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IAS

Dr Adapa Karthik (IAS: 2008: PB) was assigned to take up foreign assignment as Regional Adviser, Digital Health (P-5 level), World Health Organization (WHO), South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO), New Delhi for a period of two years.

Sanjay Kumar (IAS: 1990: BH), Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy was entrusted with additional charge of Secretary, Department of Higher Education from 21.10.2023 to 29.10.2023.

Ajay Seth (IAS: 1987: KN), Secretary, Department Economic Affairs, was entrusted with additional charge of Secretary, Department of Expenditure from 21.10.2023 to 05.11.2023.

Tenure of Dodda Venkata Swamy (IAS: 2001: OD), Chairman (J S Level), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), was extended for a period of two years.

Tenure of Raman Kumar (IAS: 2009: BH), Private Secretary to Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh was curtailed in the ministry of Panchayati Raj to appoint him PS in the Ministry of Rural Development at Director level.

Tenure of Ravi Jha (IAS: 2011: AGMUT), Private Secretary to the Minister for Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textile Piyush Goyal, was extended in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for a period beyond 16.02.2024 on co-terminus basis.

Tenure of Ashish Bhargava (IAS: 2012: MP), Deputy Secretary, DPIIT under the Ministry of Commerce was curtailed to appoint him to the post of Director General, National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), New Delhi for the period up to 09.11.2026.

Sirra Karuna Raju (IAS: 1998: PB), CVO, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), Visakhapatnam was entrusted with additional charge of CVO, Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) for a period of six months w.e.f 17.10.2023

A Muthukumar (IAS: 2009: JH) was re-designated as Private Secretary (at Director level) to the Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog Suman K. Bery. He counts his central Deputation tenure w.e.f. 05.12.2022.

Tenure of Ritesh Chauhan (IAS: 2005: HP), CEO, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) & Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, was extended for a period of one year.

Tenure of Amit Agrawal (IAS: 1993: CG), Chief Executive Officer, Unique Identification Authority of India, was extended for a period of one year i.e. up to 02.11.2024.

Tenure of Piyush Goyal (IAS: 1994: NL), CEO, NATGRID, was extended for a period up to 19.11.2025.

Tenure of Sukriti Likhi (IAS: 1993: HY), Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Steel, was extended for a period up to 19.09.2025.

Justice (Retd) Chandrakant Vasant Bhadang, Bombay High Court, was appointed to the post of President, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal.

Manoj Bapna (IDSE: 1988), Director, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, was prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre w.e.f. 30.11.2023 to avail the benefit of promotion.

Anup Kumar Srivastava, Member (Planning), Ganga Flood Control Commission was appointed to the post of Executive Director (Technical), National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).

Gaurav Hariom Gupta (IDSE: 2004), Director, Ministry of Road, Transport & Highways, was prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre on personal grounds.

Pankaj Kumar (IRTS: 2007), CVO, Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL), was entrusted with additional charge of CVO, Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL) for a period of six months.

S Murali Krishnan (IDAS: 2005), CVO, Chennai Port Authority (ChPA) was given extension of additional charge of CVO, V. O. Chidambaram Port Authority (VoCPA) up to 15.04.2024.

A R S Kumar was posted as DGGI (South), Chennai in the rank of Chief Commissioner/DG in CBIC

Rimjhim Prasad was posted as Chief Commissioner/ DG of Vadodra GST & CX Zone under CBIC.

K C Johnny was posted as Commissioner/DG, Nagpur GST & CX Zone under CBIC.

Anu Kukreja (ICoAS: 2009), Director (Finance) in the National Disaster Management Authority, was appointed as Director in Ministry of Home Affairs on 'lateral shift' basis for a tenure up to 16.12.2026.

Shweta Kumar (IES: 2008) was appointed as Director in the Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change for a period of five years.

Anand Kumar Mishra (IDSE: 1999), Director, GeM SPV, was prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre.

Kranti K Khobragade (IRS IT: 2011) was appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Public Enterprises for a period of four years.

IPS

Rashmi Shukla (IPS: 1988: MH), Director General, Sashastra Seema Bal, was granted Apex Pay Scale.

DC Jain (IPS: 1991: RJ), Additional Director, CBI, was appointed as Special Director in the CBI by temporarily elevating the post of Additional Director as Special Director up to his superannuation i.e. on 31.10.2023.

Bijay Kumar Singh (IPS: 1996: KN), Executive Director (Pers) (JS level), Food Corporation of India, Department of Food and Public Distribution, was prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre on the grounds of availing promotion in the cadre.

Tenure of Pankaj Kumar Singh (IPS: 2008: AGMUT) as Director in Department of Youth Affairs, was curtailed for his lateral shifting as Deputy Inspector General (DIG), CBI for a combined period of 5 years i.e. up to 05.12.2026

Tenure of Amit Kumar (IPS: 1998: CG), Joint Director, was extended/regularised up to 30.09.2023 in relaxation of IPS tenure policy 2010.

Balaji Srivastava (IPS: 1988: AGMUT), Director General, Bureau of Police Research & Development, has been granted Apex Pay scale (Level-17 in pay matrix).

Deputation tenure of Lhari Dorjee Lhatoo (IPS: 1999:MA) was extended for a period of one year beyond 31.08.2023.

Ram Prasad Meena (IPS: 1993: AM) was appointed as Joint Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment for a tenure of five years.

Tenure of Vineet Vinayak (IPS: 1995: SK), Joint Director, CBI, was extended/regularised up to 30.09.2023 in relaxation of IPS tenure policy 2010.

