

10th July 2024

Gautam Gambhir Appointed Indian Cricket Team Head Coach



Key Points:

- ❖ Gautam Gambhir has been appointed the head coach of the senior India Men's team, BCCI secretary Jay Shah announced on Tuesday (July 9).
- ❖ The 42-year-old's first assignment will be the upcoming tour of Sri Lanka, which features 3 ODIs and 3 T20Is and kicks off on July 27.
- ❖ Gambhir takes over from Dravid, who served in the role from November 2022 to June 2024 and stepped down following India's victorious T20 World Cup campaign in the USA and West Indies. Under Dravid, India reached the final of the ICC World Test Championship and the 50-over World Cup in 2023, and won the T20 World Cup in 2024.
- ❖ Gambhir doesn't have previous coaching experience but has served as a mentor in multiple IPL teams, including Kolkata Knight Riders, who won the championship this year. As a

player, he has been a part of India's World Cup winning campaigns in 2007 and 2011. In an international career spanning 12 years, from 2004 to 2016, Gambhir featured in 58 Tests, 147 ODIs and 37 T20Is.

Amit Shah inaugurates Amin PJKP Vidhyarthi Bhavan in Ahmedabad



Key Points:

- ❖ Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah has inaugurated the Amin PJKP Vidhyarthi Bhavan in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ❖ Shah also inaugurated the modern multispecialty SLiMS Hospital in Ahmedabad. 1000 students will study in this Vidhyarthi Bhavan for higher education.

Govt makes ISI mark mandatory for stainless steel, aluminium utensils



Key Points:

- ❖ The government has mandated conformity to the Bureau of Indian

Standards (BIS) for stainless steel and aluminium utensils to enhance kitchen safety, quality and efficiency.

- ❖ According to an order issued by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the ISI mark will be compulsory for such utensils.
- ❖ Recently, the BIS has developed a range of standards covering essential kitchen items. This move will enhance consumer confidence and drive manufacturers towards adopting best practices.
- ❖ This development follows the BIS' recent formulation of comprehensive standards for kitchen items, including IS 14756:2022 for stainless steel and IS 1660:2024 for aluminium utensils.

UP govt launched 'Mitra Van' initiative on the UP-Nepal border



Key Points:

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Government has launched the 'Mitra Van' initiative under the Tree Plantation Jan Abhijan-2024.
- ❖ The aim of the 'Mitra Van' initiative is to increase the green cover on the Uttar Pradesh-Nepal border. The 'Mitra Van' initiative will start on the border of Uttar Pradesh and Nepal from 20 July.

Main Objective

- ❖ To increase the green cover by planting 35 crore saplings.
- ❖ To promote bilateral relations through environmental initiatives with neighboring states and Nepal.

**Rachel Reeve becomes UK's first woman
Finance Minister**



Key Points:

- ❖ Rachel Reeves, a former Bank of England economist, has been appointed as the UK's first female finance Minister after the Labour's landslide victory, ending 14 years of Conservative rule.
- ❖ After graduating, she worked as an economist for a decade, first at the Bank of England before switching to the private sector.
- ❖ The United Kingdom is made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- ❖ She became British girls' chess champion aged 14 before studying philosophy, politics and economics at the University of Oxford, which was followed by a Master's degree at the London School of Economics.

Sivashankari to honour with Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award



Key Points:

- ❖ Noted Tamil writer Sivashankari has been selected for Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award.
- ❖ Sivashankari will be honoured with a cash prize of ₹5 lakh, a memento and a shawl in recognition of her contribution to the field of literature.
- ❖ A recipient of the Saraswati Samman Award, Ms. Sivashankari will receive the 'Vishwambhara' award during Dr. C. Narayana Reddy's 93rd birth anniversary celebrations at Ravindra Bharati in Hyderabad on July 29.
- ❖ The Chennai-based writer has penned 36 novels, 48 mini-novels (navalikas), 150 stories, 15 travelogues, seven volumes of essays, four research papers and two biographies in Tamil.

