

Around The WORLD

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USA

Safe AI usage



US president Joe Biden has green-lighted an executive order on the 'Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence' in the country. This move ensures strict regulation on companies developing artificial intelligence models, pushing them to share the results of the risk assessment for their AI systems with the US government before they are released for public usage. Further, assistance on watermarking AI-generated content will be provided so as to prevent damage from fraud.



FRANCE

Ballon d'Or 2023

The 67th Ballon d'Or awards ceremony was held at the Theatre du Chatelet in Paris, France, on October 31, 2023, where renowned football players were bestowed with the most coveted awards of the season. While Argentinian player Lionel Messi was presented with the eighth Ballon d'Or of his career, Aitana Bonmati of Spain clinched Ballon d'Or Feminin. Emiliano Martínez of Argentina grabbed the Yachin Trophy for the best male goalkeeper. Manchester City and FC Barcelona Femini were announced as the Club of the Year.



CHINA

Honoured by UNEP

China's Blue Circle environmental initiative was awarded the 2023 Champions of the Earth award, UN's most prestigious environmental recognition award, by the United Nations Environment Program. The initiative won the award in the Entrepreneurial Vision category for its innovative use of technology for treatment of marine plastic. Using blockchain to monitor the lifespan of plastic pollution, it has become China's largest marine plastic waste programme by collecting 10,700 tonnes of marine plastic trash.



CANADA

WeChat & Kaspersky banned

Quoting an "unacceptable level of risk to privacy and security", Canada has imposed a ban on the usage of apps developed by China's Tencent and Russia's Kaspersky on its government-issued mobile devices WEF October 30, 2023. China's Foreign Ministry has condemned the Canadian government for imposing the ban without any hard evidence which supports the allegations against them.



UGANDA

Kenyan oil import deal ended

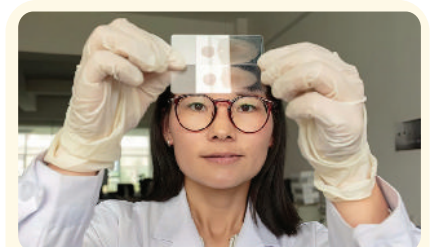
Uganda intends to discontinue a system that allows procuring of oil products through neighbouring Kenya and provide exclusive rights for delivery of all petroleum products to a division of international energy trader Vitol. Energy minister Ruth Nankabirwa said in a statement that the system, which supplies 90% of Uganda's fuel imports, is vulnerable to supply outages and high pump costs.



INDIA

New projects inaugurated

PM Modi and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina collectively inaugurated three Indian-aided development projects in Bangladesh, namely Akhaura-Agartala Cross-Border Rail Link, Khulna-Mongla Port Rail Line, and Unit-II of the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant in Bangladesh's Rampal. Government of India has offered a grant of 392.52 crore INR to Bangladesh for the same.



SOUTH KOREA

Malaria causes mayhem

South Korea has been seeing a significant rise in the number of malaria cases this year, reaching the highest level in the last 12 years. As per Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency, 719 cases have been reported so far – highest since 2011 when the nation reported annual total of 826 cases. With 657 locally acquired cases and 62 overseas transmissions, KDCA has asked citizens to act cautious.

News Flash

► **Saudi Arabia:** Set to host 2034 FIFA World Cup ► **Spain:** Princess Leonor's allegiance ceremony boycotted by republican government ministers ► **Serbia:** Serbian president Aleksandar Vucic dissolves parliament