

# IACE

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### 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024 DESCRIPTIVE

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## World Athletics Day 2024: May 7<sup>th</sup>



- **World Athletics Day 2024** is celebrated every year on May 7<sup>th</sup>.
- This Day is observed to raise awareness about Athletics. This day was launched to honor the sportsperson who has the responsibility to pride the nation.
- **Theme:** “World Mile Challenge”
- **This day was first observed in 1996** and it was launched by **International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) President Primo Nebiolo**.

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- **The World Athletics Federation and IAAF** organized sports events in all schools and colleges every year.
- The **IAAF** was founded in **1912** to organize various sports events and athletics.
- In **2001**, the name of the **International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF)** was changed to **the International Association of Athletics Federations**. And in **2019**, the name was again changed to **World Athletics**.

## Manipur Governor inaugurates 'School on Wheels' for displaced students



- **Manipur governor Anusuiya Uikey** inaugurated a '**School on Wheels**' for children displaced by the year-long ethnic strife in the state, at Bal Vidya Mandir Complex Palace Complex in **Imphal East district**.
- The School on Wheels, an initiative of **Vidya Bharati Shiksha Vikash Samiti, Manipur**, aims to reach out to the violence-affected students putting up in relief camps in the state.
- As a part of the initiative, a school bus equipped with library, computers and sports items will travel to relief camps at different locations in the state, along with a teacher.

### **About Vidya Bharati Shiksha Vikash Samiti:**

- Vidya Bharati Shiksha Vikash Samiti is for its innovative and noble gesture to reach out to the displaced students in the relief camps.
- Vidya Bharti Vikas Samiti started working for education in Manipur in the year **1979 under the name of Vidya Bharti Shiksha Vikas Samiti Manipur.**
- It is informed that Vidya Bharati Shiksha Vikas Samiti is running 15 schools in six districts of Manipur while 36 Sanskar Kendras in eight districts are serving as formal primary education and free education to 150 displaced children of Moreh, Churachandpur, Bishnupur, Imphal East, Imphal West, Kangpokpi and Senapati districts.

### **About Manipur:**

**Capital:** Imphal

**Chief Minister:** N. Biren Singh

**Governor:** Anusuiya Uikey

## ACKO launches ambulance booking feature on app

- **Insurance startup ACKO** has launched an **ambulance booking feature on its app**. It is launched in partnership with **Red.Health**, one of the leading emergency response service providers in the country.
- Aim to provide **one-stop destination for all protection needs**
- The app will help fetch the nearest ambulance from a robust network of 3000 vehicles and will share the driver details in less than three minutes.
- App also has real-time tracking that will provide peace of mind to users.

### Feature ACKO's ambulance booking:

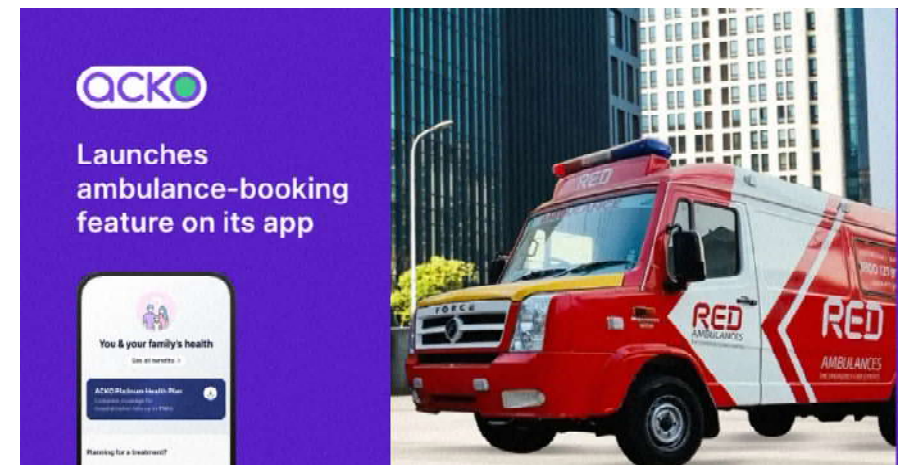
- 1) Extensive Network
- 2) Seamless Booking
- 3) Real-Time Tracking
- 4) User-Centric Design

### About ACKO:

**Founded:** 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016

**Headquarters:** Bengaluru

**CEO:** Animesh Das



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## Shabana Azmi to receive Freedom of the City of London Award at UK

- **Shabana Azmi** will be honoured with **the Freedom of City of London Award** by the **City of London Corporation of United Kingdom (UK)**.
- She received award in recognition of her prolific contribution to **Indian cinema** and as a **campaigner for women's rights**.
- The award presentation will be a part of the celebrations to mark her **50 years in the industry at this year's UK Asian Film Festival - the world's longest-running South Asian film festival** outside the Subcontinent.
- Azmi is a social and women's rights activist, a former **Godwill Ambassador of the United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA)**, and a member of the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Indian parliament.

