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**Wednesday, 24 January 2024**

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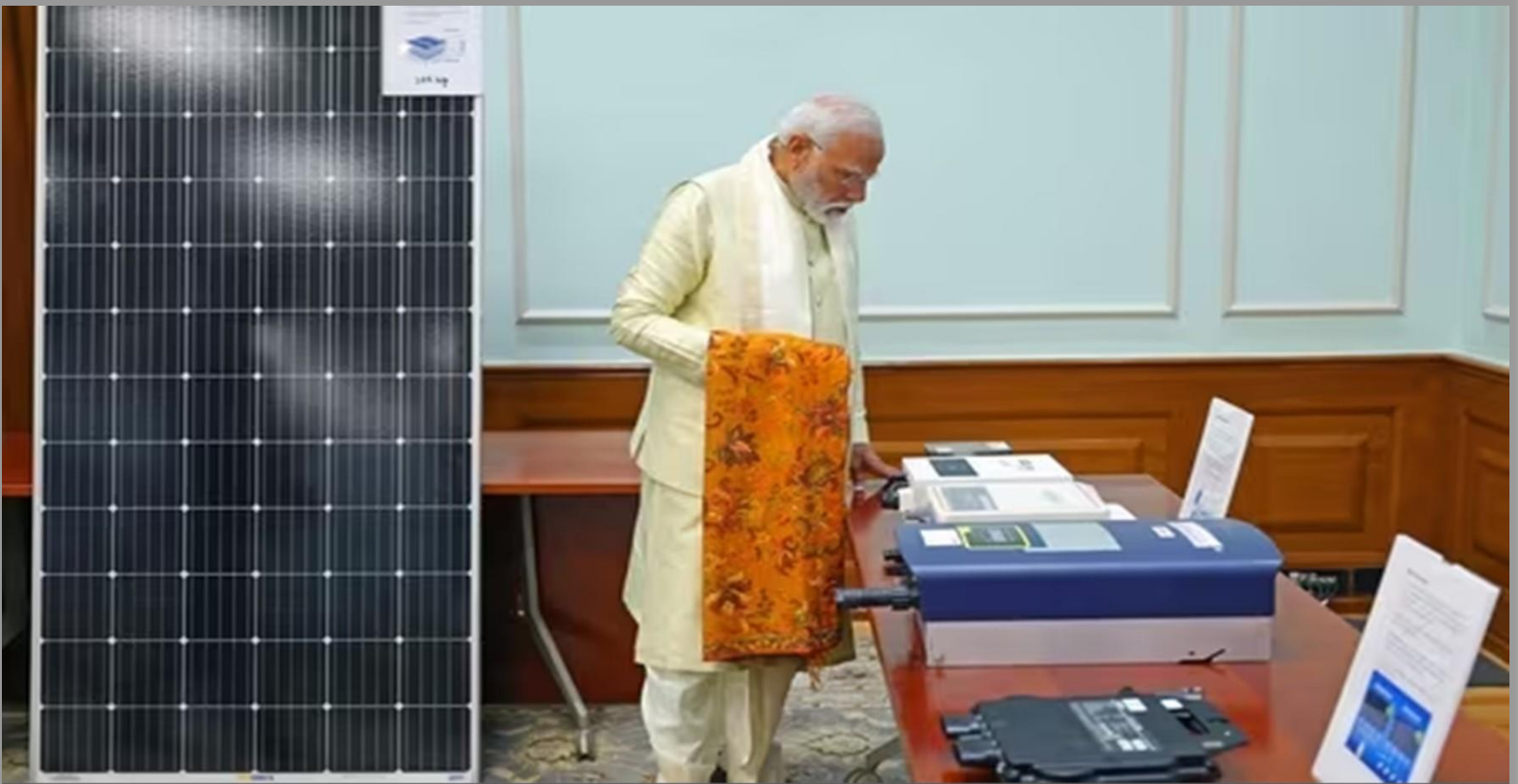
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**DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR**





Wednesday, 24 January 2024

## PM Modi launches new rooftop solar power scheme

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the 'Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana', a government scheme under which one crore households will get rooftop solar power systems.
- This isn't the first scheme for promoting the installation of rooftop solar power systems, though.
- In 2014, the government launched the Rooftop Solar Programme that aimed to achieve a cumulative installed capacity of 40,000 megawatts (MW) or 40 gigawatts (GW) by 2022 — watt is a unit of power and is calculated as the amount of energy used over time, specifically one Joule per second.
- However, this target couldn't be achieved. As a result, the government extended the deadline from 2022 to 2026. The Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana seems to be a new attempt to help reach the target of 40 GW rooftop solar capacity.
- India is expected to witness the largest energy demand growth of any country or region in the world over the next 30 years, according to the latest World Energy Outlook by the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- Therefore, it is essential to expand solar power capacity — the country has increased it from less than 10 MW in 2010 to 70.10 GW in 2023, as mentioned before.

