

**❖ AU Small Finance Bank to raise \$100 mn debt capital from IFC**

➤ The International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, has proposed a debt investment of up to \$100 million in India's AU Small Finance Bank (AUSFB).

➤ Concurrently, it has proposed an equity investment of up to \$40 million in Vastu Housing Finance, a non-banking financial company.

➤ The AUSFB investment will take the form of an IFC a loan for a tenor of up to seven years.

➤ AUSFB will use the proceeds to grow its business of providing affordable housing loans for the purchase or construction of houses in India.

➤ AUSFB is supervised and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.

➤ The company is listed on the National Stock Exchange and the Bombay Stock Exchange.

➤ It had a market capitalization of \$5.9 billion. It boasts over 4.4 million customers across 258 districts and 727 locations.

➤ **About AUSFB:**

➤ **Headquarters:** Jaipur, Rajasthan

➤ **Founded:** 1996

➤ **Founder:** Sanjay Agarwal

➤ **About IFC:**

- **Founded:** 20 July 1956
- **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C., U.S.
- **Managing Director:** Makhtar Diop
- **Membership:** 186 countries
- ❖ **World's 1<sup>st</sup> transgender cricketer announces retirement after ICC ruling**
- Canadian cricketer Daniele McGahey announced her retirement from international cricket.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) banned transgender cricketers in a landmark ruling.
- McGahey who became the first transgender player to feature in international cricket earlier this year expressed disappointment with the global cricket body's ruling.
- The ICC said the decision was taken following a 9-month consultation process with the stakeholders of the sport after a review was led by its Medical Advisory Committee.
- **About ICC:**
- **Headquarters:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- **Founded:** 15 June 1909
- **CEO:** Geoff Allardice
- **Chairman:** Greg Barclay

## ❖ Delhi set to host inaugural Khelo India Para Games from 10<sup>th</sup> December

- Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur announced that the first edition of the Khelo India Para Games will be held in New Delhi from December 10 to 17.
- With over 1350 participants from across 32 states and UT's participating in 7 disciplines.
- The athletes will participate in seven disciplines including para athletics, para shooting, para archery, para football, para badminton, para table tennis, and para weight lifting.
- The events will be held across 3 SAI stadiums - the IG Stadium, the Shooting Range in Tughlaqabad, and the JLN Stadium.
- Last month India Para athletes shone brighter at the Para Asian Games, concluding the event with a total of 111 medals, comprising 29 gold, 31 silver and 51 bronze.
- India finished fifth in the medal tally, winning 55 medals in athletics itself, with 18 gold, 17 silver, and 20 bronze.

## ❖ Noted Malayalam novelist and short story writer P Valsala passed away

- Noted Malayalam novelist and short story writer P Valsala passed away at the age of 85.
- A prolific writer who published nearly 20 novels and over 300 short stories, Valsala penned several biographies, travelogs, and children's stories.
- Her important novels include Nellu, Agneyam, Kooman Kolli, Arakkillam, and Vilapam among others.
- She was known as the narrator Thirunelli, as several of her works depicted the life of the tribals in the Wayanad district.

### ❖ **North Korea claims to have launched its first spy satellite**

- North Korea has claimed to have successfully launched a military spy satellite into orbit for the first time, two months after Russian president Vladimir Putin pledged to support Kim Jong Un's space ambitions.
- The Malligyong-1 reconnaissance satellite reached orbit following a rocket launch from a site in the west of the country.
- Pyongyang's space agency would "launch multiple additional reconnaissance satellites in the near future" as it seeks to improve its ability to identify and strike targets in South Korea and Japan.
- An operational spy satellite would strengthen North Korea's ability to conduct a pre-emptive strike and monitor potential incoming threats from the US and South Korea.

### ❖ **Air India Slapped With Rs 10 Lakh Fine by DGCA Over Passenger Rights Violations**

- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) imposed a Rs 10 lakh penalty on Air India for its failure to compensate passengers affected by delayed flights and unserviceable seats.
- The fine was also imposed for not training its ground personnel in accordance with regulations.
- The regulator stated that it conducted inspections of all domestic airlines' operations at airports in Delhi, Kochi, and Bengaluru in May and September to verify their compliance with obligations regarding facilities/compensation for affected passengers as outlined in DGCA regulations.

➤ Air India acknowledged falling short of compliance with essential provisions outlined in the CAR.

