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1. Indian tennis player Leander Paes nominated for 2024 Tennis Hall of Fame (Sept. 27, 2023)

On September 26, 2023, legendary Indian tennis player and multiple Grand Slam champion Leander Paes received a historic nomination for the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2024.

An Overview of the News

- Leander Paes (India) Leander Paes is the first male player from Asia to be nominated for the International Tennis Hall of Fame. Potentially the first Indian tennis player to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.
- Leander Paes, 50, is one of the six players who have received nominations for the year 2024.
- There are a total of six tennis players who have been nominated. Apart from Leander Paes, five other contenders are vying for induction into the International Tennis Hall of Fame.
- These nominees include former world number-one Spanish tennis player Carlos Moyá, Serbia's Ana Ivanovic, Italy's Flavia Pennetta, South Africa's Cara Black, and Canada's Daniel Nestor.

Path to Hall of Fame induction

- Nominations: Players are nominated in various categories, such as "Most Awarded Player" for Leander Paes.
- Fan Voting: Tennis fans around the world have the opportunity to vote for their favorite nominees.
- Announcement: The results of fan voting will be revealed in January 2024.
- Formal Induction: Selected players will be officially inducted into the Tennis Hall of Fame in July 2024.

Li Na's leading achievement

- Chinese tennis player Li Na set an example by becoming the first player from Asia to be nominated for the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2019.
- Her victories at the Australian Open and French Open in the women's category propelled her to this prestigious recognition.

Leander Paes: A Tennis Icon

- Early Life: Born on 17 June 1973 in Kolkata, India into a sports family.
- Olympic glory: Won a bronze medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, becoming the first Indian tennis player since KD Jadhav to win an individual Olympic medal.

- National Recognition: Awarded the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for his extraordinary achievements.
- Double success: Partnership with Mahesh Bhupathi, significant contribution to Indian tennis history.
- Three decades of legacy: Actively involved in tennis from 1990 to 2020.

About the International Tennis Hall of Fame

- Founded: 1880 by James J. Founded by Van Allen.
- Location: Located in Newport, Rhode Island, United States.
- Recognition: Honors both players and contributors who have had a lasting impact on the game of tennis around the world.

2. The Department of Personnel and Training appointed Amit Khare as advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Sept. 26, 2023)

Former Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Amit Khare was appointed as advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi with a second service extension.

An Overview of the News

- The Department of Personnel and Training issued an order saying that the Cabinet Appointments Committee approved the extension of Amit Khare's service beyond October 12, 2023.
- Amit Khare, a 1985 batch IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre, was initially appointed for a twoyear tenure in October 2021.
- During his career, Amit Khare has held key positions at the central government level such as Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Ministry of Education as well as in the states of Iharkhand and Bihar.
- Amit Khare, while serving as Education Secretary, played a key role in shaping India's National Education Policy 2020, bringing significant changes in the country's education system.
- He also played a key role in exposing the fodder scam in 1996, which had far-reaching effects on the political landscape of Bihar. Due to this scam, former Chief Minister of Bihar Lalu Prasad Yadav was convicted.
- In a separate decision, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved a two-year extension of service for Rajesh Gokhale, who serves as Secretary, of the Department of Biotechnology, with effect from November 1, 2023.

3. Nihar Malviya appointed as permanent CEO of Penguin Random House (Sept. 19, 2023)

Nihar Malviya named permanent CEO of Penguin Random House after nine-month interim tenure

An Overview of the News

- Nihar Malviya replaces former CEO Marcus Dohle, who stepped down following a federal judge's decision to reject Penguin Random House's merger with Simon & Schuster.
- Malviya started his journey at Bertelsmann in 2001 and has held various roles in the company.
- Prior to his appointment as CEO, Malviya served as Chief Operating Officer (COO) and President of Penguin Random House in the United States.

Penguin Random House:-

- It is the largest publisher of consumer books in the world, with a wide presence in more than 20 countries and over 300 exclusive imprints and publishing houses.
- German media conglomerate Bertelsmann has owned Random House since 1998. It was created in 2013 through the merger of two major publishing houses, Penguin Group and Random House.
- Penguin Random House publishes a wide range of literary genres, including fiction, nonfiction, children's books, and audiobooks.
- In India, Penguin Random House India is a leading consumer book publisher, offering books in multiple languages, including English and Hindi.
- It includes eminent Indian writers like Arundhati Roy, Khushwant Singh, and Sudha Murthy.

