

Sudan Crisis: Army to gain upper hand in bloody power struggle with rival paramilitary forces, at least 59 civilians killed



Sudan's army appeared to gain the upper hand in a bloody power struggle with rival paramilitary forces, pounding their bases with air strikes and at least 59 civilians were killed including three U.N. workers. The fighting erupted on Saturday between army units loyal to General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, head of Sudan's transitional governing Sovereign Council, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), led by General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, known as Hemedti, who is deputy head of the council.

The eruption of fighting over the weekend followed rising tensions over the RSF's integration into the military.

India to buy Russian crude oil to serve its large population, says Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said that India could buy Russian crude oil near or past the price cap imposed by the G-7 if the recent output cut announced by OPEC (Plus) group increases the energy costs. She said, that India will look at affordable prices to serve its large population. She also said that external factors, including the OPEC(Plus) output cut and the spillover of all the decisions related to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, are the things that are more worrisome than anything internal. Finance Minister said this during a wide-ranging interview with a private media organization on the sidelines of the International Monetary Fund Spring meetings in Washington.

ADB provides USD 230 million for flood rehabilitation in Bangladesh



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide a loan of USD 230 million to Bangladesh to help the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the northeastern part of the country affected by devastating floods in May–June 2022. The agreement between ADB and the government of Bangladesh was signed in Dhaka. Record rainfall in northeastern Bangladesh in May–June 2022 caused massive flooding, especially in the low-lying Haor region, affecting 7.2 million people.

The project will also support water management through alternative wetting and drying technology, direct seeded rice, and the use of solar irrigation for climate adaptation and mitigation.

China's first satellite offering high-precision rainfall monitoring launched



China's first satellite allowing scientists to monitor the Earth's precipitation from space, Fengyun-3G (FY-3G), was sent into space. It is one of only three such satellites in the world. The satellite, which is dedicated to measure precipitation on Earth, will help Chinese scientists to predict precipitation more accurately. With a lifespan of six years, the FY-3G is developed by an institute of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, and its ground system will be built and operated by the China Meteorological Administration.

Exercise Orion: Bilateral military drill between IAF, French Air and Space Force starts in France



Exercise Orion, a bilateral military drill between the Indian Air Force and the French Air and Space Force (FASF) started at the Mont-de-Marsan airbase in France. The exercise will be conducted from 17 April to 05 May 2023, with the IAF Contingent comprising four Rafale, two C-17, two Il-78 aircraft, and 165 air warriors. This would be the first overseas exercise for the IAF's Rafale aircraft. Besides the IAF and the FASF, Air Forces from Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Spain, and the United States would also be flying in this multilateral exercise.

Orion is reportedly the largest ever multinational exercise being carried out by the French defence forces which have involved their Army, Navy and Air Force along with their allies the US and the UK.

PM Modi to inaugurate first Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi on 20th April



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi on 20th April. The Ministry of Culture in collaboration with its grantee body International Buddhist Confederation will host the two-day Summit. Eminent scholars, Sangha leaders and Dharma practitioners from all over the world will attend the Conference. The theme of the Global Buddhist Summit is Responses to Contemporary Challenges: Philosophy to Praxis.

Rajasthan's Nandini Gupta crowned Miss India 2023



Nandini Gupta from Rajasthan's Kota has been crowned Femina Miss India 2023. The first and second runner-ups in the coveted beauty pageant were Delhi's Poonja and Manipur's Thounaojam Strela Luwang respectively. Nandini was crowned the new beauty queen of India at the 59th edition of India's most prestigious beauty pageant. The gala ceremony was held at the Indoor Stadium, Khuman Lampak, Imphal, Manipur.

