



Services Offered : Integrated Facility Management - Security Services, Housekeeping Services, Technical Services, Technology Services.

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INDIA UPDATE

In 2023, Hyderabad and Bengaluru airports achieved the second and third positions, respectively, for On-Time Performance (OTP) globally. Minneapolis' St. Paul International Airport claimed the top spot with an OTP of 84.44%. Japanese airports experienced a decline in OTP. Kolkata's Netaji Subhash Chandra airport secured the ninth position in the 'medium airports' category, while IndiGo attained the eighth rank among low-cost carriers.

Bengaluru, Karnataka- Following the recent language controversy in Karnataka, the cabinet has approved an ordinance enforcing a 60% requirement for Kannada language on signboards of shops, businesses, institutions, and other locations. The decision comes after violent protests and property damage by the pro-Kannada group Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV), particularly targeting signboards with predominant languages other than Kannada.

Hyderabad, Telangana:

- Rajendranagar police station has been honored as the 'Best Police Station' nationwide for its outstanding performance by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). The Station House Officer, B Nagendra Babu, received the trophy from Home Minister Amit Shah at a conference in Jaipur. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy extended congratulations to the Rajendranagar SHO for competing and winning against nearly 17,000 police stations across the country.
- On January 5, 2024, the State government allocated 100 acres from Prof Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University (PJTSAU) and Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University (SKLTSHU) for the construction of the new Telangana High Court building.

Mumbai, Maharashtra:

- On Thursday 04 Jan 2024, the Eknath Shinde government appointed Rashmi Shukla, the seniormost IPS officer in the state, as the Director General of Police, filling the vacancy left by the retirement of Rajnish Seth on Sunday. Shukla, currently serving as the Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal, becomes the first woman to hold the position of DGP in the state. Before her current role, she served as the Additional DG of the Central Reserve Police Force.
- Maharashtra's state government is introducing 'MAHASWAYAM,' a dedicated online portal for higher education courses, modeled after the central government's SWAYAM portal. The initiative aims to offer a comprehensive platform in collaboration with state universities, emphasizing courses related to Indian Knowledge Systems, and plans to utilize social media for information dissemination and updates through a dedicated Twitter handle for the Higher and Technical Education Department.

Pune, Maharashtra:

- To prevent blood wastage and reduce donor exposure, the state health department has mandated the installation of sterile connecting devices in blood banks statewide. This measure aims to enhance safety during blood transfusions, ensuring the use of aliquots from whole blood bags.
- The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) has put forth an alternative traffic plan ahead of the demolition of the Sadhu Vaswani Railway overbridge in Koregaon Park. The proposed traffic arrangement will be implemented from Saturday, January 6, following a thorough examination by the Traffic Police Department.

Delhi: Foggy conditions in parts of Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) led to low visibility and disruptions in flights and trains. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecasted extremely cold weather in the upcoming days, with temperatures expected to drop to 7 degrees Celsius. Dense fog at the Indira Gandhi International Airport caused flight delays, while rehearsals for the Republic Day parade persisted despite harsh weather.

Gujarat:

- An IT firm in Gandhinagar has signed an MoU with the state government to introduce an e-notary (digital notarization) service. Naapbooks Limited will launch a pilot project in 2025, simplifying the notary process for citizens. The MoU involves a Rs 75 crore investment and outlines collaboration for developing a digital notarization system in Gandhinagar. The Government of Gujarat has pledged full support, assisting with necessary permissions and aligning with policies.
- After an investment of 28 crores, the sewage treatment plant on Kalol Palsana Road will be completed, providing water for agricultural purposes to farmers in the next 10 months.



GLOBAL UPDATE

Canada: Residents in a Vancouver neighborhood now have a pedestrian-controlled traffic light at the previously dangerous intersection of West 4th Avenue and Waterloo Street. The long-awaited signal, activated on Friday 05 Jan 2024, aims to address the history of pedestrian collisions at the crosswalk, where individuals had to navigate four lanes of traffic. Earlier reports in September highlighted the safety concerns at this intersection.

China: In 2023, China experienced its hottest year on record, facing relentless heat waves and extreme weather events linked to the human-caused climate crisis. Daily and monthly temperature records were repeatedly broken, with scorching heat waves reported earlier and more extensively than in previous years.

Japan: A powerful earthquake struck central Japan on Monday, 01 Jan 2024, killing at least one person, destroying buildings, knocking out power to tens of thousands of homes and prompting residents in some coastal areas to flee to higher ground. The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) initially issued a major tsunami warning.

North Korea: Kim Jong Un declared that North Korea will no longer pursue reconciliation and reunification with South Korea, stating that their relationship has become hostile. North Korea plans to launch three new military spy satellites in 2024. Kim emphasized that inter-Korean relations are now between two hostile countries, and he warned of serious action if a military confrontation is attempted.

Pakistan:

- Pakistan looks to transform its Cholistan desert for agriculture through state-owned land leases under the Green Pakistan Initiative. Military involvement raises concerns about public land profits, potentially impacting long-term structural improvements needed for modernizing farming. The initiative aims to enhance crop yields, attract foreign investment, and address climate-related challenges for water sustainability, risking potential discontent among farmers.
- An anti-terrorism court has issued arrest warrants for over 100 Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) activists accused of attacking the ISI building during anti-government protests triggered by the arrest of former Prime Minister Imran Khan. The PTI workers vandalized military installations, including Jinnah House and Mianwali airbase, and attacked the Army headquarters. Notably, PTI leaders contesting in the upcoming general elections from Faisalabad district are among those facing arrest warrants.

Palestine: The health ministry in Gaza, under Hamas control, reported on Saturday 06 January that the ongoing conflict with Israel since October 7 has resulted in at least 22,722 fatalities in the besieged Palestinian territory.

Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka announces a one-year moratorium on foreign research ships entering its waters, citing a need for capacity building. The move, while officially for local researchers' skill development, is perceived as a response to India's worries about Chinese research vessels in the region. The moratorium applies to all countries and aims to enhance local research capabilities through joint efforts with foreign counterparts.

United Kingdom:

- Junior doctors in England, led by Indian-origin senior official Dr. Vivek Trivedi, extend their six-day strike, marking the longest in NHS history. Over 1.2 million appointments have been rescheduled due to the strike, as doctors demand full pay restoration, protection against future pay declines, and a reform of the pay increase recommendation process.
- The UK's Border Force plans to implement advanced facial recognition technology at airports for 'frictionless travel,' eliminating the need for passports. The technology aims to create an 'intelligent border' by determining passengers' eligibility to enter the country. Next-generation e-gates, using advanced facial recognition, will replace traditional passport desks for improved security and faster processing. Trials are set to commence in 2024, coinciding with the introduction of electronic travel authorization (ETA) to replace visas for specific purposes.

United States: The United States and 12 allies issue a final warning to Houthi rebels, urging them to stop attacking vessels in the Red Sea. Failure to comply may lead to potential targeted military action. The Houthis, in response to the Israel-Hamas conflict, have conducted at least 23 attacks since December 19. A senior Biden administration official emphasizes that the Iranian-backed group should not expect another warning from the US and its allies, without detailing specific rules of engagement.

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