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(MAY 2022 CURRENT AFFAIRS)

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National

Cabinet approves setting up of Maharashtra Gene Bank Project

- To conserve native and endangered animals, crops, marine and biological species, Maharashtra has decided to set up a gene bank project. The 'Maharashtra Gene Bank Project' will work on seven themes -- marine, crop, veterinary, freshwater, grassland biodiversity, protection and management of forest right areas, and regeneration of forests.
- It will tap into indigenous knowledge resources, work on documenting these species and the knowledge of local communities and preserve these genetic and molecular samples. In the next five years, an amount of ₹172.39 crore will be spent on these seven focus areas.
- The project, which was mentioned by deputy chief minister and finance minister Ajit Pawar in his budget speech for 2022-23, was approved by the state cabinet on 28 April 2022.
- Apart from protecting biodiversity, the project will focus on mitigating the impact on the food chain due to climate change. The project will be implemented by the Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board (MSBB) and will be overseen by committees under the chief secretary and the principal secretary (forests).
- The MSBB will coordinate with institutions like the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) Goa to document and conserve rare and endangered marine species and chalk out an action plan.

Source-<https://www.hindustantimes.com>

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Gujarat Day 2022: Here's Why May 1 Is Celebrated As Gujarat Day

- The Gujarat state came into existence on May 1, 1960. On the same day, Maharashtra was also formed to address the demand of the Marathi-speaking people. Both these states were carved out of the Bombay State where these two linguistic groups demanded their separate states. To fulfil their demand, the states were formed through the Bombay Reorganization Act, 1960.
- Since then, the statehood foundation days are celebrated with great enthusiasm and zeal.
- Several cultural programmes, competitions and seminars are organised on this day. For Gujarat Day celebrations this year, a grand event will take place in Patan town. Elaborate preparations have been made for organising this programme to celebrate the culture, heritage and legacy of Gujarat.
- As both Maharashtra and Gujarat were coastal states, they emerged as economic hubs. Even before Independence, Gujarat played a pivotal role in the economic development of the country and was known as the "Jewel of western India".

Source-<https://www.ndtv.com>

India to develop and build first indigenous Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vessel

- The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways determined to develop and build India's first indigenous Hydrogen Fuelled Electric Vessels at Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL). This has kick began the efforts of the nation in the direction of inexperienced transport.
- Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal mentioned that the plan for constructing Hydrogen Fuelled Electric Vessels is maintaining tempo with the Global Maritime Green Transitions.
- "The move is part of India's transformative efforts on the innovative and new technology front on green energy, sustainable cost-effective alternate fuel front," he mentioned.
- "The Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vessel based on Low Temperature Proton Exchange Membrane Technology (LT-PEM) called Fuel Cell Electric Vessel (FCEV) is expected to cost around Rs. 17.50 crores of which 75 per cent would be funded by the centre," an official assertion mentioned.
- Hydrogen Fuel cells can be utilized in a variety of functions, together with transportation, materials dealing with, stationary, transportable, and emergency backup energy functions.
- "Fuel cells operating on hydrogen fuel are an efficient, environmentally-friendly, zero emission, direct current (DC) power source already applied to heavy duty bus, truck, and train applications, and are now under development for marine applications," the assertion added.
- CSL has partnered with KPIT Technologies Limited and Indian builders within the areas of Hydrogen Fuel cell, energy prepare and Indian Register of Shipping for growing guidelines and regulation for such vessels.

Source-<https://www.pehalnews.in>

Bihar CM inaugurates India's first ethanol plant in Purnia



- In Bihar country's first ethanol plant was inaugurated in Purnea district on 30 April 2022. On this occasion Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said ethanol

production would help reduce the cost of petrol and generate fresh employment opportunities in the state.

- The rupees 105 crore plant set up by a private investor is the first one developed since the Union government approved the Bihar government's ethanol production and promotion policy -2021.
- The ethanol plant set up with the latest technology using zero waste discharge, has been built in 15 acres. It would buy 130 tonnes of rice husk and 150 tonnes of maize or rice from farmers every day. It is country's first grain-based ethanol plant.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

Bhupesh to launch today 'Mukhyamantri Mitan Yojana'



- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will mark the 'International Workers' Day (May Day) in a virtual ceremony and launch the 'Mukhyamantri Mitan Yojana'
- The scheme in the first phase will be implemented in all 14 Municipal Corporations of the state. Services of various departments will be provided to the citizens at their door-step in a prescribed time-frame.
- Under the scheme, citizens can seek original residence certificate, caste certificate, income certificate, copy of document, non-digitized (copy of land record), birth/death certificate, marriage registration and certificate, shop registration, land information, birth and death certificate correction and related documents.
- All the applications received under the scheme will be taken on priority.

Source-<https://www.dailypioneer.com>

Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates NATGRID premises at Bengaluru; Says, Modi government pursuing zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism



- Home Minister Amit Shah has said that Narendra Modi government has pursued had a zero-tolerance policy toward terrorism from day one. Inaugurating the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) premises at Bengaluru, Mr Shah said, security requirements have changed significantly as compared to earlier challenges in terms of data, scope, and complexity. He said, there is a need for legal and security agencies to have automated, secure, and immediate access to information obtained from reliable sources.
- Mr Shah said, the government has entrusted NATGRID with the task of developing and operating a state-of-the-art and innovative information technology platform for accessing information from data collection organizations. Home Minister said, Union Government will soon develop a national database to monitor hawala transactions, terrorist funding, counterfeit currency, narcotics, bomb threats, illegal arms smuggling, and other terrorist activities.
- The Home Minister said intelligence and legal agencies should now be able to make full use of information, with barriers to critical data being removed. With the help of data analytics and information technology, there should be a paradigm shift in the working of agencies. He expressed hope that NATGRID will fulfill the responsibility of linking various sources of data.
- Shah said that C-DAC is implementing NATGRID in line with the Prime Minister's vision of a self-reliant India.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

IIT Bombay collaborates with IMD to develop climate solutions to combat climate crisis



- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has signed a Letter of Agreement with India Meteorological Department (IMD) to develop climate solutions.
- In a statement, IIT-B said that this collaboration is likely to work on the development of Sensors and Drone-based Smart Monitoring systems, Climate-smart agriculture technology for water and food security, Intelligent and automated early warning systems, and Smart power grid management.
- Talking about the Interdisciplinary Program in Climate Studies at IIT Bombay, Secretary of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr. M. Ravichandran said just like science, multiple disciplines like mathematics, engineering, and social sciences are required to understand the discipline of climate studies as well.
- Talking about the collaboration, IIT-Bombay's Director, Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri said, it is crucial to develop actionable and sustainable solutions to combat the climate crisis. He added that IIT Bombay's mission is to be a thought-leader in Climate Studies and make a difference with its cutting-edge research and industry collaborations.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in>

India to be Country of Honour at Marche' Du Film to be held alongside Cannes Film Festival in France



- India will be the Official Country of Honour at the upcoming Marche' Du Film, organised alongside the Cannes Film Festival in France.
- The festival will be organised from the 17th of this month. This was announced by Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur during a press conference in New Delhi.
- He said that France and India are marking 75 years of their diplomatic ties and Prime Minister Narendra Modi visit to Paris and meeting with President Macron takes even more significance in this context.

Source- <https://newsonair.com>

Telangana govt extends insurance coverage to handloom & power loom weavers under 'Nethanna Bima' scheme



- Telangana state Government has announced extension of insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers under 'Nethanna Bima' (Weaver's Insurance) Scheme.
- The State Government has issued orders to extend insurance coverage of 5 lakh rupees for weavers under the Insurance Scheme on par with farmers insurance scheme.
- Over 29 crore rupees have been sanctioned for implementing the scheme during the current year. The Cabinet Sub Committee had proposed to cover over 55 thousand handloom and power loom and ancillary weavers in the State.
- The insurance coverage will be extended to weavers in the age group of 18 to 59 years.

Source- <https://newsonair.com>

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India's 'first' tribal health observatory to come up in Odisha



- Odisha is set to come up with India's "only" observatory that will establish a repository on the health of the tribal population in the state, officials said on 04 May 2022.
- A memorandum of understanding was inked in this regard between the ST and SC Development Department and the RMRC, a regional centre of the Indian Council of Medical Research, they said.

- The Tribal Health Observatory (TriHOb) is the "first in the country", and designed to be an effective, evidence-based and a policy-oriented centre, the Information Department said in a release.
- It will perform systematic and ongoing observation on disease burden, health-seeking behaviour and healthcare delivery system pertaining to tribal health in the state.
- During the event where the MoU was signed, 'Mo School' Abhiyan chairperson Sushmita Bagchi also launched a tribal family health survey among the indigenous communities.
- The survey will lay the foundation for further longitudinal cohort studies and policy-oriented research, the officials said.
- The 'Mo School' (My School) initiative aims to create a platform for people to connect, collaborate and contribute to revamping government and government-aided schools in Odisha, they added.

Source- <https://www.theweek.in>

Maharashtra Govt Launches Scheme For Prisoners



- The Maharashtra Department of Prisoners has launched a loan scheme for inmates serving sentences in jails across the state. Meaning Maharashtra Govt Launches Scheme For Prisoners.
- The credit scheme titled Jivhala is being offered by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank. The pilot was introduced for prisoners at Yerwada Central Jail in Pune, and will gradually be extended to nearly 60 prisoners across the state.
- The credit scheme, meaning Maharashtra Govt Launches Scheme For Prisoners/for Maharashtra's prisoners called Jivhala meaning 'affection' in Marathi, has been launched primarily for convicted inmates who are undergoing a prison sentence of more than three years.

Source-<https://www.thenextadvisor.com>

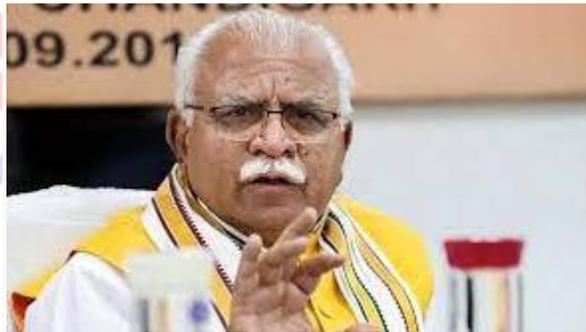
India embarks on the 'World's Largest' Film Restoration Project



- Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur announced on 5 May 2022 that India is embarking on the world's largest film restoration project under the National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM) with a budget of Rs 363 crore.
- The mission was launched in 2016 with an outlay of 597 crore rupees.
- It aims at preserving, restoring and digitizing the cinematic heritage. The Minister informed that the process of restoring over 5900 short films, documentaries and features is underway.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

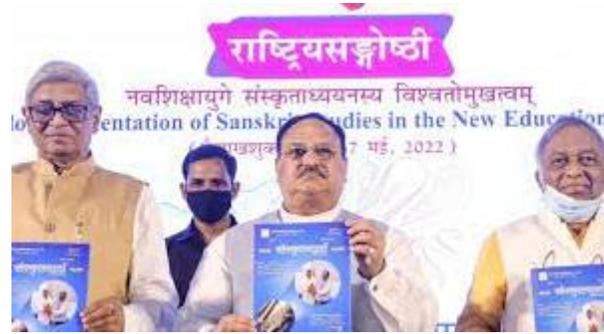
Haryana launched 'Vehicle Movement Tracking System' mobile app



- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on 4 May 2022 launched a Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS) mobile app that will help in tracking vehicles carrying sand and other mining material.
- This App has been designed and developed in-house by National Informatics Centre, Haryana. The app will be used at different checkpoints in all the districts of Haryana and vehicle details —like vehicle number, vehicle type, moving from, moving to — along with driver details, like name, driver mobile number and driver license number will be punched into it.
- If the vehicle is to move between source and destination checkpoints, then officials can mark the vehicle exit from the originating check post as an interim exit and at the destination checkpoint it will be marked as a final exit.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Utkarsh Mahotsav organized by Central Sanskrit University begins



- The Central Sanskrit University held a three-day Utkarsh Mahotsav from May 7, 2022 to promote Sanskrit language across the country and beyond. Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan who is also the chancellor of the university was present during the event.
- The event is being jointly organised by the Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi, Shri Lal Bahadur National Sanskrit University, New Delhi and National Sanskrit University, Tirupati.
- The main theme of this Mahotsav is 'Global Orientation of Sanskrit Studies in the New Educational Era' Vice-Chancellors of 17 Sanskrit Universities, Scholars and a large number of students participated in the event.

Source- <https://news.careers360.com/>

Kerala govt to launch 'Shaili App' for diagnosing, and controlling lifestyle diseases



- The Kerala government is ready to launch an Android app — 'Shaili App' — aimed at diagnosing and controlling lifestyle diseases among people in the southern State, Kerala Health Minister Veena George said on 05 May 2022.
- Claiming that lifestyle diseases were on the rise, George said the app would help to provide an accurate picture of such ailments both locally and at the State-level, and enable the government to control such diseases and formulate appropriate health plans.
- The app, set up under the e-Health initiative, would help to collect and codify the information quickly.

- The app would primarily collect information about diseases like diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, lung diseases as well as other lifestyle-related ailments and cancers.
- The health status of the individuals would be scored and those with a score of above four would be asked to visit the nearest health centre for a check-up for lifestyle diseases.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

Haryana Govt Launches 'e-Adhigam' Scheme to distribute tablets to students



- Haryana government on 5 May 2022 launched its ambitious "e-Adhigam" scheme under which nearly three lakh tablets were distributed to government school students of Classes 10 and 12.
- These devices come with pre-loaded content along with personalised and adaptive learning software, and 2GB free data.
- Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the Advance Digital Haryana Initiative of Government with Adaptive Modules (Adigham) scheme at Maharishi Dayanand University in Rohtak, Haryana.

Source- <https://www.ndtv.com/>

New Electoral Map released for Jammu and Kashmir



- A panel redrawing poll constituencies in Jammu & Kashmir finalised the Union territory's new electoral map on Thursday, concluding the controversial exercise and paving the way for elections in the region for the first time since its special status was scrapped.
- The three-member delimitation commission issued its final order, earmarking 43 seats to the Hindu-majority Jammu region and 47 to Muslim-majority Kashmir – making up a total of 90 seats for the Union territory's assembly, up from the current strength of 83.
- Out of the seven new seats added, six were allotted to Jammu and one to Kashmir. Earlier Jammu had 37 seats and Kashmir 46.
- This brings the Kashmir representation down to 52.2% from 55.4% of the total seats, and takes the Jammu representation up to 47.8% from 44.6%.
- The exercise was carried out on the basis of 2011 Census, which put the population of J&K at 12.5 million, with 56.2% in Kashmir and 43.8% in Jammu.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister launched Ladli Laxmi scheme 2.0



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- In Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, while launching the Ladli Laxmi scheme-2.0, has announced that the state government will pay the entire fee of Ladli Laxmis if they take admission to medical, IIT, IIM, or any institute. Ladli Laxmi Utsav will also be celebrated in MP from May 2 to May 12 every year.
- In order to fulfill the responsibility of the girl child from birth to her marriage, the government in MP has implemented Ladli Laxmi Yojana from 1st April 2007.
- In Madhya Pradesh, more than 42 lakh girls have been registered till April this year under Ladli Laxmi scheme.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in/>

LS Speaker Om Birla launches One of its Kind 'Kalam Website'



- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on 07 May 2022 formally launched the Kalam website, a literary initiative of the Prabha Khaitan Foundation to support and encourage vernacular literature.
- The aim of Kalam is to popularize Hindi literature and provide a platform for veteran and young authors and poets to talk about their writings and love for vernacular literature.
- Kalam started its journey back in the summer of 2015 in the cities of Jaipur and Patna and has conducted over 550 sessions spread over 40 cities in India and overseas since then.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

India elected a new Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities for 2022-24



- The Election Commission of India announced on 11 May 2022 that India has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA) for the period 2022-2024.
- The decision was made at a recent meeting of the Executive Board and General Assembly in Manila, Philippines, according to ECI. AAEA is now chaired by the Commission on Elections in Manila. Russia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Taiwan, and the Philippines have joined the Executive Board as new members.
- ECI's three-member delegation to the Executive Board meeting in Manila included Deputy Election Commissioner Nitesh Vyas, Manipur Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Rajesh Agrawal, and CEO Rajasthan Praveen Gupta, who

presented the work plan for 2022-23 as well as futuristic activities for 2023-24 to the Executive Board.

Source- <https://www.newsx.com/>

President confers 13 Shaurya Chakras, Param Vishisht Seva Medal to Army Chief



- NEW DELHI: President Ram Nath Kovind conferred 13 Shaurya Chakras which included six posthumous to the personnel of Indian Armed forces on Tuesday for their conspicuous courage displayed during operations.
- Army Chief General Manoj Pande was conferred with the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) for his distinguished service of exceptional order at a defence investiture ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan.
- The Ministry of Defence in its statement said, “The Gallantry awards were given to the personnel for displaying conspicuous gallantry, indomitable courage and extreme devotion to duty.”
- The President also conferred 14 PVSM, four Uttam Yudh Seva Medals (UYSM) and 24 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM) for distinguished service of exceptional order.

Source- <https://www.newindianexpress.com/>

Mumbai Gets India’s First EV Charging Station Powered by bio-gas



- Maharashtra Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray on Monday inaugurated the country's first organic waste-powered EV charging station at Keshavrao Khadye road near Haji Ali in Mumbai.
- The station, a first-of-its-kind, will generate 220 units of electricity from food waste collected from its nearby areas, mostly from bulk generators like hotels and offices. Along with powering street lights, this energy plant will now charge electric vehicles too.
- The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) is now planning to set up organic waste-powered EV charging station in each of the 24 administrative wards.

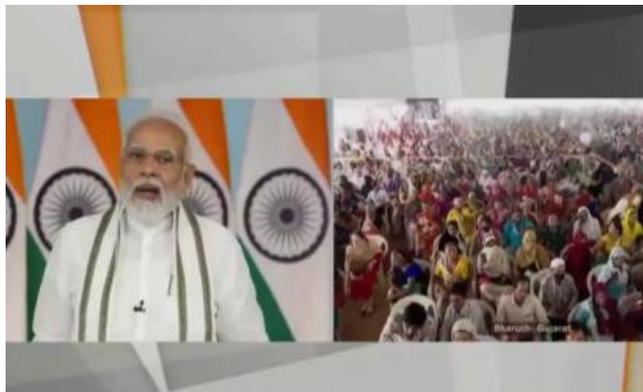
Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Kerala, Tamil Nadu Take Steps To Check Tomato Fever: Here Are Symptoms, Causes Of 'Tomato Flu'

- Amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic in the country, another flu named Tomato flue has started in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- To curb the spread of Tomato flu, a medical team is carrying out tests to those entering Coimbatore for fever along Kerala-Tamil Nadu border.
- Reports said 82 cases of tomato flu have been reported in the region so far.
- Tomato flu also known as Tomato fever, is a very common kind of fever where children below five years of age get infected. The flu also causes blisters child's body, which are usually red in color, and thus it is called 'tomato flu'.
- Children usually experience rashes and skin irritation and dehydration. Besides, children also feel tiredness, their colour of hands and legs change, they feel joint pain, feel cramps in stomach, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, coughing, sneezing, wheezing, runny nose, high fever and body aches.

Source-<https://www.outlookindia.com>

PM Modi virtually addresses 'Utkarsh Samaroh' in Gujarat's Bharuch



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed Utkarsh Samaroh in Gujarat's Bharuch on 12 May 2022. In the programme, the Prime Minister interacted with the people.
- The programme marks the celebration of 100 per cent coverage of four key schemes of the state government in the district, which will help provide timely financial assistance to those in need. The district administration of Bharuch carried out the 'Utkarsh Initiative' drive from January 1 to March 31 this year, aiming to ensure complete coverage of schemes providing assistance to widows, elderly and destitute citizens.
- A total of 12,854 beneficiaries were identified across the four schemes viz. Ganga Swaroopa Aarthik Sahay Yojana, Indira Gandhi Vrudh Sahay Yojana, Niradhar Vrudh Aarthik Sahay Yojana and Rashtriy Kutumb Sahay Yojana.
- During the drive, taluka-wise Whatsapp helpline numbers were announced to collect information about those who were not receiving the benefits of the scheme. Utkarsh camps were organized in all villages and wards of municipality areas of the district, wherein applicants who provided necessary documents were given on the spot approval. Incentives were also given to Utkarsh assistants to further facilitate the drive.

Source-<https://www.thehansindia.com>

India has donated USD 800,000 to the United Nations as part of an endeavour to improve the organization's Hindi public outreach.

- R Ravindra, India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, presented a check for a UN project initiated by India in 2018 to spread UN information to the Hindi-speaking population around the world.
- "The Government of India has been making continuous efforts to expand the use of Hindi in the United Nations. As part of these efforts, 'Hindi @ UN' project, in collaboration with the UN Department of Public Information was launched in 2018 with an objective to enhance the public outreach of the United Nations in Hindi language, and to spread greater awareness about global issues among millions of Hindi-speaking people around the world," the UN said in a statement.
- Since 2018, India has provided an extra-budgetary contribution to the UN Department of Global Communications (DGC) to mainstream and consolidate DGC's news and multimedia material in Hindi. The UN News in Hindi has been distributed since 2018 through the UN's website and social media accounts, as well as a UN Facebook Hindi page, according to the statement.

Source-<https://lagatar24.com>

PM to launch Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy on May 13



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy on 13 May 2022 via video conferencing. Mr Modi will address the startup community during the Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave being held in Indore, He will also launch the Madhya Pradesh Startup portal, which will facilitate and help promote the startup ecosystem.
- The Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave will witness participation of various pillars of the startup ecosystem including policy makers from government and private sector, innovators, entrepreneurs, academicians, investors, mentors and other stakeholders.
- It will witness a variety of sessions including speed mentoring session, and in the session startups will have dialogue with leaders of educational institutions and startup space.
- Besides there will be how to start startup session, where startups will be guided by policymakers and funding session, where entrepreneurs will learn about various funding methods. During the conclave, startups will get opportunity to collaborate with investors and put forth their ideas for funding where participants will learn about brand value and about promoting startup ecosystem in the state.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

Chhattisgarh becomes first state to restore old pension scheme: Report

- Chhattisgarh has become the first state in the country to restore the old pension scheme in order to provide assured income to retired employees.
- The state government has sent a proposal to the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for the withdrawal of Rs 17,000 crore accrued under the National Pension Scheme since November 2004.
- The government issued a notification saying that the old pension scheme will be effective from April 1, 2022.

- Also, the 10 per cent deduction for monthly contribution from the salary of government employees as a contribution to the new pension scheme will be abolished from April 1, 2022. However, a minimum of 12 per cent of basic salary will be deducted as per the General Provident Fund rule.
- The old pension scheme gives 50 per cent of the employee's salary as pension.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Manik Saha named as new chief minister of Tripura



- Saha was named as the CM after Biplab Kumar Deb called it quits on 14 May 2022. Deb is now likely to take over as the BJP Tripura chief.
- The decision was taken at a legislature party meeting following the resignation of CM Biplab Kumar Deb.
- Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has stepped down from his position after meeting Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J.P. Nadda and Union Home Minister Amit Shah during a two-day trip to New Delhi.
- Mr. Deb made the announcement after submitting his resignation to Governor S.N. Arya at the Raj Bhavan in Agartala. The State is slated to go to Assembly elections in 2023.

Source- <https://www.indiatoday.in/>

Hyderabad: Amit Shah inaugurates 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory'



- The 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory' (NCFL) was inaugurated on 14 May 2022 at the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) site in Hyderabad by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- During his day-long visit to Telangana on 14 May 2022, Shah will speak at a public meeting on the final day of the month-long 'Praja Sangrama Yatra' Phase-2. In Telangana's Thukuguda municipality in the Tukuguda area, the Home Minister will address "Praja Sangram Yatra" (Phase-2).
- On the final day of the month-long 'Praja Sangrama Yatra' Phase-2, which started last month on the anniversary of Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanthi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah will attend a public assembly in Telangana.
- The BJP has been projecting its power in the state through the 'yatra.' In August 2021, the first phase of the yatra began in Hyderabad.

Source-<https://english.newstracklive.com>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the Shilanyas ceremony



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his Nepalese counterpart Sher Bahadur Deuba on 16 May 2022 laid the foundation stone for the India International Centre for Buddhist Culture and Heritage in the Lumbini Monastic Zone here.
- Both Prime Ministers paid a visit to the Mayadevi temple, which houses Lord Buddha's birthplace.
- The Prime Ministers paid donations and attended Buddhist ceremonies and prayers at the temple.
- The Prime Ministers lighted lamps and paid a visit to the Ashoka Pillar, which contains the first epigraphic proof of Lumbini being the birthplace of Lord Buddha.
- They also watered the holy Bodhi tree that Prime Minister Modi presented to Nepal during his 2014 visit.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/>

NITI Aayog launches National Data & Analytics Platform



NITI Aayog

- NITI Aayog launched the National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP) in order to democratise access to public government data.
- The user-friendly platform will make data more accessible, interoperable, interactive.
- “The platform has foundational datasets from various government agencies. It also provides tools for analytics and visualization,” NITI Ayaog said.
- This public launch follows a beta release of the platform in August 2021 that had provided access to a limited number of users for testing and feedback.
- Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog said, “NDAP aims to aid India’s progress by promoting data-driven disclosure, decision making and ensuring availability of data connecting till the last mile, is an example to how the power of data can be leveraged.

Source-<https://egov.eletsonline.com>

Raj’s Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary notified as tiger reserve



- THE Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary in Rajasthan was notified as India’s 52nd tiger reserve on 16 May 2022, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said.
- This is Rajasthan’s fourth tiger reserve after Ranthambore, Sariska and Mukundra.
- Bhupender Yadav has announced that Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan has been notified as Rajasthan’s 4th and the 52nd tiger reserve of India.

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had given in-principle approval to make Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining areas as tiger reserves on July 5 last year.

Source-<https://www.thehitavada.com>

India prohibits wheat exports with immediate effect to curb rising prices



- India has prohibited wheat exports with immediate effect, the government said in a notification late on 13 May 2022.
- The prices of wheat and wheat products in the country have gone up by 15-20 per cent while global wheat prices are at a 14-year high.
- The escalation in global wheat prices is driven by the ongoing geopolitical turmoil—Russia's war on Ukraine, which has led to massive supply disruptions.
- The Rising food and energy costs have increased India's annual retail inflation rate to 7.79% in April, a new high.
- Wheat prices in India have reached new highs as a result of growing inflation, with certain spot markets reaching 25,000 rupees per tonne, much over the government's minimum support price of 20,150 rupees.

Source-<https://www.indiatoday.in>

Supreme Court has ordered the release of Rajiv Gandhi's assassination suspect



- THE SUPREME Court on 18 May 2022 ordered the release of A G Perarivalan, one of the seven convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, exercising its special powers under Article 142 of the Constitution.
- The order came 24 years after Perarivalan was sentenced to death in the case by a lower court, and two months after he was granted bail by the apex court.
- Perarivalan was arrested on June 11, 1991, at the age of 19, weeks after former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was killed in a suicide bomb attack at Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu on May 21.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Ashwini Vaishnaw Opened NIELIT Center in Leh, Ladakh



- Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Cabinet Minister of Electronics & Information Technology, Communications and Railways virtually inaugurated National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Centre Leh, Extension Centre Kargil and IT Enabled Incubation Centre for Handicraft and Handloom Sector.
- The inauguration function was held at NIELIT Campus Leh which was graced by R K Mathur Lieutenant Governor, Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal,
- Member of Parliament UT of Ladakh, Sh. Saugat Biswas, Commissioner Secretary IT, UT of Ladakh and Dr. Madan Mohan Tripathi, Director General NIELIT.
- Sh. Feroz Ahmad Khan, Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil and Dr. Jaideep kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, MeitY connected online.

