

Weekly Current Affairs-9th To 14th September 2024 English**National News****Union Home Minister Amit Shah Honors Mumbai Samachar's Legacy with '200 Not Out' Documentary Release**

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, presided over a significant event in Mumbai, Maharashtra, marking the release of the '200 Not Out' documentary chronicling the illustrious journey of Mumbai Samachar, Asia's oldest newspaper. The ceremony, attended by dignitaries including Maharashtra Chief Minister Shri Eknath Shinde, highlighted the newspaper's enduring legacy and its role in shaping India's journalistic landscape.

India Emerges as World's Second-Largest 5G Smartphone Market

In a significant development for the global telecommunications industry, Counterpoint Research has reported that India has surpassed the United States to become the world's second-largest market for 5G smartphones. This shift underscores India's rapid technological advancement and the growing demand for high-speed connectivity across the nation.

Amit Shah Re-Elected as Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, has been unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language. Following the formation of the new government, the committee held a meeting in New Delhi to reconstitute itself, leading to Shah's re-election. He previously served as the Chairperson from 2019 to 2024. Shah expressed gratitude for the unanimous support and discussed his vision for Hindi's role in government and education.

India to Host 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation

India's aviation sector has experienced significant growth, evolving into one of the largest and most dynamic markets in the world. With the 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation scheduled from September 11-12, 2024, in New Delhi, India is set to reinforce its leadership in aviation. The conference, co-hosted by ICAO and the Ministry of Civil Aviation, will focus on exploring new opportunities for growth, infrastructure, and collaboration, especially in regional connectivity.

QCI Approves NTH Ghaziabad for Drone Certification

The Quality Council of India (QCI) has provisionally approved National Test House (NTH), Ghaziabad, as a certification body for type certification of drones under the Drone Rules 2021. NTH will assess agricultural drones, including Vimaana

Aerospace Technologies' Krishiraj 1.0, and provide low-cost certification services to support the growing drone sector in India.

Launch of "Rangeen Machhli" App: A Milestone for India's Ornamental Fisheries Sector

In a significant development for India's ornamental fisheries sector, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh Alias Lalan Singh, unveiled the "Rangeen Machhli" mobile application. The launch event took place at the prestigious ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA) in Bhubaneswar, marking a new era in the dissemination of knowledge and resources for ornamental fish enthusiasts and professionals alike.

India to Partner with European Hydrogen Week 2024

India has been announced as the exclusive partner for the European Hydrogen Week, set to take place in November 2024. This announcement was made on the second day of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2024), held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The partnership underscores India's commitment to aligning with EU green regulations to enhance its export potential in the green hydrogen sector.

PM Modi Inaugurates 2nd International Conference on Green Hydrogen

On September 11, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the 2nd International Conference on Green Hydrogen, which is being held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from September 11-13, 2024. The conference aims to position India as a leader in the global green hydrogen ecosystem by discussing recent technological advances and fostering strategic investments and partnerships to accelerate green hydrogen adoption.

India Participates in BRICS Literature Forum 2024 in Russia

India took part in the BRICS Literature Forum 2024, which began in Kazan, Russia on 11th September 2024. The event, inaugurated by Kazan Mayor Ilshur Metshin, focused on the theme "World Literature in the New Reality: Dialogue of Traditions, National Values, and Cultures".

International News**Michel Barnier Named by Macron to be France's New PM**

French President Emmanuel Macron has made a significant political decision by appointing Michel Barnier, the former EU Brexit negotiator, as France's new Prime Minister on September 5, 2024. This appointment comes after an extended period of political uncertainty and marks a crucial moment in France's ongoing efforts to form a stable government.

Israel's Tower Semiconductor and Adani's \$10 Billion Chip Project in India

Israel's Tower Semiconductor and India's Adani Group are set to invest 839.47 billion rupees (\$10 billion) in a semiconductor manufacturing project in Maharashtra. The initiative highlights India's push to become a global hub for chip production, despite previous challenges such as Foxconn's withdrawal from a \$19.5 billion joint venture with Vedanta and stalled plans by ISMC to invest \$3 billion.

