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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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DESCRIPTIVE

❖ Ministry of Panchayati Raj launched GIS application “Gram Manchitra” to empower Gram Panchayats

- Ministry of Panchayati Raj had launched the Geographic Information System (GIS) application “Gram Manchitra”.
- This application facilitates and supports Gram Panchayats to perform planning at Gram Panchayat level using geo-spatial technology.
- It provides a single/ unified Geo Spatial platform to better visualize the various developmental works to be taken up across the different sectors and provide a decision support system for Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP).
- Ministry has launched mActionSoft, a mobile based solution to help in capturing photos with Geo-Tags for the works which have asset as an output.
- Geo-tagging of the assets is done in all three stages viz. (i) before start of the work, (ii) during the work and (iii) on completion of work.
- **Ministry of Panchayati Raj:**
- **Founded:** 27 May 2004
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- April 24th is celebrated as national Panchayat Raj Day every year to mark the passing of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992.

❖ **According to S&P report: India set to become 3rd largest economy by 2030**

- S&P Global Ratings forecast that India is poised to become the world's third-largest economy by 2030, with an estimated 7% GDP growth in the fiscal year 2026-27.
- Currently, India is the fifth largest, lagging US, China, Germany and Japan.
- S&P in their Global Credit Outlook 2024 pegged India's GDP growth rate of 6.4 per cent for the financial year ending March 2024, a decrease from the 7.2 per cent recorded in the preceding financial year.
- The growth rate will remain at 6.4 per cent in the next fiscal (2024-25) before climbing to 6.9 per cent in the next and 7 per cent in 2026-27.
- India's economy will more than double to \$7.3 trillion by 2030, from \$3.5 trillion in 2022.
- **About S&P Global:**
- **CEO:** Douglas L. Peterson
- **CFO:** Ewout Steenbergen
- **Founded:** 1917
- **Founders:** James H. McGraw, John A. Hill
- **Headquarters:** New York, United States

❖ **JT-60SA: World's biggest experimental nuclear fusion reactor inaugurated in Japan**

- Japan has unveiled the world's largest operational experimental nuclear fusion reactor.
- This colossal machine, dubbed JT-60SA, is housed in a hangar north of Tokyo in Naka, and represents a pivotal moment in the quest for clean and limitless power.
- JT-60SA is a joint initiative between the European Union and Japan.
- Traditional nuclear fission used in power plants, which splits atomic nuclei, fusion mimics the sun's energy production by merging two nuclei, potentially offering a safer and more abundant energy source.
- The JT-60SA, a six-story-high tokamak, is designed to contain and control plasma heated to a staggering 200 million degrees Celsius.
- The objective is to explore the viability of fusion as a secure, expansive, and carbon-neutral net energy source, where the energy produced surpasses is more than the input required for its production.
- **About Japan:**
- **Capital:** Tokyo
- **Currency:** Yen
- **Prime Minister:** Fumio Kishida

❖ **CID famed actor Dinesh Phadnis dies at age 57**

- Actor Dinesh Phadnis, popular for playing the role of Fredericks in one of television's most popular shows CID died at the age of 57.
- Dinesh Phadnis became well-known for his depiction of 'Fredericks' in the television series 'CID.'
- Actor Shivaji Satam played ACP Pradyuman in the show, to which he devoted over two decades. One of India's longest-running television shows, 'CID' debuted in 1998.
- Apart from his part in 'CID,' Dinesh Phadnis also had a brief appearance in the mainstream television programme with a massive following 'Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah.'

❖ **Captain Geetika Koul becomes first woman medical officer to be deployed at Siachen**

- Captain Geetika Koul from the Snow Leopard Brigade becomes the first woman medical officer of the Indian Army to be deployed at the world's highest battlefield, Siachen.
- This achievement follows her successful completion of rigorous induction training at the esteemed Siachen Battle School, which includes high-altitude acclimatization, survival techniques, and specialized medical procedures.
- The Fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army announced this milestone on social media, highlighting the significance of Captain Koul's deployment in promoting gender inclusion within the military.

❖ **India to provide \$250 million to Kenya to modernise agriculture**

- India announced a \$250 million line of credit to Kenya for modernisation of its agricultural sector as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and visiting Kenyan President William Samoei Ruto agreed to strengthen bilateral ties in the field of defence, trade, energy, digital public infrastructure and healthcare.
- The two sides signed five pacts providing for cooperation in a range of areas including sports, education and digital solution, and unveiled a joint vision document to scale up maritime engagement in the Indian Ocean region.
- India also raised the issue of two Indian nationals who went missing in the east African country in July last year.
- The missing Indians were identified as Zulfiqar Ahmad Khan and Zaid Sami Kidwai.
- There were reports that they were abducted. Reports in October last year had cited a close aide of the Kenyan president claiming that the two missing Indians were killed by the disbanded Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) unit.

❖ **Akshata Krishnamurthy becomes first Indian to operate Mars rover**

- Dr. Akshata Krishnamurthy has etched her name in history as the first Indian citizen to command a rover mission on Mars.
- Her achievement stands as a testimony to her unyielding determination and the realization of an audacious childhood dream.
- Krishnamurthy hails from India and her fascination with space began early, igniting a passion for aerospace engineering.

- She reached an incredible point in her journey when she successfully guided a Mars rover, achieving significant success in her impressive career.
- Currently, Dr. Krishnamurthy contributes significantly to various space missions, notably the Perseverance rover, which plays a pivotal role in collecting Martian samples for eventual return to Earth.

