewing an independent panel of experts tasked with investigating North Korea's violations of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) sanctions.
- This move comes amidst heightened tensions between Moscow and the West over the conflict in Ukraine, with North Korea emerging significant supplier of munitions to Russia.
- Overseeing a substantial expansion of Pyongyang's ballistic missile programme, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has conducted numerous tests, including those of long-range intercontinental ballistic missiles capable reaching the mainland United States. Historically, Russia has supported international sanctions and UN investigations into North Korea's illegal weapons programme
- Q. Which country recently exercised its veto power in the United Nations, thereby blocking a resolution aimed at renewing an independent panel of experts investigating violations of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) sanctions by North Korea? Russia















Pakistan Cricket Board reappoints Babar Azam as white-ball captain

- The Pakistan Cricket Board-led by the newly-appointed chairman Mohsin Naqvi has reappointed Babar Azam as the white-ball (ODIs and T20Is) captain of the senior men's team ahead of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in the USA and the West Indies.
- Shaheen Shah Afridi was appointed as T20I captain on November 15 and only managed to lead Pakistan once in the shortest format of the game.
- He led Pakistan during a five-match T20I series in New Zealand against the Blackcaps which ended on a disappointing note for the 2009 T20 World Cup winners.

Pakistan Cricket Board:

- Founded: 1 May 1949
- Headquarters: Gaddafi Stadium, Ferozepur Road
- Chairman: Mohsin Raza Naqvi
- Director: Vacant
- Men's coach: Vacant
- Women's coach: Mohtashim Rasheed

Q. Who has been appointed by Pakistan Cricket Board as the white-ball (ODIs and T20Is) captain of the senior men's team? Babar Azam















Six traditional crafts of Assam get GI tags

- Six traditional items from Assam, including Assamese Dhol and Jaapi, have received prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tags, granted by the Government of India's Geographical Indication Registry.
- Products receiving GI tags include iconic Assam Bihu Dhol, Assam Jaapi, Sarthebari Metal Craft, Panimeteka craft (water hyacinth), Mising taat (handloom) Asharikandi's exquisite terracotta works.
- The GI tag system started in India in 2003 during the NDA's rule. It is a process to identify a product as originating from a particular place and possessing certain qualities, characteristics or reputation that are due to that place of origin. It serves as a trademark in the international market.
- Earlier this month, Assam's famous Majuli Masks or Majuli manuscript paintings were awarded the GI tag. This is a part of Assam's neo-Vaishnavite tradition practiced in the state since the 16th century, according to experts.
- Q. How many traditional items of Assam including Assamese Dhol and Jaapi have recently received the coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Geographical Indication Registry of the Government of India? Six



















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