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India's First Integrated Waste Management City

- Gorakhpur is set to establish India's first Integrated Waste Management Citycum-Learning Centre by September 2025, aiming to create a garbage-free environment.
- It will promote sustainable waste management through a circular economy model and the facility will occupy 40 acres in Suthni village, Sahjanwa. The primary goal is to process various waste types, producing charcoal and Bio-CNG.



- The project will also focus **on generating employment opportunities**, which aims to create a revenue-generating model for the city. Additionally, it will serve as **a technical skills learning hub**.
- The centre will manage multiple waste categories, including biomedical waste,
 e-waste, batteries, and tyres.
- It will also process terracotta, vehicle scrap, plastic, and hazardous household waste. Industrial waste and organic waste will be included as well. The project is receiving guidance from the Administrative Staff College of India in Hyderabad. This collaboration aims to enhance the project's innovative aspects.

 The model has already been presented in Vishakhapatnam and Delhi. It will be showcased at the National Chief Secretaries' Conference in Delhi from December 13 to 15. The initiative is anticipated to have impact on the local community.



• It will create job opportunities in waste management. The learning centre will equip individuals with essential technical skills. The project is expected to encourage a culture of sustainability in Gorakhpur.

India's First Hyperloop Test Track Completed

- IIT Madras has completed a 410-meter Hyperloop test track, which was announced by Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. The project involves collaboration between the Railways, IIT Madras' Avishkar Hyperloop team, and TuTr, a startup from IIT Madras.
- Hyperloop is a proposed transportation system, that was first suggested by Elon Musk in 2012. The technology aims to provide high-speed travel in a vacuum-sealed environment.
- This design enhances speed and energy efficiency. The Hyperloop project will unfold in two phases.
- The first phase includes an 11.5-kilometer test track. This track will be used to demonstrate and certify the technology. The second phase aims to extend the track to approximately 100 kilometers.



- **Hyperloop trains can reach speeds of up to 1,100 km/h.** The typical operational speed is **around 360 km/h.**
- The vacuum-sealed environment contributes to faster travel times and reduced energy consumption.
- The Avishkar Hyperloop team consists of 76 students from IIT Madras. They are dedicated to developing this innovative transportation system. Their efforts are crucial for the project's success. The first full-scale Hyperloop project in India is set for the Mumbai-Pune corridor. This project aims to reduce travel time between the two cities to just 25 minutes. Despite the progress, the project remains in the development stage.



Manama Dialogue 2024

- Manama Dialogue is an annual security conference in Bahrain. It focuses on regional security issues. It attracts leaders and experts from around the world for discussions.
- Theme this year focused on regional prosperity and security. Leaders gathered to discuss strategies for stability in the Middle East. The dialogue emphasized the need for cohesive leadership in addressing ongoing conflicts.



- Jaishankar's visit included a four-day, two-nation itinerary. He arrived in Bahrain on December 7. His trip also encompassed a visit to Qatar.
- In Qatar, he participated in the Doha Forum, focusing on conflict resolution.
 Doha Forum is an international platform in Qatar. It addresses critical global issues. It serves as a venue for dialogue on conflict resolution and security.
- Recent events in the **Middle East highlight escalating challenges** with the situation in Syria remains critical after the rebels overthrew Bashar al-Assad. This turmoil extends across Gaza and Lebanon and S. Jaishankar addressed these issues at the Manama Dialogue in Bahrain.

Shaji N Karun Honored With JC Daniel Award 2023

Veteran filmmaker Shaji N Karun has been selected for the prestigious JC
 Daniel Award 2023 for his lifetime contributions to Malayalam cinema. The JC
 Daniel Award is the highest honor for a filmmaker in Kerala and is presented by the state government to recognize excellence and long-lasting contributions to the film industry.



- This recognition is a testament to Shaji N Karun's immense influence on Malayalam cinema, both in India and internationally.
- The award includes a purse of Rs 5 lakh, a citation, and a statuette. The jury for selecting Shaji was chaired by TV Chandran (2022 JC Daniel Award winner) and included KS Chitra (singer), Vijayaraghavan (actor), and C Ajoy (Chalachithra Academy secretary).

