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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

18th November 2023

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ **RBI tightens norms for unsecured personal loans for banks and NBFCs**

- The Reserve Bank of India has tightened norms for unsecured personal loans for banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).
- RBI has been decided to increase the risk weights in respect of consumer credit exposure of commercial banks, both outstanding as well as new, including personal loans.
- The RBI increased the risk weighting for such loans from 100 percent to 125 percent.
- The risk weighting for bank loans to higher-rated NBFCs too has been increased by 25 percentage points.
- The new norms, which take immediate effect, are applicable for new as well as outstanding loans.
- As the increase in risk weighting will mean banks have to set aside more capital while extending such loans, the lenders in turn could increase the lending rates on such products.

❖ **Alok Sharma appointed as new SPG director**

- Senior IPS officer Alok Sharma was appointed as the director of the “Special Protection Group (SPG)”.
- The elite security unit responsible for the security of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Alok Sharma, a 1991-batch IPS officer of Uttar Pradesh cadre who is currently working as Additional Director General in the Special Protection Group (SPG).
- **About SPG:**
- The SPG is an elite force, specifically raised for the protection of the Prime Minister, former PMs and their immediate family.
- The force is currently 3,000 strong and it was started in 1985 in the wake of the killing of PM Indira Gandhi in 1984.
- In 2022, the ACC had cleared an extension in temporary upgrade for Sinha as DG (SPG) till May 31, 2023.
- **Formed:** 8 April 1985
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi

❖ **Amit S Telang appointed as Indian envoy to the Caribbean Community**

- The Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Amit S Telang has been concurrently accredited as the Indian Ambassador to the Caribbean Community and High Commissioner to the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis and Antigua and Barbuda.
- Telang is presently the High Commissioner of India to the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.
- According to the Ministry of External Affairs, India established a formal relationship with CARICOM as a continuation of its diplomatic relations with the individual members of CARICOM.
- Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Anil Kumar Rai has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

❖ **Federal Bank introduces UPI lite for small-value digital payments**

- Federal Bank has launched UPI Lite to power small-value digital transactions in India.
- NPCI introduced UPI Lite a simplified version of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) system to cater to the growing demand for faster and efficient small-value payments.
- Benefits include a reduction in transaction time, a ready-to-access bank statement, a higher payment success rate, and enhanced security.

➤ It can be created within the existing UPI app without downloading a new app.

➤ **About Federal Bank:**

➤ **Headquarters:** Aluvam, Kochi, Kerala

➤ **CEO:** Shyam Srinivasan

➤ **Founder:** K. P. Hormis

➤ **Founded:** 23 April 1931, Nedumpuram

❖ **World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Day or World COPD Day**

➤ World COPD Day is observed every year on the third Wednesday of November.

➤ The World COPD Day 2023 theme is “Breathing is Life - Act Earlier”.

➤ It is a global healthcare event to raise awareness of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), amongst the public around the world.

➤ Activities have been held in over 50 countries by various organisations, making this day one of the world's most important COPD awareness and education events.

❖ **National Epilepsy Day - 17th November 2023**

➤ National Epilepsy Day is celebrated every year in India on November 17 to raise awareness around the brain disorder and bust myths surrounding the disease.

➤ This day serves as a platform to educate the public, reduce stigma, and encourage support for individuals living with epilepsy.

➤ The theme for this year, "**Seizing the Moment: Breaking the Stigma**".

➤ An epileptic seizure can come all of a sudden and can be highly distressing for the person experiencing it as they aren't in control of the movements, sounds they are making or the sensations they are feeling.

❖ **JSW bags to develop Greenfield port in Karnataka for Rs 4,119 crore**

➤ JSW Infrastructure has received a letter of award to develop an all-weather, deep-water, greenfield port at Keni Port in Karnataka on a public private partnership basis for Rs 4,119 crore.

➤ Keni Port would have modern environment-friendly mechanised facilities for handling cape-size vessels

➤ Keni Port is envisaged for handling all types of cargoes on the west coast to serve the industries in the area covering Bellary, Hosapete, Hubballi, and South Maharashtra.

➤ The proposed Keni Port is located strategically between two operational major ports viz Mormugao Port in the north and New Mangalore Port in the south.