4. Dhananjay Joshi appointed Chairman of DIPA (Sept. 19, 2023)

Dhananjay Joshi was appointed as the Chairman of the Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA).

An Overview of the News

- Dhananjay Joshi currently serves as the Managing Director and CEO of Summit Digital, a leading Indian telecommunications company.
- He succeeds Akhil Gupta, who has served as Chairman of Bharti Enterprises and Chairman of DIPA since 2011.
- Sandeep Girotra, CEO of American Tower India, was appointed as the new Vice President of DIPA.
- These leadership changes will be effective from October 1, 2023.
- The new leadership for the term 2023-24 was announced at the DIPA Annual General Meeting 2022-23.
- Akhil Gupta has become the Patron Member of DIPA following the unanimous decision of the Executive Committee members.

About DIPA:

- Founded in 2010 as the Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association (TIPA).
- It was renamed the Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA) in 2020 to include a broader membership base.

Membership Diversity:

- Represents a wide range of digital infrastructure companies in India.
- This includes tower and telecom infrastructure providers, fiber optic cable deployers, data center operators, EV charging infrastructure providers, and equipment manufacturers.

Objective:

- Dedicated to promoting growth and development in India's digital infrastructure industry.
- Advocating industry-friendly policies by collaborating with government and regulators.

5. Writer and filmmaker Geeta Mehta passes away at the age of 80 (Sept. 18, 2023)

Famous writer and filmmaker Geeta Mehta passed away at the age of 80.

An Overview of the News

- Geeta Mehta wrote several acclaimed books, including "Karma Cola," "Snakes and Ladders," "A River Sutra," "Raj," and "Eternal Ganesha."
- His literary works have been translated into 21 languages and achieved bestseller status in Europe. America and India.
- Mehta made significant contributions to the world of television documentaries, producing and directing at least 14 documentaries for UK, European and American networks.
- His notable documentary, "Dateline Bangladesh" featured the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971 and was screened internationally, including in India.

Family Relations:

- Geeta Mehta was the elder sister of Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and businessman Prem Patnaik.
- Her husband, American publisher Sonny Mehta, died in December 2019.

Recognition and Awards:

• In 2019, he was awarded the Padma Shri award, but decided not to accept it.

6. Srinivasan K Swamy elected as Chairman of Audit Bureau of Circulation (Sept. 18, 2023)

RK Swamy Hansa Group Executive Chairman Srinivasan K Swamy was elected as the Chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for 2023-2024.

An Overview of the News

- Srinivasan K Swamy is currently the Chairman of the Asian Federation of Advertising Associations.
- He held leadership roles in various organizations including the International Advertising Association (IAA) and the Advertising Agencies Association of India.
- He was awarded the **Lifetime Achievement Award** by the **Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI).**
- Hormuzd Masani held the position of Secretary General in the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC):-

- Established in 1948
- Headquartered in Mumbai

Major appointments of ABC:

Vice Chairman: Riyad Mathew

Secretary: Mohit Jain

• Treasurer: Vikram Sakhuja

7. Rahul Navin appointed as Director-in-charge of the Enforcement Directorate of India (Sept. 16, 2023)

Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer Rahul Navin has taken over as director-in-charge of the Enforcement Directorate (ED). He replaced outgoing director Sanjay Kumar Mishra.

An Overview of the News

- This leadership change is a significant development for the Enforcement Directorate, which plays a key role in enforcing economic laws and regulations in India.
- Rahul Navin currently holds the post of Special Director in the Enforcement Directorate.
- As per the official order, Rahul Navin, a distinguished IRS officer of the 1993 batch, has been appointed as Director-in-charge.

He will continue in this post until the appointment of a regular director or until further • orders are issued.

Sanjay Kumar Mishra:-

- Sanjay Kumar Mishra's tenure as Director of Enforcement in ED ends on September 15, 2023.
- Sanjay Kumar Mishra initially assumed the role of Director in the Enforcement Directorate for a two-year tenure from November 19, 2018.
- The central government later issued an order on November 13, 2020, which extended Mishra's tenure from two years to three years with retrospective effect.

