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Tuesday, 18 June 2024

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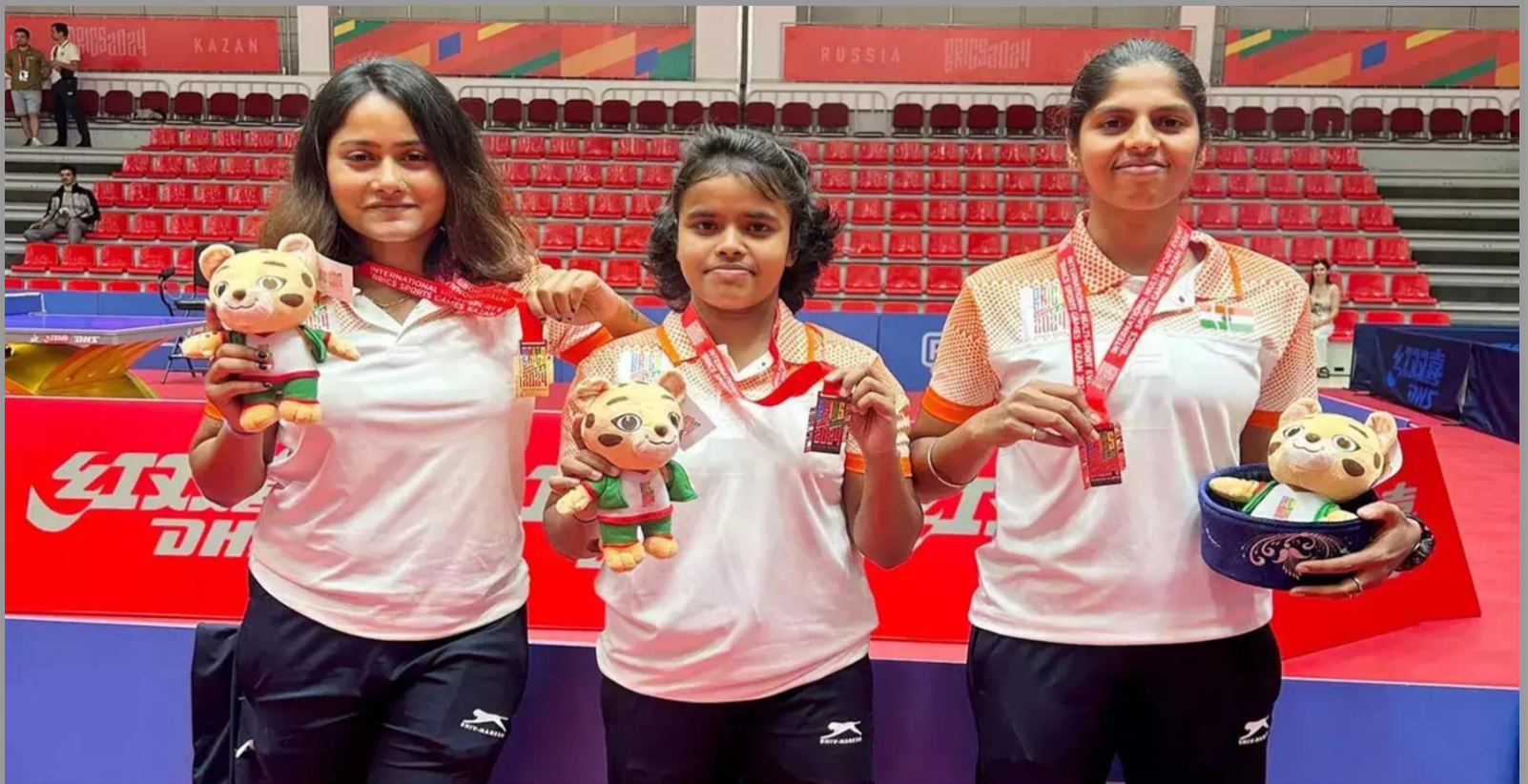


Tuesday, 18 June 2024

IAF Contingent Participates In Exercise Red Flag 2024 Conducted At Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska

- An Indian Air Force-IAF contingent participated in the Exercise Red Flag 2024 conducted at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska of the United States Air Force.
- This was the second edition of Ex Red Flag 2024, which is an advanced aerial combat training exercise, held four times in a year by the US Air Force.
- The exercise witnessed participation of the Indian Air Force along with Republic of Singapore Air Force, Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom, Royal Netherlands Air Force, German Luftwaffe, and the US Air Force.
- The IAF contingent participated with the Rafale aircraft and personnel comprising of aircrew, technicians, engineers, controllers and subject matter experts. This was the first time the IAF Rafale aircraft participated in Ex Red Flag.
- Red Flag is an air combat exercise conducted with multiple scenarios designed to provide realistic combat settings. A demarcation of forces is done for simulating the desired environment, with the Red Force simulating Air Defence elements, and the Blue Force simulating the Offensive Composite elements.

