

Economy

India's Revised Power Export Rules Amidst Bangladesh Concerns

Context: Adani Power, an Indian energy conglomerate, operates the Godda Super Thermal Power Plant in Jharkhand. This massive project, with a capacity of 1,496 megawatts, supplies all its electricity to Bangladesh. The plant is a cornerstone of India's cross-border power trade initiative and aims to address Bangladesh's energy deficit.



Revised Power Export Rules

- ❖ In response to concerns about payment delays from neighboring countries, India has amended its power export regulations.
- ❖ These changes empower Indian power companies to repatriate electricity back to India if payment obligations are not met.

- ❖ This move aims to mitigate political risks associated with cross-border power trade, particularly in countries like Bangladesh.

Adani Power's Commitment to Bangladesh

- ❖ Despite the revised regulations, Adani Power has reaffirmed its commitment to supplying electricity to Bangladesh.
- ❖ The company has assured that it will continue to fulfill its contractual obligations under the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).

The Significance of the Godda Project

- ❖ The Godda Power Project plays a pivotal role in strengthening India-Bangladesh bilateral relations.
- ❖ By providing cheaper and more reliable electricity, the project contributes to Bangladesh's economic development and energy security.

Science & Technology

A Revolutionary Blood Test for Early Alzheimer's Detection

Context: Researchers at Lund University have developed a groundbreaking blood test, PrecivityAD2, capable of detecting Alzheimer's disease with approximately 90% accuracy. This significant advancement marks a significant step forward in the early diagnosis of this debilitating condition.



The Importance of Early Detection

- ❖ Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that affects millions worldwide.
- ❖ Accurate and timely diagnosis is crucial for enabling early intervention and potentially slowing down disease progression.
- ❖ The PrecivityAD2 blood test offers a more accessible and less invasive alternative to traditional diagnostic methods.

The Benefits of a Blood Test

- ❖ Prior to the development of PrecivityAD2, diagnosing Alzheimer's often involved complex procedures like PET scans and lumbar punctures.
- ❖ These methods can be costly, time-consuming, and potentially uncomfortable for patients. The new blood test offers a simpler and more patient-friendly approach.

The Future of Alzheimer's Diagnosis

- ❖ The PrecivityAD2 blood test represents a promising development in the field of Alzheimer's research.
- ❖ As this technology continues to evolve, it has the potential to revolutionize the way this disease is diagnosed and treated.

Geography

The Super Blue Moon of August 2024

Context: The super blue moon of August 2024, also known as the "Sturgeon Moon," was a particularly special event. It was the first of four supermoons occurring in 2024.



What is a Super Blue Moon?

- ❖ A super blue moon is a rare celestial event that occurs when two full moons fall within the same calendar month.
- ❖ Additionally, it must be a supermoon, meaning the moon is at its closest point to Earth (perigee) during its orbit.

Why is it Called a "Blue Moon"?

- ❖ Despite its name, a blue moon does not appear blue. The term simply refers to the occurrence of two full moons in a single month.
- ❖ However, under certain atmospheric conditions, such as volcanic eruptions or forest fires, the moon might appear bluish due to particles in the atmosphere scattering blue light.

The Rarity of Super Blue Moons

- ❖ Super blue moons are relatively infrequent, occurring approximately every 10 to 20 years. This rarity makes them a captivating astronomical phenomenon.

International News

Paetongtarn Shinawatra Becomes Thailand's Youngest Prime Minister

Context: At the age of 37, Paetongtarn Shinawatra was elected as Thailand's youngest prime minister, marking a significant shift in the country's political landscape. Her election follows the dismissal of former Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin, occurring amid ongoing political instability in Thailand.



Political Background

- ❖ Paetongtarn Shinawatra is the daughter of Thaksin Shinawatra, a prominent and controversial figure in Thai politics.

- ❖ She is the third member of the Shinawatra family to hold the position of prime minister, following in the footsteps of her father and her aunt, Yingluck Shinawatra.
- ❖ Her ascent to power underscores the enduring influence of the Shinawatra family in Thailand's political arena.

Election Details

- ❖ Paetongtarn secured 319 votes in the parliamentary election, which represents about two-thirds of the House.
- ❖ This substantial support indicates strong backing within the legislature despite the challenges her party, Pheu Thai, and her family have faced.

- ❖ As a political newcomer, she will have to navigate multiple challenges, including addressing the struggling economy and dealing with competition from other political factions.
- ❖ Additionally, her party faces uncertainty, particularly regarding its proposed \$14.25 billion cash handout program, which is still pending approval.



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