

Awards and Honours

Recipient Name	Award Name	Extra Information
RV Suchiang	Becomes first native woman of Meghalaya to take charge as Chief Secretary of state	RV Suchiang has become the first-ever native woman Chief Secretary of Meghalaya. Rebecca Vanessa Suchiang is a 1989 batch officer of the Indian Administrative Services and has been appointed by the State Government
“Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)”	2021 Right Livelihood Award	LIFE has been selected for the award for its “grassroots approach of empowering vulnerable communities to protect their livelihoods and claim their right to a clean environment.”
David Julius, Ardem Patapoutian	Nobel Prize in Medicine 2021	The Nobel Prize in Medicine 2021 has been awarded to David Julius, Ardem Patapoutian on October 4, 2021, for the discoveries on receptors for temperature and touch. Both the scientists are from the United States.
Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann, Giorgio Parisi	Nobel Prize in Physics 2021	The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden. The prestigious award comes with a gold medal and 10 million Swedish kronor (over \$1.14 million).
Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan	Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021	This has had a great impact on pharmaceutical research and has made chemistry greener. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021.
Prof Eric Hanushek and Dr. Rukmini Banerji	2021 Yidan Prize	Professor Eric A. Hanushek and Dr Rukmini Banerji have been awarded the 2021 Yidan Prize for Education Development for improving learning outcomes in schools at scale.
Gurjit Kaur	FIH Women’s Hockey Player of the Year - Hockey Stars Awards 2020-21	The winners were decided based on an online poll conducted from August 23 to September 15 which saw national associations, represented by their respective

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		national captains and coaches, players, media and hockey fans cast their votes.
Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank	‘APY Big Believers’ and ‘Leadership capital	KVGB Chairman P. Gopi Krishna received awards from PFRDA Chairman Supratim Bandopadhyay.
Abdulrazak Gurnah	Nobel Prize in Literature 2021	Abdulrazak Gurnah born in Zanzibar and active in England, “for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents.”
David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens	Nobel Economics Prize	David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens have been jointly awarded the 2021 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
B Gopal Chosen	Satyajit Ray Award	He was selected by a panel comprising Malayalam filmmaker Balu Kiriyaath, music director Perumbavoor G Raveendranath and others.
G Satheesh Reddy	Aryabhata Award	Secretary DDR&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy has been conferred the prestigious Aryabhata Award by the Astronautical Society of India (ASI) for his outstanding lifetime contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India.
Benyamin	Vayalar Award	The prestigious award, instituted by the Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Trust, comprises a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh, a sculpture designed by renowned sculptor Kanayi Kunhiraman and a citation.
Dr Randeep Guleria	22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award	He lauded Dr Guleria’s devotion to duty and in nurturing the Department of Pulmonary Medicine and Sleep Disorders in AIIMS.
Microsoft team	2021 C.K. Prahalad Award	The four top Microsoft leaders have received the Award for their collaborative leadership to transform Microsoft into a carbon negative company by

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		2030 and remove all its historical emissions by 2050.
An Indian Project, Takachar's Innovation,	Eco Oscars	An Indian Project, Takachar's Innovation, that recycles agricultural waste into fuel has won the "Prince William's inaugural Earthshot Prize", which is also called as "Eco Oscars.
Kung Fu Nuns	UNESCO Martial Arts Education Prize 2021	The Prize recognises the historic "acts of service and championing of gender equality in Himalayas" by the Kung Fu Nuns.
Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation	Earth Guardian Award	PaTCoF is a non-profit organisation under forest department which seeks to facilitate conservation of tiger and biodiversity in the Parambikulam tiger reserve.
Martin Scorsese, Istvan Szabo	Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award	Anurag Thakur, the Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, has announced that the renowned film directors Martin Scorsese and Istvan Szabo will be honoured with Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) to be held in Goa.
Alexei Navalny	European Union's Sakharov Prize	The 45-year-old activist has been awarded for his immense personal bravery to fight tirelessly against the corruption of Vladimir Putin's regime.
Rajinikanth	51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award	He will be conferred the prestigious award for his outstanding contribution to the world of Indian cinema.
Tsitsi Dangarembga	German Peace Prize 2021	Zimbabwean novelist and filmmaker Tsitsi Dangarembga on October 24, 2021, was awarded the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 2021 for her artistic work as well as her political commitment.
Dr. Rajiv Nigam	2022 Joseph A. Cushman Award	Former Chief Scientist at CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Dr Rajiv Nigam, has been selected for the 2022 Joseph A. Cushman Award.

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TVS Motor Company	India Green Energy Award 2020	IFGE has recognized the efforts of TVS Motor in researching and implementing the use of alternative power sources in the renewable energy domain while ensuring their longevity and stability.
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Appointments

Name	Designation	Extra Information
Vinod Aggarwal	Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC) – President	Aggarwal, who is currently the managing director and CEO of VE Commercial Vehicles Ltd (VECV), replaces Nikunj Sanghi, who will leave ASDC after serving it for four years.
Sunil Kataria	Indian Society of Advertisers (ISA) - Chairman	Sunil has led the Society over the past five years to greater heights garnering support from the fellow Executive Council members, the ISA members and other industry bodies.
Padmaja Chundururu	managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of National Securities Depositories (NSDL)	In India, there are two depositories namely National Securities Depositories Ltd (NSDL) and Central Securities Depositories Ltd (CDSL). Both the depositories hold our financial securities.
Najla Bouden Romdhane	Prime Minister of Tunisia	The 63-year-old has also become the first female prime minister in the whole Arab world. Prior to this appointment, Najla served in the education ministry in 2011. She is a geologist by profession and professor at the Tunis National School of Engineering.
Kangana Ranaut	Brand ambassador of the ambitious “One District One Product (ODOP) scheme” of the uttar Pradesh	CM Yogi also presented Kangana with a silver coin which was used for ‘Ram Janm Bhumi Pujan’.
Sanjay Bhargava	Starlink satellite broadband venture in India	Bhargava joins SpaceX as Starlink’s country director (India), as the Musk-led US aerospace company gears up to compete with Bharti group-backed OneWeb.
B C Patnaik	Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India	Prior to taking charge as Managing Director of LIC,

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		Patnaik was Secretary-General, Council for Insurance Ombudsmen, (CIO) Mumbai. He joined LIC of India in March 1986 as a Direct Recruit Officer.
Abiy Ahmed	Prime Minister of Ethiopia	Abiy's Prosperity Party was declared the winner of June's parliamentary elections, which were criticised by opposition parties but described by external observers as improved from past elections. He is serving as prime minister of Ethiopia since 2018.
Amitabh Bachchan	CoinDCX - Brand ambassador	Through this collaboration, CoinDCX wants to increase awareness around crypto and popularise it as an emerging asset class. CoinDCX wants to ensure that crypto is accessible to everyone.
Eric Braganza	Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA) – President	The Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA) has appointed Eric Braganza as its president for a two-year term. He succeeds Godrej Appliances Business Head and Executive Vice-President Kamal Nandi for the CEAMA chair.
E. R. Sheikh	Director General of the Ordnance Directorate	E.R. Sheikh has assumed charge as first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate (Co-ordination and Services). It is the successor organization of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).
PL Haranadh	Chairman of Paradip Port Trust	Haranadh has worked in various capacities, during his 27 years of service, which includes 22 years in the Indian Railways and 5 years in the Ministry of Shipping. Paradip Port Trust (PPT) is the lone major port in Odisha.
Rajnish Kumar	BharatPe as Chairman	He will also work closely with other Board Members and chief experience officer (CXOs) on key regulatory and business initiatives.
Amit Khare	Advisor to PM Modi	Mr Khare, a 1985 batch (retired) IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre, had

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		superannuated on September 30.
Arun Kumar Mishra	CEO - Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)	A joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power has announced the appointment of Arun Kumar Mishra as chief executive officer (CEO) on deputation.
Sajjan Jindal	Chairman of World Steel Association	JSW Steel is the flagship business of the diversified \$13 billion JSW Group and engaged in the manufacturing of iron and steel products in India and across the globe.
Virat Kohli	Fire-Boltt – Brand Ambassador	The skipper will participate in different marketing, ad and endorsement campaigns of the homegrown brand. Fire-Boltt had a few months earlier brought on board actor Vicky Kaushal as its first brand ambassador.
A K Goel	Chairman of Indian Bank's Association (IBA)	He has replaced Rajkiran Rai G, MD & CEO, Union Bank of India. IBA is a representative body of management of banking in India operating in India and is headquartered in Mumbai.
Navrang Saini	Chairperson of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)	The post fell vacant after M.S. Sahoo retired after a five-year tenure on September 30. Saini is a Whole Time Member of IBBI.
Jonas Gahr Store	Norway's new PM	In September 2021, Store's Labour Party won the parliamentary elections, following which incumbent Prime Minister Erna Solberg and her government stepped down.
Pradeep Kumar Panja	Chairman of Karnataka Bank	He will begin his role as the part-time non-executive Chairman with effect from November 14, 2021, for a period of three years. He will succeed P Jayarama Bhat, who will retire on November 13, 2021.
Rahul Dravid	Team India head coach	Former Indian batter, Rahul Dravid has been appointed as Team India's head coach and he

