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1. Sheenu Jhawar becomes first woman president of TiE Rajasthan (April 4, 2023)

Sheenu Jhawar becomes first woman president of TiE Rajasthan

Dr. Sheenu Jhawar has been appointed as the **new President of TiE Rajasthan** for a two-year term from 2023 to 2025.

An Overview of the News

- Dr. Jhawar is the **first woman to hold this position in the 21 year history** of TiE Rajasthan.
- He succeeds **Dr. Ravi Modani**, who was leading it with effect from 2021.
- She has been associated with **TiE Rajasthan** for many years and has contributed significantly to its growth and success.
- As chairman, Dr. Jhawar aims to continue promoting entrepreneurship and innovation in Rajasthan and support women entrepreneurs in particular.

About The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Rajasthan

- It is a chapter of **TiE Global** and has been recognized as the **best chapter in 2021**.
- **TiE Rajasthan** since its inception in 2002 has been a pioneer in the state of Rajasthan and has contributed significantly to the **start-up ecosystem**.
- TiE Rajasthan was honoured with the **highly coveted Best TiE Chapter Award in 2021**.
- The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) is a **non-profit organisation established in 1992** in **Silicon Valley**, working globally with 58 chapters in 14 countries, with the main objective of promoting entrepreneurship.
- Through various initiatives such as **mentoring, networking, education, incubation and funding**, TiE aims to support and foster the next generation of entrepreneurs around the world.

2. Sumil Vikamsey appointed as MD of Hitachi Payment Services (April 3, 2023)

Sumil Vikamsey appointed as MD of Hitachi Payment Services

Hitachi Payment Services has announced the appointment of **Sumil Vikamse** as the new **Managing Director of the company**.

An Overview of the News

- Vikamse was earlier the **CEO of Cash Business at Hitachi Payment Services**.
- He takes over from **Rustam Irani**, who retires on March 30, 2023.
- Vikamsey was inducted on the **board of the company on 1 April 2023**.
- During his tenure at Hitachi Payment Services, Vikamse has been responsible for various functions including finance, strategy, development, analysis, white-label ATM program and allied business domains.

About Hitachi Payments

- It is a **payment solutions company** which is working since 15 years.
- The company offers a range of payment solutions that cover various stages of the payment process, including ATM services, Cash Recycling Machines, White-label ATMs, POS solutions, Toll and Transit solutions, Payment Gateway solutions, SoftPOS, Value-added POS Services and digital merchant onboarding included.
- The **Reserve Bank of India has recently given in-principle approval to Hitachi Payments** to start its payment aggregator business.
- Hitachi Payments has set up its first in-house cash management unit in Noida.

3. Dr RG Patel appointed as expert member of National Board for Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy (April 3, 2023)

Dr RG Patel appointed as expert member of National Board for Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy

Eminent Gynecologist and Obstetrician **Dr. RG Patel** has been appointed by the **Union Health Ministry** as an **expert member of the National Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Board** on April 2, 2023.

An Overview of the News

- The **National Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Board** is a **regulatory body** constituted under the **Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021**.
- The board functions under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** and is responsible for regulating and overseeing the assisted reproductive technology and surrogacy industry in India.

About the Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021

- It is a law passed by the Government of India **to regulate ART and surrogacy**.

- The Act aims to promote **ethical and safe practices, prevent exploitation and ensure legal rights for children born through ART and surrogacy.**
- It bans commercial surrogacy and sets up a **National Surrogacy Board and State Surrogacy Boards.**
- Children born through ART and surrogacy have legal rights, including the right to know the identity of their biological parents and the right to inherit property.

4. Vice Admiral S. J. Singh appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Navy (April 3, 2023)

Vice Admiral S. J. Singh appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Navy

Vice Admiral **Sanjay Jasjit Singh** has taken over as the **Vice Chief of the Naval Staff** in the Indian Navy on 1 April 2023.

An Overview of the News

- He is a distinguished **Naval Officer and a graduate of the National Defense Academy, Pune.**
- Vice Admiral Singh was commissioned into the **Executive Branch of the Indian Navy in 1986**, and has since served in various leadership roles.
- His contribution to the Indian Navy has been recognized with **Nao Sena Medal in 2009 and Ati Vishist Seva Medal in 2020.**
- As Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Singh will play a key role in leading the Indian Navy and shaping its future direction.