➤ **About JSW Group:**

➤ **Subsidiaries:** JSW Steel, JSW Cement, JSW Energy, Mytrah Energy (India) Private Limited

➤ **Founded:** 1982

➤ **Founder:** Sajjan Jindal

➤ **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra

➤ **About Karnataka:**

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Mobile App: [IACE ONLINE CLASSES](https://www.iaceonlineclasses.com)

YouTube:[IACE](https://www.youtube.com/IACE)

- **Capital:** Bengaluru
- **Chief minister:** Siddaramaiah
- **Governor:** Thawar Chand Gehlot
- **Official animal:** Indian elephant

❖ **Navy's 4th Anti-Submarine Warfare Craft 'Amini' Launched**

- India's naval capabilities was achieved as 'Amini,' the fourth of the Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) Project, was successfully launched at M/s L&T Shipbuilding in Kattupalli.
- The launch ceremony was presided over by Vice Admiral Sandeep Naithani, Chief of Materiel.
- The ship has been named 'Amini' to signify the strategic maritime importance accorded to the island of Amini at Lakshadweep, located about 400 km west of Kochi.
- The 77m long ASW SWC ships with a displacement of 900 tons have a maximum speed of 25 knots and endurance of approx 1800 NM.

❖ **Indian Navy completes second anti-piracy patrol in the Gulf of Guinea in the Atlantic Ocean**

- INS Sumedha is on an Extended Range Operational Deployment and is currently operating in the Atlantic Ocean along the West Coast of Africa.
- INS Sumedha operated in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) undertaking a 31 days anti-piracy patrol.

- This is the second such patrol being undertaken by the Indian Navy in this crucial maritime region.
- The region is critical for India's National Interests as it is an important source for India's energy requirements.
- Sumedha's deployment also ensured enhancing Navy to Navy connect with regional navies including Senegal, Ghana, Togo, Nigeria, Angola and Namibia.
- Another highlight of the deployment was the ships participation in the maiden India- EU Joint Exercise in the GoG.
- INS Sumedha's operational deployment to a crucial geographical region of immense relevance to India has ensured our National Interests are further bolstered.

❖ **Virat Kohli's wax statue to be installed in Jaipur Wax Museum**

- A statue of star cricketer Virat Kohli will be installed in the Wax Museum at Nahargarh Fort in Jaipur.
- This decision was taken after India's victory in the semi-finals of the Cricket World Cup and Virat Kohli completing 50 centuries in one-day cricket.
- The wax figure is being prepared by the duo sculptor Ganesh and Lakshminarayan under the creative direction of Anoop Srivastava.
- A wax statue of Mahendra Singh Dhoni, known as the 'Captain Cool' of cricket, is also installed at the jaipur Wax Museum.

❖ **Kotak Mahindra Bank Appoints Ashok Vaswani As MD & CEO**

- Kotak Mahindra Bank has named Ashok Vaswani as its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective from January 1, 2024.
- The bank's board has appointed Vaswani for a period of three years
- His journey began at Citigroup, where he laid the foundation for his expertise. Further he contributed significantly during his tenure at Barclays.
- The appointment of Vaswani follows the conclusion of Dipak Gupta's term as the Managing Director and CEO of the bank, slated to end on December 31, 2023.
- **About Kotak Mahindra bank:**
- **Founder:** Uday Kotak
- **Founded:** 21 November 1985
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra

❖ **Uttar Pradesh leading in issuance of Ayushman cards**

- Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the leading state in the country in making Ayushman cards under Ayushman Bharat Yojana, followed by Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- The Yogi Adityanath government is committed to providing high quality health services to the people as well as ensuring that the benefits of both the state and the Central government schemes reach the beneficiaries at the grassroots level.

- The chief minister's aim was to provide free and high-quality treatment to the poor people of the state.
- 70 per cent of the eligible families in UP had been issued Ayushman cards.
- The Yogi Adityanath government had conducted special campaigns to ensure 100 per cent card issuance of Ayushman cards to eligible beneficiaries
- **About Uttar Pradesh:**
- **Capital:** Lucknow
- **Chief Minister:** Yogi Adityanath Trending
- **Governor:** Anandiben Patel
- **Official animal:** Barasingha