

Daily Current Affairs

(17th November 2024)

International

US announces return of over 1,400 looted artefacts to India.

In a significant move to repatriate cultural heritage, the United States announced the return of over 1,400 looted artifacts valued at 10 million dollars to India.

The items, part of an ongoing initiative to restore stolen art to South and Southeast Asia, include pieces recently displayed at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Donald Trump announces Chris Wright as his choice to head the Department of Energy.

President-elect Donald Trump announced Chris Wright as his choice to head the Department of Energy.

Wright, the founder and CEO of Liberty Energy, is a vocal supporter of fossil fuel use and is expected to align with Trump's goals of maximizing oil and gas production.

<u>UAE Launches Global Energy Efficiency</u> <u>Alliance at COP29.</u>

The UAE has unveiled an ambitious initiative to establish the 'Global Energy Efficiency Alliance' during COP29, hosted in Azerbaijan. This move aims to double global energy efficiency rates by 2030 and contribute to significant emission reductions.

The initiative builds on the UAE Consensus COP28, a commitment that brought together countries, organizations, and corporations to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable resource management.

<u>India and Japan sign an MoI for codevelopment of UNICORN mast.</u>

A Memorandum of Implementation was signed at the Embassy of India, Tokyo between Govt of India and Govt of Japan, for the codevelopment of the UNICORN mast for fitment onboard Ships of the Indian Navy.

The Unified Complex Radio Antenna (UNICORN) is a mast with Integrated Communication systems that will help improve the stealth characteristics of Naval Platforms.

The Indian Navy is pursuing the induction of these advanced systems which will be codeveloped by Bharat Electronics Limited in India with Japanese collaboration.

When implemented, this would be the first case of co-development / co-production of Defence Equipment between India and Japan.

Important Days

World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims 2024: 17th November.

The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is observed every year on the third Sunday of November.

The Day has become an important tool in global efforts to reduce road casualties. It offers an opportunity to draw attention to the scale of the emotional and economic devastation caused by road crashes and to give recognition to the suffering of road crash victims and the work of support and rescue services.

National

Filmmaker Ashutosh Gowariker appointed as the Chairperson of the International Jury for IFFI 2024.

Filmmaker Ashutosh Gowariker has been appointed as the chairperson of the International Jury for the 2024 International Film Festival of India (IFFI), which will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28.

Gowariker is known for films such as 'Jodhaa Akbar', 'Lagaan', and 'Swades'.



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Elon Musk's SpaceX to launch India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20 from Cape Canaveral, US.

Elon Musk's SpaceX will launch India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20, also called GSAT N-2 from Cape Canaveral in the US.

The satellite is expected to remain in operation for 14 years. It will provide vital services across India, including internet connectivity for remote areas.

Weighing 4,700 kg, GSAT-20 is one of India's heaviest communication satellites. The GSAT-20 is too heavy for India's own rocket LVM-3, popularly known as 'Bahubali' to carry, so SpaceX was chosen for the launch.

India sends first consignment of food grains, others to Suriname for Social Welfare Programme.

India has sent the first consignment of about 425 metric tons of food grains and other edible items to Suriname for its Social Welfare Programme.

India enjoys close, warm and friendly relations with Suriname, reinforced by cultural and people-to-people contacts bridged by the Indian Diaspora's arrival dating back to one and a half-century.

Ayush Ministry's Y-Break emerges as topperformer on iGOT Karmayogi Bharat Platform.

The Ayush Ministry's Yoga at Work (Y-Break) has been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for its outstanding performance on the iGOT Karmayogi Bharat Platform.

The Y-Break protocol is a five-minute yoga regimen, including yogic practices such as Tadasana, Urdhva Hastottanasana, Prasarita Padottanasana, and Nadisodhana Pranayama. It is tailored to boost immunity, reduce stress, and improve overall mental and physical health, even within the constraints of a busy schedule.

Business and Economy

<u>Delhi-NCR 6th most expensive office</u> market in Asia Pacific: Knight Frank.

Real estate consultant Knight Frank, in its latest edition of the Asia-Pacific Prime Office Rental Index for Q3 (July-September) 2024, said Delhi-NCR is the sixth most expensive office location in the Asia Pacific region, with an average monthly rental of ₹340 per sq ft, while Mumbai ranked eighth in the list.

Hong Kong SAR continues to be APAC's most expensive office market during the third quarter of this calendar year.

Sports

<u>Taylor Fritz becomes 1st American since</u> James Blake in 2006 to reach ATP Finals

Taylor Fritz has become the first American since James Blake in 2006 to reach the title match of the ATP Finals, overcoming World No. 2 Alexander Zverev in a semifinal clash at Inalpi Arena in Turin, Italy.

The fifth seed Fritz produced a high-class serving display, struck 32 winners, and became the first player to break Zverev's serve en route to a dramatic two-hour, 20-minute victory.

Women's Asian Champions Trophy: India beat China 3-0

In Hockey, hosts India maintain their unbeaten record at the ongoing Women's Asian Champions Trophy at Rajgir as they thrash China 3-0 in their fourth match.

With this victory, India has taken over China at the top spot in the tournament with four back-to-back wins.

China struggled throughout and suffered their first defeat in the championship. Goals by Sangita, Salima, and Deepika helped India win the match. Captain Salima Tete was adjudged player of the match.