



DAILY PT POINTERS

4th January, 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Miscellaneous (Page 3)



Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari receives the 'Nritya Kalanidhi' award from Edgar Pang Tze Chiang, Consul-General of the Republic of Singapore in Chennai, at the 17th Dance Festival of the Music Academy, Chennai. Also seen is N. Murali, president, Music Academy. R. RAMINDRAN

Vasanthalakshmi gets 'Nritya Kalanidhi' award

Nritya Kalanidhi award

It is presented in the field of **dance** every year by the **Madras Music Academy**.

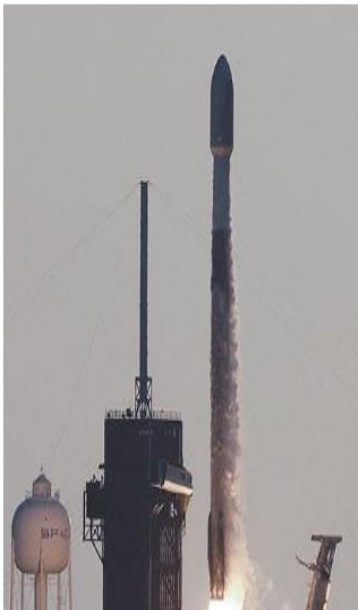
- The Music Academy, Madras is a landmark institution in the history of the fine arts. It emerged as an offshoot of the All India Congress Session held in Madras in December 1927.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu: GSIII-Space (Page 6)

SpaceX's Falcon-9 to launch India's GSAT-20; satellite to spread broadband coverage



- The commercial arm of ISRO, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) will launch GSAT-20 (renamed as GSAT-N2), on-board SpaceX's Falcon-9 during the second quarter of 2024. The GSAT-20 is a high-throughput Ka-band Satellite which will be fully owned, operated and funded by NSIL.
- GSAT-20 offers Ka-Ka band HTS capacity with 32 beams having Pan-India coverage including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands.
- The satellite, weighing 4700 kg, offers an HTS capacity of nearly 48Gpbs and has been specifically designed to meet the demanding service needs of remote and unconnected regions

Do you know ?

Falcon 9 is a reusable, two-stage rocket designed and manufactured by the Elon Musk-founded company for the reliable and safe transport of people and payloads into Earth orbit and beyond.

- Falcon 9 is the world's first orbital class reusable rocket.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu: GSIII-Space (Page 7)

From the moon to Europa, six space missions to be excited for in 2024

One of the missions is a launch of NASA's Artemis programme, of which India is part

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Hera is a mission by the European Space Agency to return to the Didymos-Dimorphos asteroid system that NASA's DART mission visited in 2022.

Europa Clipper: NASA will launch Europa Clipper, which will explore one of Jupiter's largest moons, Europa. Europa is slightly smaller than the earth's moon, with a surface made of ice.

Artemis II launch: The Artemis programme, named after Apollo's twin sister in Greek mythology, is NASA's plan to go back to the moon. It will send humans to the moon for the first time since 1972, including the first woman and the first person of color.

VIPER to hunt water on the moon: VIPER, which stands for Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover, is a robot the size of a golf cart that NASA will use to explore the moon's south pole in late 2024.

Lunar Trailblazer will look for water on the moon.: The PRIME-1 mission, scheduled for a mid-2024 launch, is Lunar Trailblazer's ride.

- PRIME-1 will drill into the moon — it's a test run for the kind of drill that VIPER will use.

JAXA's Martian Moon eXploration

The JAXA MMX mission concept to study Phobos and Deimos, Mars' moons.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: GSIII-Cyber Crime (Page 10)

Chinese boy 'cyber kidnapped' in Utah found safe: What is cyber kidnapping, how to protect yourself

What is 'cyber kidnapping', and how does it work? What makes you more vulnerable to such crimes?



- Cyber kidnapping refers to a crime where the 'kidnappers' convince their victim to hide, and then contact their loved ones for ransom. The victim is also made to send pictures that make it look like they are being held captive — showing them bound or gagged. These are then shared with the family. Both parties believe their loved ones will be harmed if they don't do as the kidnappers ask.
- The 'kidnappers', though not physically present, monitor the victim online through video-call platforms.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: GSII-Polity and Governance (Page 10)

What are VVPATs, and why has Jairam Ramesh written to EC about them?

