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1. Indian Diaspora Artists Curate a Unique Art Showcase Centered around Paramount Classics (June 9, 2024)

The PaintBrush Art Community, consisting of Indian diaspora artists in the UAE, organized the "Retro Revival" exhibition.

An Overview of the News

- This collaborative artistic venture unites 22 artists hailing from 8 different countries, aiming to honor the iconic Paramount movies from Hollywood's golden era.

Artistic Homage

- Vibrant paintings revisit beloved films such as The Terminator, Titanic, The Godfather, Sleepy Hollow, Tomb Raider, and Top Gun.
- The artworks aim to capture the essence and magic of these classic movies, transporting viewers to a time of cinematic excellence.

Cultural Icons Depicted

- "Retro Revival" extends beyond cinema, encompassing artistic representations of legendary personalities such as Marilyn Monroe, Michael Jackson, and Bob Marley.
- These artworks serve as a homage to the cultural giants and the eras they defined.

Inspiration from Paramount Pictures

- The exhibition draws inspiration from Paramount Pictures, one of the oldest and most influential film studios globally.

UAE as a Hub for the Arts

- The UAE has witnessed a significant rise as a hub for the arts, fostering a dynamic environment for creative expression.
- Government-backed initiatives, including world-class museums, galleries, and renowned events like World Art Dubai and the Sharjah Biennale, contribute to this vibrant scene.
- This focus on arts and culture has attracted not only Indian artists but has also empowered the local art community.

2. Philemon Yang Elected President of the Upcoming General Assembly Session (June 9, 2024)

Philemon Yang of Cameroon was elected President of the upcoming General Assembly session.

An Overview of the News

- Philemon Yang served as the President of the African Union's Panel of Eminent Africans.

Theme of the 79th Session

- Proposed theme: "Unity in diversity, for the advancement of peace, sustainable development and human dignity for all everywhere."
- Dialogue and consensus: Yang highlighted the importance of dialogue, consensus and collective problem-solving.

Session dates

- Event: The 79th session of the General Assembly will begin on 10 September.
- High-level debate: The general debate will begin on 24 September 2024.

About UN

- The United Nations (UN) is a diplomatic and political international organization.
 - Its stated purposes are:
 - Maintain international peace and security.
 - Develop friendly relations among nations.
 - Achieve international cooperation.
- Serve as a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.
- It is the world's largest international organization.
- Founders:- **United States, India, United Kingdom, Brazil, France, Iran**
- Founded:- **24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States**
- Headquarters: **New York, New York, United States**
- Secretary-General - **António Guterres**

3. Krishn Kanhai Unveils 'The Golden Krishna' Exhibition in Dubai (June 1, 2024)

On May 31, 2024, renowned Indian artist Krishna Kanhai unveiled "The Golden Krishna" collection in Dubai.

An Overview of the News

- Exhibition focuses on Lord Krishna, showcasing Kanhai's latest works.
- Showcase includes a life-sized, 3D painting of Tirupati Balaji made with 24-karat gold.

- Painting measures 5 feet by 8 feet, exemplifying Kanhai's signature style.
- Kanhai, a Padma Shri recipient, known for exhibitions worldwide including Hong Kong, London, the Philippines, and the United States.

Artistic Themes:

- Contemporary paintings blend gold leaves with traditional Krishna themes.
- Artworks evoke emotions of love, peace, and tranquility associated with Krishna.

Exhibition Experience:

- Visitors invited to a three-day journey through Kanhai's spiritual world.
- Celebration of Krishna's pastimes and life lessons.
- Exhibition runs until June 2nd, offering audiences a unique artistic experience.

4. India announces \$1 million relief assistance to landslide-hit Papua New Guinea (May 29, 2024)

India announces immediate relief assistance of one million US dollars to aid Papua New Guinea.

An Overview of the News

- The assistance aims to support relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction efforts following a devastating landslide in Enga Province on May 24th.
- The landslide buried hundreds of people, resulting in significant destruction and loss of life.

