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1. Governor C. P. Radhakrishnan assumes charge as Governor of Telangana (March 20, 2024)

Jharkhand Governor C P Radhakrishnan takes charge as the Governor of Telangana.

An Overview of the News

- After the resignation of Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan, President Draupadi Murmu has handed over the additional responsibility of looking after Telangana to Governor Radhakrishnan.
- Additionally, Governor Radhakrishnan has been assigned the task of acting as the Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.
- The official swearing-in ceremony took place at the Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad, with Chief Justice of the State High Court, Justice Alok Aradhe administering the oath.

About Telangana

Capital - Hyderabad

Chief Minister - Revanth Reddy

Established - 2 June 2014

2. Sir J.J. School of Art Granted De Novo Deemed University Status (Oct. 19, 2023)

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan during a visit to the institute. J. School of Art was given the status of De Novo Deemed University.

An Overview of the News

- This designation reflects the institute's commitment to innovation in teaching and research in emerging knowledge fields.
- As a result, 'Sir J.J. School of Art, Architecture, and Design is set to become the only government-to-B-B university in Maharashtra with the tag with the tag 'reputed' de Novo.

Emphasis on innovation and excellence

- Accepting the institute as the innovation laboratory by the minister Pradhan.
- Implementation of National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) in the school.
- The goal is to establish the school as a global center of excellence.
- School role in developing pictures for new textbooks and study courses for Vishwakarma Yojana.

Protection of tradition and cultural heritage

- J.J. School of Art represents the tradition of social responsibility of the Indian system.
- This change at de Novo Deemed University recognizes the important contribution of the institute to art and design education.

3. 8 Indian products receive a Geographical Indication tag (Oct. 11, 2023)

The Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has recently granted GI tags to 8 specific products. Of these, 3 are from Arunachal Pradesh, 1 from Tamil Nadu, 2 from Jammu and Kashmir, 1 from Odisha and 1 from Goa.

An Overview of the News

- Arunachal Pradesh has secured Geographical Indication (GI) tags for three different products: Khamti rice, Yak Churpi from Tawang and Tangsa cloth.
 - **Yak Churpi:** It is a dairy product derived from the indigenous Arunachali yak breed, which was applied for GI registration by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Research Center on Yak (ICAR-NRC on Yak) in December 2021.
 - **Khamti Rice:** It is a glutinous rice variety, cultivated in the Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh.
 - **Tangsa Textiles:** Tangsa textile products of the Tangsa tribe in the Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh are known for their unique designs and vibrant colors.

Support from NABARD and Vocal for Local campaign:

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) actively supported the registration of indigenous products of the region for Geographical Indication (GI) as part of the “Vocal for Local” campaign of the State Government.

Tamil Nadu to Udangudi Panangkarupatti:

- Udanagudi Panangkarupatti is a specific type of palm jaggery that originates from the Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu, which is known for its traditional production method.
- This palm jaggery has received international recognition and is exported to countries like Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Singapore.

Basohli Pashmina of Jammu and Kashmir and Kaladi of Udhampur:

- Basohli Pashmina: A traditional hand-made pashmina craft from the Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, Basohli Pashmina received the GI tag for its exceptional softness and feather-like weight.
- Kaladi: This is a popular Dogra dish, which originated in Ramnagar in the Udhampur district.

Sweet dish 'Rasabali' of Kendrapara, Odisha:

- Rasabali: It is a delicious dish that originates from the 262-year-old Baladevyu temple at Ichchapur on the outskirts of Kendrapada town.
- It consists of deep-fried flat red-brown paneer patties soaked in thick and sweetened milk.
- Rasabali has historical significance and is part of the 56 offerings made to Lord Jagannath and his divine siblings at the Puri Srimandir.

Goa Cashew:

- Goa Cashew with its unique taste and identity has received the GI tag in sync with the Swayampurna Goa Mission for self-reliance.
- It is the 10th product from Goa to be awarded the coveted GI tag, which includes Harmal Chilli, Kholra Chilli, Mindoli Banana, Agasam Brinjal, Sat Shiro Bhendo, Kaju Feni, Goa Khaje, Mancurad Mango and Goa Bebinka.

4. North America's first Gandhi Museum opens in Houston, Texas (Oct. 10, 2023)

North America's first Gandhi museum, the Eternal Gandhi Museum Houston (EGMH) was inaugurated in Houston, Texas, USA.

An Overview of the News

- The inauguration ceremony took place on 2 October 2023, coinciding with Gandhi's 154th birth anniversary.
- The museum officially opened to the public on August 15, 2023.

