

### National

#### Union Cabinet approves three new Metro projects

##### About News:-

- ❖ The Union Cabinet, led by Indian Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi, approved several significant metro rail and infrastructure projects on August 16, 2024.
- ❖ Pune Metro Phase 1 project extension, covering a distance of 5.46 kilometers (km), from Swargate to Katraj.
- ❖ Construction of Maharashtra's Thane Integral Ring Metro Rail Project
- ❖ Phase 3 of the Bangalore Metro Rail Project consists of two corridors totaling 44.65 kilometers and 31 stops.
- ❖ Additionally, the creation of two additional civil enclaves at Bagdgora Airport in West Bengal (WB) and Bihita Airport in Bihar was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).
- ❖ The development of these two enclaves has cost close to Rs 3,000 crore in total.
- ❖ The road connectivity between National Highway (NH)-48 and Vadhavan Port in Maharashtra is crucial.
- ❖ Pune Metro Phase 1 Project Extension Approved by Cabinet, Moving from Swargate to Katraj in Maharashtra
- ❖ The Swargate to Katraj Underground Line expansion of the Pune Metro Phase-1 project, which is part of the current Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC)-Swargate Metro Line, has received approval from the Union Cabinet. This new expansion is referred to as the Line-1B extension.
- ❖ By February 2029, the project is anticipated to be operational.
- ❖ It will connect places like Market Yard, Bibwewadi, Balaji Nagar, and Katraj over a 5.46 km (mile) region with three subterranean stops.
- ❖ The projected development cost of the project is Rs 2954.53 crore.



#### Maharashtra's Thane Integral Ring Metro Rail Project is approved by the cabinet

- ❖ The Thane Integral Ring Metro Rail Project corridor in Maharashtra, which will run along the western edge of Thane city and have 22 stations, has been authorized by the Union Cabinet.
- ❖ By 2029, the project is expected to be operational.
- ❖ Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP) and the Ulhas River both abut the network, offering a viable alternative to vehicular traffic.
- ❖ The estimated cost of developing the project is Rs 12,200.10 crore.

### Economic

#### RBI levies penalty on BoM, Hinduja Leyland Finance, Poonawalla Fincorp

##### About News:-

- ❖ Three financial organizations received financial penalties from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a variety of infractions.
- ❖ Bank of Maharashtra, Hinduja Leyland Finance, and Poonawalla Fincorp are the three financial institutions.
- ❖ **Bank of Maharashtra:**
  - ❖ The penalty amount is ₹1.27 crore, or ₹1,27,20,000.
  - ❖ Reasons Failure to adhere to RBI guidelines on the Loan System for Bank Credit Delivery
  - ❖ Bank Cybersecurity Framework
  - ❖ guidelines for Know Your Customer (KYC)
  - ❖ Regulatory Basis: The Banking Regulation Act of 1949, Section 47A(1)(c), read in conjunction with Sections 46(4)(i) and 51(1).

##### Hinduja Leyland Finance:

- ❖ Total Penalty: ₹4.90 lakh.
- ❖ Reasons: Not adhering to the Reserve Bank of India's 2016 Know Your Customer (KYC) Guidelines.
- ❖ Regulatory Basis: The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 58G read in conjunction with clause (aa) of sub-section (5) of section 58B.

**Poonawalla Financial Corporation:**

- ❖ Penalty Amount: Ten lakh rupees.
- ❖ Reasons: Failure to abide by the terms of the "Fair Practices Code for NBFCs," as well as other provisions of the "Non-Banking Financial Company - Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016."
- ❖ Regulatory Basis: The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 58G read in conjunction with clause (aa) of sub-section (5) of section 58B.

**Appointment**

**RBI approves appointment of Salee Nair as MD & CEO of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank**

**About News:-**

- ❖ Salee Sukumaran Nair has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited (TMB) with effect from the date of assumption of charge. This appointment has been authorized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❖ Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam, who took over as TMB's MD and CEO in 2022 and retired in September 2023, will be replaced by Salee Sukumaran Nair
- ❖ Currently, three general managers (GMs) make up the Committee of Executives (CoE), which is in charge of temporarily managing the TMB's activities.

**About Salee Sukumaran Nair:-**

- ❖ Up to May 2024, Salee Sukumaran Nair oversaw the credit portfolio at the State Bank of India's (SBI) Corporate Center in Mumbai, Maharashtra, where she held the positions of Deputy Managing Director (DMD) and Chief Credit Officer (CCO).
- ❖ With over 35 years of experience, he started his banking career with SBI in 1987 as a Probationary Officer (PO) and has held positions in corporate accounts, stressed asset management (SAM), etc.



