

# AGRASEN CIVIL SERVICES ACADEMY

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**UPSC / RPSC** 

and AU Other Competitive EXAMS

- Shenzhou-16 Mission
- SEBI Guidelines for IPF and ISF
- Lightweight Payment and Settlement System
- Urban Climate Film Festival
- AIRAWAT at 75th Position in Top 500 Global Supercomputing List
- ITF Transport Outlook 2023
- Elon Musk's Neuralink
- India to Launch 18 New petaFLOP Supercomputers



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# **Current Affairs 8 may to 14 may 2023**

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- Shenzhou-16 Mission
- SEBI Guidelines for IPF and ISF
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- What is Volt Typhoon?
- Urban Climate Film Festival
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## **Shenzhou-16 Mission**

China's space program continues to make remarkable strides as it successfully launched the Shenzhou-16 mission, sending three astronauts to its fully operational space station.

Shenzhou-16 spacecraft was launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in China. This important mission marked the fifth manned mission to the Chinese space outpost since 2021, underscoring China's commitment to advancing its space program.

The Shenzhou-16 spacecraft carried a crew of three astronauts who would replace the previous crew of Shenzhou-15. This crew rotation ensures a continuous presence on the space station and allows for vital maintenance, research, and exploration activities to be conducted.

# Tiangong Space Station: A Hub of Scientific Endeavors

The Chinese space station, named Tiangong, comprises three modules and serves as a hub for scientific research and exploration. Completed at the end of last year, this state-of-the-art facility has witnessed a total of 11 crewed and uncrewed missions since April 2021. The main living quarters module marked the launch and initiation of the ambitious space station project.

### **Expansion Plans for Tiangong**

China has ambitious plans to expand its space outpost. There are plans for the upcoming module to connect with the existing T-shaped space station, resulting in the formation of a structure in the shape of a cross. This expansion aims to increase the station's research capabilities and further enhance China's presence in space exploration.

#### The First Civilian Astronaut

Gui Haichao, one of the astronauts on the Shenzhou-16 mission, holds a significant position as the first Chinese civilian astronaut to be part of a spaceflight. Gui, a professor at Beihang University with a postdoctoral background in Canada, will contribute to operating payloads for space experiments during his time aboard the space station.

#### Advancing China's Space Program

The Shenzhou-16 mission exemplifies China's rapid advancements in space technology and its commitment to becoming a global space power. With the completion of Tiangong's core module in 2021, China solidified its presence in space exploration, aiming to operate and host astronauts for at least a decade.

### Collaboration and Future Prospects

China seeks collaboration with international partners to expand the scientific endeavors of its space station. The country has offered partnerships and development opportunities to other nations, showcasing its rising prowess in the global space arena. As the International Space Station's operations are expected to end in 2030, China's Tiangong space station could become a significant outpost for scientific research in the future.

#### **SEBI Guidelines for IPF and ISF**

Comprehensive guidelines were issued recently by SEBI for the Investor Protection Fund (IPF) and Investor Services Fund (ISF). These guidelines cover various aspects, including the constitution, management,

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contribution, and utilization of the funds. Additionally, SEBI has provided a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to outline the process and timelines for key activities related to investor protection and services.

SEBI's guidelines aim to ensure the effective functioning and management of the IPF and ISF maintained by stock exchanges and depositories. The IPF guidelines encompass the constitution of the fund, the role of trustees, contribution mechanisms, and the utilization of funds. Similarly, the ISF guidelines outline the purpose, funding sources, and utilization strategies for the Investor Services Fund.

## **Effective Date of Implementation**

SEBI has set June 29 as the effective date for the new guidelines to be implemented. This allows market participants to familiarize themselves with the requirements and make the necessary adjustments for compliance.