Source-<https://www.newdelhitimes.com/>

WCR develops battery-operated dual-mode locomotive 'Navdoot'; Running at Jabalpur, Mudwara, and other stations on trial basis



- After e-bikes, e-cars, and e-bus in the country, now the dream of e-train is also going to come true. West Central Railway has developed a battery-operated dual-mode locomotive named Navdoot.
- This engine runs on both modes i.e. battery and electricity. Currently, it is being used during shunting of trains at Jabalpur, Mudwara, and other stations on a trial basis.
- This e-engine can pull 18 coaches at a speed of 30 kmph. It has 84 batteries and has a capacity to pull 400 tonnes at present.
- Chief Public Relations Officer of West Central Railway Rahul Jaipuria told AIR that this innovation has been performed by the Electric Department of New Katni Junction.
- This Dual Mode Locomotive has also received the Best Innovation Award from the Railway Board.
- Railways will save 1000 liters of diesel every day with this new locomotive. After clearing all the trials, it will be used more widely.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in/>

Punjab Cabinet approves Rs 1,500 per acre incentive for farmers adopting DSR



- The Punjab cabinet on Wednesday approved ₹1,500 per acre incentive to farmers for sowing paddy through DSR (direct seeding of rice) technique.
- A sum of ₹450 crore has been earmarked to provide incentive to farmers for promotion of the less water consuming and cost-effective DSR technique.

- According to a government spokesperson, this step would be instrumental in saving nearly 15-20% more water than the conventional puddling (kaddu) method of paddy cultivation.

Source- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

Kerala to launch India's first state-owned OTT platform



- In a first in the country, Kerala will launch a state-owned over-the-top (OTT) platform, CSpace, on November 1, offering film lovers an array of movies, short films and documentaries of their choice.
- Minister for cultural affairs Saji Cheriyan revealed the name of the OTT platform as CSpace
- which is an initiative of Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFDC) on behalf of the state government, through video conferencing at a function in Kalabhavan Theatre, here on 18 May 2022.
- KSFDC chairman Shaji N Karun presided over the function.
- The launch of CSpace, which boasts of several unique features, will coincide with the state's formation day on November 1.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

World Bank approves 350 million dollars aid for Systems Reform Endeavors for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat - SRESTHA-G project



- The World Bank has approved 350 million dollars aid for the Systems Reform Endeavors for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat -SRESTHA-G project.
- According to official sources, the SRESTHA-G project will be a 500 million dollars project with 350 million dollars support coming from the World Bank.
- The project will include transforming key health delivery systems in the state.
- The programme will focus on four key result areas to improve quality, equity, and comprehensiveness of primary healthcare, services for adolescent girls and the capacity of disease surveillance systems.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in/>

SC allows companies to export iron ore in Karnataka Mining case



- The Supreme Court on 20 May 2022 permitted mining firms to sell outside the state and export already excavated iron ore from mines in the districts of Ballari, Chitradurga, and Tumakuru in Karnataka without having to resort to the process of e-auction.
- A Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Ramana and Justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli took note of the stand of the Central government and lifted the curb on the export of iron ore and asked the firms to observe the conditions imposed by the authorities.
- It also permitted the mining firms to enter into direct contracts to lift the excavated iron ore through inter-state sales.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/>

10-year-old girl from Maharashtra summits Everest base camp



- In a rare accomplishment, 10-year-old skater Rhythm Mamania from Mumbai became one of the youngest Indian mountaineers to climb the Everest base camp, a trek which she completed in 11 days.
- Her parents - Harshal and Urmi - accompanied her during the trek earlier this month. "Rhythm, a Class 5 student from MET Rishikul Vidyalaya in suburban Bandra, reached the Everest base camp on May 6 at around 1 pm," her mother Urmi told PTI on 22 May 2022.
- The base camp is situated at 5,364 metres and it took 11 days for her to complete the expedition, she said.
- Rhythm, a resident of Worli, said, "Skating ring or base camp summit, it's the determination that gets you a long way."

Source- <https://news.abplive.com/offbeat/>

Yearlong celebrations to commemorate 250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy begin



- Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM), the Ministry of Culture held an inaugural ceremony to commemorate the yearlong celebration of the 250th Birth Anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy on Monday in Kolkata.
- It will continue till next year May 22, informed the Ministry of Culture.
- The inaugural ceremony was organized at the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation, Salt Lake, Kolkata, and at Science City Auditorium, Kolkata.

- Several ministers including the Governor of West Bengal, Jagdeep Dhankar were also present at the inaugural ceremony.
- The union minister of culture, tourism, and development of the North-eastern Region (DoNER), G Kishan Reddy, also joined the ceremony virtually.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

India joins US-led Indo-Pacific economic bloc aimed at countering China



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 23 May 2022 formalised India's entry into the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), along with 12 other countries, including the US, to strengthen economic cooperation as a geostrategic counter to China's growing clout in the region.
- The other countries that joined the IPEF ahead of the QUAD leaders' summit in Tokyo are Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com/>

Indian Railways Collaborates With IIT Madras to Develop 'Indigenous' Hyperloop Technology



- The Ministry of Railways will work with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras to develop an "indigenous" hyperloop system.
- It is also believed the ministry will help establish a Centre of Excellence for Hyperloop Technologies at the premier institute.

- Apart from being extremely quick, it's also eco-friendly as it consumes less power than an electric train and doesn't really have any emissions unlike an aircraft or a diesel locomotive.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

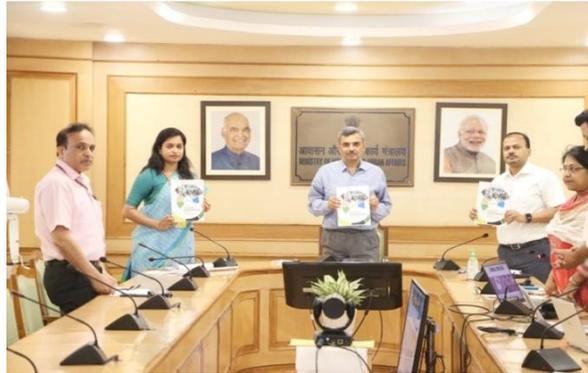
4th edition of state-level Shirui Lily Festival 2022 begins in Manipur



- This annual festival is organised by the Department of Tourism, Government of Manipur in an aim to create and raise awareness on Shirui Lily flower which is also the State Flower of Manipur.
- The four-day long festival will be inaugurated by the Governor of Manipur La. Ganesan and the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh tomorrow at Shirui Village Ground in Ukhrul district.
- Different events including traditional dances, songs and music, trekking, beauty contests, indigenous games and sports will be organised at different sites in Ukhrul district.
- The festival is held around April and May as it is the blooming season of Shirui Lily.
- The flower is found in Ukhrul district of Manipur only and cannot be replanted anywhere in the world.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in/>

Centre launches Swachh Survekshan 2023 under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0



- Union Government has launched the Eighth Edition of Swachh Survekshan - SS-2023 under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0.
- Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Manoj Joshi launched it at a virtual event in New Delhi on 24 May 2022. Designed with the theme of 'Waste to Wealth' as its driving philosophy, Swachh Survekshan- 2023 is curated towards achieving circularity in waste management. The survey would give priority to the principle of 3 Rs- Reduce, Recycle and Reuse.
- Mr Manoj Joshi said that the Swachh Survekshan has developed into an inspiration tool, rather than being just an assessment tool. This largest survey undertaken anywhere has brought about substantive changes at the ground level, with cities performing well and having a sense of pride.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

PM Modi chairs 40th PRAGATI Interaction; Asks agencies working in infrastructure sector to map their projects with water bodies



- Prime Minister has asked the agencies working in the infrastructure sector to map their projects with water bodies being developed under Amrit Sarovar.
- Mr Modi said, this would be a win-win situation as the material dugout for the Amrit Sarovars can be utilised for civil works by the agencies.
- The Prime Minister chaired the meeting of the 40th edition of PRAGATI, which is the ICT-based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Centre and State governments.

- In the meeting, nine agenda items were taken for review including eight projects and one Programme.
- These eight projects have a cumulative cost of over 59 thousand 900 crore rupees concerning the 14 States.
- These states are Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in/>

Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022: PM Narendra Modi to inaugurate India's biggest drone festival in Delhi



- **New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate India's biggest Drone Festival, "Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022" on 27 May 2022.
- Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022 will begin at Pragati Maidan in Delhi. It is a two-day event and will conclude on May 28. PM Modi urged all those interested in the tech sector to watch the event.
- The Prime Minister, in a tweet, said May 27, I will take part in the Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022.
- This forum brings together key stakeholders including StartUps with the aim of increasing India's presence in the sector.

Source-<https://www.timesnownews.com/>

Olympic Values Education launched in Odisha



- The Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was launched in Odisha by the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, in collaboration with the Abhinav Bindra Foundation Trust (ABFT) on 24 May 2022.
- In a virtual launch, which also had the IOA president Narinder Batra, IOC member Nita Ambani, Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra, ministers and officials of Odisha, apart from officials of IOC, the Odisha Chief Minister stated that sports was an important part of the vision for education and personality development.
- The OVEP is a practical set of resources aimed at introducing young people to the Olympic values of excellence, respect and friendship. It will be a values-based curriculum, to be implemented initially in 90 schools of Rourkela and Bhubaneswar, catering to about 32,000 children. It is expected to reach around seven million children across Odisha at various levels.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com>

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approves new Defence Estates Circle for Uttarakhand



- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on 26 May 2022 approved the proposal for the creation of a new Defence Estates Circle exclusively for Uttarakhand on May 26, 2022. In view of the difficulties faced in managing large tracts of defence land in the state and the demand of cantonment residents in Uttarakhand, the MoD will establish an independent office of Defence Estates at Dehradun and a sub-office at Ranikhet.
- The creation of a new Defence Estates Circle at Dehradun exclusively for Uttarakhand will facilitate the residents/ organisations in getting timely and quick access to various services of defence land management.
- In order to further decentralize the governance structure, Raksha Mantri has also approved establishment of a sub-office at Ranikhet under the administrative jurisdiction of Defence Estates Dehradun to deal exclusively with six districts of Kumaon region of the state.

Source-<https://www.indiatoday.in>

Jitendra Singh inaugurates India's first 'Lavendar Festival' in Bhaderwah



- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh on 26 May 2022 inaugurated the country's first 'Lavendar festival' at Jammu's Bhaderwah where the cultivation of lavender has transformed the economy of the mountainous area.
- The minister described Bhaderwah in the Doda district as the birthplace of India's purple revolution, which he said was possible due to the visionary rural upliftment policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Jitendra Singh accused previous governments of neglecting places like Bhaderwah and said the economy of such areas was now improving because of better connectivity through roads and tunnels created by the Modi government.
- Lavender has changed the fortunes of farmers in Jammu and Kashmir under the 'Aroma Mission or Purple Revolution', an initiative of the Central government towards transforming the lives of UT's farmers' community.
- Pertinently, the Purple or Lavender Revolution was launched in 2016 by the Union Ministry of Science & Technology through the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research's (CSIR) Aroma Mission. The aim of the mission is to support the domestic aromatic crop-based agro-economy by moving from imported aromatic oils to homegrown varieties.

Source- <https://www.thestatesman.com>

Rajasthan Govt Approves Guidelines For Implementation of New Urban Employment Scheme



- Rajasthan Chief Minister **Ashok Gehlot** has approved new guidelines for the implementation of ‘**Indira Gandhi Shahari Rozgar Yojana**’. The scheme was announced by Gehlot in the 2022-23 budget to provide employment in urban areas on the lines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (**MGNREGA**).
- Under the new urban employment scheme, 100 days of employment per year will be provided to the families residing in urban areas. The state government will spend Rs 800 crore per year on this ambitious scheme, an official statement said.
- According to the new guidelines, in the scheme, the people in the age group of 18 to 60 years residing in the local body area will be registered on the basis of Jan Aadhaar card. The work will be approved and executed through committees at the state and district levels under the scheme, the statement said.

Source- <https://www.india.com/>

North India’s first Industrial Biotech Park inaugurated at Kathua in J&K

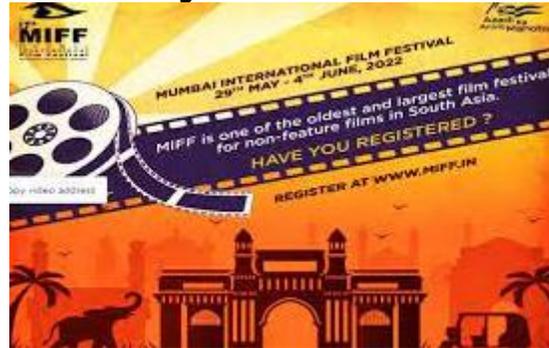


- Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and Union minister Jitendra Singh on 28 May 2022 inaugurated the north India's first Industrial Biotech Park constructed at Ghatti near Kathua.

- On the occasion, the Lt Governor said that the Industrial Biotech Park at Kathua will transform the economy and enable scientists to tackle challenges of climate change.
- The enabling infrastructure will fuel new wave of innovation and impact various sectors, from health and agriculture to cosmetics and materials.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com/>

India's foremost documentary film festival MIFF 2022 begins



- The 17th Mumbai International Film Festival for Documentary, Short Fiction and Animation films began in Mumbai.
- MIFF 2022 has got an overwhelming response from filmmakers across the world, receiving a whopping eight hundred 8 film entries from 30 countries.
- Out of these, one hundred 2 films will be screened under the Competition Category – 35 in international competition and 67 in the national competition. 18 Films will be screened under the 'MIFF Prism Category'.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in/>

Bihar to allow exploration of India's 'largest' gold reserve in Jamui



- The Bihar government has decided to accord permission for exploration of the "country's largest" gold reserve in Jamui district, a senior official said on 28 May 2022.
- As per a Geological Survey of India (GSI) survey, around 222.88 million tonnes of gold reserve, including 37.6 tonnes of mineral-rich ore, are present in Jamui district.

- She said the State government is likely to sign an MoU with a Central agency or agencies for G3 (preliminary) stage exploration within a month's time.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com>

CM Bommai launches AAYU app in Karnataka



- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched AAYU, a new health and wellness app that uses yoga and meditation to treat and help heal chronic diseases and lifestyle issues on 29 May 2022.
- Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA) partnered with RESET TECH, an Aldriven comprehensive health-tech platform, to develop the app.
- “Through a proper approach to yoga and meditation, the app will treat and assist heal chronic diseases and lifestyle issues. It will efficiently give users personalised wellness solutions and offer doctor consultations based on the individual’s personal history, as well as monitor their progress to help them heal and recover faster,” informed app developers.
- “The app, which is available in multiple languages, aims to reach and impact over five million chronic disease patients over the next five years,” they added.

Source-<https://newskarnataka.com>

International

NATO exercises begin along its eastern flank

- Poland's armed forces said Sunday that military exercises involving thousands of NATO soldiers have begun.
- They are regular exercises aimed at improving the security of the alliance's eastern flank but come this year with Russia's war against Ukraine raging nearby.
- Due to those circumstances, Poland's military appealed to the public on Sunday not to publish information or photos of the columns of military vehicles expected to move through the country in the coming weeks.
- It warned that "ill-considered activity" could harm the alliance's security. "Let's be aware of the dangers!" the statement said.
- The Polish Army said in a statement that 18,000 soldiers from over 20 countries were taking part in the Defender Europe 2022 and Swift Response 2022 exercises that are taking place in Poland and eight other countries.
- The exercises are scheduled to run May 1-27.

Source- <https://www.tribuneindia.com>

The state of the World's Forests 2022: Forest pathways for green recovery and building inclusive, resilient and sustainable economies

- The 2022 edition of The State of the World's Forests explores the potential of three forest pathways for achieving green recovery and tackling environmental crises, including climate change and biodiversity loss against the backdrop of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use and the pledge of 140 countries to eliminate forest loss by 2030 and to support restoration and sustainable production and consumption.
- The three interrelated pathways are halting deforestation and maintaining forests; restoring degraded lands and expanding agroforestry; and sustainably using forests and building green value chains.
- The balanced, simultaneous pursuit of these pathways can generate sustainable economic and social benefits for countries and their rural communities, help sustainably meet increasing global demand for materials, and address environmental challenges.
- The State of the World's Forests 2022 presents evidence on the feasibility and value of the pathways and outlines initial steps that could be taken to further pursue them.
- There is no time to lose – action is needed now to keep the global temperature increase below 1.5 °C, reduce the risk of future pandemics, ensure food security and nutrition for all, eliminate poverty, conserve the planet's biodiversity, and offer young people hope of a better world and a better future for all.

Source- <https://reliefweb.int>

Nepal's Kami Rita Sherpa climbs Mount Everest for 26th time



- A Nepalese Sherpa scaled Mount Everest for a record 26th time, beating his own previous record set last year,.
- The climbing route used by Kami Rita was pioneered by New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary and Nepal's sherpa Tenzing Norgay in 1953 and remains the most popular.
- Everest has been climbed 10,657 times since it was first scaled in 1953 from Nepali and Tibetan sides – many have climbed multiple times, and 311 people have died so far, according to the Himalayan Database.
- The 52-year-old followed in his father's footsteps and became a mountain guide, first summiting the peak in 1994. He has climbed Everest almost every year since.

Source-<https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

John Lee Ka-Chiu elected as Hong Kong's next Chief Executive



- By securing 99.16 percent supportive votes from the Election Committee members who cast their votes on 8 May 2022, the sole candidate John Lee Ka-chiu was elected as the sixth-term Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).
- The highly expected Chief Executive Election for Hong Kong, the first CE election since the implementation of electoral reform which aims to ensure

only patriots governing Hong Kong, kicked off on 8 May 2022 as most of 1,461 Election Committee (EC) members cast their ballots at the Convention.

Source- <https://www.globaltimes.cn/>

Yoon Suk-yeol takes oath as South Korea's new president



- Yoon Suk-yeol was sworn in as South Korean president Tuesday in a huge ceremony at Seoul's National Assembly, taking office at a time of high tensions with the nuclear-armed North.
- "I solemnly swear before the people that I will faithfully perform the duties of the president," said Yoon, a hawkish conservative who has vowed to get tough with Pyongyang.
- South Korea's new president says he'll present "an audacious plan" to improve North Korea's economy if it denuclearises.

Source- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>

South Korea becomes 1st Asian country join NATO Cyber Defence Group



- South Korea's National Intelligence Service became the first in Asia to join NATO's cyber defence group—a step that risks inflaming tensions with regional giant China and the old enemy North Korea.
- The NIS said in a statement that it had been accepted as a contributing participant for NATO's Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE), a cyber defence hub founded in Tallinn, Estonia, in May 2008 and focused on cybersecurity research, training, and exercises.

- South Korea had been trying to join CCDCOE since 2019 to learn more about threat response methods and ways to defend critical infrastructure, with the overarching goal of having world-class capabilities to respond to those threats.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

Monkeypox Virus: History, Outbreak, Symptoms



- More than 85 cases of monkeypox have been reported in 11 countries across Europe and North America, and in Australia, a rare occurrence for a virus largely confined to central and western Africa.
- The U.S. confirmed its first monkeypox case of the year on 04 May 2022 — a man in Massachusetts — followed by a second on 06 May 2022 in New York City.
- As of 06 May, France, Germany, Sweden and the Netherlands have each confirmed one recent case, Canada has reported two and Belgium and Italy three.
- The U.K.'s case total is up to 20, Portugal's 23 and Spain's 30. Australia reported one case 06 May 2022, in a traveler who recently returned from Britain. Most of those countries have more suspected cases awaiting confirmation.
- "This is the most important outbreak in the history of monkeypox in the Western Hemisphere," said Anne Rimoin, an epidemiology professor at UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

Source- <https://www.nbcnews.com/>

Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan appointed President of UAE



- The Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates elected Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan as the President of the country.
- He has replaced Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who died at the age of 73 on Friday.
- Mohammed bin Zayed (MbZ), the former president's half-brother, has been the de facto ruler of the UAE for years now, particularly after Khalifa suffered a stroke in 2014.
- "We congratulate him and pledge allegiance to him as do our people...and the entire country will follow his leadership to glory," Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, who is also UAE vice-president and premier.

Source- <https://www.indiatoday.in/>

British Mountaineer Kenton Cool becomes first foreigner to scale Everest 16 times

VEDANTA INSTITUTE
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- British mountaineer Kenton Cool has successfully completed his record-breaking 16th summit of Mount Everest.
- The climber on 14 May 2022 became the first non-Nepali person to complete the 8,849m (29,032ft) peak 16 times.
- In his previous 15 trips up Everest, he has been a guide to other well-known mountaineers, including Sir Ranulph Fiennes and broadcaster Ben Fogle.
- Mr Fogle said for the 48-year-old "to climb Everest once was a trial - to climb it 16 times is heroic."

- Kami Rita Sherpa and Lhakpa Sherpa are credited as the people who have climbed the mountain the most times.

Source <https://www.bbc.com/>

President Emmanuel Macron names Elisabeth Borne as France's new Prime Minister



- French President Emmanuel Macron has named Elisabeth Borne as the country's new Prime Minister. Borne, 61, is a former Minister of transport, ecology and labour.
- She is the second woman to hold the position after Edith Cresson (1991-1992) under President Francois Mitterrand.
- Borne succeeds Jean Castex, who had led the French cabinet since July 2020 and resigned earlier yesterday.
- A long-time member of the Socialist Party (PS), Borne voted for Macron in the 2017 presidential election and later joined the centrist La Republique en Marche party.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

World's longest suspension bridge opens in Czech Rep



- A suspension bridge for pedestrians, which is the longest construction of its kind in the world, has been inaugurated in a mountain resort in the Czech Republic.
- The 721-metre long bridge is built at an altitude of over 1,100 metres above sea level. It connects two mountain ridges and rises 95 metres above the valley.

- Sky Bridge 721 is located in the north-east of the country, in the Kralicky Sneznik mountain range, near the border with Poland, some 200 kilometres east of Prague.
- Construction took two years and cost some CZK200 million (\$8.3 million).

Source-<https://www.euronews.com>

India goes bilateral after Pak shot SAARC in 2016



- With Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Nepal in economic doldrums, and Afghanistan under Islamist Taliban occupation, the future of SAARC is dark. This leaves India no option but to engage neighbourhood bilaterally and ensure that its national security is not compromised.
- Ironically, the Taliban in Afghanistan are currently embroiled in a simmering war with their tutor, the Pakistan Army, which refuses to recognise the Durand Line, which splits the Pashtun tribe between the two countries.
- Pakistan Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif is confronting a full-blown economic crisis and does not have a magic wand to miraculously address the country's various problems, despite the fact that Imran Khan Niazi has been booted out of office, putting a stop to the political upheaval.
- Afghanistan is ruled by a hardline Islamist Taliban administration eight years after the last summit, with a total budget of \$2.6 billion for the current fiscal year.
- The country is on the verge of famine and disease as the ISI-backed Haqqani Network, led by global terrorist Sirajuddin Haqqani, battles the Kandahar Taliban, led by Mullah Omar's son Yaqub, for control of Kabul.
- The country is on life support, with its primary international exports being terrorism and narcotics.

Source- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

World's highest weather station installed on Mt. Everest



- **KATHMANDU:** A team of experts from the National Geographic Society has installed the "world's highest weather station" on Mt.
- Everest at an altitude of 8,830 metres to automatically measure various meteorological phenomena, the Nepalese media reported on 19 May 2022.
- Nepal's Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) said the automatic weather station was installed a few metres below the summit point (8,848.86 metres) last week as the snow and ice on the summit are not suitable for fixing equipment.
- The weather monitoring system, powered by solar energy, is supposed to measure various meteorological phenomena like air temperature, wind speed and direction, air pressure, change in surface height of snow, and incoming and outgoing short and longwave radiation.

Source-<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

Labor Party's Anthony Albanese sworn in as Australia's new prime minister



- Australia's Labor Party leader Anthony Albanese was sworn in as the country's new prime minister before flying out to attend an international summit in Tokyo.
- Anthony Albanese became the country's 31st Prime Minister.
- Taking to Twitter, Albanese said, "I am deeply honoured to serve as Australia's Prime Minister.
- As Prime Minister, I want to bring people together and lead a government that is as courageous, hard-working and caring as the Australian people.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Belgium becomes first country to introduce compulsory monkeypox quarantine



- Belgium has become the first country to introduce a compulsory 21-day monkeypox quarantine -- as 14 countries now confirm outbreaks of the viral disease and doctors warn of a 'significant rise' in UK cases.
- Those who contract the virus will now have to self-isolate for three weeks, Belgian health authorities have said, after three cases were recorded in the country.
- Dr. Claire Dewsnap, president of the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV, has also said the outbreak could have a 'massive impact' on access to sexual health services in Britain.
- Another 11 Britons had tested positive for the virus, taking the total to 20.
- The cases include a British child currently in a critical condition at a London hospital, while a further 100 infections have been recorded in Europe.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com/>



Banking & Economy

ICICI Bank introduces open-for-all digital ecosystem for MSMEs



- Private sector lender ICICI Bank has launched a comprehensive digital ecosystem for all Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country, including for customers of other banks.
- The ecosystem facilitates an enhanced banking services for existing customers, a bouquet of banking services to MSMEs and a whole range of value-added services for all.
- MSMEs, who are customers of other banks, can avail of a host of services from the Bank's digital ecosystem by logging in as a 'Guest' in the new version of InstaBIZ.
- It offers an instant and paperless overdraft facility up to Rs 25 lakh and customers of ICICI Bank can activate the OD into their current account instantly while customers of other banks can do so after opening of a current account with the Bank digitally through Video KYC.

Source-<https://knnindia.co.in/news>

Union Bank first public sector lender to join account aggregator platform



- Union Bank of India has become the first public sector lender to go live on the account aggregator ecosystem, a part of the government's digital initiatives to improve credit delivery.

- The account aggregator ecosystem helps lenders leverage digital data acquired with the customer's consent to provide seamless service without physical documentation.
- Any financial information user (FIU) can request data based on a consent given by the customer on their account aggregator handle.
- Union Bank of India endeavours to work both as financial information provider and as FIU enabling its customers to share Data digitally on a real-time basis. UBI has implemented the technology stack as per the Reserve Bank Information Technology (ReBIT) guidelines, "the bank said.
- The account aggregator (AA) ecosystem went live in September 2021 and has seen active participation from Banks/NBFCs in the country.