New Chief of Army Staff Sworn in for Nepal's Military Leadership

In a solemn and significant ceremony held today at the Office of the President, Sheetal Niwas, Ashok Raj Sigdel was officially sworn in as the 45th Chief of the Army Staff (CoAS) of the Nepali Army. This momentous occasion marks a new chapter in Nepal's military leadership and underscores the nation's commitment to its armed forces.

Nepal became the 101st member of ISA

Nepal has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a full member. The Ministry of External Affairs said that Nepal handed over its Instrument of Ratification to the ISA in New Delhi on 9th September. The ISA is a global intergovernmental organization dedicated to advancing solar power adoption for a carbon-neutral future.

Mexico's Senate passes controversial judicial reform bill

Mexico became the world's first country to allow voters to elect judges at all levels after protesters invaded the upper house and suspended debate on the issue. The reform was approved with 86 votes in favor and 41 against, garnering the two-thirds majority needed to amend the constitution.

Algeria Joins BRICS New Development Bank

Algeria has been officially authorized to join the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), as announced by the bank's president, Dilma Rousseff, during the ninth annual meeting in Cape Town. The NDB, established by the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) in 2015, aims to support infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging economies and developing nations.

State News**World Trade Centre to Anchor Ambitious AI City Near Hyderabad**

The government of Telangana has taken a significant step towards establishing itself as a global AI hub by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Trade Centres' Association for the creation of a World Trade Centre (WTC) within the proposed AI City near Hyderabad. This strategic move underscores Telangana's commitment to fostering innovation, attracting global investments, and positioning itself at the forefront of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies.

World's First Asian King Vulture Conservation Center Inaugurated in Uttar Pradesh

On September 6, 2024, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre in Bharivaisi, Campierganj Range of the Gorakhpur Forest Division. This groundbreaking facility marks a significant milestone in wildlife conservation as the world's first dedicated conservation and breeding center for the Asian King Vulture, also known as the red-headed vulture.

Economy News**Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (2016=100) – July 2024**

The Labour Bureau, an office of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, releases the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) monthly. The CPI-IW for July 2024 has increased by 1.3 points to 142.7. The year-on-year inflation rate for July 2024 is 2.15%, a decrease from 7.54% in July 2023. For comparison, the year-on-year inflation rate for June 2024 was 3.67%, down from 5.57% in June 2023.

To Resolve Exporters Issue Piyush Goyal Unveils Portal

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, launched the 'Jan Sunwai portal', which is an online platform of the Department of commerce, designed to streamline communication between stakeholders and authorities.

India's Foreign Kitty Jumps to Fresh Time High at 689.24bn

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that India's forex reserves jumped USD 5.248 billion to a new all-time high of USD 689.235 billion till 6th September, 2024. Forex reserves or foreign exchange reserves are assets that are held by a nation's central bank or monetary authority. It is generally held in reserve currencies, usually the US Dollar and to a lesser degree the Euro, Japanese Yen, and Pound Sterling. It is used to back its liabilities.

Rankings & Reports News**MP tops the list of having AYUSH doctors in PHCs in India**

In the Latest Gol (Government of India) Report on Health Dynamics of India reveals data that Madhya Pradesh topped overall for having AYUSH doctors (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa rigpa and Homeopathy) facility in the Primary health care centers (PHCs) in all over India.

Cristiano Ronaldo, Breaking Barriers in Social Media

Cristiano Ronaldo, the football icon, has once again proven his unparalleled global appeal by achieving a remarkable milestone in the world of social media. His ability to captivate audiences extends far beyond the football pitch, making him a beloved figure even among those who don't actively follow the sport.

India jumps to Tier 1 in Global CyberSecurity Index 2024

India has jumped to Tier 1 in the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024, released by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), when it comes to role-modeling as part of the country's cybersecurity commitments and resulting impacts. The Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) is a trusted reference that measures the commitment of countries to cybersecurity at a global level to raise awareness of the importance and different dimensions of the issue. As cybersecurity has a broad field of application, cutting across many industries and various sectors.

Agreement News**India and UAE Sign Landmark Civil Nuclear Energy Agreement**

India and the UAE have signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for civil nuclear cooperation during Sheikh Khalid bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan's visit to New Delhi. The deal, involving the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and the Emirates Nuclear Energy Company (ENEC), marks a historic step in bilateral relations and reflects a commitment to peaceful nuclear energy utilization.

