

The Centre has cautioned FM radio channels against playing songs or broadcasting content glorifying alcohol, drugs, weaponry, and gangster and gun culture. In an advisory to FM radio channels, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has asked them to strictly adhere to the terms and conditions prescribed in grant of permission agreement (GOPA) and migration grant of permission agreement (MGOPA) and not to air any content in violation thereof. "Any violation shall entail such penal action as deemed fit in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down in the GOPA/MGOPA," it said.

The Delhi High Court recently passed an interim order to prevent the unlawful use of Bollywood star Amitabh Bachchan's name, image, and voice. Personality rights refer to the right of a person to protect his/her personality under the right to privacy or property. These rights are important to celebrities as their names, photographs or even voices can easily be misused in various advertisements by different companies to boost their sales. Personality rights consist of firstly, the right of publicity, or the right to keep one's image and likeness from being commercially exploited without permission or contractual compensation and secondly, the right to privacy.

India's gross GST revenues were ₹1,45,867 crores in November 2022, 11% higher than a year ago, but nearly 4% below October's kitty. Revenues from import of goods were 20% higher while domestic transactions, including import of services, yielded 8% higher taxes than November 2021. State GST collections in November accounted for ₹32,651 crore of revenues, while the Integrated GST kitty was ₹77,103 crores, including ₹38,635 crore collected on import of goods.

The Prime Minister's Principal Secretary, P.K. Mishra, on Thursday described India taking over the G-20 presidency as a "watershed moment" and said it is our responsibility to showcase the country in "the most rightful ways befitting her stature and glory". Holding G-20 meetings at 56 locations across the country will ensure that the pan Indian nature of the event is truly showcased, he said, adding that every State government, Union Territory and citizen is a stakeholder in the process of India's presidency.

Despite its engagement with the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, India must not let its guard down, said former Afghanistan Intelligence chief Rahmatullah Nabil, warning that Pakistani terror groups targeting India such as Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Taiba have shifted their bases to Afghanistan with help from the Taliban, and have access to more technology and territory. Mr. Nabil said that while engaging the Taliban was necessary for India in its "own interests," New Delhi should keep channels open

"CLIMATE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN INDIA'S COOLING SECTOR" REPORT RELEASED BY WORLD BANK

- Key highlights of the report-** By 2030, over 160-200 million people across India could be exposed to lethal heat waves annually. By 2030, Around 34 million people will face job losses due to heat stress related productivity decline. Current food loss due to heat during transportation is close to \$13 billion annually.
- By 2037, demand for cooling is likely to be eight times more than current levels, leading to an expected rise of 435% in annual greenhouse gas emissions over next two decades. Keeping spaces cool using innovative energy efficient technologies can open an investment opportunity of \$1.6 trillion by 2040.
- Recommendations-** Adopting climate-responsive cooling techniques as a norm in both private and government-funded constructions. Investing in pre-cooling and refrigerated transport can help decrease food loss by about 76% and reduce carbon emissions by 16%.
- Proposes a roadmap to support India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) new investments in three major sectors: building construction, cold chains, and refrigerants. Improvements in servicing, maintenance and disposal of equipment that use hydrochlorofluorocarbons.

KIRIT PARIKH PANEL ON GAS PRICES SUBMITTED ITS REPORT

- Panel provided gas pricing recommendations to Ensure a fair price for consumers. Increase share of gas in India's energy mix to 15% by 2030. Presently, there are multiple gas pricing mechanisms including, APM (administered price mechanism), non-APM. Mechanism is formula based and considers prices prevailing at major international markets such as Henry Hub, National Balancing Point, Alberta, and Russia. Prices are notified after every six months.
- Key Recommendations-** Completely free and market-determined pricing for natural gas extracted from legacy fields and remove all caps by January 1, 2027. Legacy or old fields are given to ONGC and OIL on a nomination basis without any condition of sharing profits and therefore government controls its price.
- Linking price of gas produced by state-owned firms to imported crude oil prices. Including natural gas in GST regime. India has been taking steps to move towards a gas-based economy considering its significance such as: Economic advantage: CNG is cheaper than gasoline and diesel. Environment friendly because of very low emission of particulate matter. Fulfilling climate change mitigation commitments.
- Measures taken towards a gas-based economy-** Natural Gas Marketing Reforms announced to increase domestic production of natural gas. Planned \$60bn investment for creating gas infrastructure till 2024, including for pipelines and CGD (city gas distribution) networks. Connected eastern and north-eastern parts with gas grid by developing Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project and North East Gas Grid project.