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		will be succeeding Ravi Shastri, whose tenure at the helm ends after the 2021 edition of the T20 World Cup in the UAE.
Amitabh Chaudhry	Axis Bank CEO	Amitabh had taken charge as Axis Bank's new MD and CEO in January 2019 after as outgoing MD and CEO Shikha Sharma retired, effective December 31, 2018. The extended three-year term will be effective from January 1, 2022.
Amit Rastogi	Chairman & Managing Director of NRDC	NRDC was established in India in 1953 to help develop and promote technologies developed at various national R&D institutions.
Sahdev Yadav	President of IWF	Sahdev Yadav, former Secretary-General of IWLF, was unanimously elected as the President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF). The election also saw the appointment of S.H.
Imtiaz Ali	Ambassador of Russian Film Festival	As part of the festival, ten notable Russian films of various genres are being premiered for Indian audiences on Disney+ Hotstar from October 16 to November 27. Russia and India are cooperating in the field of cinematography through the BRICS.
A Balasubramanian	Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).	Meanwhile, Radhika Gupta, the MD and CEO of Edelweiss AMC, has been appointed as vice-chair of AMFI.
Sandra Mason	first-ever president of Barbados	Sandra Mason was elected as the first-ever President of Barbados on October 20, 2021, with a two-thirds vote during a joint session of the country's House of Assembly and Senate.
Alok Mishra	MD of India Ports Global Limited	He is currently serving as the Head of operation and transformation lead at the Gateway Terminals India Pvt Ltd (GTI), Mumbai Maharashtra.
Deepika Padukone	Adidas- Brand Ambassador	including Mirabai Chanu; boxers Lovlina Borgohain,

		Nikhat Zareen and Simranjeet Kaur; sprinter Hima Das, and squash player Dipika Pallikal.
Manoj Bajpayee	FloBiz Neobank – Brand Ambassador	FloBiz, a neobank for Indian Small to Medium-sized Businesses (SMBs), announced Padma Shri Awardee actor Manoj Bajpayee as the brand ambassador for its flagship product.
Shavkat Mirziyoyev	President of Uzbekistan	Shavkat Mirziyoyev took office in 2016 following the death of Islam Karimov, the first post-independence president of Uzbekistan.
Baldev Prakash	MD & CEO of J&K Bank	The actual date of appointment of Baldev Prakash as MD & CEO of J&K Bank will be announced by the bank subsequently.
K V Kamath	chairperson of NaBFID	The government of India has appointed K V Kamath as chairperson of the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).
Shaktikanta Das	RBI Governor	Shaktikanta Das’s current term was scheduled to end on December 10, 2021. The reappointment will keep him at the bank’s helm to aid recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Banking & Finance

World Bank: \$150 million to Chennai’s Sustainable Urban Services

World Bank has approved about \$150 million program to support Chennai’s Sustainable Urban Services and to turn it into a “world-class city”.

This programme will fulfil Tamil Nadu’s vision of making Chennai into a city which is more green, liveable, and resilient towards climate change.

IMF Report on Crypto Ecosystem

The International Monetary Funds (IMF) has released its report called “Global Financial Stability Report”, highlighting how digital currency assets brings in financial stability challenges.

According to report, Technological innovation is starting a new era of making payments and other financial services faster, cheaper, more accessible. Such transaction also allows to flow across borders swiftly.

India Post Payments Bank and HDFC joined hands to offer home loans

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and HDFC bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for offering home loans to about 4.7 crore customers of the payments bank.

IPPB, that leverages its country-wide network of 650 branches and more than 1,36,000 banking access points or Post offices, aims to make home loan products of HDFC available to its customers in India.

India-ADB sign PRF loan to support Urban Mobility in Mizoram

The Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$4.5 million project readiness financing (PRF) loan on October 26, 2021.

The loan agreement will support project preparation and design activities for improving urban mobility in capital city, Aizawl in the state of Mizoram.

HDFC Ltd and India Post Payments Bank partnered to Offer Home Loans

HDFC Ltd and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) made a strategic partnership to offer HDFC Ltd's home loans to 4.7 crore customers of IPPB through its wide network of 650 branches and over 1.36 lakh banking access points. The partnership helps to promote affordable housing in the remotest locations of India.

Kotak Mahindra Bank tied up with IndiGo to launch 'Ka-ching' Credit Card

IndiGo and Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) entered into a strategic partnership for the launch of a co-branded credit card named 'Ka-ching'. The credit card was launched under IndiGo's 6E Rewards programme and linked with it to enable the members to earn rewards by using the card on IndiGo and other merchants.

The co-branded card will be available in 2 variants such as 6E Rewards and 6E Rewards XL by offering exclusive travel benefits for domestic and international travel.

RBI grants banking licence to Unity Small Finance Bank

The Reserve Bank of India has granted a banking licence to Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd (USFBL), which was established jointly by the Centrum Financial Services Ltd (CFSL) and Resilient Innovations Private Limited (BharatPe), to carry on a SFB business in India.

It is the first time ever that two partners are uniting equally to build a Bank. The proposed business model is one of collaboration and open architecture, uniting all its stakeholders to deliver a seamless digital experience.

India announces \$200 million line of credit for Kyrgyzstan

India announced a \$200-million line of credit for Kyrgyzstan and signed an agreement to carry out small but high impact projects for community development in the Central Asian state. The two initiatives were among several measures announced by external affairs minister S Jaishankar at the end of a two-day visit to Kyrgyzstan.

Kotak Mahindra Bank launches Micro ATMs across India

The private lender Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd has announced the launch of Micro ATMs across the country. Customers of all banks who possess a debit card can use a Kotak Micro ATM for key banking services such as cash withdrawals and checking account balances. A mini version of an ATM, micro ATMs are small handheld devices. The bank will use its extensive Business Correspondents (BC) network to launch micro ATMs.

IndusInd Bank gets authorised by RBI to collect Direct and Indirect Taxes

IndusInd Bank has announced, that it has been authorised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the collection of Direct and Indirect Taxes, on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC). With this, its customers will be able to pay their Direct and Indirect taxes through ‘Indusnet’ and ‘Indusmobile’ platforms.

RBI authorised Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) to collect Direct taxes

The Reserve Bank of India has authorised Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) to collect direct taxes on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

After obtaining the approval, KVB has started the integration process with the CBDT to collect direct taxes. The integration would enable the bank to allow its customers to remit the direct taxes through any branch/net banking/ mobile banking services (DLite Mobile application).

RBI imposes fine of Rs 1.95 crore on Standard Chartered Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a fine of Rs 1.95 crore on the Standard Chartered Bank for failing to report a cyber security incident within the prescribed time period, and failure to credit the amount involved in unauthorised electronic transactions, among other reasons. Standard Chartered Bank was penalised also for its non-compliance of RBI’s directions on customer protection.

IndiaFirst Life Introduces ‘Saral Bachat Bima’ Insurance Plan

IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited (IndiaFirst Life), a joint venture of Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India introduced “IndiaFirst Life Saral Bachat Bima Plan”. It is a savings and protection cover plan for the entire family. The plan includes paying for the short term and enjoying long term benefits and it will provide consistent protection through insurance cover.

Bharti AXA sign Bancassurance Partnership with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank

Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company Limited (Bharti AXA Life) has entered into a bancassurance partnership with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank to ensure distribution of life insurance products through the bank's network across India.

This partnership will enable the Bharti AXA life to reach Tier II and Tier III markets with insurance solutions and increase the reach of insurance in India.

HDFC Bank, Mastercard, DFC, USAID launched a \$100 Million Credit Facility

HDFC Bank, Mastercard, United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and US Agency for International Development (USAID) launched a \$100 million credit facility for MSMEs (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises) in India.

The credit facility is part of USAID's global Women Economic Empowerment Fund initiative and its COVID-19 response in India.

Paytm acquires 100% ownership of lending startup CreditMate

Online payment services provider, Paytm has acquired a 100% stake in Mumbai-based digital lending startup CreditMate. However, the transaction details of the deal have not been disclosed. The Paytm Group will now be the 100% beneficial owners of the business, while the co-founders of CreditMate will exit the business.

RBI grants licence to NARCL

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted the licence to the Rs 6,000 crore National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd. (NARCL). This move will help in starting operations of the bad bank.

NARCL was incorporated in Mumbai in July 2021 after registration with the Registrar of Companies (RoC). IBA has been entrusted with the task to set up the bad bank.

SBI launches NAV-eCash card in collaboration with Indian navy

State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the launch of SBI's NAV-eCash card on INS Vikramaditya, the largest naval aircraft carrier of India.

The new journey envisioned for the card is set to change the payment ecosystem, while the ship is sailing with no dependency on utilisation of any form of cash to avail any of the services on board.