Saurabh Tripathi (IPS: 1997: TR) was appointed to the post of Scientist 'G' in National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) for a period of four years.

Deepak M Damor (IPS: 2001: TN) was inducted to the post of Joint Director in CBI on lateral shift basis from BSF for combined tenure of five years i.e. up to 28.06.2027.

Pradip Kumar (IPS: 2003: TN) was inducted to the post of Joint Director in CBI on lateral shift basis from BSF for combined tenure of five years i.e. up to 28.06.2027.

Imtiaz Ismail Parray (IPS: 2009: AGMUT) has been appointed as Deputy Inspector General in Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) for a period of five years.

Cadre of Garima (IPS: 2020: TN) has been changed from Tamil Nadu cadre to AGMUT on grounds of her marriage with Pankaj Lamba (IPS: 2019: AGMUT).

Appointments

*Sunil Kumar Verma (IRSSE: 1995), Joint Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, was entrusted with additional charge of the post of CVO, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) along with additional charge of CVO, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL), Delhi and CVO, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) for a period of 18 days up to 03.10.2023.

Deputation tenure of Ashwini Naidu (IFS: 2008), Director (Auctions), Tobacco Board, Bengaluru under the Department of Commerce, was extended for a period of one year up to 06.10.2024.

Sanjay Kumar (IRAS: 1989), Joint Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, was prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre to avail the benefit of promotion in the cadre.

Additional charge of Chandrani Gupta (IES: 2007), CVO, The Braithwaite, Burn & Jessop Construction Company Ltd. (BBJ), Kolkata, of CVO, Bridge & Roof Company (India) Ltd. (BRCIL), Kolkata was extended for a period up to 15.12.2023.

Rasika Chaube (IDAS: 1986) was re-employed as Financial Adviser (Defence Services) in the Ministry of Defence on contract basis for a period of five months up to 31.03.2024.

Amrendra Pratap Singh (ISS: 2010) was appointed as Private Secretary to the Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj at the level of Deputy Secretary for a period of five years or on co-terminus basis.

Tenure of Bhabesh Sarmah, joint director (Interpretation), Lok Sabha Secretariate, Officer on Special Duty to the Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Labour & Employment Rameshwar Teli beyond 07.01.2024 on co-terminus basis. He counts his deputation tenure from 08.01.2020.

Tenure of Trilok Chand Gupta (ITS: 1997), Director in the Department of Defence, was extended for a period of two years up to 02.10.2025. He counts his central deputation w.e.f 03.10.2018.

Kamaljeet Singh, Scientist/Engineer 'G' in U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), ISRO was appointed to the post of Director General (DG), Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL).

Koppu Sadashiv Murthy named new CMD of BHEL



Govt has appointed Koppu Sadashiv Murthy as the Chairman and Managing Director of the BHEL. The company said it has received the communication from the Ministry of Heavy Industries informing the approval of the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) for Murthy's appointment. Murthy is presently holding the position of Executive Director at BHEL. Murthy's appointment will come in on or after November 1, 2023. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) said in a regulatory filing.

Randhir Jaiswal to be Next MEA Spokesperson



Randhir Jaiswal, India's current consul general in New York will be the next spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs. He will succeed the current spokesperson, Arindam Bagchi.

Arindam Bagchi has been appointed India's permanent representative to the United Nations (UN) to Geneva.

Jaiswal, an officer of the 1998 batch of the Indian Foreign Service, will succeed the current spokesperson, Arindam Bagchi, who has been appointed India's permanent representative to the United Nations (UN) in Geneva.

During his diplomatic career of more than two decades, Jaiswal has served in Portugal, Cuba, South Africa and at India's permanent mission to the UN in New York.

Jaiswal has also served in the external affairs ministry as the deputy secretary, looking after relations with the US and as joint secretary managing ties with countries in western Europe.



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Corridors of Power



Save The Earth

Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari has called for a voluntary ban on the use of single-use plastic, which has become a danger to the environment. She emphasised the need for using steel and porcelain items instead of single-use plastic items. A one-day workshop was held at Dr. BR Ambedkar's Secretariat on banning the use of single-use plastic. Advisor to Government and Chairman Pollution Control Board Rajeev Sharma, Special Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries and Secretaries of various departments participated in the workshop.

Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari and Government Advisor Rajeev Sharma unveiled a poster designed with the slogan of banning the use of plastic and saving the earth.

Effective Implementation Of The Strategy



While appreciating the Andhra Pradesh Vision 2047 Strategy document prepared by the NITI Aayog, Chief Secretary K.S Jawahar Reddy maintained that for effective implementation of the strategy, the central government should extend sufficient financial support to the State government. The State government has been preparing to implement the strategy as part of the NITI Aayog vision of ensuring India as a 'Developed Country' by 2047.

Mr. Reddy stated that the State expects funds from the Centre during a review meeting of the NITI Aayog Steering Committee on State Strategic Planning at Secretariat, Velagapudi in Guntur district. NITI Aayog officials presented the details of the strategy, delineating the plan to develop the State across sectors.



Lasting Partnership

The IHEMI delegation's visit to the DGP Office strengthened France-India relations through discussions on various fields, fostering mutual understanding and future cooperation. This visit exemplified both nations' commitment to a lasting partnership. In the picture DGP Anjani Kumar is with IHEMI delegation. IPS officer Sanjay Jain, Mahesh Bhagwat, Sandeep Shandliya, Shikha Goel, Soumya Mishra and Vijay Kumar can also be seen.

