

19<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## India & Japan sign Mol on UNICORN Tech for Indian Navy

### Key Points:

- ❖ India and Japan have signed a memorandum of Implementation (Mol) for the co-production of the Japanese-developed Unified Complex Radio Antenna (UNICORN) system to be installed on Indian naval ships. The agreement was signed in Tokyo, Japan, on 15 November 2024. This is the first India-Japan joint production venture in defence equipment since the bilateral agreement on the transfer of defence equipment and technology in 2016.



- ❖ The MOI was signed by Sibi George, the Indian ambassador to Japan, and Ishikawa Takeshi, the Commissioner of the Acquisition Technology and Logistics Agency (ATLA) under the Japanese Ministry of Defence.

### What is the UNICORN?

- ❖ The Unified Complex Radio Antenna (UNICORN), also known as NORA-50, is an integrated antenna system developed by Japan's NEC Corporation. It is currently installed on the mast of the Mogami-class frigates of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (Japanese Navy). The UNICORN system is an antenna mast with sensors and transponders for communications, electronic warfare, and navigation. It increases naval ships' stealth capability.

## Haryana's fast bowler Anshul Kamboj bags all 10 wickets in an inning

### Key Points:

- ❖ Lanky Haryana fast bowler Anshul Kamboj created history by taking all the 10 wickets of Kerala in a Ranji Trophy match. He achieved this milestone when he dismissed Shoun Roger of Kerala to return with a match figure 10 for 49 in his 30.1 overs. The Ranji Trophy Elite Group C match between Haryana and Kerala is being played at the Chaudhary Bansi Lal Stadium in Lahli, Haryana.



## Historic export of Nepalese electricity to Bangladesh through India

### Key Points:

- ❖ As a positive sign of sub-regional energy cooperation in South Asia, Nepal exported 40 MW of electricity to Bangladesh through the Indian transmission line on 15 November 2024. Nepal, which is blessed with immense hydropower potential, regularly exports its hydroelectricity to India. For the first time, Nepal is exporting it to Bangladesh. This is also the first time that a country is exporting electricity to another country through the Indian electricity grid.

### Who inaugurated the energy export?

- ❖ The energy export to Bangladesh from Nepal via India was virtually inaugurated by the Union Minister for Power, Manohar Lal Khattar, Nepal's Minister for Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Deepak Khadka

and the Energy Advisor to the Bangladesh government, Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan on 15 November 2024. Bangladesh has had no government since Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina fled to India on 4 August 2024 following a mass student protest in Dhaka. However, there is an interim government led by Muhammed Yunus, and the members of the government are called advisors.

### Background to the Electricity Export Deal

- ❖ During the visit of Nepalese Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' to India in May/June 2023, an agreement was reached between India and Nepal for the export of 40 MW of electricity from Nepal to Bangladesh through the Indian Transmission line.
- ❖ Subsequently, on 3 October 2024, in Kathmandu, Nepal, NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam, Bangladesh Power Development Board, and the Nepal Electricity Authority signed an agreement to facilitate electricity transmission from Nepal to Bangladesh via India.
- ❖ As per the tripartite agreement Nepal will export electricity to Bangladesh through India from 15 June to mid-November. This is the monsoon period and generally there is no shortage of water in the Nepalese hydroelectric plants reservoirs.

### 2024 G20 Rio de Janeiro summit begins

#### Key Points:

- ❖ The 2024 G20 Rio de Janeiro summit is the upcoming nineteenth meeting of Group of Twenty (G20), a Head of State and Government meeting scheduled to take place at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro on 18–19 November 2024. It will be the first G20 summit to be held in Brazil. It will also be the first full G20 summit with the African Union as a member, having

joined during the G20 during the previously summit in 2023.



- ❖ The G20 was formed in 1999 in the backdrop of the financial crisis of the late 1990s that hit East Asia and Southeast Asia in particular. It aims to secure global financial stability by involving middle-income countries. Together, the G20 countries include 60% of the world's population, 80% of global GDP, and 75% of global trade. Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, AU the United States and the EU.