About Indian Navy

- It is the maritime branch of the **Indian Armed Forces and the President of India** is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Navy.
- The Chief of the Naval Staff, a four-star admiral, commands the Navy.
- By March 2023, the Indian Navy is expected to have a fleet of **150 ships and submarines and 300 aircraft.**
- The Indian Navy was **established on 26 January 1950.**
- The current Chief of the Naval Staff is **Admiral R Hari Kumar.**
- The motto of the Indian Navy is "**Sham no Varunah**".

5. Malayalam novelist Sarah Thomas passes away (April 3, 2023)

Malayalam novelist Sarah Thomas passes away

On April 1, 2023, renowned **Malayalam short story writer and novelist Sarah Thomas** passed away.

She was a prolific **writer, writing 17 novels** and over 100 short stories.

An Overview of the News

- **Sarah Thomas** was widely acclaimed for her literary contributions and received several awards throughout her career including the prestigious **Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award**.
- One of his most popular novels, "**Muripadukal**" was adapted into a film titled "**Manimuzhakkam**" by PA Bakkar.
- Additionally, his other novels such as "**Asthamayam**," "**PavizhaMuthu**," and "**Archana**" were also adapted into films.

About Sarah Thomas

- She was a **Malayalam short story writer** and **novelist** from **Kerala, India**.
- She is known for her **realistic portrayal of the lives and struggles of women** in contemporary society.
- Her stories have subtle humour and a deep understanding of human relationships.
- Some of her popular works include **Jivithamena Naadi (1968), Narmadi Pudav (1978), Daivamakkal (1982), Agni Shuddhi (1988), Chinnamu (1988), Valakkar (1994), Neelakurinjikal Chuvakkam, Neram (1995), Guneetham Thetiya Kanakku, Grahanam, Thanneer Panthal, Yatra, Kaveri**.
- She has received several awards including the **Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award, Vayalar Award and Padmarajan Award** for his contribution to Malayalam literature.

6. PTC India appoints Rajeev K Mishra as new CMD (April 3, 2023)

new Chairman and Managing Director of Power Trading Corporation of India (PTC) Limited. An Overview of the News

On 30 March 2023, **Rajeev K. Mishra** has been appointed as the **new Chairman and Managing Director of Power Trading Corporation of India (PTC) Limited**.

An Overview of the News

- Mishra has been associated with **PTC India Limited since October 2011**, when he took over as **Executive Director**. In this role, he was responsible for managing operations, business development, retail and advisory services.

On February 24, 2015, he was appointed to the **PTC Board as Director of Marketing and Business Development.**

About PTC India Limited

- It is an Indian company that specialises in **Power Trading Solutions, Cross Border Power Trading and Consultancy Services.**
- The company was initially known as **Power Trading Corporation of India Limited** but later renamed as PTC India Limited and has operations in neighbouring countries like **Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh.**
- PTC India Limited plays a vital role in the Indian power sector by facilitating the smooth flow of electricity across the country's power grid.
- The company also provides consultancy services to various entities in the power sector including state electricity boards, power utilities and central and state government agencies.

Establishment- **16 April 1999**

Founder- **Government of India**

Headquarters- **New Delhi, India**

Subsidiaries- **PTC India Financial Services Limited, PTC Energy Limited, Barak Power Private Limited**

7. Anjali Sharma conquer Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa, wearing Luanchari (April 3, 2023)

Anjali Sharma conquer Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa, wearing Luanchari

Dharamshala's daughter **Anjali Sharma** has brought glory to Himachal and the country by conquering **Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro peak** wearing a **Gaddi dress (Luanchadi).**

An overview of the news

- She has become the **first girl from India to scale Mount Kilimanjaro in Gaddi costume.**
- Anjali Sharma is working to **promote Gaddi culture** on the peaks of the mountains.
- Earlier, at the age of 15, Anjali had conquered the **peak of 5289 meters in the first attempt.**
- She has also conquered **Hanuman Tibba and Pahar Deo** with a height of 6001 meters.
- **Lunachari is a traditional dress of Himachal Pradesh.**