Source-<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>

RBI modifies norms for banks on short term crop loan scheme under KCC



- RBI on 28 April 2022 modified norms for banks to claim the amount of interest subvention provided to farmers under the short-term crop loan scheme through Kisan Credit Card (KCC) during the last fiscal.
- Pending claims for the 2021-22 financial year can be submitted by June 30, 2023 and those have to be duly certified by the statutory auditors "as true and correct", Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in a circular.
- In order to provide short term crop loans up to Rs 3 lakh to farmers at an interest rate of 7 per cent per annum, the government offers interest subvention of 2 per cent annually to banks.
- An additional 3 per cent interest subvention is provided to farmers who pay their loans promptly. For such farmers, the effective interest rate is 4 per cent.
- As per the circular on 'Modified Interest Subvention Scheme for Short Term Loans for Agriculture and Allied Activities availed through Kisan Credit Card (KCC)' during 2021-22, banks are required to submit their claims on annual basis duly certified by their statutory auditors as true and correct, within a quarter from the close of the year.
- "Any remaining claim pertaining to the disbursements made during the year 2021-22 and not included in the claim as on March 31, 2022 may be consolidated separately and marked as an 'Additional Claim' and submitted

latest by June 30, 2023 duly certified by the Statutory Auditors as true and correct," it said.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com>

Pandemic impact on economy may linger for years, says RBI

- India has been one of the worst-hit nations from the Covid pandemic and it will take up to 13 years for its economy to fully recover from its scars, says a report of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- “India suffered among the biggest pandemic-induced losses in the world in terms of output, lives and livelihoods, which may take years to recover. Economic activity has barely recovered to pre-Covid levels even after two years,” noted the report on currency and finance 2021-22, titled “Revive & Construct”.
- The pre-Covid growth rate from 2012 to 2020 was 6.6 per cent. Excluding the two slowdown years of 2017-19, the growth rate was 7.1 per cent. Taking the actual growth rate of (-) 6.6 per cent for 2020-21, 8.9 per cent for 2021-22 and assuming growth rate of 7.2 per cent for 2022-23, and 7.5 per cent beyond that, India is expected to overcome Covid losses by 2034-35, it added.
- The pandemic will go down in history as one of the worst health crises the world has ever faced. Its economic impact may linger for many more years and pose challenges of rebuilding livelihoods, safeguarding businesses and reviving the economy, it observed.

Source- <https://www.tribuneindia.com>

HDFC Life Becomes Signatory To United Nations – Supported Principles For Responsible Investment



- HDFC Life recently signed up for the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), epitomising its objective of sustainable growth and long term value creation.
- HDFC Life is committed to following the principles of Responsible Investment (RI). The Company believes that as an active asset manager for policyholders, who have entrusted their savings with HDFC Life, it is the Company’s fiduciary responsibility to generate optimal risk adjusted returns over the long term.

- This objective can be served by following the RI approach which includes core stewardship principles and consideration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors in addition to financial parameters and outlook, while making investment decisions.
- This framework complements HDFC Life's philosophy of achieving sustainable growth. The Company currently has Assets Under Management of over Rs. 2 lakh crores.

Source-<https://tennews.in>

Indian Bank rolls out pre-approved personal loan



- Public sector lender Indian Bank on 28 April 2022 launched its maiden digital product called Pre-Approved Personal Loan (PAPL).
- Launched under its project Wave (World of Advanced Virtual Experience), this digital product will provide its customers with instant loan disbursement in three simple steps, it said in a statement.
- Currently, it is available for bank's existing customers aged 21 years and above and having regular income and pension account.
- This loan can be availed via 'IndOASIS mobile app, bank's website and through internet banking facility. The loan carries interest rate of 10% per annum at present, with a flexibility to opt for a loan tenure of between 10 and 48 months, with no foreclosure charges.
- The project was launched by Indian Bank MD and CEO S.L Jain in the presence of its Executive Directors Imran Amin Siddiqui and Ashwani Kumar.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com>

India's wave of unicorns reaches all time high with Neobank's Open becoming 100th unicorn in the country

- India's wave of unicorns reaches an all-time high with Neobank Open becoming the 100th unicorn in the country. Commerce & Industry Ministry said that one out of every 10 unicorns born globally belongs to India.
- Neobank startup, OPEN becomes the 100th unicorn in India with the latest funding of 50 million dollars from IIFL along with existing investors. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal highlighted this achievement.
- The Indian Startup Ecosystem, the third-largest in the world in number of Unicorns, is now home to 100 unicorns with a total valuation of 332.7 billion dollars.
- The term 'Unicorns' is referred to startups that attain a valuation of more than 1 billion dollars.
- As per the ministry, in the first four months of 2022, India has given birth to 14 unicorns with a total valuation of 18.9 billion dollars.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

Gross GST revenue collection touches all-time high of around Rs 1.68 lakh crore in April 2022



- The Gross Goods and Services Tax, GST revenue collection has touched an all-time high of around 1.68 lakh crore rupees in April 2022. The total GST collection in April was one lakh 67 thousand 540 crore rupees. The GST collection in April this year is 25 thousand crore rupees more than the next highest collection of one lakh 42 thousand 95 crore rupees which was in March 2022.
- Of the total GST collection in April this year, Central Goods and Services Tax, CGST collection is 33 thousand 159 crore rupees, State Goods and Services Tax, SGST is 41 thousand 793 crore rupees, Integrated Goods and Services Tax, IGST is 81 thousand 939 crore and cess is 10 thousand 649 crore rupees.
- Finance Ministry said, the revenues for the month of April 2022 are 20 percent higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year. During the month, revenues from import of goods was 30 percent higher and the revenues from domestic transaction are 17 percent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

- The Finance Ministry mentioned that for the first time Gross GST collection has crossed 1.5 lakh crore rupees mark.
- Total number of e-way bills generated in the month of March 2022 was 7.7 crore, which is 13 percent higher than the 6.8 crore e-way bills generated in the month of February 2022, which reflects recovery of business activity at faster pace.

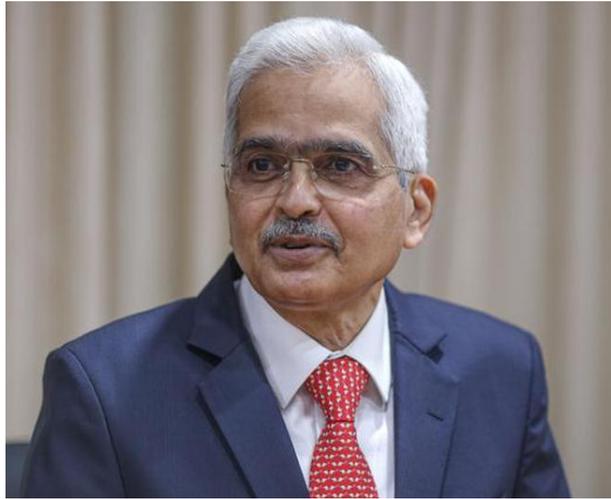
Source- <https://newsonair.com>

Indian regulator increases investment cap for insurers in BFSI space

- India's insurance regulator has increased insurance companies' investment cap in insurance and financial activities from 25% to 30% of their investment corpus.
- The move is aimed at giving insurers more room for their investment strategy and allowing them to increase exposure to banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) space.
- The announcement came before the Life Insurance Corporation of India's \$2.8bn initial public offering (IPO) opened for subscription to anchor investors.
- "The authority in the exercise of its powers conferred under Regulation 14(2) of the IRDAI (Investment) Regulations, 2016, permits all Insurers to have exposure to financial and insurance activities up to 30 per cent of investment assets." IRDAI's statement read.
- Accordingly, the limit of 25% of investment assets stands revised to a limit of 30%, it added.
- Max Life Insurance senior director & chief investment officer Mihir Vora said: "It gives more flexibility to the insurance companies to invest, allowing them to diversify their exposures further."
- In a separate development, a committee appointed by IRDAI has proposed 14 low-cost micro-insurance (MI) modules to expand protection plans for uncovered citizens and small businesses.
- The MI products are aimed at helping low-income groups recover from common risks such as critical illness, death, and destruction of property and business among others.

Source- <https://www.lifeinsuranceinternational.com>

RBI hikes repo rate by 40 bps to 4.40% in off-cycle meeting amid rising inflation



- In a surprising move ahead of the expected US Fed rate hike, the monetary policy committee (MPC) of the RBI on 4 May 2022 unanimously voted to up the repo rate by 40 basis points to 4.40 per cent even as it continued with the accommodative policy stance while deciding to continue focusing on calibrated withdrawal of liquidity accommodation.
- The MPC held an off-cycle meeting between May 2 and 4 to decide on hiking the repo rate amid concerns on the sharp uptick in inflation, which has been ruling over its upper band of 6 per cent since January 2022, even as economic activity is progressing.
- Governor Shaktikanta Das said the rate hike should be seen as reversal of the May 22, 2020 repo rate cut from 4.40 per cent to 4 per cent.
- Following the hike in repo rate, the standing deposit facility stands increased to 4.15 per cent (from 3.75 per cent) and the marginal standing facility to 4.65 per cent (from 4.25 per cent). The cash reserve ratio has also been hiked by 50 basis points from 4% to 4.50%.
- The Government Securities (G-Sec) market reacted negatively to the rate hike. Price of the 10-year benchmark G-Sec crashed about ₹1.90 intraday, with its yield shooting up by 28 basis points.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com>

Canara Bank ties up with ASAP to launch skill loans



- Canara Bank has launched 'skill loans' in association with the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP).
- Loans ranging from ₹5,000 to ₹1.5 lakh can be availed of by students pursuing skill training programmes offered by ASAP Kerala or any other Central or State government-recognised agencies that conduct National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) or National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) courses.
- The loan was formally launched by Higher Education Minister R. Bindu in the presence of Canara Bank general manager and State Level Bankers' Committee convener S. Premkumar on 27 April 2022.
- According to an official release, the loan will be provided without any collateral and have a repayment period of three to seven years. Students can also avail themselves of moratorium on repayment for the duration of the course and for an additional six months.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com>

Indian Bank Launched Digital Broking Solution 'E-Broking'



INSTITUTE
(Group of Institutions)

- Public sector Indian Bank has unveiled digital broking solution -- E-Broking -- allowing customers to open a demat and trading account facility, in line with the digitalisation mission of the bank, an official said on 07 May 2022.
- The launch of digital broking solution 'E-Broking' was a strategic step towards complete digitalisation of its offerings to customers, a bank statement said.
- "E-Broking, an instant and paper-less demat and trading account opening is integrated in the bank's mobile banking application.
- IndOASIS, the bank's mobile banking application, would offer customers, a seamless experience from demat and trading account opening to discounted broking services backed by research based investment in the secondary market starting from equity, futures, options, and initial public offerings in a single platform.

Source- <https://www.businesstoday.in/>

HDFC Bank Launches 'Xpress Car Loan' Industry First Digital New Car Loan



- HDFC Bank has launched 'Xpress Car Loans', an end-to-end digital car loan scheme for its existing customers as well as new customers.
- Buyers can apply for up to Rs 20 lakh and the loan amount will be credited to the dealers' accounts within half an hour.
- The bank is expecting 20 to 30 percent of customers to avail this new facility for loans of up to Rs 20 lakh.
- The Xpress Loans facility is currently available for four-wheelers and will be soon rolled out to two wheelers as well.
- In the next 5-7 years, the Indian automotive industry is set to become the third largest in the world with 35 million new vehicle units sold per year. In the next decade about 350 million 4-wheelers and over 250 million 2-wheelers are expected to hit the roads of India.

Source- <https://www.cnbc18.com/>

Gol releases Rs 7,183.42 crore to 14 states as revenue deficit grant



- The central government has released Rs 7183.42 crore as revenue deficit grant to 14 states including, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal, the Union Finance Ministry said on 06 May 2022.
- This is the first monthly instalment of the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant released to the 14 states as per the recommendations of the Fifteenth Finance Commission.

- The Fifteenth Finance Commission has recommended a total Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant of Rs 86,201 crore to 14 states for the financial year 2022-23. The recommended grant will be released by the Department of Expenditure to the recommended States in 12 equated monthly instalments.
- The Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance) will release the grant to the recommended states in 12 equated monthly instalments (EMIs). With the recent release, the total amount of Revenue Deficit Grants released to the States in 2022-23 has gone up to Rs 14,366.84 crore.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

India's retail inflation surges to 7.79% in April highest in 8 years



- India's retail inflation surged to 7.79% in April 2022, the highest since May 2014, data released by the government on 12 May 2022 showed.
- At 7.79%, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation for April is higher than the March number of 6.95%.
- Earlier this month, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das had said inflation was "expected to be elevated" in April.

Source-<https://inshorts.com>

ICICI Bank ties up with Santander for India-UK business ease

- ICICI Bank, one of India's largest private sector banks, announced a tie-up with Santander bank in the UK on 10 May 2022, aimed at making banking easier for businesses operating in both countries. ICICI bank will offer UK corporates operating in India banking solutions in trade, cross-border payments, supply chain, treasury solutions, and retail banking, while Santander UK will support Indian corporations.
- ICICI bank and Santander UK Plc signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in Mumbai to build a framework of partnership between the banks to

satisfy the financial service needs of corporate customers operating along the India-UK corridor.

- India and the UK have always had strong bilateral ties, and India has long been a favourite foreign investment destination for UK businesses. According to official government statistics, the UK is India's sixth largest investor, with US\$ 31.7 billion in cumulative foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, accounting for 6% of overall FDI inflows.

Source- <https://www.ibef.org>

Union Bank launches online platform 'Trade nxt' for export-import transactions



- Union Bank of India (UBI) has launched a digital solution, 'Trade nxt', to enable corporates as well as MSMEs to transact all cross-border export-import transactions.
- The online platform offers seamless entry and processing of letters of credit (LC), bank guarantees, export and import bills, disbursement of export credit, outward & inward remittances, dealer financing, and much more, per the public sector bank's statement.
- 'Trade nxt' platform will also enable the regulatory online auto reporting through Import Data Processing & Monitoring System (IDPMS), Export Data processing & Monitoring System (EDPMS), and other statutory reporting pertaining to ODI/ FDI/ LRS transactions, it added.

Source-<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com>

Morgan Stanley cuts India's FY23 growth forecast to 7.6%

- Morgan Stanley on Wednesday pared India's growth forecast for FY23 to 7.6 per cent from 7.9 per cent, estimated earlier. It said that a slowdown in global growth, higher commodity prices and risk aversion in global capital markets expose Asia's third-largest economy to downside risks.

- The investment bank said while its baseline forecast for India is 7.6 per cent growth for FY23, its bearish and bullish growth projections are 6.7 per cent and 8 per cent, respectively.
- Economic forecasters have been slashing growth projections for India amid rising geopolitical tension that has led to escalating commodity prices.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised downwards its growth projection for FY23 to 7.2 per cent from 7.8 per cent earlier.

Source-<https://www.iqstock.news>

RBI imposed Rs 59 lakh penalty on KEB Hana Bank



- RBI on Friday said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 59 lakh on KEB Hana Bank for non-compliance with the certain norms related to 'interest rate on deposits'.
- The Korean bank has been penalised for non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on "Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rate on Deposits) Directions, 2016".
- The statutory inspection for supervisory evaluation of KEB Hana Bank was conducted by RBI with reference to its financial position as on March 31, 2020.

Source- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>

S&P cuts India's growth forecast for FY23 to 7.3%, sees inflation at 6.3%



- S&P Global Ratings on 18 May 2022 slashed India's growth forecast to 7.3 per cent from 7.8 per cent for FY23 on rising inflationary pressure and longer-than-expected Russia-Ukraine war.
- The rating agency increased its inflation forecast for India by 90 basis points (bps) to 6.3 per cent for the current fiscal year.
- In the aftermath of the Russia-Ukraine war and rising commodity prices, various global agencies have cut India's growth forecast recently.
- The World Bank in April slashed India's GDP forecast for fiscal 2022-23 to 8 per cent from 8.7 per cent predicted earlier, while IMF has cut the projections to 8.2 per cent from 9 per cent.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected India's growth at 7.5 per cent, while the RBI, last month, cut its forecast to 7.2 per cent from 7.8 per cent amid volatile crude oil prices and supply chain disruptions due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com/>

Frauds in PSBs dip 51% t Rs 40,295 cr, cases not falling fast enough: RBI



- Public sector banks reported over 51 per cent dip in the amount involved in frauds to Rs 40,295.25 crore during the financial year ended March 2022, the Reserve Bank of India has said.

- The 12 PSBs (Public Sector Banks) had reported frauds worth Rs 81,921.54 crore in preceding fiscal 2020-21, the Reserve Bank has said in response to an application under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.
- However, the number of fraud cases didn't fall at the same pace as a total of 7,940 frauds reported by the PSBs in 2021-22, against 9,933 incidents reported in FY21, said the RBI's reply to Madhya Pradesh-based RTI activist Chandrashekhhar Gaur.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

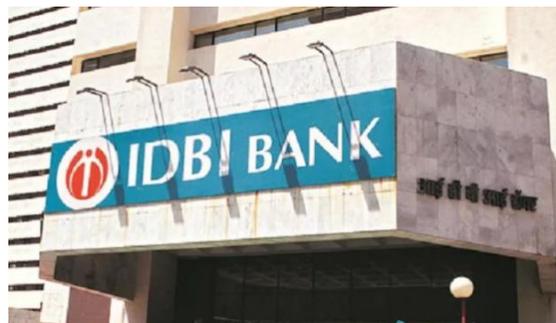
WPI inflation at record high of 15.08% in April



- India's wholesale inflation touched 15.08% in April, the highest in 27 years, powered largely by power and fuel prices, with the reading being in the double digits for the 13th straight month. The underlying cause: global supply-chain disruptions and the war in Ukraine.
- The rate of inflation based on the WPI Food Index increased marginally from 8.71% in March 2022 to 8.88% in April 2022.
- Fuel prices, a big component of the increase, were up 38.66 % on the year versus 34.52 % in March.

Source- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

IDBI Bank to sell 25% stake in Ageas Federal Life Insurance for Rs 580 cr



- IDBI Bank has entered into a share purchase agreement with Ageas Insurance International.
- Where in the bank is looking to sell its remaining stake of 25 per cent in private sector life insurer Ageas Federal Life Insurance for Rs 580 crore,
- IDBI Bank has entered a share purchase agreement (SPA) with Ageas Insurance International NV (Buyer) on May 19, 2022 to sell IDBI Bank's entire stake of 200,000,000 equity shares .
- The transaction will be concluded subject to regulatory approvals,” the bank said in a notification to the exchanges.
- The transaction is expected to be completed in Q2FY23, subject to regulatory approvals and satisfaction of the terms and conditions set out in the share purchase agreement.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

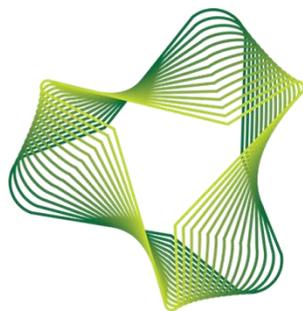
RBL Bank ties up with Amazon Pay to offer UPI payment services



- Private sector lender RBL Bank has tied up with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer UPI payments.
- “The bank has partnered with Amazon Pay to offer peer-to-peer and peer-to-merchant transactions.
- “The partnership will allow the bank to tap Amazon Pay’s growing customer base and transaction volumes.
- It said, adding that it move will expand the bank’s presence in the UPI segment with its payment processing platform hosted on AWS.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

New Development Bank opens regional office in GIFT City



New Development Bank

- The New Development Bank (NDB) has announced the launch of its Indian Regional Office (IRO) in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- NDB's existing regional offices will be supplemented by the new India office. Its Africa Regional Center (ARC) opened in Johannesburg in 2017.
- The Americas Regional Office (ARO) in So Paulo with a sub-office in Brasil in 2019, and the Eurasian Regional Centre (ERC) in Moscow in 2020.
- The NDB was founded in July 2015 by the Brics countries of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. Since then, Bangladesh, the UAE, Egypt, and Uruguay have joined the bank.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

India, fastest-growing major economy, projected to grow 6.4% in 2022: UN



- As the Ukraine conflict impacts the global GDP, India is projected to grow by 6.4 per cent in 2022, slower than the last year's 8.8 per cent.
- Still the fastest-growing major economy, with higher inflationary pressures and uneven recovery of the labour market curbing private consumption and investment.
- Mid-year Update 2022' report has declined India's GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth projections from 6.7% to 6.4% for 2022-23.
- For 2023-24, 6% GDP growth is forecasted for India as against 6.1%.
- In 2021, India's economy grew at 8.8%. The growth outlook for South Asia is also downgraded by 0.4 percentage points to 5.5% in 2022.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

India receives highest-ever FDI inflow of \$83.57 bn in FY22: Govt



- The central government announced on 20 May 2022 that India has recorded the highest ever annual FDI inflow of \$83.57 billion during FY22.
- "In 2014-2015, FDI inflow in India stood at mere \$45.15 billion as compared to the highest ever annual FDI inflow of \$83.57 billion reported during the financial year 2021-22 overtaking
- Last year's FDI by \$1.60 billion despite military operation in Ukraine and COVID-19 pandemic," noted the Ministry of Commerce & Industry in an official statement.
- India's FDI inflows have jumped 20-fold since FY03-04 when the inflows were at \$4.3 billion.

Source- <https://www.businesstoday.in/>

RBI to transfer Rs 30K cr surplus to govt for FY22; lowest amount in 8 yrs



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will transfer Rs 30,307 crore as surplus to the government for 2021-22.
- The decision was taken after deciding to maintain the contingency risk buffer at 5.50 per cent of its balance sheet.
- This year's transfer is sharply lower than what the central bank had did in the previous financial year — Rs 99,126 crore.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

SBI introduces Xpress Credit on YONO



- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched personal loan product 'Xpress Credit' for salaried customers on its YONO digital banking platform.
- Eligible customers will now be able to avail personal loans (Real Time Xpress Credit/RTXC) up to ₹35 lakh via YONO, without any paperwork, the country's largest bank said in a statement.
- "Under Real Time Xpress Credit, Central/State government and defence salaried customers of SBI will no longer be required to visit the branch for availing a personal loan.
- The credit checks, eligibility, sanction and documentation will now be done digitally in real-time.
- Dinesh Kumar Khara, Chairman, SBI observed that the Xpress Credit product will enable the bank's customers to experience a digital, hassle-free, and paperless loan process.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

RBI directs banks and ATMs on cardless cash withdrawals



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 19 May 2022 asked all banks and ATM operators to make cardless cash withdrawal facility, known as ICCW (Interoperable Card-less Cash Withdrawal), available at all ATMs across all banks in India.

- The central bank has directed the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to facilitate Unified Payments Interface (UPI) integration with all banks and ATM networks.
- In a statement, the RBI said, "While UPI would be used for customer authorisation in such transactions, settlement would be through the National Financial Switch (NFS)/ATM networks.
- The RBI notice said that the card-less cash transactions shall be processed without levy of any charges.
- Withdrawal limits for ICCW transactions shall be in-line with the limits for regular on-us / off-us ATM withdrawals, the central bank said.

Source-<https://www.livemint.com>

RBI reduces net-worth requirement for non-bank Bharat Bill Payment units



- The RBI on 26 May 2022 eased norms for non-bank entities to set up Bharat Bill Payment operating units by reducing the net-worth requirement to Rs 25 crore, with a view to encourage more players in the segment.
- At present, a net worth of Rs 100 crore is required to obtain authorisation for a non-bank BBPOU (Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units).
- Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) is an interoperable platform for bill payments and the scope and coverage of BBPS extends to all categories of billers who raise recurring bills.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

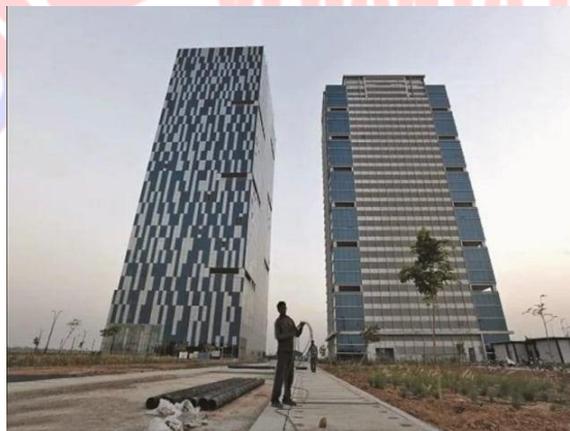
Moody's cuts CY22 India GDP growth forecast to 8.8% amid rising inflation



- Moody's Investors Service on 26 May 2022 lowered its gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for India to 8.8 per cent for calendar year 2022 (CY22).
- Its March estimate of 9.1 per cent, holding that rising inflation and interest rates will temper the economic growth momentum.
- "The rise in crude oil, food, and fertiliser prices will weigh on household finances and spending in the months ahead.
- Rate increases to prevent energy and food inflation from becoming more generalised will slow the demand recovery's momentum," the rating agency said in its latest Global Macro Outlook.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Japanese lender MUFG Bank to set up a branch in GIFT City, sixth in India



- Japanese lender MUFG Bank will establish a branch at the Gujarat International Financial Tec City (GIFT City) in Ahmedabad for foreign currency-denominated lending business. This will be its sixth branch in India.
- MUFG can support its domestic as well as global clients with an expanded suite of financial services. At present it has presence in Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai and Neemrana.
- The funds-based exposure in India was Rs 15,671.4 crore and non-fund based exposure was Rs 5,169.1 crore as of December 2021. The lender's capital adequacy ratio stood at 21.13 per cent in December 2021, according to disclosures on its website.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com/>

BOB Financial and HPCL started up a co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card



- Bob Financial and Hindustan Petroleum (HPCL) have jointly introduced co-branded contactless RuPay credit cards.
- The card has been introduced in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- The special thing about this card is that you will be able to get rewards by using it at utility, grocery and department stores.
- This card can be used in merchants and ATMs around the world through the JCB network. BOB Financial is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB).

Source- <https://english.newstracklive.com/>

US Replaces China as India's Biggest Trading Partner in 2021-22

- The US surpassed China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22, reflecting strengthening economic ties between the two countries. According to data from the commerce ministry, in 2021-22, bilateral trade between the US and India stood at \$119.42 billion as against \$80.51 billion in 2020-21.
- Exports to the US increased to \$76.11 billion in 2021-22 from \$51.62 billion in the previous fiscal year, while imports rose to \$43.31 billion as compared to about \$29 billion in 2020-21.
- During 2021-22, India's two-way commerce with China aggregated at \$115.42 billion as compared to \$86.4 billion in 2020-21, the data showed.
- Exports to China marginally increased to \$21.25 billion last fiscal year from \$21.18 billion in 2020-21, while imports jumped to \$94.16 billion from about \$65.21 billion in 2020-21. Trade gap rose to \$72.91 billion in 2021-22 from \$44 billion in previous fiscal year.

Source-<https://thewire.in>

Ranking

India's World Press Freedom Ranking Falls To 150 From 142: RSF Index 2022



- India's ranking in the 2022 edition of the World Press Freedom Index, published by Reporters Without Borders (RSF), has plummeted to 150 from 142 last year. RSF published the World Press Freedom Index on 3 May 2022, assessing the state of journalism in 180 countries.
- World Press Freedom Day is observed every year on May 3. The World Press Freedom Index highlights the degree of freedom that journalists and news organisations have in each country.
- In the 2021 report, India was ranked 142 among 180 nations and listed under countries considered "bad" for journalism and among the most dangerous places in the world for journalists.
- The report also mentioned that more than 100,000 newspapers (including 36,000 weeklies) and 380 TV news channels were operating in India.
- On safety of journalists, the RSF report said that terrifying coordinated campaigns of hatred and calls for murder are conducted on social media.
- On the other hand, the countries below the press freedom index include nations such as China, North Korea, Iran, Cuba, and Myanmar.