### Outcome of the Prime Minister Modi's Visit to Nigeria

#### Key Points:

- ❖ In the first leg of his three-nation tour of Nigeria, Brazil, and Guyana, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a two-day official visit to the African country of Nigeria on 16 & 17 November 2024. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was visiting for the first time after becoming the Prime Minister of India.
- ❖ Nigerian President Bola Ahmed Tinubu welcomed him to the Nigerian Capital, Abuja, where both leaders held talks on bilateral, regional, and national issues. After the end of his Nigerian visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi flew to Brazil on the second leg of his tour. He will participate in the 19th G 20 Summit Meeting hosted by Brazilian President Lula De Silva in Brazil.
- ❖ The following are the main outcomes/highlights of Prime Minister Modi's trip to Nigeria.

#### **After 17 years an Indian PM in Nigeria**

- ❖ After 17 years, an Indian Prime visited Nigeria. Dr Manmohan Singh visited Nigeria in October 2007. He is the fourth Indian Prime Minister to visit Nigeria-JawaharLal Nehru (1962), Atal Bihari Vajpayee (2003), Dr Manmohan Singh(2007).

#### **Modi Honored with Nigeria's second Highest Award**

- ❖ Narendra Modi was honoured with Nigeria's second-highest award Grand Commander of the Order of Niger. The award was conferred by the Nigerian President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, in a ceremony in the capital, Abuja. After Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom, Narendra Modi is the second foreign dignitary to receive the award. Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom was conferred the award in 1969. Prime Minister Modi was honoured for his role in contributing to strengthening IndiaNigeria ties.

#### **Three MoUs signed between India and Nigeria**

- ❖ During the Prime Minister's visit, three Memoranda of Understanding were signed between India and Nigeria. These MoUs are ;
- ❖ Cultural Exchange Programme,
- ❖ Customs Cooperation and
- ❖ Survey Cooperation

#### **India Nigeria Relations**

- ❖ Nigeria is the most populous and largest country in terms of area in Africa. Even before Nigeria's independence in 1960, India established its Diplomatic House in the then-Nigerian capital city of Lagos.
- ❖ India and Nigeria share warm bilateral ties. Dr Manmohan Singh's visit to Nigeria in 2007, the relationship was elevated to a Strategic Partnership..
- ❖ Two Nigerian Presidents visited India as the Chief Guests at India's Republic Day, President Shehu Shagari in 1983 and President Olusegun Obasanjo in 2000 at India's 50th Republic Day celebrations.
- ❖ Trade Relation It is India's largest trading partner in Africa. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian companies are the largest employment provider in Nigeria after the Nigerian Government. More than 135 Indian companies operate in Nigeria in engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, plastics, electrical machinery and equipment, and chemicals sectors.

#### **Defence**

- ❖ India has helped establish various military institutions in Nigeria, including the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) at Kaduna, the Naval College at Port 5 Harcourt, and other elite military training establishments.

#### **About Nigeria**

- ❖ It is located on the western coast of Africa along the Atlantic Ocean.

- ❖ Nigeria, a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), is the largest exporter of crude oil in Africa.
- ❖ Nigeria was the seventh-largest supplier of crude petroleum oil in 2023-24.
- ❖ Capital: Abuja
- ❖ Currency: Nigerian naira
- ❖ President: Bola Ahmed Tinubu

### Italian Jannik Sinner wins his first ATP Finals Singles Title

#### Key Points:

- ❖ World No.1 men's tennis player Jannik Sinner of Italy won his first ATP Finals title in Turin, Italy, by defeating American Taylor Fritz in straight sets in the final. Earlier, American Coco Gauff won the season-ending 2024 WTA Finals by defeating Zheng Qinwen of China. The German pair of Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz won the season-ending ATP Finals doubles title. The season's ending ATP Finals which is the last tournament of the year in the men's professional tennis was held in the Italian city of Turin from 10-17 November 2024.



