

Current Affairs search results for tag: international-news

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

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

The 77-year-old Iranian refugee **Mehran Karimi Nasseri**, 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 Nasseri died around noon local time of a heart attack, a spokesperson for the Paris airport authority said on 14 November 2022.IR

Nasseri 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. Pirak 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, Pirk Musser, 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.
- Pirk Musser, 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. 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**

7. 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.

8. India, Cambodia sign 4 MOUs in the areas of culture, wildlife & health (Nov. 12, 2022)

India, Cambodia sign 4 MOUs

On November 12 **India and Cambodia** signed **4 MoUs** in areas of health, technology, biodiversity conservation and preservation of ancient buildings.

Important facts

- Vice President **Jagdeep Dhankhar** holds a bilateral meeting with Cambodian Prime Minister **Hun Sen** on the sidelines of the ongoing **ASEAN Summit** in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on November 12.
- The two had extensive discussions on bilateral relations including human resources, mining and development projects.
- Cambodia also stressed on enhancing cooperation on mine clearance to help Cambodia reach the goal of "**a mine-free Cambodia by 2025**".

Four memorandum of understanding (MoU)

- MoU between the Institute of Technology of Cambodia and the Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur for digitalisation of Cambodian heritage sites.

- MoU regarding reintroduction of tigers in Cambodia between the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, India and Ministry of Environment, Cambodia for Cooperation in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Wildlife Management.
- MoU between the Ministry of Health and the Indian Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on cooperation in the fields of health and medicine.
- MoU on Financing Agreement on the Preservation of Wat Raja Bo Pagoda Paintings in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

9. COP27 presidency launches Sharm-el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda (Nov. 12, 2022)

Sharm-el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda

At the **United Nations Climate Change Conference in Egypt**, the **COP27 Presidency** launched the **Sharm-el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda** to enhance resilience for the four billion people living in the most climate-sensitive communities **by 2030**.

Important facts

- The Sharm-el-Sheikh adaptation agenda represents a significant contribution to elevating global action on adaptation and resilience as a top priority.
- Each outcome presents a global solution that can be adopted locally to respond to local climate contexts, needs and risks
- This will help bring about the necessary changes in mechanisms to protect vulnerable communities from increasing climate hazards, such as extreme heat, drought, floods, or extreme weather.
- Developing countries also demanded that the fund should be easily accessible.
- It aims to reduce the devastating effects of climate change.
- The presidency sought to raise **\$140 billion to \$300 billion** to advance these goals.
- Developing countries, including India, are asking rich countries to agree to a new global climate finance target, also known as the New Collective Quantitative Target on Climate Finance.
- These actions will be carried out in five impact systems – **Food and Agriculture, Water and Nature, Coastal and Ocean, Human Settlements, and Infrastructure**.
- These actions will include enabling solutions to plan and finance these areas.

10. Year 2022 declared as ASEAN-India Friendship year (Nov. 11, 2022)

Year 2022 declared as ASEAN-India Friendship year

The year 2022 has been declared as the **ASEAN-India Friendship Year**, as ASEAN and India celebrate **30 years of partnership**.

Important facts

- A series of events have been planned to celebrate the occasion throughout the year.
- An Indian media delegation is visiting Singapore and Cambodia as part of the **ASEAN-India Media Exchange Program** from November 8 to 13.
- In the first leg of the visit, the delegation visited the Singapore-India Chambers of Commerce and Industries (SICCI).
- The delegation exchanged views on India-Singapore relations with a special focus on business-friendly policies and business expectations.

Evolution of India -ASEAN relationship

- India was initially made a sectoral partner by ASEAN in 1992. With the increasing depth in the relationships the status was changed to a Dialogue Partner in 1996.
- In 2022 the relationship was further upgraded to Summit level
- And finally in 2012 it was elevated to Strategic partnership.

Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN)

- It was set up in 1967 as a group of South-East Asian nations.
- At present there are 10 members in the group.
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- They are **Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.**

The headquarters of ASEAN: **Jakarta, Indonesia.**