

### International

#### Donald Trump selects Jared Isaacman as NASA chief to lead moon missions

##### About News:-

US President-elect

Donald Trump on

Wednesday nominated

the founder and CEO of

integrated payments

and commerce tech

company Shift4, Jared Isaacman, to serve as the

administrator of the National Aeronautics and

Space Administration



##### About Jared Isaacman :

- ❖ Isaacman is the CEO of Shift4 Payments, a sizable company that processes payments.
- ❖ He also oversees the Polaris program, which plans commercial space missions using SpaceX ships.
- ❖ Isaacman's strong ties to SpaceX and Elon Musk make him an important candidate for the role.
- ❖ By funding trips and taking part in private space exploration, he has advanced the boundaries of human spaceflight.
- ❖ He is in charge of the Polaris program, which expands the capability of human space travel by using SpaceX vehicles to conduct missions that test new space technology.
- ❖ When Donald Trump announced his nomination for Truth Social, he hailed Isaacman as a visionary leader who will further NASA's mission of inspiration and discovery.

### National

#### PM Modi to launch 'BIMA SAKHI YOJANA' in Haryana, focusing on women's empowerment



##### About News:-

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch the 'Bima Sakhi Yojana' in Panipat, Haryana, on Monday. The initiative, introduced by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), aims to promote financial inclusion and economic independence for women, with a special focus on those in rural and underserved communities.
- ❖ On December 9, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi opened the Bima Sakhi program of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), a public insurance provider in Panipat, Haryana.

##### About the Bima Sakhi scheme of the LIC

- ❖ The Bima Sakhi Yojana is designed to train women between 18-70 years of age, with a minimum qualification of Class X, to become LIC agents. Participants will receive a stipend for the first three years to encourage financial literacy and awareness. Upon completing the training, they will be eligible for roles as LIC Development Officers.
- ❖ This initiative not only provides women access to essential insurance products but also aims to empower them economically by offering sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- ❖ During his visit to Panipat, PM Modi will also lay the foundation stone for the main campus of Maharana Pratap Horticultural University in Karnal. Spanning 495 acres and costing over ₹700 crore, the university will focus on crop diversification and advanced horticultural research, enhancing Haryana's agricultural prospects.
- ❖ Women taking part in the Bima Sakhi program will receive training for the first three years to increase financial literacy and public knowledge of insurance products, especially in rural areas.
- ❖ These female trainees would receive a stipend known as Bima Sakhi and a commission for selling LIC insurance products.

- ❖ Following training, the ladies are eligible to work as LIC insurance brokers.
- ❖ In the program's first year, LIC intends to hire 2 lakh women.

#### About Life Insurance Corporation (LIC):-

- ❖ Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ❖ Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director: Siddhartha Mohanty
- ❖ The slogan of LIC: "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham" taken from the Bhagavad Gita

#### State

### 2nd Edition of Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam to take place from 6th to 8th December at Vijayawada

#### About News:-

- ❖ The 2nd Edition of Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam, a grand celebration of Carnatic music, traditional crafts, and culinary heritage, is set to take place from 6th to 8th December 2024 at the Tummalapalli Kshetrappa Kalakshetra Auditorium in Vijayawada.
- ❖ Organized by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, and Andhra Pradesh Tourism, this festival promises to be a remarkable showcase of India's cultural richness.



#### About the Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam:

- ❖ The event will bring together 35 performances over three days, featuring 140 talented artists, including both seasoned maestros and emerging talents. The event will take place from 6th to 8th December 2024 across three iconic venues in Vijayawada
- ❖ Each day will offer a unique musical experience:

- ❖ Day 1 (6th December) will feature 11 captivating performances, including Nagaswaram, Harikatha, vocal concerts, and Nama Sankeerthana.
- ❖ Day 2 (7th December) will present another 11 performances, showcasing Pancharatna Krithis, flute recitals, and more.
- ❖ Day 3 (8th December) will conclude with 13 spellbinding performances, including Devi Krithis, mandolin recitals, and Thyagaraja Divya Nama Krithis.

#### Economic

### BharatPe launches 'Shield' to protect users from digital transaction frauds

#### About News:-

Fintech firm BharatPe on Thursday announced a fraud protection plan 'Shield' to offer coverage against digital frauds, including protection against fraudulent Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions.

#### Key Highlights:-

- ❖ The new offering extends protection to users from fraudulent digital transactions up to Rs 5,000. Users will have to pay Rs 19 per month to avail this protection.
- ❖ Users making their first UPI transaction with the fintech app will receive 30 days of complimentary fraud protection service, the company said.
- ❖ Other such platforms like Paytm too have similar fraud protection plans.
- ❖ BharatPe Shield covers risks such as computer fraud, phishing attacks, and unauthorised transactions caused by phone loss. It enables claims for losses incurred up to 10 days before reporting such frauds.



#### About BharatPe :

- ❖ Founded: 2018
- ❖ Headquarters: New Delhi, India
- ❖ CEO: Nalin Negi

### Defence

#### Stealth frigate INS Tushil commissioned into the Indian Navy in Russia

##### About News:-

- ❖ INS Tushil (F 70), the latest multi-role stealth-guided missile frigate, was commissioned into the Indian Navy in the presence of Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh at the Yantar Shipyard in Kaliningrad, Russia on December 09, 2024.
- ❖ Raksha Mantri, in his address, described the commissioning as a proud testament to India's growing maritime strength and a significant milestone in the long-standing friendship between India & Russia, which are bound together by shared values, mutual trust, and special & strategic privileged partnership.