Special guest at the inauguration ceremony:

- The event was attended by prominent personalities, including Dr. Rajmohan Gandhi (grandson of Mahatma Gandhi), Isaac Newton Farris Jr. (nephew of Martin Luther King), and Consul General of India (CGI) in Houston D. Manjunath.

Architectural Features and Design:

- The architecture of the museum is inspired by Gandhi's iconic twenty-four-spoke Chakra Charkha.
- A prominent statue of Gandhiji is prominently displayed in front of the museum.
- The museum's semicircular exterior walls depict notable peace activists including Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., and Betty Williams.

Interactive Display:

- Inside the museum, visitors can see interactive exhibits that narrate Gandhi's life story in three different parts: "His Journey," "Our Journey," and "My Journey."

5. Principal Scientific Advisor inaugurates India NCX 2023 (Oct. 10, 2023)

Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, inaugurated 'India NCX 2023' on 10 October 2023.

An Overview of the News

- The second edition of the National Cyber Security Exercise 2023, known as 'India NCX 2023', will be conducted as a hybrid exercise over twelve days till the 20th of this month.
- The primary objective is to train senior management and technical personnel of government, critical sector organizations and public and private agencies on contemporary cyber threats, incident handling and response strategies.

Organizers and Partners:

- 'India NCX 2023' is organized by the National Security Council Secretariat in collaboration with the National Defense University.
- This strategic partnership aims to enhance cyber security knowledge and readiness among the participants.

Key areas of cyber security training:

Participants in the exercise will receive training in various important aspects of cyber security, including:

- Intrusion detection technology
- Malware Information Sharing Platform
- Vulnerability Management and Penetration Testing
- Network protocols and data flow
- Digital forensics

6. India Reclaims AIBD Presidency for Third Straight Term (Oct. 7, 2023)

India was re-elected as the President of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) General Conference (GC) for the third consecutive time.

An Overview of the News

- This re-election is a testament to India's leadership and influence in this prestigious international organization.
- India has already served as the Chair of the AIBD GC from 2018-2021 and 2021-2023.
- This reflects India's commitment and contribution to the organization over an extended period.

General Conference (GC) 2023:

- The 21st General Conference of AIBD and Associated Meetings 2023 was successfully held in Port Louis, Mauritius.
- AIBD Chairman Gaurav Dwivedi, who is also the CEO of Prasar Bharati, presided over the conference.

Objectives of the conference:

- The two-day conference aims to promote a dynamic and cohesive electronic media environment in the Asia-Pacific region.
- This objective was pursued through policy development and resource allocation discussions.

About AIBD:

- AIBD is a specialized regional inter-governmental organization established in 1977 in collaboration with UNESCO.
- The organization currently consists of 92 member organizations from 44 countries, including 26 government members and 44 associates.
- These members represent diverse regions including Asia, the Pacific, Europe, Africa, the Arab States, and North America.

Founding Membership of India:

- India is one of the founding members of AIBD, highlighting its historical partnership and commitment.
- Prasar Bharati, India's public service broadcaster, represents the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of the Government of India within the AIBD.

Importance of India's role:

- India's prominent position within the AIBD underlines the international media's confidence in India and Prasar Bharati.
- This role provides a strong foundation for India to strategically pursue further achievements in the broadcasting sector on the global stage.

7. Released a draft of guidelines called UMMEED to prevent student suicide in schools (Oct. 7, 2023)

Guidelines named UMMEED (Understand, Motivate, Manage, Empathize, Empower, Develop) to prevent student suicides in schools were recently introduced by the Ministry of Education (MoE).

An Overview of the News

- The primary goal of the guidelines is to help schools improve sensitivity, understanding, and support toward students who may have reported suicide or suicidal thoughts.
- Schools are advised to set up School Wellness Teams (SWTs) led by the school principal, whose members are trained to deal with crisis situations.
- When a student exhibits warning signs related to self-harm or suicide, it is mandatory to immediately report the case to SWT for immediate action.

Teacher and Family Orientation:

- Schools are encouraged to hold an annual orientation for teachers and family members.
- The purpose of these orientations is to increase awareness of student suicide and to equip various stakeholders with the necessary knowledge and skills to support at-risk students.

Immediate response to warning signs:

- The guidelines emphasize the importance of immediate response when a student displays warning signs or attempts suicide.
- Any individual from the school or any member of the wellness team who encounters such a case should follow the prescribed actions outlined in the guidelines.

