



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 19, 2023

STATE

- **Ladakh Secures 4th GI Tag For 'Sea-buckthorn'**
- ✓ The Geographical Indication Registry, operating under the Department for the Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, has granted the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag to the Department of Industries & Commerce, Ladakh.



- ✓ The approval designates them as the Registered Proprietor for '**Ladakh Seabuckthorn**' in **Class 31**.
 - ✓ This latest GI tag underscores Ladakh's commitment to preserving and promoting its unique and healthful products.
 - ✓ The GI tag serves as a mark of authenticity, ensuring that consumers can identify and trust the origin of 'Ladakh Seabuckthorn.'
 - ✓ This **acknowledgment on the national stage highlights Ladakh's contribution** to the promotion of indigenous products.
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- **Conde Nast List of Best Places To Visit In 2024**
 - ✓ London-based luxury travel magazine Conde Nast **has listed** Kochi as one of the best places to visit in Asia in 2024.



- ✓ Heaping praise on the city for its sustainable initiatives and local festivals, the magazine also highlights the city's tourist attractions such as waterways, lagoons and rivers.
- ✓ The magazine referred to the renovation that is underway at Kochi's 150-year-old Ernakulam Market.
- ✓ The recognition is a nod to the city's commitment to providing enriching experiences for travelers while embracing eco-friendly practices and preserving its cultural heritage.

APPOINTMENT

- **Alok Sharma**
- ✓ Senior IPS officer Alok Sharma has been appointed the director of the Special Protection Group (SPG), the elite security unit responsible for the security of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



- ✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Alok Sharma, a 1991-batch IPS officer of Uttar Pradesh cadre who is currently working as Additional Director General in the SPG, to the post of director from the date of assumption of charge until further orders.

PERSONALITIES

➤ Miss Universe 2023

- ✓ Sheynnis Palacios from Nicaragua crowned Miss Universe 2023
- ✓ At the Jose Adolfo Pineda Arena in San Salvador, El Salvador, on Saturday night, the 72nd edition of the Miss Universe pageant was conducted. The event was celebrating its 72nd year.



- ✓ R'Bonney Gabriel of the United States of America, who held the title of Miss Universe for 2022, was the one to bestow the crown upon Palacios.
- ✓ According to the website for the Miss Universe pageant, Palacios is a mental health activist and audio-visual producer from Managua, Nicaragua. She is 23 years old.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ Deep Space Optical Communications (DSOC)

- ✓ A NASA experiment called Deep Space Optical Communications (DSOC) has marked a key milestone in achieving “first light,” successfully transmitting and receiving data to and from far beyond the Moon using a near-infrared laser.



- ✓ The experiment, which is seeking to **revolutionise spacecraft communication**, is part of the recently launched Psyche spacecraft.

- ✓ A **near-infrared laser encoded** with test data was sent from a distance of nearly 10 million miles to **the Hale Telescope** at Caltech's Palomar Observatory in San Diego County, California.
- ✓ The distance even surpassed the **Moon-Earth distance by about 40 times**. This marked the farthest-ever demonstration of optical communications.
- ✓ This ground-breaking achievement signified a leap forward in high-bandwidth data transmission, crucial for future space missions.