India and UAE Strengthen Ties with Five Landmark Agreements

India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) took a significant step forward in their strategic partnership by signing five groundbreaking agreements. These deals, covering crucial areas such as nuclear energy, fossil fuels, and food security, were formalized during a high-level meeting between Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi.

Appointment News**Tuhin Kanta Pandey Appointed as New Finance Secretary**

The Indian government has appointed Tuhin Kanta Pandey, a 1987-batch IAS officer from the Odisha cadre, as the new Finance Secretary. This decision was made on September 7, 2024, following the appointment of T.V. Somanathan as the Cabinet Secretary, which created a vacancy for the finance role. Pandey, who previously served as the Secretary of the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), will now oversee India's financial policies and decisions.

Arun Goel Appointed as India's Ambassador to Croatia

Arun Goel has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to Croatia, succeeding Raj Kumar Srivastava. The Ministry of External Affairs announced his new role on September 7, 2024. Goel, a retired 1985-batch IAS officer from the Punjab cadre, previously served as the Election Commissioner of India from November 21, 2022, to March 9, 2024.

Vinay Goyal Appointed as State Mission Director of NHM

Dr. Vinay Goyal has officially assumed the role of State Mission Director for the National Health Mission (NHM). He succeeds K. Jeevan Babu, who has moved to the Kerala Water Authority as Managing Director. Dr. Goyal, an IAS officer of the 2016 batch, also takes charge as Director of the Kerala State IT Mission and Project Director at eHealth Kerala. In his new roles, he aims to advance Kerala's digital and health infrastructure.

Randhir Singh Elected as the First Indian President of the Olympic Council of Asia

On September 8, 2024, a landmark moment in Asian sports history unfolded as Randhir Singh, a veteran sports administrator, was elected as the president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). This momentous event took place during the 44th General Assembly of the continental body in New Delhi, marking the first time an Indian has ascended to this prestigious position.

R. Ravindra appointed as Ambassador To Iceland

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has appointed Mr. R. Ravindran as the next ambassador to Iceland. He was a bureaucrat and served at many organizations and places. R. Ravindran was an Indian foreign service officer of batch 1999 and is currently serving as India's Deputy permanent representative at the United Nations.

Banking News**SBI Foundation Launches 3rd Edition of Asha Scholarship Program**

The State Bank of India (SBI) Foundation has unveiled the third edition of its flagship initiative, the SBI Asha Scholarship Programme. This ambitious program aims to support 10,000 talented students from underprivileged backgrounds across India, offering substantial financial assistance to help them pursue their educational dreams.

RBL Bank Teams Up with IndianOil for New Credit Card

Private sector lender RBL Bank has launched a new credit card in collaboration with Indian Oil Corporation, named 'Xtra Credit Card,' as part of its strategy to moderately grow its credit card portfolio and enhance customer engagement. The move comes amid scrutiny from the RBI over the rapid growth of the riskier unsecured credit segment.

Union Bank of India Becomes First Major Bank to Join PCAF

Union Bank of India has made a significant move by becoming the first major bank to sign on to the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF). This decision reflects a growing global focus on managing climate risk and aligns with the recent draft guidelines on climate risk disclosures issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

UPI Users can now Send 5 Lakh For Some Transactions

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has increased the transaction limits for tax payments using UPI (Unified Payment Interface), by allowing people to send 5 lakh in a single transaction. Acquiring entities must ensure that the classification of their merchants within MCC-9311 strictly adheres to the tax payments only. Merchants shall ensure UPI as a payment mode is enabled for the increased limit for the tax payments category.

TIME's World's Best Companies 2024, Indian Firms in the Spotlight

TIME magazine's World's Best Companies of 2024 list has brought significant recognition to Indian businesses, highlighting their growing influence on the global stage. This prestigious ranking, which includes 1000 companies worldwide, features 22 Indian-born enterprises this year, showcasing the country's expanding corporate footprint and economic prowess.