Back In ACTION



It's no more a surprise ! It's already news that the tough IPS officer Sandeep Shandliya assumed charge as Hyderabad Police Commissioner. Honesty, perfection and best performance are his priorities. During a review meeting he instructed to the officers to conduct their duties responsibly. In order to conduct the elections without any bias, he instructed all the officers to act as "Free, Fair and Firm." Any negligence in performing their duties will be dealt with serious disciplinary actions, he emphasised. Mr. Sandeep is 1993 batch of IPS, bringing a wealth of diverse experience from various departments. He has vast experience in metropolitan policing.

All Set For Free & Fair Elections



GHMC Commissioner D. Ronald Rose plays a crucial role as the Hyderabad District Election Officer (DEO) in the upcoming elections to the Telangana Legislative Assembly. He is tasked with the responsibility of conducting free and fair elections in the 15 Assembly constituencies having close to 4,000 polling stations and over 45 lakh voters in the district.

There are about 45 lakh voters enrolled presently, from the 15 constituencies. We had removed more than 2.75 lakh duplicate entries last year. Duplicate votes are generated when the voter shifts place of residence and registers afresh. In October, when the final roll was published, we identified 20,000-22,000 duplicate votes still existing, and removed them 15 days ago.



Meri Maati Mera Desh

Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan participates as chief guest at Meri Maati Mera Desh celebrations held at Rajbhavan. The event was attended by Smt. A.R Vijaya Rao, State Director NYKS, Ms. Khushboo Gupta, DYO, NYK Hyderabad, Ravideep Singh Sahi, ADG, SZ, CRPF, Hyderabad, Charu Sinha IG, CRPF, Telangana and volunteers from Telangana. As part of Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign Governor handed over Kalash to young volunteers.



Good Work By Shaheen Association

Jennifer Larson, USCG, Hyderabad posted "It was a great pleasure to meet Jameela Nishat, founder of Shaheen Women's Resource and Welfare Association, a wonderful organization dedicated to empowering women and girl survivors of Gender-Based Violence with the professional skills, community, and resources they need." Thank you for Shaheen's life-changing and important work and for your hospitality! You are truly an inspiration.

The Winner



Meet Ritika Prasad, who is the regional winner of the High Commissioner for a Day contest. "I am thrilled to take up the role of Deputy High Commissioner. Keen to have some new learnings". "Learnt how different teams function, inter-relation between the work they do. Impressed to hear about the good ecosystem for companies both in the UK and India. Interacted with past winners of this contest and was fascinated to listen to their experiences and life stories. All of us are different but have a common cause to work for young women and that is what binds us all together. A brilliant wrap to my day! Gareth Wynn Owen, Deputy High Commissioner welcomed Ritika.

Turkish National Day Celebrated



Turkish National Day celebrated at Taj Falaknuma Palace. The Turkey Consul General Orhan Yalman Okan and Aslihan Özmen Okan welcomed the gathering. The known personalities of the city has participated in the event. Over all it's was a best event.

Meeting With HE Yerlan Alimbayev



It was pleasure meeting His Excellency Yerlan Alimbayev, the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations Office at Geneva Switzerland and Afshan Khan United Nations Assistant Secretary-General Coordinator of Scaling Up Nutrition SUN Movement Geneva Switzerland in October Geneva Switzerland.

In the picture Dr. Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Honorary Consul of Republic of Kazakhstan in Hyderabad for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh India can also be seen.



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Bathukamma Bathukamma Uyyalo

Dussehra festival celebrated with joy and masti. In Telangana 'bathukamma' was the attraction. Mostly in all the government departments the festival has been celebrated. In the picture Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari with other women IAS officers TK. Sreedevi and Shailaja Ramaiyer can also be seen with women officers and staff. Whereas festival of flowers



also been celebrated in DGP office in the presence of DGP Anjani Kumar & ADG (L&O) Sanjay Jain. In the picture lady IPS officer Soumya Mishra & Abhilasha Bisht can also be seen.

Presenting one art of Bathukamma. The news is our artist Chitra's Bathukamma art has received National award. The art also focuses on the role of the women in daily life and the importance of education for the girl child. 'Bathukamma' means 'Mother Goddess come Alive'. Bathukamma is a beautiful flower stack, arranged with different unique seasonal flowers most of them with medicinal values, in seven concentric layers in the shape of a temple gopuram.

Kazakhstan's Republic Day Celebrated



Republic day celebration of Kazakhstan Hosted by His Excellency Dr Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Honorary Consul at Honorary Consulate of Republic of Kazakhstan Hyderabad at ITC Kohinoor Hyderabad. It was a wonderful event with a selected gathering. His Excellency Nurlan Zhalgasbayev Hon'ble Ambassador of Republic of Kazakhstan in India was the chief guest. Known personalities from the town participated in the event, including UK's Dy. High Commissioner, CG of US, Turkey & South Korea too attended the evening.



Happy Retirement

Director General of Police K Rajendranath Reddy felicitated AR Anuradha who retired at the State Police headquarters. Anuradha retired as the director general in the police department. She was felicitated along with her husband Surendra Babu who retired recently also as the director general. Several directors of general, additional directors of general, inspectors of general and deputy inspectors of general attended the programme.

Soon IB Syllabus in govt. schools



Andhra Pradesh would introduce the International Baccalaureate (IB) syllabus in government schools. Stating this, school education principal secretary Praveen Prakash said he had a fruitful meeting with the global IB delegation comprising Balkrishna, India in charge of IB, Amy Parker, director of marketing and communication, Bannayan, global director for business development and with the senior officers from the AP school education department. "We discussed the roadmap for IB-AP Joint certification for the Class 10 and 12 project.

