

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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DESCRIPTIVE

❖ **India to Host 2024 World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly**

- India will host the World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly (WTSA) next year in a bid to advance 5G and 6G networks in the country.
- The WTSA is the governing conference of the ITU Standardisation Sector, one of the three world conferences of the International Telecommunication Union and part of the United Nations system. The conference is held every four years.
- A decade ago, India used to import nearly 98% of its mobile phones, but in the past year, the country exported mobile devices worth Rs.90,000 crore.
- This shift reflects India's growing prowess in manufacturing and technology, making it a net exporter.

❖ **India and Sri Lanka hold 33rd edition of annual International Maritime meeting**

- The 33rd edition of annual International Maritime Boundary Line meeting between the representatives of Navies and Coast Guards of India and Sri Lanka was held onboard INS Sumitra at the Indo - Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Line off Point, Calimere at Palk Bay.
- The interaction between the counterparts of both countries acts as a forum for the Navies and Coast Guards of the two countries to further enhance ties and synergy in operations.

- The Sri Lankan delegation was headed by Commander of North Central Naval Area of Sri Lanka Navy, Rear Admiral BAKS Banagoda.
- The Indian delegation was headed by Flag Officer commanding Tamil Nadu and Puducherry Naval Area, Rear Admiral Ravi Kumar Dhingra.
- Both sides reaffirmed the importance of mutual cooperation in operations and agreed to take forward the decisions taken, to strengthen the maritime security in area.

❖ **Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates SBI branch in Sri Lanka**

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman visited Sri Lanka's eastern port town of Trincomalee where she opened a branch of the State Bank of India and appreciated its role in supporting corporates in international trade.
- Sitharaman, who is in the country on a three-day visit, started her day by visiting the main Hindu Temple in the multi-ethnic city to pay homage to it before opening a branch of the State Bank of India in Trincomalee.
- During the Sri Lankan economic crisis, SBI's presence in Sri Lanka paved the way for a smooth extension of the Line of Credit worth USD 1 billion by India to Sri Lanka.
- SBI Sri Lanka continues to play a vital role by supporting corporates in international trade.

❖ EESL Launched 'National Efficient Cooking Programme'

- Recently, the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) launched its ground breaking National Efficient Cooking Programme (NECP) and Energy Efficient Fans Programme (EEFP).
- It is a subset of the Clean Cooking Scheme. It focuses on Non-Solar/Electricity-based Induction Cookstoves, aligning with the Go- electric initiative by the Ministry of Power.
- This programme introduces induction-based cookstoves. Target: To deploy 20 Lakh Induction cook-stoves across India.
- EESL seeks to reduce the environmental impact of cooking methods, ensuring cleaner air and improved health for citizens.
- EESL has also partnered with Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS) for the large-scale deployment of induction cooktops.
- The deployment is expected to accelerate the acceptance and large-scale adoption of modern electric cooking devices in Indian kitchens.
- Benefit: It offers a cost advantage of 25-30% over traditional cooking methods, promising both energy savings and cost-effective cooking solutions.

❖ **India lifts Women's Asian Champions Trophy title after thumping win over Japan**

- In Hockey, the Indian women's team dethroned Japan to crown themselves Asian Champions Trophy winners.
- The hosts beat Japan 4-0 in the final in Ranchi.
- India overcame the two-time champions through goals from Sangita Kumari, Neha, Laremsiami and Vandana Katariya.
- India won their maiden Asian Champions Trophy title in 2016 in Singapore, while Japan bagged the crown twice, in 2013 and 2021.
- Asian Games champions China beat South Korea 2-1 to secure the third place.
- India announced 3 lakh rupees to each player, and 1.50 lakh rupees each for support staff.
- Jharkhand's Salima Tete was announced the Player of the Tournament.

❖ **NASA Apollo astronaut Thomas Kenneth Mattingly II passed away**

- Apollo astronaut Thomas Kenneth Mattingly II, known for helping the crew of Apollo 13 safely return to Earth after an explosion doomed their lunar mission, has died at the age of 87.
- Born in Chicago on March 17, 1936, Mattingly would go on to graduate high school in Miami and earn a degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Auburn University in 1958.

➤ Starting his career with the US Navy, Mattingly, who went by Ken and TK, eventually joined the Air Force Aerospace Research Pilot School as a student, before being chosen by NASA to be part of the astronaut class in 1966.

❖ **Bank of Maharashtra appoints Rohit Rishi as Executive Director**

➤ The Central Government has appointed Shri Rohit Rishi as Executive Director on the Board of Bank of Maharashtra for a period of three years.

➤ He replaced A.B. Vijayakumar.

➤ Rohit Rishi started his banking career as Industrial Development Officer in Indian Bank in July 1995 and has over 28 years of experience working in diversified areas of banking.

➤ During his tenure, he worked in all key banking functions in various capacities mainly in credit management.

❖ **'Surat' becomes the first Navy warship to be named after a city in Gujarat**

➤ The crest of the Indian Navy's latest warship 'Surat' will be unveiled by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.

➤ This is the first warship to be named after a city of Gujarat and this is also the first time the unveiling of the crest of a warship is being undertaken in the very city after which it has been named.

➤ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had launched this indigenously constructed ship, which is a guided missile destroyer, in March last year at Mumbai.

➤ 'Warship projects' under construction, the 'Project 15B' programme involves construction of four next generation stealth guided missile destroyers, of which "Surat" is the fourth and the last ship.

❖ Collins Dictionary picks 'AI' as its word of the year

➤ Collins Dictionary has named "AI" as its word of the year, defining it as an "abbreviation for artificial intelligence: the modelling of human mental functions by computer programs."

➤ Considered to be the next great technological revolution, AI has seen rapid development and has been much talked about in 2023.

➤ While AI's capabilities in mimicking human speech fascinated people at first, they were also the source of some anxiety.

❖ International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War

➤ The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict is a global day observed on November 6 every year.

➤ Aim: To raise awareness about the devastating effects of war on the environment.

➤ Theme 2023: Together for a more sustainable and peaceful future

➤ This day reminds us of the importance of protecting our environment from the damage caused by war and armed conflicts in different regions of the world.

❖ **Bangladesh to host 24th Asian Archery Championships in 2025**

- Bangladesh will host the 24th Asian Archery Championships in 2025 after winning by 14-10 votes in the bid at the World Archery Asia Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand.
- A total of twenty four member countries of the Asian continent participated in the congress. Bangladesh and China applied for bids as host countries for the 24th Asian Archery Championship, reports Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha.
- When the vote was held between the two countries that participated in the bid at the Congress, Bangladesh won the vote and was allowed to host the Asian Archery Championship.
- The 23rd Asian Archery Championship will begin in Bangkok, Thailand.

❖ **Kohli equals Tendulkar's record of highest number of ODI centuries**

- Virat Kohli hit an unbeaten 101 runs equaling Sachin Tendulkar's record of highest number of 49 centuries in One Day Internationals.
- Virat touched the milestone in 277 innings as against Tendulkar's 452 innings.
- He was adjudged Player of the match.
- The next batter on the list of most ODI centuries is current captain Rohit Sharma, who has scored 31 centuries.
- India is currently at Number one position with 14 points followed by South Africa at 2nd place with 12 points.