Source- <https://news.abplive.com>

THE Impact Rankings 2022: 64 Indian universities featured in Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022

- Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Ranking 2022 has been released. According to the rankings provided, one Indian University has been placed in the Top 50 while two India Universities are placed in Top 100.
- Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham was ranked at 41 while Lovely Professional University was placed at 74 in THE Impact Rankings 2022. Around 64 Indian universities have been featured on THE Impact Rankings 2022 making India the fourth best-represented country in the ranking.

- The list includes eight Indian universities among top 300. Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Ranking 2022 list ranks 1,406 universities from 106 countries and regions
- Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) and the OP Jindal Global University also got featured among the top.

Source-<https://www.news9live.com>

Crypto investors worldwide raked in \$163 billion in gains in 2021, a 400% increase from the prior year as bitcoin and ether prices hit records



- Cryptocurrency investors around the world pulled in 400% more in gains in 2021 than the previous year, driven by price increases to all-time highs for the two most valuable cryptocurrencies, according to Chainalysis.
- Investors realized total gains of \$162.7 billion in 2021, a jump from \$32.5 billion in 2020, said Chainalysis, a cryptocurrency data firm.
- Driving the big growth were price climbs for bitcoin and ether in what was a notable year for the wider cryptocurrency market. Bitcoin, the world's most traded cryptocurrency, leapt 60% to finish 2021 at about \$46,300. Ether, the token currency for the ethereum blockchain network, jumped about 400% in 2021, landing at around \$3,650.
- Ethereum edged out bitcoin in total realized gains worldwide at \$76.3 billion compared with \$74.7 billion, the data firm said.
- Each of the top two cryptocurrencies hit all-time highs in November of last year, with bitcoin reaching as high as \$69,044.77 and ether peaking at \$4,878.26, according to Coingecko.com.
- On a country-by-country basis, investors in the US logged \$47 billion in realized gains, more than their counterparts in the UK, Germany, Japan, and China. UK investors made \$8.2 billion from crypto.

Source- <https://www.businessinsider.in>

India logs 6.2 percent increase in death rate as per CRS during 2020

- The Central government has released the Civil Registration System (CRS) report 2020 based on birth and death reports.

- According to the report, the number of registered births has decreased from 2.48 crore in 2019 to 2.42 crore in the year 2020 showing a decrease of about 2.40 percent.
- The Vital Statistics of India based on the Civil Registration System' for 2020 report said that case of registered deaths, the number has increased from 76.4 lakh in the year 2019 to 81.2 lakhs in 2020 showing an increase of 6.2 percent.
- Out of the total registered deaths, the share of males is 60.2 percent and the female share is 39.8 percent. Some states and union territories namely Maharashtra, Bihar, Gujarat, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, and Haryana have contributed significantly to the increased number of deaths registered from 2019 to 2020.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in/>

NSO survey: Unemployment rate of India at 8.7% in October-December 2021



- The unemployment rate for persons of 15 years and above in urban areas slipped to 8.7 per cent in October-December 2021 from 10.3 per cent .
- Among males, the unemployment rate in urban areas also dipped to 8.3% in October-December 2021 compared to 9.5% a year ago. It was 9.3% in July-September 2021.
- The data also showed that the joblessness or unemployment rate among females (aged 15 years and above) in urban areas also declined to 10.5% from 13.1% in the same period. It was 11.6% in July-September 2021.

Source - <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Messi world's highest-paid athlete on Forbes 2022 list



- Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) superstar Lionel Messi bagged \$130 million to be the world's highest-paid athlete in 2022 so far in a newly posted Forbes magazine list.
- Argentine forward Messi, 34, had a mediocre individual performance at Paris Saint-Germain in the 2021-22 season, but he helped them win the 2022 French Ligue 1 title in April.
- According to the Forbes list, Messi was followed by Los Angeles Lakers' US superstar LeBron James, who earned \$121.2 million.

Source-<https://www.aa.com.tr>

Forbes' Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide 2022 announced



- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd climbed two spots to No. 53 on Forbes' latest Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide.
- Forbes Global 2000 ranks the largest companies in the world using four metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value, Forbes said releasing the 2022 ranking of the world's top 2,000 companies.
- Reliance is the top-ranked Indian firm on the list, followed by State Bank of India at No. 105, HDFC Bank at No. 153 and ICICI Bank at No. 204.

Source- <https://firstindia.co.in/news/>

India overtakes Germany to become 4th largest vehicle market



- India surpassed Germany to become the world's fourth largest automotive market in 2021, data by the Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles (OICA) showed.
- As per the data, India saw 3,759,398 vehicles sold in 2021, compared to 2,973,319 vehicles in Germany.
- The most number of vehicles were sold in China, followed by the US and Japan.

Source-<https://www.financialexpress.com/>

India's State of Inequality Report has been Released



- The report states that while income deprivation can increase probability of descent into poverty, a multidimensional understanding is important to assess the degree of deprivation in terms of lack of basic necessities, such as quality education and healthcare, which can improve living standards
- There has been significant progress in strengthening health infrastructure capacity, with a particular focus on rural regions. In 2005, there were 1,72,608 total health centres in India; by 2020, there would be 1,85,505.
- Between 2005 and 2020, states and union territories like as Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Chandigarh expanded the number of health centres (which include Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centre's, and Community Health Centres).

Source- <https://www.livemint.com/>

India beats China to become the world's third strongest air force in the Global Air Powers Ranking for 2022



- According to the Global Air Powers Ranking of 2022 by the World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA), the Indian Air Force has emerged as the third strongest Air Force in the world after America and Russia.
- The Indian Air Force has not only overtaken the Chinese Air Force but also the Japan Air Self-Defense Force, the Israeli Air Force, and the French Air and Space Force in terms of strength, as per the report.
- Presently, the WDMMA tracks 98 countries, covering 124 air services and following a total of 47,840 aircraft.

Source- <https://www.opindia.com/>

Ministry of Education releases National Achievement Survey 2021 report



- Department of School Education and Literacy has released the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 report. It assesses the health of school education system in the country by conducting comprehensive evaluation survey of children's learning competencies at classes 3, 5, 8 and 10th with a cycle period of three years.
- The report reflects the overall assessment of school education system. The last National Achievement Survey was held in 2017.
- The NAS 2021 was held on 12th of November last year at all India level and covered Government Schools, Government Aided Schools and Private Unaided Schools.

- About 34 lakh students of 1.18 lakh schools in 720 districts from both rural and urban areas have participated in NAS 2021. The National Report Card has been released and placed in the public domain on nas.gov.in

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

Fortune 500 list: Elon Musk, world's richest man, was 2021's highest-paid CEO



- Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX, was the world's most paid chief executive in 2021, according to a new Fortune's list.
- In 2021, Musk, also the richest person on Earth, "realised" compensation worth almost \$23.5 billion from exercising Tesla stock options as part of a 2018 "moonshot" grant, the report said.
- Unsurprisingly, all the highest-paid CEOs on the Fortune 500 CEOs of 2021 hail from the technology and biotechnology sectors including Apple's Tim Cook, Netflix's Reed Hastings, and Microsoft's Satya Nadella.

Source- <https://www.timesnownews.com/>

Agreements

Railways Ministry signs pact with C-DOT for modernisation of telecommunication facilities



- The Ministry of Railways has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) for modernisation of telecommunication facilities related to operations and safety, the ministry said in a statement on 28th April 2022.
- The agreement is aimed at establishing a collaborative working partnership between the ministry and C-DOT for coordination and resource sharing.
- C-DOT and the ministry will work together for modernisation of telecommunication in the national transporter for public safety and security services using LTE-R, which is a next-gen communications network dedicated for railway services, enabling high-speed wireless voice and data communications inside trains, from train to the ground and from train to train, it said.
- It would also help the railways follow world standards in line with 'Make in India' policy, it said.

Source-<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

Qualcomm, MeitY partner to support Indian semiconductor startups

- With an aim to empower homegrown semiconductor startups, chipmaker Qualcomm India will collaborate with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's (MeitY) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), a statement said on 29 April 2022.
- The collaboration will support a group of promising semiconductor design startups, as a part of the government and the industry's ongoing efforts to encourage innovation in the semiconductor space in India.
- "There is a huge opportunity for Indian semiconductor startups due to the incentives provided by the Government," Rajen Vagadia, VP and President of Qualcomm India & SAARC.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com>

India and Germany sign joint declaration of Intent on Indo-German Hydrogen Task Force



- The declaration was signed virtually on 2 May 2022 between Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister R.K Singh and German Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Change Dr. Robert Habeck.
- Speaking on the occasion, Singh said, India has emerged as one of the world leaders in energy transition with the fastest rate of growth of renewable energy capacities in the world.
- He emphasized that India has huge ambitions for energy transition and it will add 500 GigaWatt of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030. Singh said, India is coming out with bids for green hydrogen. He invited German industry to come and compete in developing this ecosystem in India.

Source-<https://newsonair.com>

Ministry of Skill Development signs MoU with ISRO to begin its Training Program



- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has collaborated with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to upskill over 4000 technical staff at the department of space in the organisation.

- The ISRO technical employees will be trained in the programme over the course of next five years.
- The programme is aimed at creating a formal framework for short-term courses to provide training for the skill development and capacity-building of the technical staff of ISRO as per the industry requirements, in the space domain in the country, says the official press release.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

Indian Navy's P-8i Fleet host to Boeing and Air Works collaboration



- Underscoring the success of the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) campaign, Air Works – an Indian maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) company – is partnering The Boeing Company in undertaking heavy maintenance checks on three Indian Navy P-8I long-range maritime patrol aircraft simultaneously at Air Works, Hosur.
- “This dramatically increases the scope and scale of MRO undertaken in the country and demonstrates both the companies’ commitment in helping make India Aatmanirbhar in aerospace and defence,” stated a Boeing press release on 05 May 2022.
- The relationship began with checks on the P-8I Poseidon aircraft and has since expanded to include checks and MRO on the Indian Air Force’s Boeing 737 VVIP aircraft’s landing gear.

<https://www.business-standard.com/>

U'khand govt, BPCL ink pact for growth of renewable energy sector in state



- Dehradun: An MoU was signed between the Uttarakhand government and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) in the presence of Uttarakhand chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on 19 May 2022 for the growth of the renewable energy sector and other projects in the state.
- Secretary of State for Energy R Meenakshi Sundaram signed the MoU on behalf of the state, while Shelly Abraham, BPCL's chief general manager (renewable energy), and executive director Amit Garg signed the documents on behalf of BPCL.
- According to CM Dhami, the agreement will help the hill state grow in the field of renewable energy, notably solar energy.

Source- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>



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Business

Airtel Buys 7% Cloud Networking Startup Energy Technology



- Bharti Airtel has acquired around a 7 per cent stake in networking solutions provider Cnergie Technologies under the Airtel Startup Accelerator Program. The acquisition of Airtel's shares will enable it to sharpen its NaaS proposition for Small and Medium Businesses (SMBs) to accelerate their shift to cloud-based applications, said in a statement.
- Bharti Airtel has bought the stake, which was mutually agreed for pre-money and valuation done by the enterprise, which can not be disclosed due to confidential reasons.
- Energy has developed a range of 5G ready software tools for Network-as-a-Service (NaaS) that can be deployed at scale to enable zero-touch service provisioning, central remote monitoring, and management of all connected devices with a host of real-time analytics.
- "Airtel is on a mission to accelerate enterprises' digital transformation journeys through our world-class NaaS platform. We welcome Cnergie to the Airtel Startup Accelerator Program and look forward to deploying their 'Made in India' solutions at scale in the fast-growing NaaS market in India," Airtel Business director and CEO Ajay Chitkara said in the statement.

Source-<https://www.equitypandit.com>

Adani Wilmar became India's largest FMCG company surpassing HUL



- Adani Wilmar Ltd (AWL) has trounced Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) from the position of largest FMCG company of India.
- This became public after the announcement of Q4FY22 results of Adani Wilmar on 01 May 2022.
- While sharing its Q4FY22 results, Adani Wilmar reported operational revenue of ₹54,214 crore in FY22 whereas HUL's yearly revenue stands at ₹51,468 crore in FY2021-22.
- In Q4FY22 (January-March 2022), the AWL has seen a 40 per cent jump in revenue from operations to Rs 14,960 despite a 26 per cent i.e., Rs 234.29 crore hit in net profit in the same period.

Source- <https://www.livemint.com/>

Exide and Leclanché's joint venture Nexcharge begins production in Gujarat



- The plant is spread across 610,098 sqft, which is, claimed to be, the largest production facility for lithium-ion battery packs and modules (Pouch/ Prismatic/ Cylindrical) in India.
- The facility has six fully automated assembly lines and testing labs with an installed capacity of 1.5 GWh and will cater energy storage systems for India's electric vehicle market and grid-based applications.
- Stefan Louis, CEO and CTO, Nexcharge said, "We have invested more than Rs 250 crore in setting up this state-of-the-art facility with a focus on technology driven innovations, which is in line with our commitment of long-term investments and plans in India.
- With our 6 assembly lines becoming operational, Nexcharge can now offer a range of products with different applications for our automotive and non-automotive customers.
- Our team of well-resourced engineers will continue to work to design battery packs as per the customer's requirements which will help us offer high-quality products at competitive prices."

Source- <https://www.autocarpro.in/news>

Reliance became 1st Indian company to cross USD 100 bn annual revenue



- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's 06 May 2022 Industries Ltd on Friday reported a 22.5 per cent rise in net profit.
- corded strong growth in retail, digital services, and the oil & gas business.
- The company has also reported the highest-ever quarterly EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation) of Rs 33,968 crores (28% up) year-on-year.

Source- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

UPI hits record 5.58 Bn transactions worth Rs 9.83 trillion in April 2022



- India's flagship digital payments platform — Unified Payments Interface (UPI) — saw its highest ever number of transactions in April 2022 at 5.58 billion, amounting to Rs 9.83 trillion.
- This is the highest ever number of transactions recorded by UPI. The monthly UPI recorded a 3.33 % increase in transaction volume from 5.4 billion transactions worth Rs 9.6 trillion in March 2022.
- Compared to April 2021, the transaction volume increased by 111% and the transaction value increased by nearly 100%. In April 2021, UPI processed 2.64 billion transactions worth Rs 4.93 trillion.

- The UPI had breached the USD 1 trillion mark in transaction values in the financial year 2021-22.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

On closing day of LIC IPO, the total subscription at 2.95 times



- Insurance behemoth Life Insurance Corporation of India's (LIC's) initial public offering (IPO), the biggest ever in the country, saw 2.95 times more demand than the shares on offer on the final day of bidding on 9 May 2022, generating bids worth Rs 43,933 crore.
- Domestic investors, mostly retail, were the primary drivers of the subscription. The IPO received 7.33 million retail investor applications, breaking the previous record of 4.8 million set by Reliance Power in 2008.
- The policyholders' component witnessed the highest level of participation, with bids totaling over Rs 12,000 crore. Employees' shares were 4.4 times subscribed, while retail individual investors' shares were two times subscribed, with bids totaling over Rs 12,450 crore.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Haryana launches scheme for fodder growers

- Haryana agriculture minister J P Dalal on 10 May 2022 launched the 'Charaa-Bijae Yojana' scheme, under which a farmer growing fodder and supplying the produce to cowsheds will get a financial assistance of Rs 10,000 per acre.
- If a farmer grows fodder on up to 10 acres of land around the gaushalas (cowsheds) and provides it to them through mutual consent, the state government will provide financial assistance to such farmers at the rate of Rs 10,000 per acre, said Dalal.
- The amount will be transferred to the bank accounts of farmers through direct benefit transfer mode, he said. Dalal said that the manure prepared from cow dung can be an alternative to fertilisers.

- He informed that prom manure or phosphate-rich organic manure is being prepared at gaushalas of Pinjore, Hisar and Bhiwani, and that have been tested in the labs of IIT and Haryana Agricultural University in Hisar.
- Dalal said that DAP fertiliser costs around Rs 3,850 a packet, out of which Rs 2,500 is being given as subsidy to the farmers.
- According to an official statement, Dalal said the subsidy on DAP in the country has reached Rs 2 lakh crore.

Source-<https://www.newsdrum.in>

Saudi Aramco goes past Apple Inc to become world's most valuable company



- Oil magnate Saudi Aramco on 12 May 2022 overtook Apple Inc, to become the world's most valuable company due to the recent surge in oil prices.
- Aramco is now worth about USD 2.43 trillion, compared with Apple's USD 2.37 trillion, CNN reported citing data from Refinitiv. Market capitalizations fluctuate frequently as earlier this year, Apple (AAPL) hit the USD 3 trillion mark, to become the first company to do so and making it by far the most valuable company on the planet.
- The latest market moves point to how the outlook for energy and tech producers has shifted lately, CNN said. This year, oil prices have soared to record highs, particularly on concerns about disruptions of supply from Russia since its invasion of Ukraine.
- Brent crude prices have climbed by as high as 36 per cent this year and are still trading at over USD 106 a barrel.
- Meanwhile, Apple's stock has fallen more than 17 per cent since January, the CNN report said.

- The iPhone maker has recently been weighed down by major supply chain headaches, particularly in China, where several of its suppliers' factories have been temporarily caught in the country's COVID lockdowns.
- Dan Ives, managing director of equity research at Wedbush Securities, called the impact of the lockdowns "the albatross for the June quarter," saying in a report that Apple's supply chain woes in China would likely remain the "peak worry" for investors in the short term.

Source-<https://theprint.in>

Adani to acquire Holcim's stake in Ambuja Cements, ACC Limited for \$10.5 bn



- Industrialist Gautam Adani on 15 May 2022 said the Adani Group has clinched a deal to acquire Holcim Ltd's stake in Ambuja Cements and ACC Limited.
- It is the largest ever acquisition in India's infra and material space valued at \$10.5 billion. This will mark the ports-to-energy conglomerate's entry into the cement sector.
- The value for the Holcim stake and open offer consideration makes this the largest ever acquisition by Adani and India's largest-ever Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) transaction in the infrastructure and materials space.
- "Our move into the cement business is yet another validation of our belief in our nation's growth story"

Source-<https://www.indiatvnews.com>

Ruchi Soya to acquire Patanjali Ayurved's food retail business for Rs 690 crore; rename itself as 'Patanjali Foods'



- it will acquire Patanjali Ayurved's food retail business for Rs 690 crore.
- The acquired food business comprises of 21 major products namely ghee, honey, spices, juices and atta, etc., the company informed in an exchange filing.
- The shares of Ruchi Soya hit an upper circuit of 10 per cent on both BSE and NSE post the announcement and at the end of trade on Wednesday.
- The stock ended at Rs 1,191.30 apiece on the BSE and Rs 1,192.15 on NSE.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Adani becomes fourth Indian group to acquire franchise in UAE's T20 League



- Adani Sportsline, a subsidiary of the Adani group, has acquired the rights to own and operate a franchise in the six-member UAE T20 League.
- With this, it becomes the fourth Indian group after Reliance Industries (RIL), GMR group and Capri Global, a non-banking financial company based in Mumbai, to own teams in the Indian Premier League (IPL)-style tournament that is likely to commence in June.
- With operations in 70 sites in 50 countries and a market capitalization of over \$222 billion, the company generates yearly revenues of over \$20 billion.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Paytm sets up general insurance JV, plans to invest ₹950 cr in 10 years



- The board of directors of One 97 Communications which is listed under the brand name Paytm, on 21 May 2022 approved the proposal to pump in ₹950 crore in their newly formed joint venture general insurance company for 10 years.
- The investment will be made in tranches and will result in Paytm holding an upfront equity stake of 74% in the JV.
- Following the investment, Paytm General Insurance will become a subsidiary of Paytm. Incorporated in 2018, PGIL plans to register for and undertake general insurance business defined under Section 2(6B) of the Insurance Act, 1938 (“Insurance Act”).
- Notably, PGIL is yet to commence its general insurance business which is currently subject to receipt of the certificate of registration from IRDAI.

Source-<https://www.livemint.com/>

ONGC country's 1st Exploration & Production company to trade domestic gas on IGX



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- **New Delhi:** State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) on 23 May 2022 became the first Exploration and Production (E&P) company in the country to trade domestic gas on Indian Gas Exchange.
- The first online trade was made on May 23, 2022 by the company’s Director (Onshore) In-charge Marketing Anurag Sharma on India’s first automated national level Gas Exchange, IGX.
- The gas traded is from ONGC Krishna Godavari 98/2 block, it said in a release, but did not specify the volumes that were sold.

Source- <https://www.timesnownews.com/>

TOTAL France to acquire 20% stake in Adani Green Energy for \$2.5 bn



- Global energy major Total will pick up a 20 per cent stake in Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL), the renewable power company of the Adani group, by way of acquiring shares held by the promoter group.
- Along with the minority stake, the French firm will acquire 50 per cent in a 2.35-gigawatt portfolio of operating solar assets owned by AGEL in a deal worth \$2.5 billion (about Rs 18,000 crore), said a statement by AGEL. Total will also have a seat on the AGEL board.
- This is the third partnership between Total and the Adani group. In 2019, Total had acquired 37.4 per cent in Adani Gas and 50 per cent in the group's Dhamra LNG project.
- The JV entailed developing various regasification terminals, including Dhamra LNG, and a retail network of 1,500 service stations over a period of 10 years.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

HDFC Securities launches HDFC Money, a robo-advisory platform for MFs investment



- HDFC Securities has announced launched of HDFC Money--with an intent to facilitate mutual funds investment and a host of other financial services. HDFC Money is a 100 percent digital platform that doesn't involve opening/having a Demat Account, it said in a press statement.

- Apart from Mutual Funds, one can also manage other aspects of finances such as accessing, managing, and tracking portfolios, starting goal planning, insurance planning, creating E-wills, and managing/filing taxes, it said.
- Emphasising the benefits of using HDFC Money to invest in Mutual Funds, Abhishek Mehrotra CFA, Head of Investment Products, HDFC Securities said, “Goal-based investing is something one can’t overlook, the basic objective of investing is to achieve a financial goal, which could be as simple as holiday trip to a complex retirement planning or child education / marriage.

Source- <https://www.freepressjournal.in/>

LIC Unveils New Insurance Plan Bima Ratna



- The country's largest insurance company, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has launched a new savings life insurance plan titled Bima Ratna.
- The country's largest insurance company, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has launched a new savings life insurance plan titled Bima Ratna which is non-linked, non-participating, and is an individual scheme that provides a long series of protection and savings to the policyholder.
- Unveiled on 27 May 2022, the new LIC policy, Bima Ratna is aimed to cater to the domestic market and can be purchased through multiple means including Corporate Agents, Insurance Marketing Firms (IMF), Brokers, CPSC-SPV, and POSP-LI engaged by these intermediaries viz. Corporate Agents, Insurance Marketing Firms (IMF), and Brokers.
- In addition to that, the plan will not only help in providing necessary financial support to the family after the unfortunate death of the policyholder but, will also offer payouts on a periodic basis to the holder for survival to help meet his various financial needs. It also looks after the liquidity requirements through a loan option.

Source-<https://www.republicworld.com>

CCEA approves sale of government's 29.5% stake in Hindustan Zinc

- The government today approved a proposal to offload its 29.5% in Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL), which is likely to fetch around Rs 38,000 crore to the exchequer, sources said.
- A decision in this regard was taken by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) at its meeting here, which was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the sources said.
- As the government has budgeted Rs 65,000 crore from PSU disinvestment and strategic sale in the financial year 2022-23, the decision would give a further push to its plan, they noted.
- The sale of 29.5% stake representing over 124.96 crore shares would fetch around Rs 38,000 crore to the exchequer at current market prices, the sources said.
- Shares of HZL closed at Rs 305.05, up 3.14% on the BSE. During the day the shares touched a high of Rs 317.30 each.

Source-<https://www.tribuneindia.com>



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Defence

Army to Provide Residential Coaching To NE Students for All-India Exams



- The Indian Army has started providing residential coaching to students belonging to economically weaker and underprivileged sections of northeast region to make them prepared for the all-India competitive examinations including engineering and medical entrance, Defence sources said on 30 April 2022.
- Defence spokesman Lt Col Mohit Vaishnava on 30 April 2022 said that the Indian Army, Red Shield Division has signed a tripartite MoU with corporate partner State Bank of India Foundation and training partner National Integrity and Educational Development Organization to establish “Red Shield Centre for Excellence and Wellness” to provide a year-long fully residential coaching for various competitive examinations including the NEET and JEE.
- The centre would be located at Bishnupur district of Manipur. The scheme is expected to be fully functional for the first batch of 50 students by the first week of July, Lt Col Vaishnava said.
- Manipur Governor La Ganesan, GOC Red Shield Division Maj Gen Navin Sachdeva among others were present in the MoU signing ceremony on 30 April 2022.
- The GOC Red Shield Division said that Indian Army has remained at forefront in nation building and has been persistently contributing across varied fields especially towards youth empowerment.

Source-<https://thehillstimes.in>

Indian Navy to get first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant in May - All you need to know



- The Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) will hand over India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) which will be named 'INS Vikrant' to the Indian Navy in May.
- The aircraft carrier will be commissioned on August 14, CSL Director (Technical) Bejoy Bhasker said on Thursday. Bhasker further stated that the INS Vikrant will be out for the final sea trial in the next few weeks.
- "The final sea trial was scheduled for this month but faced a slight delay. We will hand over the IAC to Indian Navy next month after which the ship will take the name of INS Vikrant. India's first aircraft carrier will be commissioned on Independence Day in August this year," he said.
- The warship has been built at a cost of around Rs 23,000 crore and its construction propelled India into a select group of countries having capabilities to build state-of-the-art aircraft carriers.
- The warship will operate MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31 helicopters, and MH-60R multi-role helicopters. It has over 2,300 compartments, designed for a crew of around 1700 people, including specialised cabins to accommodate women officers.
- In November 2021, while addressing an event at the naval dockyard in Mumbai, former Indian Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh announced that the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) INS Vikrant will be commissioned by August 2022.
- With the development of 44 ships and submarines being built indigenously, the Indian Navy's ship-building programme is rightly poised to provide the requisite 'Economic Stimulus'.

Source- <https://www.timesnownews.com>

Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor Takes Charge as DG (Inspection and Safety)



- Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor assumed the appointment of Director General (Inspection and Safety) [DG(I&S)] of Indian Air Force at Air HQ New Delhi on 01 May 2022.
- Sanjeev Kapoor is an alumnus of Defence Services Staff College (DSSC) Wellington, College of Defence Management and National Defence College.
- The Air Officer is a Qualified Flying Instructor with more than 7700 hours of flying experience on various aircraft in the inventory of IAF. The Air Officer is a recipient of Vayu Sena Medal and Ati Vishist Seva Medal. In a service career spanning over 36 years, the Air Marshal has tenanted important command and staff appointments.

Source- <https://www.psuconnect.in/>

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Indian Navy plans to purchase the GISAT-2 satellite to increase its capacity



- As part of its modernisation and network-centric warfare and communications programme, the Indian Navy is looking to acquire a dedicated earth imaging satellite — Geo Imaging Satellite-2 (Gisat-2) — this fiscal. Once operational, the satellite is expected to enhance the navy's operational capabilities in the Indian Ocean region, which is strategically and geopolitically important, especially in the backdrop of increasing Chinese presence.

- According to information from the Ministry of Defence, the GISAT-2 is one of 21 planned procurements, including several long-term buys. In addition, the navy's capabilities development/modernization is being carried out in line with the long-term objectives in place for the next decade.