Along with changes in the syllabus, the state government is exploring the possibilities of undertaking other innovative programmes in government schools, he said.

Praveen Prakash met senior officers of the Spanish and German embassies including deputy head of mission, Spain, education attache Manic Eugena and Matthias Stahle.

Elena Perez- Villanueva Del Caz, Matthias Stahle.

Transfers & Postings

* Rachakonda joint Commissioner Ambar Kishore Jha has been transferred and posted as Warangal police commissioner and Cyberabad deputy commissioner (crimes) Kalmeshwar Shingenwar has been transferred and posted as Nizamabad police Commissioner.

* Energy department Special Chief Secretary Sunil Sharma has been transferred and posted as Special Chief Secretary Excise, Commercial Taxes and Endowments.

* Industries and Commerce Secretary Jyothi Buddha Prakash has been transferred and Excise Commissioner and Tribal Welfare Secretary Christina Z. Chongthu has been posted as Commercial Taxes Commissioner.

* EPTRI Director General A. Vani Prasad has been posted as Transport department's Principal Secretary in place of K.S. Srinivasa Raju.

Bharatula Vishwanath (IRSS: 1996), CVO, National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd (NMDC) was entrusted with additional charge of CVO, MECON Ltd for a period of one year w.e.f. 17.10.2023.

Muktesh Kumar Pardeshi (IFS: 1991), Special Secretary (G20 Operations) was appointed as Secretary (CPV & OIA)

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Event Of The Year : Namdhari Gaurav Navratri Utsav

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Big man Surat Singh Malhotra on stage with Dharampal Singh Malhotra, Maninder Singh Malhotra, Hemang Momaya and entire Namdhari Gaurav family.



'The Challengers' team played the beautiful beats and songs....!



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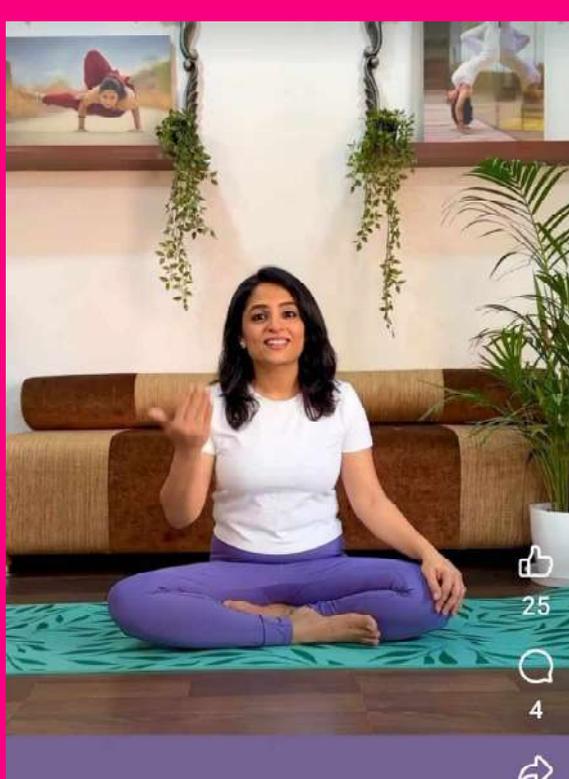
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Sindur Khela 'On Screen'
Durga Puja is on screen. Presenting 'sindur khela & bhasan' on the day of bijoya dashami. And in the picture Dr.Rroshni Tak , life coach and law of attraction mentor is seen with the idol of devi maa. Can say this is the picture of the month. Amazing one !



Sleep Well & Feel Well
Yoga trainer Rina Hindocha is again in talk. Her recent yoga clip for best sleep in getting viral. "Finding my zen in the stillness of these yoga asanas! These poses have become my ritual and a secret to unwinding and getting the best sleep. Discover even more secrets to a restful night's sleep with @resmedindia and work towards a healthier tomorrow". Rina Said.



Arjuna Awardee Anup Yama Releases MR's Oct edition
Midnight Reporter 'Owesome October' edition is out with a bang released by World Gold Medalist Indian Skater & Arjuna Awardee Anup Kumar Yama. Click the link for epaper : <https://midnightreporter.com/October-2023.pdf>



Ek Dum Khass...!
Sach mein, Hyderabad is known for delicious food and awesome 'mehman nawazi'. And at this moment can't miss to raise the hands for handsome gentleman Imran Shalimar, who is known for his soft nature and million dollar smile, and also for his perfect hospitality. Imran hosted annual gala dinner "Dawat-e-Khass" for his close-aids. As usual, kya dinner tha bhai- behtarin aur laajawaab ! Just amazing !!



Bathukamma Bathukamma Uyyalo
The festival of flowers , bathukamma is celebrated with joy and masti. Presenting three beautiful ladies Padmaja Manepalli, Niharika Reddy and Veena Srivastava with bathukamma. Can say click of the month.
Bathukamma meant "the festival of life". It also marks the celebration of femininity in the Deccan region. 'Bathukamma' means 'Mother Goddess come Alive'. Bathukamma is a beautiful flower stack, arranged with different unique seasonal flowers most of them with medicinal values, in seven concentric layers in the shape of temple gopuram.



Festive Vibes
Presenting Shilpa Singh Gour ! The beautiful feminine is on screen. Occasion durga puja & celebrating Siddhidatri Sadhika Shakti Shulini Sarweshwar. Shilpa looking good in Indian ethnic red saree. Ek dum traditional !!



