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1. Mehran Karimi Nasserri who lived in Paris airport for 18 years dies (Nov. 14, 2022)

Mehran Karimi Nasserri who lived in Paris airport for 18 years dies

The 77-year-old Iranian refugee **Mehran Karimi Nasserri**, whose ordeal inspired the 2004 movie **"The Terminal"** starring Tom Hanks and Catherine Zeta-Jones died on 13 November 2022, inside the Paris **Charles de Gaulle Airport**, where he had previously lived for 18 years.

Mehran Karimi Nasserri died around noon local time of a heart attack, a spokesperson for the Paris airport authority said on 14 November 2022.IR

Nasserri was born in 1945 in the Iranian province of Khuzestan. He left Iran in 1970's to search for his British mothers. He was expelled from many European countries including the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Germany for not having the correct immigration documents.

In 1988, French authorities stopped him at the Paris airport as he tried to pass through without identity papers. Caught in an immigration trap, he soon set up a makeshift home of his own in the airport and lived for many years in Terminal 1 of Paris's **Charles de Gaulle Airport**.

He was offered a residence permit by France but was unable to adjust to life outside the airport. He eventually came back to the Airport's Terminal 2F and died later.

2. The Pandemic Fund sponsored by World Bank and WHO officially launched at the G20 meeting (Nov. 14, 2022)

The Pandemic Fund sponsored by World Bank

The Pandemic Fund sponsored by the [World Bank](#) and [World Health Organisation](#) was officially launched at Bali, Indonesia on 13 November 2022 at the sidelines of the [G-20](#) Joint Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting.

The high-level speakers included Indonesia's Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati, World Bank Group President **David Malpass**, WHO Director-General **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, and United States Treasury Secretary [Janet Yellen](#) among others.

Pandemic Fund

The Pandemic Fund has been established by the World Bank in association with the World Health Organisation (WHO) in September 2022.

The fund has been set up to provide assistance to the low and middle income countries to strengthen their preparedness and response (PPR) to the future epidemics and pandemics.

The fund will be used to build and strengthen infrastructure in these countries so that they are better prepared to face the risks of future epidemics and pandemics like covid.

Till date according to the World Bank the fund has received a commitment of **\$1.4 billion** from 24 donor countries including **India**.

Structure of the Fund

The World Bank will serve as the Pandemic Fund's trustee and host the Secretariat, which will include technical staff seconded from the World Health Organization (WHO).

The Governing Board of the Pandemic Fund will be advised by A Technical Advisory Panel headed by WHO. It will comprise leading experts to assess and make recommendations on the technical merits of proposals for funding, ensuring linkages to the International Health Regulations, as part of the broader global PPR architecture.

3. U.S. climate envoy John Kerry launches carbon offset plan (Nov. 14, 2022)

U.S. climate envoy John Kerry launches carbon offset plan

U.S. climate envoy **John Kerry** on November 9 has unveiled a new **carbon offset scheme** called **Energy Transition Accelerator (ETA)** for climate finance.

About Energy Transition Accelerator (ETA)

- Energy Transition Accelerator (ETA) will be developed by the **US** along with the **Bezos Earth Fund and the Rockefeller Foundation** and receive inputs from public and private sectors.
- It would allow companies to finance clean energy projects in developing countries and earn carbon credits that they can use to meet their own climate goals.
- This will allow companies to have a financial edge over their competitors in the race to meet climate goals.
- Its objective is to put out of use coal plants and accelerate the use of renewable energy.
- This can certainly be good for renewable energy projects and for coal plants that are too old and unviable and which India wants to shut down.
- The ETA is projected to operate until 2030, potentially expanding to 2035.

4. Pakistan and Bangladesh will be among first to receive G7 'Global Shield' climate funding (Nov. 14, 2022)

Pakistan and Bangladesh will be among first to receive G7

Pakistan, Ghana, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Fiji, Philippines and Senegal will be among the first recipients of funding from a [G7](#) 'Global Shield' initiative to provide funding to countries suffering from climate disasters. It was announced by Germany on 14 November 2022 at the ongoing [COP27](#) summit in Egypt.

Global Shield climate Finance

It was launched by the G 7 countries (United States of America, Canada, France, Italy, United Kingdom and Japan) at the COP27 summit in Egypt on 14 November 2022.

The Global Shield will be coordinated by **Germany** and is being developed in collaboration with the '**V20**' **group of 58 climate vulnerable economies**.