### About United Kingdom:

**Capital:** London

**Prime Minister:** Rishi Sunak

**Currency:** Pound sterling



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## Koothandavar Festival or Koovagam festival begins in Tamil Nadu

- **Koothandavar festival or Koovagam festival at Koovagam in Tamil Nadu** is an annual gathering of **transgender women**.
- In the **Tamil month of Chithirai** (mid-April to mid-May), tens of thousands of transgender women gather for an 18-day-long festival, with evocative ceremonies on the **last two days**.
- Transgender women **dress as brides on the 17th day**, and the priests of Koothandavar temple tie thaali for them.
- **On the last day**, parts of the Koothandavar idol is brought from various parts of Tamil Nadu and assembled before being taken on a chariot.
- Transgender women gather and perform the kummi dance as the chariot moves. The crowds then travel a couple of kilometres the Natham, where the priests break the transgender women's bangles and cut the thaali.
- Lord Koothandavar, their spouse, has passed away, and they weep in sorrow. The transgender women rub off the kungumam and dress in a white sari.
- The focal point of the festival, **Lord Aravan's** sacrificial ritual.

### About Tamil Nadu:

**Capital:** Chennai

**Chief Minister:** M. K. Stalin

**Governor:** R. N. Ravi

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## HDFC Life introduces “No Jhanjhat Life Insurance Fatafat” Campaign

- **HDFC Life** launches the “**No Jhanjhat Life Insurance Fatafat**” campaign, aimed at simplifying and expediting **life insurance purchases through its online platform**.
- The campaign underscores the importance of addressing India’s low insurance penetration and vast protection gap.
- HDFC Life’s campaign promises a seamless and swift life insurance purchasing experience, leveraging cutting-edge technology for accessibility and convenience.
- From customizable plans like **Click2Achieve** to expert advice and instant quotes, HDFC Life ensures a hassle-free journey towards financial security.
- Through initiatives like the “No Jhanjhat Life Insurance Fatafat” campaign, HDFC Life reaffirms its commitment to the mission of ‘**Insurance for All by 2047**’.
- India has very low penetration of life insurance is 3.2% and coupled with a vast protection gap of about 91%.

### **About HDFC Life:**

**Founded:** 2000

**Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Chairman:** Keki M Mistry

**CEO:** Vibha Padalkar



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**Toll Free:** 1800-270-9975, **Ph:** 9533200400

## British actor Bernard Hill passed away



- **British actor Bernard Hill**, known for his roles in **James Cameron's Titanic (1997)** and the **Lord of the Rings trilogy**, passed away at the age of 79.
- We worked together in John Paul George Ringo and Bert, Willy Russell marvellous show 1974-1975. A really marvellous actor.
- Hill had played the role of Captain Edward Smith in Titanic and of King Théoden in the Lord of the Rings trilogy.

## India and Ghana agree for operationalization of UPI on Ghana interbank systems



- **India and Ghana** are working to **link their payment systems - Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Ghana Interbank Payment and Settlement Systems (GHIPSS)** respectively to permit users to make instant, low-cost fund transfers on a reciprocal basis.
- The two countries have also discussed on Digital transformation Solutions; **Local Currency Settlement System** and the opportunities offered by **African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)**.
- They agreed to work expeditiously towards the operationalization of NPCI's (National Payments Corporation of India) UPI on Ghana's GHIPSS within a period of 6 months.

- This MOU is done in the visit of a seven-member Indian delegation led by Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce Amardeep Singh Bhatia to Accra, Ghana.
- The bilateral trade between **India and the West African nation Ghana** has increased to **USD 2.87 billion in 2022-23 from USD 2.6 billion in 2021-22.**
- The trade gap is in the favour of Ghana mainly due to imports of gold by India which accounts for nearly 80 per cent of total imports from Ghana.
- NPCI International has recently announced its partnership with Bank of Namibia to support them in developing a UPI-like real-time payment system in the African nation.
- India's UPI has already reached countries including Singapore and the UAE and Nigeria

### **About Ghana:**

**Capital:** Accra

**Currency:** Ghanaian Cedi

**President:** Nana Akufo-Addo

## Jose Raul Mulino elected as President of the Republic of Panama

- **José Raúl Mulino** has won **Panama's presidential election** after **three of his nearest rivals** conceded defeat.
- **The 64-year-old former security minister** has secured nearly 35% of the counted votes, with more than 92% of the votes counted.
- He replaced **Laurentino Cortizo**.
- José Raúl Mulino is a Panamanian **lawyer, diplomat and politician**.
- Panama's **economic growth** is projected to reach **2.5% in 2024**, while grappling with high income inequality and an **unemployment rate hovering around 10%**.

