

❖ Rahul Dravid to continue as India's Head coach

- Rahul Dravid has accepted the BCCI's offer to extend his term as India's head coach until at least the 2024 T20 world cup in June
- The BCCI has also retained the service of India's support staff, including batting coach Vikram Rathore, bowling coach Paras Mhambrey, and fielding coach T Dilip.
- Dravid was appointed as India's head coach after the T20 world cup.
- Despite not securing any ICC trophies during his first stint, Dravid has guided India to the top of the Test, ODI, and T20I rankings, showcasing his tactical prowess and ability to nurture young talent.

❖ Ministry of Textiles to host 81st Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee

- The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is hosting the 81st Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) in Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai during 2nd – 5th December, 2023.
- Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Textiles, Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India would be inaugurating this Plenary on December 2, in Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai.
- This will be the first in-person Plenary Meeting since 2019 due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- The theme of this Plenary Meeting is "Cotton Value Chain: Local Innovations for Global prosperity"

➤ This International Cotton Advisory Committee was established in September 1939 headquartered in Washington D.C, U.S.A.

❖ **World AIDS Day 2023: UNAIDS's Reports Highlights End To AIDS By 2030**

➤ On the day of World AIDS Day 2023 on 1st December, the joint United Nations Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS) released the world AIDS Day Report 2023, titled “Let Communities Lead”.

➤ The report states that AIDS can be ended as a public health threat by 2030, if only frontline communities get full support from governments and donors.

➤ The report was launched in London, United Kingdom (UK) at a World AIDS Day event hosted by STOPAIDS, a civil organization

➤ The 2023 theme of World AIDS day is “Let Communities Lead”.

➤ UNAIDS established in 1996, its executive director Winnie Byanyima and headquarters located at Geneva, Switzerland.

❖ **ISRO Scientist V R Lalithambika Conferred Highest French Civilian Award**

➤ V R Lalithambika, the former director of the the Human Spaceflight Programme at ISRO, was honoured with the prestigious Legion d'honneur, the highest French civilian award

➤ Lalithambika is the 2nd ISRO Scientist after former ISRO chairman A S Kiran Kumar to be awarded the Legion d'Honneur of France for promoting indo-French space cooperation. Kumar was awarded the honour in 2019.

➤ This award was established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, the Legion of Honour stands as the highest civilian award bestowed by the French Republic.

❖ **IRDAI sets up 11-member Task Force, Led by Randip Singh Jagpal to examine the impact of DPDP Act, 2023**

➤ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) formed an 11-member task force to examine the impact of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act of 2023 on the insurance sector.

➤ The chairperson of this task force will be Randip Singh Jagpal, Executive Director at IRDAI and Member of Stakeholder's Committee.

➤ The task force will submit its report within 1 month of the order issuance.

➤ The Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department notified the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 which establishes a comprehensive framework for processing personal data, balancing individual rights to data protection with the lawful processing needs.

❖ **Mastercard and U GRO Capital Collaborate for MSME Financing**

➤ Mastercard, a prominent global technology company in the payments industry, has forged a strategic partnership with U GRO Capital, a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) specializing in Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) financing.

➤ This collaboration aims to provide financial solutions to small businesses in India, addressing the longstanding challenge of limited access to capital faced by MSMEs.

➤ This collaboration with U GRO capital is in line with Mastercard's earlier announcement to get 1 billion people and 50 million micro and small businesses, including 25 million female entrepreneurs into the digital economy by 2025.

❖ **HDFC Life's 'Insure India' Campaign sets Guinness World Record**

➤ HDFC Life, a leading life insurance provider, proudly announced its achievement of a new Guinness World Records title. The accolade was earned through the creation of the largest Online Selfie Mosaic, a remarkable compilation of 19,097 photos contributed by individuals as a part of 'Insure India campaign.

➤ The Insure India campaign embodies the concept of shared responsibility, involving employees, partners, and customers in driving positive change. The overarching goal is to ensure the protection and financial well-being of every Indian through the comprehensive range of life insurance products and services offered by HDFC Life.

❖ **West Indies Shane Dowrich Announces International Retirement**

➤ Shane Dowrich, the seasoned wicketkeeper-batsman, has announced his retirement from international cricket and subsequently withdrawn from the West Indies squad set to face England in the upcoming ODI series. The West Indies Cricket Board (CWI) confirmed the unexpected decision, marking the end of Dowrich's international cricket journey.

➤ Making his Test debut against Australia in 2015, Dowrich went on to represent the West Indies in 35 Test matches.

His significant contribution with the bat in the longer format includes 1570 runs, featuring a notable high score of 125 not out against Sri Lanka.

➤ As a wicketkeeper, Dowrich showcased his skills by recording 85 catches and five stumpings during his Test career.

❖ Mizoram Governor Appoints Air Force Officer as India's First Woman Aide De Camp

➤ In a historic move, Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati has appointed, squadron Leader Manisha Padhi a distinguished officer from the 2015 batch of the Indian Air Force, as India's first Woman Aide-De-Camp (ADC) from the Indian Armed Forces. His groundbreaking decision not only marks a significant milestone but also serves as a powerful testament to the ability of women to break gender norms and excel in diverse fields.

➤ Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi, with a distinguished career in the Indian Air Force, she brings a wealth of experience to her new role. Prior to this historic appointment, she served in various capacities at Air Force Station, Bidar, Air Force Station, Pune and Air Force Station, Bhatinda.