Source- <http://www.indiandefensenews.in/>

Rajnath Singh launches frontline warships INS Surat, INS Udaygiri



- Indian Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh launched two frontline warships of the Indian Navy - INS Surat and INS Udaygiri - at Mazagon Docks Limited (MDL), Mumbai on today.
- INS Surat is the fourth Guided Missile Destroyer of P15B class, while INS Udaygiri is the second Stealth Frigate of P17A class.
- The Defence Minister made special mention of Indigenous Aircraft Carrier 'INS Vikrant', terming it as a major milestone in the Indian Navy's path of 'Aatmanirbharta'.
- He hoped that the carrier will increase India's reach from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean.

Source- <https://www.businesstoday.in/>

Third edition of India-Bangladesh Navy exercise begins at Mongla port



- The third edition of Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy Bilateral exercise Bongosagar commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh. The Harbour Phase of exercise is underway. It will be followed by a Sea Phase in the Northern Bay of Bengal starting on 26 May 2022.
- Exercise Bongosagar is aimed at developing a high degree of interoperability and joint operational skills through the conduct of a wide spectrum of maritime exercises and operations between the two navies.
- Indian Naval Ships Kora, an indigenously built Guided Missile Corvette, and Sumedha, an indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel are participating in the Exercise. Bangladesh Navy is being represented by BNS Abu Ubaidah and Ali Haider, both Guided Missile Frigates.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in>

GRSE launches Indian Navy survey vessel 'INS Nirdeshak'



- Nirdeshak, the second of the four Survey Vessels (Large) (SVL) projects being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) in collaboration with L&T shipbuilding for the Indian Navy was launched on 26 May 2022, at Kattupalli, Chennai.
- The ship has taken its name from erstwhile Nirdeshak which was also an Indian Naval Survey ship and was decommissioned after 32 years of glorious service in December 2014.
- Part construction of three out of four ships of SVL is being undertaken at L&T, Kattupalli as part of a collaborative approach between GRSE and L&T shipbuilding.
- This model of Public-Private Partnership shall be a harbinger of future successful collaboration for Warship construction in India.
- The contract for building four SVL ships was signed between MoD and GRSE, Kolkata on October 30, 2018. The first of class ship 'Sandhayak' was launched in December 2021 at GRSE, Kolkata.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

26-year-old Abhilasha Barak becomes the Indian Army's first woman combat aviator



- Captain Abhilasha Barak on, 25 May, created history by becoming the first woman to join the Indian Army's Aviation Corps as a combat aviator.
- The 26-year-old captain, who hails from Haryana, was awarded the Coveted Wings along with 36 army pilots by Director General and Colonel Commandant Army Aviation.

Source -<https://www.thequint.com/news/>

4th edition of India-Bangladesh Navy Bilateral exercise commences in Northern Bay of Bengal



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- The fourth edition of the Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) commenced on 22 May 2022, informed the officials.
- Indian Navy's indigenous warships, INSKora and INSSumedha along with Bangladesh Navy's warships BNS Ali Haider and BNS Abu Ubaidah would touch the waters during patrolling.
- Maritime Patrol Aircraft of both navies will also undertake joint patrol along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) during CORPAT. (ANI)
- Maritime Patrol Aircraft of both navies will also undertake joint patrol along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) during CORPAT.
- The regular conduct of CORPATs has strengthened mutual understanding and enhanced interoperability between both the navies in countering transnational maritime threats at sea.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

INS Gomati bids adieu after 34 years of service, decommissioned at Mumbai



- The Indian Navy Ship (INS) Gomati was decommissioned on May 28 from the naval dockyard in Mumbai, informed the Ministry of Defence in an official release.
- INS Gomati derives her name from the vibrant river Gomti and was commissioned on 16 April 1988 by then Defence Minister, KC Pant, at Mazgaon Dock Ltd, Bombay.
- The third ship of the Godavari class guided-missile frigates, INS Gomati was also the oldest warrior of the western fleet when decommissioned.
- INS Gomati participated in numerous operations including Cactus, Parakram and Rainbow, and several bilateral and multinational naval exercises.
- IMS Gomati was twice awarded the coveted Unit Citation, in 2007-08 and again in 2019-20, for remarkable spirit and stellar contribution to national maritime security.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>



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Appointments

Senior IFS officer Vinay Mohan Kwatra assumes charge as India's new Foreign Secretary



- Senior IFS officer Vinay Mohan Kwatra on 01 May 2022 assumed charge as India's new Foreign Secretary.
- He succeeded incumbent Harsh Vardhan Shringla.
- A 1988 batch IFS officer, Mr. Kwatra was earlier serving as India's Ambassador to Nepal.

Source-<https://newsonair.com>

Lt.Gen BS Raju appointed as the new Deputy Chief General of the Indian Army



- The new deputy Chief General of the army staff has got a new face in the name of Lt. Gen BS Raju. As he was selected, he was congratulated by General MM Naravane COAS and all ranks of the Indian Army on being appointed as the Deputy Chief of Army Staff.
- He will be incumbent from 1 May 2022. Currently he is heading the DG Military Operations. Now he is going to take over the responsibility of Vice Chief of Army Staff despite not being an army commander. Earlier, he had commanded 15 Corps based in Srinagar.

Source-<https://www.thehansindia.com>

JioSaavn appoints former Amazon Music director Sahas Malhotra as CEO



- Music app firm JioSaavn has appointed former Amazon Music director and entertainment industry veteran Sahas Malhotra as its new CEO.
- Malhotra has earlier worked with Sony Music India and Tips Industries. At Tips Industries, Sahas was leading the business at Tips Music and marketing for Tips Film production.
- "Based out of the company's headquarters in Mumbai, Sahas will lead the company's endeavours in a constantly evolving and exciting Indian market. Sahas brings over 24 years of elaborate experience in the entertainment industry, in building teams, film marketing, music P&L management, licensing, media planning, music publishing and product management," JioSaavn said in a statement.
- Founded in 2007 as Saavn, JioSaavn is an audio streaming service for South Asian music and artists. In March 2018, Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) acquired a majority stake in the firm. JioSaavn claims to have over 100 million monthly active users.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com>

Former petroleum secretary Tarun Kapoor appointed advisor to PM



- Former petroleum secretary Tarun Kapoor has been appointed as an advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Personnel Ministry said in an order issued on 02 May 2022.
- Kapoor, a 1987-batch IAS officer of the Himachal Pradesh cadre, superannuated as the secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on November 30, 2021.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved appointment of Kapoor, as advisor to the Prime Minister, in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO),

in the rank and scale of Secretary to Government of India, initially for a period of two years from the date of joining," it said.

- Senior bureaucrats Hari Ranjan Rao and Atish Chandra have been appointed as additional secretaries in the PMO.
- Rao, a 1994-batch IAS officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre, is currently Administrator, Universal Services Obligation Fund in the Department of Telecommunications.
- His batchmate from the Bihar cadre, Chandra is currently Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), Food Corporation of India, Department of Food and Public Distribution.

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com>

IRS Officer Sangeeta Singh given Additional Charge of CBDT Chairperson



- After incumbent JB Mohapatra retired as the head of the CBDT on April 30, the Indian Revenue Officer Sangeeta Singh has been given Additional Charge of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairperson.
- An order issued by the Union Finance Ministry on 01 May 2022 said Singh, a 1986-batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service of the Income Tax cadre, “shall discharge the duties and responsibilities of the post of chairman, CBDT in addition to her own duties for a period of three months or till a regular chairman is appointed, whichever is earlier.”
- She is currently serving as the Member (Income Tax and Revenue) and is also holding the additional charge of Member (Tax Payer Services) in the CBDT.
- The CBDT is headed by a chairman and can have six members who are in the rank of special secretary. It is the administrative body for the Income Tax department. There are five members in the board at present with 1985-batch IRS officer Anuja Sarangi being the senior most.

Source-<https://www.taxscan.in>

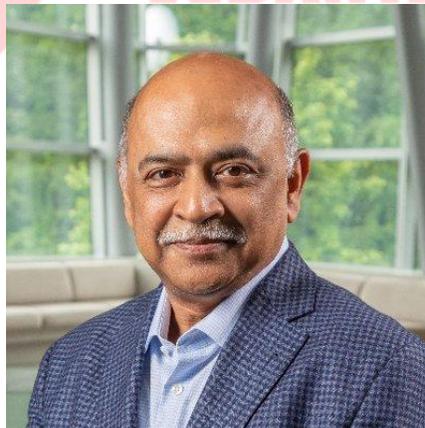
Indian-origin Nand Mulchandani is CIA's first chief tech officer



- Nand Mulchandani, an Indian-origin man, has been appointed as Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) first-ever Chief Technology Officer. Mulchandani studied at Delhi's Bluebells School International between 1979 and 1987.
- The announcement was made by CIA Director William J Burns. According to CIA, Mulchandani has over 25 years of expertise working in Silicon Valley.
- Mulchandani has a degree in Computer Science and Math from Cornell, a Master of Science degree in Management from Stanford, and a Master in Public Administration degree from Harvard.
- "Mulchandani brings substantial personal sector, startup, and authorities experience to the CIA," the US agency said in a press release.

Source-<https://www.indiatoday.in>

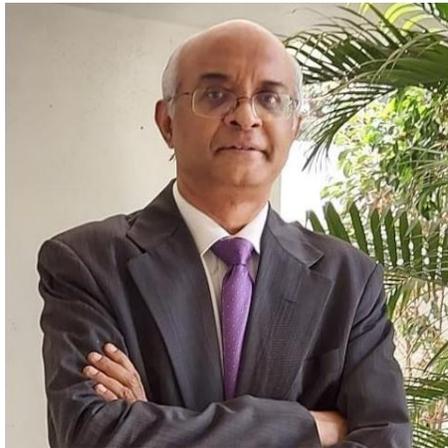
IBM chairman elected to Fed Reserve Board



- IBM chairman and CEO Arvind Krishna has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
- The Federal Reserve Bank of New York on 2 May 2022 announced that 60-year-old Krishna has been elected as a Class B director, "representing the public with due but not exclusive consideration to the interests of agriculture, commerce, industry, services, labour, and consumers."
- The New York Fed said Krishna will fill the vacancy in the office for the remaining portion of a three-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Source- <https://www.tribuneindia.com>

IndiGo appoints Venkataramani Sumantran as the chairman of the Board



- InterGlobe Aviation on 04 May 2022 appointed Venkataramani Sumantran, an independent non-executive director since May 2020, as chairman of the IndiGo Board, succeeding Meleveetil Damodaran.
- “Sumantran is an outstanding business leader as well as a highly experienced member of the IndiGo Board, thereby facilitating a seamless transition of the Chairmanship of the Board,” said IndiGo Managing Director Rahul Bhatia welcoming Sumantran to the new position.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com>

Sudarshan Venu has been named the Managing Director of TVS Motor Company



- Chennai (Tamil Nadu) [India], May 5 (ANI): Sudarshan Venu, son of Venu Srinivasan, on 5 May 2022 took over as the Managing Director of TVS Motor Company.
- Before his elevation to the new position, Sudarshan Venu was the Joint Managing Director of TVS Motor Company.
- Sudarshan’s outstanding efforts have seen critical decisions to produce aspirational products and grow quickly in India and beyond, according to Mr Venu Srinivasan, Chairman Emeritus, TVS Motor Company.
- He has also overseen some significant acquisitions and group company expansion.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

Supreme Court gets 2 new judges to regain full strength of 34



- The Union government 07 May 2022 notified the appointment of Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, the chief justice of Gauhati High Court, and Justice Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala, a judge of the Gujarat High Court, as judges of the Supreme Court.
- The Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana had recommended their names for appointment on May 5. The other members of the Collegium are Justices UU Lalit, AM Khanwilkar, DY Chandrachud and L Nageswara Rao.
- At present, the Supreme Court has a strength of 32 judges as against a sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

Pushp Kumar Joshi Named HPCL Chairman and Managing Director



- Pushp Kumar Joshi on 08 May 2022 took over as the new chairman and managing director of India's third largest oil refining and fuel marketing company Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL).
- "Prior to this Dr Joshi was Director-HR of the Corporation from August 01, 2012," the company said in a statement.
- Joshi is also holding the additional charge of Director-Marketing of HPCL. Prior to this Dr Joshi was Director-HR of the Corporation from August 01, 2012.
- Joshi, the senior-most director on the HPCL board, was in January picked by the government headhunter PESB to replace Mukesh Kumar Surana.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Alkesh Kumar Sharma appointed as Ministry of Electronics and IT's Secretary



- Senior IAS officer Alkesh Kumar Sharma, has taken over the role of secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- Sharma was earlier secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat.
- Sharma had earlier served as the additional chief secretary-industries of the Kerala govt from May 2020 to April 2021. From September 2019 to April 2021 Sharma was the Managing Director of Kochi Metro Rail as well as CEO of Cochin Smart City Mission.

Source-<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>

Campbell Wilson appointed new CEO of Air India



- Tata Sons announced the appointment of Campbell Wilson as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Air India on 12 May 2022.
- The Air India board has approved the appointment of Campbell Wilson subject to requisite regulatory approvals, the airline said in a statement.
- Campbell Wilson, 50, has 26 years of aviation industry expertise across both full service and low-cost airlines. He is the CEO of Scoot, the wholly owned low-cost subsidiary of Singapore Airlines (SIA).

Source-<https://www.indiatoday.in/business>

Rajiv Kumar takes charge as 25th Chief Election Commissioner, says EC won't shy away from tough calls



- Former Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar on May 15 assumed charge as Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), taking over from outgoing CEC Sushil Chandra who retired on May 14.
- After taking office, Mr. Kumar said a lot had been done over the past 70 years by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to ensure free and fair elections.
- “The Commission will follow the time-tested and democratic methods of consultations and consensus building in bringing about any major reforms responsible under the Constitution. ECI will not shy away from tough decisions,” he said.
- He added that technology would be used further to simplify processes and bringing about transparency and ease of voter services.
- Mr. Kumar, who had been an Election Commissioner since September 1, 2020, would likely oversee the 2024 Lok Sabha elections as his term is until 2025.
- A retired IAS officer of the 1984 batch, Mr. Kumar held the post of chairman of the Public Services Enterprises Selection Board before being named as the EC. He had retired from the IAS in February 2020 as the Union Finance Secretary.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com>

Deepika Padukone becomes first Indian brand ambassador for Louis Vuitton



- The French luxury label announced the news on 11 May 2022, reports the CNN.
- The 36-year-old Bollywood actress' involvement was revealed as part of a new handbag campaign in which she appears with Emma Stone and Chinese actor Zhou Dongyu in a series of promotional pictures.
- Deepika Padukone has previously been seen using Louis Vuitton in her photos.
- She was the first Indian actor to appear in a commercial for the brand in 2020, sitting for a mock old book cover alongside Léa Seydoux and Sophie Turner.
- Padukone has lately appeared in advertisements for Levi's and Adidas, but her role as an ambassador for Louis Vuitton is her first for a luxury brand.

Source-<https://www.tbsnews.net>

Sanjiv Bajaj takes over as New CII President



- The newly constituted National Council of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) at a meeting on May 12, elected its new office-bearers for the year 2022-23.
- Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman and Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Limited, has assumed office as the President of CII for 2022-23. He takes over from T V Narendran, CEO & Managing Director, Tata Steel Limited.

- Sanjiv has been engaged with CII for many years at the State, Regional and National level. He was the President-Designate for 2021-22 and the Chairman of the Western Region during 2019-20. He has led CII National Committees on Insurance & Pensions and CII Taskforce on Fintech.
- Sanjiv is an alumnus of the Harvard Business School, USA and a Member of the Board of Indian School of Business (ISB), Member of the International Advisory Board (IAB), Allianz SE and the International Technology Advisory Panel (ITAP) of Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) and Regional Stewardship Board for India and South Asia 2019-2020 of the World Economic Forum.

Source-<https://www.freepressjournal.in>

PFC Chairman takes Additional Charge of CMD, REC Ltd



- Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Chairman of Power Finance Corporation has taken the additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of REC Limited for three months due to the elevation of S.K.G Rahate to the post of Secretary to the Government of India, the Ministry of Power, Government of India
- "Government of India vide order dated May 10, 2022, has communicated that Ravinder Singh Dhillon, CMD, PFC will look after the work of CMD, REC Ltd from May 10, 2022, in addition to his current responsibilities, for three months or until further orders, whichever is earlier," REC said in a BSE filing. Dhillon is not related to any other director of the company, it mentioned.
- Accordingly, wef May 10, 2022, Dhillon is not inter se related to any other Director of the Company. Further, as per the declaration given by him, Shri Dhillon is not debarred from holding the office of the Director by virtue of any SEBI order or any other such authority.
- With over 36 years of varied experience spread across the entire value chain of the power sector, he is very diversified in his work. The experience covers 3 years in Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd, 6 years in Central Electricity Authority, and 27 years in PFC, playing a key role in project appraisal, financial modeling, project monitoring, and stressed asset resolution.

Source-<https://www.psuconnect.in>

Nidhi Chibber named as CBSE new chief 2022



- New Delhi, May 13 Senior bureaucrat Nidhi Chibber has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education(CBSE) as part of a senior-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre on 13 May 2022.
- Chibber, a 1994 batch IAS officer of Chhattisgarh cadre, is currently Additional Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- She has been appointed as chairperson of the CBSE in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the government of India, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry said.
- Vivek Kumar Dewangen, a 1993 batch IAS officer of Manipur cadre, has been named Chairman and Managing Director, REC Ltd., Ministry of Power.
- He is currently Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Power.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

RBI appoints Sitikantha Pattanaik and Rajiv Ranjan as executive directors

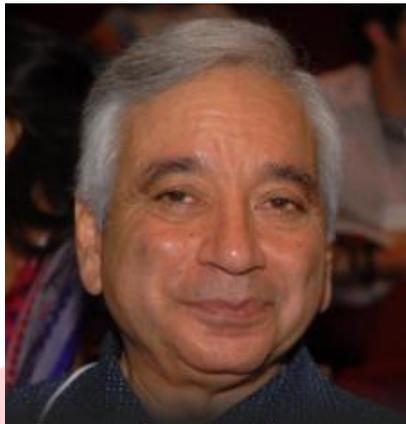


- The Reserve Bank on 13 May 2022 said Sitikantha Pattanaik and Rajiv Ranjan have been appointed as executive directors with effect from May 1.

- Ranjan will also serve as an ex-officio member of the rate-setting panel Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).
- Pattanaik was an adviser at the Department of Economic and Policy Research before being appointed to ED.
- Rajiv Ranjan will oversee the Monetary Policy Department as Executive Director, while Pattanaik will oversee the Department of Economic and Policy Research (DEPR).

Source-<https://www.business-standard.com>

Indian environmental scientist elected to U.S. National Academy of Sciences



- Conservation biologist Kamal Bawa has been elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.
- Kamal Bawa is president of the Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE) as well as an elected fellow of the Royal Society (London) and the American Philosophical Society.
- “The election is a reaffirmation of our important work on the ecology, conservation, and management of tropical forests that are declining all over the world but are critical to humanity’s well-being.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com>

Gram Unnati appoints Arora as Chairman



- Agri-tech startup Gram Unnati on 10 May 2022 announced the appointment of former Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora as its board's new Chairman (Non-Executive).
- Arora is a retired civil servant (IAS) with a rich leadership experience spanning over 36 years.
- Arora has served as Additional Chief Secretary (Home) to the Government of Rajasthan. He has been on the board of various corporate entities such as Barmer Mining and Lignite Co, Mahindra SEZ and Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Ltd.

Source-<https://mahamediaonline.com>

B Govindarajan appointed as CEO of Royal Enfield



- Eicher Motors has appointed B Govindarajan as the Chief Executive Officer of Royal Enfield.
- He will also serve as the Wholetime Director of the Board of Eicher Motors Limited.
- Govindarajan has been with Eicher Motors for more than 23 years. Prior to his recent appointment as CEO, he served as the Executive Director of Royal Enfield.
- He was also the Chief Operating Officer of the motorcycle brand since 2013.
- Govindarajan played a key role in the development of the Himalayan, Continental GT 650 and Interceptor INT 650 and the recent J-platform based Meteor and Classic 350 models.

<https://www.team-bhp.com>

S N Subrahmanyam: Appointed as MD and CEO of Larsen & Toubro



- **NEW DELHI:** SN Subrahmanyam will take charge as the CEO and Managing Director of Larsen & Toubro, which will also mark the end of nearly two-decade long tenure of A M Naik at the helm.
- The appointment was approved by the company board on April 7 and marks a major change in leadership positions at L&T where Naik has served for over 52 years, including as its head for over 17 years, the company said in a statement.
- Subrahmanyam also takes over at a difficult time: private investment demand in India hasn't taken off, West Asia is slowing due to low oil prices, and the company has a high working capital and low return on equity.

Source- <https://www.livemint.com/>

Airtel re-appoints Gopal Vittal as MD and CEO for 5 years



- **Bharti Airtel NSE -0.16 %**, India's no. 2 telco, 18 May 2022 said that its board has reappointed Gopal Vittal as Managing Director & CEO for a further period of five years ending on January 31, 2028.
- The reappointment came on a day the telco posted a consolidated net profit at Rs 2,007.8 crore in the March quarter, up 141% sequentially and 164% on the year.
- Analysts had an estimated net profit of around Rs 1,970 crore. This was Airtel's sixth successive quarter in the black after six straight losses earlier.

Source- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>

BSE appoints former RBI deputy governor S S Mundra as a chairman



- Leading stock exchange BSE on 17 May 2022 said its board has appointed S S Mundra, a public interest director, as the chairman of the bourse.
- Mundra will replace Justice Vikramajit Sen who is the current chairman.
- Mundra was appointed as Public Interest Director at BSE in January 2018.
- He retired as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India on 30th July 2017.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

IndiGo appoints KLM's Pieter Elbers as CEO



- IndiGo on 18 May 2022 announced the appointment of a new CEO in Pieter Elbers, who helms Dutch airline KLM.
- He will replace Ronojoy Dutta, 71, who retires on September 30, 2022.
- Mr. Elbers, is the President and Chief Executive Officer of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines since 2014. He will join IndiGo on or before October 1.
- He is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Air France – KLM Group.

- The Board of Directors of IndiGo's parent company, InterGlobe Aviation Limited, approved his appointment subject to regulatory clearances.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com/>

Vijay Shekhar Sharma reappointed as MD & CEO of Paytm till Dec 2027



- One 97 Communications, which operates under Paytm brand, has reappointed its founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma as managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) till December 18, 2027.
- Further, the Board has also approved the appointment of Deora as the Whole-time director designated as “Whole-time Director and Chief Financial Officer” of the Company.
- Deora is the President and Group Chief Financial Officer of the Company.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

Infosys reappoints Salil Parekh as CEO and MD for 5 years



- IT giant Infosys has announced that Salil Parekh has been reappointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) by the Board of Directors.
- His new term will be effective from July 1, 2022 to March 31, 2027. The reappointment is subject to approval by shareholders.

- Salil Parekh has been the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Infosys since January 2018 and has successfully led Infosys over the last 4 years.
- He has more than thirty years of global experience in the IT services industry with a strong track record of driving digital transformation for enterprises, executing business turnarounds, and managing successful acquisitions.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

IFS Vivek Kumar appointed as new PS to Prime Minister Narendra Modi



- Delhi: IFS Vivek Kumar was appointed as Private Secretary (PS) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 21 May 2022.
- A 2004 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, Vivek Kumar is currently the director of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
- India's Ambassador to Israel, Sanjeev Kumar Singla, is ready to take over. Singla, an IFS officer from the 1997 batch, was named PS to the Prime Minister in 2014.
- Singla returned to India to work in the PMO after a brief stint in the Indian Embassy in Tel Aviv. He will now resume his duties as ambassador.

Source- <https://www.timesnownews.com/>

Khadi commission head Vinai Kumar Saxena is Delhi's new Lieutenant Governor



- Vinai Kumar Saxena, currently serving as the chairperson of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), has been appointed as the new Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of Delhi.
- Saxena is the current chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, an organisation under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- He was born on March 23, 1958, and is a Kanpur University alumnus with a Pilot license.
- In March 2021, he was appointed by the Union government as a member of the national committee to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Gaurav Sachdeva appointed as CEO of JSW One Platforms



- New Delhi, May 23 (PTI) JSW Group on 23 May 2022 announced the appointment of Gaurav Sachdeva as CEO of its e-commerce venture JSW One Platforms.
- “Gaurav Sachdeva takes over the role of CEO at JSW One Platforms after his successful tenure at JSW Ventures, where he led venture capital investments for the fund,” JSW Group said in a statement.
- JSW One will soon be constituting an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) for all its staff, it said.
- In his new role, Sachdeva will be responsible for creating a robust transparent platform that will ease buying and selling of steel and other products for manufacturing and construction MSMEs in the country.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

Tedros re-elected as Director General of World Health Organization



- The World Health Organization's (WHO) members re-elected Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus as Director General by a strong majority for another five years, the president of the World Health Assembly said on Tuesday.
- The vote by secret ballot, announced by Ahmed Robleh Abdilleh from Djibouti at a major annual meeting, was seen as a formality since Tedros was the only candidate running.
- Ministers and delegates took turns to shake hands and hug Tedros, a former health minister from Ethiopia, who has steered the UN agency through a turbulent period dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The president had to use a gavel several times to interrupt the applause.

Source-<https://www.moneycontrol.com>

Indian officer Anwar Hussain Shaik is new chair of WTO committee



- After a gap of ten years, an Indian government officer Anwar Hussain Shaik has been made the chair of the WTO's committee on Technical Barriers on Trade, an official said. He will take this role from Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro from Mexico.
- WTO is a 164-member multilateral body which formulates rules for global exports and imports and adjudicates disputes between countries on trade-related issues. India is a member since 1995.
- The Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement aims to ensure that technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures are non-discriminatory and do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade.

Source- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>

Justice Mohanty gets additional charge of Lokpal chairperson



- President Ram Nath Kovind has given justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty the additional charge of Lokpal chairperson after justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose completed his term as the Lokpal chief on 27 May 2022.
- “Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty, judicial member, has been given additional charge of the post of chairperson, Lokpal,” an official in the know of matter said. The Lokpal is headed by a chairperson and can have eight members.
- At present, there are six members in the Lokpal. Two posts of judicial members have been lying vacant for over two years. The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, which envisages the appointment of a Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayuktas in states to look into cases of corruption against certain categories of public servants, was passed in 2013.
- President Ram Nath Kovind had on March 23, 2019, administered the oath of office to justice Ghose as the Lokpal chairperson.

