



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Dadasaheb Phalke Award conferred on Waheeda Rehman

- Renowned Indian veteran actor **Waheeda Rehman**, celebrated for her legendary roles in Indian cinema classics, has been bestowed with the prestigious [Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021](#).
- The award will be presented during the **69th National Film Awards ceremony**.
 - The Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award is **India's highest recognition in cinema**. The award is presented annually at the National Films Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals.
 - The award is named after [Dadasaheb Phalke](#), an Indian filmmaker who directed India's first full-length feature film, Raja Harishchandra (1913).
- She also received accolades such as the **National Award for Best Female Actor**, [Padma Shri](#), and [Padma Bhushan](#) for her unwavering dedication, commitment, and professional excellence.

Read more: [Dadasaheb Phalke Award](#)

DNA Nanoball Strategy

- In a remarkable scientific development, the [Deoxyribonucleic Acid \(DNA\) nanoball strategy](#) has emerged as a groundbreaking, cost-effective technology for the **rapid detection of pathogens in the field**.
 - Pathogens are microorganisms that can **cause disease in their host**. They can be [viruses](#), bacteria, [protozoans](#), or [fungi](#).
- The DNA nanoball strategy combines **nucleic acids-based diagnostics** and **loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) technology** for rapid pathogen detection.
 - LAMP is a process that **amplifies circular DNA molecules into long strands** that contain multiple copies of DNA. These strands then fold into spherical structures called **DNA nanoballs**, which can be easily observed by a microscope or an electrical device.
- The design does not need laboratory techniques to support diagnosis. It is a low-cost technology that can be widely deployed and scalable.

Read more: [Chitra GeneLAMP-N for Covid-19 Test](#)

India's Digital Public Infrastructure: A Global Model

Union Minister of Electronics & IT, participated in the "**South-South Knowledge Sharing Series**" organized by the [World Bank](#), focusing on [India's Digital Public Infrastructure \(DPI\)](#) and its **potential as a model for African nations**, particularly in light of the African Union's recent inclusion in the [G20 during India's presidency](#).

- India's commitment to promoting technology for global empowerment aligns with its goal of making the **internet an enabler of transformation, resilience, safety, and trust**, **establishing India as a global case study** in the profound impact of technology on people's lives.

Read more: [Digital Public Infrastructure](#)

Government Grants Over Rs. 256 Crore in Relief to MSMEs Amid Pandemic

The Indian government has provided significant relief to [Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises \(MSMEs\)](#) by accepting more than **10,000 claims under the Vivad se Vishwas - I scheme**, aimed at supporting these businesses during the Covid-19 pandemic.

- The **Vivad se Vishwas I - Relief for MSMEs scheme** was introduced by the **Union Finance Minister during the 2023-24 Budget Speech** and was launched through the [Government e-Marketplace \(GeM\)](#) portal.
- It allowed MSMEs to submit claims for relief, including the **refund of 95% of deducted performance security, bid security, and liquidated damages, as well as assistance for MSMEs facing debarment** due to contract execution defaults.

Read more: [Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises](#)

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