

❖ Bharti AXA Life Insurance launches 'Income Laabh'

- Bharti AXA Life Insurance has introduced a new product, Bharti AXA Life Income Laabh, as part of its aim to simplify insurance and deliver maximum protection to its consumers.
- This approach addresses the twin aims of financial security and a consistent revenue stream.
- Customers can expect a steady stream of guaranteed income for 10 to 12 years, depending on the policy term they choose.
- The initial income pay-out is 100% of the annual premium paid, increasing to 150% after 5 years for a 10-year policy term.
- After 6 years, the income grows by 200% in the case of a 12-year policy term.
- In addition, the policyholder or nominee will get a guaranteed lump sum amount in the final year of the income period, which can assist them in stepping up and achieving crucial life goals.

❖ Vijayawada gets IGBC's 'Green Railway Station' certification

- Vijayawada Railway Station was awarded the 'Green Railway Station' certification with the highest rating of Platinum by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for its efforts in improving the environmental standards and providing eco-friendly services to passengers.
- This is an upgradation of the station's ratings, from gold in 2019 to platinum in 2023.

➤ This is a moment of pride for the Vijayawada railway station, second in the South Central Railway (SCR) zone after Secunderabad to have bagged the platinum rating.

❖ **IIT-Delhi Claim To Have Done India's First Soil Erodibility Mapping**

➤ Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi have conducted the country's first national-scale mapping of soil erodibility.

➤ Before this, soil erodibility assessments were conducted in specific regions or catchments but a national-scale assessment of soil erodibility was required, according to IIT Delhi officials.

➤ The national-scale mapping of soil erodibility is aimed at highlighting specific areas where the soil is most prone to erosion.

❖ **Fourth G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group Meeting to begin in Varanasi**

➤ The fourth and last meeting of the G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) under India's G20 presidency was concluded in Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi.

➤ Over 80 delegates from G20 member countries, special invitee countries and International Organisations attended the meeting.

➤ The meeting will focus on finalising the 2023 G20 sustainable finance report.

➤ The key highlight of the 4th SFWG meeting will be reflections and sharing of experiences by G20 members on the progress made in the implementation of the G20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap.

➤ SFWG aims to help scale up private and public sustainable finance and in so doing, accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

❖ **Cashfree Payments Partners with NPCI for ‘AutoPay on QR’**

- Cashfree Payments, a financial technology company, announced the launch of ‘AutoPay on QR’ in collaboration with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- The feature enables customer on-boarding through a two-step workflow of scanning a QR code and approving an e-mandate via Unified Payments Interface (UPI) apps within 30 seconds.
- ‘AutoPay on QR’ eliminates the necessity to download an app or register on a website as it directly activates a unique subscription for every customer.
- The feature will enhance customer acquisition, support retention, and facilitate growth for subscription-based businesses, said Cashfree in a statement.

❖ **Rohan Bopanna becomes the oldest tennis player to reach a Grand slam final in the Open era**

- India’s Rohan Bopanna became the oldest male tennis player to reach the final of the grand slam in the Open Era at the age of 43 years and 6 months.
- He crossed the record of former Canadian tennis player Daniel Nestor (43 years and 4 months) when he played in a grand slam final at the Australian Open in 2016.
- He entered the final of the US Open 2023 along with his Australian partner Matthew Ebden with straight sets win over the French pair Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut 7-6 (3), 6-2.
- Coincidentally, Bopanna had previously reached the final of US Open in 2010, partnering Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi of Pakistan.

❖ 5th National Wheelchair Rugby Championship 2023

- Maharashtra clinched the title of champions in the 5th National Wheelchair Rugby Championship 2023 by securing a victory over Karnataka.
- This championship, which took place at Balewadi in Pune was marked by intense competition and served as a testament to the impressive development of wheelchair rugby in India.
- The championship saw an overwhelming participation of over 120 athletes from different parts of India, making it a truly national event.

❖ Hindi Diwas 2023

- Hindi Diwas is celebrated on September 14 every year to commemorate the adoption of Hindi as the official language of India by the Constituent Assembly of India on this day in 1949.
- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first prime minister of India, officially declared 14 September as the Hindi Diwas.
- Hindi is majorly spoken in states like Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, and Punjab, and also in some countries like Mauritius, Nepal, Fiji, Suriname, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago.
- Hindi, which is written in the Devanagari script, is one of the 22 scheduled languages of the country.
- Hindi is one of the official languages of the Union Government, with the other being English.

