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 **Saturday, 02 March 2024**

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Saturday, 02 March 2024

Former Canadian PM Brian Mulroney dies at age of 84

- Former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who led his country from 1984 to 1993, has died at the age of 84.
- The conservative leader, the 18th prime minister in Canada's history, passed away "peacefully".
- Mulroney led Canada through the closing days of the Cold War and forged a free trade agreement with the US.
- Born in a blue-collar paper mill town in north-eastern Quebec, Mulroney began his career as a lawyer and business executive before taking over as the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party and becoming prime minister.

Canada:

- Capital: Ottawa
- Governor General: Mary Simon
- Prime Minister: Justin Trudeau

Q. Brian Mulroney, who passed away recently, was the former PM of which country? **Canada**



Chief Guest
Sh. Amit Shah
Honourable Union Minister for
Home and Cooperation,
Govt. of India

Launch of NUCFDC

An Umbrella Organisation for
Urban Cooperative Banks

(National Urban Cooperative
Finance and Development
Corporation Ltd.)

Vigyan Bhawan

March 02, 2024

09:00 A.M.

Saturday, 02 March 2024

Cooperation Minister Amit Shah to launch NUCFDC

- Cooperation Minister Amit Shah will launch the National Urban Co-operative Finance and Development Corporation Limited (NUCFDC), the Umbrella organisation for the Urban Cooperative Banks in New Delhi.
- The setting up of the umbrella organisation is another milestone in achieving the goal of 'Sahakar se Samriddhi' to make 'Aatma Nirbhar' Bharat.
- This initiative aims to modernise and strengthen the Urban Cooperative Banking Sector, which will benefit both the banks and their customers.
- NUCFDC has received a Certificate of Registration from the Reserve Bank of India to operate as a Non-Banking Finance Company and serve as the umbrella organisation for the urban cooperative banking sector.
- In addition to this, it will be allowed to operate as a Self-Regulatory Organisation for the sector.
- NUCFDC will ensure specialised functions and services to cooperative banks, facilitate communication between banks and regulators, and address challenges faced by Urban Cooperative Banks.

Q. Which umbrella organization for urban cooperative banks will be launched by Cooperation Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi? **National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation Limited (NUCFDC)**

Govt. of India approves proposal of

Tata Electronics Pvt. Ltd.

to build India's first high-volume Semiconductor Fab
with **50,000** wafer starts per month!

in **Dholera, Gujarat!**



Saturday, 02 March 2024

Cabinet clears 3 semiconductor plants with investment of Rs 1.26 trillion

- The Union Cabinet approved Rs 1.26 trillion worth of investments in three semiconductor plants, including a Tata group proposal to build the country's first major chip fabrication facility at Dholera in Gujarat.
- It also cleared a separate Tata proposal for a chip assembly plant in Morigaon, Assam, and another by CG Power in Sanand, Gujarat.
- The work on all three projects is expected to begin in the next 100 days.
- The semiconductor fabrication unit in Dholera by Tata Electronics, in partnership with Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp (PSMC), Taiwan, is expected to be set up with a total investment of Rs 91,000 crore (\$11 billion); it is likely to create 20,000 direct and indirect skilled jobs.
- The proposed plant will manufacture high-performance computing chips with 28nm technology. Earlier, it was understood that India would be focussing on manufacturing 40nm chips. The plant is projected to have a total capacity of 50,000 wafer starts per month (WSPM).
- Besides the Dholera plant, the Tata group (Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test, or TSAT) will set up a semiconductor plant in Morigaon with an investment of Rs 27,000 crore. It is expected to generate 27,000 direct and indirect jobs.
- The third approval came in for CG Power's proposal, in partnership with Renesas Electronics Corporation, Japan, and Stars Microelectronics, Thailand. They will set up a semiconductor unit in Sanand with an investment of Rs 7,600 crore.

Q. Recently the Union Cabinet approved investment of ____ in three semiconductor plants. **Rs 1.26 trillion**



Saturday, 02 March 2024

K.Shivaram, Kannada Actor and Former IAS Officer, Passes Away At 71

- Renowned bureaucrat-turned-actor K.Shivaram passed away at the age of 71.
- K. Shivaram emerged as a significant personality within both the cinematic and governmental realms, becoming the first Kannadiga to pass the IAS examination using Kannada as his medium. His tenures in the civil service were marked by roles in diverse regions such as Vijayapura, Bengaluru, Mysuru, Koppala, and Davangere.
- Making his debut in the Kannada cinema with 'Ba Nalle Madhuchandrake,' Shivaram quickly made a name for himself through performances in movies like 'Vasanta Kavya,' and by portraying a villain in "Sangliana 3."
- Following his retirement in 2013, K. Shivaram extended his versatile career into the realm of politics, initially allying himself with the Congress party. In 2014, he made a bid for a Lok Sabha seat from the Vijayapura constituency, although he did not win. Later, he transitioned his political loyalty to the BJP. Throughout his political journey, he has been recognized for championing the rights of the Dalit community.

