

International

Burkina Faso junta appoints new Prime Minister



About News:-

By designating Rimalba Jean Emmanuel Ouedraogo as the next prime minister, the ruling military junta in Burkina Faso has proclaimed a dramatic political change. This action follows the junta's dissolution of the national government without explanation one day prior. Under military administration, the nation still faces significant security issues and political instability.

Appointment of New Prime Minister

- ❖ Rimalba The government spokesperson and former minister of communications, Jean Emmanuel Ouedraogo, has been appointed prime minister.
- ❖ Ibrahim Traore, the junta's leader, announced the appointment on state television and issued a proclamation.

Government Dissolution

- ❖ Without providing a reason, the junta dissolved the national government the day before and fired Prime Minister Apollinaire Joachim Kyelem de Tambela.

Military Domination in History

- ❖ Lt. Col. Paul Henri Sandaogo Damiba, who had staged a coup against President Roch Marc Kaboré barely eight months prior, was overthrown by the current junta in September 2022
- ❖ In the face of mounting popular unhappiness over insecurity, this represents a continuation of military domination in Burkina Faso's governance.

National

PM inaugurates Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit



About News:-

- ❖ On December 9, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi opened the Rajasthan Global Business Expo and the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024 at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre (JECC) in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- ❖ To showcase Rajasthan as a forward-thinking and sustainable location for international investments, a three-day Summit and Expo will take place in the state capital, Jaipur, from December 9-11, 2024. The Rajasthan government hopes to double the state's GDP to USD 350 billion in the next five years.
- ❖ After Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma gave a welcome address during the summit's first session, Prime Minister Modi gave the keynote address.
- ❖ Prominent industrialists and senior cabinet ministers from the federal and state governments were in attendance.
- ❖ The Rising Rajasthan Global Summit 2024 theme is "Replete, Responsible, Ready".

The Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit's organiser

- ❖ With assistance from the Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP), the Industry and Commerce Department, and RIICO (Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited), the Government of Rajasthan is hosting the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit in 2024.
- ❖ The BIP is the Summit's nodal body.
- ❖ The Summit Partner is the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Maharashtra

BJP's Rahul Narwekar Elected Unopposed As Speaker Of Maharashtra Assembly



About News:-

- ❖ Bjp legislator Rahul Narwekar was unanimously elected as the speaker of the 15th Maharashtra legislative assembly on Monday, marking his second consecutive term.
- ❖ Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis congratulated Narwekar on his re-election and expressed gratitude to the opposition for their support.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Narwekar, who represents the Colaba constituency, was first elected to the state assembly as a BJP candidate in the 2019 elections. He was appointed speaker in July 2022 after Eknath Shinde became chief minister, following the collapse of the Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi government.
- ❖ Fadnavis highlighted that only four speakers before Narwekar have held the post for a second consecutive term.
- ❖ He praised Narwekar's decisions during his previous tenure, particularly those related to the Shiv Sena and NCP split, noting that these judgments would serve as precedents in the future.
- ❖ Fadnavis also emphasized the importance of the speaker's role in ensuring fairness, particularly for first-time elected members, and expressed confidence in Narwekar's ability to deliver justice to all.

Appointment

Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra appointed the new RBI Governor



About News:-

- ❖ Sanjay Malhotra, currently serving as the revenue secretary at the Ministry of Finance, has been appointed as the new Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.
- ❖ This appointment is effective December 11, 2024, and will continue for three years, as per an official notification from the Department of Personnel and Training on Monday.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Sanjay Malhotra is an Indian Administrative Service Officer of the 1990 Batch Rajasthan Cadre. He is an Engineering Graduate in Computer Science from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, and has a Master's in Public Policy from Princeton University, USA.
- ❖ With demonstrated leadership and excellence in his career of over 33 years, Sanjay Malhotra has worked in multifarious sectors including power, finance and taxation, information technology, mines, etc. Presently he is Secretary (Revenue) in the Ministry of Finance.
- ❖ In his previous assignment, he held the post of Secretary in the Department of Financial Services under the Ministry of Finance.
- ❖ He has extensive experience in finance and taxation at the State as well as the Central Government. As a part of his present assignment, he plays an instrumental role in tax policy formulation in respect of direct and indirect taxes.
- ❖ Incumbent RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has served as the head of the central bank for six years and his term is ending on December 10. He steered his central banking roles quite smoothly, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic years.
- ❖ Shaktikanta Das, a seasoned bureaucrat, previously served as the Secretary of the Department of Revenue and the Department of Economic Affairs under the Ministry of Finance. He assumed office as the 25th Governor of the RBI on December 12, 2018, with his term extended in 2021.
- ❖ Before his role as RBI Governor, Das was a Member of the 15th Finance Commission

and served as India's G20 Sherpa. He has over four decades of experience in governance, holding key positions in both the central and state governments across areas such as finance, taxation, industries, and infrastructure.