AU Small Finance Bank launched QR Sound box for payment alerts

India's Largest Small Finance Bank AU Small Finance Bank has launched QR (Quick Response) Code Sound Box to boost its digital payments while making it the first bank to launch such a product.

The QR Sound Box will help small merchants to run their operations smoothly without the hassle of reading SMS every time when a customer makes a payment. It will be made available in five languages – Hindi, English, Punjabi, Gujarati and Marathi.

Reserve Bank of India fines Paytm Payments Bank, Western union

The Reserve of Bank (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs. 1 crore on the Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) and Rs. 27.78 lakh on the Western Union Financial Services for non-compliance with certain directions.

According to the official release by the Reserve Bank of India, after reviewing the written responses and the oral submissions made during the personal hearing, the Central Bank determined that the aforementioned charge on PPBL and the Western Union Financial Services was substantiated and warranted the imposition of a monetary penalty.

BharatPe launches ‘buy now, pay later’ platform, postpe

Fintech company BharatPe, announced its entry into the ‘Buy Now Pay Later’ (BNPL) category with the launch of ‘postpe’. The new platform provides credit to customers to buy now, but pay later from anywhere.

Customers using the postpe platform can download the app from Play Store and avail interest-free credit limit of up to Rs 10 lakh. The company said that postpe is not only limited to big-ticket purchases but can also be used for micro-purchases, making it the first of its kind.

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ADB boosts 2019-2030 climate financing goals to \$100 billion

The Chief of Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced on October 12, 2021, that the lender will boost its climate financing goals by \$20 billion to a new target of \$100 billion through 2030.

The bank aims to launch its concept for retiring the coal-fired power plants at the COP26 Climate Conference in Scotland in November 2021.

RBI imposes Rs 1 crore penalty on State Bank of India

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 crore on India’s largest public lender State Bank of India (SBI). The penalty has been imposed for non-compliance with the directions contained in “RBI (Frauds classification and reporting by commercial banks and select FIs) directions 2016”.

Indian Affairs

Gandhi Jayanti 2021: Remembering the Gandhi

Every year 2nd October is celebrated as a Gandhi Jayanti to remember the birth anniversary of the father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi. The year 2021 marks the 152nd birth anniversary of the global peace icon who was born on 2 October 1869, in Porbandar in Gujarat. This day is referred to as Gandhi Jayanti in India.

India women team played their first-ever pink-ball test

The first pink-ball day and night Test match between India and Australian women team at the Carrara Oval in Queensland, Australia on 30th September. The BCCI and Cricket Australia

wish to slot in a Test in the full series they play going forward. The Indian team lead by Mithali Raj.

R K Singh launches the Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM)

The Union Minister of Power & New and Renewable Energy, R K Singh has launched a new market segment, “Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM)”. This makes India as the only large electricity market in the world to implement a GDAM exclusively for renewable energy.

The launch of the green day-ahead market will deepen the green market and will provide competitive price signals, besides offering an opportunity to market participants to trade in green energy, in the most transparent, flexible, competitive, and efficient manner.

GAIL to build India’s largest green hydrogen plant

State-owned GAIL (India) Ltd will build India’s largest green hydrogen-making plant as it looks to supplement its natural gas business with carbon-free fuel. GAIL Chairman and Managing Director Manoj Jain said the company is looking at building a 10-megawatt (MW) electrolyzer capable of generating 4.5 tonnes of green hydrogen daily.

The firm has already floated a global tender to buy the electrolyzer and is hoping to get delivery in 12-14 months. It will be double the size of the one announced by state electricity producer NTPC.

Centre organises ‘Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour and Conference’

Union Minister of State for Tourism, Ajay Bhatt has flagged off the “Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour” from Safdarjung railway station (part of Delhi Suburban Railways). Ministry of Tourism in association with the Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has organized the Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour as part of the Union government’s “Dekho Apna Desh” initiative.

Indian hockey players sweep FIH Stars Awards

Indian hockey players swept the 2020-21 edition of the FIH Stars Awards, the international hockey federation (FIH) announced. The winners were decided based on an online poll conducted from August 23 to September 15 which saw national associations, represented by their respective national captains and coaches, players, media and hockey fans cast their votes.

India’s Newest Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh

National Tiger Conservation Authority has approved the Chhattisgarh government’s proposal to declare the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park & Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve. It is located in the northern part of the state, bordering Madhya Pradesh & Jharkhand. This is the 4th Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh (Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, Indravati).

State Of The Education Report For India Launched By UNESCO

On behalf of World Teachers' Day, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launched its 2021 State of the Education Report.

- ◆ The Higher proportion of ladies teachers: Chandigarh, Delhi, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu
- ◆ The lower proportion of ladies teachers: Tripura, Assam, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Bihar.
- ◆ Increase the number of teachers and enhance working conditions in North-Eastern states, rural areas and 'aspirational districts.
- ◆ Increase the quantity of physical education, music, art, vocational training, early childhood and special education teachers.
- ◆ Provide teachers with meaningful Information and Communication Technology (ICT) training.
- ◆ Develop teaching governance through consultative processes that support mutual accountability.

Arvind Kejriwal launches 'Desh Ke Mentor' Programme

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has launched a programme under which students of Delhi government schools will be provided guidance on career choices by citizens who are successful in their respective fields.

The 'Desh ke mentor' programme entails 'adopting' one to 10 government school students who can be mentored by citizens who are successful in their respective fields. The Delhi government had in August announced that Bollywood actor Sonu Sood will be the brand ambassador for the mentors' programme.

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia flags off the Doon Drone Mela

Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia has flagged off the Doon Drone Mela 2021 in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Minister flagged off the event with a paragliding demonstration and also interacted with the drone companies exhibiting their prototypes at the Doon Drone Mela.

The day marked the demonstration of the Drone & Aerosports Demonstrations that included a paragliding demonstration by the Border Security Force, a Paramotor demonstration by Harsh Sachan, and an agriculture spraying drone demonstration by IoTechWorld Aviation & Dhaksha.

WHO Global TB report for 2021: India worst-hit country in TB elimination

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has released the 'Global TB report for 2021, where it highlighted the effects of COVID-19 which led to a huge reversal in the progress of Tuberculosis (TB) elimination. The report also mentioned India as the worst-hit country in TB elimination, where the detection of new TB cases saw a huge impact in 2020.

India set to touch 100 crore Covid vaccination mark

India crossed another significant milestone in its fight against the covid-19 pandemic on October 21, 2021. It touched the mark of 100 crore Covid vaccinations including the first as well as second doses.

Drama film Koozhangal is India's official entry for Oscars 2022

The Tamil-language drama film Koozhangal (internationally translated as Pebbles), has been selected as India's official entry for the 94th Academy Awards (Oscars 2022). The film has been directed by filmmaker Vinothraj PS and produced by Vignesh Shivan and Nayanthara. The 94th Academy Awards are scheduled to take place in Los Angeles, on March 27, 2022.

Election Commission of India launches Garuda App

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has launched the Garuda app for digital mapping of all polling stations, to ensure faster, smarter, transparent and timely completion of election work.

Through the Garuda app, Booth Level Officers (BLO) will upload photos and location information of the polling stations, along with data like latitude and longitude of the centre, from their registered mobile numbers. The app will also help in reducing the paperwork.

New rules for allowing abortion till 24 weeks

Government has incorporated new rules under the "Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021, which was passed in March 2021.

Under the new rules, the gestational limit for termination of pregnancy has been increased from 20 to 24 weeks for exceptional categories of women in India.

UNHRC: India re-elected to UN Human Rights Council for record 6th term with overwhelming majority

India on October 14, 2021, was re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for the 2022-2024 term with an overwhelming majority in the General Assembly.

India's re-election for the record sixth term to the UN body has been described by New Delhi's envoy as a robust endorsement of the country's strong roots in pluralism, democracy, and fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution.

India's first 'One Health' Consortium launched

Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology on October 14, 2021, virtually launched India's first 'One Health' Consortium.

The newly launched consortium envisages carrying out the surveillance of important viral, bacterial and parasitic infections of the zoonotic as well as the transboundary pathogens.

CBSE launches Veer Gatha project in schools

CBSE launches Veer Gatha project in schools to raise awareness on Gallantry Awards. Schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) have been asked to prepare projects and engage in activities based on the Gallantry Award winners.

The Veer Gatha project aims to raise awareness about the brave acts and sacrifices of the Gallantry Award winners among school students. The Veer Gatha project is being conducted from October 21- November 20. The projects can be interdisciplinary & in various formats such as poems, essays, etc.

Tokyo Olympic medalist Rupinder Pal Singh announces retirement from hockey

The Olympic bronze medal-winning Indian hockey player, Rupinder Pal Singh has announced his retirement from international hockey to make way for young and talented players.

The 30-year-old Rupinder represented the Indian hockey team in 223 matches in his 13 years hockey career. Rupinder was part of the Indian hockey team that won the bronze medal in the 2020 Summer Tokyo Olympics, held in July – August 2021.