Q. Name the first Kannadiga to pass the IAS examination using Kannada as his medium, who passed away recently? **K. Shivaram**



Saturday, 02 March 2024

PM Modi launches hydrogen-powered ferry

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually launched India's first indigenously developed hydrogen fuel cell ferry. The vessel, manufactured by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), will be deployed for service at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.
- Built at a cost of Rs 18 crore, the ferry will be handed over to the Inland Waterways Authority of India by the CSL after rigorous trials. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways met 75 per cent of the project cost.

Special features of the vessel:

- The Hydrogen fuel cell vessel is a 24-meter-long catamaran, which can carry 50 people in its air-conditioned passenger area. The accommodation area has been constructed with high-quality fiberglass reinforced plastic, similar to metro train coaches.
- Hydrogen fuel cell vessels do not use conventional batteries as the primary storage house of electrical energy. The vessels run on hydrogen fuel, which is stored in cylinders. This boat has five hydrogen cylinders that can carry 40kg of hydrogen and support eight hours of operations. The vessel is also fitted with a 3-kW solar panel.
- The hydrogen fuel cell-powered vessel has zero emission, zero noise and is energy-efficient, which makes it more environment-friendly. Since there are no moving parts, the ferry requires less maintenance than combustion vessels.

Q. India's first indigenously developed hydrogen fuel cell ferry has been manufactured by _____. **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)**



Saturday, 02 March 2024

UPGRAD APPOINTS VENKATESH TARAKKAD AS CFO

- Edtech firm upGrad has appointed Venkatesh Tarakkad as its first Chief Financial Officer with effect from March 1, 2024.
- Rohit Agarwal, presently leading the financial operations, will continue to play a crucial role in upGrad's ecosystem, leading operations globally beyond India.
- Starting his career with Ernst & Young in the early 90s, Tarakkad has held leadership positions at Ecom Express, TCNS Clothing, Siam Makro Thailand, Metro Cash & Carry, and Coca-Cola India. He previously worked at DealShare, managing finance, inventory, and strategic initiatives. His expertise includes financial transactions, compliance, governance, automation, acquisition management, financing, and public takeovers.
- Founded in 2015 by Ronnie Screwvala, Mayank Kumar, and Phalgun Kompalli, upGrad operates across educational sectors, encompassing test preparation, study abroad programmes, undergraduate degrees, and courses in collaboration with over 300 university partners.
- Last month, upGrad appointed CP Gurnani, former CEO and MD of Tech Mahindra, as an independent non-executive director to its board.

Q. Who has been appointed as the first Chief Financial Officer of Edtech firm upGrad ? **Venkatesh Tarakkad**



Saturday, 02 March 2024

RBI clears appointment of S Ravindran as part-time chairman of TMB

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of S Ravindran as the part-time chairman of Tuticorin-based Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB), effective February 29, 2024.
- The approval is subject to Ravindran, stepping down from his directorships in Shriram Finance and Bandhan AMC, before assuming charge as the part-time chairman of the bank, the lender said in a stock exchange filing.
- He has an extensive work experience of 29 years at the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), where he served as the executive director from August 2011 to May 2022. He handled all the major departments in Sebi and initiated various policy measures for the development of securities markets relating to mutual funds, corporate governance, market infrastructure institutions and market intermediaries, market surveillance and risk management, IPOs, and accounting standards disclosure.
- He also served in various capacities - as chief general manager, general manager, and deputy general manager - at Sebi from March 1993 to January 2005.

Q. Who has been appointed by RBI as the part-time chairman of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB)? **S Ravindran**



Saturday, 02 March 2024

India successfully flight tests VSHORADS missile

- India has conducted two successful flight tests of a very short-range air defence missile off the coast of Odisha.
- VSHORADS is a man-portable air-defence system designed and developed indigenously by Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in collaboration with other Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) laboratories and Indian industry partners.
- The missile incorporates many novel technologies, including a miniaturised reaction control system (RCS) and integrated avionics, which have been successfully proven during the tests, the ministry said in a statement.
- The missile is propelled by a dual-thrust solid motor and meant for neutralising low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges. The design of the missile including launcher has been highly optimised to ensure easy portability.