## **Trustee Composition for IPF**

The IPF Trust of both stock exchanges and depositories will consist of five trustees. This includes three Public Interest Directors, one representative from investor associations, and a Chief Regulatory Officer or Compliance Officer. The maximum tenure of a trustee (excluding the Chief Regulatory Officer or Compliance Officer) will be five years, ensuring periodic reviews and fresh perspectives.

#### **Contribution Mechanisms**

To ensure the stability and adequacy of the IPF, SEBI has outlined specific contribution mechanisms for stock exchanges and depositories. Stock exchanges will contribute 1% of the listing fees received every quarter. Additionally, the interest earned on the security deposit kept by issuer companies during public offerings and penalties collected from trading members will also be channeled into the IPF. Depositories, on the other hand, are required to contribute 5% of their annual profits from depository operations. This ensures a steady flow of resources to protect investors' interests.

## **Utilization of IPF and ISF**

The funds from IPF will be utilized to meet investment claims of clients affected by defaulting trading members, provide interim relief to investors, and support investor education initiatives. The ISF, on the other hand, will primarily focus on promoting investor education and awareness programs. SEBI emphasizes that at least 20% of the listing fees received by stock exchanges must be set aside for ISF to ensure effective services to the investing public.

#### **Unutilized Balances and Continuity**

To maintain continuity in investor protection, SEBI has established provisions for the transfer of unutilized balances from the IPF and ISF in the event of stock exchanges or depositories winding up, derecognition, or exiting. These unutilized funds will be transferred to the Investor Protection and Education Fund of SEBI, ensuring that the resources continue to serve their intended purpose.

# **Fostering Investor Confidence**

SEBI's comprehensive guidelines and SOP play a crucial role in strengthening investor confidence. By ensuring transparent management, sufficient contributions, and strategic utilization of funds, these guidelines contribute to the robustness and integrity of India's capital markets. The emphasis on investor education and awareness further empowers investors to make informed decisions and protect their interests.

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# **Lightweight Payment and Settlement System**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is paving the way for a lightweight payment and settlements system, which it aptly calls a "bunker."

The RBI envisions the lightweight payment system as a means to facilitate uninterrupted functioning of essential payment services. This system is designed to ensure minimum downtime during critical situations, maintaining the liquidity pipeline of the economy. By processing transactions vital to the stability of the economy, including government and market-related transactions, the system plays a pivotal role in safeguarding financial operations.

The lightweight payment system stands apart from existing systems like UPI, NEFT, and RTGS in terms of its design and purpose. While conventional systems are designed to handle large transaction volumes and sustained availability, the lightweight system focuses on extreme and volatile situations. The existing systems rely on complex wired networks and advanced IT infrastructure, making them vulnerable to disruptions caused by natural calamities or war.

# The Independence of Infrastructure

One of the key aspects of the lightweight system is that its infrastructure is independent of the underlying technologies of existing payment systems. By not relying on the complex networks of UPI, NEFT, or RTGS, the lightweight system can ensure operational continuity even if the traditional payment systems face disruptions.

# The Role of the Lightweight System in Extreme Conditions

The RBI describes the lightweight payment system as a bunker equivalent in payment systems. During catastrophic events like natural calamities or war, the lightweight system can serve as a reliable and resilient solution. It operates on minimalistic hardware and software and remains active only on a need basis, ensuring that payment and settlement services remain functional even when the information and communication infrastructure is disrupted.

Having a lightweight payment system prepared for extreme situations is crucial for maintaining the liquidity pipeline and the confidence in digital payments. In times of disruptions caused by natural calamities or war, traditional payment systems can become temporarily unavailable. By providing uninterrupted payment services, the lightweight system acts as a resilient solution, ensuring the stability of the economy and enhancing public confidence.

# What is Volt Typhoon?

Volt Typhoon is a hacking group that has been active since at least 2017. The group is believed to be statesponsored by China and is known for its focus on espionage and information gathering. Volt Typhoon has been linked to a number of high-profile attacks, including the 2019 breach of the SolarWinds Orion software supply chain.

