

AWARDS AND HONORS

Recipient Name	Award Name	Extra Information
Basant Misra	American Association of Neurological Surgeons' 'International Lifetime Achievement Award in Neurosurgery'	Misra is the first Indian physician to receive the AANS honor which was conferred on him at a virtual ceremony during the AANS Annual Scientific Meeting 2021 held in Orlando, Florida. He was the world's first surgeon to perform Computer-Guided Aneurysm surgery.
Powergrid	Prestigious global ATD Best Award	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India has been awarded the coveted "Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award".
Shailendra Singh	Behler turtle conservation award	Shailendra Singh, a biologist from India, has won the Behler Turtle Conservation Award. He has been awarded for bringing three critically endangered turtle conservation species back from the brink of extinction.
Ayaan Shankta	2021 International Young Eco-Hero award	Young Eco-Hero award: A 12-year-old environmental activist Ayaan Shankta from Mumbai, India, has been named as a 2021 International Young Eco-Hero award winner for his efforts to solve tough environmental problems.
Susanna Clarke	Women's Prize for Fiction 2021	Author Susanna Clarke won the Women's Prize for Fiction 2021 for her novel 'Piranesi'. Novelist and Booker-winner Bernardine Evaristo chaired the Women's Prize judging panel this year.

Jeev Milkha Singh	Dubai Golden Visa	Star Indian golfer Jeev Milkha Singh has become the first professional golfer in the world to receive the prestigious 10-year Dubai Golden Visa in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the sport.
Bhanumati Gheewala	National Florence Nightingale Award 2021	She worked in the gynaecology department as well in the paediatric ward. In 2019, when the wards of the hospital were waterlogged due to flood. She carried her duty in the gynaecology department and the pediatric ward.
Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina	SDG Progress award	Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was conferred with the 'SDG Progress Award' by the UN-sponsored Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) for Bangladesh's steady progress in achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.
Ayaan Shankta	"2021 International Young Eco-Hero"	He won the 3rd prize under the Age Group: 8-14 for his project "Conservation and Rehabilitation of Powai Lake" and became one of the 25 global winners of the Young Eco-Hero Award 2021. The award presented by "The Action for Nature", San Francisco based NGO, recognize young people (8 to 16 years old) for their environmental achievements.
Brigadier SV Sarasvati	National Florence Nightingale Award 2020	Brigadier SV Sarasvati, the Deputy Director-General of Military Nursing Service has been bestowed with the National Florence Nightingale Award 2020.
Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka	Global Goalkeeper Award	The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced its

		annual Goalkeepers 'Global Goals Awards' 2021, as part of its annual Goalkeepers campaign. Goalkeepers is the foundation's campaign to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals).
BS Yediyurappa	best legislator of year 2020-21	Karnataka Legislative Assembly has named former state chief minister BS Yediyurappa as the best legislator of the year 2020-21.

APPOINTMENTS

Name	Designation	Extra Information
Mirabai Chanu	Adidas - 'Stay in Play' campaign	Adidas has roped in Tokyo Olympic Silver-medalist Mirabai Chanu as the face of its "Stay in Play" campaign for its latest product innovation designed to keep more menstruating women in sports.
Banwarilal Purohit	Additional Governor – Punjab	Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit has been given the additional charge of Punjab and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. Earlier, V P Singh Badnore was the Governor of Punjab and the Administrator of Chandigarh.
Vartika Shukla	first woman Chairperson and Managing Director of public sector enterprise Engineers India Ltd.	She spearheaded the company's innovative energy programmes, including biofuels, coal gasification, waste to fuel and hydrogen energy, among others.
Pankaj Kumar Singh	Director General (DG) of the Border Security Force (BSF)	Prior to this, he was serving as the special DG at the BSF headquarters in Delhi. The 58-year-old Pankaj Singh replaces IPS officer and Indo-Tibetan Border Police Director General (DG) SS Deswal who was holding the additional charge of BSF DG since July 2021.
Cyrus Poncha	Vice-President of Asian Squash Federation	The Dronacharya Awardee has been elected for a period of the four-year term.
Rani Rampal & Smriti Mandhana	Equitas Bank – Brand Ambassador	It is an UN-recognised day that aims to raise public awareness at all levels (individual, community, corporate and government) that clean air is important for health, productivity, the economy and the environment.

Rajnish Kumar	Andhra Pradesh – Economic Advisor	The YS Jagan Mohan Reddy-led Andhra Pradesh Government has appointed former SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar as its economic advisor. Rajnish Kumar will serve at the cabinet rank position for a term of two years.
Satish Parekh	International Road Federation India president	Ashoka Buildcon Managing Director and promoter Satish Parekh has taken over as the president of the India Chapter of the International Road Federation (IRF). The governing council of the International Road Federation unanimously endorsed Satish Parakh as President, IRF-IC.
Harsha Bhupendra Bangari	MD of EXIM Bank	She has been appointed for a period of three years or until further orders of the government. He will replace the incumbent MD David Rasquinha, who was appointed for five years on July 20, 2014.
S.L. Tripathy	CMD of United India Insurance	The central government has selected S.L.Tripathy as the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of United India Insurance Company Limited. He is currently General Manager and Director at The New India Assurance Company Limited.
Tejus Chauhan	Regional Director of International Court of Arbitration	Chauhan, who will be based in Singapore, will be taking over the charge from former Regional Director Abhinav Bhushan.
Iqbal Singh Lalpura	Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities	He has also won several awards such as the president's police medal, police medal for meritorious services, Shiromani Sikh Sahitkar Award and Sikh scholar award.