Payal Kapadia's Landmark Golden Globe Nomination

 Payal Kapadia has etched her name in the annals of Indian cinema by becoming the first Indian director to receive a Golden Globe nomination for Best Director (Motion Picture).



- Her film All We Imagine As Light not only earned her this historic recognition but also secured a nomination for Best Motion Picture (Non-English Language) at the 82nd Golden Globe Awards. These nominations underscore the global impact of Indian cinema and Kapadia's exceptional storytelling.
- All We Imagine As Light is also nominated for Best Motion Picture (Non-English Language). All We Imagine As Light is an Indo-French co-production featuring Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha, and Hridhu Haroon.
- The story follows **Prabha, a nurse with personal struggles**, and her roommate Anu as they explore their desires during a trip to a beach town.
- It made history as the first Indian entry in the Cannes Film Festival competition section in 30 years and won the prestigious Grand Prix.

Rise In Female Labour Force Participation Rate

- India has witnessed a substantial rise in female labour force participation rate, LFPR particularly in rural areas, from 2017-18 to 2022-23. A research paper on Female Labour Force Participation Rate stated that rural female LFPR surged from 24.6% to 41.5% while urban LFPR rose modestly from 20.4% to 25.4%, from 2017-18 to 2022-23.
- In rural areas, significant increases are seen in states like Jharkhand with 233% growth and Bihar with six-fold growth. Northeastern states have also showed remarkable growth.



 Married women in rural areas showed higher participation growth compared to unmarried women. States like Rajasthan and Jharkhand displayed significant growth, particularly among married women. Among the northern states, Punjab and Haryana continued to have low female LFPR. Among the eastern states, rural Bihar had the lowest LFPR in the country, but has shown significant improvements in the recent years – especially for rural married women.



- Among the Northeastern states, there have been remarkable growth in rural areas, with Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh leading.
- The research paper stated that there have been numerous schemes of the government, especially targeting rural women over the last ten years. These include Mudra loans, Drone Didi scheme and Self Help Groups mobilised under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana.

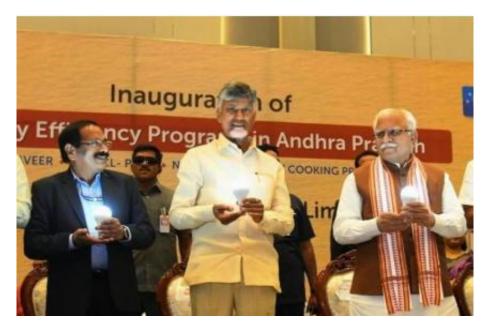
New Zealand Plans To Ban Greyhound Racing

- New Zealand has announced plans to ban greyhound racing, citing an
 unacceptably high rate of injuries. The government plans to wind down the
 industry over the next 20 months to allow time for the rehoming of racing dogs
 and for those in the industry to transition to other jobs.
- The sport has long faced criticism in the country, with some breeders accused of
 mistreating or doping the animals. Apart from New Zealand, commercial
 greyhound racing is permitted in Australia, Ireland, the UK, and the US.



AP Urjaveer Energy Scheme 2024

- Andhra Pradesh government has initiated the AP Urjaveer Scheme, which aims
 to enhance energy efficiency and sustainability. It is a collaboration with Energy
 Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), the focus is on training private electricians
 statewide and the goal is to promote and sell energy-efficient appliances.
- The scheme will train 1,12,000 private electricians and will learn to market six types of energy-efficient appliances. These include 6W LED bulbs, 20W LED tube lights, 30W BLDC ceiling fans, 5-star air conditioners, induction cooking stoves, and 10W LED inverter lamps.



 The trained electricians will be referred to as Urjaveers. Urjaveers will form a network across Andhra Pradesh and will educate the public about energyefficient appliances.