How has China responded to allegations of hacking, including the case of Volt Typhoon? What is the likely reason behind Volt Typhoon's interest in operational security according to Secureworks? What is the concern regarding Volt Typhoon's activities?

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There is concern that Volt Typhoon could pose a threat to American infrastructure. The group has been known to target organizations in the telecommunications, transportation, and energy sectors. If Volt Typhoon were to successfully disrupt critical infrastructure, it could have a significant impact on the U.S. economy and national security.

# Which major powers have similar hacking groups?

Major powers like the United States and Russia have their own hacking groups, often given colorful nicknames by cybersecurity experts, such as "Equation Group" or "Fancy Bear." These groups are typically used to gather intelligence on foreign governments and organizations.

# What did Microsoft say about Volt Typhoon in a blog post?

In a blog post, Microsoft stated that Volt Typhoon was pursuing the development of capabilities that could disrupt critical communications infrastructure between the United States and Asia during future crises. Microsoft also assessed with moderate confidence that Volt Typhoon was behind a series of attacks on critical infrastructure organizations in Guam and elsewhere in the United States.

# What does "moderate confidence" mean in the context of intelligence assessment?

"Moderate confidence" is a term used in intelligence jargon to indicate that a theory is plausible and credibly sourced, but it has not been fully corroborated. In the case of Volt Typhoon, Microsoft's assessment is based on a variety of factors, including the group's known capabilities, its targets, and its methods.

# What is the current focus of Volt Typhoon's activities according to Marc Burnard of Secureworks?

Marc Burnard of Secureworks mentioned that Volt Typhoon appears to be primarily focused on stealing information from organizations in the United States that hold data related to the military or government. However, Burnard also noted that Volt Typhoon has the capability to disrupt critical infrastructure if it chooses to do so.

What evidence did Cisco Systems Inc find that suggests Volt Typhoon is preparing for something dangerous? Cisco Systems Inc found evidence that Volt Typhoon was preparing for something dangerous during their investigation at a critical infrastructure facility. The evidence included tools and techniques that are typically used for sabotage.

# How does Volt Typhoon hide its tracks?

Volt Typhoon is described as a particularly quiet operator that hides its traffic by routing it through hacked network equipment, such as home routers. They also carefully remove evidence of intrusions from victim's logs.

## How has China responded to allegations of hacking, including the case of Volt Typhoon?

China routinely denies engaging in hacking activities and has done so again in the case of Volt Typhoon. However, evidence of Beijing's cyberespionage campaigns has been building for over two decades.

What is the likely reason behind Volt Typhoon's interest in operational security according to Secureworks? Secureworks suggests that Volt Typhoon's interest in operational security is likely driven by embarrassment over U.S. indictments and increased pressure from Chinese leadership to avoid public scrutiny of their cyberespionage activities.

#### **Urban Climate Film Festival**

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The Urban Climate Film Festival, organized by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and supported by the CITIIS program, is set to captivate audiences with its curated selection of films from around the world. This festival aims to raise awareness about the impact of climate change on urban settlements and initiate conversations on building climate-resilient cities.

The Urban Climate Film Festival garnered a tremendous reception, as it received an impressive number of 150 film submissions from more than 20 countries. This diverse range of entries reflects the global concern and interest in understanding how the changing environment affects life in cities worldwide. These films will offer unique perspectives and insights into the environmental, social, and economic impacts of climate change on urban settlements.

### **Chaired by Renowned Figures**

The inaugural session of the festival was chaired by Shri Amitabh Kant, setting the tone for this influential event. Additionally, the festival will witness the presence of ambassadors from France and the European Union to India, who will deliver the inaugural addresses. Their participation underscores the international importance of addressing climate change and sustainable urban development.

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has extended its support to the Urban Climate Film Festival. This endorsement emphasizes the government's commitment to addressing climate-related challenges and promoting sustainable practices in urban areas. The festival aligns with the ministry's vision of creating climate-resilient cities that prioritize the well-being of citizens.

