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Thursday, 20 June 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



Thursday, 20 June 2024

Vinod Ganatra Becomes First Indian Honoured With 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award'

- Globally acclaimed film-maker Vinod Ganatra has become the first Indian to be conferred the prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award' of South Africa for his contribution to films.
- He was honoured with the coveted award at the ongoing 7th Nelson Mandela Children's Film Festival, for his immense contributions to the world of cinema for kids.
- Ganatra has bagged 36 national and international awards, including the 'Janakinath Gaur Award' from Doordarshan for his children's programme, 'Baingan Raja.'
- He became the only Indian filmmaker to receive the 'Liv Ullmann Peace Prize', in Chicago, for his Gujarati film, 'Harun-Arun'.
- Ganatra has been invited to serve on the jury of over 100 national, regional and international film festivals world over in the past three decades.
- He has edited and directed more than 400 documentaries and newsreels, apart from producing 25 multilingual television programmes for children and youth.

Q. Who is the first Indian to be awarded South Africa's 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award'? **Vinod Ganatra**



Thursday, 20 June 2024

World Champion Neeraj Chopra Wins Gold In Javelin Throw At World Athletics Continental Gold Tour In Finland

- Olympic and World Champion Neeraj Chopra has won the Gold medal in the men's javelin throw competition at the World Athletics Continental Gold Tour at the Paavo Nurmi Stadium in Turku, Finland.
- He topped an eight-man field with a best effort of 85.97 meters. Chopra began steadily with a throw of 83.62 meters.
- Local favourite Oliver Helander pushed him for the lead, taking the top spot with an 83.96-meter throw in the second round.
- However, Chopra responded with his best throw of the day, a soaring 85.97-meter effort in his third attempt.

Q. World champion Neeraj Chopra topped the javelin throw at the World Athletics Continental Gold Tour in Finland with a best effort of _____
85.97 metres



Thursday, 20 June 2024

NTT DATA appoints Abhijit Dubey as CEO

- Japanese business and technology services firm NTT DATA announced the appointment of Abhijit Dubey as the chief executive officer of its business outside Japan.
- The news follows the finalisation of the merger between NTT DATA and NTT Ltd., forming an over \$30 billion global firm under the NTT DATA name.
- Previously, Dubey served as CEO of NTT Ltd.
- NTT DATA has already expanded its international footprint to approximately \$18 billion and has the world's sixth-largest market share in the IT services industry.
- As part of NTT, a company with a 150-year history that invests \$3.6 billion annually in R&D, NTT DATA is well positioned to help organisations tackle the challenges of today while innovating for the future, said the company.
- Dubey brings with him a depth of industry expertise, having joined NTT in 2021 from global advisory firm McKinsey & Company, where he spent more than 20 years advising many of the world's most prestigious technology companies and leading CEOs. He was also responsible for launching and spearheading McKinsey's global cloud computing efforts.

Q. Japanese business and technology services firm NTT DATA has appointed whom as the CEO of its business outside Japan? **Abhijit Dubey**



Thursday, 20 June 2024

India, US working for training ISRO astronauts at NASA's Johnson Space Center

- India and the US said they concluded the Strategic Framework for Human Spaceflight Cooperation to deepen interoperability in space and are working toward commencing advanced training for ISRO astronauts at the NASA Johnson Space Center.
- A fact-sheet issued by the US and India after the iCET Dialogue between US National Security Adviser (NSA) Jake Sullivan and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval said the two sides are also exploring opportunities to participate in the Lunar Gateway Programme.
- The Lunar Gateway Programme aims to build a space station around the moon as part of the collaborative Artemis programme spearheaded by the US.
- They also noted that the space agencies of the two countries are preparing for the launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar, a jointly developed satellite that will map the entirety of the Earth's surface twice every 12 days as part of efforts to combat climate change and other global challenges together.

Johnson Space Center:

- Formation: November 1, 1961
- Location: Houston, Texas, US
- Director: Vanessa E. Wyche

Q. India and the US are working towards starting advanced training for ISRO astronauts at which NASA centre to deepen interoperability in space? **Johnson Space Center**



Thursday, 20 June 2024

Nachiket Pantvaidya appointed General Manager of Sony Pictures India

- Sony Pictures Entertainment said it has appointed Nachiket Pantvaidya as General Manager of Sony Pictures International Productions (SPIP), India.
- He will oversee local Indian production while working alongside Shony Panjikanan, General Manager and Head of Sony Pictures Releasing International, India.
- An industry veteran, Pantvaidya was the Group CEO, Balaji Telefilms and Business Head of Sony Entertainment Television. He was also the Business Head of Star Plus and held several roles in the Star TV network, including Head of Star Pravah and Managing Director of Fox Television Studios.
- An IIM-Ahmedabad alumnus, he has also held key management roles in BBC and Disney.