❖ **The Gender Snapshot 2023 Report**

- The United Nations has released a report stating that the goal of achieving gender equality by 2030, as set by the U.N., is unlikely to be realized due to deeply ingrained biases against women in various sectors such as health, education, employment, and politics.
- The report, titled “The Gender Snapshot 2023,” highlights that active resistance to gender equality and chronic underinvestment are key factors slowing progress and even leading to reversals in some cases.
- Issues like unequal access to sexual and reproductive health, political underrepresentation, economic disparities, and a lack of legal protection contribute to this challenge. The report also calls attention to setbacks for women and girls in conflict-affected regions and the adverse impact of climate change.

❖ **Renowned political cartoonist Ajit Ninan passes away**

- Renowned political cartoonist Ajit Ninan passed away at the age of 68 years.
- Ajit Ninan was widely recognized for his contributions, including the famous "CentreStage" series in India Today magazine and "Ninan's World" in The Times of India.
- In addition to his political cartoons, Ninan was known for his work in children's literature.
- One of his favorite creations of the 1980s was Detective Moochwala and his dog Pooch, which appeared in the youth magazine Target.
- Ajit Ninan's political cartoons are known for their bold and humorous stances on various subjects, including satire on both the ruling government and the opposition.
- He also used his artistic talents to address environmental issues and create memorable caricatures.

❖ **Nipah Virus (NiV)**

- Nipah Virus (NiV) was first discovered in 1999 following an epidemic of the disease in pigs and people in Malaysia and Singapore, resulting in nearly 300 human cases and more than 100 deaths.
- It is an airborne transmission infection and can affect those who come in direct contact with contaminated bodies such as pigs or bats carrying the virus.
- NiV is a zoonotic virus, meaning that it initially spreads between animals and people. Infected bats shed the virus through excreta and secretions.
- The virus can be spread by fruit bats, pigs and through human-to-human contact such as saliva or urine.

❖ **ICCR to organize the festival of democracy**

- On 15 September 2023, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) will organise Democracy Utsav at Nalanda University, Bihar, showcasing the rich democratic traditions of India.
- 'Vaishali' festival of democracy will be organised on the occasion of International Democracy Day on 15th September.
- The exhibition aims to highlight the democratic ethos of India and holds significant historical and cultural significance, as it commemorates the birthplace of democracy.
- The establishment of the International Day of Democracy is attributed to the Universal Proclamation on Democracy, which was adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on September 15, 1997.
- The United Nations decided in 2007 that International Democracy Day would be celebrated on 15 September.

➤ Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR):

Established: April 9, 1950

Headquarters: New Delhi.

Founder: Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (First Education Minister of India)

❖ **Mandatory cyber security course for degree students in Telangana**

- The State universities have rolled out cyber security course for degree students, with cases of cybercrime coming to light on a daily basis.
- Its focus is to create awareness among youngsters empowering them with tools to guard the cyberspace.
- The four-credit course designed by experts from the Osmania University, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University (JNTU) – Hyderabad, NALSAR and Police wing, will be offered in the second-year degree.
- The cyber security course will be mandatory for all degree students including those pursuing BSc, BCom, BA and BBA programmes from the present academic year.
- The course, which was launched by Education Minister P Sabitha Indra Reddy, comprises five modules including introduction to cyber security, basics of electronic governance and cyber laws, introduction of cybercrimes and digital forensics, social networks and cyber security, e-commerce and cyber security.
- Students will be assessed with theory exams comprising 70 marks and practicals for 30 marks.
- For practical sessions, students have to either opt for virtual cyber forensic labs with live demo case studies or internships with organisations such as cybercrime police stations, cyber forensic laboratories, banks and IT companies, which are in the cyber security business.

❖ **Kuldeep is quickest Indian spinner to reach 150 ODI wickets**

- Kuldeep Yadav became the fastest Indian spinner to 150 ODI wickets.
- He picked up 4 wickets in his 88th game against Srilanka, to achieve this feat.
- He stood next to Mohammed Shami, who reached the feat in 80 games.
- He is expected to play a crucial part in India's ODI World Cup 2023 campaign.