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#22 EDITION
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Buzz of the WEEK

Neeraj Chopra
primed to win gold



Chandrayaan 3
landed successfully



Nirmala
Sitharaman B20



Unsung Warrior of
India





Focus on easing barriers to trade and investment

The focus of the G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting is on easing barriers to international trade and investment and it will end with significant outcomes keeping in mind the current multinational challenges, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday. In his opening remarks at the two-day trade ministerial meeting, Goyal also stressed on the importance of resilient global value chains. On the first day of the G20 meeting in Jaipur, the discussions centered on the topic of 'Multilateral Trade for Global Growth and Prosperity' which included exchange of views on how trade can work for developing nations and reforms in the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The second session of the day was 'Inclusive and Resilient Trade' which focussed on the issues of trade and resilient value global value chains and integrating Micro Small and Medium industries in world trade. On the last day of the meeting on Friday, a session on Leveraging Technology for Paperless Trade is scheduled.

<https://indianexpress.com/focus-on-easing-barriers-to-trade-and-investment-goyal>



India's successful mission not India's alone, belongs to all of humanity: PM Modi

HAILING The landing on the Moon as the "victory cry of a developed India", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said "this success belongs to all of humanity", not just India. He said all countries, including from the Global South, can now "aspire for the Moon and beyond". The PM said the Chandrayaan mission would "propel India's journey beyond the Moon's orbit", and the Sun and Venus were on ISRO's agenda. "We will test the limits of our solar system, and we must work to realise the infinite possibilities of the universe for humans," he said. Modi, who is in South Africa to attend the BRICS Summit, joined the ISRO team via video link to witness the landing.

<https://indianexpress.com/pm-modi-address-chandrayaan-3-mission-moon>

Bharat- NCAP norms to benefit consumers, enhance safety says the Automaker

Automobile companies and auto-component manufacturers have responded positively to the central government-initiated Bharat- New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat-NCAP) norms announced by Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday.

<https://www.thehindu.com/bharat-ncap-norms-to-benefit-consumers/article.ece>



India moves up to 11th position in global direct selling ranking, aims to be in top 5 in 10 years

According to a report by the World Federation of Direct Selling Association, India has moved up to 11th position in the ranking of top markets of direct sellers, with retail sales of \$3.23 billion (around Rs 26,852 crore) in 2022. On a constant dollar basis, the Indian market attained the highest Compounded Annual Growth Rate of over 13.3% during the last three years, it added. The top market in the list was the US with \$40.52 billion -- a decline of 5% over 2021. It was followed by Korea, Germany, China, Japan and Malaysia. Indian Direct Selling Association (IDSA) chairman Rajat Banerji said: "India's direct selling market is growing steadily and has the potential to place itself in the top five global markets over the next decade." "Only three among the top ten (sellers) are in India today and we would like to see all of them start their business in India," Rajat added.

<https://timesofindia/india-moves-up-to-11th-position-in-global-direct-selling>





B20 summit, My priority is to tame inflation, says Nirmala Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on August 25 said the government's priority is to tame inflation to ensure sustained economic growth. Addressing the B20 Summit India, being hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the Minister said the GDP numbers for the first quarter, to be released this month, should be good. Observing that elevated interest rates for considerable time hampers recovery, Ms. Sitharaman said, "my priority is to tame inflation." Retail inflation soared to a 15-month high of 7.44% in July, mainly on account of spiralling prices of tomatoes and vegetables. On growth, she said that India has been able to accelerate the pace of economic reforms and the first quarter GDP numbers "should be good." The National Statistical Office is scheduled to release the GDP numbers for the first quarter on August 31. Ms. Sitharaman said that "green shoots" of private capital expenditure can be felt on back of the government's push for capital expenditure in the budget. She also spoke about climate financing and reform to attract foreign investors.

<https://www.thehindu.com/um-nirmala-sitharaman-addresses-the-b20-summit>



Neeraj Chopra primed to win gold - World Athletics Championships

A single big throw having taken him to the final once again while his close rivals struggled, Neeraj Chopra is primed to nail the World Championships javelin throw gold medal in Budapest on August 27, to lift the gloom in the Indian camp after the country's disappointing campaign so far. Chopra, who won silver in the last edition, sent his spear to 88.77m in his first attempt in the qualification round on Friday to also qualify for 2024 Paris Olympics. It was his season's best effort and fourth best throw of his career. It is no secret that the Olympic champion prefers to throw big in his first attempt. Chopra did the same in the last edition qualification round in USA with a 88.39m.

<https://www.thehindu.com/world-athletics-championship-chopra-primed-to-win-gold>

EU seeks special courts for investors

JAIPUR: EU has proposed establishment of special courts to deal with cases involving violation of investment protection agreement, as it will provide comfort to investors and boost investment in India, EU trade commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis said. India is yet to respond to the proposal, which is being discussed as part of the negotiations for a bilateral trade and investment treaty. "India has ambition to become a manufacturing hub and integrate itself with global value chains, which requires a lot of investment" Dombrovskis said.

<https://timesofindia/eu-seeks-special-courts-for-investors/articleshow/103038788.cms>



Zepto becomes India's first unicorn in nearly a year in new funding round

Grocery startup Zepto said on Friday it has raised \$200 million in fresh funding at a valuation of \$1.4 billion, making it the first startup in the country to cross the billion-dollar valuation mark in nearly a year. Zepto said it raised the funds "in the midst of the deepest downturn in capital markets in over a decade" from U.S.-based investment firms StepStone Group and Goodwater Capital. Existing backers including Nexus Venture Partners, Glade Brook Capital and Lachy Groom also participated in the deal. Zepto plans to use the funds to go deeper into the seven Indian metros it is currently present in, including Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru, where it makes a monthly revenue of \$50 million-\$60 million. Zepto was valued at \$900 million when it last raised funds in May 2022. A company statement said it has tripled sales year-on-year.

<https://indianexpress.com/zepto-becomes-india-unicorn-article/9983.cms>



BHARAT: CHRONICLE OF SACRIFICE AND GLORY

Bhikaiji Cama

(24 September 1861 - 13 August 1936)

Born to an extremely wealthy Parsi business family, Bhikaiji Cama (née Patel) received her early education in Bombay (now Mumbai). Influenced by an environment in which the Indian nationalist movement was taking root, she was drawn toward political issues at an early age. In 1885 she married Rustomji Cama, a well-known lawyer, but her involvement with sociopolitical issues led to differences between the couple. Because of marital problems and her poor health, which required medical attention, Cama left India for London.

It was in London that Bhikaiji Cama met Dadabhai Naoroji and inspired by his ideals plunged into the freedom movement. She also began to meet with other Indian nationalists like Shyamji Varma, Lala Hardayal, and soon became one of the active members of the movement. She began to publish booklets for the Indian community in England, propagating the cause of Swaraj. "March forward! We are for India. India is for Indians!" she defiantly declared. She also toured US, where she gave speeches on the ill effects of British rule, and urged Americans to support the cause of India's freedom.

Madam Bhikaiji Cama became the first person to hoist the Indian flag in foreign land on 22 August 1907. While unfurling the flag at the International Socialist Conference in Stuttgart, Germany, she appealed for equality and autonomy from the British which had taken over the Indian sub-continent.



Brain Teaser

What English word has three consecutive double letters?

Last Edition Answer = Stamp

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