

International

U.S., Japan and South Korea join hands to support digital infrastructure in India



About News :-

On October 26, 2024, the United States, Japan, and South Korea declared their intention to establish a new framework for cooperation with the Indian private sector in order to strengthen digital infrastructure in India. The Digital Infrastructure Growth Initiative for India Framework (DiGi Framework) is the new framework.

The DiGi Framework will be supported by whom?

- ❖ The Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), the Export-Import Bank of Korea (Korea Eximbank), and the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation will all provide support for the DiGi Framework.
- ❖ In order to promote private sector infrastructure investment and promote sustainable economic growth in the Indo-Pacific region, the DFC, JBIC, and Korea Eximbank inked an agreement in August 2023 to improve coordination and collaboration among like-minded nations.
- ❖ The recently announced DiGi Framework is part of the agreement reached by the three in August 2023.

Aim of the DiGi Framework

- ❖ The DiGi Framework would encourage investments in digital infrastructure in India in collaboration with the Indian private sector.
- ❖ It would help fulfill the demands of strategic agreements for digital infrastructure in India.

- ❖ Open RAN (radio access network), 5G in the telecom industry, submarine cables, optical fiber networks, telecom towers, data centers, smart cities, e-commerce, artificial intelligence (AI), and quantum technology are just a few of the information and communications technologies (ICT) projects that it will support.
- ❖ In order to boost private sector investment for digital infrastructure projects in India, the framework will also support and encourage discussions between the Indian government and private sector.

About the Institutions

Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)

- ❖ In 2012, the Japanese government created the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). Tokyo is home to its main office.
- ❖ It is owned by the Japanese government and lends money to other nations or private businesses so they can purchase goods and services from Japanese businesses.

The Export-Import Bank of Korea (Korea Eximbank)

- ❖ The South Korean government owns Korea Eximbank, also known as the Export-Import Bank of Korea. Its headquarters are in Seoul, and it was founded in 1976.
- ❖ It offers loans to foreign governments and businesses so they can purchase goods and services from South Korea.

National

PM Modi, Spanish President Sanchez to inaugurate Tata-Airbus C295 aircraft plant in Vadodra



About News :-

- ❖ On October 28, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pedro Sanchez, the visiting prime minister of Spain, jointly opened the Tata Advanced Systems Ltd. (TASL) Tata Aircraft Complex at Vadodara, Gujarat. India purchased C-295 military transport aircraft from Airbus, and the complex is the last assembly line plant for those aircraft.
- ❖ From October 27 to 29, 2024, Spanish Prime Minister Sanchez will travel to India for a three-day official visit. The first visit to India by a Spanish prime minister in eighteen years is that of Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez.

India's first private-sector military transport complex

- ❖ The first private-sector military aircraft assembly line in India is located at Tata Advanced Systems Limited's Vadodra site. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, a public-sector enterprise, has been producing military aircraft up to this point.
- ❖ At this plant, 40 C-295 aircraft will be produced by Tata Advanced Systems Limited. All tasks associated with the production, assembly, testing, delivery, and maintenance of aircraft will be managed by the factory.
- ❖ Airbus Defence and Space, Spain, and Tata Advanced Systems signed a deal for the production and assembly of 40 C-295 medium-lift tactical transport aircraft in Spain.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force will receive these aircraft, and the Tata Advanced system will support the maintenance, repair, and operation (MRO) of the 56 aircraft the Indian Air Force has purchased.

56 C-295 transport plane agreement with Spain

- ❖ An agreement to purchase 56 C-295 medium-lift tactical transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force was signed on September 24, 2021, by the Indian government and Airbus Defence and Space, Spain. The

acquisition came at a total cost of Rs 21,935 crore.

- ❖ As per the arrangement, 40 aircraft were to be constructed in India, while 16 aircraft were to be shipped from Spain.
- ❖ A facility has been set up in Vadodara, Gujarat, as part of a deal between Airbus and Tata Advance System Limited to build the aircraft in India.
- ❖ In October 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the cornerstone for Tata's facility in Vadodara.