Condolences and Support:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi expresses grief over the loss of lives and damage caused by the landslide.
- In a social media post, Mr. Modi extends heartfelt condolences to the affected families and offers prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured.
- India stands ready to offer all possible support and assistance to Papua New Guinea during this difficult time.

Geographical Background Of Papua New Guinea:

- New Guinea, the world's second-largest island, covers an area of 785,753 km².
- Situated in Oceania, it lies in the southwestern Pacific Ocean, adjacent to Australia, separated by the Torres Strait.
- The island is surrounded by numerous smaller islands to the west and east.

India-Papua New Guinea Relations:

- Diplomatic ties between India and Papua New Guinea were established in 1975 upon PNG's independence from Australia.
- India opened its resident mission in Port Moresby in 1996, reciprocated by PNG with a resident mission in New Delhi in 2006.
- Both nations, being Commonwealth countries, share warm relations, aligning closely on various global issues.
- Collaboration extends to international forums like the Commonwealth, Non-Aligned Movement, and the United Nations Organization.

Humanitarian Aid and Assistance:

- India extends humanitarian aid and disaster relief to PNG periodically.
- In 2023, assistance included drugs for HIV/AIDS patients.
- A grant-in-aid totaling US \$760,000 provided computers and peripherals to PNG in 2017-18.
- Capacity-building efforts involve training through programs like Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) and the Colombo Plan.
- Ongoing implementation of aid proposals in various fields submitted by PNG under the annual grant-in-aid.
- A Centre of Excellence in Information Technology was established at the University of PNG with Indian financial and technical assistance.
- In 2018, Government of India provided assistance of US\$1 million for earthquake relief in areas affected by the PNG earthquake.

5. Gitanas Nauseda Re-elected Lithuanian President (May 28, 2024)

Gitanas Nauseda has been re-elected as the President of the Republic of Lithuania, securing a second five-year term from 2024 to 2029.

An Overview of the News

- Gitanas Nauseda has held the office of President since 2019.
- Nauseda won the presidential election with an impressive 74.43% of the total votes cast.
- Ingrida Simonyte came in second place, securing 24.06% of the votes.

Background of Gitanas Nauseda:

- Gitanas Nauseda, aged 60, holds expertise in economics, banking, and politics, hailing from Lithuania.

- From 1996 to 2000, Nauseda occupied the role of Director of Monetary Policy at the Bank of Lithuania.
- He further contributed to the banking sector as the Chief Economist to the Chairman of SEB bankas, a prominent commercial bank in Lithuania, spanning from 2008 to 2018.
- In his capacity as President, Nauseda addressed Lithuania's responses to the Belarusian uprisings occurring between 2020 and 2021, as well as Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

About Lithuania

- It is one of the three Baltic countries located in the northeastern region of Europe, alongside Estonia and Latvia.
- It became a member of the European Union in 2004.
- The Prime Minister of Lithuania is Ingrida Simonyte.
- Gitanas Nauseda serves as the President of Lithuania.
- The capital city of Lithuania is Vilnius.
- The currency used in Lithuania is the Lithuanian litas (LTL).

6. WHO and Indian Mission Host 'Walk the Talk' Yoga Event for International Yoga Day (May 28, 2024)

The 'Walk the Talk' Yoga session event was organized for International Yoga Day.

An Overview of the News

- Hosted by the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in Geneva and the World Health Organization (WHO) and It took place at Place des Nations.
- Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra participated along with WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and other senior officers from the Indian delegation.
- The event aimed to rejuvenate participants with yoga asanas.

About WHO

- Founded:- **7 April 1948**
- Director-General:- **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**
- Headquarters:- **Geneva, Switzerland**
- Founders:- **United States, Brazil, Mexico, France, Australia, Türkiye,**
- Parent organization:- **United Nations**

7. Purnima Shrestha Makes History: First Woman to Scale Everest Thrice in 13 Days (May 28, 2024)

Purnima Shrestha, a 32-year-old mountaineer and photojournalist from Gorkha, Nepal, has achieved a historic feat.