Science & Technology News**DRDO Successfully Completes First Phase Trials of Light Tank 'Zorawar'**

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the preliminary automotive trials of the Indian Light Tank, Zorawar, on September 13, 2024. The versatile platform, developed for high-altitude deployment, demonstrated exceptional performance in desert terrain, meeting all objectives. The firing performance in this phase achieved the required accuracy on designated targets, showcasing its combat readiness.

Schemes and Committees News**To boost research in higher institutes, the PAIR programme launched**

The central government will launch the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme designed to elevate research capabilities in higher education institutions (HEIs) by linking top-tier research institutions with those where research capability is limited, creating a collaborative mentorship environment.

Union Cabinet Approves Health Cover for All Aged 70 and Above

The Union Cabinet has extended the benefits of the Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) to all senior citizens aged 70 and above, irrespective of their income. Announced by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, the scheme will provide free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh per year, benefiting around 6 crore individuals and 4.5 crore families.

BioE3 Policy: Fostering High-Performance Biomanufacturing in India

The Union Cabinet of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved a groundbreaking policy aimed at revolutionizing the country's biotechnology sector. The BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) sets the stage for fostering high-performance biomanufacturing, positioning India at the forefront of global biotechnological innovation.

Cabinet Approves ₹2,000-Crore 'Mission Mausam'

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved 'Mission Mausam' on September 11, 2024, with an outlay of ₹2,000 crore over two years. The mission, led by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, aims to enhance research and development in atmospheric sciences and improve weather forecasting and management. The initiative will integrate advanced observation systems, high-performance computing, and technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning to set new standards in weather prediction.

Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia Launches 'Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav' Website

Union Minister Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), has officially launched the website for the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav. The launch, held at Sanchar Bhawan in New Delhi, highlights the government's dedication to showcasing Northeast India's cultural and economic richness on both national and international platforms.

Blue Revolution: 4 Years of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana

The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), launched in 2020, is a comprehensive initiative aimed at transforming India's fisheries sector and enhancing the welfare of fishermen. This scheme, under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, addresses critical issues in fish production, productivity, quality, technology, and infrastructure while strengthening the fisheries value chain.

Summits & Conference News**Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Inaugurates SEMICON India 2024**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, on September 11, 2024. The three-day conference, running from September 11 to 13, showcases India's semiconductor strategy and policy with the aim of positioning the country as a global semiconductor hub.

QUAD leaders summit will be held on 21st September in Wilmington

United States of America's president Joe Biden will host leaders from QUAD members of other countries like India, Japan and Australia in Wilmington, Delaware on 21st September in the USA. The Quad is a diplomatic partnership between Australia, India, Japan, and the United States committed to supporting an open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific that is inclusive and resilient.

The 79th United Nations (UN) General Assembly session starts

The United Nations General Assembly provides an opportunity to member states a unique forum for multilateral discussions on international issues, this year 79th session of UNGA started on 10th September. The UNGA provides world leaders from the current 193 member states with a forum where they can discuss, debate and make recommendations on subjects pertaining to international peace and security, including development, disarmament, human rights and international law.

Amit Shah Inaugurated National Security Strategies Conference in Capital

Union Home Minister of India Shri. Amit Shah inaugurated 2 days National Security Strategies Conference 2024 in the capital of India at New Delhi. This conference will hold talks on various aspects of security and its challenges.

MoEFCC Organizes the Dialogue on Montreal Protocol

On the 30th World Ozone Day event, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), organizes a dialogue on the theme of "Montreal Protocol : Advancing Climate Action. World Ozone Day, held on September 16, celebrates this achievement. It shows that collective decisions and action, guided by science, are the only way to solve major global crises.

Third Edition of INDUS-X Summit Concludes in California

The third edition of the INDUS-X Summit, held on 9-10 September 2024 in California, marked significant progress in advancing a joint defence innovation ecosystem between India and the USA. Co-organised by the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) and Stanford University, the event focused on deepening defence collaboration through innovation, joint research, and investment.

Awards & Honors News**Swachh Vayu Survekshan Award 2024 Presented by Bhupender Yadav and Rajasthan CM**

The International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies (Swachh Vayu Diwas) was observed on 7th September 2024 in Jaipur. Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav, and Rajasthan Chief Minister, Bhajan Lal Sharma, led the

event. Key dignitaries included Rajasthan's Minister of State for Environment, Sanjay Sharma, and Urban Development Minister, Jhabar Singh Kharra.