**Q.** Which government scheme has been recently launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi under which one crore families will get rooftop solar energy systems? **Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana**





**Wednesday, 24 January 2024**

## **Maharashtra Gymnast Aaryan Davande wins Boys Artistic All-Round Gold at Khelo India Youth Games in Chennai**

- In the Khelo India Youth Games 2023, defending champions Maharashtra opened their gold medal account when gymnast Aaryan Davande clinched the Boys Artistic All-Round crown at the SDAT Aquatics complex in Chennai. Davande accumulated a total of 73 points to beat Uttar Pradesh's Pranav Mishra. Harshit of UP clinched the bronze in the event.
- Girls team from Tamilnadu won the gold medal, Rajasthan bagged silver and Maharashtra got Bronze in Cycling team sprint event.
- In the 500-metre trial girls category, J. Srimathi won gold, Vimla from Rajasthan bagged silver and R. Tamilarasi from Tamilnadu got the bronze medal.
- In the Boys cycling event, Aashirwad Saxena from Telangana won the gold, Vedant Jadhav from Maharashtra bagged the silver and Gumoor Poonia from Haryana got the bronze medal. Kerala won the gold, Maharashtra bagged silver and Tamilnadu got the bronze medal in the team sprint cycling event.
- In the rhythmic gymnastics individual event of Khelo India Youth games, Sanyukta Kale from Maharashtra won the gold, Muskan Rana from Jammu and Kashmir won silver and Life Adlakha won the bronze medals.
- Pranav Mishra won the silver medal.
- In the women artistic individual gymnastics, Nishika Agarwal from Telangana won the gold, Soumili Karar from West Bengal won the silver and Sara Rawool won the bronze medals.

**Q.** Aashirwad Saxena, who won gold in the Boys cycling event at Khelo India Youth Games 2023, hails from which state? **Telangana**





Wednesday, 24 January 2024

## BCCI Awards 2023: Gill named cricketer of the year

- Former India all-rounder and head coach Ravi Shastri will be honoured with BCCI's Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Shubman Gill will be presented with Cricketer of the Year award following a memorable 12 months when he became the fastest to cross the 2000-run mark in ODIs and also scored five hundreds in the format.
- The BCCI awards will be held for the first time since 2019.
- Shastri, 61, represented India in 80 Tests and 150 ODIs. After retirement, he made a name for himself in the broadcasting world.
- He also donned the coaching hat twice for the national team, first as a team director from 2014 to 2016 before returning to the team as head coach with captain Virat Kohli until the T20 World Cup in 2021.

**Q.** Who will be honoured with BCCI's Lifetime Achievement Award? **Ravi Shastri**





**Wednesday, 24 January 2024**

## **Indian-Kyrgyz joint special forces exercise Khanjar begins in Himachal Pradesh**

- The 11th edition of India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR has commenced at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- It is an annual event conducted alternatively in both the countries.
- The Indian Army contingent comprising 20 personnel is being represented by troops from The Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) and the Kyrgyzstan contingent comprising 20 personnel is represented by Scorpion Brigade.
- Aim of the exercise is to exchange experiences and best practices in Counter Terrorism and Special Forces Operations in Built-up Area and Mountainous Terrain under Chapter VII of United Nations Charter. The exercise will emphasise on developing Special Forces skills, advanced techniques of insertion and extraction.
- The exercise will provide an opportunity for both the sides of fortify defence ties while addressing common concerns of international terrorism and extremism. The exercise will also accord opportunity to showcase capabilities of cutting edge indigenous defence equipment besides achieving shared security objectives and foster bilateral relations.

**Q.** What is the name of the India-Kyrgyzstan joint special forces exercise that started at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh? **KHANJAR**





**Wednesday, 24 January 2024**

## **Indian Army's Special Forces contingent reaches Egypt for joint exercise 'Cyclone'**

- The Indian Army contingent comprising 25 personnel reached Egypt to take part in the 2nd edition of India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise CYCLONE.
- The Exercise will be conducted at Anshas, Egypt. The first edition of the exercise was conducted last year in India.
- The Indian contingent is being represented by troops from The Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) and Egyptian contingent comprising 25 personnel is being represented by Egyptian Commando Squadron and Egyptian Airborne Platoon.
- Aim of the Exercise is to acquaint both the sides with each other's operating procedures in the backdrop of Special Operations in desert/ semi desert terrain under Chapter VII of United Nations Charter.
- Exercise CYCLONE is designed to develop bilateral military cooperation and strengthen bond between two armies through conduct of discussions and rehearsal of tactical military drills.

