



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Night Traps of Mig-29k Onboard Vikrant

The [INS Vikrant](#), India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier and the most complex warship constructed by **M/s Cochin Shipyard Ltd** was commissioned into the Indian Navy in 2022, providing a significant boost to the '[Aatmanirbhar Bharat](#)' vision of the Indian government.

Currently, the Aircraft Carrier is undergoing **Air Certification and Flight Integration Trials**, involving both **Rotary Wing** and **Fixed Wing aircraft**, in order to achieve a state of full combat readiness as soon as possible.

During the ongoing trials, the first successful day landing of [MiG-29K](#) and the indigenous [Light Combat Aircraft \(LCA\)](#) aircraft was accomplished. Another historic milestone has been achieved by the Navy with the inaugural night landing of the **MiG-29K**, marking a significant accomplishment.

Bulgarian Writer Wins International Booker Prize 2023

Bulgarian writer **Georgi Gospodinov** and translator **Angela Rodel** won the [International Booker Prize](#) 2023 for **Time Shelter**. It is a **dark comic novel** about the dangerous appeal of **nostalgia**. The **50,000 pounds** in prize money is divided between the author and translator. This is the first time a novel originally published in Bulgarian has won the annual award, given to a work of fiction translated into English and published in the United Kingdom in the preceding year. **Time Shelter** has also won **Italy's Strega European Prize for literature** in Italian translation.

The **International Booker Prize** is awarded **every year** to a **translated work of fiction published in the U.K. or Ireland**. It is run alongside the **Booker Prize for English-language fiction**, which will be handed out in the autumn.

Last year's (2022) winners of the International **Booker Prize** were **Indian writer Geetanjali Shree** and **American translator Daisy Rockwell** for "**Tomb of Sand.**"

PCIM&H 'e-office' and Online Portal

The **Union Minister of Ayush** visited [Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy \(PCIM&H\)](#), and inaugurated "**e-Office portal of PCIM&H**" and "**Online portal**". Online portal is for selling the softcopies of pharmacopoeial monographs.

Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) under **Ministry of Ayush** is actively engaged in **Standardization and Quality Control of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy (ASU&H) drugs** and is publishing the standards in the form of Pharmacopoeias. The "**e-Office portal of PCIM&H**" and the "**online portal**" is for selling the softcopies of pharmacopoeia monographs". The online portal will promote the **hassle-free reach of pharmacopoeia monographs** among stakeholders across the world.

UDAN 5.1, Specifically Designed for Helicopter Routes

The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** has launched **UDAN 5.1** to further enhance the **connectivity to remote areas** of the country and achieve last mile connectivity through helicopters.

For the first time under [Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN](#), this round is designed **specifically for helicopter routes**.

The scheme will now allow routes where **one of the origin or destination locations is in a priority area**. Earlier both points had to be **priority areas**.

Airfare caps have been reduced by **25%** to make flying in helicopters more affordable for passengers.

[Viability Gap Funding \(VGF\) caps](#) for the operators have been increased substantially for both **single and twin-engine helicopters** to enhance **financial viability** for operating the awarded routes.

The latest round of **UDAN scheme** is a testament to two emerging phenomena in Indian civil aviation: One is a deeper democratization of air travel with a focus on last-mile connectivity. Second is a growing appetite for helicopters in aiding tourism.

It may be mentioned that up to date **46 helicopter routes** have been operationalized under previous rounds of the scheme benefiting several hilly and Northeast states and this round is targeting coverage of a much larger number of routes.

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