World's largest Khadi National Flag hoisted in Leh, Ladakh

The world's largest national flag, made up of Khadi cloth, has been installed in Leh, Ladakh, on the occasion of the 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 02, 2021. The Khadi national flag was inaugurated by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur. The flag is made by Khadi Dyers and Printers based in Mumbai which is affiliated to the Khadi Village and Industries Commission.

Tiger rallies started across 51 Reserves

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav started off tiger rallies in 18 tiger range States in India. Tiger Rallies were started across 51 reserves as a part of “Wildlife Week Celebration” and “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”.

In seven days, from October 2 to October 8, these rallies would cover a distance of about 7,500 km.

PM Narendra Modi launches Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the second phase of the two flagship missions, namely, Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), from Dr Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.

The SBM-U 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0 have been designed to realise the aspiration of making all cities ‘garbage free’ and ‘water secure’. The outlay of SBM-U 2.0 is around Rs 1.41 lakh crore. The outlay of AMRUT 2.0 is around Rs 2.87 lakh crore.

Alibaug white onion gets GI tag for health benefits

The famed white onion of Alibag in Maharashtra's Raigad district was given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag bringing worldwide recognition to its unique sweet taste, no-tears factor, as well as its medicinal properties.

The soil of Alibaug taluka has low sulphur content. The NABL-approved lab test report mentions low pungency, sweet taste, 'no tear' factor, low pyruvic acid, high protein, fat & fibre, etc.

EPPO Integrated In The Digilocker

The Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare has incorporated Electronic Pension Payment Order (EPPO) within the Digi Locker.

EPPO has been incorporated with Digi Locker for improving the Comfort of Living of Defence Pensioners. This will aid all the defence pensioners to obtain the new copy of the Pension Payment Order, readily from Digi Locker.

PM Narendra Modi dedicates to nation 35 PSA Oxygen Plants

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated 35 Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Oxygen Plants to the nation through video-conferencing, during an event at AIIMS Rishikesh, Uttarakhand.

These 35 PSA Oxygen Plants have been established under PM CARES, across 35 States and Union Territories. Now all districts of the country will now have commissioned PSA Oxygen Plants.

India's first e-fish market App Fishwaale launched in Assam

Assam Minister for Fisheries, Environment and Forest and Excise, Parimal Suklabaidya launched an App Fishwaale, India's first e-fish market.

Table size fish such as bhangon, mrigal and rohu and freshwater and seawater frozen fish (icebox) will be available coupled with dry fish packets, dry fish raw, fish pickles and processed fish products.

Coal Crisis in India

The thermal plants in India face a shortage of coal stocks which might lead to a power crisis. There are 135 thermal power plants used to generate power using coal. One hundred six of them have a minimal to a critical number of stocks which might last for 6 to 7 days.

Three in Punjab, Thirteen in Mumbai and four in Kerala are shut down due to coal shortage. The Coal Ministry and Union Power Minister have assured that low inventory doesn't mean power generation would stop because coal stock is continuously replenished.

India's first Atal Community Innovation Center launched in Jaipur

India's 1st Atal Community Innovation Center (ACIC) was inaugurated at Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur (VGU). It will be the first centre in the country to be set up by the Government of India, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and NITI Aayog.

India to pilot 1000 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Central Government has given its approval to invite the expression of interest for installation of pilot 1000 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project.

This pilot project is the joint effort of “Ministry of New & Renewable energy” and Ministry of Power. Both the ministries have been working on this in order to provide a road map for installation of energy storage system in India.

Vishwakarma Vatika to be set up at Hunar Haats

The Government of India has decided to set up a “Vishwakarma Vatika” at every “Hunar Haats” to protect, preserve and promote India’s glorious legacy of centuries-old skills of artisans and craftsmen. The first such “Vishwakarma Vatika” has been set up in “Hunar Haat” at Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, organised from October 16 to 25, 2021. The name is derived from the Hindu deity “Vishwakarma” who is worshipped as the God of architects.

BPCL launches automated fuelling technology UFill

The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has launched an automated fuelling technology called “UFill”, to provide a swift, secure and smart experience to its customers at outlets by providing them with control of fuelling. The new digital technology obviates the need to look at zero or final reading or any such offline manual interventions, to give complete control to customers over Time, Technology and Transparency in fuelling experience.

Union Minister Anurag Thakur launches MyParkings App

The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the ‘MyParkings’ app. The IOT technology-enabled app has been developed by Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL) with South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) to digitize all authorized parking under SDMC municipal limits.

Ahmedabad and Lucknow are the two new teams of the IPL

Ahmedabad and Lucknow are the two new teams that will be part of the Indian Premier League (IPL) from 2022. Hence taking the total number of teams in the competition to ten. RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group (RPSG) is the owner of the Lucknow team while CVC Capital Partners is the owner of the Ahmedabad team.

RPSG group has won the bid for Lucknow at Rs. 7090 crore, while CVC Capitals a.k.a Ireliia has won the bid for Ahmedabad at Rs. 5625 crore.

India’s first Radio over Internet Protocol system inaugurated in Kolkata

The Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SPM) in Kolkata has become the first Major Indian Port to get a Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) System. The ROIP was inaugurated by Vinit Kumar, Chairman of SPM, on October 25, 2021. SMP, Kolkata has been constantly maintaining its pivotal position in Indian Major Ports for the past 152 years.

Cabinet Affairs

Government proposes amendments to Forest Conservation Act

The Ministry of Environment has proposed to amend the Forest Conservation Act in order to do away with the requirement of prior government approval for the development of border infrastructure on forest land. The Ministry has claimed that it causes delays in the implementation of critical projects.

Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules

Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules, 2021, was Notified by the Indian government on October 22, 2021, for incorporating provisions associated with a low one-time payment.

The rules also attempt to include “uniform procedure for establishing an overground telegraph line in Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016”. Rules have also set the amount of one-time payment for setting overground telegraph lines to begin at a culmination of Rs 1,000 per km.

National Employment Policy Panel Set By Govt.

The central government has planned to set up a National Employment Policy (NEP) committee, which aims to improve job opportunities in India.

The committee will comprise representatives from the Ministry of labour and other ministries. It will also include prominent people from the industry with the high-powered committee, of which views and recommendations will be taken.

Andhra Pradesh: Cabinet gives nod for caste-based census

Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has decided to request the Centre to take up caste-based census to mention other backward classes (OBCs) in the national census for 2021.

Cabinet authorized the state backward classes minister Venugopala Krishna, for moving a request resolution in upcoming assembly session to take up caste census of OBCs.

State related Affairs

Assam: Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award

“Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and National Contribution 2021” was conferred by the Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu. Awards were conferred to “Shillong Chamber Choir”, Assam branch of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust as well as writer Nirod Kumar Baruah.

Himachal Pradesh becomes 1st state to begin organised cultivation of dalchini

The CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) has introduced cinnamon cultivation in Himachal Pradesh on a pilot basis. True cinnamon or *Cinnamomum verum* is grown mainly in Sri Lanka, while minor producing countries include Seychelles, Madagascar, and India.

Maharashtra Government launches 'Mission Kavach Kundal'

The state government of Maharashtra has launched a special Covid-19 vaccination drive named as Mission Kavach Kundal, with the target of inoculating 15 lakh people everyday. The week-long drive has been organised from October 08 to October 14, 2021. The drive is in line with Centre's target of reaching 100 crore vaccination mark till 15 October 2021.

Mobile Based E-Voting System To Be Tested By Telangana

Telangana State Election Commission has decided to have a dry run of a "Mobile-Based e-voting system". The requirement to conduct Polls amidst of pandemic has to lead the government to initiate this process. This will help the voters to vote from the comfort of their homes.

This Mobile Based E-Voting will be held in the Khammam district of Telangana on 20 October. This will be the first time for India to have a Mobile based e-voting process.

Bathukamma festival begins in Telangana

The nine-day floral festival has begun in Telangana. The festival began with excitement as the women were dressed in traditional clothes and colourful processions were carried out in Telangana, the Bathukamma festival is celebrated during Durga Navratri.

Bathukamma festival begins on the day of Mahalaya Amavasya and the festival continues till nine days, ending on the day of Durgashtami.

Tamil Nadu's 'Kanniyakumari Clove' gets GI Tag

The unique clove spice grown in the hills of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu has been awarded a geographical indication (GI) as 'Kanyakumari clove'.

In India, the total production of cloves is 1,100 metric tons and of this, 1,000 metric tons is produced in Tamil Nadu every year while 750 metric tons of cloves are produced in the Kanyakumari district alone.

Haryana bans govt employees from participation in politics, elections

Facing farmers' protests over new farm laws for over a year now, the Haryana government has banned the participation of its employees in politics and elections. A notification has also been issued from the office of the chief secretary in this regard while implementing Haryana Civil Services (Government Employees Conduct) Rules, 2016.