IAF to be the largest operator of C-295 Fleet

- ❖ The Indian Air Force will become the world's largest operator of C-295 aircraft if all 56 aircraft are delivered to it.
- ❖ Six C-295 aircraft have already been delivered by Airbus to India, with the seventh scheduled for delivery in 2024. By August 2025, Airbus is anticipated to deliver the remaining aircraft.
- ❖ All 40 C-295 aircraft are anticipated to be delivered to the Indian Air Force by August 2031, with the first one leaving the Tata facility scheduled to launch in September 2026.

Economic

Centre doubles Mudra loan ceiling to Rs 20 lakh under new category



About News :-

Under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), the government has raised the maximum amount for Mudra loans from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh and created a new category called "Tarun Plus." In her July 2024 Budget statement, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced this reform, which is intended to encourage entrepreneurship and assist new business owners. The increase is intended to promote the government's commitment to "Funding the Unfunded" by empowering aspiring business owners who have successfully repaid prior loans under the current Tarun category.

Key Points :-

- ❖ **Increased Loan Limits:** The new "Tarun Plus" category offers loans up to Rs 20 lakh, which is essential funding for expanding a business.
- ❖ **Historical Context:** When PMMY was first introduced on April 8, 2015, it offered loans to non-corporate, non-farm small and micro-entrepreneurs up to Rs 10 lakh, making it simple and collateral-free to obtain credit.
- ❖ **Loan Categories:** There are now three loan categories available under the scheme: Tarun (up to Rs 10 lakh), Kishore (between Rs 50,000 and Rs 5 lakh), and Shishu (up to Rs 50,000).
- ❖ **Loan Sanctions:** 66.8 million loans totaling Rs 5.4 trillion were approved under PMMY in 2023–2024. More than 487.8 million loans totaling Rs 29.79 trillion have been authorized since its commencement.
- ❖ **Non-Performing Assets:** Public sector banks' NPA for Mudra loans dropped from 4.77% in 2020–21 to 3.4% in FY24, demonstrating better loan recovery rates.
- ❖ **Guarantee Coverage:** To further support small enterprises, the Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU) will provide guarantee coverage for loans up to Rs 20 lakh under the new category.

Appointment**Vipin Kumar takes over as Chairman Airports Authority of India****About News :-**

Vipin Kumar, an IAS officer of 1996 batch, Bihar cadre took over as Chairman of Airports Authority of India. Prior to this appointment, Shri Kumar was serving as Additional Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India. During his tenure at Ministry of Education, Government of India, he was looking after SamagraShiksha Scheme, National Education Policy-2020, PM-SHRI Scheme and other important assignments.

**Key Points :-**

- ❖ During his posting in Bihar, he worked as District Magistrate in many districts of the state. He was also the Chairman of Bihar Bridge Construction Corporation; Managing Director of Bihar Milk Cooperative Federation (SUDHA) and Director, Mid-Day Scheme-Bihar.
- ❖ Vipin Kumar holds a degree in Electronics & Communication Engineering. In his new assignment as the Chairman of the Airports Authority of India, Kumar will lead efforts to achieve AAI's organizational goals of developing world-class airport infrastructure, leading air navigation services and providing top-of-the-line passenger facilities across the country. His role will be instrumental in charting the roadmap of Indian Aviation Sector towards realising the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat-2047.

Science & Technology**NASA unveils new telescope to study gravitational waves in space****About News :-**

- ❖ A recently constructed telescope prototype that can be used to investigate gravitational waves in space was disclosed by the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).
- ❖ The telescope is a component of the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA), a joint NASA-European Space Agency (ESA) effort.
- ❖ By deploying three spacecraft in a triangular configuration, the LISA mission aims to detect and investigate gravitational waves.

Key Points :-

- ❖ **Triangle Configuration:** Each spacecraft will be situated roughly 2.5 million kilometers apart, with each side of the triangle measuring 1.6 million miles (2.57 million kilometers).



