

## Japan, Australia agree to boost defense cooperation amid growing assertiveness by China in Asia-Pacific region



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese agreed to boost practical defense cooperation between the two nations amid growing assertiveness by China in the Asia-Pacific region. Japanese Prime Minister, who is on a three-day visit to Australia, signed a joint declaration with Mr Albanese. In the declaration, Japan and Australia have agreed to take action against countries violating international rules and norms.

In the latest declaration, the two leaders confirmed the significance of a free and open Indo-Pacific, a vision advocated by former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. In 2007, Abe and then Australian Prime Minister John Howard had signed a document that recognized common strategic interests and security benefits embodied in their respective alliance relationships with the United States. Japan imports natural gas, iron ore and other vital resources from Australia, making it a key partner.

## FATF adds Myanmar to list of high-risk countries



Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has added Myanmar to the list of high-risk countries, known as 'Black List' with 'strategic deficiencies in regimes to counter money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing'. Myanmar is the third country to be added in this list along with North Korea and Iran. Myanmar was added to the FATF list of high-risk countries for its failure to address strategic deficiencies as committed by it in February 2020.

FATF called upon its member states to apply due diligence measures in financial dealings with Myanmar proportionate to the risk without hindering flow of funds for humanitarian assistance, legitimate Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) activity and remittances.

## Canada prohibits sale, purchase, transfer of handguns



Regulations prohibiting the sale, purchase or transfer of handguns came into effect in Canada. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the measure builds on earlier efforts banning handgun imports.

According to the Prime Minister's office, the handgun freeze was announced in May alongside proposed legislation that would implement the nation's strongest gun control measures in 40 years as part of Prime Minister Trudeau's plan to tackle gun violence.

The action stops people from buying, selling or transferring handguns within Canada, and prevents them from bringing newly acquired handguns into the country. The office said, under the executive action, any handgun applications submitted before Friday will still be processed.

## Ayurveda Day 2022: 23<sup>rd</sup> October



Ayurveda Day was celebrated on a magnificent scale in India and at the international level. The theme of this year's Ayurveda Day is "Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda", with the motive to propagate the benefits of Ayurveda to masses and grass-root communities.

Dhanawantari Jayanti or Dhanteras has been celebrated as Ayurveda Day since 2016 to promote the most ancient and well-documented system of medicine, which is Ayurveda.

## Punjab announces to restore old pension scheme for state govt employees



The Punjab government decided to restore the old pension scheme for its employees, with Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann terming it a Diwali gift for the state staff.

The restoration of the old pension scheme, which was discontinued in 2004, has been one of the major demands of state government employees.

Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema said employees will be given the option to join the old pension scheme.

## Country's first Migrant Monitoring System launched for information on migrant women –



India's first 'Migration Monitoring Systems' was inaugurated by the Maharashtra Women and Children Development Minister Mangalprabhat Lodha in Mumbai. The website-based Migration Tracking System will track the movement of vulnerable seasonal migrant beneficiaries. The Migration Monitoring Systems aims to provide information about migrant pregnant women, lactating women, and children.

The system provides updated information about migrant pregnant women, lactating women, and children in a single system.

## PM Modi Launches the 1st Phase of "Rozgar Mela" to Provide Jobs to 10 lakh Youth in Central Government



Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Rozgar Mela recruitment drive to hire 10 lakh personnel. In the first tranche, 75,000 new appointees will be given jobs. The new recruits, selected from across the country, will join 38 government ministries and departments. They will be appointed across various levels viz. Group A, Group B (Gazetted), Group B (Non-Gazetted) and Group C.

The recruitment will take place across central armed forces personnel, sub-inspectors, constables, LDCs, Stenos, PAs, income tax inspectors, MTS among others.

## Air India appoints Henry Donohoe as head of safety, security & quality



Air India has appointed Henry Donohoe as the Head of Safety, Security and Quality.

An Irish national, Donohoe started his career at Aer Lingus in 1978 and became its Chief Pilot before going on to head key departments including Safety, Quality, Flight Operations and Engineering.

He has a long history on the international safety stage, serving with both the IATA Safety Committee and Flight Safety Foundation Board of Governance.

## HDFC Life's net profit rises 19% to Rs 326.24 crore in Sept quarter



Private sector insurer HDFC Life reported a 19 per cent year-on-year (YoY) increase in its net profit to Rs 326.24 crore in the July–September quarter (Q2FY23).

Value of new business (VNB) of the insurer increased 10.3 per cent YoY to Rs 748 crore in Q2 against Rs 678 crore in the year-ago period. VNB is the present value of all future profits to shareholders measured at the time of writing the new business contract.

The company reported a VNB margin, a measure of profitability, at 28.3 per cent. It was driven by better product mix, expense ratio, lower claims, and healthy top line growth.

## **NAREDCO sets up finance committee to help builders in getting funds**



National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO), under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has formed a Finance Committee (NFC) on the sidelines of NAREDCO 24th Annual General Meeting to enable developers easy access to funds based on merit and viability of the projects.

The Committee will operate as a one-stop-shop, aggregating financing options from multiple large financial institutions.

Rajan Bandelkar, National President of NAREDCO said in a statement that NFC has been formed to help the industry and developers and infuse liquidity into the system and help the consumers too with ready-to-move-in projects.

## CSB Bank Q2 profit at Rs 121 cr, total income rises to Rs 600.12 cr



CSB Bank reported a marginal uptick in net profit at Rs 120.55 crore for the quarter ended September 2022 on growth in net interest income.

The bank had posted a net profit of Rs 118.57 crore for the year-ago period.

Total income rose to Rs 600.12 crore from Rs 555.64 crore in the same period a year ago, according to a regulatory filing by the bank.

The asset quality of the bank improved substantially as gross non-performing assets (NPAs) fell to 1.65 per cent of gross advances by the end of September 2022 from 4.11 per cent a year ago.

Net NPAs too declined to 0.57 per cent from 2.63 per cent.

## Indian shooter Swapnil Kusale wins India's 3rd Paris 2024 Olympics quota



Indian shooter Swapnil Kusale won India's third Paris 2024 Olympics quota place at the ongoing ISSF World Championship in Cairo, Egypt.

It was Kusale's fourth-place finish in the men's 50 meter rifle 3 positions event that earned him the quota. Kusale, who shot a qualification score of 593 to qualify for the eight-shooter final at the second spot, was in contention for the gold-medal match too but a low 8.2 in his final shot in the eighth series in the final denied him a medal. He is also an ISSF World Cup gold medalist.