#### First ATP finals title for Jannik Sinner

- ❖ In the repeat of the 2024 US Open finals, Jannik Sinner defeated American Taylor Fritz 6-4 6-4 in the final of the 2024 ATP Finals played at the Inalpi Arena, Turin on 17 November 2024.
- ❖ Jannik Sinner, winner of the 2024 singles title of the US Open and Australian Open, won the ATP Finals without losing a single set in the tournament.

- ❖ In 1986, Czech-American Ivan Lendl won the ATP finals without losing a single set.
- ❖ After Roger Federer (Switzerland) and Novak Djokovic (Serbia), Italian Jannik Sinner is the only men's tennis player to win the Australian Open, US Open and the ATP Finals in the year.

### World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence 2024

#### Key Points:

- ❖ World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence Observed on November 18, this day emphasizes raising awareness about the widespread and devastating issue of child sexual abuse and violence. World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence Observed on November 18, this day emphasizes raising awareness about the widespread and devastating issue of child sexual abuse and violence.



- ❖ It aims to promote global action to prevent abuse, provide healing, and uphold the rights and dignity of affected children.

### SpaceX to Launch India's Communication Satellite GSAT-20

#### Key Points:



- ❖ India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20, weighing 4,700 kg, will be launched from Cape Canaveral, USA, by Elon Musk's SpaceX on November 19, 2024.
- ❖ The satellite, developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), will provide essential communication services.
- ❖ India's heavy communication satellite GSAT20, weighing 4,700 kg, will be launched from Cape Canaveral, USA, by Elon Musk's SpaceX on November 19, 2024.
- ❖ The satellite, developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), will provide essential communication services, including internet connectivity to remote areas. This marks a significant milestone in India's space endeavors, as the satellite is too heavy for India's own launch vehicle, the LVM-3 "Bahubali".

#### Launch Date and Location

- ❖ Date: November 19, 2024
- ❖ Location: Cape Canaveral, USA
- ❖ Launch Vehicle: SpaceX Falcon-9 rocket

#### Satellite Specifications

- ❖ Name: GSAT-20 (also called GSAT N-2)
- ❖ Weight: 4,700 kg
- ❖ Operational Life: Expected to remain operational for 14 years
- ❖ Function: Provides vital communication services, including internet for remote regions of India

#### SpaceX's Role

- ❖ The satellite will be launched using SpaceX's Falcon-9 rocket.
- ❖ Falcon-9's Capacity: Capable of launching payloads up to 8,300 kg to geostationary transfeorbit.

#### Reasons for Choosing SpaceX

- ❖ GSAT-20 is too heavy for ISRO's own LVM-3 (Bahubali) rocket.

- ❖ Previous reliance on French company Arianespace was no longer viable, as Arianespace lacks operational rockets.
- ❖ SpaceX provides a reliable and cost-effective option for launching such heavy satellites.

### Typhoon Man-yi Strikes Northern Philippines

#### Key Points:

- ❖ Super Typhoon Man-yi, locally known as Pepito, has made a second landfall on the Philippines' main island of Luzon, bringing severe winds, torrential rains, and life-threatening storm surges.
- ❖ The powerful storm has caused widespread damage, particularly in Cantanduanes. Super Typhoon Man-yi, locally known as Pepito, has made a second landfall on the Philippines' main island of Luzon, bringing severe winds, torrential rains, and life-threatening storm surges.
- ❖ The powerful storm has caused widespread damage, particularly in Cantanduanes, where it uprooted trees, destroyed buildings, and disrupted power supplies.

### University of Wollongong Opens India Campus at Gujarat's GIFT City

#### Key Points:

- ❖ Australia's University of Wollongong has launched its India campus in Gujarat's GIFT City, offering Master's and Graduate Certificate programs in Financial Technology.
- ❖ The campus aims to address the growing demand for skilled fintech professionals in India and offers flexible.
- ❖ In a significant move to expand its global presence, Australia's University of Wollongong (UOW) has officially inaugurated its India campus at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in Gandhinagar.