Architects have a choice to design better and consequently !

The world's recent shift towards prioritizing wellness has influenced people to seek healthier lifestyles by understanding the body and the mind collectively. External factors such as the geographic location, the environment, the community, financial status, and the relationships with friends and family have all shown to have considerable impacts on an individual's health. However, it became evident that ensuring physical and mental health was not limited to having access to medical facilities and professional treatments, but was also determined by several factors related to the quality of the built environment.

Architects have a choice to design better and consequently, help people make better choices. So what is considered a good interior design, and what are the factors that make any interior space a good one? In this interior focus, we will explore this "good" side of design, looking at how architects ensured the needs of users by acknowledging accessibility, demographic diversity, economy, and the environment, regardless of aesthetic.

In most cases, spaces that serve its designated purpose are considered to be successful. Although functionality may seem like a restriction to the creative process of designers, there's rarely a successful interior designer who doesn't fully acknowledge the need to ensure functionality when making every spatial decision; every space has a purpose, and to achieve that purpose, the space must be designed to accomplish specific functions. But as people became more aware of the importance of wellness and made choices towards having a more successful existence, it became crucial that architects design with a more holistic approach, supporting human behaviors through spaces that rehabilitate the mind, body, and soul.

Today, the World Health Organization defines health not as the absence of ill-health but as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being". Although its definition has been changing over time, the general aspect of health now includes the correlation between *social* and *psychological*, alongside the commonly known medical factors. And what that, strategies and resources for greater equity and pertinence are being evaluated and implemented.

Essentially, designers should achieve physical health parameters that target a benchmark that is considered 'good enough' to avoid illnesses. Fortunately, architecture, through the design of form, space, and materials, can organize users' relationships with each other and the environment by creating interactive settings. The principles of *good design* in the 21st century are various, as there are no universal design solutions to ensure that every health parameter is optimized. However, it is believed that the notion of well-being mainly consists of two key elements: feeling good and functioning well, put briefly, design, in all its aspects, should ensure health, comfort, and happiness.



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भारत से यूरोप 11 नहीं, 7 दिन में पहुंचेगा सामान, लागत भी 30 प्रतिशत कम



दिल्ली में जी-20 समिट के दौरान घोषित हुआ ऐतिहासिक इंडिया-मिडिल ईस्ट-यूरोप इकोनॉमिक कॉरिडोर (IMEC) रफ्तार पकड़ रहा है। नवी मुंबई के जवाहरलाल नेहरू पोर्ट या गुजरात के मुंद्रा पोर्ट से IMEC रूट से यूरोप में ग्रीस के पिराइयस पोर्ट तक माल पहुंचने में समय और लागत में कमी आएगी।

विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, स्वेज नहर से भेजे जाने वाले माल की तुलना में पम्ब से 40 प्रतिशत कम समय लगेगा और परिवहन लागत में 30 प्रतिशत कमी आएगी। भारत से माल जहाज और रेल के माध्यम से 7 दिन में यूरोप में ग्रीस के पिराइयस पोर्ट पहुंच जाएगा। जबकि, स्वेज नहर से इसे अभी लगभग 11 दिन लगते हैं।

सऊदी अरब में 1200 किमी रेल ट्रैक तैयार हो चुका- इस मेगा प्रोजेक्ट में जलमार्ग से UAE पहुंचने वाले माल के परिवहन के लिए सऊदी अरब में 1200 किमी रेल ट्रैक तैयार हो चुका है। एतिहासिक रेल नेटवर्क सऊदी अरब के समूचे मरुस्थल को पार करेगा। ये सबसे बड़ा रेल मार्ग होगा। यूएई के जीबेल अली पोर्ट पर भी तैयारियां हो चुकी हैं। इटली के मेसिना पोर्ट पर सात लाख करोड़ रुपये की लागत से इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर प्रोजेक्ट पर जल्द काम शुरू होने की संभावना है।

कॉरिडोर कितना अहम है?

इस कॉरिडोर में ट्रेड वॉल्यूम काफी ज्यादा है। ये स्वेज नहर के वर्तमान रूट से बेहतर साबित हो सकता है। सबसे अहम बात यह है कि इसका सफल होना भारत के लिए फायदेमंद होगा। पश्चिमी देश और भारत कॉरिडोर को आगे बढ़ाएंगे।

भारत की क्या भूमिका रहेगी?

भारत के पास अभी स्वेज नहर का रूट है। मध्य एशिया के नॉर्थ-साउथ कॉरिडोर के विकल्प के साथ अब आईएमईसी भी है। दोनों विकल्पों में भारत की भूमिका अहम रहने वाली है। भारत के आर्थिक हित बेहतर होंगे।

अमेरिका में सबसे बड़े हिन्दू मंदिर अक्षरधाम की हुई ओपनिंग



बोचासनवासी श्री अक्षर पुरुषोत्तम स्वामीनारायण संस्था (BASP) ने आज यानी 8 अक्टूबर को अक्षरधाम मंदिर का उद्घाटन किया। मंदिर अमेरिका के न्यू जर्सी शहर में स्थित है। करीब 185 एकड़ में फैला यह USA का सबसे बड़ा हिन्दू मंदिर है। मंदिर के निर्माण की शुरुआत 2011 से हुई थी। इसके निर्माण में 12,500 लोगों ने स्वयंसेवक के रूप में काम किया है। दरअसल, 25 अगस्त से मंदिर के अंदर कई कार्यक्रम हुए। वहीं,