100th meeting of G20 working groups under Indian presidency begins in Varanasi



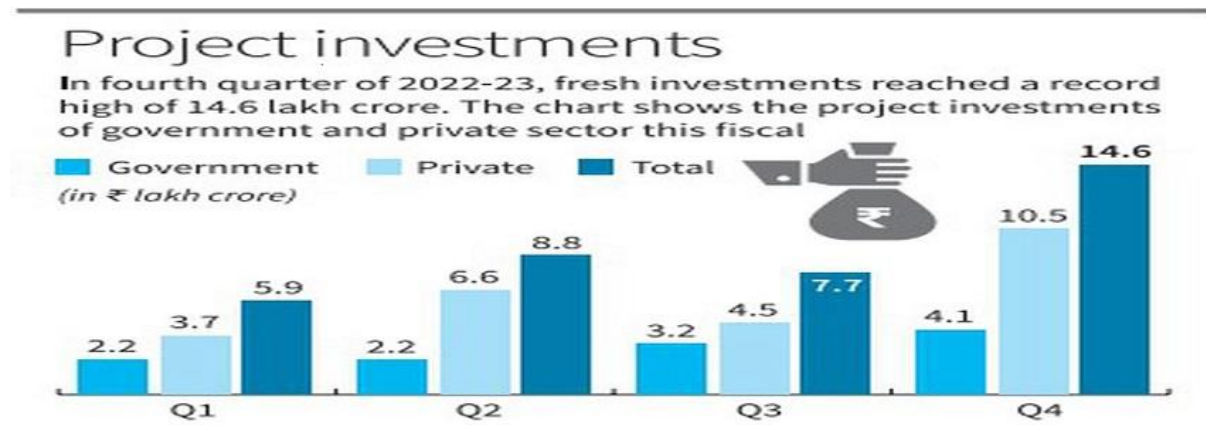
The 100th meeting of G20 working groups under the Indian presidency started today in Varanasi city of Uttar Pradesh. The three-day meeting is being organised by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture, and Farmers Welfare. About 80 foreign delegates from the G20 Member States are participating in the event.

New Delhi: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launches 'YUVA PORTAL' to identify potential young Start-Ups



Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched - YUVA PORTAL in New Delhi, which will help in connecting and identifying potential young Start-Ups. Dr Singh also launched the One Week -One Lab programme. The Minister said, the One Week - One Lab programme will offer the opportunity to the CSIR labs to showcase the work being done by them so that others can avail of it.

Q4 investments at all-time high of ₹14.6 lakh crore



India's investments during January-to-March quarter recorded the highest-ever total fresh investments of ₹14.6 lakh crore, led by private sector outlays that also hit an all-time high of ₹10.5 lakh crore. The fourth-quarter spurt, that was also driven by a record uptick in manufacturing investments, lifted the total new investment projects announced in India during a financial year to a fresh peak of ₹37 lakh crore in 2022-23.

Railways register record revenue of Rs 2.40 lakh crore for 2022-23



Indian Railways has registered a record revenue of two lakh 40 thousand crore rupees for the financial year 2022-23. This is nearly 49 thousand crore rupees more than the previous year, reflecting 25 percent growth. Railways Ministry said, Railways' passenger revenues have also registered an all-time high growth of 61 percent to reach over 63 thousand crore rupees. The Ministry said, freight revenue has leapfrogged to one lakh 62 thousand crore rupees in 2022-23, a growth of nearly 15 percent on the previous year.

UAE is India's second biggest export destination, third biggest source for imports



The UAE continues to be the second most important export destination for India, according to annual trade figures released by the Ministry of Commerce. The US and the UAE retained the first and second places respectively in this category during the financial year 2022-23. The data showed that India's overall exports of merchandise and services rose by six percent during the financial year that got over at the end of last month.

Wholesale inflation dipped to 1.34% in March



India's wholesale price rise slowed to 1.34% in March, with manufactured products prices falling nearly 0.8% from a year ago, when overall wholesale inflation was at 14.5%. Inflation measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) stood at a 25-month low of 3.85% in February 2023. While the Wholesale Food Index saw a slight reduction from the 2.8% uptick in February to 2.3% in March, primary articles inflation eased from 3.3% to 2.4%, while fuel and power inflation cooled to from 14.8% to 9% over the same period.

Infosys shares fall over 9%; mcap declines by ₹59,349 crore post earnings announcement



Shares of Infosys on Monday tanked more than 9 per cent, wiping out Rs 59,349.66 crore from its market valuation, after the company reported a lower-than-expected growth in the fourth quarter net profit and gave a weak 4-7 per cent revenue growth guidance for FY24. The stock tumbled 9.40% to settle at ₹1,258.10 on the BSE. During the day, it plunged 12.21% to ₹1,219 - its 52-week low mark. The company's market valuation also declined by ₹59,349.66 crore to ₹5,21,930.34 crore.

Won't contest for president's post in WFI elections on May 7, will follow Sports Code: Brij Bhushan



Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who is awaiting a report by a government panel on the sexual harassment allegations against him, confirmed that he will not contest for the president's post in WFI election on May 7 but hinted that he might look for a new role within the federation. Brij Bhushan has served three four-year terms as president in a row and according to the Sports Code after completing 12 years as WFI chief, he is ineligible to contest for the top post.

Chennai to host Asian Champions Trophy in August



The seventh Asian men's Champions Trophy hockey tournament will be held at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai from August 3 to 12. This is the first time the tournament will be held in India. India, Pakistan, Malaysia, South Korea, Japan and China are expected to take part.