Science & technology

Iran says it conducted a successful space launch in a program long criticized by the West



About News:-

- ❖ Iran used the Simorgh rocket, which is intended to deliver payloads to low Earth orbit, to successfully launch a satellite.
- ❖ For Iran's space program, which has come under fire from the West, this is a major step.
- ❖ The Imam Khomeini Spaceport in Semnan province, Iran, hosted the launch.

The Simorgh rocket successfully launched a 300-kilogram payload into a 400-kilometer orbit while carrying two research systems and an "orbital propulsion system."

Key points :

- ❖ **Orbital Capabilities:** Iran has long desired the ability to geo-synchronize satellites for its space program, therefore this is a significant milestone.
- ❖ **International Concerns:** Iran's space launches have drawn criticism from the United States and other Western nations, who say they could enhance Iran's ballistic missile capabilities, especially those that could deliver nuclear weapons.
- ❖ The US has also asserted that these launches violate resolutions passed by the UN Security Council.
- ❖ **Political Context:** Tensions in the Middle East, especially concerning Israel's actions in Gaza, were high at the time of the launch.

- ❖ After the passing of former President Ebrahim Raisi, this is the first launch under President Masoud Pezeshkian's government.
- ❖ **Iran's Position on Nuclear Weapons:** Although Iran denies pursuing nuclear weapons, its stockpile of enriched uranium, which is nearly at weapons-grade levels, raises concerns.
- ❖ The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has warned that Iran has enough enriched uranium for "several" nuclear weapons if it chooses to pursue them.

About Iran :

- ❖ President: Masoud Pezeshkian
- ❖ Capital: Tehran
- ❖ Currency: Iranian rial

Defence

Commanders' Conference-2024 Western Air Command

About News:-

On December 6 and 7, 2024, the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command (WAC) convened a two-day Commanders' Conference in New Delhi, with Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, Chief of the Air Staff (CAS), serving as the main guest. Upon his arrival, he was greeted by Air Marshal PM Sinha, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, WAC, and given a formal Guard of Honour.



Key Points:-

- ❖ The CAS engaged with the WAC AoR Commanders throughout the conference and talked about the necessity of training to guarantee the capacity to engage in and prevail in multi-domain warfare.
- ❖ He underlined the "Bharatiya Vayu Sena - Sashakt, Saksham, Atmanirbhar" theme for this year and asked for the combined talent, capacity, and dedication of all commanders to lead the IAF to even greater success.
- ❖ He emphasised the necessity of making targeted progress in several areas, such as

enhancing operational capability through improved planning and training; achieving early operationalisation of recently introduced equipment; ensuring safety and security; and developing leaders by enabling people at all levels to become a cohesive and future-ready force.

- ❖ The CAS in his address, complimented WAC for being the first responders to calls for HADR, both within India and abroad; maintaining high operational excellence to ensure an 'always ready' formidable fighting force, and always keeping IAF core values of 'Mission, Integrity and Excellence' foremost.

Award

Abathsahayeswarar Temple chosen for UNESCO award for conservation

About News:-

- ❖ UNESCO's Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2024 have been given to two Indian heritage conservation projects: the BJPCI Conservation Project in Mumbai, Maharashtra, and the Abathsahayeswarar Temple Conservation Project in Thukkatchi, Tamil Nadu. The 2024 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation were given to eight Asia Pacific projects, including these two heritage conservation initiatives.
- ❖ On December 6, 2024, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Bangkok, Thailand, revealed the recipients of the awards in its regional office.



Abathsahayeswarar Temple Conservation Project

- ❖ In the UNESCO Award category, the Abathsahayeswarar Temple Conservation Project was awarded the Award of Distinction.

- ❖ The presiding deity of the Abathsahayeswarar (Apatsahayesvarar) Temple, which is situated in the Thukkatchi hamlet in Tamil Nadu's Thiruvavur District, is Lord Dakshinamurthy, also known as Lord Shiva.
- ❖ The temple is mentioned in the Paadal Petra Sthalams and the Tamil Saivite text "Thevaram," which dates to the 7th century.
- ❖ For employing contemporary engineering skills and the knowledge of Hindu temple builders, known as sthapani, for structural preservation, the temple received the UNESCO Award of Distinction.

Award of Merit for BJPCI Conversation Project

- ❖ The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2024 Merit Award went to the conservation effort of the BJPCI (Sir Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Parsee Charitable Institution).
- ❖ Located in Mumbai, Maharashtra, the BJPCI school building was constructed in 1908 in the Gothic style. It was constructed to encourage education among society's less affluent segments. During the two-month summer vacation, the school completed the restoration.