Varanasi to become first Indian city to use ropeway services for public

Varanasi of Uttar Pradesh will become the first city in India to use ropeway services in public transportation. Overall, Varanasi will be the third city in the world after Bolivia and Mexico City to use ropeway in public transportation. The total cost of the ropeway project is Rs 424 crore. The total distance of 4.2 km will be covered in just 15 minutes.

Telangana develops India's first smartphone-based eVoting solution

Telangana has developed India's first smartphone-based eVoting solution considering the Covid-19 pandemic. The system will undergo a dry run in the form of a dummy election being conducted in Khammam district with the registration on the application open from October 8-18 and the dummy voting on October 20.

Kochi declared as dementia-friendly city

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan declared Kochi as a 'dementia-friendly city' while inaugurating a dementia-friendly district programme called Udbodh on October 16, 2021.

Udbodh is a project by the Neuro Science department of the Cochin University of Science and Technology, Ernakulam district administration and Kochi Municipal Corporation. The Chief Minister inaugurated the first phase of the project.

MP Govt announced Implementation of "Mukhyamantri Ration Aapke Dwar Yojana"

The government of Madhya Pradesh (MP) has announced the implementation of the scheme "Mukhyamantri Ration Apke Dwar Yojana", which will start from November 2021. Under this scheme, the ration will be provided at the doorstep of the villagers where there are no Fair Price Shops (FPS).

Hyderabad Cricket Association unveiled World's biggest cricket bat

Former India captain and now Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) president Mohd Azharuddin has unveiled what is certified by the Guinness Book of World Records to be the biggest cricket bat, designed by Pernod Ricard India (P) Ltd, on Tank Bund. The bat measures 56.10 feet, weighs 9-tonnes and is made of poplar wood. This was to convey best wishes to the Indian cricket team and bring back the T-20 World Cup in Dubai.

India's first 'test tube' Banni buffalo calf born in Gujarat

The first IVF calf of "Banni" breed of buffaloes, found primarily in Gujarat's Kutch region, was born at a farmer's house in the state's Gir Somnath district. The process was carried out to enhance the number of genetically superior buffaloes to increase milk production. Banni buffalo is known for its resilience and higher milk-producing capacity in an arid environment.

Punjab CM Charanjit Channi launches 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' scheme

In Punjab, Chief Minister Charanjit Channi launched a new scheme titled 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam', which aims to confer proprietary rights on the people living in the houses within the 'Lal Lakir' of villages and the cities. The land area which is a part of the village habitation and is used for non-agriculture purposes only is known as Lal Lakir.

Kerala to market Kudumbashree products on online platform

Kerala Government has planned to start an online platform to market and deliver products manufactured by 'Micro, Small and Medium production units including Kudumbashree.

As per State Industries Minister P Rajeeve, Kerala government has already started preliminary level talks on this.

Rajasthan launched 'Prashasan Gaon ke Sang' Campaign

Rajasthan Government has launched a mega campaign named 'Prashasan Gaon Ke Sang' till December 17, 2021, to provide local access to government services in the remotest villages of the state. Officials from 22 Departments of the local administration will reach out to the rural parts of every gram panchayat to offer on-spot solutions to the applicants.

Chhattisgarh launched "Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store" Scheme

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has virtually launched a new scheme named 'Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store scheme' to provide low-cost generic medicines and enable seamless healthcare services to the vulnerable people of the state. The scheme will be implemented by the Urban Administration and Development Department (UADD).

Nagaland to host 56th National Cross Country Championship

The 2022 South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships is scheduled to be held in Kohima, Nagaland on January 15, 2022. Besides this, the 56th National Cross Country Championships will also be clubbed with the South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships. This will be the first-ever national athletics event hosted by Nagaland.

India's 1st State-Wildlife DNA testing analysis lab inaugurated in Nagpur

Uddhav Thackeray, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, inaugurated India's 1st State government-owned Wildlife DNA testing analysis laboratory at Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL) in Nagpur, Maharashtra. On the occasion, he also launched 3 Fast Track DNA testing units in Mumbai & Pune under the Nirbhaya scheme.

Goa became the 1st state to achieve ODF and Electricity for each household

Goa has achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) and Electricity for every household. The original ODF protocol was issued in the year 2016. According to it, a city or ward is notified as ODF city or ward if not a single person is found defecating in the open, at any point of the day.

Maharashtra became 1st state to pass its own Wildlife Action Plan 2021-30

During the 17th meeting of the State Board for Wildlife (SBWL), the government of Maharashtra approved its own Wildlife Action Plan (2021-2030), which will be implemented over the next 10 years. Maharashtra became India's first state to pass its own Wildlife Action

Plan. The board has also approved the extension of the boundary of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, in the Chandrapur district of the Vidarbha region, by around 79 sq km.

Uttarakhand gets country's largest aromatic garden

Uttarakhand gets India's largest aromatic garden in the Nainital district. The research wing of the Uttarakhand forest department inaugurated the biggest aromatic garden of India in Lalkuan of Nainital district. Established in an area of over 3 acres, the garden has 140 different species of aromatic species from across India. The project was initiated in the year 2018-19 after approval of the Research Advisory Committee in June 2018.

International Affairs

Germany unveils Euro 2024 championship logo

Germany has unveiled the logo for soccer's 2024 European Championship during a ceremony with a light show in the stadium that will hold the final.

The logo features an outline of the Henri Delaunay Cup — the bulbous tournament trophy — set on a coloured oval outline that resembles the Olympiastadion's roof.

It features colours from the flags of UEFA's 55 member nations, set in 24 slices around the trophy to represent the 24 teams that will ultimately qualify for the tournament in Germany.

Germany launches World's First Self-Driving Train

German rail operator, Deutsche Bahn and industrial group, Siemens launched the first automated & driverless train of the world on October 11, 2021. The self-driving train was launched in the city of Hamburg.

This train is more punctual and energy efficient as compared to traditional trains.

China sets up \$233 million Kunming Biodiversity fund

China pledged to inject \$233 million into a new fund called “Kunming Biodiversity Fund” for the protection of biodiversity in developing countries, recently. This decision was taken during a key UN conservation summit, even though major donors disagreed on it.

China pledged as it the world's biggest polluter and seeks to play a prominent role internationally on biodiversity conservation.

Russia-China holds naval drill “Joint Sea 2021” in Sea of Japan

The Russia and China joint naval exercises “Joint Sea 2021” has kicked off at Russia's Peter the Great Gulf, in the Sea of Japan, on October 14, 2021. The exercises will culminate on October 17, 2021. During the war game, the combined force would practice shooting at targets designed to imitate enemy surface ships and hold air-defence drills.

China launched 1st Solar Exploration Satellite

China has successfully launched its 1st solar exploration satellite into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in northern Shanxi Province aboard a Long March-2D rocket. The satellite was named as ‘Xihe’ (Xihe is the goddess of the sun who created the calendar in ancient Chinese mythology), also known as the Chinese H α Solar Explorer (CHASE). The satellite has been developed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC).

Sri Lanka seeks 500 million dollar as loan from India

The Government of Sri Lanka has sought a USD 500 million credit line from India to pay for its crude oil purchases, as the country is facing a severe foreign exchange crisis in the island nation after the pandemic hit the nation's earnings from tourism and remittances.

The USD 500 million credit line is part of the India-Sri Lanka economic partnership arrangement. The facility would be used for purchasing petrol and diesel requirements.

Netherland's Ryan ten Doeschate retired from International Cricket

Ryan ten Doeschate, the 41-year-old Cricket all-rounder from the Netherlands, announced retirement from International Cricket after Netherland failed to qualify for the Super 12 stage of the International Cricket Council (ICC) T20 World Cup. During the qualifiers, Netherland lost to Namibia and failed to enter the Super 12 stage, which was his last international match.

South Korea inaugurated World's Largest Hydrogen Fuel Cell Power Plant

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of South Korea held that the 'Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant' at the Shinincheon Bitdream headquarters of Korea Southern Power in Seo-gu, Incheon has been completed and inaugurated.

The power plant is operated by South Korea's independent power production company, POSCO Energy and Doosan Fuel Cell. It has a capacity of 78 MW constructed in four stages from 2017. The project cost about 340 billion won (\$292 million).

Australia's James Pattinson retires from international cricket

Australian fast bowler James Pattinson has retired from international cricket after realising that he won't be in the reckoning for the Ashes series due to fitness issues. The 31-year-old, who has played 21 Tests and 15 ODIs, though will continue to play domestic cricket.

Ecuador declares state of emergency over crime wave

Ecuador's President Guillermo Lasso has declared a 60-day state of emergency in the South American country, due to the rise in violent drug crimes. President Lasso has pointed to drug trafficking and consumption as the main drivers behind an increase in murders, home burglary, thefts of vehicles and goods, and muggings.

Afghanistan Crisis: United Nations sets up trust fund for 'people's economy' in war-torn country

The United Nations announced on October 21, 2021, that it had set up a special trust fund to provide urgently needed cash directly to the people of Afghanistan through a system tapping into donor funds frozen since the country was taken over by Taliban in August 2021.