❖ **Revanth Reddy named Telangana's new Chief Minister**

- Telangana Congress chief Anumula Revanth Reddy will be the next Chief Minister of the southern state.
- Addressing a press briefing, Congress general secretary KC Venugopal said that the swearing-in ceremony will be held on December 7.
- The 54-year-old president of Telangana Congress will take oath Thursday along with a few ministers.
- Reddy will be the first Congress Chief Minister of Telangana, a state which the Congress-led UPA government had carved out in 2014 but had to wait for a decade to come to power since the erstwhile TRS, which led the agitation for bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, reaped the political benefit after its creation.
- Congress won with a majority mark by securing 64 seats in the southern state.
- **About Telangana:**
- **Governor:** Tamilisai Soundararajan Trending
- **Founded:** 2 June 2014
- **Capital:** Hyderabad
- **Assembly Seats:** 119

❖ **Huma Qureshi makes her writing debut with the tale of an accidental superhero**

- Popular Bollywood actor Huma Qureshi has now turned author with her debut novel titled 'Zeba: An Accidental Superhero'.
- She launched her book at the 12th edition of the Bangalore Literature Festival (BLF).
- The Novel 'Zeba: An Accidental Superhero', publisher HarperCollins India.
- The superhero saga will see Zeba, 'a rebellious brat', live up to the superpowers she has accidentally achieved and reaffirm the belief that "superheroes come wearing different capes.
- The book is a tale of "heroism, transformation, and the triumph of the human spirit in the face of adversity".

❖ **11th Bangladesh Bookfair begins at College Square, Kolkata**

- The Eleventh Bangladesh Bookfair begins at College Square, Kolkata.
- 65 publishing houses are participating in this year's event.
- This would help the publishers to reach out to more people in Kolkata who are interested in Bangladeshi literature, as many publishers do not get the opportunity to participate in the Kolkata International Book fair.
- The fair will continue till December 13.
- **About Bangladesh:**
- **Capital:** Dhaka
- **Currency:** Bangladeshi taka

➤ **Prime Minister:** Sheikh Hasina

➤ **President:** Mohammed Shahabuddin

❖ **India baggs 3 gold, 5 silver and 1 bronze medals in IBA Junior World**

Boxing

➤ India bagged three gold, five silver and one bronze medals at IBA Junior World Boxing Championship 2023 in Yerevan, Armenia.

➤ Akansha won gold in 70 kg category, Pari clinched gold medal in 48 kg weight category, while Nisha won gold in 52 kg category.

➤ In 52 kg weight category, Vini won silver medal, while Srishti Sathe won silver medal in 63 kg weight category.

➤ In the boys' category, Jatin won the silver medal in the 54 kg category.

❖ **Sreeshankar Clinches 35th Jimmy George Foundation Award**

➤ Olympian M. Sreeshankar has been honored with the prestigious 35th Jimmy George Foundation Award for emerging as the best sportsperson of Kerala.

➤ This recognition comes as a testament to Sreeshankar's outstanding achievements, including securing the long jump silver medal in both the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games.

➤ The award comprises a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh and a plaque, symbolizing the recognition of exceptional contributions to the field of sports.

➤ **About Kerala:**

➤ **Chief Minister:** Pinarayi Vijayan

➤ **Founded:** 1 November 1956

➤ **Governor:** Arif Mohammed Khan

➤ **Capital:** Thiruvananthapuram

❖ **Dharmendra Pradhan kicks off F4S programme in Cuttack**

➤ Honourable Union Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, attended the kick-off programme for the distribution of footballs as part of the Football for Schools (F4S) in Cuttack, Odisha.

➤ He distributed footballs at PM Shri Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Mundali, Cuttack, under this programme, which is run by FIFA.

➤ The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, is supported by the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Sports Authority of India (SAI) in the implementation of this programme in India.

➤ **About FIFA:**

➤ **President:** Gianni Infantino

➤ **Headquarters:** Zürich, Switzerland

➤ **Founded:** 21 May 1904

➤ **About Odisha:**

➤ **Capital:** Bhubaneswar

➤ **Chief Minister:** Naveen Patnaik

➤ **Governor:** Raghubar Das

❖ **Suresh Raina appointed as the Youth Voter Awareness Ambassador for Jammu & Kashmir**

- Election Commission of India (ECI) appointed Former (Retired) Indian cricketer Suresh Kumar Raina as the Youth Voter Awareness Ambassador for Union Territory (UT) Jammu & Kashmir (J&K), to create awareness among the youngsters to participate in the electoral process for higher voter turnout.
- Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of J&K, Pandurang K Pole presented a letter of his appointment on 1st December, 2023.
- Suresh Raina, the former Indian cricketer from Uttar Pradesh is a Left-handed batsman. He was a part of 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup (50 overs) winning squad and 2013 International Cricket Council (ICC) Champions Trophy Triumph.
- He played his Debut international match against Sri Lanka in 2005 (ODI). Also his final international match against England in 2018 (ODI).

❖ **Commander Prerna Deosthalee becomes first woman to command INS warship 'Trinkat'**

- Commander Prerna Deosthalee has been named the first female officer in the Indian Navy to take command of an Indian Naval Warship
- Information about the appointment of Commander Deosthalee has been given by Indian Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar.
- Prerna Deosthalee was also appointed as Commanding Officer of 'INS Trinkat' based in Goa. This Warship was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders Limited.
- Padma Bandopadhyay she was the first woman to be promoted to the rank of Air Marshal in the Indian Air Force.
- Avani Chaturvedi, she became the first India woman pilot of the India Air Force to complete a solo flight in a MIG-21 Bison fighter aircraft.
- Deepak Mishra, has made history as the first female Air Force officer to receive a gallantry medal.