- They will explain the benefits of these products. Their role is crucial in encouraging the adoption of energy-saving technologies. The AP Urjaveer Scheme aligns with other energy initiatives, which supports the National Efficient Cooking Programme (NECP). It also complements energy-efficient solutions under the PMAY scheme.
- This connection enhances the scheme's impact on energy conservation. The
 programme aims to raise awareness about energy conservation, will promote
 the use of advanced, energy-saving technologies. The initiative is step towards
 integrating energy efficiency into daily life.
- The government anticipates a positive economic impact as well. This effort is part of a broader vision for sustainable development, seeks to make energy efficiency a standard practice in Andhra Pradesh. The scheme represents a commitment to protecting the environment while encouraging economic growth.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. India's First Integrated Waste Management City Will Be Made In
- A. Kanpur
- B. Gorakhpur
- C. Surat
- D. Kochi

ANSWER: B

- 2. India's First Hyperloop Test Track Completed By
- A. IIT Delhi
- B. IIT Bombay
- C. IIT Madras
- D. IIT Ropar

ANSWER: C

- 3. Which State Government Launched "Bus Sangwari App" To Improve Public Transportation And Passenger Services
- A. Jharkhand
- B. Odisha
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. West Bengal

ANSWER: C

- 4. Name Of AI-Powered System By Indian Railways For Inspecting Linens
- A. Aqua system
- B. LISA system
- C. Al-Linen Pro
- D. SmartRail

ANSWER: B

- 5. Okavango Delta Is Located In Which Country
- A. Namibia
- B. Botswana
- C. Madagascar
- D. Malawi

ANSWER: B

SSBCrack

- 6. Which Ministry Launched Platform For Effective Enforcement For No Child Labour Portal
- A. Ministry of Labour and Employment
- B. Ministry of Women and Child Development
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Defence

ANSWER: A

- 7. In Which Year Was The Sexual Harassment Of Women At Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, And Redressal) Act Enacted
- A. 2010
- B. 2011
- C. 2012
- D. 2013

ANSWER: D

- 8. Which City In India Has Been Selected As The Site For The Country's First Google Safety Engineering Centre
- A. Bengaluru
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Pune
- D. Chennai

ANSWER: B

- 9. Rimtalba Jean Emmanuel Ouedraogo Has Been Appointed As PM Of
- A. Burkina Faso
- B. Ghana
- C. Kenya
- D. Nigeria

ANSWER: A

- 10. Where Was The Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024 Organized
- A. Jaisalmer
- B. Jaipur
- C. Udaipur
- D. Jodhpur

ANSWER: B

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11. What Is Theme Of India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) 2024

- A. Inclusive Internet for Digital India
- B. Calibrating Bharat's Digital Agenda
- C. Innovating Internet Governance for India
- D. Leveraging Techade for Empowering Bharat

ANSWER: C

12. Which State Government Launched The Urajveer Scheme To Promote The Energy Efficient Appliances

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: A

13. Recently, Who Has Been Honored With UN Global Excellence Award For Contributions To Healthcare And Philanthropy

- A. Prabhakar Sinha
- B. Basant Goel
- C. Vikram Mehta
- D. Ravindra Singh

ANSWER: B

14. Who Won The Women's Singles Title At The Syed Modi International Badminton Tournament 2024

- A. PV Sindhu
- B. Saina Nehwal
- C. Tanya Hemanth
- D. Malvika Bansod

ANSWER: A

15. Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra, Is Located In Which State/UT

- A. New Delhi
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Jammu and Kashmir

ANSWER: B

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16. Subabul Plant, Is Native To Which Country

- A. Malaysia
- B. Australia
- C. South Africa
- D. Mexico

ANSWER: D

17. Which City Is Host Of 63rd Indian Society Of Aerospace Medicine Conference

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Chennai
- C. Delhi
- D. Hyderabad

ANSWER: A

18. Which Organization Has Launched The World Drought Atlas

- A. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- B. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- C. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- D. World Bank

ANSWER: B

19. International Social Security Association Was Established Under Which Organization

- A. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- B. World Bank
- C. International Labour Organization (ILO)
- D. International Monetary Fund (IMF)

ANSWER: C

20. What Is The Maximum Gap / Interval Between Two Sessions Of Parliament

- A. 30 days
- B. 50 days
- C. 6 months
- D. 12 months

ANSWER: C