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- India has expressed its interest in hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2030, and the Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved it. The Cabinet has also recommended Ahmedabad as the best city to host the competitions.
 - i. The 31st is the last day to complete the application process to participate in the bid to host the Commonwealth Games.
 - ii. The Commonwealth Games General Assembly, which will meet in Glasgow in November, will finalize which country will be awarded the opportunity to host the 2030 Games.
 - iii. With Canada withdrawing from the bidding process citing financial difficulties, India's hopes of hosting the tournament have increased.
 - iv. As India has expressed its interest in hosting the 2036 Olympic Games, this competition is expected to serve as a preview for India.
 - v. India last hosted the Commonwealth Games in Delhi in 2010. It is noteworthy that while a budget of Rs. 1,600 crore was planned for it, India spent many times more, Rs. 70,000 crore, on it.
- A 73-member Indian team, including Tamil Nadu high jumper T. Mariyappan, has been announced to participate in the World Para Athletics Championships, which will be held in India for the first time.
- 3. The Danish Government has summoned US Deputy Ambassador Mark Straw to condemn the incident in person over allegations that Americans are engaging in secret propaganda among the islanders to secede Greenland from their country and annex it to the United States.
- 4. Dowry abuse claims the lives of thousands of women every year. According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) statistics, 7,045 women died due to dowry violence in 2020. Even though this number dropped to 6,516 in 2022, it is not comforting.
 - i. In 2022, Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of dowry deaths, with 2,142 women killed. This was followed by 1,057 women in Bihar, 520 in Madhya Pradesh, 451 in Rajasthan, and 427 in West Bengal.
 - ii. According to NCRB statistics, in 2022, 1,44,593 cases were registered in the country under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code against husbands or relatives for abusing a married woman. More than 6,500 women died that year due to dowry violence. Additionally, the number of cases registered

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- against husbands or relatives for abusing a married woman is more than 20 times higher.
- iii. Although legal reforms have been made against this, from the Dowry Prohibition Act to Section 304B of the Indian Penal Code, their implementation measures are weak.
- iv. In comparison, according to NCRB statistics, although the number of women dying due to dowry violence in states like Kerala and Tamil Nadu is very low, the possibility of completely eliminating this violence is very remote.
- 5. More than 700 soldiers from the Indian Armed Forces are participating in the upcoming 'Bright Star' joint exercise in Egypt.
 - Egypt has been conducting the joint 'Bright Star' exercise with the United States since 1980.
 - ii. In these circumstances, the exercise is scheduled to take place from August 28 to September 10 this year. 700 personnel from the Indian Armed Forces and the Integrated Defence Officer Headquarters will participate in this.
 - iii. It was reported that the participation of the Indian Armed Forces in this exercise highlights the importance India attaches to regional peace, stability, security, and enhancing cooperation with friendly countries.
- As the US announcement on additional 25 percent tariff on Indian exports has come into effect, the Ministry of Commerce has been actively looking for alternative export opportunities.
 - i. Informed sources said that the Central Government has identified 40 countries specifically for exporting Indian textiles. The sources said that those countries are located in Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania, and they account for three-quarters of global demand for textiles and clothing.
 - ii. It is noteworthy that the United States has been the largest importer of goods from India since 2021-22. India exports to the United States is about twice as high as it imports from the country.
- 7. The Union Cabinet has approved an increase in the installment loan facility provided under the Prime Minister's Loan Scheme for Street Vendors (PM SVANITI) by Rs. 5,000 and an extension of the scheme till March 31, 2030.
 - i. Under the PM Svaniti Restructuring Scheme, the first installment loan limit for street vendors has been increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000. Similarly, the second installment loan has been increased from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000.

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The third installment loan will be provided in the amount of Rs. 50,000 as before.

- 8. ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan said that a rocket will be launched from Kulasekarapattinam by the end of 2026.
 - i. The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has been launching not only our country's satellites, but also satellites from other countries around the world at a low cost.
 - ii. A 2,233-acre site was selected for the construction of a rocket launch site in Kulasekarapattinam, after Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
 - iii. In this context, a groundbreaking ceremony was held to lay the foundation for the rocket launch.
- 9. Oil prices have risen sharply in some parts of Russia as Ukraine has carried out drone attacks targeting Russian oil refineries and warehouses.