Source- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>



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Awards

DD National Pet Show wins ENBA Award 2021

- Doordarshan has won ENBA Award 2021 for its TV series based on pet care namely 'Best Friend Forever' under the 14th edition of Exchange4media News Broadcasting Awards, ENBA Awards. Doordarshan's TV series has been selected for the best in-depth Hindi series.
- The 'Best Friend Forever' TV series is a half-an-hour weekly live phone-in show on DD National, wherein two pet experts guide people on how to take care of pets and other pet-related issues.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in>

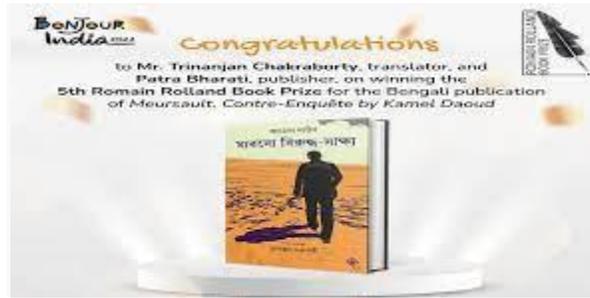
World Food Prize 2022 received by NASA's Cynthia Rosenzweig



- Cynthia Rosenzweig is a well-known climatologist and agronomist who established a project to study the effects of climate change on food supply.
- World Food Prize (WFP) is an international award that recognises an individual's contributions to development by increasing the quantity, quality, or availability of food around the world.
- Cynthia Rosenzweig, a senior research scientist and head of the Climate Impacts Group at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) in New York City, was named the 2022 World Food Prize winner by Barbara Stinson.

Source-<https://krishijagran.com/>

Bengali translation 'Meursault, contre-enquête' wins Romain Rolland Book Prize 2022



- The Bengali translation of French novel “Meursault, contre-enquête” (The Meursault Investigation) has won the fifth Romain Rolland Book Prize.
- The award, announced during the French LitFest 2022 held on 07 May 2022, was given to translator Trinanjan Chakraborty and publisher Patra Bharati, the organisers said in a statement.
- The debut novel of Algerian writer and journalist Kamel Daoud, ‘Meursault, contre-enquête’ is a retelling of Albert Camus’ 1942 novel, “The Stranger”.
- It won the prize beating the other shortlisted book — the Hindi translation of Marjane Satrapi’s cult comic “Persepolis”.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

Mamata Banerjee received Special Bangla Academy Award



- A Bengali writer on 10 May 2022 returned an award given to her by Paschim Banga Bangla Academy to protest its decision to confer a special award on Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for her contribution to the cause of literature.
- Ratna Rashid Banerjee returned the ‘Annada Shankar Smarak Samman’ with which she was honoured by the academy in 2019.
- “I did not like their decision and that’s why I have decided to return my award. There is no politics behind my move. I have said whatever I had to say on this in a written statement,” said Banerjee, speaking to The Indian Express over phone.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Indian architect Balkrishna Doshi honoured with prestigious UK medal



- Indian architect Balkrishna Doshi, who is credited with designing some of the most iconic structures in the country, was on 10 May 2022 conferred with Royal Gold Medal, 2022, one of the world's highest honours for architecture.
- Doshi, 94, is the only Indian and among a few globally to have been awarded both the Royal Gold Medal and the Pritzker Architecture Prize, often referred to as the Nobel Prize of architecture, in their lifetime.
- Given in recognition of a lifetime's work, the Royal Gold Medal is approved personally by Queen Elizabeth II.
- "I am deeply humbled to receive the Royal Gold Medal from the Queen of England. The news brought back memories of my time working with Le Corbusier in 1953 when he had just received the news of getting the Royal Gold Medal. Six decades later, I feel truly overwhelmed to be bestowed with the same award as my guru, Le Corbusier — honouring my six decades of practice..." Doshi said.

Source-<https://www.hindustantimes.com>

Kenyan nurse Anna Qabale Duba crowned world's best nurse



- A Kenyan nurse who campaigns against early marriage and female genital mutilation says she is "speechless" after winning a prize of \$250,000 (£205,000).

- Anna Qabale Duba's colleagues say she always goes the extra mile for others in her pastoralist community in the northern county of Marsabit, and runs a school in her village.
- "This award will help me to expand my school all over Kenya.
- While receiving the award, Duba, the only female graduate in her village, revealed that she, through her Qabale Duba Foundation, had built a school in Marsabit
- Which offers classes to young pupils and adults looking to get a decent education during the day and evening respectively.

Source- <https://www.bbc.com/>

Cameroonian activist wins Wangari Maathai Forest Champions' Award 2022



- The Wangari Maathai Champions of Forests Award for 2022 has gone to Cameroon's gender specialist and social forester.
- Cécile Ndjebet received the award for her extraordinary contribution to the preservation of forests and the improvement of the lives of those who rely on them.
- This award celebrates Cécile Ndjebet's energy and dedication over three decades to promoting women's rights to land and forests.
- She has actively shown that women's participation in forest governance and preservation is fundamental to achieving sustainable forest management.
- Ndjebet has tirelessly promoted the concept that women should be involved in forest management and have equal rights to forest land and resources – and that when they do, forests are better preserved and entire communities benefit.

Source- <https://www.myjoyonline.com/>

Ajay Piramal receives Order of the British Empire award

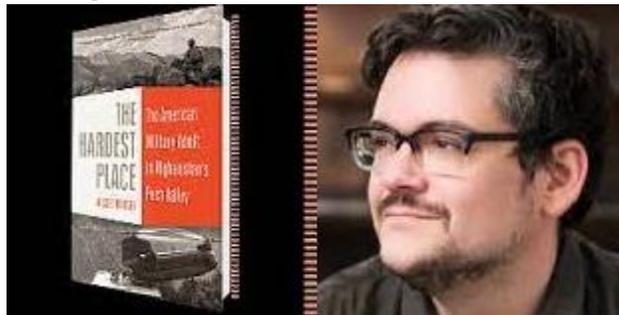


- Ajay Piramal, Chairman of the Piramal Group, has received an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) by Her Majesty The Queen.
- He received the award for services to the UK-India trade relationship as India Co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum.
- Commenting on this recognition, Piramal said: “I am humbled and honoured to receive this honorary award from Her Majesty The Queen.
- As co-chair of India-UK CEO forum since 2016, the endeavour has been to help strengthen the strong bilateral relations between the two countries through greater economic co-operation.
- I am sure this recognition will encourage the growth of trade, business and industry partnerships between the two nations and take it to greater heights in the years to come.”

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

VEDANTA INSTITUTE
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Wesley Morgan wins Colby award for ‘The Hardest Place’



- Author and journalist Wesley Morgan is this year’s winner of the William E. Colby Award for military and intelligence writing.
- He was cited for his book The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan’s Pech Valley.
- The Colby award, a \$5,000 prize named for the former ambassador and CIA director, is given for “a major contribution to the understanding of military history, intelligence operations or international affairs.”

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Anjali Pandey of Cummins India bags the CII EXCON Committed Leader Award



- Anjali Pandey, Engines and Components Business Unit Leader at Cummins India has been awarded with the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022 in Bengaluru for her efforts to create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.
- Commenting on receiving the CII's Committed Leader Award, Anjali Pandey, said, "Diversity and inclusion is not just the right thing to do.
- It is the right way of running the business by fully capitalizing on the value that diversity can bring. I believe that it is critical to our ability to innovate and win in the market".
- Cummins India has taken active measures to increase its female representation over the past few years resulting in an increase in gender diversity ratio from 5 to 32 per cent over the last two decades, which is a significant achievement for a manufacturing organization.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

India's ASHA workers among six recipients of Global Health Leaders Award at World Health Assembly



- The one million ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) workers, who are at the forefront of healthcare delivery in India, have received the Global Health Leaders Award-2022 in the backdrop of the on-going 75th World Health Assembly.
- "ASHA (which means hope in Hindi) are more than 1 million female volunteers in India, honoured for the crucial role in linking the community with the health system.
- To ensure those living in rural poverty can access primary healthcare services, as shown throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Said a release from the World Health Organisation (WHO). They were one of the six recipients of the award.

Source-<https://indianexpress.com/>

Rolls-Royce India president Jayaraman gets top British honour



- Kishore Jayaraman, President, India and South Asia for Rolls-Royce, has received an honorary Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Her Majesty The Queen, British Deputy High Commission, Mumbai said in a statement.
- “He received the award for services to international trade and investment, with a key focus on promotion of India-U.K. trade,” the statement added.
- He has also been instrumental in promoting bilateral ties by setting up a strategic ecosystem for boosting manufacturing in India enabled by U.K.’s technology.
- Under his leadership, the company set up the ‘Engineering Centre’ in Bengaluru in 2015, ‘Digital Centre of Excellence with over 60 digital technologists in 2017, and its first ‘Start-up Accelerator Programme’ in India in 2019.

(A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/>

Music Academy announces Sangita Kalanidhi awards



- Music Academy, on 22 May 2022, announced presenting the Sangita Kalanidhi and other awards to various artistes from the period 2020 to 2022.
- “The Sangita Kalanidhi will be given to renowned vocalist Neyveli R Santanagopalan (2020), eminent mridangam artiste Tiruvarur Bhakthavathsalam (2021) and violin duo Lalgudi GJR Krishnan and

Vijayalakshmi (2022),” a statement from N Murali, president of the academy, said.

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin will give away the awards at a ceremony later. The academy also announced other awards including Nritya Kalanidhi, for three recipients, in the dance segment.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

Award for CMFRI Director for works on fish genetics

- A. Gopalakrishnan, Director of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, has won the VASVIK (Vividhlaxi Audyogik Samshodhan Vikas Kendra) Industrial Research Award for the year 2020 in the Agricultural Sciences and Technology category.
- The award carries a cash prize of ₹1.51 lakh and citation and is in recognition of Dr. Gopalakrishnan’s contributions to research works on fish genetics. A communication from CMFRI said the VASVIK research award was presented to scientists and researchers who excelled in various fields, including agricultural sciences.
- The CMFRI Director’s research works include genetic stock identification, species inventory, taxonomy, and breeding and seed production of threatened and commercially important species for mariculture which has helped improve scientific knowledge about Indian fishery and conservation measures, said the communication.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com>

Geetanjali Shree's Tomb of Sand wins International Booker Prize



- A Delhi-based writer Geetanjali Shree has become the first Indian writer to win the International Booker Prize.
- Her novel titled Ret Samadhi, translated into English as Tomb of Sand by Daisy Rockwell, won the International Booker Prize.
- It was the first Hindi-language book to be shortlisted for the £50,000 prize.
- It is a story set in the shadow of the partition of India, which follows an elderly woman after the death of her husband.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

Shaunak Sen's documentary 'All That Breathes' wins L'OEil d'Or award at Cannes



- Filmmaker Shaunak Sen's documentary, All That Breathes, has been honoured with the 2022 L'OEil d'Or award.
- The L'OEil d'Or documentary award, also known as The Golden Eye award, was created in 2015 by French-speaking authors' society LaScam in collaboration with the Cannes Film Festival.
- All That Breathes had also won the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Documentary at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival. Recently, it was acquired by HBO, a US-based cable network.
- After its release in the US late this year, the documentary will debut on HBO and streaming service HBO Max in 2023.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/>

RJ Umar from Kashmir receives Immunisation Champion award by UNICEF



- A Radio Jockey from south Kashmir, Umar Nisar, also known as RJ Umar, has been awarded the '01 Best Content Award' and the Immunisation Champion award by UNICEF at the annual Radio4Child 2022 Awards in Mumbai.

- The Radio4Child felicitated radio professionals from All India Radio and private FM channels across India for their work during COVID-19 and for routine vaccination.

Source- <https://inshorts.com>

Film historian Sanjit Narwekar honoured at the launch of 17th MIFF



- The Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, flagged off the 17th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF), with Bangladesh as the 'Country of Focus' at the Nehru Centre in Worli, Mumbai.
- To celebrate 50 years of independence of Bangladesh, the MIFF 'Country of Focus', a package of 11 documentary films from the neighbouring country, including the critically acclaimed 'Hasina: A Daughter's Tale' will be presented at the seven-day festival being organised by the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- The highlight of the opening ceremony was the documentary filmmaker, film historian and biographer Sanjit Narwekar being conferred the coveted V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the understanding of films.
- Narwekar has written and edited more than 20 books on cinema, including 'Marathi Cinema in Retrospect', which won him the Swarna Kamal at the National Film Awards in 1996. The V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award comes with a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh, a golden conch and a citation.

Source-<https://www.indiatvnews.com>

Sports

PV Sindhu wins bronze medal at Badminton Asia Championships



- World number seven PV Sindhu has won a bronze medal in the 2022 Badminton Asia Championships following a defeat in the semi-finals of the tournament, against Japanese defending champion Akane Yamaguchi.
- Yamaguchi defeated Sindhu 13-21, 21-19, 21-16. Sindhu had won a bronze medal at the 2014 edition of the tournament in Gimcheon as well.

Source-<https://inshorts.com>

Real Madrid win 35th La Liga title, Carlo Ancelotti first coach to clinch titles in Europe's top 5 leagues



- With Real Madrid clinching the Spanish league on 30 April 2022, Carlo Ancelotti became the first coach to lift trophies in the top five European leagues.
- The Italian manager had already won with AC Milan in Italy, Chelsea in England, Paris Saint-Germain in France, and Bayern Munich in Germany.
- The 62-year-old Ancelotti coached Madrid from 2013-15 but didn't win La Liga. But in that first tenure, Madrid won the Champions League, the Club World Cup, UEFA's Super Cup and the Copa del Rey.
- Ancelotti won the Serie A in 2004, the English Premier League in 2010, the French league in 2013 and the Bundesliga in 2017.
- Madrid won its record-extending 35th Spanish league title with a 4-0 win over Espanyol, gaining an insurmountable lead with four rounds to go.

Source- <https://www.freepressjournal.in>

Santosh Trophy: Kerala beat West Bengal in penalty shootout to lift title for seventh time



- In Football, Hosts Kerala beat West Bengal 5-4 in a penalty shootout at the Payyanad Stadium in Malappuram to win the Santosh Trophy National Tournament for the seventh time.
- In a thrilling final, last evening, that kept the 35,000 odd spectators on tenterhooks, both teams ended the 90 minutes of action into a goalless draw, following which, the match headed into the extra time.
- The teams were level 1-1 after extra time in a pulsating encounter. Two terrific headers from Dilip Orwan of West Bengal and Kerala's Muhammed Safnad in extra-time took the game to penalties. In the tie-breaker, Kerala converted all their shots while Bengal's Sajal Bag missed his, resulting in the hosts lifting the title.
- This is the first win for Kerala on home soil since 1993. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan congratulated the Kerala football team for winning the Santosh Trophy.

(A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

Stadium to be built in Olympic gold-medallist Neeraj Chopra's native village, says Haryana Chief Minister



- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on 01 May 2022 announced that a stadium will be built in Olympic gold-medallist Neeraj Chopra's native village in Panipat.
- Making the announcement after inaugurating a cooperative sugar mill in Panipat, the Chief Minister said Neeraj Chopra, who belongs to Haryana,

has made the country and the state proud by winning an Olympic gold medal last year.

- "A stadium would be built in Neeraj Chopra's village for ₹10 crore," he announced. Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra's native village Khandra is in Panipat. Last year, Mr. Chopra became the first Indian to win a gold medal in Olympic track and field.
- Mr. Khattar said that Haryana has become a sports hub and players from the state have brought laurels at various national and international level sporting events. Haryana is also giving the highest prize money to its players, he said.
- Mr. Khattar also said the Khelo India Youth Games-2021, which had to be postponed multiple times due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be organised in the state from June 4 to June 13.

Source-<https://www.thehindu.com>

Khelo India University Games 2021 - Jain University crowned champions - Medal Table, University Standings, Total Medals

- Hosts Jain University were crowned champions of the Khelo India University Games 2021 clinching a total of 32 medals, including 12 gold.
- Lovely Professional University finished second best with 17 gold, while the reigning champions Panjab University had to settle for the third position this time with 17 gold.
- A whopping 142 universities opened their medal account by the end of the event in which a total of 852 medals, including 259 gold, 258 silver and 335 bronze were awarded.

(A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

Position	University	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Jain University	20	7	5	32
2	Lovely Professional University	17	15	19	51
3	Punjab University	15	9	24	48
4	Guru Nanak Dev University	14	14	14	42
5	Maharshi Dayanand University	14	14	13	41
6	Panjabi University	12	8	10	30
7	Kurukshetra University	10	11	18	39
8	Savitribai Phule Pune University	8	14	17	39
9	University Of Mumbai	8	7	7	22
10	Shivaji University	8	2	7	17

Source-<https://thebridge.in>

BCCI bans journalist Boria Majumdar for 2 years in Wriddhiman Saha case



- The BCCI has banned journalist Boria Majumdar for two years for “threatening and intimidating” India wicketkeeper Wriddhiman Saha.
- The BCCI apex council, during its meeting last week, considered the report of a three-member committee and decided to ban Majumdar from being involved in any cricket or interviewing cricketers for two years.
- The BCCI Committee considered the submissions by both Mr Saha and Mr Majumdar and concluded that the actions by Mr Majumdar were indeed in the nature of threat and intimidation. The BCCI Committee recommended the following sanctions to the Apex Council of BCCI.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Tokyo Olympian discus thrower Kamalpreet Kaur provisionally suspended



- Indian discus thrower Kamalpreet Kaur has been provisionally suspended by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) after testing positive for a banned steroid, the World Athletics body confirmed on 4 May 2022.
- Kamalpreet, who was tested on March 29, was suspended for the presence/use of the prohibited substance stanozolol in her sample, a breach of the World Athletics anti-doping rules. Kaur had made it to the Tokyo Olympics final, finishing sixth with a throw of 63.7m.
- A provisional suspension is when an athlete or other person is suspended temporarily from participating in any competition or activity in athletics prior

to a final decision at a hearing conducted under the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules or the Integrity Code of Conduct.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

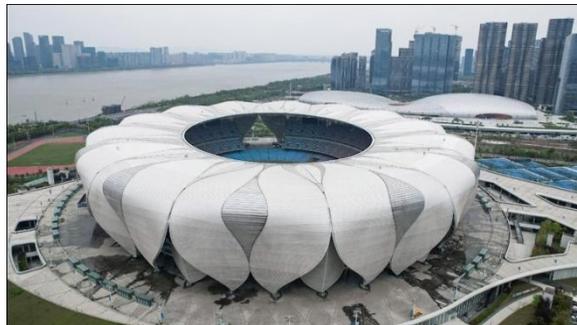
24th Deaflympics: Dhanush Srikanth won gold in men's 10m air rifle



- Dhanush Srikanth teamed up with Priyesh Deshmukh to win the 10m air rifle mixed team competition and extend Indian shooters' gold rush at the 24th Deaflympics in Caxais do Sul, Brazil.
- Shooting on competition day six, Dhanush and Priyesh beat Germany's Sebastian Herrmany and Sabrina Eckert 16-10 in the gold medal match. This was Dhanush's second gold of the Games after having won the individual men's 10m air rifle.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/> (A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

2022 Asian Games in China postponed to 2023



- The Asian Games 2022, which were scheduled to be held in September in the Chinese city of Hangzhou, has been postponed until 2023 due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- The host city of Hangzhou is less than 200km away from Shanghai, which is currently fighting another major COVID-19 outbreak and has strict restrictions in place, including a weeks-long lockdown.
- The OCA also announced that the third edition of the Asian Youth Games, scheduled to be held in Shantou in December, have been cancelled. The

World University Games 2021, to be held from June 26 to July 27 in Chengdu this year, have also been pushed to 2023.

Source- <https://www.indiatoday.in/>

Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh wins Sunway Formentera Open chess tournament



- Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh emerged champion in the 1st Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2022 chess tournament.
- It was a hat-trick of titles for him after he had previously won the La Roda tournament and the Menorca Open in recent weeks.
- The 15-year old Gukesh (Elo 2637) settled for a draw with Armenian GM Haik M Martirosyan in the final round to win the title with eight points.
- He had defeated compatriot and second-seed K Sasikiran in the ninth and penultimate round.
- Gukesh, who remained unbeaten through the nine rounds, gained 16 Elo points thanks to his performance here. He has now moved up to no.64 in the world rankings.

Source-<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

Max Verstappen won Miami Grand Prix 2022



- MIAMI GARDENS: World champion Max Verstappen roared to an authoritative victory for Red Bull on 08 May 2022 when he beat

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc in sweltering conditions at a celebrity-packed inaugural Miami Grand Prix.

- Leclerc (Ferrari) finished second and Spanish teammate Carlos Sainz (Ferrari) placed third in the Miami Grand Prix 2022.
- The victory cut Leclerc's lead over Verstappen to 19 points in the championship, while the Monegasque's Ferrari teammate Carlos Sainz completed the podium.

Source-<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

Anurag Thakur launches mascot, logo and jersey of Khelo India Youth Games



- Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched the mascot 'Dhakad' along with official logo and official jersey of the Fourth Khelo India Youth Games at Panchkula on Saturday and lauded the effort of Haryana to host the games.
- Thakur was accompanied by Haryana Chief Minister ML Khattar, Haryana deputy CM Dushyant Chautala and Haryana sports minister Sandeep Singh during the function. Last week saw the conclusion of the Khelo India University Games and Thakur was of the view that Haryana will set an example in hosting the fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games from June 4 to June 13 at Panchkula and other cities.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

India's Avinash Sable breaks 30-year-old 5000 metre record



- Top Indian runner Avinash Sable smashed the 30-year-old men's 5000m national record at the Sound Running Track Meet at San Juan Capistrano, California in USA.
- Sable, who also holds the national record in his pet event of 3000m steeplechase and competed in Tokyo Olympics, clocked 13 minutes and 25.65 seconds while finishing 12th in the American Meet.
- The 27-year-old army man from a humble family in the Beed district of Maharashtra broke Bahadur Prasad's long-standing record of 13:29.70s set in Birmingham in 1992.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/>

Carlos Alcaraz won the men's singles title at the Madrid Open title 2022



- Carlos Alcaraz stormed to his second Masters 1000 title of the year and the first one on clay as eased past Olympic champion Alexander Zverev 6-3, 6-1 in the men's singles final on 8 May 2022.
- Alcaraz became the 2nd youngest player to win two Masters 1000 crowns as Nadal had won Monte Carlo and Rome when he was 18 in 2005.

Here are the winners of different categories:

Category	Winner
Men's singles:	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)
Women's singles:	Ons Jabeur (Tunisia)
Men's doubles:	Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands) & Neal Skupski (United Kingdom)
Women's doubles:	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) & Giuliana Olmos (Mexico)

Source- <https://www.indiatoday.in/>

12th IBA Womens World Boxing Championships kick-started in Istanbul



- Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain kickstarted her campaign on an impressive note by notching up a thrilling win at the 12th edition of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships in Istanbul on 09 May 2022.
- The 24-year-old star Indian boxer dished out a splendid show to secure a 3-2 win against the former world champion Chen Nien-Chin in the 70kg opening round bout.
- The Chinese Taipei boxer entered the match with a 3-1 head-to-head record. She had defeated the Indian in the 2018 World Championships semi-final.
- On the other hand, Lovlina's only win against Chen came in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics quarter-final enroute her bronze medal winning triumph.

Source- <https://ddnews.gov.in/>

ISSF Junior World Cup: Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary win Gold in Mixed Team Pistol event in Germany



- Indian pistol pairs Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary won the mixed team pistol gold at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany yesterday.

- India's Palak and Sarabjot Singh settled for the silver medal after losing to Esha and Saurabh 16-12 in the gold medal match. Ramita and Paarth Makhija also won silver in the 10m air rifle mixed team competition, going down 13-17 to the Polish pair of Julia Piotrowska and Wiktor Sajdak but not before making it three medals on the day.
- Esha and Saurabh came through after topping a 38-field qualification round of 60 shots with scores of 578 and 575 respectively.
- In all, India has so far won 10 medals, including four gold.

Source-<https://newsonair.com>

Thomas Cup Title: India beats Indonesia 3-0



- India won its maiden Thomas Cup title, beating 14-time champion Indonesia 3-0 in the final in Bangkok.
- World championships bronze medallist Lakshya Sen defeated Indonesia's Anthony Sinisuka Ginting 8-21, 21-17, 21-16 in the first men's singles to give India a 1-0 lead.
- In the first doubles game, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty saved four match points before beating Mohammad Ahsan and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo 18-21, 23-21, 21-19 to extend India's lead to 2-0.
- World championships silver medallist Kidambi Srikanth edged Jonatan Christie 21-15, 23-21 in straight games in the second men's singles match to seal India's historic victory.
- India had previously reached the semifinals of the Thomas Cup in 1952, 1955 and 1979.

Source- <https://sportstar.thehindu.com/>

South Korea Dethrone China To Win Uber Cup In Nail-Biter



- South Korea stunned defending champions China to win badminton's prestigious Uber Cup on 14 May 2022 in an epic battle that went down to the wire in Bangkok.
- The holders were aiming for a 16th title in the women's team championship but with the countries deadlocked at 2-2 it all boiled down to a singles match between China's 15th-ranked Wang Zhiyi and 46th-ranked Sim Yu-jin.
- Sim, who turned 23, beat Wang 28-26, 18-21, 21-8 in an hour and 28-minute match.
- After a surprising run in Bangkok, Korea won the Uber Cup for the first time in 12 years.
- The Asian giants beat India 5-0 to win their group, then defeated Denmark and Japan 3-0 in the quarter-finals and semi-finals, respectively.

Source-<https://sports.ndtv.com>

(A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

India's Nikhat Zareen Wins Gold At Women's World Boxing Championships



- India's Nikhat Zareen won the gold medal in the 52kg category at the Women's World Boxing Championship with a win over Thailand's Jitpong Jutamas in the fly-weight final in Istanbul, Turkey on 19 May 2022.
- Nikhat thus becomes only the fifth Indian women's boxer after Mary Kom, Sarita Devi, Jenny RL and Lekha KC to win a gold at the World Championships.
- The 25-year-old Zareen is a former junior youth world champion.

- Against her Thai opponent in the final, Nikhat fought with brilliance and brought home the gold medal.
- The judges scored the bout 30-27, 29-28, 29-28, 30-27, 29-28 in the Indian's favour.

Source- <https://sports.ndtv.com/>

Odisha win 12th HI Senior Women National C'ship title



- Odisha were crowned as the champions of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2022 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh with a thrilling 2-0 victory over Karnataka in the final of the competition on 17 May 2022.
- The final match was a closely contested affair between Karnataka and Odisha. Both the teams started well, as they created several goal-scoring opportunities.
- However solid defensive performances from both the sides ensured that the match went into the Halftime with the scoreline reading 0-0.
- Punam Barla (34') opened the scoring in the match in the third quarter as Odisha picked up the lead.
- Ashim Kanchan Barla (59') sealed the game with a late goal as Odisha beat Karnataka 2-0 to claim the championship.

Source- <https://www.aninews.in/>

Eintracht Frankfurt beat Rangers 5-4 on penalties to win UEFA Europa League



- Eintracht Frankfurt beat Rangers 5-4 on penalties on 18 May 2022 to win the Europa League final and claim their first European trophy in 42 years.
- Eintracht keeper Kevin Trapp saved Aaron Ramsey's spot kick -- Rangers' fourth -- while Eintracht were flawless in their execution, scoring all five. The game had finished 1-1 after 120 minutes.
- Joe Aribo had struck against the run of play in the 57th minute to give Rangers the lead, charging clear after a string of defensive errors and sliding the ball past Trapp.
- The Germans, unbeaten in the competition going into the final and eyeing their first European title since 1980, bounced back as Rafael Borre snuck in between two defenders to turn in a Filip Kostic cross in the 70th.

