

Taiwan becomes the first country in Asia to legalise same-sex marriage

For the first time in Asia, **Taiwan's parliament** legalised same-sex marriage, as lawmakers **passed a bill** permitting same-sex couples to form **'exclusive permanent unions'** which would let them apply for a **'marriage registration' (under Clause Four)** with government agencies. In **2017**, Taiwan's constitutional court ruled that same-sex couples had the **right to legally marry**, but also notified that Taiwan had **2 years** to make necessary changes to the law.

CTBTO has offered India an 'Observer' status and an access to IMS data

CTBTO (The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation) has offered India an **'Observer'** status and an access to **International Monitoring System (IMS) data**. CTBT is a global treaty that runs IMS which constantly monitors the Earth for **nuclear explosions** and shares evaluative findings with its member states. CTBTO's headquarters is in **Vienna, Austria**.

The 26th edition of Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise titled SIMBEX were held in Singapore

INS Kolkata (being designed and built in India, it is an advanced stealth destroyer capable of engaging multiple threats from the air, sea and underwater) and **INS Shakti** (is a fleet support ship that provides **fuel, provisions and munitions to warships at sea**), the **2 warships** of the Indian Navy participated in a **3-day Asia Pacific naval and maritime event** titled the **International Maritime Defence Exhibition Asia (IMDEX Asia-2019)** (it commenced on May 14, 2019) held in Changi Exhibition Centre, **Singapore**.

For the first time, the Government of Saudi Arabia approves permanent residency to certain expatriates to attract long-term investments



On May 15, 2019, for the first time, the **Cabinet of Saudi Arabia** approved to give **permanent residency** to certain expatriates by allowing them to own real estates. They are eligible to reside with their families without a Saudi sponsor (Kafeel). This new system is named as the **"Privileged Iqama"**.

India's Sourav Ganguly, Sanjay Manjrekar, and Harsha Bhogle inducted in the ICC commentary panel for World Cup 2019

Former Indian cricketers **Sourav Ganguly** and **Sanjay Manjrekar** along with cricket writer and commentator **Harsha Bhogle** are inducted into the **International Cricket Council's (ICC)** commentary panel from India for **World Cup 2019**. World Cup 2019 will begin from May 30, 2019, in England and Wales.

For the first time in history, Asian Football Confederation(AFC) to have first-ever female referee team to take charge of men's AFC cup

For the first time in history, **Asian Football Confederation(AFC)** announced its **first-ever female refereeteam** to officiate **Men's Continental Club Cup** match.



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