मंदिर में मूर्तियों की प्राण-प्रतिष्ठा आज हुई। पहले जारी किए एडवाइजरी के मुताबिक, श्रद्धालुओं का मंदिर में प्रवेश 9 अक्टूबर से शुरू होने वाला था, लेकिन इस तारीख को अब 16 अक्टूबर तक बढ़ा दिया गया है।

ताइवान के कपल ने कचरे के सामने कराया प्री-वेडिंग फोटोशूट

शादियों के प्री-वेडिंग शूट के लिए कपल अक्सर अच्छी जगह का सिलेक्शन करते हैं, लेकिन ताइवान के नान्टो कार्टी में एक कपल ने कचरे के पहाड़ के सामने वेडिंग शूट कराया। आइरिस सुए और उनकी मंगेतर इयान सिलोउ कचरे के ढेर के सामने गले लगते हुए नजर आए।

इयान को उम्मीद है कि इससे उनकी शादी में आए मेहमान अनावश्यक रूप से कचरा न फैलाने के प्रति जागरूक होंगे। उन्होंने मेहमानों से कहा कि वे घर से डिब्बे लेकर आए जिनमें शादी का बचा हुआ खाना अपने साथ ले जा सकें। इससे खाना बर्बाद नहीं होगा।

2.3 करोड़ की आबादी वाला ताइवान 1987 से रिसाइक्लिंग कार्यक्रम चला रहा है, जिसमें 50 प्रतिशत से अधिक कचरा घर से निकलता है। टाउनशिप के स्वच्छता दल के प्रमुख चैन चुन-हंग ने कहा कि वहां कचरे की मात्रा बहुत बढ़ गई है।

कनाडाई कॉलेजों में 80 प्रतिशत स्टूडेंट्स भारतीय



भारत और कनाडा के बीच चल रहे तनाव के बीच एक तरफ कनाडा जाने की तैयारी कर रहे स्टूडेंट्स में घबराहट है, तो वहीं कनाडा के कई बड़े कॉलेजों के हाथ-पांव फूल गए हैं। इन कॉलेजों में 70 से 80 फीसदी स्टूडेंट्स भारतीय हैं।

इनकी सालभर की कुल फीस में भारतीय स्टूडेंट्स द्वारा अदा की जाने वाली फीस 55 से 72

फीसदी तक योगदान दे रही है। अगर एक भी सेशन में भारतीय स्टूडेंट्स का दाखिला नहीं हुआ तो ये कॉलेज एक सेशन तक का खर्च निकालने में सक्षम नहीं हैं।

कनाडाई कॉलेजों में 65-75 प्रतिशत स्टूडेंट्स भारतीय- इन कॉलेजों में 4 हजार स्टूडेंट्स वाला नार्दन कॉलेज प्रमुख हैं, जिसमें सिर्फ 833 कनाडियन स्टूडेंट हैं और 3,353 स्टूडेंट भारतीय हैं। अन्य सभी प्रमुख कॉलेजों में भी इंटरनेशनल स्टूडेंट्स के तौर पर गए भारतीय स्टूडेंट्स की हिस्सेदारी 65 से 75 फीसदी तक है। इनका आंकड़ा हर साल बढ़ रहा है।

कनाडियन इमिग्रेशन मामलों पर नजर रखने वाले गगन कंवल का कहना है कि इस समय कनाडियन कॉलेजों में ज्यादा घबराहट है। उनकी तरफ से कनाडा सरकार पर भी दबाव है कि किसी भी तरह से भारतीय स्टूडेंट्स की आमद को न रोका जाए।

भारतीय स्टूडेंट्स को लेकर पूछे गए एक सवाल के उत्तर में कनाडा के इमिग्रेशन मंत्री मार्क मिलर ने कनाडियन संसद में साफ तौर पर कहा है कि इंटरनेशनल स्टूडेंट्स हमारे लिए आकर्षक एसेट्स हैं और हम उनको किसी भी हालात में नजरअंदाज नहीं कर सकते हैं।

कनाडियन स्टूडेंट्स का खर्च उठा रहे भारतीय स्टूडेंट्स- कनाडियन सिटिजनशिप रखने वाले कॉलेज स्टूडेंट्स से काफी कम फीस ली जाती है और उस फीस का अधिकांश हिस्सा भी कनाडा सरकार ही सब्सिडी के तौर पर देती है। जबकि भारतीय या इंटरनेशनल स्टूडेंट्स को इस तरह की किसी सब्सिडी का लाभ नहीं मिलता है।

भारत से हर साल करीब 2 लाख छात्र कनाडा जाते हैं। इनकी फीस के तौर पर लगभग 75 हजार करोड़ रुपये कनाडा को मिलते हैं। कनाडा में अंतरराष्ट्रीय छात्रों में सबसे ज्यादा संख्या भारतीयों की है। ये कनाडा की इकोनॉमी में फुटकर काम, हॉस्पिटैलिटी और रिटेल सेक्टर में काम करते हैं।

भारत-पाक बंटवारे में बिछड़े भाई-बहन का पुनर्मिलन



पाकिस्तान (Pakistan) में रहने वाले मोहम्मद इस्माइल और उनकी चचेरी बहन सुरिंदर कौर भारत के जालंधर से करतारपुर गुरुद्वारा दरबार साहिब पहुंचे और 76 साल बाद दोनों मिल सके। भाई-बहन की यह कहानी सोशल मीडिया के कारण संभव हो सकी। लाहौर में एक पाकिस्तानी अफसर ने बताया कि करीब 76 साल पहले जालंधर के शाहकोट में यह परिवार रहता