Sony Pictures:

- Founded: December 18, 1987
- Headquarters: California, United States
- Chairman and CEO: Tony Vinciguerra

Q. Who has been appointed as General Manager of Sony Pictures International Productions (SPIP), India? **Nachiket Pantvaidya**



Thursday, 20 June 2024

US, India to launch NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar to combat climate change

- India and the United States (US) are preparing to jointly launch NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar to combat climate change and other global challenges, announced the White House as National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan is on a two-day visit to New Delhi.
- The White House made a set of announcements after Jake Sullivan met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Indian counterpart Ajit Doval in New Delhi.
- Jake Sullivan and Ajit Doval chaired the second meeting of the US-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET).
- The White House also announced the launch of “a new partnership between the US Space Force and the Indian startups, 114ai and 3rdiTech.”

NASA:

- Formed: July 29, 1958
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C.
- Administrator: Bill Nelson
- Deputy Administrator: Pamela Melroy

Q. According to recent news, India and the United States (US) are preparing to jointly launch _____ to tackle climate change and other global challenges. **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar**



Thursday, 20 June 2024

Mesabi Metallics appoints Joe Broking as President and CEO

- Mesabi Metallics Co. LLC has announced the appointment of Joe Broking as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the company.
- Mesabi Metallics is at a new and exciting stage in its development where we are bringing in dozens of employees, managers and leaders in human resources, corporate finance, marketing, and other key salaried positions vital for our success as we strive to become operational soon.
- Broking most recently served as Director, President and CEO of Canada-based Tacora Resources Inc. since October 2021, and as its Chief Financial Officer from 2017 to 2021.
- While there, he led the transformation of the company's Scully Mine, an iron ore concentrate producer located near Wabush, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, with a production capacity of 6 million tonnes per year and 550 employees, including 280 members of the United Steelworkers.

MESABI METALLICS:

- Mesabi Metallics is an advanced construction-stage iron ore mine and pelletization project located in Nashwauk, Minnesota.

Q. Who has been appointed as the President and CEO of Mesabi Metallics Co. LLC? **Joe Broking**



GBST

Thursday, 20 June 2024

Wipro partners with GBST to transform superannuation and wealth administration services

- Indian technology company Wipro has partnered with GBST, a leading global provider of wealth management and advice solutions technology for the financial services industry.
- The partnership aimed at delivering end-to-end administration services for superannuation, wealth, and pension companies transitioning from legacy IT environments.
- Notably, the partnership brings together GBST's Composer wealth management administration SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) platform and Wipro's extensive expertise in outsourced administration and contact centre services, to deliver a single offering that includes technology, cyber, risk, and business operations.

Composer:

- Composer is a wealth management administration SaaS technology solution. It helps advised and D2C investment platforms, superannuation funds, life and pension firms, and employee savings schemes improve efficiency and ensure regulatory compliance.

Q. Which Indian technology company has partnered with GBST, a leading global provider of wealth management and advisory solutions technology for the financial services industry? **Wipro**



Thursday, 20 June 2024

Paytm appoints ex-SEBI official Rajeev Agarwal to board as Neeraj Arora resigns

- Vijay Shekhar Sharma-led Paytm has appointed Rajeev Krishnamuralilal Agarwal as a non-executive independent director.
- Meanwhile, the company also announced Neeraj Arora's resignation as a Non-Executive Independent Director.
- Agarwal, a former full-time member of SEBI, will join the board for a term of five consecutive years.

Who is Rajeev Krishnamuralilal Agarwal?

- Rajeev Krishnamuralilal Agarwal brings over four decades of experience in the stock market, including 28 years with the Indian Revenue Services.
- As a whole-time member of SEBI, he was instrumental in major market policy reforms, such as the revival package of the mutual fund industry in 2012 and the merger of the Forward Markets Commission with SEBI in 2015.
- Currently, he is Chairman and Independent Director on the board of Trust Mutual Fund and Independent Director on the boards of ACC Ltd., Star Health Insurance, UGRO Capital Ltd. and MK Ventures Capital Ltd.

Q. Recently, Paytm has appointed which former SEBI official to the board after the resignation of Neeraj Arora? **Rajiv Agarwal**

ADB

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Thursday, 20 June 2024

ADB approves \$170 million loan to strengthen health sector in India

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB), sanctioned a \$170 million policy-based loan to enhance India's readiness and capability in the health sector to address future pandemics.
- This funding, under the Strengthened and Measurable Actions for Resilient and Transformative Health Systems (Subprogramme 1), will help in the implementation of the government's National Health Policy 2017.
- This policy aims to ensure universal access to high-quality healthcare services across the country.
- This loan will address deficiencies in governance, legislation, and institutional structures, advancing India's objective of achieving universal access to quality and affordable healthcare services.
- The programme aims to enhance disease surveillance systems to promptly address public health threats.
- It will establish laboratory networks for monitoring infectious diseases across states, union territories, and metropolitan areas.
- Additionally, it will assist in developing reliable data systems to oversee and align national health initiatives targeting disadvantaged populations such as the poor and women.

Q. In order to enhance disease surveillance systems, the ADB sanctioned a \$170 million policy-based loan to which country? **India**



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