



21<sup>st</sup> September, 2024

### **Worst drought in four decades: Zimbabwe to cull 200 elephants to feed its people**

Zimbabwe plans to cull 200 elephants to address severe food shortages caused by the worst drought in four decades. The meat will be distributed to drought-affected communities. This follows Namibia's similar decision to cull wildlife due to the El Niño-induced drought impacting southern Africa, affecting 68 million people.

In Zimbabwe, 7.6 million people are set to face food insecurity from January to April next year, the height of the lean season, according to the World Food Programme.

### **India's First Astronaut to ISS Set for Ax-4 Mission: Prepping for space visit in 2025**

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla of the Indian Air Force will pilot the Axiom-4 mission to the International Space Station in 2025. This marks India's first human presence aboard the ISS and its second government-sponsored human spaceflight since 1984. The mission is a collaboration between India and the United States.

This mission will mark India's first human presence aboard the ISS and its second government-sponsored human spaceflight in more than four decades, following Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma's 1984 mission with the Soviet Union.

### **India's first biometric: PayU launched Flash Pay**

PayU, one of India's leading digital financial services providers, has introduced an industry-first biometric authentication solution for card payments – Flash Pay. Designed to simplify the payment experience, increase transaction success rates, and significantly enhance security, FlashPay was unveiled at the prestigious Global Fintech Festival (GFF) 2024. This cutting-edge solution combines the ease of seamless payment experience with robust security measures, meeting both customer aspirations for convenience and banks' stringent authentication requirements.

### Porphyriion:largest black hole jets

Porphyriion can tell us more about the great ecosystem of matter flowing inside and outside of galaxies. The largest known black hole jets, 23 million light years across, have been discovered in the distant universe, two massive jets of energy being ejected from a supermassive black hole. These jets, named Porphyriion after a giant from Greek mythology, are 30% larger than any previously documented and extend 140 times the diameter of the Milky Way.

Detected using the LOFAR radio telescope network, this discovery offers a glimpse into one of the universe's most energetic events.

### PM MITRA Park in Maharashtra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park in Maharashtra's Amravati on Friday. The 1000-acre park is being developed by the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) as the State Implementation Agency. The

central government had approved setting up 7 PM MITRA Parks for the textile industry. The Prime Minister launched the 'Acharya Chanakya Skill Development' scheme and 'Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Women Startup Scheme'. He released certificates and loans to PM Vishwakarma beneficiaries and also released a commemorative stamp dedicated to mark one year of progress under PM Vishwakarma.

### Indus Water Treaty: India and Pakistan

On September 19, 1960, a pivotal moment unfolded in Karachi, Pakistan, when the then-Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru and the then-Pakistani president Marshal Mohammad Ayub Khan signed a treaty to establish a partnership over the Indus River.

Under the Indus Water Treaty, India was granted unrestricted access to the water from the 'Eastern Rivers', and Pakistan retained rights to that from the 'Western Rivers'.

## International Day of Peace 21

### September:

The International Day of Peace (“Peace Day”) is observed around the world each year on 21 September. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.

40 years ago, people around the world came together in San Francisco, the birthplace of the United Nations, to celebrate the passage of the United Nations resolution establishing the International Day of Peace (Peace Day).

2024 Global Peace Day Theme:  
Cultivating a Culture of Peace



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