था, लेकिन दंगों ने उसे अलग कर दिया था।

इसके बाद दोनों ही अपनों से मिलने के लिए कई प्रयास करते रहे, लेकिन उन्हें सफलता नहीं मिली थी। अब दोनों की उम्र 80 साल के करीब हो गई है। उनकी आंखों में एक सपना था कि कभी वे अपने परिजनों से मिल सकेंगे। इवैक्यूई ट्रस्ट प्रॉपर्टी बोर्ड (ईटीपीबी) के एक अफसर ने पीटीआई को बताया कि करतारपुर साहिब के प्रशासन ने चचेरे भाई-बहन को आपस में मिलने का मौका दिया। उन्हें मिठाई और लंगर की पेशकश की। पाकिस्तान के पंजाब के साहीवाल से मोहम्मद इस्माइल को लेकर पंजाबी यूट्यूब चैनल ने एक कहानी पोस्ट की थी।

फोन पर बात होते ही दोनों ने मिलने की जताई थी इच्छा- इसमें कहा गया था कि वे भारत में अपने परिवार वालों से मिलना चाहते हैं। इधर ऑस्ट्रेलिया के सरदार मिशन सिंह ने उनसे संपर्क किया और भरोसा दिलाया कि वे उनकी मदद करेंगे। कुछ दिन बाद मोहम्मद इस्माइल सिंह को उनकी बहन सुरिंदर कौर का टेलीफोन नंबर मिल गया और दोनों की फोन पर बात की। बुजुर्ग हो चुके भाई- बहन ने फोन पर चर्चा के बीच ही अपने मिलने के लिए करतारपुर कॉरिडोर के जरिए दरबार साहिब में मिलने का फैसला किया।

करतारपुर साहिब के एक साथ किए दर्शन- इसके बाद दोनों परिवारों के साथ वे पाकिस्तान के पंजाब प्रांत के करतारपुर पहुंचे। भारत से सुरिंदर कौर और उनके परिवार के सदस्यों ने यहां धार्मिक अनुष्ठान भी किए। गौरतलब है कि करतारपुर कॉरिडोर पाकिस्तान के पंजाब प्रांत में गुरुद्वारा दरबार साहिब, सिख धर्म के संस्थापक गुरु नानक देव के अंतिम विश्राम स्थल, को भारत के पंजाब राज्य में गुरदासपुर जिले में डेरा बाबा नानक मंदिर से जोड़ता है। भारतीय सिख तीर्थयात्री 4 किमी लंबे गलियारे तक पहुंच सकते हैं और बिना वीजा के दरबार साहिब के दर्शन कर सकते हैं।

Tourism

Sri Lanka approves free tourist visa for seven countries to boost tourism



Sri Lanka's cabinet approved issuing free tourist visas to visitors from seven countries including China, India and Russia, a statement issued by the media ministry said on Tuesday, to boost tourism and help revive its crisis-hit economy.

Tourists from China, India, Russia, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia will be issued free visas till March 31, 2024 under a pilot programme, the statement detailing cabinet decisions said.

The scheme is part of attempts by Sri Lanka to boost tourism recovery and hit a target of five million arrivals by 2026, the statement added.

The country of 22 million people, famed for its beaches, ancient temples and aromatic tea, saw its tourism industry pummeled first by the COVID-19 pandemic and then by a severe financial crisis last year that saw mass scale protests and shortages of essentials such as fuel.

But the tourism industry is seeing a turnaround in 2023 with Sri Lanka clocking a million arrivals by September, for the first time since 2019. The island is expecting to close the year at 1.5 million arrivals.

India is the largest source of tourists with 200,310 arrivals, followed by Russia with 132,300, latest data from the Sri Lanka Development Authority showed.

Sri Lanka earned \$1.3 billion from tourism in the first eight months of 2023, up from \$833 million dollars during the same period last year, according to the central bank.

Ladakh administration to establish 10K homestays to promote tourism



The Ladakh administration is gearing up to establish 10,000 homestays in villages across the UT, including areas close to Pakistan and Chinese borders, to keep the tourism sector active throughout the year, including winters.

As many as 5,000 of the total homestays will be established within the protected areas, such as wildlife sanctuaries, parks and reserves.

These homestays are being established under the 'Ladakh Homestay Policy 2023' which will remain applicable for a period of five years.

The administration notified the policy to strengthen the rural economy, especially in border areas of Ladakh. While the policy outside the protected areas will be implemented by the Tourism Department, it will be implemented by Wildlife Department inside Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary, Karakorum Wildlife Sanctuary and Hemis National Park.

The home-stays will be located outside the municipal limits of Leh and Kargil town. The Department of Tourism has invited applications from residents for availing incentives. However, selection of the homestays will be done by a committee constituted at various levels based on criteria given in the policy. Education, professional background of the applicant and family members, employment status will be considered. Preference to ex-servicemen or an Agniveer will be given.

Qatar Tourism wins three awards at MENA Digital Awards



Qatar Tourism has received three awards at the MENA Digital Awards for its efforts to modernise digital assets and launch innovative, personalised, and data-driven experiences.

The MENA Digital Awards aims to promote digital innovation and media in the MENA region. At the event, Qatar Tourism was awarded Best Web Platform, Best Application (Mobile/Tablet), and Best Use of Digital in the Travel, Sport, and Entertainment Sector.