➤ Instances included a failure to provide necessary hotel accommodations for passengers affected by flight delays, inadequate training for specific ground staff members, and the absence of compensation for international business class passengers who endured the inconvenience of unserviceable seats.

### ❖ **EY appoints Janet Truncale as Global Chair and CEO**

➤ Ernst & Young (EY) has announced that Janet Truncale has been elected the next EY Global Chair and CEO, effective from 1 July 2024.

➤ Janet will succeed current EY Global Chair and CEO Carmine Di Sibio, who steps down on 1 July 2024.

➤ Janet is currently serving as Regional Managing Partner, EY Americas Financial Services Organisation (FSO).

➤ In this role she leads a diverse team of more than 14,000 professionals throughout the Americas.

➤ Janet works closely with EY clients to build a financial services industry in which financial institutions are trusted and flourish, customers' financial goals are attainable, and the global economy is healthy, growing and secure.

### ❖ **Indian Armed Forces contingent departs for joint military exercise 'AustraHind-23'**

➤ The Indian Armed Forces contingent comprising of 81 personnel departed for Australia to take part in the second edition of Joint Military Exercise 'AUSTRAHIND-23'.

- The exercise will be conducted at Perth, Australia from 22<sup>nd</sup> November to 06th December 2023.
- Indian Army contingent comprises 60 personnel from a Battalion of the GORKHA Rifles. The Australian Army contingent comprising 60 personnel will be from the 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade.
- Exercise AUSTRAHIND was instituted in 2022 and the first edition was conducted in Mahajan, Rajasthan. It is planned to be an annual training event to be conducted alternatively in India and Australia.
- Aim of the exercise is to foster collaborative partnership and share best practices between the two sides.
- The exercise will also promote inter-operability while undertaking multi-domain operations in Urban and Semi-Urban terrain under Chapter VII of United Nations on peace keeping operations.

❖ **INS Sumedha deployed in Mozambique to reinforce maritime co-operation**

- Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sumedha, which is on an extended deployment to Africa, arrived in Maputo and will hold joint Exclusive Economic Zone surveillance with the Mozambique Navy between November 23 and 25.
- The port call is aimed at strengthening long-standing diplomatic relations, reinforcing maritime cooperation and boosting interoperability between both the navies.
- The two Navies will hold professional interactions, cross-deck visits, planning conferences and joint EEZ surveillance will be done.
- Bilateral Defence Cooperation is also being progressed through regular Joint Defence Working Group (JDWG) meetings.

➤ INS Sumedha is part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam and functions under the operational command of the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command.

❖ **CAG Girish Chandra Murmu elected vice-chair of UN external auditors' panel**

➤ Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Mr. Girish Chandra Murmu, was elected as the Vice-Chair of the UN Panel of Auditors for the forthcoming year.

➤ This recognition underscores India's commitment to the highest standards of external audit and its active participation in shaping the global audit landscape.

➤ Murmu participated in the sixty-third session of the Panel of External Auditors, held at the UN headquarters in New York.

➤ The Panel of External Auditors, composed of heads of 12 Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) globally, oversees the external audit of the UN Secretariat, funds and programmes, and specialised agencies.

➤ This independent body conducts financial, performance and compliance audits of UN entities.

❖ **Amazon will now use rivers and backwaters to ship packages**

➤ The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is pushing for e-commerce cargo movement via the country's 14,500 km-odd river systems and backwaters.

➤ In a first, the IWAI has signed an MoU with Amazon to explore cargo movement and transport of customer shipments and products via the inland waterways using river Ganges.

➤ A pilot will soon be initiated between Patna and Kolkata with support from the waterways authority and its carriers.

➤ This partnership seeks to harness the efficiency and sustainability of water transport to optimise logistics, diminish environmental footprints, and promote economic development.

❖ **Karnataka Bank Partners with HDFC Life to Offer Insurance Products**

➤ Karnataka Bank Ltd.'s shares were up by 0.30 per cent after the company entered a corporate alliance with HDFC Life Insurance Company Ltd to distribute life insurance products.

➤ Aim: To provide Karnataka Bank's customers a range of financial solutions by leveraging the bank's experience and HDFC Life's expertise in life insurance.

➤ The partnership focuses on delivering benefits related to financial security and life protection to customers.

➤ **About Karnataka Bank:**

➤ **Founded:** 18 February 1924

➤ **Headquarters:** Mangaluru