Vinesh Phogat wins Gold at Grand Prix of Spain



Key Points:

- ❖ India's two-time Olympian Vinesh Phogat has won the gold medal in the women's 50kg category in the Grand Prix of Spain international continental wrestling championship.
- ❖ Vinesh defeated Mariia Tiumerekova – former Russian grappler now competing as an Individual Neutral Athlete – 10-5 in the final encounter to bag the yellow metal.
- ❖ In the quarterfinals, the 29-year-old from Charkhi Dadri, Haryana, pinned Madison Parks of Canada, a silver medallist at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.
- ❖ In the semifinals, Vinesh defeated another Canadian Katie Dutchak 9-4 to seal a place in the final.

Roshni Nadar conferred highest civilian award of France



Key Points:

- ❖ Chairperson of IT services firm HCLTech, Roshni Nadar Malhotra has been conferred with the "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour), the highest civilian award of France.

- ❖ The award recognises her contributions to the business world, her endeavor to promote economic ties between France and India, as well as her commitment to social and environmental causes.
- ❖ HCLTech has been operating in France since 2009. It is a digital transformation partner to G2000 French companies across diverse industries including aerospace, manufacturing, financial services and pharmaceuticals

Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur

- ❖ Instituted in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur is the highest civilian award given by the French Republic for outstanding service to France, regardless of the nationality of the recipients.
- ❖ The President of the French Republic is the Grand Master of the Order of the Legion of Honour.

India to conduct Malabar Exercise with 'Quad' allies



Key Points:

- ❖ India will host the prestigious Malabar Naval Exercise alongside the United States, Japan, and Australia in the Bay of Bengal in October 2024.
- ❖ The decision comes amidst escalating regional tensions fueled by China's assertive actions in the South China Sea and its expanding footprint across the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- ❖ The 28th edition of the Malabar exercise, with a major focus on advanced antisubmarine warfare, will be conducted on India's eastern seaboard in October to further enhance military interoperability among the four countries.
- ❖ Malabar will witness complex surface, anti-air and anti-submarine warfare drills, along with joint manoeuvres and advanced tactical exercises, to hone war-fighting skills.

Gagan Narang named as new Chef-De-Mission in Paris Olympics 2024



Key Points:

- ❖ The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has named Gagan Narang as the Chef-deMission of the Indian contingent to compete in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, starting on 26th July.

- ❖ He will replace MC Mary Kom. Narang is the four-time Olympian and 2012 Olympic Games men's 10-meter Air Rifle bronze medalist.
- ❖ Star Shuttler PV Sindhu and Table Tennis Ace Achantha Sharath Kamal will be the flag bearers during the opening ceremony.
- ❖ India's only women to win two Olympic medals, P.V. Sindhu, will be the female flagbearer, alongside Sharath Kamal in the opening ceremony.
- ❖ Chef-de-Mission is an important administrative post as he is responsible for ensuring the welfare of the participating athletes, taking care of their needs and liaising with the organising committee.

'Huge disappointment,' Ukraine's Zelensky irked over PM Modi's visit to Russia



Key Points:

- ❖ As Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi landed in Moscow on Monday (Jul 8) to meet his 'dear friend' Putin, President Volodymyr Zelensky of neighbouring Ukraine couldn't hold back his anger.

- ❖ Terming Modi's two-day visit to Russia a "huge disappointment," he said it was "a devastating blow to peace efforts."
- ❖ The statement came after Russian missiles targeted Ukrainian cities, including a children's hospital in Kyiv, which killed more than 40 people the same day.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the summit talks with President Vladimir Putin on the second day of his visit to Russia.
- ❖ During this, Putin said, 'We are grateful to you for the solution you are trying to find for the Ukraine crisis. At the same time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said - As a friend, I have always said that the path to peace does not emerge from the battlefield. Peace is not possible amidst bombs, guns and bullets.'

Prime Minister receives Russia's highest State Award

- ❖ In a special ceremony in St. Andrew Hall in the Kremlin, President of the Russian Federation, H.E. Mr. Vladimir Putin conferred Russia's highest national award "The Order of St. Andrew the Apostle" on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his

contribution to fostering India-Russia ties. The award was announced in 2019 .

- ❖ 2. While accepting the award, Prime Minister dedicated it to the people of India and to the traditional bonds of friendship between India and Russia. He further stated that the recognition illuminates the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

- ❖ 3. This award was instituted over 300 years ago. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is the first Indian leader to be conferred with this award.



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