The Best Web Platform award recognises Qatar Tourism's Visit Qatar websites for its quality, UX approach, technology, degree of customisation, multi-platform adaptation, utility, and more. The Best Application (Mobile/Tablet) award highlights the original and innovative approach showcased by Qatar Tourism's Visit Qatar mobile application. Last, the Best Use of Digital in the Travel, Sport, and Entertainment Sector award demonstrates Qatar Tourism's effectiveness in using digital platforms and channels to deliver a holistic brand experience.

Sheikha Noor Abdulla Al-Thani, Acting Head of Tourism Events and Festivals Organising Section at Qatar Tourism, said: "We are delighted to have won three awards at the MENA Digital Awards recognising our digital transformation efforts. As part of our long-term strategy to position Qatar as a leading, world-class tourist destination, we are focused on creating innovative and curated travel experiences for our guests. Our website and app prioritise user-centricity and deliver personalised recommendations for travellers to create itineraries that can suit their every preference while in Qatar."

Public Sector

Secretary, Central Vigilance Commission visits NMDC



Shri P. Daniel, Secretary, Central Vigilance Commission visited the NMDC Corporate Office in Hyderabad and interacted with the employees of the public sector enterprise. Welcoming the Secretary to NMDC, Shri B. Vishwantah, CVO said, "NMDC is consistently improving transparency and building accountability in its business with delegation of power and responsibilities, capacity building programmes and leveraging technology for vigilance."

In his keynote address, Secretary, CVC said, "The Commission is focusing on Integrity in Corporate Governance and hence the theme 'Say No to Corruption and Commit to the Nation!' for VAW 2023." While explaining the journey from punitive to preventive and participative vigilance, he appreciated NMDC's capacity building initiatives and vigilance dashboard. Campaigning for a Corruption Free India, NMDC is observing Vigilance Awareness Week 2023. To that end, Shri P. Daniel along with company's CMD (Additional Charge) Shri Amitava Mukherjee launched NMDC's updated Contracts Management Manual and the Online Vigilance Clearance Module of its Vigilance Dashboard in ERP. Speaking to the employees on integrity, vigilance, and anti-corruption, the company's CMD said, "Professional integrity brings business efficiency. Manuals, codes, procedures ensure consistency across organization and people, and compliance to these standards naturally ensures efficiency." While advocating for rotational transfer and other preventive vigilance practices, he said.

Govindarajan assumed charge as CVO of NLC India Limited



Appakannu Govindarajan, an Indian Postal Service Officer of 2000 batch assumed charge as Chief Vigilance Officer, NLCIL. An alumni of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. He has worked in various organizations such as TCI Ltd, Canara Bank and Reserve Bank of India prior to joining Department of Posts under Ministry of Communication and IT.

During his twenty years of service in Indian Postal Service, he has held various positions such as Senior superintendent of Post Offices, Assistant Director General (Corporate Planning), Director of Postal Services, Post Master General in Maharashtra, New Delhi, Kerala & Tamil Nadu.

He has played a key role in launch of Core banking on Insurance solution in India Posts in 2014 & 2015. During his tenure as Director of Postal Services in Chennai, he has

developed Postal network in all upcoming localities of Greater Chennai and extension areas. His contribution in promoting SukanyaSamridhiYojana as "Selva Mahal Thittam" and promoting SCSS as "Akavai 60 Anjal 20" are well known in Postal circles.

Having worked in Transport Logistics, Commercial & Central Banking apart from Postal services, his tenure as CVO of NLCIL is expected to be pro-active in promotion of Transparency and Accountability of all levels. An officer, who is known for creating, 'enabling work environment' for the staff is also known for reaching out to the needy in the society.



IDBI Bank net profit increases to Rs 1,323 crore

IDBI Bank on Saturday said it closed the second quarter of FY24 with an increased net profit of Rs.1,323.27 crore.

In a regulatory filing, IDBI Bank said for the quarter ended September 30, it had earned a total interest income of Rs 6,034.81 crore (Q2FY23 Rs 4,978.24 crore) and a net profit of Rs 1,323.27 crore (against Rs 828.09 crore in Q2FY23).

During the period under review, the bank had earned Rs 889.37 crore taking the total income to Rs 8,411.92 crore. The bank said its net interest margin for Q2 stood at 4.33 per cent, down from 4.37 per cent for Q2 of FY23. According to the bank, the profit for the period under review includes capital gain of Rs 380 crore from sale of Ageas Federal Life Insurance Company Ltd.

IDBI Bank said its net advances grew by 15 per cent YoY to Rs 1,68,502 crore as on September 30, 2023 as against Rs 1,46,924 crore as on September 30, 2022.

As on September 30 this year, IDBI Bank's gross non performing assets (GNPA) and net NPA stood at Rs 8,645.23 crore and Rs 651.01 crore, respectively.

NBCC Signs MoU with Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA), Visakhapatnam



NBCC (India) Limited, a Navratna CPSE, signed an MoU with Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA), Visakhapatnam for Renovation/ Refurbishment of Office Buildings located in VPA on 13.10.2023. Under this work, Port Administrative Building, DCI building, Old DC building, Signal Station Building and other ancillary buildings will be renovated /refurbished with a built up area of 2.70 lakh sqft (approx). The envisaged cost of the project is approximately Rs 80 crore.

Shri R.N. Harikrishna, Chief Mechanical Engineer (CME) /CE (Statutory), VPA and Shri P.S. Rao, CGM, NBCC (India) Ltd signed the MOU in the presence of Dr. Madhiyyan Angamuthu, IAS, Chairman, VPA, and other senior officers of VPA and NBCC.