Source- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

India's Praggnanandhaa stuns World Champion Carlsen for second time in year



- India's 16-year-old Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu stunned World Champion Magnus Carlsen for the second time in just three months as he got better of the Norwegian in the fifth round of the Chessable Masters online rapid chess tournament on 20 May 2022.
- The fifth round match of the tournament was headed towards a draw but a one-move blunder from the world champion Magnus Carlsen resulted in his defeat.
- Despite the victory, the 16-year-old GM was not happy.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Verstappen wins Spanish Grand Prix, leads championship



- Formula One world champion Max Verstappen won the Spanish Grand Prix in a Red Bull one-two on Sunday to take over at the top from Ferrari's luckless Charles Leclerc, who retired with an engine failure while leading.
- Mexican Sergio Perez finished a dutiful second, 13 seconds behind but with the consolation of a bonus point for fastest lap, after being told to let his team mate pass for a third victory in a row after Imola and Miami.
- The 24-year-old Dutch driver is now six points clear of Leclerc after winning four of six races -- all those he has finished.

Source- <https://sportstar.thehindu.com/>

Haryana beat Jharkhand 2-0 to win Hockey India Sub-Junior Women's National Championship in Imphal



- Hockey Haryana emerged winners of the Hockey India sub-junior women's national championship 2022 after defeating Hockey Jharkhand 2-0 in the final in Imphal.
- Earlier in the day, Uttar Pradesh Hockey defeated Madhya Pradesh Hockey 3-0 to secure third place in the tournament.
- Pushpanjali Sonkar, Manisha Patel, and Purnima Yadav scored a goal each to help Uttar Pradesh Hockey seal third place in the competition for the second consecutive time.

Source- <https://newsonair.com/>

PBKS Shikhar Dhawan becomes first player to hit 700 fours in IPL



- Punjab Kings opening batter Shikhar Dhawan has become the first player to hit 700 fours in the history of the IPL.
- Dhawan reached this feat during the last league stage match of IPL 2022, between PBKS and Sunrisers Hyderabad, at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on 22 May 2022.
- The batter has now a total of 701 IPL fours to his name. He is followed by David Warner and Virat Kohli, with 577 and 576 fours, respectively.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in/>

Asia Cup 2022: India beats Indonesia 16-0, qualifies for next round



- Rising to the occasion, Indian men's hockey team slammed six goals in the final quarter for a crushing 16-0 victory against Indonesia.
- A result that took the holder into the knockout stage of the Asia Cup but shut the World Cup door on Pakistan, here on 26 May 2022.
- India needed to win the Pool A contest by at least a 15-0 margin to qualify and the young players of the side delivered under pressure.
- Both India and Pakistan finished on four points each in Pool A behind Japan but the defending champion qualified for the Super 4s due to better goal difference (1).

Source- <https://sportstar.thehindu.com/>

Indian shooters conclude their campaign on top with total of 33 medals at ISSF Junior World Cup 2022

- Indian shooters concluded their campaign on top with a total of 33 medals at the ISSF Junior World Cup 2022 in Suhl, Germany this week.
- India's tally of 33 medals - 13 golds, 15 silvers and five bronzes - was the most by any country at the 2022 edition. Italy - with four golds two silver and five bronze medals - finished second on the table.
- Sift Kaur Samra and Surya Pratap Singh won the silver medal in the 50m rifle prone mixed team event on the final day.
- India's Anish Bhanwala, Vijayveer Sidhu and Sameer beat Thailand's Waster Warakorn Kongklang, Wachiravit Phuangthong and Thanawit Kruawongkaew 17-1 in the men's 25-metre rapid fire pistol event.
- Simranpreet Kaur Brar and Vijayveer Sidhu, meanwhile, won the mixed team gold in the same event after beating fellow Indians Anish Bhanwala and Tejaswani 17-9 in the final.
- At the last edition of the ISSF Junior World Cup in 2021, India had 43 medals - 17 golds, 16 silvers and 10 bronzes - to top the medals table.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in>

IPL 2022 Final: Fans share hilarious memes on Twitter after Gujarat Titans win IPL final



- IPL 2022 Final: Gujarat Titans (GT) registered a 7-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals (RR) in the IPL final that concluded last night at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.
- Skipper Hardik Pandya picked up three crucial wickets and limited Rajasthan Royals to 130/9 in 20 overs after losing the toss.
- While Shubman Gill and David Miller remained unbeaten on 45 and 32, respectively, Pandya scored 34 runs to help the team clinch the IPL title in their debut season.

Source-<https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

Women's T20 Challenge: Supernovas Beat Velocity In Nail-Biter To Win 3rd Title



- West Indian all-rounder Deandra Dottin starred with both bat and ball as she powered Supernovas to an unprecedented third Women's T20 Challenge title triumph with a four-run win over Velocity in a thrilling final here on 28 May 2022.
- The Women's T20 Challenge is an Indian women's cricket 20-20 tournament organised by BCCI.

Source- <https://sports.ndtv.com/>

Bhopal: Blind judoka wins bronze for India at Grand Prix

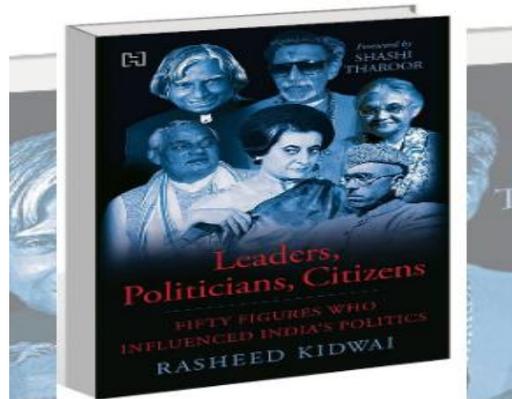


- Kapil Parmar, a visually impaired judoka from the state, has won a bronze medal representing India at IBSA Judo Grand Prix Championship held in Kazakhstan.
- Kapil, a resident of Sehore, had taken part in the 60 kg weight category.
- The IBSA Judo Grand Prix was organised by the International Blind Sports Association from May 25 to 31.
- Players from 21 countries of the world participated to collect points for the Paris Olympics 2024.
- Kapil has been training under the guidance of coach Praveen Bhatele since 2017 at Shree Bliss Mission for Para and Bright Institute in the state capital.
- Bhatele told Free Press that apart from Kapil, two more players of the academy, Swati Sharma and Ehtesham Ali had also gone to the championship.
- The chance for a medal at Paralympics has strengthened with Kapil and his team's performance at the Grand Prix. Kapil's sister Sonali Singh Parmar has secured 187th rank or rank in UPSC.

Source- <https://www.freepressjournal.in>

Books and Authors

Leaders, Politicians, Citizens



- **POLITICIANS**, mass leaders, newsmakers — Independent India's political theatre has been enriched by hundreds of people. Focusing upon 50 of them and summing up their life and times in short obituaries is a humongous task.
- Political commentator Rasheed Kidwai has tried to accomplish this, piecing together profiles of people as varied as politicians Jyoti Basu, Sheikh Abdullah, M Karunanidhi and Rajesh Pilot and actors Dev Anand and Dilip Kumar. If there are obits of activists Teji Bachchan and Namdeo Dhasal, also a poet, there is a telling profile of Bofors case accused Ottavio Quattrocchi too.
- The write-ups are well-narrated, highlighting Kidwai's strengths as both a historian and a storyteller.

Source-<https://www.tribuneindia.com>

A book 'INDO-PAK WAR 1971- Reminiscences of Air Warriors' released by Rajnath Singh



- Speaking during his address at the PC Lal Memorial Lecture in New Delhi, Singh said, "The 1971 war is the finest example of the whole-of-govt approach not only for the armed forces but also for the national security."
- Further, he added that the ongoing process of integration of the Armed Forces is aimed at advancing not only our combined capability but also our

efficiency. "It's not always necessary to have more expensive weapon systems. It is the employment of weapon systems that gives us an edge in wars.

- Stressing upon self-reliance in defence and the use of technology in dealing with national security challenges, Singh said that the nature of future wars can be assessed through a closer look at the situation in Syria, Afghanistan and the recent Ukrainian conflict.

Source-<https://english.jagran.com/>

A book Titled “The Struggle for Police Reforms in India” by Ex-IPS Prakash Singh



- Addressing a gathering after releasing the book titled “The Struggle for Police Reforms in India” written by former IPS officer, Shri Prakash Singh, the Vice President stressed the need to upgrade the skills of our policemen to effectively tackle 21st century crimes such as cybercrimes and economic offences which require special investigative expertise due to their sophisticated and often transboundary nature.
- The book is published by Rupa Publications India Pvt Ltd. This book documents the efforts made to bring about police reforms in India.
- The book provides the historical background to the origin of the Indian Police and traces the evolution during British Rule and subsequently since independence.
- The book focuses on the efforts of Prakash Singh to bring transformational changes in the Indian Police.

Source- <https://indianewsdiaary.com/>

Union Minister Jitendra Singh Released E-book Civil List-2022 of IAS officers



- Union Minister Jitendra Singh on 13 April 2022 released an e-book civil list of IAS officers and said the dynamic list will help in selecting the right officer for the right assignment based on available profiles.
- It will act as a vital source of information on the officers manning various posts for the general public, the Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions said.
- The minister said the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has in the last eight years undertaken several pathbreaking reforms and that the e-book is an effort to contribute towards the Centre's Digital India initiative.
- This is the 67th edition of the civil list and the second edition of the e-book in PDF with unique search facilities and hyperlinking of contents for easy access of information.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

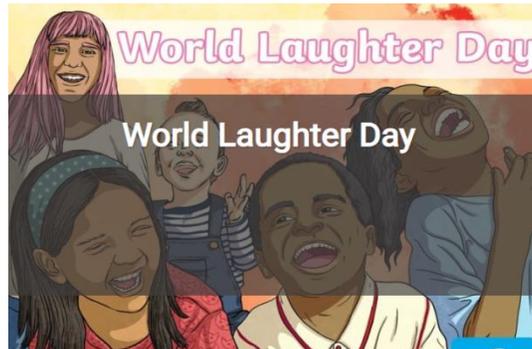


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Days

World Laughter Day



- World Laughter Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of May annually and is a global celebration of laughter, smiling and of all things positive.
- World Laughter Day can be celebrated by anyone, but it is mostly observed in cities where large groups of people gather to laugh together, spread some joy and bond. Laughter is a universal language that brings us all together. World Laughter Day is all about uniting us with the power of fun and laughter.
- World Laughter Day was founded by Dr. Madan Kataria in Mumbai, India in 1998.
- Dr Kataria founded the Laughter Yoga movement in 1995 and understood the positive affects laughter and smiling has on the body.

Source- <https://www.twinkl.co.in>

World Tuna Day is being observed today



shutterstock.com · 1344845171

- **World Tuna Day** is observed globally on **2nd May** every year. The day is aimed at promoting the importance of sustainable fishing practices and educating people on how tuna have become endangered species due to the high demand.
- In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly declared this day World Tuna Day to create awareness among the people to preserve the species.
- More than seven million metric tonnes of tuna and tuna-like species are harvested yearly.
- These migratory tuna species account for 20 percent of the value of all marine capture fisheries and over eight percent of all globally traded seafood.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in>

International Labour Day is being celebrated today to commemorate labour movement

- International Workers' Day or Labour Day is celebrated on May 1 in most countries. Labour Day is observed to commemorate the struggles and sacrifices of the workers' and labours' movement. It is also known as May Day.
- May Day is celebrated in more than 80 countries, including India, Cuba and China. The origin of Labour Day can be traced back to the United States of America in the 19th Century. May 1 in particular was chosen as the date to mark Labour Day to commemorate the nationwide strike for an eight-hour day in 1886 that began on May 1 and ended as the Haymarket affair in Chicago US.
- The Haymarket affair refers to the tragic incident where a labour protest rally turned violent after someone threw a bomb at the police leading to the death of seven police officers and at least four civilians.
- It was first celebrated in India in Chennai then known as Madras on May 1, 1923. The initiative was taken by the Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan. The leader of the party, Comrade Singaravelar arranged two meetings to celebrate this occasion.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

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World Press Freedom Day 2022

- Hailed as the fourth pillar of democracy, journalists have time and again risked their lives and reputation to reveal the truth behind an incident, event or scandal. In a bid to appreciate their hard work, every year, May 3 is observed as World Press Freedom Day.
- It is extremely significant, as the United Nations considers it an opportunity to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom, assess the state of press freedom across the globe, defend the attacks on media independence, and pay tribute to the journalists who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.
- Every year, a specific theme is chosen for World Press Day, and this year's theme is "Journalism under digital siege".

Source-<https://www.news18.com>

World Asthma Day 2022:



- World Asthma Day (WAD) (May 3, 2022) is organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma, (GINA), a World Health Organization collaborative organization founded in 1993.
- WAD is held each May to raise awareness of Asthma worldwide.
- Although asthma cannot be cured, it is possible to manage asthma to reduce and prevent asthma attacks, also called episodes or exacerbations.
- The challenge posed by this year's theme is for international respiratory communities to work together with colleagues, patients and health care providers to identify and close the gaps in asthma care and to help implement and share innovative solutions locally and globally.
- GINA has chosen 'Closing Gaps in Asthma Care' as the theme for the 2022 World Asthma Day.

Source-<https://www.freepressjournal.in>

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International Firefighters' Day 2022



- International Firefighters' Day (IFFD) is celebrated every year on 4 May to honour the work of firefighting professionals, who work for the protection of people and property.
- The day aims to recognise and honour the sacrifices made by professional firefighters around the world who make sure that our community and

environment are safe. Firefighters who have died on duty are also honoured for their work on this day.

- Firefighters are one of the most courageous and fearless professionals who dedicate their lives to saving people and protecting property. The task of rescuing people from burning buildings and vehicles requires a special kind of training and the day celebrates the community's courage.

Source- <https://www.firstpost.com>

International No Diet Day 2022 observed on 6th May



- International No Diet Day (INDD) is celebrated on May 6 every year.
- The day is a celebration of body acceptance, including fat acceptance and body shape diversity.
- It is also dedicated to promoting a healthy lifestyle with a focus on health at any size and in raising awareness of the potential dangers of dieting and the unlikelihood of success.

Source- <https://www.timesnownews.com/>

World Hand Hygiene Day 2022

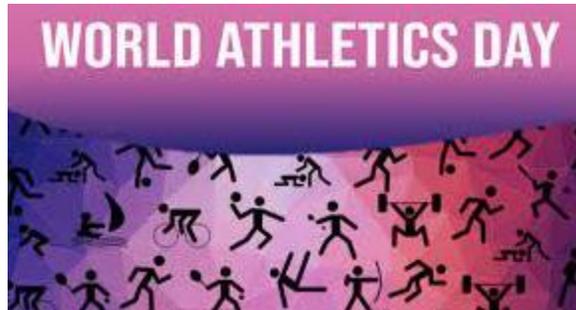


- World Health Organization (WHO) states that good hand hygiene is relatively cheap, and a cornerstone of safe and effective health care.
- Thoroughly cleaning hands with soap or an alcohol-based hand rub helps prevent a range of diseases, including the biggest killers of under-fives globally: pneumonia and diarrhoea.

- To stress on the need for handwashing among health care workers and other people around the world, WHO started a global campaign called “Save Lives: Clean Your Hands” in 2009. Now, this campaign is celebrated annually as World Hand Hygiene Day on May 5.
- This year, WHO is marking the day with the theme – Unite for safety: clean your hands.

Source- <https://swachhindia.ndtv.com/>

World Athletics Day 2022 Celebrates on 7th May



- In a bid to encourage sports activities throughout the world, May 7 is celebrated annually as World Athletics Day.
- Introduced in 1996, the day aims to spread awareness among the youth about athletics. It was also introduced as a social responsibility project titled ‘Athletic for a better world’ by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).
- The special day is observed across the globe to promote the importance of fitness and health. And therefore, several schools and colleges celebrate the day by organising many sports competitions and encouraging the students to be a part of it.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

World Red Cross Day observed on 8th May



- World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is observed on May 8 every year to celebrate the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- May 8 is the birth anniversary of Jean-Henry Dunant (born on May 8, 1828), the founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize.
- The first Red Cross Day was celebrated on 8 May 1948. The official title of the day changed over time and became "World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day" in 1984.

Source- <https://www.timesnownews.com/>

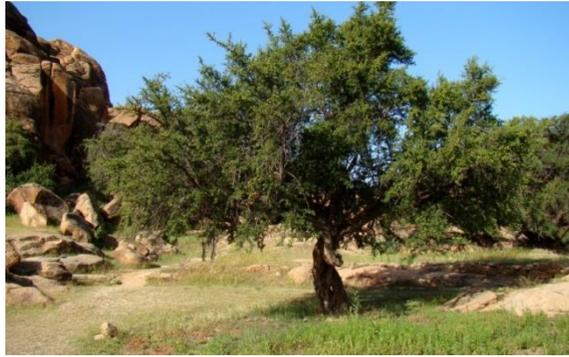
World Thalassemia Day 2022 celebrates on 08th May



- May 8 is celebrated and observed as World Thalassemia Day.
- The day is celebrated to spread awareness about Thalassemia as a disorder and to educate individuals to help in spreading the curb.
- The day also honours the life of individuals who are living with Thalassemia while also dealing with the social stigma attached, while also honouring the efforts of doctors and medical professionals to help the patients and bring advancements.
- Thalassemia Day also aims to debunk myths related to this disorder and aims to help the patients lead a normal life.
- The theme for this year's World Thalassemia day is 'Be Aware.Share.Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassemia knowledge.'

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

International Day of Argania 2022 observed on 10th May



- Morocco is preparing to celebrate the International Day of Argania in its second edition this year, in partnership with the United Nations, on 10 May 2022.
- The day will be celebrated this year under the slogan “The Argan tree, symbol of resilience” and will serve to raise international awareness around the tree, its ecosystem, and the important position it holds in Moroccan culture and heritage.

Source- <https://www.moroccoworldnews.com/>

National Technology Day 2022 Observed on 11th May



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- One of the fields India saw a major growth and development after its independence is science and technology.
- With various advancements in the sector, India has climbed its way up in the list of countries that are potential superpowers in the coming future.
- India celebrates National Technology Day on May 11 as it was on this day in 1998 the country successfully conducted the famous Pokhran nuclear tests.
- The theme for National Technology Day 2022 is “Integrated Approach in Science and technology for sustainable future”.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

Coal Miners Day 2022



- Coal Miners Day is observed annually on 4 May to highlight one of the toughest professions- those working in coal fields or mines. The day honours the accomplishments and sacrifices made by coal mine workers so far. It also remembers the horrific tragedies that these hardworking individuals experience.
- Coal mining is considered one of the toughest and dangerous professions, where coal miners spend their days digging, tunnelling and extracting coal from the mines. Their work is to dig deep into the Earth so that they can bring out the riches that help the society to sustain.
- To recognise this special day, several communities and organisations join together to raise funds for those working in coal mines.

Source- <https://www.firstpost.com>

International Nurses Day 2022 Observed on 12th May



- International Nurses Day 2022 is being observed on 12th May across the world to honour their services towards humanity.
- It is the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the English social reformer, statistician and founder of Modern Nursing.
- This day is dedicated to that strong pillar of health care system, who work day and night for the people.
- The theme for this year's Nurses' Day is "Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Invest in Nursing and respect rights to secure global health".

Source- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

International Day of Plant Health observed on 12th May 2022



- The United Nations have declared 12th May as the International Day of Plant Health.
- Mainly to raise global awareness on how protecting the health of plants contributes to maintaining biodiversity and nature and promotes economic development.
- Diseases and pests harmful to plants may spread in various ways, even in luggage. Therefore, do not risk bringing plants from abroad and help keep our plants healthy.
- Both our health and the health of our planet depend on plants. Plants makeup 80% of the food we eat and 98% of the oxygen we breathe and yet they are under threat.
- Up to 40% of food crops are lost due to plant pests and diseases every year.

Source- <https://www.gov.si/en/news/>

World Migratory Bird Day 2022



- World Migratory Bird Day is marked twice a year since its inauguration in 2006. International Migratory Bird Day will be celebrated on 14 May and 8 October 2022.
- It is said that 4,000 different bird species migrate, which roughly accounts for 40 per cent of the avian population. These birds go to warmer climates in the winter twice a year and then return to breed.

- International Migratory Bird Day was marked in 2006 when the United Nations decided that the world's population needs to be made aware of the worldwide migratory linkages.
- World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated across Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean on the second Saturday of October annually. While in the United States and Canada, the day is celebrated on the second Saturday in May.

Source-<https://www.firstpost.com>

International Day of Living Together in Peace 2022: 16 May



- The International Day of Living Together In Peace is celebrated every year on May 16.
- The day is meant to signify unity in differences and diversity.
- People around the world come from different races, genders, nationalities, classes, colors, disabilities and birth status.
- But irrespective of all this diversity, “having the ability to listen to, recognise, respect and appreciate others, as well as living in a peaceful and united way,” should be our mission, according to the United Nations.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

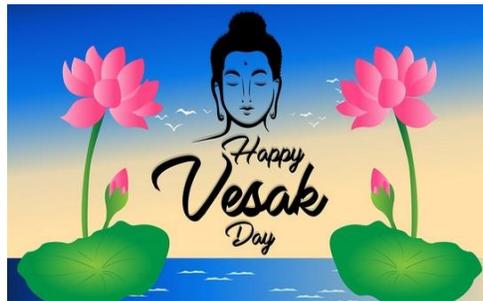
International Day of Light 2022 Observed on 16th May



- Every year on May 16, the International Day of Light commemorates the first successful operation of the laser by scientist and engineer Theodore Maiman in 1960.
- Light plays a central role in our lives on the most fundamental level.
- Light research has resulted in potential alternative energy sources, crucial medical improvements in diagnostics and therapies, high-speed internet, and numerous other discoveries that have altered civilisation and shaped our view of the cosmos.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

Vesak Day or Buddha Purnima 2022 celebrates on 16 May 2022



- Buddha Purnima will be celebrated on May 16. The Vesak full moon day is the most important day in the Buddhist calendar.
- Also known as Buddha Jayanti or Vaisakhi Buddha Purnima or Vesak, the festival of Buddha Purnima is based on the Asian lunisolar calendar and marks the birth of Gautama Buddha.
- It is celebrated with great fervour in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet and numerous other South East Asian countries including Thailand, Tibet, China, Korea, Laos, Vietnam, Mongolia, Cambodia and Indonesia.

Source- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

International Day of Families 2022 observed on 15th May



- On May 15, the United Nations celebrates International Families Day at its headquarters and worldwide.

- The United Nations General Assembly declared it in 1993 with resolutions A/RES/47/237, and the day symbolises how global society unites families.
- It provides possibilities to raise awareness about family concerns and to increase understanding of the economic, demographic, and social dynamics that affect families.
- The United Nations focuses on a number of key topics that affect the well-being of families around the world, including health, education, children's rights, gender equality, work-family balance, and social inclusion.

Source- <https://www.indiatoday.in/>

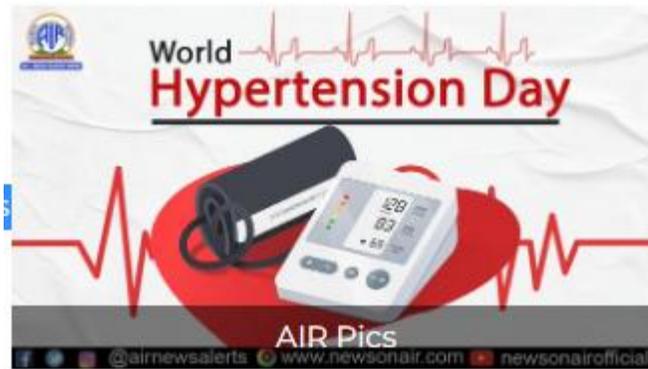
World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2022



- The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is celebrated annually on May 17 to raise awareness about the opportunities and possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) brings to nations, societies, and economies.
- It also aims to spread awareness about the ways to bridge the digital divide.
- Digital technologies for older persons and healthy ageing is the theme for World Telecommunication and Information Society Day this year.
- The World Telecommunication Day was established in 1969 to commemorate the founding of the International Telecommunication Union on May 17, 1865.

Source-<https://www.cnbctv18.com>

World Hypertension Day being celebrated



- Hypertension is celebrated on 17 May every year to create awareness about hypertension and its symptoms.
- Hypertension, also known as high blood pressure, occurs when the blood pressure rises to the level of 140/90.
- Over a billion people suffer from hypertension globally. It is one of the major causes of cardiovascular disease and premature death. Though hypertension is usually experienced by older people, it is now being seen in the younger population as well.
- Hypertension is the risk factor for heart disease, stroke, renal complications, and premature death. Usually, high blood pressure alone does not cause any symptoms.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>

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International Museum Day 2022 Observed on 18th May



- Museums hold so much information about history, science and culture. The vast variety of museums give us an insight of not only what could be but also of what has been.
- Observed on May 18 annually, the International Museum Day was declared in 1977 by the International Council of Museum (ICOM).
- The day is celebrated by taking part in activities based on the theme decided by the ICOM every year.
- The theme for this year is “The Power of Museums”.

- Over the last 16 years, Endangered Species Day has grown to include events across the United States and many other countries..
- This year, the Endangered Species Coalition is organising three events which include, art contest, chalk art event, and nature walks.
- The nature walks consist of identifying 17 local species in honour of the 17th anniversary of Endangered Species Day

Source-<https://www.news18.com/>

May 20 Celebrated As World Bee Day



- We celebrate World Bee Day on May 20 across the world. The day aims to recognise the importance of bees and other pollinators in the ecosystem.
- It is observed mainly to raise public awareness about the importance of bees in maintaining biodiversity.
- It also provides an opportunity to organisations, civil societies, and concerned citizens worldwide to promote actions that will protect and improve pollinators and their habitats, increase their population and support the long-term development of beekeeping.
- The World Bee Day 2022 theme is: “Bee Engaged: Celebrating the diversity of bees and beekeeping systems.”

Source-<https://www.news18.com/>

International Tea Day 2022: on May 21



- International Tea Day is observed on May 21 every year by the United Nations.

- The day aims to raise awareness of the long history and the deep cultural and economic significance of tea around the world.
- Tea is the world's most-consumed drink, after water.
- The United Nations General Assembly has designated May 21 as International Tea Day based on a proposal moved by India at the FAO Intergovernmental Group (IGG) on Tea in October 2015.
- Before 2019, December 15 is celebrated as International Tea Day in tea producing nations such as Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Vietnam, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Uganda, India and Tanzania.

Source- <https://www.timesnownews.com/>

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development 2022



- In 2001, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and in December 2002.
- The UN General Assembly, in its resolution, declared May 21 to be the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.
- The day provides an opportunity to deepen the understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to advance the four goals of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, adopted on 20 October 2005.
- Diversity Day, officially known as "The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development", is an opportunity to help communities understand the value of cultural diversity and learn how to live together in harmony.
- This day was created as a result of the destruction of the Buddha statues of Bamiyan in Afghanistan in 2001.