- ❖ He was assigned to Sydney, Australia, and New York, USA, where he played a significant role in the SBI International Banking Group (IBG).
- ❖ Additionally, he oversaw SBI branches in Rajasthan and Western Uttar Pradesh (UP) and participated in the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur (SBBJ) merger with SBI.
- ❖ In the Stressed Asset Vertical of the SBI, he was assigned as Chief General Manager (CGM) (Non-infra) Metals in 2017.
- ❖ From 2020 to 2021, he also held the position of DMD for the SBI's Stressed Assets Resolution Group (SARG).

**About Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited (TMB):**

- ❖ MD & CEO :- Salee Sukumaran Nair
- ❖ Headquarters :- Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu(TN)

**Science & Technology**

**India debuts new 'swadeshi' Kamikaze drones with 1,000 km range**

**About News:-**

- ❖ Swadeshi (Indigenous) Kamikaze Drones are do-or-die Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) powered by in-house engines that can propel them up to 1,000 kilometers (km) in the air. These drones were recently introduced by the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL).
- ❖ Another name for them is loitering munitions, and Ukrainian forces have made heavy use of them to target Russian soldiers and armored vehicles.



**Key Points:-**

- ❖ It will weigh around 120 kilograms (kg), have a wingspan of 3.5 meters (m), and be about 2.8 meters (m) long with a 25 kg explosive charge attached.

- ❖ It will be propelled by a 30-horsepower (hp) Wankel engine, created and designed by the NAL, with a maximum speed of 180 km/h (kilometers per hour).
- ❖ The creation of these domestic drones is a component of a larger project overseen by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), which has given the project its approval in principle.
- ❖ These drones can function in areas where the Global Positioning System (GPS) is unavailable.
- ❖ The CSIR founded NAL in 1959, with its main office located in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

### Award

### Delhi Airport becomes 1st airport in India to achieve net zero carbon emission airport status under ACI

#### About News:-

- ❖ Under the Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) program of the Airport Council International (ACI), Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) became the first airport in India to attain the designation of "Net Zero Carbon Emission" (NZCE) (Level 5 accreditation).
- ❖ About emissions within its control (Scopes 1 and 2), this certification acknowledges IGIA's dedication to achieving and preserving a net zero carbon balance, while simultaneously addressing all other emissions (Scope 3).



### Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) Overview:

- ❖ The only worldwide carbon management certification program for airports that have institutional support is the ACA.
- ❖ Through seven certification levels, the ACA objectively evaluates and commends airports for their efforts to manage and lower their carbon emissions. They are as follows:
- ❖ "Level 5," "Mapping," "Reduction," "Optimization," "Neutrality," "Transformation," and "Transition."

### Dedicated to Sustainability:

- ❖ The airport far exceeded its original target by achieving a "Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport" by 2030.
- ❖ To address Scope 3 emissions, the airport is also dedicated to lowering its carbon footprint and investigating sustainable aviation fuel sources.

### Lowering of Carbon:

- ❖ IGIA achieved a 90% reduction in its Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from Scope 1 and 2, with the remaining emissions being offset by authorized offset removals.
- ❖ The airport intends to achieve net zero Scope 3 emissions by 2050, in line with the international movement for sustainability and ACI's ACA principles.

### Key Points:-

- ❖ In the airside section of the airport, DIAL has set up a 7.84 Megawatt (Mw) solar power plant, and it obtains renewable energy through open access.
- ❖ At the moment, the airport runs fully on renewable energy, saving over 200,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year.
- ❖ installation of more than 350 rainwater collection devices and a sewage treatment plant (STP) with zero liquid discharge (ZLD).
- ❖ adoption of TaxiBots, EVs, and the Airport Collaborative Decision-Making (A-CDM) system, which lowers fuel and emissions.
- ❖ As the world's first airport to implement and receive certification for an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 50001:2018 Energy Management System (EMS), DIAL has seen a decrease in fuel and energy usage over time.

### Book

### Amit Shah releases Tarun Chugh's book 'Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity'

#### About News:-

In New Delhi, Delhi, Union Minister Amit Shah of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) launched Tarun Chugh, the General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP),'s book 'Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity.

**Key Points:-**

- ❖ Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi's decades-long public life, which has always been devoted to India, served as the inspiration for the book.
- ❖ The book offers a thorough analysis of the ground-breaking projects and adjustments that molded the Antyodaya mission of the Modi administration.
- ❖ It shows the revolutionary changes brought about by the Modi administration in several fields and industries, including Jammu & Kashmir (J&K).
- ❖ It focuses on Modi's overall policies, which include the Goods and Services Tax (GST) implementation and the 'Make in India' campaign.
- ❖ It also tackles important topics that have influenced India's socioeconomic environment, such as reducing poverty and maintaining national security.