# **Award-Winning Films from Diverse Nations**

The Urban Climate Film Festival showcases 11 award-winning films from various countries, including India, France, Germany, Belgium, Poland, and the USA. This diverse selection allows for a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and solutions related to climate change in different urban contexts. These films will inspire and educate viewers about the need for sustainable urban development.

## **CITIIS Program's Purpose**

The CITIIS program, jointly initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the French Development Agency (AFD), the European Union (EU), and NIUA, plays a crucial role in supporting the Urban Climate Film Festival. The program's primary objective is to assist 12 Smart Cities in India in implementing innovative and sustainable urban infrastructure projects. By highlighting the CITIIS program, the festival contributes to raising awareness about sustainable urban development practices

# AIRAWAT at 75th Position in Top 500 Global Supercomputing List:

India has achieved a significant milestone in the realm of technology with its AI supercomputer 'AIRAWAT' securing the 75th position in the prestigious Top 500 Global Supercomputing List. This feat was announced during the 61st edition of the International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023) held in Germany. Spearheaded by the Government of India's National Program on AI, 'AIRAWAT' at C-DAC Pune is propelling India to the forefront of AI supercomputing nations worldwide.

'AIRAWAT' represents India's leap forward in harnessing the potential of artificial intelligence. Equipped with the power of clusters, which aggregate the computational power of multiple servers or compute devices, this All supercomputer can process massive amounts of data and perform complex calculations. Its computational

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capabilities far exceed that of modern laptops or desktops, as it can perform quadrillions of calculations per second, a staggering feat compared to the 3 billion calculations per second of a typical personal computer.

Building HPC (High-Performance Computing) systems, such as 'AIRAWAT,' comes with substantial costs. The initial investment can range from upwards of \$25,000 and potentially reach up to \$1 billion, considering the recurring operational expenses. However, these costs are justified by the immense computational power and the possibilities they unlock. The strategic sectors of agriculture, medical imaging, education, healthcare, and robotics in India are set to benefit from the cutting-edge solutions developed through the Applied AI initiatives.

#### The Power of 'AIRAWAT' and PARAM Siddhi

The AI Research Analytics and Knowledge Dissemination Platform (AIRAWAT) integrated with PARAM Siddhi showcase the impressive capabilities. Together, they offer a total peak compute capacity of 13 Petaflops in double precision. The AI Petaflops mixed precision compute capacity of 200 AI Petaflops, combined with PARAM Siddhi's 210 AI Petaflops, exhibits a sustained compute capacity of 8.5 Petaflops (Rmax). These numbers demonstrate the immense potential of 'AIRAWAT' and its ability to handle complex computational tasks efficiently.

## **Government Support and Future Plans**

The Indian government, through MeitY, is actively supporting the Proof of Concept (PoC) AI Research Analytics and Knowledge Dissemination Platform (AIRAWAT) implemented by C-DAC, Pune. Currently funded by MeitY, AIRAWAT is aligned with the government's vision of leveraging technology and artificial intelligence for the welfare of its citizens, thereby contributing to socio-economic growth.

# **ITF Transport Outlook 2023**

The decarbonization of transportation plays a crucial role in achieving the goals outlined in the 2015 Paris Agreement. The International Transport Forum (ITF) at the OECD recently released its highly anticipated ITF Transport Outlook 2023 report, highlighting the importance of adopting a mix of policies to promote sustainable choices in transportation.

The ITF Transport Outlook 2023 report emphasizes the need for a comprehensive range of policies to encourage sustainable transportation choices. This approach includes investing in public transport infrastructure, supporting the transition to transport modes with higher occupancy or load factors, and promoting the development of more compact cities. By combining these measures, nations can create a sustainable and efficient transportation system.