An Overview of the News

- She is now recognized as the first woman in the world to climb Mount Everest three times in a single season.
- This remarkable accomplishment was achieved within **a span of just 13 days.**
- Shrestha's **triple ascent surpasses any previous record held by a woman for climbing Everest thrice in a season.**
- Prior to this achievement, Shrestha had already summited **Everest once in 2018, bringing her total Everest ascents to four.**

Additional Information:

- **Nepali mountaineer and guide Kami Rita Sherpa** has achieved a historic feat by **becoming the first person to climb Mount Everest a remarkable 29 times.**
- His inaugural ascent of the mountain took place on May 13, 1994, when he was just 24 years old.
- Kami Rita now holds the unmatched record for the most ascents of the world's tallest peak in its 71-year climbing history.

About Nepal

- The kingdom of Nepal was established by the Shah dynasty.
- It is a landlocked country in South Asia.
 - Prime Minister - **Pushpa Kamal Dahal**
 - President - **Ram Chandra Paudel**
 - Capital - **Kathmandu**
 - Currency - **Nepalese Rupee**

8. WHO Launches \$7 Billion 'Investment Round' to Address Global Challenges (May 28, 2024)

The World Health Organization (WHO) has initiated a new 'Investment Round' with the objective of **raising \$7 billion to address global challenges.**

An Overview of the News

- WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced the initiative via social media, emphasizing the pressing need to confront issues like climate change, displacement, poverty, and inequality.
- The Investment Round aims **to gather \$7 billion over a span of four years to provide support to countries in tackling these multifaceted challenges.**
- This initiative stems from recommendations put forth by the WHO Working Group on Sustainable Financing and received approval during the **154th Meeting of the WHO Executive Board in January 2024.**

About WHO

- Founded:- **7 April 1948**
- Headquarters:- **Geneva, Switzerland**
- Founders:- **United States, Brazil, Mexico, France, Australia, Türkiye,**
- Parent organization:- **United Nations**
- Director-General:- **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**

9. Deby Sworn in as Chad's President, Names Allamaye Halina as PM (May 25, 2024)

Mahamat Idriss Deby was sworn in as President of Chad, succeeding his late father after serving three years as an interim leader under military rule.

An Overview of the News

- Deby won the presidential election on **May 6, 2024**, and will serve a **five-year term.**
- President Deby has appointed Allamaye Halina, Chad's former ambassador to China and former director general of state protocol, as the new Prime Minister of Chad.
- Allamaye Halina replaces opposition leader Succes Masra, who **resigned on May 22, 2024.**
- Succes Masra was **appointed Prime Minister in January 2024.**

About Chad

- Chad, officially known as the Republic of Chad, is an independent state.
- It is located at the crossroads of North and Central Africa.
 - Capital:- **N'Djamena**
 - Official languages:- **French, Arabic**
 - Currency:- **Central African CFA franc**

10. Nepal marks the 2568th Buddha Jayanti and Lumbini Day Celebrations (May 24, 2024)

The 2568th Buddha Jayanti and Lumbini Day was celebrated in Nepal on April 23 and devotees gathered at the Maya Devi Temple in Lumbini, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to celebrate the occasion.

An Overview of the News

- Monks from India, Nepal, and China led ceremonies, chanting hymns and making offerings in the sacred garden of the Maya Devi Temple.
- The atmosphere was filled with reverence as devotees participated in rituals to commemorate Buddha Jayanti.
- A peace procession was organized in the morning, drawing participants from various social groups including monks, civilians, and school children from different institutions.
- The procession aimed to promote peace and harmony, echoing the teachings of Buddha.

International Representation:

- Ambassadors from countries like India, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam, along with representatives from international organizations like BIMSTEC, attended a program held at the Lumbini Conference Hall.

Government's Commitment:

- Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' affirmed the government's dedication to fostering Buddha's teachings and promoting Lumbini as a global hub for peace and spiritual tourism.
- Nepal's government is actively engaged in initiatives to develop Lumbini as a prominent religious destination, aiming to attract millions of Buddhist pilgrims and tourists worldwide.

About Nepal

- Capital:- **Kathmandu**
- Currency:- **Nepalese Rupee**
- Official language:- **Nepali**
- President:- **Ram Chandra Poudel**
- Prime Minister:- **Pushpa Kamal Dahal**