### About Panama:

**Capital:** Panama City

**Currency:** Balboa

**President:** José Raúl Mulino



## Chinese road construction in Shaksgam Valley



- India expresses concern over recent **Chinese road construction** activities in the **Shaksgam Valley** in the **trans-Karakoram tract of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)**, a territory ceded by **Pakistan to China in 1963**.
- The **5180 square kilometers** of Indian territory in the **Shaksgam Valley** was illegally ceded by **Pakistan to China in 1963**.
- The road is to be a part of an alignment that aims to link **the Karakoram Highway** to the **Upper Shaksgam Valley**, which borders the Siachen Glacier.
- This new road passes through the **16333 feet Aghil Pass** and could provide an alternative route to the **Karakoram Pass via Upper Shaksgam** and further to the **Khunjerab Pass in the Northern Areas of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir**.

- The construction of this road is a matter of serious concern for India. If China extends the road to the Upper Shaksgam Valley, it would pose a dual threat to Indian positions on the Siachen Glacier from both Pakistan in the South and China in the North.
- The Siachen glacier, a vital piece of Indian territory, is situated adjacent to the Shaksgam Valley and holds strategic importance, particularly amidst the 2020 standoff between Indian and Chinese troops in eastern Ladakh.
- China's extensive military build-up along the Line of Actual Control, especially in eastern Ladakh, poses threats to Indian positions in regions like Depsang and Daulat Beg Oldie.

**About China:**

**Capital:** Beijing

**Prime Minister:** Li Qiang

**President:** Xi Jinping

**Currency:** Yuan



## Mindgrove and Peak XV launches India's first Commercial SoC for IoT Devices



- **Peak XV Partners**-backed fabless semiconductor startup **Mindgrove Technologies** to launch **India's first commercial high-performance SoC (system on chip)**.
- It was named as **Secure IoT (Internet of things)**, it is designed for **IoT devices** and will likely cost **30% less than other chips in similar segments**.
- The startup, supported by **IITM Pravartak Technologies Foundation** and incubated in the **IIT-Madras Incubation Cell**.

- The chip has had a successful **MPW tape-out** (the silicon industry term for prototyping) at the **28nm node**.
- Secure IoT is a high-performance **microcontroller RTOS (real-time operating system) clocked at 700 MHzs**, thus opening up arenas like traffic control systems, autonomous vehicles, medical equipment, etc.
- It is the only Indian chip that is **commercially available in this segment**.
- The chip is designed to provide programmability, flexibility, security and superior computing power for controlling applications on a wide range of connected smart devices.
- Mindgrove was founded by **Shashwath and Sharan Srinivas J** and is backed by **Peak XV Partners**, Speciale Invest and Whiteboard Capital.

## German company tests rocket powered by candle wax

- **German company HyImpulse** successfully launched a **candle wax-powered rocket** capable of carrying commercial satellites on a test suborbital flight into space for the first time.
- The **12 metre, 2.5-tonne test rocket** dubbed “**SR75**” lifted off in **Koonibba, Australia**.
- It is capable of carrying satellites weighing up to **250 kg** to an altitude of up to **250 km** while being fuelled by **paraffin, or candle wax, and liquid oxygen**.
- Paraffin can be used as a cheaper and safer alternative fuel for rockets, reducing satellite transportation costs by as much as 50%.

### About Germany:

**Capital:** Berlin

**Currency:** Euro

**President:** Frank-Walter Steinmeier

**Chancellor:** Olaf Scholz



## Mallika Nadda appointed chairperson of Special Olympics' Asia Pacific Advisory Council (APAC)

- **Mallika Nadda**, President of **Special Olympics Bharat**, has been appointed as **Chairperson of the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Advisory Council (APAC)**, for three years from **May 1 2024 until March 31 2027**.
- Mallika Nadda, wife of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National President JP Nadda, has been serving as the **Chairperson of Special Olympics Bharat since 2021**.
- Mallika Nadda has been felicitated with prestigious awards including the **Rajiv Gandhi Manav Sewa Puraskar Award in 2010**, by the **Ministry of Women and Child, Government of India** for exemplary work in the field of Child Development.
- She receive the **Derozio Award in 2011** in the **field of Education and Human Enrichment** and the “**Rotary Shreyas Award**” in **2015-16** for exemplary **Social Services**.
- **Shashi Bhushan Singh**, a **2010-batch IRTS officer**, has been appointed as **Secretary of the National Jute Board** in **Kolkata under the Ministry of Textiles** for a **five-year term** or until further orders.