In his letter to Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar, Jairam Ramesh said INDIA bloc leaders want a meeting with the Election Commission to “discuss and provide suggestions on the use of VVPATs”.

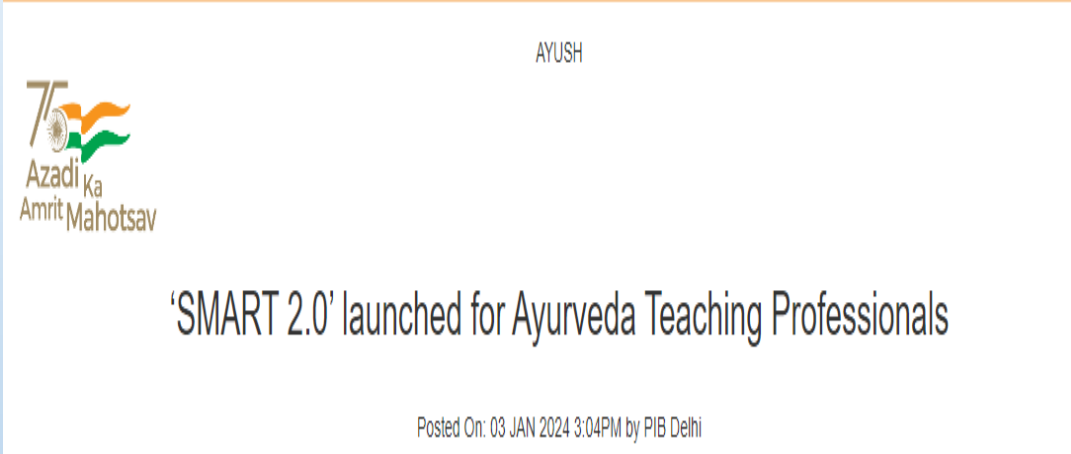


Voter verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT) or verifiable paper record (VPR) is a method of providing feedback to voters using a ballotless voting system. A VVPAT is intended as an independent verification system for voting machines designed to allow voters to verify that their vote was cast correctly, to detect possible election fraud or malfunction, and to provide a means to audit the stored electronic results.

VVPATs with EVMs were used for first time in a bye-election from 51-Noksen (ST) Assembly Constituency of Nagaland.

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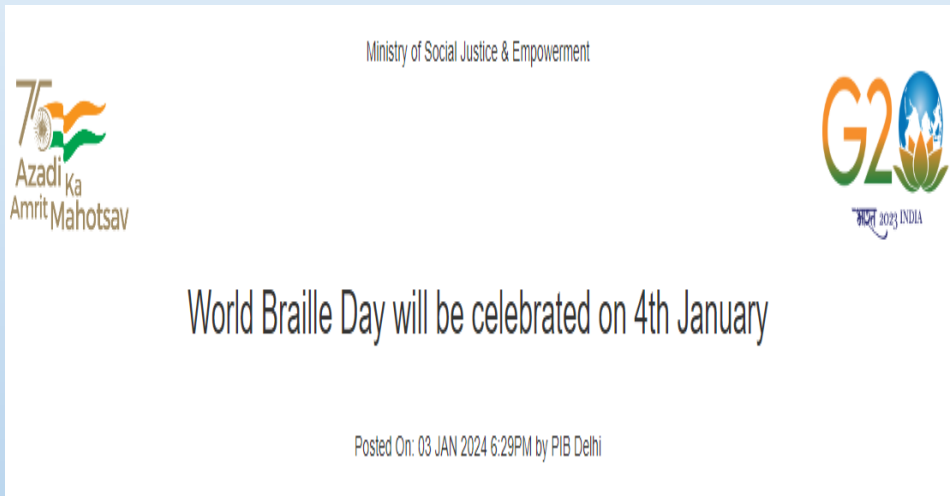
PIB (Health-GSII)



- The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) along with *National Commission for Indian System of Medicine* (NCISM) has launched 'SMART 2.0' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research among Teaching professionals) program to promote robust clinical studies in priority areas of Ayurveda with Ayurveda academic institutions/hospitals across the country through mutual collaboration.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Miscellaneous



World Braille Day, celebrated since 2019, is observed to raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people.

Do you know?

Braille is a tactile representation of alphabetic and numerical symbols using six dots to represent each letter and number, and even musical, mathematical and scientific symbols. Braille (named after its inventor in 19th century France, Louis Braille) is used by blind and partially sighted people to read the same books and periodicals as those printed in a visual font.