8. India and UAE sign MoU for advanced technical cooperation (Oct. 6, 2023)

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was officially signed between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

An Overview of the News

- The signatories include Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry of India and Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology of the United Arab Emirates.
- The signing took place in Abu Dhabi in the presence of Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, a Member of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council.

Focus areas of cooperation:

The MoU entails collaborative efforts in several key areas, including:

- Supply chain flexibility
- Clean energy technology
- Health care
- Space exploration
- Industry 4.0

- Advanced technologies
- Industrial standards

These sectors were chosen to facilitate industrial investment, technology transfer and implementation of innovations for mutual benefit.

Strategic Objective:

- The primary goal of this historic agreement is to promote industrial development and technological progress in both countries.
- The agreement seeks to enhance sustainable economic growth and competitiveness by promoting innovation and technological excellence.
- It aims to facilitate the transfer of advanced technologies and promote sustainable practices, including clean energy and climate neutrality.

Seven key areas of focus:

The MoU identifies seven specific areas of cooperation, including:

1. Increase supply chain flexibility
2. Progress in renewable energy and energy efficiency
3. Collaborative efforts in health care and life sciences
4. Strengthening space industries, including commercial development and space exploration
5. Deploying AI technologies in various sectors
6. Emphasis on Industry 4.0 technologies and automation
7. Standardization and metrology to harmonize industrial standards and certification processes.

Promoting Cooperation:

- The MoU encourages various forms of cooperation including industrial and academic partnerships.
- Collaborative research and development projects are promoted to advance technological advancements.
- Sharing of best practices in science and technology policies is encouraged to ensure the comprehensive nature of the partnership and its potential to benefit both countries.

9. Bangladesh receives the first batch of Russian Uranium for the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (Oct. 6, 2023)

The Russian Embassy in Bangladesh officially delivered the first batch of uranium from Russia to the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP).

An Overview of the News

- After the commissioning of the Rooppur plant, Bangladesh is on its way to becoming the 33rd country globally to produce nuclear power.
- A formal "graduation ceremony" marked the handover of radioactive fuel from the Russian contractor, Rosatom, to RNPP officials.
- Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Russian President Vladimir Putin virtually attended the ceremony held at the Gana Bhavan and the Kremlin respectively.
- Rosatom Director General Alexei Likhachev presented the fuel, and the ceremony was presided over by Minister of Science and Technology Architect Yefesh Osman.
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi also participated via video conference.

Uranium Shipment and Transportation:

- The second batch of uranium-making nuclear fuel for the first unit of Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant arrived in Dhaka via a special plane at Dhaka Shahjalal International Airport on October 5.
- The initial batch of uranium reached Bangladesh on 28 September and was safely transported by road to the nuclear power plant site the next day.

Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant Overview and Expenses Fuel Management:

- Rosatom, the Russian contractor, is responsible for the construction of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, which has a total capacity of 2400 MW and consists of two units, each capable of producing 1200 MW of electricity.
- After nuclear fuel is loaded into the plant's reactors, it can generate electricity for up to a year before needing to reload the fuel.
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina announced that Russia is committed to reclaiming the spent fuel from the Rooppur plant and an agreement has been signed with the Russian Federation for the management of the spent fuel.

10. Union Cabinet approves Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in Telangana (Oct. 5, 2023)

The Union Cabinet on October 4, 2023 approved the establishment of Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in Mulugu district of Telangana.

An Overview of the News

- Amendments to the Central Universities Act 2009 were approved to facilitate the establishment of the university.

- The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill-2023 will be introduced in Parliament for legislative action.

Legal Mandate and Delayed Establishment:

- The University has been established under the provisions of the 13th Schedule of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act-2014.
- This Act mandated the establishment of a tribal university in both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- A tribal university was established in Andhra Pradesh in 2019, after delays in land allocation had prevented the establishment of the university in Telangana.

Financial Provisions and Educational Objectives:

- Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University will receive funding provision of Rs 889.07 crore.
- The university aims to increase access to higher education in Telangana and improve the overall quality of education in the state.
- It will also focus on promoting tribal art, culture and traditional knowledge systems through instructional and research facilities.
- The establishment of the university seeks to address regional educational imbalances and create additional educational capacity.

Central Tribal Universities in India:

- Earlier, the Central Government had established two Central Tribal Universities in India:
 - Indira Gandhi National Tribal University is located in Amarkantak.
 - Andhra Pradesh Central Tribal University is located in Vizianagaram.
- Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in Telangana will be the third such university established with the aim of providing higher education and research facilities to the tribal population of the country.
- At present there are a total of 45 central universities in India.