**Miscellaneous**

**CAG India partners with Uzbekistan counterpart to exchange auditing expertise**

**About News:-**

- ❖ To promote cooperation and the sharing of auditing knowledge between the two countries, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) of India, and the Chamber of Accounts of Uzbekistan, the SAI of Uzbekistan, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- ❖ During Girish Chandra Murmu's visit to Uzbekistan, the MoU was signed by Adiz Muzaffarovich Boboyev, the Chairman of the Uzbek Chamber of Accounts, and CAG of India Girish Chandra Murmu.



**Key Points:-**

- ❖ By creating a forum for information exchange among auditing specialists, this Memorandum of understanding improves auditing proficiency.

- ❖ By exchanging knowledge, SAIs may spread creative solutions and best practices, building an international network of knowledge.
- ❖ Putting money into capacity building will provide SAIs with the tools they need to efficiently audit intricate government initiatives.
- ❖ It is anticipated that the partnership would advance best practices and strengthen and extend governance systems.

**About Uzbekistan:**

- ❖ President:- Shavkat Mirmonovich Mirziyoyev
- ❖ Capital:- Tashkent
- ❖ Currency :- Uzbekistani Som


**Obituary**

**Director General of Coast Guard Rakesh Pal Passed Away**

**About News:-**

- ❖ Director General (DG) of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Rakesh Pal, died in Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN), at the age of 58. He was born in Uttar Pradesh (UP) in 1965.
- ❖ Since July 2023, he has held the position of DG for the Indian Coast Guard.

**About Rakesh Pal:-**

- ❖ Rakesh Pal joined the ICG in January 1989 after graduating from the Indian Naval Academy (INA). 
- ❖ He was an expert in weaponry and gunnery. In Kochi, Kerala, he was assigned to the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Dronacharya as the First Gunner of the ICG.
- ❖ Having commanded all classes of ICG ships, including Samarth, Vijit, Sucheta Kriplani, Ahalyabai, and C-03, he was well-known for his extensive sea experience.
- ❖ Throughout his career, he held a number of important positions, including Principal Director (Administration), Deputy Director General (Policy and Plans), Director (Infrastructure and Works), and Commander of the Coast Guard (Northwest) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

- ❖ In February 2022, he received a promotion to three stars and was assigned as an Additional Director General (ADG). He then assumed the position of DG in New Delhi, Delhi.
- ❖ Rakesh Pal received the President's Tatrakshak Medal (PTM), the Tatrakshak Medal (TM), and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM).

### Important Day

#### World Mosquito Day - 20 August

##### About Day:-

- ❖ Every year on August 20, the world observes World Mosquito Day to commemorate the enormous achievements made by British surgeon Sir Ronald Ross. He is credited as being the first to discover the connection between female anopheline mosquitoes and malaria.
- ❖ This Memorial Day provides a chance to mobilize efforts against mosquito-borne diseases, educate about preventive measures against mosquito-borne illnesses, and increase awareness of the hazards posed by these disease-carrying insects. Here are some important details to think about as we get ready to celebrate this anniversary.



##### History:-

- ❖ World Mosquito Day traces its origins to August 20, 1897, when Sir Ronald Ross (a British doctor working in the Indian Medical Service) made a groundbreaking discovery. He identified the Anopheles mosquito as the vector responsible for transmitting malaria, a discovery that would later earn him the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1902. This finding was monumental because, at the time, malaria was an uncontrolled disease with high mortality rates, especially in tropical and subtropical regions.

- ❖ Ross's discovery was not just a scientific breakthrough but a pivotal moment in the history of public health. It shifted the focus from treating the symptoms of malaria to understanding and controlling its transmission. This knowledge laid the groundwork for subsequent research and the development of strategies aimed at reducing the majority of mosquito-borne diseases.

##### Significance:-

- ❖ World Mosquito Day helps to raise awareness about the dangers of mosquito-borne diseases.
- ❖ It highlights the need to control mosquito populations to reduce the spread of diseases like malaria and dengue.
- ❖ The day emphasizes the importance of global cooperation in fighting these diseases, which affect millions of people worldwide.
- ❖ It also draws attention to the role of public health policies in preventing and managing mosquito-borne illnesses.
- ❖ The day reminds us of the ongoing efforts and research needed to combat these diseases effectively.
- ❖ World Mosquito Day encourages communities to take preventive measures and protect themselves from mosquito bites.
- ❖ It serves as a reminder of the progress made in reducing the impact of these diseases, but also of the work still needed to eradicate them completely.