Q. Indian Air Force-IAF has participated in which exercise held at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska of the United States Air Force? **Red Flag 2024**



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

India Clinches Their First Medal At BRICS Games In Kazan, Russia

- India clinched their first medal at the ongoing BRICS Games in Kazan, Russia with the women's table tennis team comprising Poymantee Baisya, Moumita Dutta and Yashini Sivasankar clinching a bronze medal.
- Indian women's TT team lost to China in the semi-final to settle for a bronze in the Russian city. Yashini won in the first game but China came back strongly to win their remaining three rubbers to make the final.
- The Indian men's team of Anirban Ghosh, Jeet Chandra and Snehit Suravajjula, meanwhile, finished fifth after securing a win over Bahrain in their classification match.

BRICS Games:

- BRICS Games is a yearly multi-sport event organised by the countries of BRICS. The event is generally organized by the country which holds the chairmanship of the group in the year.
- BRICS is an intergovernmental organization comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Q. Which Indian women table tennis player won the first medal in the ongoing BRICS Games in Kazan, Russia?

Poymantee Baisya, Moumita Dutta and Yashini Sivasankar



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

Siddhesh Sakore, Farmer From Maharashtra, Named Land Hero By UN Agency

- Siddhesh Sakore, a farmer and the founder of AGRO RANGERS, from Maharashtra, has been named Land Hero by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
- On the occasion of World Desertification and Drought Day, the UNCCD announced the names of 10 Land Heroes in a programme in Bonn, Germany, on Sunday.
- Apart from Siddhesh Sakore, other Land Heroes are from Brazil, Costa Rica, Germany, Mali, Moldova, Morocco, the Philippines, the US, and Zimbabwe.
- Belonging to a farmer family, Siddhesh Sakore has a graduation degree in mechanical engineering.
- Land degradation affects up to 40 per cent of the world's land and nearly half the world's population, UNCCD said, with the highest costs borne by those who can least afford it: indigenous communities, rural households, smallholder farmers, and especially youth and women. More than a billion young people who live in developing countries depend on land and natural resources.

Q. Which Indian farmer and the founder of AGRO RANGERS has been named Land Hero by the UNCCD?
Siddhesh Sakore



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

First-ever direct flight between India and Cambodia launched

- Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Neth Savoeun and Indian Ambassador to the country Devyani Khobragade launched the first-ever direct flight between Phnom Penh and New Delhi.
- The flight between the two capitals will be operated four times a week by Cambodia's national flag carrier Cambodia Angkor Air. Several members of the Indian community also joined the flight inauguration ceremony which not only marks ease of travel for tourists but also strengthens the historic ties between the two countries.
- The Embassy of India in Phnom Penh hailed the development as a "historic moment", citing India's "Act East" Policy.
- the new connection will make the Angkor Archaeological Park, a UNESCO-listed world heritage site, more accessible to Indian tourists and also provide Cambodian patients better access to medical treatments in India. "With both nations' rich histories and mutual interests, Cambodia Angkor Air is optimistic about the potential and positive impact of this new service.
- Citing India's involvement in the restoration of Angkor Wat and Preah Vihear temples in Cambodia depicts the cultural and linguistic connect, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has time and again spotlighted the historical and civilisational links between the two countries.

Q. Recently Cambodia and India launched the first direct flight between _____. **Phnom Penh and New Delhi**



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

Gautam Gambhir confirmed as the head coach of the Indian men's cricket team

- Former opening batter Gautam Gambhir's appointment as the head coach of the Indian men's cricket team is all but confirmed.
- For months, Gambhir has linked with the India coach job, with current boss Rahul Dravid's contract set to expire after the ongoing T20 World Cup.
- After being approached by the BCCI, Gambhir accepted the offer, but laid down a few demands, which have been accepted by the board.
- When Ravi Shastri was the head coach, Vikram Rathour had replaced Sanjay Bangar as the batting coach.
- Rathour managed to keep his place in the support staff even after Dravid replaced Shastri as the head coach.
- Currently, Paras Mhambrey and T Dilip are the bowling and fielding coach, respectively.
- Under Gambhir's mentorship, Kolkata Knight Riders clinched the IPL 2024 title. His leadership at KKR has been widely praised, contributing to his rising profile as a top coaching candidate.
- Gambhir was part of India's T20 World Cup winning team in 2007 and the 2011 ODI World Cup side.