- ❖ Spacecraft Design: Two telescopes on each spacecraft will be able to pick up infrared laser beams that are transmitted from one spacecraft to another.
- ❖ Heliocentric Orbit: About 50 million kilometers from Earth, the spacecraft will fly in a heliocentric orbit.
- ❖ Detection Mechanism: By tracking modifications in the distinctive patterns of the spacecraft as they react to gravitational waves, researchers hope to identify gravitational waves.
- ❖ Scheduled Launch: The LISA mission, which aims to improve our knowledge of gravitational waves and their origins, is anticipated to launch by 2030.

About NASA :

- ❖ Established : July 29, 1958
- ❖ Headquarters : Washington, D.C, United States of America
- ❖ Administrator : Bill Nelson

Award

Bhubaneswar wins the 'City with the Best Public Transport System' at 17th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2024



About News :-

- ❖ Kochi, Kerala, was the recipient of the 17th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2024's City with the Most Sustainable Transport System award. The 17th Urban Mobility Conference and Exhibition, which took place on October 27, 2024, at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, honored the winners of the awards in the several categories.
- ❖ The 17th Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition 2024's closing session.

- ❖ It was given by Manohar Lal Khattar, the Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs.
- ❖ Businesses and organizations involved in urban transportation from both India and beyond attended the 17th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition. At the conference, almost 2200 delegates—more than 50 of them were from overseas—displayed their most recent urban transportation innovations.

Organiser of the 17th Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition 2024

- ❖ In collaboration with the Gujarat government and Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation Ltd., the Institute of Urban Transport (India), a division of the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, organized the Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition 2024.
- ❖ From October 25–27, 2024, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, hosted the event.
- ❖ The 17th Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition 2024 theme was "Standardisation and Optimisation of Urban Transport Solutions".

About the Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibiton

- ❖ The annual Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition has been hosted by the Union Ministry for Housing and Urban Affairs since 2008. In order to create a contemporary, environmentally responsible, and effective urban transportation system, the conference aims to unite the government, businesses, and other stakeholders.
- ❖ Several Indian cities host the Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition.
- ❖ In 2023, the 16th Urban Mobility Conference and Exhibition took place in New Delhi.
- ❖ Gurugram, Haryana, will host the 18th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition in 2025.

Book

Manoj V Jain comes out with new book 'The Book of Now'

About News :-

Author-businessman Manoj V Jain uses snakes as metaphor in his new book “The Book of Now” to portray different aspects in the journey of life.



Key Points :-

- ❖ Interspersed with art by the author and narrated by the snakes of the past, present and future, this book is based on living life in the present and our subconscious or conscious dialogues with the universe as we walk towards our goals.
- ❖ The book, published by Magnate Publishing House, can either be read sequentially or any page can be opened randomly to hear the message from the snakes.
- ❖ Each page has a QR code for additional insights and dialogues with the author.

Sport

India end U23 World Wrestling Championships campaign with nine medals

About News :-

- ❖ With nine medals—seven bronze, one silver, and one gold—the Indian wrestling team concluded its 2024 U23 World Wrestling Championships campaign. The Indian team won nine medals at the U23 World Wrestling Championships 2023 in Tirana last year, including one gold, two silver, and six bronze.
- ❖ From October 21 to 27, 2024, Albania hosted the U23 global Wrestling Championships in Tirana, which was organized by United World Wrestling (UWW), the organization that oversees global wrestling.
- ❖ Freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling disciplines were held in ten weight classes at the Tirana event. Under-23-year-old male and female wrestlers competed at the Championships.



