



1 February 2024

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

Indian Coast Guard Day



Context:

- **Indian Coast Guard Day is celebrated annually on February 1st to commemorate the formation of the Indian Coast Guard in 1977.**

This vital organization plays a crucial role in safeguarding India's maritime interests, including:

1. **Maritime Security:** Guarding against piracy, terrorism, and illegal activities at sea.
2. **Search and Rescue:** Conducting rescue operations during maritime emergencies and saving lives.
3. **Environmental Protection:** Preventing marine pollution and enforcing environmental regulations.
4. **Fisheries Protection:** Combating illegal fishing and protecting marine resources.
5. **Disaster Relief:** Providing assistance during natural disasters and coastal emergencies.

AP records drop in maternal & child deaths

Context:

- According to the officials of medical and health departments, the **number of maternal deaths have reduced to 409 in the year 2022-23, when compared to the year 2014-15, where the number of deaths were soaring 691.**
- The **current year** has reported **279 maternal deaths** so far with Alluri Sithrama Raju district reporting 21 deaths, followed by Anantapur reporting 19 deaths.
- The progress is not limited to maternal health, as **child mortality rates have also seen a sharp decline** in the State.
- As many as **8,433 under-five deaths have been reported in 2019-20, which reduced to 5,245 in 2023-24 so far.**

VSEZ records 24% growth in exports

Context:

- The **Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone (VSEZ) achieved a remarkable 24% year-on-year increase in exports** during the April-December period of the current fiscal year (2023-24).
- This growth surpasses the **initial target of 18% set** for the zone, reflecting its dynamic progress and contribution to India's export landscape.
- The **growth was driven by both merchandise**



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	<p><b>exports (27% increase) and services exports (23% increase)</b>, demonstrating VSEZ's versatility and diversification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VSEZ's success can be attributed to various factors, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Favorable government policies</li> <li>2. Improved infrastructure</li> <li>3. Skilled workforce</li> <li>4. Focus on innovation</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<p><b>International team inspects AP's natural farming initiatives</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An international delegation led by the World Bank senior advisor Nalin Kishore, visited Anantapur to explore the natural farming initiatives implemented across the State</b></li> <li>• The delegation's visit commenced with an exploration of nature farming fields in <b>Chola Samudram village of Kuderu mandal</b>.</li> <li>• Their two-day visit to Anantapur district aimed to <b>assess the impact of these initiatives on soil fertility</b>, rural migration and climate change management.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Andhra Pradesh Official Language Commission to present awards to eminent writers and media professionals</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Andhra Pradesh Official Language Commission (APOLC)</b> is set to recognize the contributions of distinguished writers and media personalities on February 5th, 2024.</li> <li>• The <b>"Telugu Bhasha Jeevana Safalya Puraskaralu" (Lifetime Achievement Awards)</b> will be presented to 20 eminent writers, and the <b>"Telugu Bhasha Seva Ratna"</b> awards will honor individuals who have excelled in the media field.</li> <li>• This initiative aims to promote the Telugu language's use and preservation.</li> </ul>



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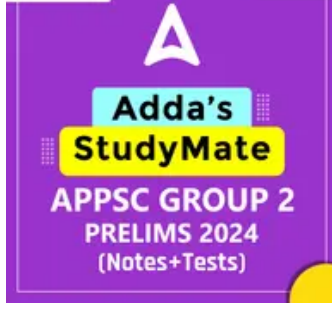
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