- ❖ The new campus, offering Master's degrees in Financial Technology and a Graduate Certificate in Financial Technology, marks a strategic entry into the Indian educational landscape, aligning with India's rapidly growing fintech sector.
- ❖ This development comes on the heels of Deakin University's opening of its own campus in GIFT City earlier in July 2024.

### US Returns \$10 Million Worth of Looted Antiques to India

#### Key Points:

- ❖ In a major development, the United States has returned over 1,400 looted artifacts worth \$10 million to India as part of an ongoing initiative to repatriate stolen cultural items from South and Southeast Asia.
- ❖ Among the returned artifacts is a celestial dancer sandstone sculpture. In a major development, the United States has returned over 1,400 looted artifacts worth \$10 million to India as part of an ongoing initiative to repatriate stolen cultural items from South and Southeast Asia.



- ❖ Among the returned artifacts is a celestial dancer sandstone sculpture, which had been illegally smuggled from central India to London before being sold to a patron of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art.

### Reliance, Disney complete merger; form Rs 70,352 crore joint venture

- ❖ Reliance Industries has completed the merger of its media assets with the India business of global media house Walt Disney to form a new joint venture worth Rs

70,352 crore. The JV, in which Reliance Industries has invested Rs 11,500 crore (USD 1.4 billion) for its growth, will be headed by Nita Ambani as its Chairperson. Reliance Industries holds a 16.34 percent stake in the JV, while its step-down unit Viacom18 holds 46.82 percent and Disney the rest 36.84 percent.



### NASA-Microsoft's New Earth Copilot To Enhance Understanding on Our Planet

#### Key Points:

- ❖ US space agency NASA has partnered with Microsoft to develop an easier-to-access and userfriendly Artificial Intelligence-based chatbot that can help people decode scientific data about Earth. The new Earth Copilot can answer people "through plain language queries" ranging from monitoring wildfires to tracking climate change — transforming how people interact with Earth's data.



### CBDT launches campaign to inform taxpayers on undeclared foreign assets

#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has launched a Compliance-CumAwareness Campaign for Assessment Year (AY) 2024-25 to assist taxpayers in accurately completing Schedule Foreign Assets (Schedule FA) and reporting income from foreign sources (Schedule FSI) in their income tax returns (ITR).



- ❖ In a statement, CBDT said informational messages will be sent via SMS and email to resident taxpayers who have already submitted their ITRs for AY 2024-25. These messages are intended for individuals identified through information received under bilateral and multilateral agreements, suggesting that they may hold foreign accounts or assets, or have received income from foreign jurisdictions.

#### Prajnesh Gunneswaran announces retirement from professional tennis

##### Key Points:

- ❖ Asian Games bronze medal winner Prajnesh Gunneswaran announced his retirement from professional tennis. The 35-year-old Indian won singles bronze in the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games. His highest doubles ranking was 248 which he attained in 2018. Gunneswaran also competed in all four Grand Slams, bowing out in the opening round in all instances.
- ❖ The Australian Open was the only Slam in which he competed on multiple occasions — 2019 and 2020. He won only a title in the doubles — Egypt F25, Sharm El Sheikh (ITF Futures Tour) — 2018 with his Egyptian partner Issam Haitham Taweel.

#### 17 November – International Students' Day

- ❖ International Students' Day is observed every year on November 17. Theme 2024 – Keep striving, keep learning, and keep believing in the power of education. The day is commemorated in memory of the bravery of thousands of student activists in Prague, during the Nazi attack, who fought for the right to higher education.



#### 17 November – National Epilepsy Day

##### Key Points:

- ❖ National Epilepsy Day is observed on November 17 to spread awareness about the neurological disorder that affects millions worldwide. Theme 2024 – Milestones on My Epilepsy Journey. Epilepsy refers to a condition in which the affected person faces frequent seizures. This chronic non-communicable disease can affect people of all ages, and each age group has its unique concerns and problems.