Q. As per BCCI, who will be the new head coach of the Indian men's cricket team? **Gautam Gambhir**



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

2024 Kavli Prize Winners Announced in Science Fields

- The 2024 Kavli Prize winners were announced, honoring great work in neuroscience, astrophysics, and nanoscience. Eight well-known scholars from well-known American colleges were recognized for their groundbreaking work in these areas.
- A Norwegian-American businessman and philanthropist named Fred Kavli created the Kavli Prize because he wanted to support scientific study that could make people's lives better. After getting \$340 million for his company Kavlico in 2000, Kavli started The Kavli Foundation.
- The foundation's main goal is to advance science for the good of all people. It also works to help people understand and support experts and their work.
- The Kavli Prize is similar to the Nobel Prize in some ways, but it has a wider scope. It recognizes great scientific achievements without the time limits set by Alfred Nobel's will. Winners get a medal, a scroll, and \$1 million in each field every two years. The event is even more grand than the Nobel Prize ceremony, with a red carpet and including members of the Norwegian Royal Family.

Q. Who have been honored with 2024 Kavli Prize in Astrophysics? **David Charbonneau and Sara Seager**



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

Adani Group to build 570 MW green hydro plant in Bhutan

- Gautam Adani, Chairman of the Adani Group, announced the signing of an agreement with Bhutan for a 570 MW green hydro plant, along with collaborating on transformative infrastructure initiatives in the neighbouring country.
- Gautam Adani met Bhutan King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay in Thimphu.
- They Signed an MoU with Druk Green Power Corporation Limited (DGPC) for a 570 MW green hydro plant in Chukha province.
- The Adani Group is looking forward to working closely on hydro and other infra projects in Bhutan.

Adani Group

- Industry: Conglomerate
- Founded: 20 July 1988
- Founder: Gautam Adani
- Headquarters: Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India
- Chairman: Gautam Adani

Q. Which Indian Conglomerate announced the signing of an agreement with Bhutan for a 570 MW green hydro plant in Chukha province? **Adani Group**



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

Mumbai retains top spot as India's most expensive city for expats: Survey

- The financial capital of India has retained the top spot as the most expensive city for expats in the country, followed by Delhi.
- Within Asia, Mumbai and Delhi experienced upward movement in the rankings.
- Mumbai climbed six spots while Delhi has moved up by two spots.
- As a result, Mumbai is now ranked as the 21st most expensive city in Asia for expatriates while Delhi holds the 30th position among surveyed locations in the region, according to Mercer's '2024 Cost of Living Survey'.
- Factors such as employment growth, rising middle class, and overall economic growth positively impacted the cost of living in the country, according to the survey.
- The top 10 most expensive cities are, in order from rank 1 to rank 10: Hong Kong, Singapore, Zurich, Geneva, Basel, Bern, New York City, London, Nassau and Los Angeles.
- The 10 least expensive cities are, in order from rank 217 to 226: Havana, Windhoek, Durban, Dushanbe, Blantyre, Karachi, Bishkek, Islamabad, Lagos and Abuja.

Q. What is the rank of India's Mumbai city in the recently released Mercer's '2024 Cost of Living Survey', which is topped by Hong Kong? **21st**



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

Smriti Mandhana becomes second Indian woman to score 7000 international runs in ODI

- In a significant milestone, India opener Smriti Mandhana crossed the 7000-run mark in international cricket during the first ODI against South Africa at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru.
- Mandhana's achievement placed her in elite company, making her the second Indian woman to surpass 7000 runs including all formats.
- She followed in the footsteps of former captain Mithali Raj, who amassed a remarkable 10,868 runs in her illustrious career.
- Close on Mandhana's heels is current captain Harmanpreet Kaur, who has accumulated 6,870 runs, underscoring the strength and depth of India's batting lineup.

Q. Recently Smriti Mandhana becomes second Indian woman to score 7000 international runs in ODI, in context to same who was the first one to cross the same? **Mithali Raj**



Tuesday, 18 June 2024

Tesam Pongte is Arunachal Speaker as CM allocates portfolios

- BJP MLA Tesam Pongte was unanimously elected as the speaker of Arunachal Pradesh Assembly.
- The 49-year-old, who had won the Assembly elections from the Changlang North constituency, served as deputy speaker in the last Assembly.
- Another BJP MLA, Kardo Nyigyor, was elected as deputy speaker.
- Meanwhile, Khandu allocated the ministerial portfolios. He allocated the key portfolio of Finance to Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein. Another key portfolio, Home, went to senior minister Mama Natung.
- Pasang Dorjee Sona, who served as speaker in the previous Assembly, is now the minister of Education, Rural Works, Parliamentary Affairs, Tourism and Libraries departments.

Arunachal Pradesh:

- Capital: Itanagar
- Governor: Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
- Chief minister: Pema Khandu

Q. Who has been elected as the speaker of Arunachal Pradesh Assembly? **Tesam Pongte**



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