

Daily Current Affairs

(19th November 2024)

International

<u>Gabonese voters approve</u> new constitution in referendum.

Gabonese voters have approved of a new constitution by a landslide 91.8 per cent, proposed by the country's military rulers. The proposed new constitution introduces a limit of two terms on the presidency, while also increasing the length of terms from five to seven years. The Central African Country's new constitution also abolishes the position of the Prime Minister and stipulates that family members cannot succeed a President.

The constitutional change will also require presidential candidates to be exclusively Gabonese, with at least one Gabon-born parent and to have a Gabonese spouse.

Military officers have seized power in a coup in August 2023, ousting former President Ali Bongo Ondimba and putting him under house arrest.

Germany to grant 2 lakh visas for skilled job seeker by year-end.

Germany has announced that it will grant 200,000 visas for skilled job seekers by the end of the year, a 10 per cent jump compared to last year. Europe's largest economy continues to face chronic labour shortages, with around 1.34 million jobs currently vacant. Germany last year adopted a points-based system, which makes it easier for professionals and university graduates to enter the country, study, and search for work. Skilled workers from non-European Union states are now allowed to enter Germany without first having their qualifications recognized.

National

India to host WADA GLDF Results Management Training in New Delhi.

India, in collaboration with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), will host the Global Learning and Development Framework (GLDF) Results Management Training in New Delhi. The four-day training aims to standardize antidoping procedures, foster collaboration among nations, and strengthen the global sport integrity framework.

The GLDF training is a crucial initiative under WADA's capacity-building framework. It is designed to enhance the technical expertise of anti-doping practitioners in various program areas, with a particular focus on results management.

National Youth Festival 2025 to be celebrated as Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue in January 2025.

The National Youth Festival 2025, will be celebrated as Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue on 11th and 12th January of the Next year. Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya announced this while addressing a press conference in New Delhi.

The objective of this dialogue is to identify talent among youth from across the country and nurture them, also to provide them an effective platform to share their vision for Viksit Bharat. He said that this platform will connect the youth with top decision-makers and eminent global and national personalities.

<u>India targets 10,000 MMT port handling capacity by 2047</u>

Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said that India is targeting a port handling capacity of 10 thousand million metric tons per annum by 2047. Mr Sonowal said that India aims to revolutionise its maritime sector with an investment worth 80 lakh crores to enhance port capacity, shipping, and ship building inland waterways.

Highlighting the Amrit Kaal Maritime Vision 2047, the Minister of India is preparing to build future ships that run on clean fuels.

ISRO successfully launches satellite GSAT 20 on board SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched its most sophisticated communications satellite GSAT 20 on board



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SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket, from Cape Canaveral in the USA.

The satellite will provide broadband services in remote areas and in-flight Internet in passenger aircraft. It will remain in operation for 14 years. This is for the first time that ISRO has launched a satellite on a SpaceX rocket through its commercial arm New Space India Limited (NSIL). 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.

SpaceX's heavy-lifter Falcon-9 rocket can launch payloads of 8,300 kg or 8.3 tonnes to geostationary transfer orbit.

Business and Economy

<u>Dubai hosts 3rd Global Freight Summit,</u> <u>drawing over 5,000 industry leaders.</u>

The Global Freight Summit 2024 commenced in Dubai, marking its third edition since its inception in 2022. The three-day event, hosted by DP World, has attracted more than 5,000 industry leaders from 155 countries, representing diverse sectors of the global supply chain industry.

This year's summit, running until November 20, centres on the theme "Acting today to reach the opportunities of tomorrow."

FM Nirmala Sitharaman hails SBI for their unmatched growth story.

Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has hailed the State Bank of India for their unmatched growth story. Speaking at the centenary celebrations of Mumbai Main Branch Building of SBI in Mumbai, the SBI has now over 22 thousand 500 branches, 65 thousand ATMs, 85 thousand Banking Correspondents and over 50 crore customers. She also noted that the SBI is the only bank in India listed in the 'Fortune 500'. She highlighted the bank can handle 20 crore UPI transactions per day.

Mrs. Sitharaman released a commemorative coin on the occasion. She also unveiled a book titled 'The Evolution of State Bank of India' Volume 5 and an audiobook titled 'Evolution of State Bank of India' Volume I, II, III IV and V on the occasion.

Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman said banks should target lending of 6.12 lakh crore rupees for FY-2025-2026 and 7 lakh crore rupees for FY 2026-2027 to MSMEs.

Sports

<u>Tata Steel Chess 2024: Lagno wins blitz</u> in women's section

Three-time World Blitz Champion Kateryna Lagno has won the women's title at the Tata Steel Chess India Rapid & Blitz 2024, held at the Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium, Kolkata. Kateryna Lagno dominated with an impressive 11.5 points to emerge as the champion. Valentina Gunina and Aleksandra Goryachkina took the first and second runner-up spots, respectively, following thrilling contests across the rounds.

K. Srinivas completes golden treble in Carrom World Cup

K. Srinivas of Hyderabad defeated his teammate Mohd. Arif in the men's singles final of the 2024 World Cup in the US to complete a 'golden treble', having won the men's team event and the men's doubles titles. Srinivas also happens to be the second Hyderabadi to win a World Cup carrom title twice after S. Appoorwa had won long back in women's singles.

Solidarity Grand Prix: Jorge Martin becomes MotoGP 2024 World Champion

Prima Pramac Racing's Jorge Martin was crowned the 2024 MotoGP world champion after he finished third at Sunday's seasonending Solidarity Grand Prix, which was won by his title rival Francesco Bagnaia of Ducati. Martin led by 19 points heading into the final race of the season and the Spaniard needed to finish in the top nine to clinch the title.

Ugo Ugochukwu wins FIA FR World Cup and Macau GP

Seventeen-year-old Nigerian-born Ugo Ugochukwu made history by winning the 2024



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FIA Formula Regional World Cup and the 71st Macau Grand Prix with a flawless performance over the weekend. The young Nigerian, racing under the American flag, became the first driver from the USA to claim this prestigious title since Bob Earl's victory in 1981.

Ugochukwu, driving for R-ace GP, led the race from start to finish, successfully holding off Olivier Goethe of MP Motorsport and Noel León of KCMG IXO by Pinnacle Motorsport. The race featured several safety car

interventions due to challenging track conditions.

Golf: Nelly Korda wins 7th title of year

Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings No. 1 Nelly Korda has ripped off five straight birdies down the stretch and captured her third title at The Annika in Belleair, Florida. Korda now owns three titles in the tournament's five-year existence. She won in 2021 and 2022 when the event was called the Pelican Women's Championship.