

International

G20's first ministerial declaration on disaster risk reduction.

The G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG) Ministerial Meeting took place in Belem, Brazil.

G20 meeting has arrived at a consensus in finalising the first Ministerial declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

The first DRRWG was established on India's initiative during its Presidency of G20, last year in New Delhi.

352nd governing body meeting of ILO.

The 352nd Governing Body meeting of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) is underway in Geneva.

During the meeting, Labour and Employment Secretary Sumita Dawra highlighted India's commitment to improving living standards reflected in significant initiatives covering all dimensions of poverty that have led to 248 million individuals escaping multidimensional poverty in the last nine years as measured by the multidimensional poverty index.

She also stated the employment growth within the country adding around 170 million persons in economic activity during 2016-17 and 2022-23 as per provisional estimates.

Important Days

World Jellyfish Day: 3rd November

November 3rd is observed globally as World Jellyfish Day, a day to highlight and celebrate the brainless beauties that have been floating around our oceans for millions of years.

First acknowledged in 2014, this day also focuses on education and conservation efforts for jellyfish.

National

Indian startup ecosystem reaches 12.2 billion dollars

Indian startup ecosystem has reached 12.2 billion dollars in funding in the first 10 months

this year. It has already surpassed the total amount raised throughout 2023.

Homegrown startups crossed 1 billion dollars in funding again across 119 deals in the month of October. September saw the second-highest funding with 1.63 billion dollars, behind the peak of 1.92 billion registered in June.

Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the setting up of a 1,000 crore rupees venture capital (VC) fund dedicated to the growing space sector.

MoS for Environment launches India's updated NBSAP.

Minister of State for Environment, Kirti Vardhan Singh, launched India's updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) at the 16th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP 16) in Colombia.

The updated biodiversity strategy acknowledges environmental challenges and outlines strategies to address them. It addresses the challenges through ecosystem restoration, species recovery programs, and community-driven conservation efforts.

ISRO's India's First Analog Space Mission

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has started the country's first analog space mission at Leh in Ladakh, where space agency will simulate life in an interplanetary habitat. The move assumes significance as India is planning to send a human to the Moon in the near future.

Analog space missions are field tests in locations on Earth that have physical similarities to the extreme space environments and play a significant role in problem solving for spaceflight research.

First Asian Buddhist Summit on November 5-6

Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation, is organizing the First Asian Buddhist Summit (ABS), on 5th and 6th November in New Delhi.

The theme of this summit is 'Role of Buddha Dhamma in Strengthening Asia'.

The Summit will bring together Sangha leaders, scholars, experts and practitioners from various Buddhist traditions across Asia to foster dialogue, promote understanding and address contemporary challenges faced by the Buddhist community.

Business and Economy

ADB lauds India's progress in fossil fuel subsidy reforms.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said India since 2010 made noteworthy progress on fossil fuel subsidy reform through a calibrated 'remove', 'target', and 'shift' approach.

"By carefully balancing the combined effect of three key policy levers - retail prices, tax rates, and subsidies on selected petroleum products - the country was able to reduce its fiscal subsidy in the oil and gas sector by 85 per cent, from an unsustainable peak of USD 25 billion in 2013 to USD 3.5 billion in 2023," it said.

SEBI proposes key changes to enhance flexibility and protection for REITs and InvITs

SEBI has introduced a range of proposed changes for Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), and Small and Medium REITs (SM REITs), aimed at enhancing market flexibility and investor protection.

SEBI proposed amendments require InvITs to reflect their standalone performance in quarterly results, aligning them with REIT governance standards.

Sports

Atanu Das bags bronze medal in Swiss Open Indoor Archery .

India's Atanu Das has bagged a bronze medal in Swiss Open Indoor Archery in Lausanne, Switzerland. Olympian Atanu Das defeated Switzerland's Thomas Rufer 6-4 in the Recurve Men's Bronze medal match.

Earlier in the Semifinals, Atanu faced a defeat against Romain Fichet of France 4-6. Romain clinched silver while Italy's Alessandro Paoli clinched gold.

Indian shuttler Malvika Bansod enters Women's Singles Final of the Hylo Open

India's Malvika Bansod stormed into the final of the Hylo Open badminton tournament's women's singles competition with a 23-21, 21-18 win over Danish shuttler Julie Dawall Jakobsen in the semi-finals.

Malvika will face Danish woman, seventh seed Mia Blichfeldt, in the title clash.

It will be Malvika's second-ever final appearance on the BWF World Tour after finishing runners-up to PV Sindhu in the Syed Modi International 2022 BWF Super 300 event.