Donald Trump to launch social media platform called Truth Social

Donald Trump has announced plans to launch a social media platform called TRUTH Social that will be rolled out early next year. The former US president, who was banned from Facebook and Twitter earlier this year, says his goal is to rival the tech companies that have denied him the megaphone that was paramount to his rise.

Truth social will be a product of a new venture called the Trump Media & Technology Group. He wants to create a platform that rivals Twitter or Facebook, but that simply won't happen.

FATF adds Turkey to Grey List; Pak retained

Global terror financing watchdog, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), retained Pakistan on the 'Grey List of countries'. This time, the watchdog had added three new countries namely Turkey, Jordan & Mali, to the Grey List.

As per FATF, there was no question of blacklisting Pakistan for now as Pakistan is cooperating and only four action items remain to be completed.

Saudi Arabia to use \$110 billion natural gas field for Blue Hydrogen

Saudi Arabia on October 24, 2021, announced that it will use one of the world's biggest natural-gas projects to produce Blue Hydrogen. A large portion of gas from the \$110 billion Jafurah development will be used for manufacturing Blue Hydrogen, said Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Abdulaziz bin Salman during a climate conference in Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia termed the production of hydrogen as a key focus of the oil-rich kingdom to transition into a green-energy nation.

Foreign Relation

India- Sri Lanka to take part in 'Mitra Shakti 21' Exercise

8th Edition of the "India Sri Lanka bilateral joint Exercise" called Mitra Shakti will be conducted from October 4 to October 15, 2021 at Combat Training School, Ampara in Sri Lanka.

GI tagged sweet dish Mihidana has been exported to Baharain

The first consignment of Geographical Indication (GI) tagged sweet dish Mihidana, from Bardhaman, West Bengal has been exported to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This initiative is part of the effort to promote indigenous & Geographical Identification (GI) tagged products of India globally. The product was exported by APEDA registered M/S DM Enterprises, Kolkata.

India UK Energy Partnership Dialogue

The dialogue was co-chaired by Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri R.K. Singh from the Indian side and the Rt Hon KwasiKwarteng MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) from the UK side.

Energy Transition was a significant area of discussion in the dialogue. The dignitaries embraced the Roadmap 2030 for India-UK future relations launched by the Prime Ministers during India-UK Virtual Summit on 4 May 2021.

India, Denmark inks four MoUs, including on skill development, groundwater resources

India and Denmark on October 9, 2021, exchanged four agreements following a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Modi and his Danish counterpart Mette Frederiksen.

The Prime of Denmark arrived in New Delhi early on October 9 and held bilateral talks with PM Modi. On her visit, she also called on President Ram Nath Kovind and interacted with the students, think tanks, and members of civil society.

2021 Global Hunger Index

The 2021 Global Hunger Index (GHI) ranked India at 101st out of a total of 116 countries. The 2021 GHI report launched on October 14, 2021, stated that India with a score of 27.5 is facing a level of hunger that is serious.

The Global Hunger Index released in 2020 ranked India at 94th among 107 countries. India has also been identified among the 31 countries where hunger has been identified as a serious threat. India has also ranked behind Pakistan (92nd rank), Bangladesh (76th rank), and Nepal (76th rank).

India re-elected to UN Human Rights Council

India has been re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for a sixth term on October 14, 2021, with an overwhelming majority. The new three-year term of India will be effective from January 2022 to December 2024. India received 184 votes of the 193 votes cast in the election.

India, Israel, US & UAE to establish international forum for economic cooperation

Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Israel Foreign Minister Yair during a quadrilateral meeting with UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan and US secretary of State Anthony Blinken on October 19, 2021 agreed to establish a joint economic cooperation forum.

Jaynagar-Kurta Rail Link Handed Over To Nepal

India has handed over a 34.9 km long cross-border rail link to the Nepal government that connects Jayanagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal.

The ceremony took place on October 22, 2021, with the Indian ambassador to Nepal Vinay M. Kwatra and Nepal minister for physical Infrastructure & transport Renu Kumari Yadav.

Infrastructure And Defense Talks Between UK India

Talks on Infrastructure and Defence between External Affairs Minister of India S Jaishankar and British Foreign Secretary, Liz Truss happened on 22 October.

The talks were focused on infrastructure investment, defence cooperation and security cooperation. Liz Truss is also expected to announce a series of technological and infrastructure tie-ups with India for boosting the Indian as well as British economies.

India-UK conducts maiden Tri-Service exercise ‘Konkan Shakti 2021’

The Armed Forces of India and the United Kingdom (UK) are undertaking the sea phase of the maiden Tri-Service exercise ‘Konkan Shakti 2021’ off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea from October 24 to 27, 2021. The harbour phase of the seven-day exercise was held in Mumbai from October 21 to 23, 2021. The exercise Konkan Shakti 2021 aims at further strengthening the cooperation between the two countries.

Ranks & Indices

Mukesh Ambani tops Hurun India Rich List 2021

Reliance Industries Chairman, Mukesh Ambani has topped the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List for the 10th consecutive year. In 2021, his total net worth was recorded at Rs 7,18,000 crore.

Meanwhile, Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani is in the second spot with a net worth of Rs. 5,05,900 crore. Shiv Nadar & the family of HCL technologies are third in the list with a net worth of Rs 2,36,600 crore.

Shiv Nadar to be awarded Global Leadership Award 2021

The US India Business Council (USIBC) has chosen Shiv Nadar and Mallika Srinivasan as the recipient of its 2021 Global Leadership Award.

Shiv Nadar is the founder and chairman emeritus of HCL Technologies Limited. Mallika Srinivasan is the chair and managing director, Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE). Both will be honoured at the 2021 India Ideas Summit to be held on October 6-7, 2021.

Karnataka tops State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020

Karnataka has topped the State Energy Efficiency Index 2020 (SEEI), scoring 70 points out of 100 on the back of several initiatives to improve energy efficiency in the state. Rajasthan is on second rank followed by Haryana on third. Last year i.e in SEEI 2019 ranking, Rajasthan was on top. The State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020 was released under the Ministry of Power.

India slips 6 ranks on Henley Passport Index 2021

India's rank has slipped by six places from last year to 90 on the Henley Passport Index 2021, which lists the world's most travel-friendly passports Japan and Singapore hold the first rank on the passport index.

The index covers 227 destinations and 199 passports. The index comes at a time when countries are easing travel restrictions for international visitors after almost two years since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The rankings are based on the survey of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) data.

Mukesh Ambani tops Forbes India Rich List 2021

The Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped the Forbes India Rich list for 2021, released. The list ranks India's 100 richest Indians. He has retained his position as the wealthiest Indian for the 14th consecutive year on the Forbes India list, since 2008.

Henley Passport Index 2021 Released

The Henley passport index 2021 was published recently by Henley and Partners, and India ranks 90th position in the list.

- ◆ Henley Passport Index ranks the most travel-friendly passports of all the countries, and India has been ranked 90th.
- ◆ Henley Passport Index ranks the passports of nations based on the number of destinations their holders can visit without getting a visa in advance.
- ◆ Rankings are decided by analysing the international Air Transport Association (IATA)' data.
- ◆ India was at 84th position in 2020. But in 2021, its position has decreased to the 90th position.

India Ranks Third in 2021 EY Index

India has retained the third position in the 58th Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI) released by the consultancy firm Ernst & Young (EY). According to the report,

the US, mainland China and India continue to retain the top three rankings and Indonesia is a new entrant to the RECAI.

Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2021: India ranks 71st out of 113 countries

The Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2021 ranked India at 71st position out of 113 countries with a score of 57.2 points. India fared better than Pakistan (75th), Sri Lanka (77th), Nepal (79th), and Bangladesh (84th) however it lagged way behind China (34th). The GFS Index 2021 is a global report that was released on October 19, 2021, by The Economist Impact and Corteva Agriscience.

Ireland (1st), Australia (2nd), the UK (3rd), Finland (4th), Switzerland (5th), the Netherlands (6th), Canada (7th), Japan (8th), France (9th), and the US (9th) took the top ranks with scores between 84 to 79.1 points. France and the US shared the same rank with the same scores of 79.1 points.

India ranks 71st on 2021 Global Food Security Index

India has achieved the 71st position in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 from among a list of 113 countries. The GFS Index is designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience. The overall score of India is 57.2 points on the GFS Index 2021.

“Global Climate Tech Investment trend” report: India ranked 9th

In accordance with the report ‘Five years on: Global climate tech investment trends since the Paris Agreement’ by London & Partners, and Co, India ranked 9th in the list of top 10 countries for climate technology investment from 2016 to 2021. Indian climate tech firms received USD 1 billion in venture capital (VC) funding in this period.

FIFA men’s rankings October 2021: Belgium retains top rank, Brazil ranked 2nd

Belgium has retained top rank in FIFA Men’s rankings October 2021 with a total of 1832.33 points, followed by Brazil at second rank with 1820.36 points.