Aim of the fund

- The fund will be used to help low-income and vulnerable countries to deal with climate induced calamities.
- It aims to strengthen social protection schemes and **climate risk insurance** so when an extreme weather event like flooding occurs, countries can access aid quickly and recover.
- Germany has announced that it will contribute USD 172 million to the fund. However the size of the fund has not been disclosed.

Demand for special Loss and Damage Fund

- Global warming induced climate change has badly affected the developing countries who don't have the resources to deal with such natural calamities like floods, drought etc.
- The developing countries have been demanding that the polluting countries (Developed countries) shall pay for the loss and damage suffered by the poor developing countries due to climate change.
- After years of resistance by the developed countries, they have agreed to discuss a special loss and damage fund in the COP 27 meeting being held in Sharm -el Sheik ,Egypt from 6-18 November 2022.
- The "Global Shield" initiative is being seen as one of step to address such funding.

5. In Slovenia, Natasa Pirc Musar elected the country's first female President (Nov. 14, 2022)

Natasa Pirc Musar elected country's first female President

In **Slovenia, Natasa Pirc Musar** has been elected the **country's first female President** after beating her conservative rival in the second round of elections on November 13.

Important facts

- Ms. Pirc Musar got about **54 percent** of the votes, while Logar got about 46 percent.
- He defeated **Anze Logar**, former foreign minister and a veteran of **conservative politics**.
- A prominent lawyer, Pirc Musar, represented former **US First Lady Melania Trump** in Slovenia on copyright and other matters.
- She campaigned on issues of human rights, rule of law and social welfare.
- Pirc Musar, 54, will be the first woman to serve as president after Yugoslavia broke up and Slovenia became independent in 1991.
- She will replace President **Borut Pahor**, a centrist politician who has already served two terms as president.

About Slovenia

- Prime Minister - **Robert Golob**
- Capital - **Ljubljana**
- Currency - **Euro**
- Official Language - **Slovene**

6. India International Trade Fair begins at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi (Nov. 14, 2022)

41st India International Trade Fair

The **41st India International Trade Fair (IITF)** began on **November 14, 2022** at **Pragati Maidan** in New Delhi.

Important facts

- Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal** inaugurated the fair, which will run till November 27.
- The theme of the year 2022 trade fair is '**Vocal for Local, Local to Global**'.
- This **14 day** mega event has a special significance as it coincides with the celebration of '**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**'.
- Twenty nine states and union territories are participating in this program. Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra are the partner states in the fair while Uttar Pradesh and Kerala are participating as focus states.
- Twelve countries including **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Belarus, Iran, Nepal, Thailand, Turkey, UAE and UK** are participating in the fair.
- Around 2500 domestic and foreign exhibitors are participating in the trade fair to showcase their products and services.
- The first five days (November 14-18) of the trade fair are exclusively reserved for **business days**.
- '**General public day**' is reserved from 19 to 27 November.

About India International Trade Fair

- It is an annual fair organised by **India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)** at Pragati Maidan, Delhi.
- This fair was first organised in Delhi in the **year 1980** and since then, it is an annual event which is much awaited by the people all over the country.

- The fair provides a platform to the manufacturers, traders, exporters and importers of the country to showcase their products.

7. ASEAN agrees to admit Timor- Leste as its 11th member (Nov. 13, 2022)

ASEAN agrees to admit Timor-

The 10 nations group Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has agreed in principle to admit **Timor- Leste** as its 11th member. This was declared by the ASEAN after its summit meeting held in the Cambodian capital of **Phnom Penh** on 11 November 2022 Timor- Leste applied for membership of the ASEAN in 2011.

The other members of ASEAN are **Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.**

Timor- Leste will be initially granted an **observer status** at a high level ASEAN meeting and it will take years before it becomes a full member of the ASEAN group.

The country would be the first new member of the regional grouping in more than two decades, since **Cambodia** was admitted in 1999.

Timor- Leste President **Jose Ramos-Horta** welcomed the decision, saying a membership would strengthen wider diplomatic relations with ASEAN's partners and will help attract more foreign direct investment in the country.

Timor- Leste

It was earlier called **East Timor** and was a Portuguese colony till 1975 .After the Portuguese left it was occupied by Indonesia. The people of Timor- Leste waged a freedom struggle to gain Independence from Indonesia.

In the 1999 United Nations supervised referendum the people of Timor-Leste voted for Independence from Indonesia.

It was officially recognised as an independent country by the United Nations in 2022, making it Asia's **youngest country**.