Q. VSHORADS is a man-portable air-defense system indigenously designed and developed by which DRDO laboratory? **Research Centre Imarat**

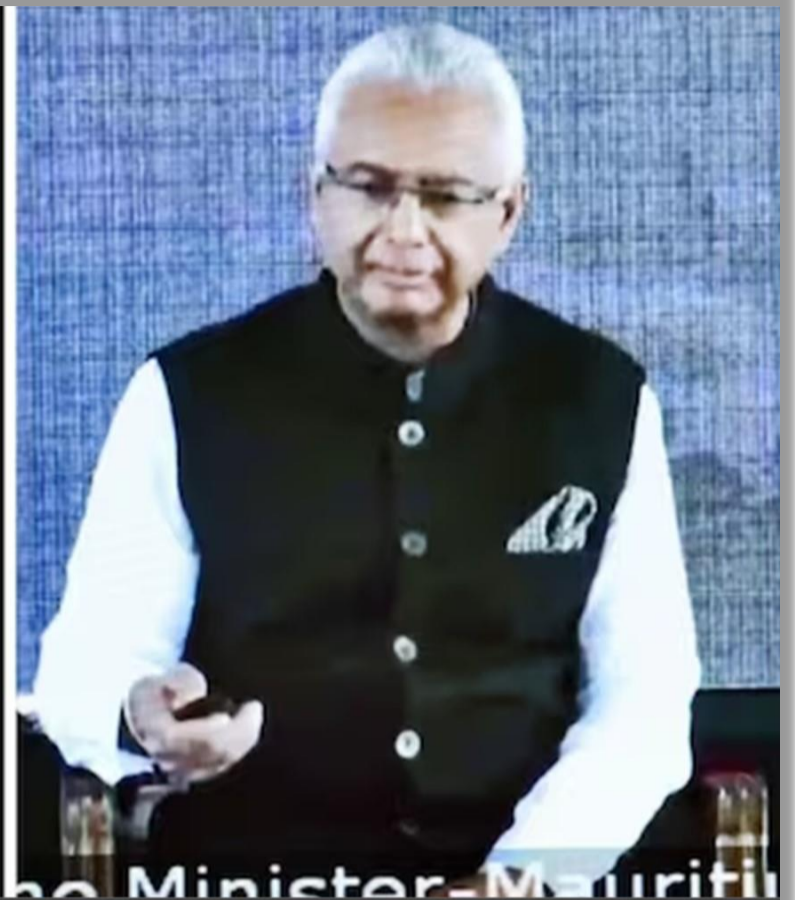


Saturday, 02 March 2024

Juventus Midfielder Paul Pogba Banned For 4 Years For Doping

- Juventus midfielder Paul Pogba has been handed a four-year suspension from football due to doping allegations.
- The former Manchester United star tested positive for testosterone, leading to his provisional suspension in September.
- Paul Pogba received a four-year ban from football following doping allegations, with Italy's sports prosecutors advocating for the suspension.
- The doping incident occurred after Juventus' 3-0 victory against Udinese in the Italian Serie A opener, leading to Pogba's provisional suspension.

Q. Paul Pogba, who has recently been banned for 4 Years, associated with which sport?
Football



Saturday, 02 March 2024

PM Modi, Mauritius PM Pravind Jugnauth inaugurate airstrip, jetty in Agalega Islands

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth jointly inaugurated an airstrip and a jetty in Agalega Island.
- Apart from the airstrip and St James Jetty at Agalega Island, six other projects, implemented with financial assistance from India, were also inaugurated by both leaders virtually.
- The airstrip and jetty will enhance the island's capacity and capabilities in marine surveillance and security.
- Mauritius is a key partner of India's 'Neighbourhood First Policy' and a special partner under Vision SAGAR.
- Mauritius will be the first country to join India's Jan Aushadhi scheme, an initiative rolled out to provide quality medicines at affordable prices.

Mauritius:

- Capital: Port Louis
- Currency: Mauritian Rupee
- Prime minister: Pravind Jugnauth

Q. With which country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has jointly inaugurated an airstrip and a jetty in Agalega Island?

Mauritius



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