



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

India's Youngest Grandmaster

With 8 wins in a row at the **Chess Olympiad 2022**, **Dommaraju Gukesh (or Gukesh D)** became the new poster boy for Indian chess. In 2019, he became the **youngest Indian and then-second-youngest Grandmaster ever** (youngest - Abhimanyu Mishra). Recently, (at the age of 16) he won gold at the Chess Olympiad. Gukesh **won the Under-9 category of the Asian School Chess Championships** in 2015 and won **5 gold medals** at the **2018 Asian Youth Chess Championships (Under-12)**.

Read More - [Chess Olympiad 2022](#)

India's WAPCOS Ranked Amongst Top Consulting Services

The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** released two reports - one on **Annual Procurement (AP)** and another - **Members' Fact Sheet (MFS) 2022** on which **WAPCOS was ranked top (AP) and among top 3 (MFS)**.

In AP, WAPCOS was ranked amongst Consulting Services Firm in Water and other Infrastructure Sectors with the **highest sanctioned financed amount**.

In MFS, WAPCOS was in **India's top 3 Consulting Services involved in Contracts under ADB** Loan, Grant & Technical Assistance Projects (in Energy, Transport and Water & other Urban Infrastructure Sectors).

WAPCOS Limited is a "MINI RATNA" Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Apart from India, it has **projects completed/on-going in 51+ Countries** (covering Asia, Africa, Pacific Islands and South America).

Read More - [Asian Development Bank \(ADB\)](#)

Brain-Eating Amoeba

Recently, S Korea reported its **first case of infection and death from *Naegleria fowleri*** or "brain-eating amoeba".

Naegleria is an amoeba, a **single-celled organism**, and only **one of its species - *Naegleria fowleri*, can infect humans**. It was **first discovered in Australia (1965)** and is commonly **found in warm freshwater bodies** (hot springs, rivers and lakes). It enters the human body through the nose and then travels up to the brain.

The infection caused by this amoeba is **PAM (Primary Amebic Meningoencephalitis)** which **destroys brain tissues**. It has a **very high mortality rate**. Currently, **no vaccine** is available, but PAM can be treated with proper drug combinations.

Ethylene Glycol in Cough Syrups

The Health Ministry of **Uzbekistan** has reported the death of **18 children** (with acute respiratory disease) from **taking excessive doses of a cough syrup - Doc-1 Max manufactured** by an Indian firm.

The **cough syrups contained ethylene glycol**, a substance that ought not to be present in cough syrup. Earlier, **Gambia also reported “unacceptable levels” of diethylene glycol (DEG) and ethylene glycol (EG)** in India manufactured cough syrups.

DEG and EG are **highly toxic colourless and viscous liquids** which have a **sweetish taste**. They are **often found as contaminants in glycerin**, which is used as a sweetener in formulations of many pharmaceutical syrups ingested orally. **Acute poisoning from EG** may result in **Ataxia, Slurred speech, Restlessness, Disorientation, Myoclonic jerks, Convulsions, Coma and Death**.

Read More - [Cough Syrup Deaths in Gambia.](#)

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