India's Cities Recognized for Air Quality Improvements: Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2024

In a significant recognition of efforts to combat air pollution, the Union Environment Ministry has presented the "National Clean Air City" Awards during the Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2024. This event, held as part of a national workshop celebrating the "International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies" in Jaipur on Saturday, showcased the remarkable strides made by various Indian cities in improving their air quality.

National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024

On September 11, 2024, the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, presided over a distinguished ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan to present the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the year 2024. This prestigious event recognized outstanding contributions in the field of nursing, highlighting the crucial role that nursing professionals play in the healthcare system.

Important Dates News**5th UN International Day to Protect Education from Attack**

The 5th Observance of the UN International Day to Protect Education from Attack is set to take place on September 9, 2024, in Doha, Qatar. This crucial event will be held at the QNCC Auditorium 3, featuring a High-Level Panel led by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Education Above All Foundation and UN SDG Advocate.

Hindi Diwas 2024, Celebrating India's Linguistic Heritage

Hindi Diwas, observed annually on September 14th, stands as a testament to India's rich linguistic diversity and cultural heritage. This day marks the adoption of Hindi as an official language of the Indian federal government, a decision made by the Constituent Assembly in 1949. As we approach Hindi Diwas 2024, it's crucial to reflect on the significance of this celebration, its historical roots, and its contemporary relevance in promoting linguistic unity across the nation.

Sports News**India Bids for 2030 Youth Olympics: Mandaviya Addresses OCA General Assembly**

Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, India's Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports, announced India's bid for the 2030 Youth Olympics during his speech at the of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)44th General Assembly on September 8, 2024. India will compete against Peru, Colombia, Mexico, Thailand, Mongolia, Russia, Ukraine, and Bosnia and Herzegovina for hosting rights. This bid is seen as a precursor to India's ambition to host the 2036 Olympics.

Harvinder Singh and Preeti Pal Named Flag Bearers for Paralympics Closing Ceremony

In a momentous occasion for Indian sports, gold medal-winning archer Harvinder Singh and sprinter Preeti Pal have been chosen to carry the Indian flag during the closing ceremony of the Paris Paralympics. This selection not only honors their outstanding achievements but also symbolizes the growing prominence of Indian para-athletes on the global stage.

Yogasana Secures Spot as Demonstration Sport in 2026 Asian Games

In a significant development for traditional Indian sports, Yogasana has been officially included as a demonstration sport in the upcoming 2026 Asian Games, set to take place in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan. This decision marks a pivotal moment in the recognition of yoga as a competitive athletic discipline on the international stage.

Syria Triumphs in 4th Intercontinental Cup Football Championship

The 4th Intercontinental Cup men's football championship concluded with a stunning victory for Syria, as they defeated the defending champions India with a decisive 3-0 score in the final round-robin match. The tournament, held from September 3 to 9, 2024, at the GMC Balayogi Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad, Telangana, showcased Syria's dominance throughout the competition.

Deepali Thapa Makes History as First Schoolgirl Champion

In a groundbreaking moment for Indian boxing, Deepali Thapa etched her name in the annals of sports history by becoming the first-ever schoolgirl champion at the Asian Youth Boxing Championships held in Al Ain, UAE on Sunday. This remarkable achievement not only highlights Thapa's exceptional talent but also underscores India's rising prowess in women's boxing on the international stage.

Paralympic Champions: New Faces of Voter Inspiration for Persons with Disabilities

In a momentous event at Nirvachan Sadan, the Election Commission of India (ECI) celebrated the achievements of two remarkable Paralympic archers while simultaneously enlisting their support to inspire voters across the nation. Ms. Sheetal Devi and Shri Rakesh Kumar, fresh from their bronze medal victory in Archery at the Paris Summer Paralympics 2024, were honored for their sporting prowess and appointed as national icons for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

63rd Subroto Cup International Football Tournament

The Subroto Cup International Football Tournament, a premier inter-school football competition, celebrated its 63rd edition in 2024. This prestigious event, which attracts participants from both India and abroad, concluded with an exciting finale on September 11, 2024, in New Delhi.