SUPREME COURT (SC) FLOATS IDEA OF PROJECT GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD (GIB)

- SC mooted the idea in line with Project Tiger, while hearing a plea seeking to protect GIB from overhead power lines projects in Rajasthan and Gujrat. Earlier SC had ordered power companies to make high-tension power lines underground to protect GIB. 'Project Tiger' is touted as one of most successful conservation programmes for a single species in world. Other species-specific projects in India include Project elephant, Project snow leopard, Asiatic Lion Conservation Project, Project Dolphin etc.
- About Great Indian Bustard-** Habitat include arid and semi-arid grasslands, open country with thorn scrub, tall grass interspersed with cultivation. It avoids irrigated areas. Rajasthan has the highest population and it is endemic to Indian Sub-continent.
- Important Sites:** Desert National Park Sanctuary (Rajasthan), Naliya (Gujarat), Warora (Maharashtra) and Bellary (Karnataka).
- IUCN Status:** Critically Endangered. Threats to GIB: hunting, habitat erosion, 'greening' projects that transform arid grasslands to wooded areas, predators preying on the eggs etc. It is one of the Species for Recovery Programme under Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats of Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.

with Afghanistan’s former leaders as well, even though they are now out of power.

13.6 percentage India’s power consumption grew to 112.81 billion units in November 2022, according to government data. In November 2021, power consumption was 99.32 billion units. The robust growth of power consumption mainly indicates an increase in economic activities as generally, it remains subdued in November.

30 percentage drops in stubble burning incidents in Punjab from September 15 to November 30 compared to last year, according to Environment Minister Gurmeet Singh Meets Hayer. Despite the Centre’s rejection of the State’s proposal to provide financial assistance to farmers to prevent stubble burning, cases reduced, the Minister said.

20 number of unfinished projects in Afghanistan, in which India will resume work, according to the Taliban team in Afghanistan. In June, India re-established its diplomatic presence in Kabul by deploying a ‘technical team’ to its embassy in the Afghan capital. India withdrew its officials from the embassy after the Taliban seized power in August 2021.

Over the past two months, a slew of U.S. multinational companies including tech giants Amazon, Meta, Intel, Twitter and financial behemoths like Citi and Morgan Stanley, announced massive layoffs, which crossed 60,000 in September and October. News of layoffs in the Indian start-up front is predominantly in ED tech, or the educational technology front. A lesser share of internet users visiting educational websites since the decline of the pandemic is cited as one reason. During earlier global recessions, while companies seldom publicly announced layoffs, they would all look to ease out staff who were lower down the performance ladder. Companies that were in a particularly bad patch cut bench strength

Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Union government if there was a “compelling reason” for it to press ahead with the release of GM mustard, asking if Indian agriculture would be “doomed” if genetically modified crops were not made available. “Is there a compelling reason to release this hybrid DMH-11 [Dhara Mustard Hybrid-11] now.

REMITTANCES GROW 5% IN 2022, DESPITE GLOBAL HEADWINDS

1. Findings are part of latest World Bank Migration and Development Brief that analyses trends in migration-related SDG indicators.
2. **Key global findings**-Top five recipient countries are India, Mexico, China, Philippines, and Egypt. Downside risks in remittance include a further deterioration in war in Ukraine, volatility in oil prices and currency exchange rates, and downturn in major high-income countries.
3. **Key findings related to India**-Remittance flows will rise 12% to reach \$100 billion this year and are expected to account for 3% of its GDP. US surpassed UAE as top source country. Remittance flows were enhanced by wage hikes and a strong labour market in US and other OECD countries. Share of remittances from US, UK, and Singapore increased while share from 5 Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Oman, and Qatar) dropped.
4. **Importance of remittances**-Vital source of household income for low and middle-income countries (LMICs). They alleviate poverty, improve nutritional outcomes and are associated with higher school enrolment rates. Can impact growth positively via investment and access to credit.

INDIA SUPPORTS UAE’S PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE DIGITIZATION IN INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION (IMO) STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Decision was taken during the ongoing session of Council of International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and will help in resolving the regulatory bottlenecks in maritime sector. India also supported adoption of a maritime single window system as a part of the digitization initiative.
2. IMO Assembly (meets every two years) adopts the Strategic Plan for the Organization, which covers a six-year period. It comprises of mission and vision, strategic directions, performance indicators and list of expected outputs. Digitisation is not comprehensively absorbed within 8 strategic directions under existing Strategic Plan.
3. Benefits of digitisation in maritime industry-Connect and smoothen communication between all stakeholders on the global supply chain. Increase competitiveness and enhance operational efficiency. Spur industry along decarbonization path to realize zero emissions from international shipping by mid-century.
4. **About IMO**-It is Specialized agency of United Nations, Headquartered in London, UK. It responsible for measures to improve safety and security of international shipping and to prevent pollution from ships. It is also involved in legal matters, including liability and compensation issues and facilitation of international maritime traffic.

HORTICULTURE CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME(CDP)

1. It is a program, by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, to enhance global competitiveness of horticulture sector. National Horticulture Board is the Nodal Agency for its implementation. 55 clusters have been identified.
2. CDP will leverage geographical specialisation of horticulture clusters and promote integrated and market-led development of pre-production, production, post-harvest, logistics, branding etc. India is second-largest producer of horticulture crops, accounting for approximately 12% of world’s production of fruits and vegetables.
3. CDP aims to improve exports of targeted crops by about 20% and create cluster-specific brands to enhance competitiveness.



“The chaos of competition ends when you start competing with yourself.”

DR. KHAN
(KSG)