

CURRENT AFFAIRS

11th Oct. 2022

PANKAJ ADVANI WINS GOLD AT IBSF WORLD BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP, KUALA LUMPUR

- Pankaj Advani has secured his 25th gold medal after winning the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- He has defeated Sourav Kothari by 4-0 to defend the title for the fifth time in a row.
- He had won his last world title in Qatar 6Reds World Cup 2021, where he won the IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Cup.
- Pankaj Advani has been awarded Arjuna Award (2004), Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna (2006), Padma Shri (2009) and Padma Bhushan (2018).



EU APPROVES ADOPTION OF WORLD'S FIRST SINGLE CHARGER RULE

- The European Parliament has passed the new rule to introduce single charging port for electronic gadgets by 2024 in EU.
- As per the law, it mandates that every manufacturing companies of smartphone, laptop and camera, have to adopt a standard charger rule in Europe.
- As per the new rules, consumers do not need to buy a different charger every time, when they purchase a new device.
- Reason: To minimise e-waste and empower customers to make more sustainable choices.



UN GROUP ADOPTS 2050 GOAL OF NET-ZERO EMISSIONS FROM PLANES

- The UN's International Civil Aviation Organization has adopted an aspirational goal of making carbon emissions from air travel net zero by 2050.
- Reason: To reduce the pollution caused by airlines.
- This move could encourage the production of more sustainable aviation fuel.
- Presently, Aviation is a relatively small contributor to climate-changing emissions, but its share is expected to grow
- As it is expected, that more people will to travel on planes in the coming years.



ICICI BANK LAUNCHES SMART WIRE FOR FASTER SWIFT-BASED INWARD REMITTANCES

ICICI Bank has launched a unique solution, Smart Wire, for its customers to help them with SWIFT-based inward remittances in a faster and hassle-free manner. ICICI Bank, which is the first bank in the country to launch such a service, said that the Smart Wire facility will allow both NRIs and resident customers to undertake inward remittance transactions in an online and paperless way.

As per the details, the Smart Wire facility enables the beneficiary to initiate the wire transfer request, submit online declaration/documents, block the exchange rates in advance and track the status of the transaction. One can log in to ICICI bank's internet banking platform, and avail of the service.

Through this facility, accurate information related to the beneficiary, the purpose of the inward remittance, and declaration, where required, are captured in advance and shared with the remitter instantly.

"With the launch of the Smart Wire facility, which is an industry-first initiative, we are offering our NRI and resident customers a unique combination of speed and an enriched experience of executing a cross-border transaction. We believe this new facility will help our customers to conveniently carry out quick and hassle-free money transfers," said Sriram H. Iyer, Head-International Banking Group, ICICI Bank.

Counting the benefits, the bank said that Smart Wire facilitates seamless processing of the remittance and saves time for the beneficiary, who can use this facility for various purposes of remittances including family maintenance and savings, personal gift / financial support, NRE/ NRO repatriation, salary, business, and management consultancy.

Other important features include:

- **Online submission of details:** The beneficiary can generate a pre-filled wire transfer request form online
- **Digital declarations:** For seamless processing of the transaction, the facility enables the beneficiary to submit required details/declarations online while initiating a wire transaction
- **Block exchange rates:** The beneficiary can block the exchange rate for the expected inward wire transfer. The deal booking facility is available for USD, EUR, GBP, AED, CAD, SGD, and AUD
- **Online tracking:** The beneficiary can also track the transactions online by logging in internet banking portal anytime and anywhere
- **Email request to remitter:** Once the beneficiary initiates the remittance request, the remitter gets complete details of the wire transfer immediately via system-generated email.



EAM S JAISHANKAR LAUNCHES BOOK "MODI@20: DREAMS MEET DELIVERY" IN AUCKLAND

- **External Affairs Minister, Dr S Jaishankar** has participated in the Kiwi Indian Hall of Fame Awards 2022, where he **launched the book "Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery"** in Auckland.
- The event was also **attended by the New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern.**

- The event felicitated members of the Indian community in New Zealand for their exceptional achievements and contributions.
- The book originally launched on 11th May 2022.



INDIA & JAPAN TO ADVANCE SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION FOR INDIAN AYURVEDA

- **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Japan**.
- **Aim:** For development of capacity, technological cooperation for academic establishment
- This MoU will help **both nations to advance scientific cooperation** and capacity building in the area of the Indian Ayurvedic system of traditional medicine
- AIIA is the **apex institute of Ayurveda under the Ministry of AYUSH**.