##### About INS Tushil and Project 1135.6 class

- ❖ INS Tushil is the seventh ship in Russia's Project 1135.6 frigate, which is being built for the Indian Navy. The project's first three frigates, Talwar, Trishul, and Tabar, were built at the "Baltiysky Zavod" shipyard in St. Petersburg, Russia, and delivered to the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The following three (Teg, Tarkash, and Trikanth) were constructed at the "Yantar Shipyard" in Kaliningrad.
- ❖ In 2016, India and Russia signed an agreement to buy four more frigates of the Admiral Grigorovich class, which NATO refers to as Krivak III.
- ❖ Two were to be built at the Goa Shipyard in India, and two at Tussil and Tamal in Russia.
- ❖ Goa Shipyard's first ship, "Triput," was launched into the sea on July 24, 2024.

### Award

#### Shaji N Karun chosen for JC Daniel Award 2023



##### About News:-

- ❖ Veteran filmmaker Shaji N Karun has been chosen for the JC Daniel Award 2023 for lifetime contributions to Malayalam cinema.
- ❖ Shaji has been chosen for the award for his contributions that made a mark for Malayalam cinema in the national and international spheres, observed the jury that chose him for the prestigious honour.

##### Key Points:-

- ❖ JC Daniel Award, the highest film award instituted by the state government, carries a purse of Rs 5 lakh, a citation, and a statuette. Shaji was selected by a jury chaired by 2022 JC Daniel award winner TV Chandran with singer KS Chitra, actor Vijayaraghavan, and Chalachithra Academy secretary C Ajoy as members.
- ❖ The jury observed that Shaji was able to infuse creative energy into new-wave cinema in Malayalam.
- ❖ With his movies like 'Piravi', which was screened at around 70 festivals across the globe, 'Swam' that was nominated for the Palme d'Or award at the Cannes festival, and 'Vanaprastham' screened at the Cannes festival, was able to showcase the glory of Malayalam cinema at the international arena.
- ❖ Shaji N Karun has won seven national awards and seven state awards for his films. He has also been honoured with Padma Shri by the Union Government and 'The Order of Arts and Letters', a French distinction.
- ❖ The founding chairman of the Kerala State Chalachithra Academy, he now serves as chairman of the Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFDC)

### Sport

#### Aryna Sabalenka claims maiden WTA Player of the Year award





#### About News:-

- ❖ Belarusian tennis star Aryna Sabalenka was named the WTA Player of the Year 2024, marking the first time she has received the prestigious honor.
- ❖ The 26-year-old capped off a stellar season with two Grand Slam titles and finished the year as the top-ranked player in the world.

#### WTA Player of the Year-Aryna Sablenka :

- ❖ Her outstanding year began with a successful defence of her Australian Open championship in January, followed by claiming the U.S. Open title in September, marking her third Grand Slam victory.
- ❖ She subsequently surpassed Iga Swiatek to claim the top world ranking in October.
- ❖ Her impressive season also included victories in Cincinnati and Wuhan, totalling four tournament wins in 2024.
- ❖ She was ranked #1 in the world for the first time in October 2024, and she finished the year as the top player in the world.

#### Obituary

**SM Krishna passes away: Karnataka govt declares three-day state mourning over demise of former Chief Minister**



#### About News:-

- ❖ The Karnataka government will observe three days of mourning on the demise of former Karnataka Chief Minister (CM) and Union Minister SM Krishna at the age of 92.
- ❖ Krishna had been suffering from a prolonged illness and was hospitalized earlier in August.

#### Key Points:-

- ❖ Krishna, 92, was Karnataka Chief Minister from October 11, 1999, to May 28, 2004, and also served as External Affairs Minister during the Manmohan Singh-led United Progressive Alliance government from 2009 to 2012, and as Maharashtra Governor.

- ❖ He joined the BJP in March 2017, ending his nearly 50-year-long association with the Congress. He retired from active politics last year.
- ❖ The Karnataka government has declared three days of mourning, from December 10 to December 12, in honour of the late leader. "His last rites will be performed with full state honours. No functions or celebrations will be held during this period,"

#### Important Day

#### International Mountain Day – 11 December



#### About News:-

- ❖ Every year on December 11th, we mark International Mountain Day. To emphasise the value of mountains and encourage their conservation, the UN declared it in 2003. Mountains are important sources of vegetation, water, and biodiversity in addition to preserving the equilibrium of the climate.
- ❖ The theme for International Mountain Day 2024 is: "Mountain solutions for a sustainable future – innovation, adaptation, youth, and beyond."

#### History

- ❖ On December 11, 2001, the International Year of Mountains was officially launched by the UN Headquarters in New York.
- ❖ In 2022, the 'International Year of Mountains' was commemorated. Its objectives were to raise awareness of mountains and spur environmental action.
- ❖ December 11 was declared International Mountain Day by the UN on December 20, 2002. To guarantee sustainable mountain growth, the UN also called on the international community to take the necessary actions.
- ❖ In this manner, on December 11, 2003, the inaugural International Mountain Day was observed. Since then, December 11 has been the date of this annual event. People are frequently made aware of a variety of issues

around this time, such as freshwater drinking water, peace, biodiversity, and climate change.



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