Mount Kilimanjaro

- **Mount Kilimanjaro is Africa's tallest mountain and the world's largest free-standing mountain.**
- It is located in **Tanzania**, has an elevation of **5,895 meters (19,340 ft)** and is the **highest peak on the African continent.**
- The mountain is a **snow-capped volcano.**
- It is also called a **stratovolcano** (a term for a very large volcano made of ash, lava, and rock).
- It is made up of three cones: **Kibo, Mawenzi and Shira.**
- It was included as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987.**

8. Former cricketer Salim Durani passes away at the age of 88 (April 2, 2023)

Former cricketer Salim Durani passes away at the age of 88

Former India all-rounder cricketer **Salim Durani passed away** on 2 April after a prolonged illness. He was 88 years old.

An overview of the news

- Salim Durrani was living in **Gujarat's Jamnagar** with his younger brother, Jahangir Durani.
- He was **born on 11 December 1934 in Kabul**, the capital of Afghanistan.
- Later Durrani's family **settled in Karachi**. During the India-Pakistan partition, **Durani's family had settled in India.**
- He was known as a **brilliant all-rounder.**
- He made a significant contribution in the series against **England in 1961-62**. In the last two Tests, Salim led India to victory.
- He took **8 wickets in Kolkata and 10 wickets in Chennai Test**. India won the 5 match test series 2-0.
- He was the **first cricketer to be honored with the Arjuna Award**. He was given this honor **in 1961**.
- He played the last Test match for India in **February 1973** against England at Brabourne Stadium Mumbai.
- After this he retired from cricket. After retirement, he also tried his hand in the film industry. He worked in the Bollywood film '**Charitra**'.
- Durani played **29 Tests for India and scored 1202 and took 75 wickets.**

- In **first-class cricket**, Durani has 8545 runs and 484 wickets in **170 matches**.

9. US Senate confirms Indian-American Richard Verma to top State Department post (April 2, 2023)

The **United States Senate** on March 30 confirmed the appointment of **Indian American Richard Verma** as **Deputy Secretary of State, Management and Resources**.

An overview of the news

- This position is normally seen as the **CEO of the powerful State Department in the US Government**.
- Richard Verma served as the **US Ambassador to India** from January 2015 to January 2017 and is currently the Chief Legal Officer and Head of Global Public Policy at **MasterCard**.
- He also served as **Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs** during the Obama administration.
- Prior to this he was **National Security Advisor to United States Senator Harry Reid**.
- Verma has also served as **Vice Chairman of The Asia Group**, Partner and Senior Counselor at Steptoe and Johnson LLP, and Senior Counselor at the Albright Stonebridge Group.
- Verma holds a BS degree from Lehigh University, an LLM with distinction from **Georgetown University Law Center**, and a PhD from Georgetown University.
- He was appointed to the **President's Intelligence Advisory Board** and he is a former member of the **Weapons of Mass Destruction and Terrorism Commission**.

10. Vice ADM Atul Anand takes over as the Director General of Naval Operations (DGNO) (April 1, 2023)

Vice Admiral Atul Anand took over as the **Director General Naval Operations** on April 1, 2023.

An Overview of the News

- He was commissioned into the **Executive Branch of the Indian Navy** on **January 1, 1988**, and is an alumnus of the **National Defense Academy, Defense Services Command and Staff College, Mirpur (Bangladesh) and the National Defense College**, New Delhi.
- Vice Admiral Atul Anand is a recipient of the **Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and the Vishisht Seva Medal**.

- He has also served as **Navigating Officer of IN Ships Sharda, Rannvijay and Jyoti**, and was Direction Officer of Sea Harrier Squadron INAS 300 and Executive Officer of destroyer INS Delhi.
- His important staff appointments include Joint Director Staff Requirements, Director Staff at the Defense Services Staff College, Wellington, Director Naval Operations and Director Naval Intelligence (Ops).

About Indian Navy

- It was **established in 1830** and its **mission is to protect maritime interests and borders**.
- The motto of the Indian Navy is "**Sham no Varunah**", which means "**May Varuna, lord of the oceans, be auspicious to us.**"
- The fleet includes **ships, submarines and aircraft with approximately 67,000 personnel**.
- Operations include **anti-piracy, disaster relief and joint exercises** with other navies.