Source- <https://www.freepressjournal.in/>

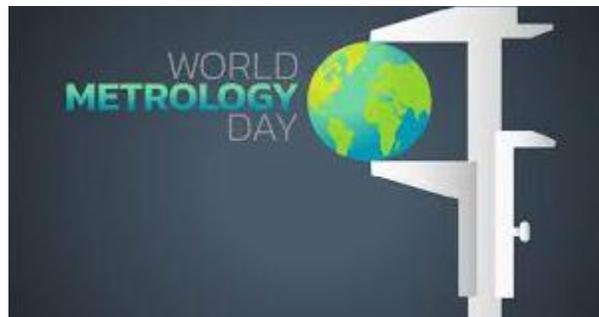
Anti-Terrorism Day 2022: on 21st May



- It was on this day in 1991 that the seventh Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by LTTE terrorists while campaigning for the Congress party in Tamil Nadu.
- Rajiv Gandhi became India's youngest PM when he was sworn in at 40.
- He took over as the sixth PM of the country after Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984. He served from 1984 to 1989.
- The woman had explosives under her clothes and approached Rajiv Gandhi and bent down as if to touch his feet when the bomb exploded leading to his death and approximately 25 others.

Source- <https://www.ndtv.com/>

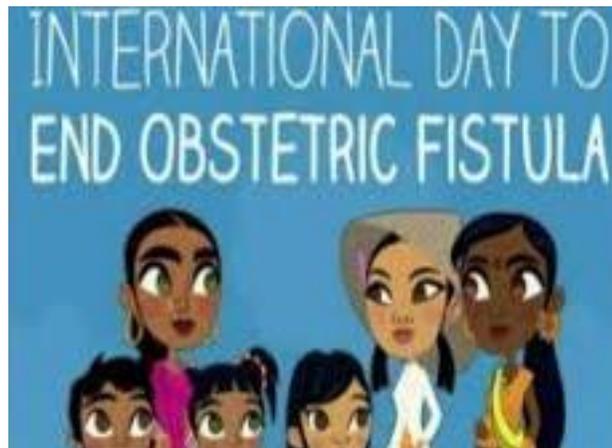
World Metrology Day 2022: All You Need to Know



- Metrology is the scientific discipline related to measurement and its uses in scientific fields, innovation, industries, trading and other fields.
- World Metrology Day is celebrated each year on May 20. The event highlights the necessity of precise measurement units and the contribution of every individual in metrology organisations and institutes.
- The theme of this year's event is 'Metrology in the Digital Era.' Below, we share some key facts about World Metrology Day.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

Day to end obstetric fistula being observed



- International day to end Obstetric Fistula observed on the 23rd May each year.
- Statistics: Each year between 50 000 to 100 000 women worldwide are affected by obstetric fistula. Of these, only 1 in 50 will have access to treatment.
- It is estimated that more than 2 million young women live with untreated obstetric fistula in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.
- Theme 2020: “End gender inequality! End health inequities! End Fistula now!”

Source- <https://kogs.or.ke/>

International Day For Biological Diversity 2022: All You Need To Know



- International Day For Biological Diversity 2022: The purpose of International Day for Biological Diversity is to raise awareness about the environment and all species that live on this planet.
- Biodiversity is a broad phrase that refers to the diversity and variability of life on Earth. It is self-evident that the ecological world's equilibrium is required for survival.
- Every year on May 22, the International Day for Biological Diversity commemorates the value of biodiversity.
- The purpose of the day is to raise awareness about the environment and all species that live on this planet.
- It also encourages people to recognise and address similar concerns and issues.

Source- <https://www.ndtv.com/>

Indian Commonwealth Day 2022



- The day is observed in all the nations that were once under the reign of the British Empire.
- The primary objectives of the commonwealth are to share the goals of its members like trade and economy, develop societies in gender education, health, and sports, hand support to each other in economic matters, and safeguard the environment.
- Every year the day is celebrated under a particular theme, and this year, the theme for Commonwealth Day 2022 is 'Delivering a Common Future'.
- This year's theme highlights the innovation, connection, and transformation of 54 nations in the Commonwealth family, in a bid to achieve goals, including climatic changes, promoting good governance, and boosting trade.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

(A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

World Turtle Day 2022 observed on 23rd May



- This year world turtle day is celebrated on May 23. World Turtle Day is observed to recognize the value of these reptiles on the planet.
- Turtles and tortoises are important for the earth and to maintain its ecological balance. Though these creatures have survived in a variety of environments and habitats around the world, today, they are disappearing fast.
- We all need to come together to save this endangered species and maintain the earth's ecological balance.

- The Theme for World Turtle Day is “Shellebrate.”

Source- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>

World Thyroid Awareness Day 2022 observed on 25th May



- World Thyroid Day is observed on May 25 to promote awareness and understanding of thyroid diseases, their symptoms, prevention, and treatments.
- The day came into existence in 2008 on a proposal by the European Thyroid Association (ETA).
- Public Health Update, globally, more than 200 million people are estimated to be dealing with thyroid disorders and 50 percent of these cases remain undiagnosed.
- The most common types of thyroid disorder include hypothyroidism (abnormally decreased thyroid activity), hyperthyroidism (abnormally increased thyroid activity), thyroiditis (inflammation of the thyroid gland) and thyroid cancer and these are often caused by iodine deficiency.

(A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2022: on 29th May



- May 29 marks the International Day of UN (United Nations) Peacekeepers.
- This day is observed to recognise the service and sacrifice of the more than one million personnel who have served under the blue flag since 1948.
- The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers also offers a chance to honour around 4,200 peacekeepers
- Lost their lives serving under the UN flag since, including 135 who lost the battle last year.

Source- <https://www.news18.com/>

Obituaries

Last Surviving F1 Race Winner From 1950s Tony Brooks Passes Away



- Formula 1 announced the sad demise of Tony Brooks on 4 May 2022.
- The Brit was the last surviving F1 race winner from the 1950s, who passed away on May 4, 2022, at the age of 90. Brooks, who was born Charles Anthony Standish Brooks on February 25, 1932, was known as the 'Racing Dentist,' having famously dovetailed his studies in dentistry at the University of Manchester during the beginnings of his racing career. He qualified as a dentist in 1956.
- Brooks was the most successful driver of his era after Juan Manuel Fangio, Alberto Ascari, and Moss. His most famous victory was perhaps at the 1957 British Grand Prix at Aintree, a home win he shared with his compatriot Moss.
- Brooks made his debut for BRM at the 1956 British Grand Prix before going on to drive for Vanwall in 1957 and 1958.
- The year after he was picked by Enzo Ferrari, the season he also came agonizingly close to winning the world title, only to lose it by four points to Jack Brabham.

Source- <https://www.republicworld.com/>

Padma Shri Odia Writer Rajat Kumar Kar passes away



- Eminent Odia litterateur Rajat Kumar Kar, a Padma Shri awardee, died at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar on 8 May 2022.
- He was 88 years old and had heart-related ailments
- He was known for his commentary during the annual Ratha Jatra (Jagannath culture) on TV and radio.
- His writing includes Upendra Bhanja literature and has seven non-fiction to his credit.
- He also contributed to the revival of the dying art of Pala of Odisha.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

Former Union Minister Pandit Sukh Ram passes away



- Congress leader and former Union minister Pandit Sukh Ram passed away at 94. He was admitted to AIIMS in New Delhi on May 7 after suffering a brain stroke.
- He won the Lok Sabha elections three times and the Vidhan Sabha elections five times.
- In 2011, he was sentenced to five years of imprisonment for corruption when he was Communications Minister in 1996.

Source- <https://www.indiatoday.in/>

World's oldest chess grandmaster Yuri Averbakh passes away



- Yuri Averbakh, a Russian chess grandmaster who was among the world's best players for a decade, trained world champions and was the last surviving participant in one of the greatest competitions in history, died Saturday in Moscow. He was 100 — the first grandmaster to reach that age.
- He won the Moscow Championship in 1949 and earned the Grandmaster title in 1952.
- In 1954, he became the champion of the USSR. He also chaired the Chess Federation of the USSR from 1972 to 1977.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Former Australia Cricketer Andrew Symonds Dies In Car Accident



- Former Australian test cricketer Andrew Symonds has died after a single-vehicle auto accident near Townsville in northeast Australia. He was 46.
- Cricket Australia reported Symonds' death on its website on 15 May 2022, citing a police statement with details of the accident late 14 May 2022 night.
- Andrew Symonds played 26 Tests and 198 one-day internationals for Australia from 1998 to 2009, was involved in a single-car accident outside Townsville in Queensland state.
- Symonds was also a top-rate fielder and was a key part of Australia's back-to-back 50-over World Cups triumphs in 2003 and 2007.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/>

Odisha: Veteran communist leader Sivaji Patnaik passes away



- **BHUBANESWAR:** Veteran communist leader and former Bhubaneswar MP Sivaji Patnaik passed away here at 2:10 pm on 23 May 2022.
- He was 92. He was one of the main founders of the Odisha unit of the Communist Party of India (Marxist).
- The Left party leader is survived by his wife, three sons and a daughter.
- He was admitted to a hospital on 22 May 2022 after the potassium level in his blood dropped.
- His body will be brought to the party's state headquarters near Jaydev Vihar here at 10am on 24 May 2022 for the last darshan.

Source- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

Singer Sidhu Moose Wala Shot Dead. Canada-Based Gangster Did It, Say Cops



- Shubhdeep Singh Sidhu was popularly known by his stage name Sidhu Moose Wala. The 28-year-old belonged to the Moosa village near Mansa and had given several superhit songs in the last few years.
- The incident happened a day after the Punjab Police ordered the withdrawal of security of his security along with more than 420 people, including former MLAs, Jathedars of two Takhts, heads of Deras, and police officers.
- Moose Wala had a fan following running into millions and was popular for his rap. Moose Wala held a degree in electrical engineering.
- He had learned music during his college days and had later moved to Canada.
- Sidhu Moose Wala had contested this year's Punjab assembly election on a Congress ticket from Mansa and was defeated by AAP candidate Vijay Singla by a huge margin of 63,000 votes.

Source- <https://www.ndtv.com/>

Schemes

RailTel & WHO inaugurated Mobile Container Hospital at Visakhapatnam



- The RailTel Corporation of India Ltd on 2 May 2022 in an official statement said that they had designed and established a “Health Cloud” at Visakhapatnam premises of Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ).
- RailTel has also provided complete technological support for teleconsultation solution for the Mobile Container Hospital which has been designed and built in AMTZ with all the necessary Hospital set-up for ready-to-operationalise in remote areas.
- It can also be operationalised on the wheels. It comes with a Health ATM to dispense the medicines through Mobile App having digital payment interface.

Source- <https://www.livemint.com/> (A Unit of Divine Group of Institutions)

SC appointed panel for the recovery of money from NSEL defaulters



- The Supreme Court on Wednesday formed a high-level committee, headed by Retired Bombay High Court Judge Pradeep Nandrajog, for recovery of money from the defaulters against whom National Spot Exchange (NSEL) has secured money decrees.
- NSEL has already secured decrees and arbitration award of ₹3,534 crore against the defaulters. Further, defaulters’ liabilities of ₹760 crore have

already been crystallised by the committee appointed by the Bombay High Court, said the exchange on Wednesday.

- Proceedings for decree against NK Protein worth ₹964 crore is pending before Bombay High Court.

Source- <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/>

Delhi Govt announced “Delhi Startup Policy” to aid the entrepreneur



- Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on 05 May 2022 launched the 'Delhi Startup Policy' under which the government aims to promote entrepreneurship in the national capital by providing financial assistance to build a successful business.
- Under the new policy, the government will also form a 20-member task force which will assist budding entrepreneurs in setting up their businesses.
- The panel will have chartered accountants, lawyers, government officers, academics and trade representatives.
- It will also decide on registration applications from startups. Hope the "policy will lead to a boom in the start-up sector in Delhi.

Source- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/>

Delhi govt will provide the “Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojana”



- A total of 25,000 households in East Delhi will be provided free sewer connections under the 'Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojana', according to a communication from the Delhi Jal Board (DJB).
- These free connections will be provided in 12 colonies in Karawal Nagar and Mustafabad, for which an amount of Rs 19 crore has been allocated.
- The households will be connected to the existing sewer network, which will carry the waste to the Yamuna Vihar sewage treatment plant, according to the DJB.
- The aim is to prevent sewage from landing in the Yamuna river. The decision was taken at a board meeting of the DJB chaired by Water Minister Satyendar Jain.
- The colonies include Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Chandu Nagar, and parts of Khajuri Khas.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

Tamil Nadu govt announced breakfast scheme for primary school students



- Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin announced a free breakfast scheme for government primary school students.
- The scheme, in the first phase, would be implemented in a few corporations, municipalities and remote villages. It would be extended across the state in a phased manner.
- It is one of the five schemes announced by the chief minister under Rule 110 in the assembly to mark the completion of one year of the DMK government.
- A nutrition scheme would be rolled out for children below the age of six years. The government would establish "schools of excellence" in 25 corporation and municipality schools at a cost Rs 150 crore.

Source-<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

SEBI formed Advisory Committee for ESG-related matters



- Capital markets regulator Sebi has constituted an advisory committee for advising on ESG (environment, social and governance) related matters in the securities market.
- The committee will be headed by HDFC Mutual Fund Navneet Munot, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in a statement.
- Apart from Munot, the committee has experts, including R Mukundan, MD and CEO of Tata Chemicals; C Siva Kumar, executive director of NTPC, Amit Talgeri, chief risk officer at Axis Bank, Sharad Kalghtagi, ESG head Cipla; Amit Tandon founder and MD Institutional Investor Advisory Services; J N Gupta, founder and MD of Stakeholders Empowerment Services and Rama Patel, Director of Crisil Ratings.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

PM panel flags urban job guarantee scheme, universal basic income



- A REPORT commissioned and released by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) has suggested that the Government should launch a guaranteed employment programme for the urban unemployed and roll out a universal basic income (UBI) scheme to reduce income gaps.
- Citing the “skewed nature” of income distribution in the country, the report also recommended steps to raise minimum income and more government spending on the social sector to make vulnerable sections immune to sudden shocks” and “stop their descent into poverty”.

- The report, titled “The State of Inequality in India” and prepared by the Gurgaon-based Institute for Competitiveness, was released on Wednesday by EAC chairman Bibek Debroy.

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

RBI sets up panel for review of customer service standards at banks, NBFCs



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced forming a panel to evaluate the efficacy, adequacy and quality of customer service at banks, non-bank lenders and other entities regulated by it.
- The six-member panel headed by former RBI deputy governor B P Kanungo has been asked to submit a report within three months from the date of its first meeting, the central bank said in a statement.
- The panel has been tasked to “evaluate the efficacy, adequacy and quality of customer service in entities regulated by RBI vis-à-vis the existing RBI guidelines on customer service and identify gaps, if any.”

Source-<https://www.timesnownews.com/>

Border Coordination Conference between BSF-BGB begins in Bangladesh



- The Inspector General BSF- Regional Commander BGB level Border Coordination Conference between India and Bangladesh started in Sylhet on 30 May 2022. The four day conference will conclude on June 2, said an official press release of the Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB).
- The Indian delegation entered Bangladesh through the Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Dawki on the Meghalaya border where they were welcomed by senior officials of BGB.
- A five member BSF delegation led by IG BSF Sumit Sharan is attending the conference. The Bangladesh delegation of BGB is led by Brigadier General Tanvir Gani Chowdhury, Regional Commander, Chittagong. Apart from the BGB officials, the Bangladesh delegation also includes officials from the Home Ministry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Department of Land records and survey.

Source-<https://newsonair.gov.in>



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Science & Technology

ISRO plans mission to Venus by Dec 2024



- After sending missions to the Moon and Mars, the ISRO is now readying a spacecraft to orbit Venus to study what lies below the surface of the solar system's hottest planet, and also unravel the mysteries under the Sulfuric Acid clouds enveloping it.
- ISRO is expecting to launch the mission by December 2024 with an orbital manoeuvre planned for a year after that.
- The orbital manoeuvre is the use of propulsion systems to change the orbit of a spacecraft. It enables a spacecraft to enter a planet's orbit.
- The aim of the mission is to study Venus' atmosphere, which is toxic and corrosive in nature as clouds of sulfuric acid cover the planet.
- Several countries, including the United States, are also planning to send missions to Venus to try and understand how it became an inferno. Experts have suggested that Venus was once like Earth.

Source- <https://www.google.com/>

Green Satellite Propulsion tested by Bellatrix Aerospace



- Chennai: Bengaluru-based Bellatrix Aerospace has tested an eco-friendly propulsion system for satellites that cuts a new path from the hydrazine-dependent fuel systems and offers a potential 20% jump in fuel efficiency for space satellites.

- Satellite thrusters use the poisonous substance hydrazine, which has a negative influence on the environment, prompting space experts to look for environmentally friendly replacements.
- According to a press statement from ISRO, the union cabinet approved two unmanned missions and one crewed mission as part of the Rs 9,023-crore Gaganyaan project.
- Should green propellants be explored for human flight missions, they would result in faster processing times and fewer handling needs, both of which are key roles in a crewed human flight mission.

Source- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>

China Plans World's First Habitable Planet Search With Space Telescope



- Beijing: Chinese scientists have proposed a space project to survey the sky through a space-borne telescope to hunt for habitable Earth-like planets outside the solar system, about 32 light-years from Earth, the official media reported on 19 May 2022.
- The project, named Closeby Habitable Exoplanet Survey (CHES) would be the first space mission specially designed to search for habitable terrestrial planets around nearby Sun-like stars.
- The exploration of habitable planets outside the solar system is one of the key frontiers of fundamental research in astronomy.
- The discovery of the nearby habitable worlds will be a great breakthrough for humankind, and will also help humans visit those Earth twins and expand our living space in the future.

Source- <https://www.ndtv.com/>

Hyderabad based Skyroot Aerospace successfully test fires its rocket engine



- Private sector rocket maker Skyroot Aerospace Private Ltd successfully tested its Vikram-1 rocket's third stage/engine.
- The company on 19 May 2022 announced the completion of the milestone of full duration test-firing of its Vikram-1 rocket stage.
- Named 'Kalam-100' after renowned Indian rocket scientist Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, the third stage of Vikram-1 produces a peak vacuum thrust of 100 kN (about 10 tons) and has a burn time of 108 seconds.
- The rocket stage is built with high-strength carbon fiber structure, solid fuel, Ethylene-Propylene-Diene terpolymers (EPDM) thermal protection system, and carbon ablative nozzle.

Source- Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launches Single National Portal for Biotech researchers and Start-Ups



- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched Single National Portal for Biotech researchers and Start-ups in keeping with the spirit of One Nation, One Portal.
- The Portal - BioRRAP - will cater to all those seeking regulatory approval for biological research and development activity in the country.
- According to the Minister, biotechnology has quickly become a viable academic and career option for Indian youth.
- The country currently has over 2,700 biotech start-ups and over 2,500 biotech enterprises in operation.

Source- <https://newsonair.gov.in/>

NIT-T commissions Param Porul Super Computer Centre, becomes part of NSM

- National Institute of Technology, Tiruchi, on 25 May 2022 became part of the National Super Computing Mission (NSM), Government of India, by commissioning the Param Porul Super Computer Centre.
- NIT-Tiruchi, which was sanctioned a Super Computer worth ₹119 crore by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeITY) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), has entered the comity of IITs and National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute to be part of the NSM that envisages empowering technology institutions with high-performance computing capabilities that can be used for solving computationally intensive problems.
- The 838 TF supercomputer involving CPU (Central Processing Unit) and GPU (Graphics Processing unit) at a ratio of 70:30 is being installed at the Institute by CDAC (Centre for Development of Advanced Computing), Pune, with an additional installation cost of about ₹4 crore. With the development of societal projects involving Artificial Intelligence, Machine learning, Deep learning on the rise, NIT-T has installed the facility at the appropriate time to enable facility and research scholars working on projects involving high-end computing.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com>

India to introduce “made in India” skin test for TB



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- India will introduce a newly approved “made in India” TB infection skin test called ‘c-TB’, said Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on 26 May 2022.
- He also informed that a new initiative, “Adopt people with TB” will be launched this year, based on Indian values of collectivism, which will call upon corporates, industries, organisations, political parties and individuals to come forward and adopt TB-infected people and family and provide them with nutritional and social support.

Source- <https://www.thehindu.com/>

Adani Green arm commissions India's first wind-solar hybrid power plant in Jaisalmer



- In a major push to India's green energy drive, Adani Green NSE -1.21% subsidiary Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer One Limited has commissioned a 390 MW wind-solar hybrid power plant at Jaisalmer.
- The plant will be India's first wind and solar hybrid power generation plant. The hybrid power plant, integrated through solar and wind power generation, harnesses the full potential of renewable energy by resolving the intermittency of the generation and provides a more reliable solution to meet the rising power demand, the company said.
- With the successful commissioning of the plant, AGEL now has an operational capacity of 5.8 GW.
- This places AGEL's total renewable portfolio of 20.4 GW well on track to meet its vision of 45 GW capacity by 2030.

Source- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/>



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Summits & Conferences

PM Modi addresses inaugural session of Semicon India Conference in B'luru



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural session of the Semiconductor India Conference 2022 being held in India's silicon valley-- Bengaluru. During his address, the Prime Minister listed six reasons as to why India is an attractive destination for the emerging semiconductor sector.
- These included building digital infrastructure to connect 1.3 billion citizens; paving way to lead next technology revolution like 5G, clean energy, artificial intelligence (AI) and internet of things (IoT) among others; robust economic growth; reforms in ease of doing business; heavy investments in skilling and training of young Indians; and measures taken to transform manufacturing sector.
- He further said, "Today, we are skilling young Indians for the needs of 21st century. We have an exceptional semiconductor design talent, making 20 per cent of world's engineers."
- The Prime Minister also talked at length about unified payments interface or UPI. He said it is "the world's most efficient payment infrastructure" and that the government is utilising it across sectors of governance like health, welfare, inclusion and empowerment. He also talked at length about India's robust economic growth and startup ecosystem.

Source-<https://www.businesstoday.in>

Prime Minister Modi addresses the JITO Connect 2022 launching session



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the inaugural session of Jain International Trade Organisation's 'JITO Connect 2022' on 6 May 2022 at 10.30 am via video conferencing.
- A PMO release said that Jain International Trade Organisation (JITO) is a global organisation connecting Jains worldwide.
- It said JITO Connect is an endeavour to help business and industry by providing an avenue for mutual networking and personal interactions. 'JITO Connect 2022' is a three-day event being organized at Gangadham Annex, Pune from May 6 to 8 and will encompass multiple sessions on diverse issues relating to business and the economy.

Source- <https://theprint.in/>

COP15 Session on combating desertification: Bhupender Yadav led the Indian delegation



- Mr Yadav is leading an Indian delegation at the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-15) of the UNCCD at Abidjan in Cote d'Ivoire. Mr Yadav will address the high-level segment, including a Heads of States Summit.
- The fourteenth session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification was held in New Delhi, and India is the current president of the organisation.
- The fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), which will take place in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, will bring together leaders from governments, the private sector, civil society,
- And other key stakeholders from around the world to drive progress in future sustainable land management and to explore links between land and other key sustainability issues.

Source- <https://newsonair.com/>

Prime Minister attended the 2nd Global COVID-19 Virtual Summit



- **NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the second Global Covid Virtual Summit on Thursday at the invitation of US President Joe Biden.
- The summit intends to galvanize new actions to address the continued challenges of the Covid pandemic and build a stronger global health security architecture.
- According to a Ministry of External Affairs, the Prime Minister will deliver his remarks in the opening session of the summit on the theme 'Preventing Pandemic Fatigue and Prioritizing Preparedness'.
- The session will be live-streamed from 18.30 to 19.45 hours on May 12.

Source- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

Sitharaman chairs 7th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of New Development Bank



- Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs and India's Governor for the New Development Bank (NDB), Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 7th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB through video-conference in New Delhi.
- The meeting was also attended by Governors/Alternate Governors of Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa, and the newly joined members Bangladesh and United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- Due to ongoing pandemic, this Annual Meeting of NDB which was hosted/chaired by India this year was organised in virtual mode.
- This year's theme for the Annual Meeting was "NDB: Optimising Development Impact", which is particularly important and relevant in the current global economic scenario.

Source- <https://www.devdiscourse.com/>

Piyush Goyal to lead Indian delegation at World Economic Forum, Davos



- Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal will lead the Indian team at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos from May 22 to 26.
- The annual meet of the WEF, a Geneva-based international organisation working towards an array of global issues, will take place in a physical form for the first time since January 2020.
- Last year, the event took place virtually given the pandemic situation. The WEF, which was to be held earlier this year, was delayed to May due to the spread of the Omicron variant.
- Mr. Goyal will also visit the United Kingdom on the 26th and 27th of this month to discuss the progress made in the Free Trade Agreement negotiations with UK government and businesses.
- The Prime Ministers of India and the United Kingdom agreed to hold a summit conference in Diwali 2022 to finalise the Free Trade Agreement between the two countries.

Source- <https://www.business-standard.com/>

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Inaugurates North East Research Conclave 2022 At IIT Guwahati



- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati inaugurated the three-day North East Research Conclave (NERC), May 20.
- Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, the Chief Minister of Assam, stated in his deliberation that Research and Development is critical for a fast-developing country like India.
- He went on to say that in a progressive society, research and development has always been seen as a key building component since it is so important in the process of innovation and growing our knowledge and understanding.
- Entrepreneurs and research institutions can display their innovations at the North-East Research Conclave.
- This is a fantastic effort for the North East since it puts policymakers, industry leaders, and researchers together on one platform. This huge event will have a significant impact on the region's educational sector.

Source- <https://www.ndtv.com/>

All you need to know about the Quad, the current summit, and initiatives



- As the leaders of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue grouping of Australia, Japan, India and the United States — also known as the Quad — meet in Tokyo 24 May 2022 for their second in-person summit, after the last one in Washington in September 2021 (they had met once in a virtual summit in March 2021), here is a look at three major themes that present challenges and opportunities for the grouping.
- India has also joined the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), which is an Indo-Pacific Economic Bloc led by the US to counter China.
- PM Modi, stated while addressing the Summit “Despite the adverse situation of Covid-19, we’ve increased our coordination for vaccine delivery, climate

action, supply chain resilience, disaster response, economic cooperation, and other areas. It has ensured peace, prosperity, and stability in Indo-Pacific.”

Source- <https://indianexpress.com/>

MoS for Culture and External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi participated in 7th BRICS Culture Ministers’ Meeting



- Ms Lekhi said India believes in diversity of cultural heritage and intercultural dialogue. She asserted that India strongly advocates a sustainable and resilient environment integrating heritage and traditional knowledge into innovative and culture-based solutions to environmental concerns.
- The debate focused on boosting cultural digitization growth and collaboration, enhancing cooperation on cultural heritage preservation, and pushing the development of BRICS nations’ cultural exchange platforms.
- The Ministers approved the BRICS Action Plan 2022-2026, which aims to expand cultural cooperation and execute the 2015 BRICS Cultural Cooperation Agreement.

Source- <https://newsonair.com/>

India-Pakistan bilateral meeting on Indus Water Treaty begins today



- A five-member delegation of Pakistan is set to participate in the 118th bilateral meeting on Indus Water Treaty in New Delhi on 30 May 2022.

- During the meeting, both sides will deliberate on the issue of advance flood information and the annual report of the Permanent Commission of Indus Waters (PCIW).
- There will be talks on the sharing of flood forecast data while the PCIW (Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Water) annual report will also be discussed during the negotiations. The Pakistani delegation will not visit the under construction Pakal Dul and Lower Kalnai dams but those and other projects will come under discussion.
- In March, India and Pakistan had reiterated their commitment to implement the Indus Waters Treaty in its true spirit and expressed the hope that the next meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission would be held at an early date in India.

Source-<https://www.oneindia.com>



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