Defending World Champions France has moved up the FIFA men’s rankings list to the third position with 1779.24 points, followed by Italy which has also moved up to the fourth rank with 1750.52 points.

India ranks 79th in World Justice Project’s Rule of Law Index 2021

India has ranked 79 out of 139 countries and jurisdictions in the World Justice Project’s (WJP) Rule of Law Index 2021. The WJP Rule of Law Index 2021 ranks the countries based on scores ranging from 0 to 1, with 1 indicating the strongest adherence to the rule of law. Denmark, Norway and Finland topped the World Justice Project’s (WJP) Rule of Law Index 2021.

FIFA Ranking 2021: India ranked 106th

India has ranked 106th in the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) Rankings 2021, the position of team India was increased to one spot. After the victory in the SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) Championship 2021 of team India led by Sunil Chhetri, it has secured the 106th position.

The team has defeated Nepal in the summit clash. Under the FIFA Rankings, Belgium is at 1st position. Brazil holds 2nd position, France holds 3rd position.

Elon Musk becomes world's richest person, total worth to touch \$300 billion

Tesla Co-founder and CEO Elon Musk has emerged as the richest person in the world and the first person headed towards a net worth of \$300 billion. He added \$36 billion to his fortune on October 25, 2021, following an announcement that said Hertz Global Holdings Inc is ordering 100,000 electric vehicles from Tesla.

The Bloomberg Billionaires Index reported it as the largest single-day gain in its Index history so far.

THE's World Reputation Rankings 2021 announced

4 Indian institutes have made it to the Times Higher Education (THE)'s World Reputation Rankings 2021, the annual ranking of THE that features the top 200 universities based on the votes from leading academics across the globe.

Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru ranked among the top 100 (91-100) has topped the Indian Institutes. The other 3 Indian institutes are the IIT Bombay, the IIT Delhi, and the IIT Madras.

Business News

Amazon India launched its Global Computer Science Education programme

E-commerce major Amazon India has announced the launch of Amazon Future Engineer, its global computer science education programme in India. The programme will enable access to quality computer science education and career opportunities for students from underrepresented and underserved communities.

In the first year of its launch, Amazon aims to enable and deliver learning opportunities to more than 1 lakh students from 900 government and aided schools across seven states in India.

Tata Group wins bid for Air India

Tata Group, the progenitor of the Air India airline, reclaimed it, nearly 60 years after it was nationalised. Tata Sons bid ₹180 billion for the government's 100% stake in Air India.

The government is seeking to sell 100 per cent of its stake in the state-owned national airline, including Air India's 100 per cent shareholding in AI Express Ltd and 50 per cent in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Ltd.

Reliance New Energy Solar acquires Norway-based REC Solar for \$771 million

Reliance New Energy Solar (RNESSL) on October 10, 2021 said that it has acquired 100 percent stake in Norway-based REC Solar Holdings AS (REC Group) from China National Bluestar (Group) Co Ltd. for a value of \$771 million.

Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNESSL) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL). The acquisition follows RIL's announcement that it would invest about \$10.1 billion in clean energy over three years in a drive to become net carbon zero by 2035.

Adani Group takes over management of Jaipur International Airport

Gautam Adani-led Adani Group has taken over the responsibilities of the Jaipur International Airport from the Airports Authority of India (AAI). The airport has been leased out to the group by the government of India for a period of 50 years.

For the last two months, officials from Adani group have been observing operations at the airport. Airport director J S Balhara handed over a symbolic key of the airport to Chief Airport Officer Adani Jaipur International Ltd Vishnu Jha in the presence of other officials.

Reliance Industries tops in Forbes World's Best Employer 2021 Ranking

Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries has topped the Indian corporates in the World's Best Employers 2021 rankings published by Forbes. Globally, Reliance is placed at 52nd position among 750 global corporates. South Korean giant Samsung Electronics has topped the overall ranking as World's Best Employers 2021, followed by US giants IBM, Microsoft, Amazon, Apple, Alphabet and Dell Technologies.

NITI Aayog joins hand with ISRO to launch Geospatial Energy Map

NITI Aayog has launched the Geospatial Energy Map of India which will provide a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country. The map has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Energy Ministries of the Government of India.

Reliance Brands acquires 40% stake in designer Manish Malhotra's MM Styles

Reliance Industries Ltd's Reliance Brands Ltd (RBL) and famous designer Manish Malhotra have announced a strategic partnership to acquire a 40 per cent stake in Malhotra's MM Styles

Pvt Ltd. According to a Reliance Brands statement, this “strategic partnership” is the first “external investment” for MM Styles Pvt Ltd.

Google Pay tied up with SBI General Insurance to offer Health Insurance

SBI General Insurance made a technological partnership with Google Pay to enable users to buy SBI General’s health insurance on the Google Pay app. This collaboration marks Google Pay’s 1st partnership with an insurer in India to offer health insurance. The users were enabled to buy both individual and family plans under SBI General’s Arogya Sanjeevani policy through Google Pay Spot.

Mark Zuckerberg changes Facebook’s name to Meta

Facebook is now called Meta, in a rebrand that focuses on building the “metaverse,” a shared virtual environment that it bets will be the successor to the mobile internet. The name change, the plan for which was first reported by the Verge, is a significant rebrand for Facebook, but not it’s first. In 2019 it launched a new logo to create a distinction between the company and its social app.

Defence News

5th India-Japan Bilateral Maritime Exercise JIMEX-21 begins

The fifth edition of India – Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise JIMEX was held in the Arabian Sea from 06 to 08 October 2021. The Indian Navy is represented by indigenously built Guided Missile Stealth Destroyer Kochi and Guided Missile Frigate Teg, P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft, Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft, integral helicopters and MiG 29K fighter aircraft.

17th Edition of Indo-US Joint Military Exercise “Ex Yudh Abhyas 2021

The 17th edition of the Joint Military Training Exercise “Ex Yudh Abhyas 2021” between the Indian Army and the United States Army, is scheduled to take place from October 15 to 29,

2021 at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska in USA. The Indian contingent will comprise of 350 personnel of an Infantry Battalion Group.

Indian Army wins gold medal in the Exercise Cambrian Patrol 2021

A team from 5th Battalion-4 (5/4) Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force) representing the Indian Army won the gold medal at the prestigious Cambrian Patrol Exercise which was held in the United Kingdom. The Indian Army team took part in the event and competed with a total of 96 teams including 17 international teams representing Special Forces and prestigious Regiments from different parts of the world.

Indian Army deploys Pinaka, Smerch rocket system near China border

The Indian Army has deployed Pinaka weapons system and Smerch Multiple Rocket Launcher Systems (MRLS) at a forward position near the China border to be prepared to counter any threat coming from across on the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Offshore Sailing Regatta To Be Conducted By Indian Navy

The Indian Navy is conducting an Offshore Sailing Regatta under the Indian Naval Sailing Association (INSA) aegis to commemorate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Offshore Sailing Regatta is being conducted from Kochi to Goa with Six Indian Naval Sailing Vessels participating in the event, namely, Tarini, Mhadei, Neelkanth, Bulbul, Kadal Pura and Hariyal.

Science & Technology

Molnupiravir: New drug to treat COVID-19

Pharmaceutical company “Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics” announced the early results of Phase-3 trials of its anti-viral drug called molnupiravir. As per the results, Molnupiravir has reduced the chances of hospitalisation by half among COVID-19 patients with mild or moderate symptoms.

China launches Astronaut crew on 6-month mission

China launched a three-person crew for a mission of six-month on board the Shenzhou-13 spaceship to its space station on October 16, 2021. The crew is planned to set up new record for the time spent in space by Chinese astronauts as China moves for completing the orbiting structure.

Shenzhou-13 spaceship is carrying three astronauts.

NASA launches Lucy Mission to study the Jupiter Trojan asteroids

The US space agency NASA has launched a first-of-its-kind mission called ‘Lucy Mission’ to study Jupiter’s Trojan asteroids. The mission life of Lucy is 12-year, during which the spacecraft will fly by a total of eight ancient asteroids to study about solar system’s evolution. These will include one main-belt asteroid and seven Jupiter Trojan asteroids.

China launches satellite ‘Shijian-21’

China successfully launched a new satellite named Shijian-21. The satellite will be used to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies. Shijian-21 was launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China’s Sichuan Province on a Long March-3B carrier rocket.

The satellite will be mainly used to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies. This launch marked the 393rd mission for the Long March series carrier rockets.

France launched Military Communications Satellite “Syracuse 4A”

France has successfully launched a state-of-the-art satellite namely ‘Syracuse 4A’ into orbit which was carried off by Ariane 5 rocket from Kourou, in French Guiana. It is designed to allow France’s armed forces across the globe to communicate swiftly and securely. The satellite can survey its close surroundings and move itself to escape an attack.

Books

Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth by Wole Soyinka released

A novel titled “Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth” authored by Wole Soyinka has been released. Wole Soyinka is Africa’s first Nobel laureate in Literature. He wrote his last novel ”Season of Anomy” in 1973.