Capital of Timor- Leste: **Dilli**

Currency: **Dollar**

President: **Jose Ramos-Horta**

8. India announces additional contribution of '\$ 5 million' to ASEAN-India science and technology fund (Nov. 12, 2022)

India announces additional contribution of '\$ 5 million

The Vice President **Jagdeep Dhankhar** on 12 November 2022 announced an additional contribution of **USD 5 million** to the **ASEAN-India Science and Technology Fund**

(AISTDF) to enhance cooperation in sectors of public health, renewable energy and smart agriculture.

The announcement came during the three-day visit of Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar to Cambodia for ASEAN-India and East Asia summits.

ASEAN India S&T Development Fund (AISTDF)

ASEAN-India Science & Technology Collaboration formally started in 1996 with the establishment of the ASEAN India S&T working group (AIWGST).

Initially, the collaborative S&T projects and activities between India and ASEAN were supported through ASEAN India Fund (AIF).

In 2008, a dedicated ASEAN India S&T Development Fund (AISTDF) with an equivalent amount of USD 1 million was established jointly by the **Ministry of External Affairs** and **Department of Science and Technology (DST)** to support Research and Development projects and associated project development activities.

The AISTDF was enhanced to an equivalent amount of USD 5 million through an announcement by the Prime Minister of India on the sidelines of the ASEAN-India Summit in Malaysia in November 2015.

9. Per capita income rose in real terms by 33.4% since enactment of NFSA: Center inform Supreme Court (Nov. 12, 2022)

Per capita income rose in real terms by 33.4% since

The Central government on 11 November 2022, informed the Supreme Court that the per capita income of the population in India has increased in real terms by **33.4 per cent** since the enactment of **National Food Security Act (NFSA)** in 2013.

In an affidavit filed before the top court, the Union government said this rise in per capita income of people has taken a large number of poor households to higher income class.

The affidavit was filed in response to a Supreme Court ordered comprehensive survey of migrant labourers who faced extreme hardship and loss of jobs during corona induced lockdown in 2020.

Main points of the government response

- The overall national ceiling under NFSA is **81.4 crore beneficiaries** and a few states are yet to reach their state ceiling.
- Actual national coverage is nearly 79.8 crore as on August 31. Under NFSA ceiling, there is still scope for adding approximately 1.6 crore beneficiaries for Antyodaya Anna Yojana and priority households categories.
- About **4.7 crore ration cards**, which is equivalent to about 18-19 crore individuals, have been added in the last 8 years (2013-2021) under NFSA.

National Food Security Act 2013(NFSA)

The Public distribution system in India is covered under the National Food Security Act 2013. **It was implemented on 10 September 2013.**

- It covers all the State and Union Territories in India.

- The scheme is administered by the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution.
- The Act provides for coverage of up to 75% of the rural population and up to 50% of the urban population for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-thirds of the population.
- Food Grains are provided to beneficiaries in two categories, Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Household (PHH).
- The **Antodaya Anna Yojana** beneficiaries get 35 kg of foodgrains per month and the **Priority Household** gets 5kg per person per month.
- The beneficiary gets **rice at Rs 3 per kg, wheat at Rs 2 per kg** and **coarse cereals at Rs 1 per kg**.

Per capita Income

It is used to determine the average income of a person of a country. It is calculated by dividing the **National income** of a country by its **population**.

The Per capita Income of India in 2021-22(on Net National Income basis) was Rs 91481.

Source National Statistical Office

10. Cochin Shipyard to build India's first hydrogen fuel cell catamaran vessel in Varanasi (Nov. 12, 2022)

India's first hydrogen fuel cell

The **Cochin Shipyard** on November 11 signed an MoU with the **Inland Waterways Authority of India** to build the **country's first hydrogen fuel cell catamaran ship for Varanasi** in Uttar Pradesh.

Important facts

- The shipyard also signed another MoU for construction of six electric catamaran ships for Uttar Pradesh and two ships for Guwahati.
- The MoU was signed in Varanasi in the presence of Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister for Heavy Industries Mahendra Nath Pandey, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and several other dignitaries.
- The air-conditioned hydrogen fuel cell catamaran vessel will have a seating capacity of **100 passengers**. It will be deployed in Varanasi after trial in Kochi.
- The air-conditioned electric hybrid vessels, designed for short-distance travel in riverine waters, will have a seating capacity of 50 passengers.
- These vessels will contribute significantly in reducing the pollution level in the national waterways.

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways -**Sarbananda Sonowal**

Union Minister for Heavy Industries - **Mahendra Nath Pandey**

UP Chief Minister - **Yogi Adityanath**