**Q.** 'CYCLONE' is a Joint Special Forces Exercise between India and which country? **Egypt**





Wednesday, 24 January 2024

## In a first, India overtakes Hong Kong as world's fourth-largest stock mkt

- India's stock market capitalization has overtaken Hong Kong's for the first time as the South Asian nation's growth prospects and policy reforms make it an investor darling while global capital pours out of China.
- The combined value of shares listed on Indian exchanges reached \$4.33 trillion, versus \$4.29 trillion for Hong Kong, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. That makes India the fourth-biggest equity market globally. Its value crossed \$4 trillion for the first time on Dec. 5, with about half of that coming in the past four years.
- Equities in India have been booming, thanks to a rapidly growing retail investor base and strong corporate earnings. The world's most populous country has positioned itself as an alternative to China, attracting fresh capital from global investors and companies alike, thanks to its stable political setup and a consumption-driven economy that remains among the fastest-growing of major nations.

### Hong Kong:

- Hong Kong officially the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China is a city and a special administrative region in China.
- Chief Executive: John Lee
- Chief Secretary: Eric Chan
- Council President: Andrew Leung

**Q.** For the first time, India became the world's fourth largest stock market, overtaking \_\_\_\_\_. **Hong Kong**





Wednesday, 24 January 2024

## Fintech firm Quinte, Tamil Nadu sign deal to set up development centres

- Quinte Financial Technologies, a global fintech firm headquartered in the United States, has entered a partnership with the Tamil Nadu government to establish technology development centres in Tier-II cities of the state.
- Quinte and the state have signed a memorandum of understanding to use people skilled in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), automation, and banking and finance for the development centres.
- "Quinte Financial Technologies' choice to establish its AI and ML banking operations in Tier-2 towns of Tamil Nadu underscores the abundant talent pool present in the state.
- Quinte, which specialises in automation and analytics for financial institutions, said the development centres will improve operational metrics.

### Tamil Nadu:

- Capital: Chennai
- Governor: R. N. Ravi
- Chief minister: M. K. Stalin

**Q.** Which global fintech firm headquartered in the United States has partnered with the Tamil Nadu government to set up technology development centers in **tier-II cities of the state?** **Quinte** Financial Technologies





Wednesday, 24 January 2024

## Corning signs \$120 mn worth JV with Optiemus for manufacturing plant in TN

- India's Tamil Nadu state said that a joint venture of Corning agreed to invest 10 billion rupees (\$120.4 million), underscoring the growing importance of the south Asian country as a manufacturing hub.
- The joint venture (JV), named Bharat Innovative Glass Technologies, is a tie-up between U.S. electronics maker Corning, a key parts supplier for Apple, and Indian telecommunications company Optiemus Infracom.
- The new facility will make front cover glass for mobile phones and phone parts makers in India, the state government said, without specifying the particular brands to which the glass would be supplied.
- The facility in Tamil Nadu is the company's first manufacturing plant after the JV was formed in September.
- The \$155 billion Indian electronics market is benefitting from a global shift in supply chains away from China, with additional support from the Indian government's production-linked incentives aimed at promoting local manufacturing.
- Several contract manufacturers, including the world's largest, Taiwan's Foxconn, as well as other Apple suppliers such as Pegatron and Finland's Salcomp have signed agreements worth several million dollars to expand their operations in India.
- Earlier this month, Tamil Nadu said it had entered into agreements totalling 6.64 trillion rupees in investments with investors ranging from technology heavyweights Microsoft to local conglomerates such as the Adani Group.

**Q.** Recently, Corning has signed a joint venture worth \_\_\_\_ with Optiemus for a manufacturing plant in Tamil Nadu. **\$120 million**





**Wednesday, 24 January 2024**

## **Satwik-Chirag pair regains world no. 1 ranking**

- Riding on a stellar show in the last two weeks, India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty reclaimed the top spot in the BWF men's doubles rankings.
- The Asian Games champions reached the world no. 1 ranking for a second time after successive runner-up finishes in the Malaysia Open super 1000 and India Open super 750 badminton tournaments.
- The Indian duo had achieved its numero uno status for the first time after claiming the historic gold medal at the 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou last year.
- Among other Indians, HS Prannoy moved a place to reach world no 8, while Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth and Priyanshu Rajawat stayed at 19th, 25th and 30th spots respectively.

### **Badminton World Federation:**

- Formation: 1934
- Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- President: Poul-Erik Høyer Larsen

**Q.** Which Indian Pair has recently reclaimed the top spot in the BWF men's doubles rankings? **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty**





Subhash Chandra Bose  
Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2024

**Wednesday, 24 January 2024**

## **Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2024**

- For the year 2024, 60 Parachute Field Hospital, Uttar Pradesh, in the Institutional category, has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2024 for its excellent work in Disaster Management.
- The Government of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has instituted an annual award known as Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognize and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organizations in India in the field of disaster management. The award is announced every year on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual.

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**Q.** 60 Parachute Field Hospital, which has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2024, situated in which state? **Uttar Pradesh**





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