

National News

India and New Zealand have signed a memorandum of understanding to work together for the development of civil aviation.

- **India and New Zealand** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in August 2023 with the aim of **enhancing the civil aviation sector** of both countries and **increasing their joint cooperation**.
- This agreement is aimed at improving the planning of new routes, traffic rights and capacity rights and code sharing services. **Union Civil Aviation Secretary Rajiv Bansal** highlighted the Indian side in this MoU in **New Delhi**.

India and Kenya have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in shipbuilding and design.

- **Goa Shipbuilding Company** and **Kenya Shipbuilding Company** have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on **August 29** to ensure and enhance their development in **shipbuilding and design** of both countries.
- **The Ministry of Defense of Kenya** has stated that this MoU is in view of increasing the security cooperation between the two countries and the need for deeper cooperation in the **maritime security of the Indian Ocean region**.

UNDP and NITI Aayog have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Fast Track SDG Management.

- **UNDP India** and **NITI Aayog** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on **29th August** with the main objective of cementing and enhancing mutual commitment for accelerated progress towards the **country's Sustainable Development Goals**.
- The agreement aims to formalize and localize the framework of cooperation in various fields related to **SDG data**, and their **rapid monitoring**. The agreement constitutes a package covering **5 years of developments**.

International news

South Korea and Oman have signed a memorandum of understanding for green energy development.

- Both **Oman** and **South Korea** have signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance their cooperation in the **field of environmental and sustainable friendly practices** and to focus on advancing **green transition initiatives**.
- It is notable that this MoU was signed between **South Korea's Ministry of Environment** and **Oman's Ministry of Energy and Minerals**.
- The MoU aims to support collaborative efforts globally to accelerate advancements in green transition policies and technologies, foster a deeper understanding of **emerging technologies**, and **promote extensive collaboration between industries and research institutions**.

Malaysia has entered into a memorandum of understanding to promote solar targeting.

- **The Government of Malaysia (GSPARX)** has recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Trina Solar**, a globally renowned and leading PV and renewable energy total solutions provider.
- The MoU is aimed at developing a **strong and sustainable energy sector in Malaysia and furthering the government's set goals**.

State news

A Scheme Called 'Gruha Lakshmi' has been launched in Karnataka.

- Fulfilling its state election promise, the **Karnataka** state government launched a major scheme in **Mysuru** on **August 30**, **'Gruha Lakshmi' (Women's Financial Assistance Scheme)**.

- About **1.1 crore** female heads of households in **Mysore** will be given **₹2,000** each **monthly**, said **Chief Minister Siddaramaiah**. It is also notable that the state government has earmarked nearly **₹17,500 crore** for the '**Gruha Lakshmi**' scheme in the current financial year.

The Union Minister has launched an awareness campaign to eradicate Anemia Cell Disease in Delhi.

- Union Tribal Welfare Minister **Arjun Munda** has launched a **major awareness campaign** to eradicate anemia in the national capital **New Delhi** on **August 29**.
- It is notable that this initiative has been jointly undertaken by the **National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Movement** and the **National Institute of Tribal Research** and the central government has set a major target of eradicating the disease by **2047**.

The 71st and 2023 Miss World pageants are scheduled to be held in Kashmir.

- **The 71st and 2023 edition of the Miss World pageant** is scheduled to be held later this year in **Kashmir**, India, the **Miss World Organization** announced on **August 29**.
- It is mentioned that almost **140 countries** are going to participate in this competition. It is significant that this decision has been taken after the **G20 conference** held here **last May**, in a situation where no event has been held for many years due to various reasons.

Phase VIII of the Sagar Parikrama project is planned to be launched in the southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

- **Union Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Minister Shri Parshotham Rupala** and **State Minister Dr. L Murugan** will jointly inaugurate the 8th phase of **Sagar Parikrama project in Tamil Nadu on August 31st**.
- The initiative is planned to be launched at **Thengapattanam** fishing port in **Kanyakumari** district of Tamil Nadu. It is also reported that this initiative of Sagar Parikrama will cover the four coastal districts of Tamil Nadu including **Thoothukudi, Ramanathapuram, Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli**.

Appointments

PV Sindhu has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Centuary Mattress.

- **Telangana-Hyderabad based Centuary Mattress** has recently announced renowned Indian badminton player **PV Sindhu** as its **brand ambassador** after introducing a **new range of gel and bio-based mattresses**.
- **Uttamalani, Managing Director** of the company, said that he has been appointed with the aim of strengthening the management of the company through its shared **values of excellence and dedication**.

Cloud4C has appointed Arindam Mukherjee as its new head of sales for the India region.

- **Arindam Mukherjee** has been appointed as the new **Head of Sales for the India region** of **Cloud4C**, a globally renowned and leading managed cloud service provider, in August 2023.
- The company said that he has various experience in **technical fields** and will improve the **company through his continuous efforts**.

Palak Tiwari appointed as US Polo's Brand Ambassador.

- **USPA** has announced in its latest announcement that it has appointed renowned Indian celebrity **Palak Tiwari** as its brand ambassador. She is also the company's **First Global Female Ambassador**.
- The announcement stated that the appointment was made in recognition of her association with the company for her style, **charisma** and **modern beauty culture**.

TV Narendran was appointed as the new Chairman of the Board of Governors of IIT-Kharagpur.

- The Central Government has recently announced the appointment of **TV Narendran**, Managing Director and CEO of **Tata Steel** as the **New Chairman of the Board of Governors of IIT-Kharagpur**.

- As a man with an eye for industrial dominance, Narendran will take on **key operational tasks** of bridging the needs of the community and **society** and **industry-education** with the **technology industry** through this appointment.

Puneet Dalmia appointed as CEO of Dalmia Cement.

- **The Board of Managing Directors of Dalmia Cement** has elected **Puneet Dalmia** as its **MD & CEO** following the recommendations of the Appointments and Remuneration Committee in its meeting held on **August 29, 2023**.
- The appointment follows the **promotion** of the current CEO, **Mahendra Singh**, who will take over on **December 8, 2023**, the company said.

Book publication

The Union Minister released a book titled "Let's Move Forward".

- **Union Minister of Education and Skill Development Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan** released a novel titled "**Let's Move Forward**" on **29th August 2023** at **Kaushal Bhawan, New Delhi**.
- It is significant that this book has been designed jointly by **NCERT and UNESCO**. The Union Minister mentioned that the book aims to **inspire students to prioritize holistic 100% wellness** while entertaining them through **storytelling**.

Important day

world sanskrit day 2023

- **World Sanskrit Day** is celebrated on **31st August** every year to celebrate and appreciate Sanskrit, one of the **ancient Indian languages** and to make the **world aware of its diversity**.
- It is significant that many present Indian languages have evolved from **Sanskrit** and many Puranas and texts in North and Central India are written in this language. Also in **2015**, the **status of classical language** has been given to Sanskrit as a historic event.

Malaysia Independence Day

- **Hari Merdeka** or **Malaysian Independence Day** is celebrated every year on **31st August** to commemorate the independence of the **Federation of Malaya** from colonial rule by the British Empire on **31st August 1957**.
- It commemorates the country's declaration of independence of the **Federation of Malaya** and is notable for being defined in **Article 160 of the Malaysian Constitution**.