Sport

Bangladesh successfully defended the U19 Men's Asia Cup title after beating India in the final



About News:-

- ❖ Bangladesh successfully defended their championship on December 8, 2024, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, defeating India by 59 runs in the 11th ACC U19 Men's Asia Cup Final. Bangladesh, the 2023 champions, won the U19 Men's Asia Cup for the second time in a row.
- ❖ Male cricket players under the age of 19 compete in the ACC U19 Men's Asia Cup.

- ❖ After winning the toss, Indian captain Mohammed Amaan included Bangladesh. In their allocated 50 overs, the Bangladeshi squad amassed 198 all out thanks to the efforts of Farid Hasan (39), Rizan Hossan (47), and Muhammad Shihab James (40).
- ❖ Yudhajit Guha, a pacer, and Chetan Sharma, a spinner, each took two wickets for India.
- ❖ Amaan, the skipper, scored 26 runs as the Indian side chased the goal and was all out for 138 in the 36th over. KP Karthikeya scored 21 runs and Hardik Raj scored 24 runs, both of which were noteworthy contributions for India.

Award

- ❖ Iqbal Hossain Emon of Bangladesh was the player of the last match.
- ❖ The tournament's top player is Bangladeshi Iqbal Hossain Emon.

ACC U19 Men's Asia Cup 11th

- ❖ The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) organised the 11th ACC U19 Men's Asia Cup, which was hosted in Sharjah and Dubai by the Emirates Cricket Board of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ❖ It took place between November 29, 2024, and December 8, 2024.
- ❖ There were two groups of eight Asian teams who competed in the tournament.
- ❖ Group A: the host United Arab Emirates, Japan, Pakistan, and India.
- ❖ Group B: Afghanistan, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka
- ❖ Sri Lanka and Bangladesh advanced to the semi-finals from Group B, while India and Pakistan advanced from Group A.
- ❖ Bangladesh overcame Pakistan and India defeated Sri Lanka in the semifinals.

Obituary

Former Puducherry Chief Minister MDR Ramachandran passed away at 90



About News:-

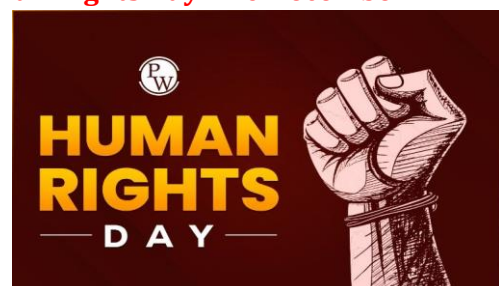
- ❖ Senior Congress leader and former Puducherry Chief Minister MDR Ramachandran passed away on Sunday evening due to ill health. He was 90.
- ❖ Meanwhile, Puducherry Chief Minister N Rangasamy announced the three days of mourning for the former CM and said his last rites will be performed with full state honours.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Ramachandran began his political journey in 1969, contesting from the Nettappakkam constituency on a Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) ticket, where he defeated former Chief Minister Venkatasubba Reddy and was elected as an MLA for the first time. Later, he contested from various constituencies and represented both the DMK and All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), winning as an MLA seven times.
- ❖ He contested from Mannadipattu constituency on behalf of AIADMK in 1974 and 1977, on behalf of DMK in 1980, 1985, and 1990, and again on behalf of AIADMK in 2001 and won as MLA 7 times.
- ❖ He served as the Chief Minister of the Union Territory, when he was with DMK, on two occasions - from January 16, 1980, to June 23, 1983, and from March 8, 1990, to March 2, 1991.
- ❖ Later, Ramachandran quit the DMK and joined the Congress in 2000 and was the Puducherry Assembly Speaker from June 11, 2001, to May 26, 2006. He had also served as the vice-president of the Puducherry Pradesh Congress Committee.

Important Day

Human Rights Day – 10 December



About Day:-

Human Rights Day, celebrated annually on December 10th, is a global observance dedicated to promoting and protecting the fundamental rights and freedoms of every individual. On this day in 1948, the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The theme 'Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now.'

History

- ❖ Human Rights Day was formally established in 1950 by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly. The date was chosen to mark the official adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on 10th December 1948. It was drafted in the aftermath of World War II to ensure that such atrocities would never occur again.
- ❖ Eleanor Roosevelt, chair of the drafting committee, played a key role in shaping this declaration. Since then, the day has been observed annually to highlight the importance of human rights and address ongoing challenges like discrimination, inequality, and oppression worldwide.

