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1. Central Government Seeks Clarification from Meta on WhatsApp's Proposed Username Feature

The Government of India has issued a notice to Meta, the parent company of WhatsApp, seeking clarification regarding the proposed introduction of a "username" feature on the messaging platform.

- i. WhatsApp, one of the world's leading communication applications, currently has around 500 million users in India. At present, when users communicate with each other on WhatsApp, they can view each other's mobile phone numbers. However, WhatsApp plans to introduce a new feature that would allow users to communicate through usernames without sharing their phone numbers.
- ii. In a statement, WhatsApp said that, with the aim of protecting users' privacy, it plans to introduce the username-based communication feature by the end of this year. This feature would allow users to interact in group chats or with new contacts without revealing their phone numbers. The company also announced that username reservations would begin this week.
- iii. According to sources in the central government:
 - This feature could potentially facilitate fake accounts and fraudulent activities, adversely affecting public safety and society.
 - The government will not compromise on matters relating to national security or public safety. Therefore, it is reviewing WhatsApp's proposal.
 - The government plans to issue a notice to WhatsApp seeking complete details of the feature's specifications. Law enforcement agencies will also examine the proposal.
 - If WhatsApp's response is unsatisfactory, the government may advise the company not to implement the feature. WhatsApp must adequately address the government's concerns; otherwise, it may not be permitted to launch the feature in India.

2. Xi Jinping Calls for Rapid Modernization of China's Military

Chinese President Xi Jinping emphasized that China's military capabilities must be rapidly modernized to world-class standards to safeguard the country's sovereignty and development interests.

Speaking at the 105th anniversary celebrations of the ruling Chinese Communist Party, Xi Jinping stated:

- i. To achieve the centenary goals of the Chinese military next year, China's armed forces must be upgraded with modern weapons, advanced technologies, and combat training comparable to those of the United States military.

- ii. Reunification of Taiwan with China is a historic mission of the Communist Party, and there can be no compromise on this issue. China will take strong action against separatist forces seeking Taiwan's independence and against what it considers undue foreign interference. National reunification under the "One China" policy will be achieved.
- iii. Founded in 1921 with just 50 members amid poverty and foreign domination, the Chinese Communist Party has grown into the world's largest ruling political party, with more than 100 million members.
- iv. Since Xi Jinping assumed office as President in 2012, disciplinary action has been taken against more than one million government officials, including senior military commanders.
- v. After Mao Zedong, Xi Jinping is the only Chinese leader to continue in office for a third term beyond the previous two-term limit.
- vi. Political analysts believe that this speech was intended to prepare the ground for next year's key party conference and could pave the way for Xi Jinping to secure a fourth term as President.

3. Adani Green Energy Surpasses 20 GW Renewable Energy Capacity

Adani Green Energy has achieved a major milestone by surpassing 20 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy generation capacity.

- i. With this achievement, Adani Green has become the first clean energy company in India to cross the 20 GW mark. Notably, this milestone has been achieved entirely through greenfield projects.
- ii. The company launched its first renewable energy project in 2016 at Kamuthi in Tamil Nadu.
- iii. The company has achieved the 20 GW target within a decade, comprising:
 - 14.2 GW of solar power,
 - 2.7 GW of wind power, and
 - 3.3 GW of hybrid solar-wind projects.
- iv. During the financial year 2025–26 alone, the company added 5,051 MW of new generation capacity.
- v. Excluding China, this represents the largest annual increase in power generation capacity by any company globally.
- vi. Adani Green now produces more than 52 billion units of clean electricity annually, accounting for approximately 3% of India's total electricity consumption.

4. The Durand Cup is associated with football (soccer).

5. Supreme Court Issues Uniform Guidelines on Motor Accident Compensation

The Supreme Court of India has issued guidelines to ensure uniform procedures for awarding compensation to victims of motor vehicle accidents across the country.

- i. The Court laid down guidelines on how tribunals should determine compensation based on the annual income of deceased or injured persons, using their income tax returns as the primary basis.
- ii. The ruling arose from the case involving the family of Mano Ranjan Panda (39), a construction businessman from Odisha who died in a road accident. His family challenged the compensation awarded by Shriram General Insurance Company. In the case known as the Rashmirekha Tripathy case, the Odisha High Court had fixed his annual income at ₹13.33 lakh and awarded compensation of ₹1.87 crore. The family appealed to the Supreme Court.
- iii. The case was heard by a bench comprising Justices Sanjay Karol and N. Kotiswar Singh.
- iv. The Court observed:
 - There is no rigid formula for calculating the annual income of accident victims.
 - Income tax returns constitute the most important documentary evidence for determining annual income and compensation under the Motor Vehicles Act.
- v. Classification of salaried and self-employed persons:
 - For salaried employees, the income declared in the income tax return of the preceding year should ordinarily be considered, taking into account possible career progression.
 - For self-employed persons or business owners, the average income shown in the income tax returns filed during the three years preceding death should be considered, since business income can vary significantly from year to year.
 - Applying these principles, the Court revised the deceased person's annual income to ₹14 lakh and increased the compensation amount to ₹1.97 crore.

6. INS Sudarshini Sails to Participate in U.S. Independence Day Celebrations

The Indian Navy's sail training ship, INS Sudarshini, departed from Baltimore Port in Maryland for New York to participate in the United States' 250th Independence Day parade celebrations scheduled for Saturday, July 4.

- i. Under the mission named "Lokayan 26," the ship commenced its global voyage from Kochi earlier this year. It is expected to return to India after traveling more than 22,000 nautical miles and visiting ports in over ten countries.

7. Kerala Government Says It Was Not Formally Informed About MSC's Proposed Stake Acquisition in Vizhinjam Port

Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Limited (AVPPL), which operates the Vizhinjam Port in Kerala's Thiruvananthapuram district, has not formally informed the state government regarding the proposed acquisition of a 49% stake by Switzerland-based Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), according to Kerala Chief Minister V.D. Satheesan.

- i. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) announced that MSC intends to acquire a 49% stake in AVPPL for approximately US\$1.4 billion (around ₹13,330 crore).
- ii. Responding to questions raised in the state assembly, V.D. Satheesan stated:
 - Information regarding MSC's proposed stake acquisition was learned through media reports.
 - However, the Adani Group neither consulted the state government nor sought its approval.
 - The Kerala government had entered into an agreement granting the Adani Group the right to construct and operate the Vizhinjam Port. Since the state government is also a stakeholder, the agreement stipulates that complete ownership of the port must revert to the Kerala government in 2080.
- iii. State approval is mandatory:
 - Under company law, transferring more than 25% of shares amounts to a change in ownership.
 - Such a transaction cannot proceed without the approval of the Kerala government.
 - The state government has not yet received any formal proposal and will examine it when it does.

8. Nepal Resumes Tea Exports to India

Nepal has resumed tea exports to India, according to Nepal's Foreign Minister Shishir Khanal.

- i. Tea exports from Nepal to India had been suspended from May 1 due to stringent restrictions imposed by the Indian Tea Board. Following the relaxation of these restrictions by the Indian government, Nepal has resumed exports. Speaking in Nepal's Parliament, Minister Shishir Khanal stated:
 - Nepal has restarted tea exports to India after India reconsidered and revised its policy on Nepalese tea imports.
 - This became possible following discussions with Indian leaders during his recent visit to India.
 - India remains the principal market for Nepalese tea.

He further noted that approximately 90% of Nepal's traditional tea production is exported to neighboring India, while only about 10% is exported to other countries.