# **Savings Potential in Road Maintenance and Investment**

Governments worldwide have a significant opportunity to save an estimated \$4 trillion in road maintenance and investment by actively pursuing decarbonization strategies. By prioritizing sustainable transportation options and reducing reliance on traditional road networks, countries can allocate resources more efficiently and invest in future-proof infrastructure.

### **Significant CO2 Emissions Reduction**

Transportation is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, but the ITF Transport Outlook 2023 report offers hope. It suggests that the transport sector has the potential to reduce its CO2 emissions by approximately

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80% over the next 25 years, compared to 2019 levels. This ambitious reduction would contribute to the global effort of limiting temperature increase to "well below" 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, as outlined in the Paris Climate Agreement.

## **Investment Comparison and Core Infrastructure**

According to ITF projections, implementing ambitious policies for decarbonizing transportation would require 5% less investment in core infrastructure compared to following current policies. This dispels the misconception that sustainability initiatives are more expensive. Instead, ambitious policies demonstrate the potential for cost savings while fostering sustainable development.

### **Annual Summit of Transport Ministers**

The Annual Summit of transport ministers, organized by the International Transport Forum (ITF), serves as a platform for global discussions on transport-related issues. This esteemed event brings together ministers from 64 member countries to address crucial themes such as climate change, supply chain resilience, and active mobility.

# **Elon Musk's Neuralink**

Elon Musk's Neuralink is a neurotechnology company that is developing brain-computer interfaces (BCIs). BCIs are devices that can record and stimulate brain activity. Neuralink's goal is to create a BCI that can be used to treat neurological disorders, such as paralysis and epilepsy. The company also hopes to develop BCIs that can be used to enhance human cognition.

Neuralink was founded in 2016 by Musk and several other engineers. The company has raised over \$1 billion in funding from investors, including Musk himself. Neuralink has a team of over 100 employees, and it is headquartered in San Francisco, California.

In 2020, Neuralink released a video of a pig that had been implanted with one of its BCIs. The video showed the pig being able to control a computer cursor with its mind. Neuralink has also said that it is working on a BCI that can be used to restore movement to people who are paralyzed.

Neuralink's work has been met with both excitement and concern. Some people believe that BCIs have the potential to revolutionize the way we treat neurological disorders and enhance human cognition. Others are concerned about the potential risks of BCIs, such as the possibility of them being used to control people's minds.

It remains to be seen whether Neuralink will be able to achieve its goals. However, the company is making significant progress, and it is one of the leading companies in the field of BCI research.

## Here are some key facts about Neuralink:

- Founded in 2016 by Elon Musk and several other engineers
- Headquartered in San Francisco, California
- Raised over \$1 billion in funding
- Has a team of over 100 employees
- Released a video in 2020 of a pig that had been implanted with one of its BCIs
- Working on a BCI that can be used to restore movement to people who are paralyzed
- Met with both excitement and concern

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- Potential to revolutionize the way we treat neurological disorders and enhance human cognition
- Potential risks, such as the possibility of them being used to control people's minds

# India to Launch 18 New petaFLOP Supercomputers:

Supercomputers have revolutionized various fields of science and technology, and weather forecasting is no exception. India is currently planning to launch 18 new petaFLOP supercomputers for weather forecasting this year. The deployment of powerful supercomputers enables meteorologists to make more accurate predictions, leading to enhanced disaster preparedness and better understanding of climate patterns.

## **Enhanced Forecasting Capabilities**

The introduction of a new supercomputer brings several expected benefits to weather forecasting. Firstly, it is anticipated to improve forecasts at the block level, providing more localized and precise information. This is particularly useful in regions with diverse microclimates and varying weather patterns. With higher resolution ranges, meteorologists can analyze and predict weather phenomena with greater detail and accuracy.

# **Accurate Cyclone Predictions**

Cyclones are severe weather events that can cause significant damage and loss of life. The new supercomputer is expected to enhance cyclone predictions by incorporating advanced modeling techniques and extensive data analysis. This will lead to improved early warning systems and better preparedness measures, ultimately minimizing the impact of cyclones on vulnerable populations.

