



### Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates three Param Rudra supercomputing systems

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday virtually inaugurated three Param Rudra supercomputers and High-Performance Computing (HPC) systems for weather and climate research.

The supercomputers, developed indigenously under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) and at a cost of about Rs 130 crore.

The supercomputers will be deployed in Pune, Delhi, and Kolkata to support high-performance scientific research and development.

### Sri Lanka: Harini Amarasuriya sworn in as new Prime Minister

Dr. Harini Amarasuriya has been sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. She took office on September 24, 2024, in a ceremony presided over by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake.

Dr. Harini Amarasuriya has indeed become the 16th Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and the third woman to hold this prestigious office, following in the footsteps of Sirimavo Bandaranaike and Chandrika Kumaratunga.

### CAG has been elected as the Chairman of ASOSAI from 2024-2027

The 56th Governing Board elected Shri Girish Chandra Murmu, Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG), as the host of the 16th Assembly of Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) in 2024 and the Chairman of ASOSAI from 2024-2027. The 15th Assembly of ASOSAI approved the election on 7 September 2021. C&AG, as the Chairman, will be the Chief Executive of ASOSAI and represent ASOSAI in its dealings with national and international organizations.

### Indian-origin author Jhumpa Lahiri declined the prestigious 2024 Isamu Noguchi Award.

Jhumpa Lahiri, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author, declined the 2024 Isamu Noguchi Award due to a controversy involving the Noguchi Museum's decision to dismiss three employees for wearing keffiyehs, a symbol of Palestinian solidarity.

Lahiri, born in London to Indian immigrant parents, won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2000 for her debut story collection *Interpreter of Maladies*.

She is currently the director of the creative writing programme at Barnard College and has published works in both English and Italian.

### The 59<sup>th</sup> Indian Chemical Council (ICC) Annual Awards.

Visionary industrialist and leader Shri Deepak C Mehta, Chairman and Managing Director of Deepak Nitrite Limited, has been conferred the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award by the Indian Chemical Council (ICC) at the 59<sup>th</sup> ICC Annual Awards Function in Mumbai.

The ICC Lifetime Achievement Award acknowledges Shri Mehta's relentless pursuit of 'Responsible Chemistry'.

### Air Marshal SP Dharkar appointed as the next IAF Vice Chief

Air Marshal SP Dharkar, a distinguished fighter pilot, has been appointed as the next Vice Chief of Air Staff. He will succeed Air Marshal AP Singh, who is set

to become the Chief of Air Staff. Dharkar will assume his new role once the Chief takes over.

With over 3,600 hours of flying experience, Air Marshal Dharkar is a seasoned fighter pilot and has held significant positions throughout his career, including Assistant Chief of Air Staff (Training) and Air Defence Commander.

He was also the first Director General of the Defence Space Agency and has been leading the Eastern Air Command for the past two years.

### CO<sub>2</sub>-to-Methanol Pilot Plant in Pune

India's first CO<sub>2</sub>-to-methanol pilot plant has been inaugurated in Pune. This initiative is a part of India's ongoing efforts to reduce carbon emissions and convert waste carbon dioxide into usable methanol. The plant was developed by BHEL (Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited) in partnership with the NITI Aayog's methanol economy program.



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