Sr.No	Wrestler	Category	Medal
1	Chirag Chikkara	Men's freestyle 57kg	Gold
2	Anjali	Women's freestyle 59kg	Silver
3	Vishvajit More	Men's Greco Roman 55kg	Bronze
4	Monika	Women's freestyle 68kg	Bronze
5	Neha Sharma	Women's freestyle 57kg	Bronze
6	Shiksha	Women's freestyle 65kg	Bronze
7	Abhishek Dhaka	Men's freestyle 61kg	Bronze
8	Sujeet	Men's freestyle 70kg	Bronze
9	Vicky	Men's freestyle 97kg	Bronze

About United World Wrestling

- ❖ Headquarters : Corsier-sur-Vevey, Switzerland
- ❖ President : Nenad Lalovic

Obituary

Renowned Physicist Rohini Godbole Passes Away at 71

About News :-

- ❖ On October 25, Rohini M. Godbole, a renowned physicist and recipient of the Padma Shri award, passed away. She was seventy-one.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his condolences for Godbole's passing, describing her as a trailblazing scientist and inventor who strongly advocated for more women in science.
- ❖ She has received numerous honors and distinctions, such as the French Ordre national du Mérite, memberships in numerous academies, and DLitt and DSc degrees from numerous colleges and institutions. She also held positions on a number of advisory bodies for both Indian and foreign governments.



About Rohini Godbole :-

- ❖ In 1952, Rohini Godbole was born in Pune. She completed her MSc at IIT Bombay after graduating from the University of Pune, where she was awarded the institute's silver medal. In 1979, she earned her doctorate from Stony Brook, New York's State University.
- ❖ She served as a visiting lecturer at several colleges and institutes across the globe, including the theory department at CERN, where she held the position of scientific associate.
- ❖ She joined IISc in November 1995 after teaching at the University of Bombay. In July 2018, she retired from the Institute as a full professor, however she kept on her research at the Centre for High Energy Physics (CHEP).
- ❖ She advocated for the International Linear Collider (ILC) and its variations, among other future colliders. Because of her proficiency in these fields, she was frequently consulted worldwide. She guided India's scientific community in this direction through a number of initiatives, conferences, schools, and networking events. She has also made important contributions to other fields, such as supersymmetry.
- ❖ She authored and edited a number of books. Many colleges and particle physics schools suggest her well-known book on supersymmetry, which she co-wrote with Manuel Drees and Probir Roy.
- ❖ Godbole played a crucial part in elevating the issues facing women in science by advocating for them and facilitating their advancement. Together with Prof. Ram Ramaswamy, she co-wrote the well-known, best-selling books "Lilavati's Daughters" and "The Girl's Guide to a Life in Science." Many young ladies have been inspired by these texts.
- ❖ She established a number of initiatives to boost women's involvement in science in India and served as the original chair of the Indian Academy of Sciences' Women in Science panel.

- ❖ In recognition of her achievements to science and engineering, she received the Padma Shri award in 2019.
- ❖ French National Medal of Merit (2021): The French government recognized her for her contributions to science.

Important Day

World Stroke Day - 29 October

About News :-

The World Stroke Day is observed on October 29th to raise awareness of stroke, its causes, symptoms, and prevention.



The theme for World Stroke Day 2024, "#GreaterThanStroke Active Challenge,"

History

- ❖ Every year on October 29th, World Stroke Day brings attention to a critical health issue. A stroke, often referred to as a brain attack, occurs when the blood supply to the brain is abruptly halted due to a blockage in the blood vessels. This blockage can result from various factors accumulating over time.
- ❖ Recognizable signs of a stroke include numbness or weakness in the face, arm, and leg, sudden confusion, difficulty speaking or understanding speech, dizziness, loss of balance, and trouble walking. The impact of a stroke can lead to permanent or temporary damage to part of the brain, potentially causing death or long-term disability. Fortunately, steps can be taken to prevent a brain stroke:
 - ❖ Avoid smoking.
 - ❖ Avoid Alcohol Drinking.
 - ❖ Maintaining a healthy lifestyle
 - ❖ Regular physical activity
 - ❖ Dietary Changes – limiting sodium, meats, and sweets.
 - ❖ Regular health checkups