#### **Ocean State Forecasts**

Understanding the behavior of oceans is crucial for various sectors, including fisheries, maritime activities, and coastal management. The new supercomputer will enable weather scientists to generate ocean state forecasts, providing valuable information about factors such as water temperature, currents, and marine water quality. These forecasts contribute to the sustainable management of marine resources and the protection of coastal ecosystems.

#### **Demystifying FLOPs in Computing**

FLOPs (Floating-Point Operations per Second) is a metric used to measure computational performance. It quantifies the processing power and efficiency of computing systems, especially in high-performance computing and artificial intelligence domains. FLOPs involve mathematical calculations using real numbers with fractional parts.

# **Hardware Efficiency and Computing Power**

Over the years, hardware efficiency has significantly impacted computing power. Modern computing systems, such as CPUs and GPUs, utilize parallel processing techniques to perform multiple operations simultaneously. This parallelism has exponentially increased the number of FLOPs achieved within a given time frame. From early systems like the IBM 7030 Stretch, computing power has grown exponentially, with devices like the PlayStation 5 reaching a peak performance of 10.28 TFLOPs.

#### PetaFLOPs: A Measure of Enormous Computing Power

The computing power of today's supercomputers is often measured in petaFLOPs (PFLOPs), which represent billions or even trillions of operations per second. A petaFLOP is equivalent to 1015 FLOPs. In 2008, the IBM Roadrunner became the first supercomputer to break the petaFLOPS barrier with a peak performance of 1.105

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petaFLOPS. Currently, India utilizes supercomputers like 'Mihir' (2.8 petaflop) at NCMRWF and 'Pratyush' (4.0 petaflop) at IITM for weather forecasting.

# **Factors Impacting Computer Performance**

While FLOPs provide a valuable baseline for comparing computational capabilities, other factors influence a computer's overall performance. Memory bandwidth, latency, and architectural features also play significant roles. These factors collectively contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of a computing system, ensuring optimal performance across various tasks.

### Specialized Focus: NCMRWF and IITM in Weather Forecasting

India's weather forecasting efforts are supported by the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) and the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM). NCMRWF primarily focuses on medium-range forecasts, providing information for the upcoming three to seven days. In contrast, IITM specializes in seasonal weather forecasts, making it vital for understanding long

# Georgi Gospodinov Wins International Booker Prize:

Georgi Gospodinov, a prominent Bulgarian writer, has gained international acclaim for his thought-provoking works that delve into the complexities of human existence. He recently became the first Bulgarian to receive the International Booker Prize. His literary achievements have transcended language barriers, with his books being translated into several languages. Alongside Gospodinov's success, the skilled translator Angela Rodel has played a pivotal role in bringing his works to an English-speaking audience.

Georgi Gospodinov's literary prowess has captivated readers worldwide, leading to translations of his works in over 20 languages. His novel "The Physics of Sorrow" stands out as one of his well-known and highly regarded works, showcasing his ability to delve into the depths of human emotions and experiences.

#### **Recognitions and Awards**

The Italian translation of Gospodinov's novel "Time Shelter" was honored with the prestigious Premio Strega Europeo prize. This recognition speaks to the universality of Gospodinov's storytelling, transcending borders and resonating with readers across cultures.

Additionally, Gospodinov's literary contributions have garnered him several international accolades. He was shortlisted for the PEN Literary Award for Translation, a testament to the significance and impact of his work on a global scale.

### **Exploring Various Genres**

Gospodinov's literary repertoire extends beyond traditional novels. His graphic novel "The Eternal Fly" holds the distinction of being the first Bulgarian graphic novel. This unique form of storytelling showcases Gospodinov's versatility as a writer and his willingness to experiment with different mediums to convey his ideas.