Defence News**India-USA Joint Military Exercise YUDH ABHYAS-2024**

The 20th edition of the India-USA Joint Military Exercise, YUDH ABHYAS-2024, commenced on September 9, 2024, at the Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan. This annual exercise, alternating between India and the USA since 2004, is set to run until September 22, 2024, showcasing a remarkable increase in scale and sophistication compared to previous iterations.

Indian Army & IAF Sign MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya to Boost Logistics Skills

On September 09, 2024, the Indian Army and Indian Air Force signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya in Vadodara. This collaboration aims to enhance the logistics capabilities of personnel and align with national development plans such as the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan 2021 and the National Logistics Policy 2022. The agreement was formalized in New Delhi in the presence of Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and Railways Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw.

India Bolsters Naval Capabilities: Launch of Mahe Class Anti-Submarine Warfare Vessels

On September 9, 2024, the Cochin Shipyard marked a significant milestone in India's naval defense capabilities by launching two new vessels:

Malpe: The fourth ship in the Mahe Class

Mulki: The fifth ship in the Mahe Class

These Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) vessels were launched in a ceremony held in Kochi, Kerala.

Rajnath Singh Inaugurates IDAX-24 Expo in Jodhpur

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the India Defence Aviation Exposition (IDAX-24) at Jodhpur on September 12, 2024. This major event coincides with Exercise Tarang Shakti-24, one of the largest multinational air exercises hosted by the Indian Air Force. The IDAX-24, running from September 12-14, showcases significant advancements and contributions of the Indian aviation industry.

DRDO & Indian Navy Successfully Test Vertical Launch Short-Range SAM Off Odisha Coast

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy successfully conducted a flight test of the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha, on September 12, 2024, at around 3 PM. The missile system, launched from a land-based vertical launcher, engaged a low-flying, high-speed aerial target, demonstrating its operational effectiveness and tracking capabilities. The test validated several upgraded features, including the Proximity Fuse and Seeker, with performance monitored by instruments such as Radar, Electro-Optical Tracking System (EOTS), and Telemetry.

Indian Army Contingent Departs for India-Oman Joint Military Exercise Al Najah V

The Indian Army contingent has departed for the fifth edition of the India-Oman joint military exercise, Al Najah, which will take place from September 13 to 26, 2024, at the Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman. Al Najah has been held biennially since 2015, alternating between India and Oman. The previous edition was conducted in Rajasthan, India. This year, both India and Oman are sending 60 personnel each, with the Indian team represented by the Mechanised Infantry Regiment and the Royal Army of Oman represented by the Frontier Force.

Books & Authors News

Sushil Kumar Shinde's Book Launch Titled Five Decades in Politics

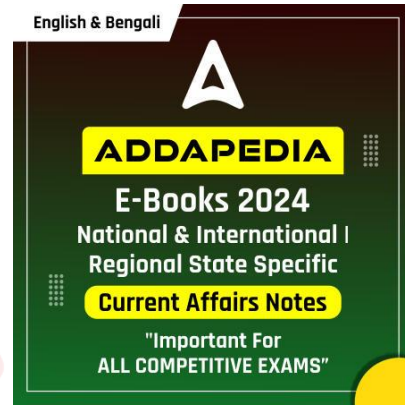
The India International Centre in New Delhi recently played host to a remarkable event that transcended the typical book launch. The multipurpose hall echoed with applause and enthusiastic chants of "more" as attendees celebrated the release of Five Decades in Politics, an autobiographical account of Sushil Kumar Shinde's life penned by senior journalist Rasheed Kidwai. The 200-page book, published by HarperCollins India, proved to be just an appetizer for an audience hungry for more insights into the life of this seasoned politician.

Miscellaneous News

People of Zaskar Celebrates 9th Ladakh Zaskar Festival 2024

The 9th Ladakh Zaskar Festival 2024 began with remarkable grandeur in the picturesque village of Sani, signifying a landmark event for the region. This year's Zaskar Festival is especially significant as it marks the first celebration since Zaskar was officially declared a district.

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