

News Digest

NATIONAL

Dr Justice DY Chandrachud Appointed New Chief Justice of India

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Dr. Justice DY Chandrachud as the new Chief Justice of India. Justice Chandrachud's appointment will come into effect from 9th November 2022. Born in 1959, Justice Chandrachud was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 13th May 2016. Earlier, he served as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court. He completed his LLB from Campus Law Centre, Delhi University, and obtained LLM degree and a Doctorate in Juridical Sciences from Harvard Law School, USA.



India Rejects Global Hunger Index Report 2022

India has rejected the Global Hunger Index Report 2022 that ranks India at 107 among 121 countries in terms of prevalence of hunger. In a statement, Ministry of Women and Child Development said, consistent effort is yet again visible to taint India's image as a nation that does not fulfill the food security and nutritional requirements of its population. The Ministry said that the index is an erroneous measure of hunger and suffers from serious methodological issues; is disconnected from ground reality and chooses to deliberately ignore efforts made by the Government to ensure food security for the population especially during the COVID Pandemic.

First Ever DefExpo Exclusively Featuring Indian Companies held in Gujarat

Defense PSUs and indigenous private sector defence manufacturers showcase their products at the DefExpo 2022 held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. It was the first-ever edition of DefExpo to exclusively feature Indian companies.



India : The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub
DEFEXPO 22
INDIA
18-22 OCTOBER 2022 | GANDHINAGAR
Ministry of Defence

The Indian companies showcased a range of defence products like Anti-UAV directed energy weapons and shooting range solutions. Meanwhile, the Indian Army showcased the defence systems procured from Indian companies like Long Range Reconnaissance System developed by Tata and Advanced Combat Drones developed by Raphe mPhibr. The Army also displayed the currently imported equipment to the Indian companies to encourage them to manufacture these in India. 1340 companies had registered to participate in DefExpo 2022, making it the biggest Indian defence exhibition to date.

CCI Fines Google for Anti-Competitive Conduct

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a penalty of over Rs 1337 crore on Google for abusing its dominant position in the online search market resulting in denial of market access for competing search apps. The Commission has also directed Google to modify its conduct within a defined timeline. In another decision, the CCI has slapped penalties of more than Rs 392 crore on online travel firms including MakeMyTrip, Goibibo, and OYO for adopting unfair business practices including abusing their dominant position and for having anti-competitive arrangements with similar platforms.

Indian Army Signs MoU with 11 Banks for Agniveer Salary Package

The Indian Army has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with 11 Banks for providing banking facilities to Agniveers on enrollment. The Banks are SBI, PNB, Bank of Baroda, IDBI Bank, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, Yes Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank and Bandhan Bank. The features and benefits offered under Agniveer Salary Package are similar to the Defence Salary Package. In addition, the banks have offered soft loans to the exiting Agniveers to promote and enhance their entrepreneurial skills. The first batch of Agniveers under Agnipath Scheme will be joining Training Centres by January 2023.

INTERNATIONAL

UN Chief on 3-day Visit to India; Jointly Launches Mission LIFE with Modi

United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres who was on a three-day visit to India spoke with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during a bilateral meeting in Gujarat on 20th October 2022. After the meeting, PM Modi and the UN chief jointly launched Mission LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment) - a three-pronged strategy for changing people's collective approach



towards sustainability. Addressing the gathering, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged developed countries to fulfill their climate commitments and provide meaningful financial & technological support to countries like India. He also stressed the participation of individuals and communities in finding solutions for protecting the planet. The UN chief also visited Modhera, which was recently declared as the country's first 24x7 solar-powered village.

International Solar Alliance Approves Investments Stimulus Payment Mechanism

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) has approved Solar Facility - a payment-guarantee mechanism which is expected to stimulate investments into solar through two financial components: (i) Solar Payment Guarantee Fund (ii) Solar Insurance Fund. The ISA General Assembly held in New Delhi also approved the SolarX Grand Challenge, which is planned to focus on innovation and start-ups, particularly decentralized solar energy applications that contribute to livelihoods, such as agriculture, health, and small-scale industrial applications. Meanwhile, India and France have been re-elected as President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

ECONOMY

PM Launches 75 Digital Banking Units to Promote Financial Inclusion

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to the nation to ensure that benefits of digital banking reach every nook and corner of the country. The DBUs will provide facilities like opening of savings account, balance check, print a passbook, transfer of funds, investing in fixed deposits, loan applications, applying for credit and debit cards, pay taxes and bills, thereby empowering a robust digital banking infrastructure for the country. This will not only improve banking but will also promote financial management, transparency and financial inclusion.

Rs 500 Cr Accelerator Fund for Agri Startups Announced

The Ministry of Agriculture has announced Rs 500 crore accelerator fund for supporting Startups working in the agriculture sector. The fund would be utilized for commercialization and democratisation of innovations and techniques put forth by Startups. Union-Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has said a separate division for such startups will be created at the Ministry under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary. Currently there are 2000 Agri Startups in the country and the government aims to take this number to 10,000.

Aviation Sector to See Rs 95,000 Cr Investment in Next 4 years

The government and the private sector will jointly invest about Rs 95,000 Crore in the aviation sector in the next four years, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has stated. Chairing the Conference of the Ministers of Civil Aviation in New Delhi, Minister Scindia informed that the Airports Authority of India is working on expansion of about 40 airports and setting up of 3 to 4 new Greenfield airports. He said, private sector is also working on 60 Brownfield and 3 Greenfield airports and that the number of airports is likely to cross 200 in next 4 to 5 years. He urged the states to cut Value Added Tax on jet fuels.

SPORTS

India Lift Women's T20 Asia Cup 2022

India have won the Women's Asia Cup 2022 after defeating Sri Lanka in the final by 8 wickets in the Final at Sylhet International Cricket Stadium, Bangladesh. The Women in Blue defeated the Lankan team for the fifth time in an Asia Cup final, clinching the record seventh Women's Asia Cup title for India. India had entered the final with a comfortable win over Thailand, while Sri Lanka defeated Pakistan by one run in the second semifinal.



Roger Binny Appointed New President of BCCI

Former Indian cricketer Roger Binny has been appointed as the new president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The 67-year-old is the first-ever former World Cup-winning player to become BCCI's president. Meanwhile, Jay Shah has been re-inducted as the secretary of the board. Besides confirming the new appointments, the BCCI has also decided to conduct the inaugural edition of the Women's IPL in 2023.

5th Khelo India Youth Games 2022 to be Held in Madhya Pradesh

The fifth edition of Khelo India Youth Games -2022 will be held in the State of Madhya Pradesh, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur has announced. More than 8,500 athletes and sportspersons are expected to participate in the sporting event that will be held at eight locations including Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior, Ujjain, and Jabalpur.

(Source: AIR/PIB)