#### Angela Rodel: A Bridge between Languages

The translation of Gospodinov's works into English has been expertly handled by Angela Rodel, a renowned literary translator. Rodel's contributions have allowed English-speaking readers to access Gospodinov's thought-provoking narratives and experience his unique literary voice.

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#### Accolades for Translation Excellence

Angela Rodel's translation of "The Physics of Sorrow" received critical acclaim and several prestigious awards. Notably, she was awarded the AATSEEL Prize for Best Literary Translation into English, recognizing her exceptional skill in faithfully conveying the essence of Gospodinov's work to an English-speaking audience.

#### **Finalist for the PEN Translation Prize**

In 2016, Angela Rodel was named a finalist for the PEN Translation Prize, further solidifying her reputation as an accomplished translator. This recognition highlights her exceptional talent in bridging the linguistic and cultural gaps, allowing readers to appreciate Gospodinov's work in English.

### A Cultural Journey to Bulgaria

Angela Rodel's commitment to Bulgarian literature led her to move to Bulgaria in 2005, where she currently resides. Her dedication and passion for the country's cultural heritage have been acknowledged, with Rodel being awarded Bulgarian citizenship in recognition of her significant contribution to Bulgarian culture.

#### One liner

- Indian Navy and ISRO release training plan for Gaganyaan crew module.
- Prime Minister Modi to launch special ₹75 coin to mark inauguration of new Parliament.
- Kerala becomes India's first e-governed state, CM Pinarayi Vijayan announces.
- Centre forms Steering committee to review, monitor Cheetah translocation project to Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.
- Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates International conference on India pharma, India medical device
- Two more cheetah cubs die at Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh.
- Government is trying to link TCS on overseas spends to local TDS: CEA.
- The government notified an increase in tax exemption limit for leave encashment benefits received by salaried employees at retirement from ₹3 lakh to ₹25 lakh.
- Centre further raises 2023 wheat production estimate to 112.74 mt.
- Bank of Maharashtra tops PSU lenders chart in profit and loan growth in FY23.
- Axis Bank launches Sarathi platform for easy PoS onboarding of merchants.
- Japan adopts new sanctions on Russia; criticises its deal to deploy nuclear weapons in Belarus
- Tina Turner, 'Queen of rock 'n' roll' dies at 83.
- Russia to shut Swedish consulate and expel diplomats
- South Korea launched a commercial-grade satellite for the first time using a domestically produced space rocket- Nuri.
- India Meteorological Department (IMD) has kept its forecast of normal rainfall from June-September this year.
- India, Nepal may sign pacts on energy and water during Prime Minister Prachanda's visit to India.
- Study: Darjeeling to join the list of most polluted cities of West Bengal.
- New Chief Justices were appointed to Madras and Bombay High Courts.
- Prime Minister Modi to Chair 8th governing council meeting of Niti Aayog.
- Mansukh Mandaviya unveils National Medical Device Policy 2023 and launches another pharma related

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- SEBI will soon introduce a new light-touch regulatory framework for passively managed mutual funds.
- RBI informs Delhi HC that withdrawal of Rs 2,000 denomination bank notes was a currency management exercise.
- Karnataka Bank appoints Srikrishnan Harihara Sarma as MD and CEO.
- RBI sanctions merger of Maratha Co-op Bank with Cosmos Co-op Bank.
- India moves WTO dispute panel over Information and communication technologies (ICT) import duties.
- Saudi Arabia and Canada to restore full diplomatic ties and appoint new ambassadors, bringing an end to a dispute from 2018.
- Scientists find 5,000 new species in the Pacific Ocean in a region known as the Clarion-Clipperton Zone (CCZ), warn of mining risk.
- Cairo masterplan threatens ancient City of the Dead, the Unesco World Heritage Site.
- Malaysia Masters Super 500: P V Sindhu and Prannoy move into the semifinals; Srikanth knocked out.
- India loses their opening match against Belgium in European leg of FIH Pro League.
- IPL 2023 Final: Gujarat Titans to face Chennai Super Kings.



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