About Enforcement Directorate (ED)

- Established: 1 May 1956
- Headquarters: New Delhi, India
- Mandate: A special agency responsible for enforcing economic laws and regulations in India.
- Focus Area: Investigation and prosecution of financial crimes, money laundering, foreign exchange violations, and economic crimes.
- Administrative Control: Works under the administrative control of the Revenue Department.
- Ministry Affiliation: Part of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- Role: Critical role in maintaining the integrity of India's financial and economic systems by ensuring compliance with economic laws and regulations.

8. Actress Mita Vashishtha appointed Chair of Haryana Entertainment Policy Council (Sept. 15, 2023)

Haryana Government appointed Mita Vashishtha as the Chair of Entertainment Policy Council.

An Overview of the News

- Mita Vashishtha will lead the Governing Council for Haryana Film and Entertainment Policy.
- Her appointment comes after the death of previous president Satish Kaushik.
- Mita Vashishtha is a native of Pune and has had a long and illustrious career in the Indian entertainment industry.
- Her career spans several decades and includes various entertainment mediums including cinema, television, theater and more.
- She has an extensive portfolio, which includes 43 films, several television serials, web series and theater productions.

She has served as visiting faculty in prestigious institutes such as National School of

 Drama (NSD), National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), National Institute of Design (NID), and Film and Television Institute of India (FTII).

Haryana Film and Entertainment Policy:-

- Haryana Film and Entertainment Policy is overseen by a Governing Council, which consists of a wide variety of individuals.
- The Council comprises key members such as the Administrative Secretary of the Department of Tourism and the Administrative Secretary of the Department of Art and Cultural Affairs.
- It also includes the Vice Chancellor of Rohtak-based State University of Performing and Visual Arts.
- The Council benefits from the insights of the Chief Minister's Media Advisor.
- Apart from these official members, seven non-official nominees appointed by the State Government will also participate in the activities of the Council.

9. Sindhu Gangadharan appointed Vice-Chairperson of NASSCOM (Sept. 15, 2023)

Sindhu Gangadharan, currently Senior Vice-Chairperson and Managing Director at SAP Labs India, was named Vice Chairperson of the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM).

An Overview of the News

- As the first woman to lead SAP Labs India, which is SAP's largest R&D center globally, Gangadharan is responsible for overseeing product development and innovation across all five centers located in Bangalore, Gurgaon, Pune, Hyderabad, and Mumbai.
- Earlier this year, Gangadharan was appointed as the Chairman of the **NASSCOM GCC** Council for the period 2023-2025.
- She also holds positions on the boards of organizations such as **Siemens India** and **Titan Company Limited.**
- Gangadharan is a member of the steering committee of the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce, an industry association promoting bilateral trade and discussion between India and Germany.

NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Service Companies):

- It is the apex body for India's technology industry.
- Established as a non-profit organization in 1988.
- Membership exceeds more than 3000 companies, including Indian and multinational companies.

- Membership spans the entire industry spectrum.
- NASSCOM's mission includes policy advocacy and strategic guidance for the development and progress of the technology sector.
- Founder Nandan Nilekani, Devang Mehta
- Headquarters Noida, Uttar Pradesh, and New Delhi

Cognizant India Chairman and Managing Director Rajesh Nambiar has been appointed as the new chairperson of the Indian IT and technology trade body NASSCOM.

10. Renowned political cartoonist Ajit Ninan passes away (Sept. 12, 2023)

Renowned political cartoonist Ajit Ninan passed away at the age of 68.

An Overview of the News

- Ajit Ninan was widely recognized for his contributions, including the famous "CentreStage" series in India Today magazine and "Ninan's World" in The Times of India.
- In addition to his political cartoons, Ninan was known for his work in children's literature.
- One of his favorite creations of the **1980s was Detective Moochwala and his dog Pooch,** which appeared in the **youth magazine Target.**
- Ajit Ninan's political cartoons are known for their bold and humorous stances on various subjects, including satire on both the ruling government and the opposition.
- He also used his artistic talents to address environmental issues and create memorable caricatures.

About Ajit Ninan

- Ajit Ninan is best known for his work on "Ajit Ninan's Funny World", which was published in Target magazine.
- They were called "Just Like That!" Also known for. Which was published daily in the Times of India.
- With Jug Suraiya, he sang "Like That's Only!" Co-wrote. Which was published biweekly in the Times of India.
- During the 2009 Indian general elections, he produced a series of cartoons, "Poli Tricks", which was published in The Times of India.
- Additionally, he collaborated with Sunil Agarwal on the single-panel cartoon strip "iToons" in The Times of India.