He returns with a new novel after nearly 50 years. His notable plays include ”The Jero Plays”, ”The Road”, ”The Lion and the Jewel”, ”Madmen and Specialists” and ”From Zia, With Love”.

A book title “Economist Gandhi” by Jaithirth Rao

Indian Entrepreneur and writer Jaithirth Rao, popularly known as Jerry Rao, has come out with a book on Mahatma Gandhi titled “Economist Gandhi: The Roots and the Relevance of the Political Economy of the Mahatma”. Jaithirth Rao is the founder and former CEO of the software company Mphasis.

Former SBI Chief Rajnish Kumar launches memoir ‘The Custodian of Trust’

Former Chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI) Rajnish Kumar has come out with his memoir titled ‘The Custodian of Trust – A Banker’s Memoir’. The book has been published by Penguin Random House India.

It gave a rare insight of how the financial system in our country works. The Custodian of Trust presents Kumar’s journey from a modest house in the old city of Meerut to being a probationary officer in SBI in 1980 and growing to the post of Chairman in 2017.

Gulzar pens book titled “Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir”

Legendary Indian poet-lyricist-director Gulzar has come out with his new book title “Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir”. In a memoir published by the publishing group Penguin Random House India. In this book, Gulzar has shared many interesting unknown facts about legends like Kishore Kumar, Bimal Roy, Ritwik Ghatak, Hrishikesh Mukherjee and Mahasweta Devi, among others.

A new book titled ‘Stars In My Sky’ by Divya Dutta

National Award-winning actress Divya Dutta has come up with her second book titled, “The Stars in My Sky: Those Who Brightened My Film Journey”. The book, published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI), will be released on October 25, 2021. In her new book, Divya Dutta shares her experiences with some of the stalwarts of Bollywood who played a significant role in her film career.

Defence Minister launched the book on Veer Savarkar

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the book titled “Veer Savarkar: The Man Who Could Have Prevented Partition” authored by Uday Mahurkar and Chirayu Pandit at Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

Minister Rajnath Singh described Savarkar as an “icon of Indian history” and also described his contributions to a nation that was not yet considered and highlighted the prolonged controversies from time to time on the great leader Savarkar.

“Writing for My Life” anthology of Ruskin Bond released

“Writing for My Life”, an anthology of author Ruskin Bond has been released. It contains some of the most exemplary stories, essays, poems and memories of Ruskin Bond. This anthology has been released 25 years after the first anthology of Bond titled, “The Best of Ruskin Bond”.

NITI Aayog launches “Innovations for You” Digi-Book

The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog has launched a Digi-book named “Innovations for You”. The sector in focus in this Digi-book is Healthcare. “Innovation for you” is an initiative of Niti Aayog to share success stories of Atal Innovation Mission’s Startups in different domains.

A new Book titled “Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman” by Chidanand Rajghatta

Renowned journalist and writer Chidanand Rajghatta have authored a new book “Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman”, a biography of Kamala Harris, the first women Vice President of the United States of America (USA). The book features the life incidents of Kamala Harris, a woman of mixed race (India and Jamaica) who has become the first Indian descent, the first woman to become the vice president of the USA.

Sports News

Name	Appointments	Extra Information
India	Bronze at Asian TT Championships	The Indian men’s table tennis team has won bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships on October 1, 2021. Indian team won bronze after losing to South Korea by 0-3 in the semi-finals.
Smriti Mandhana	Becomes first Indian women to score a Test hundred on Australian	The match was played at the Carrara Oval in Queensland, Australia today. She scored 127 runs with 22 fours and a six.

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FC Goa	Durand Cup football trophy	The 2021 Durand Cup was the 130th edition of the Durand Cup, the oldest football tournament in Asia. The tournament was held from September 05 to October 03, 2021, in West Bengal.
Magnus Carlsen	Meltwater Champions Chess Tour title	World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen has won the inaugural Meltwater Champions Chess Tour, to claim the non-fungible token (NFT) trophy and \$1,00,000 in the finals.
Aishwary Pratap Singh	ISSF Junior Championships - gold in the men's 50m rifle	The youngster then bettered the junior world record in the final with a score of 463.4, finishing nearly seven points ahead of second-placed Frenchman Lucas Kryzs, who won the silver with a score of 456.5. Gavin Barnick of the USA won bronze with a score of 446.6.
Anshu Malik	World wrestling Championships - Silver	The 19-year old Anshu settled for a silver medal after losing to 2016 Olympic champion Helen Lousie Maroulis of the United States in a 57kg freestyle bout.
Valtteri Bottas	Turkish Grand Prix 2021	This is his first title of this season. Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) came second while Sergio Perez (Mexico- Red Bull) finished third. Meanwhile, Lewis Hamilton finished fifth.
Indian Shooters	43 medals at ISSF Junior World Championship	The Indian shooters claimed a historic win with 43 medals to stand atop in the medal table. These included 17 Gold, 16 Silver and 10 Bronze medals. The USA finished second on the medal table with 21 medals including six gold, eight silver and six bronze.

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Amy Hunter	Becomes youngest batter to hit ODI hundred	The Belfast batter – who was playing in only her fourth ODI – broke the record previously held by India’s Mithali Raj, scorer of a century against Ireland in 1999 when she was 16 years 205 days.
Chennai Super Kings	IPL 2020	This was the 14th edition of IPL which is an India-based Cricket league in 20-20 format. This was the 4th win of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in IPL, having previously won the tournament in 2010, 2011, and 2018.
Divya Deshmukh	India’s 21st Woman Grand Master	He scored five points in the nine rounds and ended up with a performance rating of 2452 to secure her final WGM norm.
India	2021 SAFF Championship	This is the eighth SAFF Championship title claimed by the Indian men’s national football team. Previously the team had won the title in 1993, 1997, 1999, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2015.
Viktor Axelsen and Akane Yamaguchi	Denmark Open 2021	Danish Olympic champion Viktor Axelsen won the Mens’ single 2021 Denmark Open Badminton held at the Odense Sports Park, Denmark.
Max Verstappen	United States Grand Prix 2021	Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) stood second while Sergio Perez (Mexico-Red Bull) came third.
Fabio Quartararo	2021 MotoGP World Championship	Fabio Quartararo is the sixth-youngest rider to clinch a premier class world title, aged 22 years, 187 days on race day of the Emilia Romagna GP.

Obituary News

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Name	Associated Field
A. Q. Khan	Father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb
Nedumudi Venu	National Award-winning actor
Saranjeet Singh	Former hockey international
Puneeth Rajkumar	Kannada actor
Sunao Tsuboi	Hiroshima nuclear bomb attack survivor
Dr Madhavan Krishnan Nair	Eminent Oncologist Padma Shri

Important Days and Themes

Day	Date	Theme
Breast Cancer Awareness Month	October 01 to 31	
International Coffee Day	October 01	
World Vegetarian Day	October 01	
International Day of Older Persons	October 01	Digital Equity for All Ages
World Day for Farmed Animals	October 02	
World Habitat Day	First Monday of October	Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world
National Wildlife Week	October 02 – 08	Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet
World Space Week	October 04 – 10	Women in Space
World Teachers' Day	October 05	Teachers at the heart of education recovery
Ganga River Dolphin Day	October 05	
World Egg Day	October 08	Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package
Indian Air Force Day	October 08	
World Investor Week	October 04 -10	
World Post Day	October 09	Innovate to recover
World Migratory Bird Day	October 09	Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a Bird!
Territorial Army Day	October 09	
World Day Against the Death Penalty	October 10	Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality
World Mental Health Day	October 10	Mental health in an unequal world
National Postal Day	October 10	
International Day of the Girl Child	October 11	Digital Generation, Our Generation
World Arthritis Day	October 12	Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work
International Day for Disaster Reduction	October 13	International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses

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International E-Waste Day	October 14	Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!
World Standards Day	October 14	Standards for sustainable development goals – shared vision for a better world
World Student’s Day	October 15	Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace
International Day of Rural Women	October 15	
World Food Day	October 16	Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	October 17	Building Forward Together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet
World Statistics Day	October 20	
International Chef’s Day	October 20	Healthy Food for the Future
World Osteoporosis Day	October 20	Serve Up Bone Strength
National Police Commemoration Day	October 21	
International Stuttering Awareness Day	October 22	Speak the change you wish to see
Mole Day	October 23	DispicaMole Me.
International Snow Leopard Day	October 23	
World Polio Day	October 24	Delivering on a Promise
World Development Information Day	October 24	
United Nations Day	October 24	
International Day of Diplomats	October 24	
Disarmament Week	October 24 – October 30	
Vigilance Awareness Week	October 26 to November 01	Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity’.
World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	October 27	Your Window to the World
International Animation Day	October 28	
International Internet Day	October 29	
World Psoriasis Day	October 29	Uniting for action
World Cities Day	October 31	Adapting cities for climate resilience
Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day	October 31	
World Thrift Day	October 31	