

Around The WORLD

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USA

Elections take a turn

US President Joe Biden has announced his withdrawal from the upcoming presidential race in "the best interest of the country". The head of the state is endorsing Vice President Kamala Harris to fill the role in the future. She has received the support of more than 1,976 delegates to win the Democratic nomination. Harris gave her first campaign address as a presidential candidate in Milwaukee on July 23. Biden said he will remain as President until his term ends in January 2025.



BELGIUM

Charging station at sea

World's first offshore green energy charging station for vessels has been installed in the Nobelwind wind farm, Belgian North Sea. Located 47 km off the coast, it allows vessels to charge stably despite the tidal waves and currents. Installed by Parkwind, the wind farm has 50 turbines that generate power for 190,000 households. The charging station is designed to charge both Crew Transfer Vessel and Service Operation Vessel upto 2MW and 8MW respectively. The station aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport vessels.



RUSSIA

Military drills

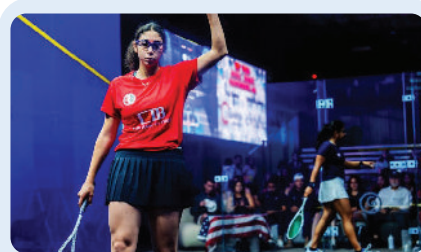
The Russian Ministry of Defence is conducting its second nuclear drill using the Yars mobile missile launchers as part of its military training. The 11,000 km-ranged mobile missile was employed to shoot down six US B-52 nuke bombers that were hovering near the borders of Russia. This is the second such exercise in last thirty days where the military crew is said to be undertaking intensive combat patrolling, camouflaging, engineering specialised equipment, and marching 100 kilometres among other things.



COLOMBIA

Bullfighting banned

On July 22, 2024, President Gustavo Petro signed the legislation to ban bullfighting in the country by 2027. The bill orders the government to turn more than a dozen bullrings into cultural and sporting venues. This gesture, aiming to put an end to animal cruelty, faced intense criticism from local minorities, who believe that it infringes upon their right to express their cultural heritage while jeopardizing their livelihood.



EGYPT

Double victory

On July 23, 2024, Egypt's junior women's team won its ninth consecutive WSF World Junior team Championship title. The team clinched a landslide victory against the USA team with a score of 2-0. Egypt's junior men's team also achieved the same feat by winning the title. Coincidentally, the junior men's team also won with a score of 2-0 against their competitors, Republic of Korea, in the finals.



ETHIOPIA

Landslide disaster

Ethiopia has been witnessing continuous landslides, especially in the remote regions of Gofa zone. The death toll has crossed two hundred with many found injured. The casualties include those who were leading the rescue operations in the area before the second landslide engulfed them. PM Abiy Ahmed has deployed Ethiopia's Federal Disaster Prevention Task Force in the area as a measure of help and relief efforts.



INDIA

Budget announced

On July 23, 2024, FM Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2024-25 in parliament. The key highlights include tax revision on salary, 6% reduction in custom duties levied on gold and silver, allocation of Rs 1.52 lakh crores for the development of agriculture and allied sectors, and Rs 2.66 lakh crores for rural development. Total expenditure predicted for FY 24-25 amounts to Rs 48.21 lakh crore.

News Flash

► **Japan:** KP.3, the new variant of Covid, has led the country into its 11th wave of COVID 19 ► **Nepal:** Saurya Airlines' plane crashed at the Tribhuvan International Airport due to failure in take-off, resulting in 18 fatalities