Prativa Mohapatra	Adobe – MD and VP	In this role, Mohapatra will lead Adobe’s India business across Adobe Experience Cloud, Adobe Creative Cloud and Adobe Document Cloud, reporting to Simon Tate, Adobe’s president for the Asia Pacific (APAC).
Pawan Goenka	Chairperson of In-SPACE	During his R&D tenure in M&M, he led the development of the Scorpio SUV. IN-SPACE functions as an independent nodal agency under the Department of Space, Government of India.
Jim Lanzone	Yahoo – CEO	Jim Lanzone will replace Guru Gowrappan, to the post of Yahoo CEO. As for Tinder, Renate Nyborg has been appointed as the new CEO of the dating app to replace Lanzone.
Vijay Goel	Vice Chairman of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti	It is functioning under constructive advice and financial support from the Ministry of Culture. It is located in New Delhi.
Bhupendra Patel	CM of Gujarat	He took oath a day after he was elected as Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) legislature party leader. Cabinet members will be sworn in later after party will decide the names.
MS Dhoni	Mentor – T20 World Cup	BCCI announced that the former India captain MS Dhoni will mentor the team for the tournament, which will be played in UAE and Oman in October and November. He announced his retirement from international limited-overs cricket on August 15, 2020.
Venugopal M	NCLAT – Chairperson	This is the third time in a row that an Acting Chairperson is at the helm of the NCLAT, after the retirement of permanent

		Chairperson Justice S J . Mukhopadhaya on March 14, 2020.
Raja Randhir Singh	President of Olympic Council of Asia	A five-time Olympic shooter and an Asian Games gold medallist in 1978, Singh was promoted to the role from his position as an honorary life vice president.
Justin Trudeau	Prime Minister of Canada	Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has won the third term to serve as the PM of the country, after his party won the 2021 parliamentary elections on September 20, 2021.
VR Chaudhari	Chief of Indian Air Force	The Central Government on September 21, 2021, appointed the ace fighter pilot Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari as the next Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF).
Rebecca Grynspan	Secretary-General of UNCTAD	Rebecca Grynspan from Costa Rica became the first woman and Central American Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) after taking office on September 13, 2021.
Alka Nangia Arora	Chairman cum Managing Director (CMD) of the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC)	She has taken the additional charge of the post on September 14, 2021. She is a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.
Indu Malhotra	Ombudsman cum Ethics Officer of Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA)	The DDCA's general body, headed by its president Rohan Jaitley, decided on 65-year-old Justice (Retd) Malhotra's appointment.
Kailash Satyarthi	Sustainable Development Goals Advocate by UN	The United Nations Chief Antonio Guterres on September 17, 2021, appointed Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi as the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocate

		ahead of the start of the 76th United Nations General Assembly.
Charanjit Singh Channi	16th Punjab Chief Minister	Two other Congress MLAs, Sukhjinder S Randhawa and OP Soni were sworn in as deputy Chief Ministers of Punjab. Channi is the first Dalit to hold the post of Punjab Chief Minister.
K Kasturirangan	Head education ministry's panel	The panel tasked with developing four national curriculum frameworks (NCFs) will be headed by National Education Policy-2020 (NEP-2020) drafting committee chairperson K Kasturirangan.
Rajiv Bansal	Civil Aviation Secretary	Rajiv Bansal appointed as Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Bansal is currently Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Air India. He is a 1988-batch IAS Nagaland cadre, Bansal was serving as additional secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas before Air India.
Gordon Brown	WHO Ambassador for Global Health Financing	He is widely credited with preventing a second Great Depression through his stewardship of the 2009 London G20 summit. He mobilized world leaders to commit an additional \$1.1 trillion to restore credit, growth and jobs.
VS Pathania	Additional Director General of Indian Coast Guard	The Ministry of Defence has appointed Virendra Singh Pathania as the Additional Director General of the Indian Coast Guard headquarters in New Delhi.
Debabrata Mukherjee	Chief of Audit Bureau of Circulations	A publisher member on the council, Pratap G. Pawar of Sakal Papers, was unanimously elected deputy chairman for the year.

Nimaben Acharya	Speaker of Gujarat Assembly	The nomination of Acharya was unanimously elected on the first day of the state Assembly's two-day monsoon session.
Gurbirpal Singh	Director-General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)	He succeeds Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich. He was commissioned into the PARACHUTE REGIMENT in 1987.
Magnus Carlsen	Global Ambassador - Mastercard	This step is part of a move by Mastercard for adding chess in its coveted list of sports sponsorship. It has joined the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour as an official partner, in its first sponsorship move into chess.
Fumio Kishida	Japan – Prime Minister	Kishida won 257 votes in a runoff to defeat Taro Kono, a popular vaccines minister who previously held the positions of defence and foreign minister.
Aveek Sarkar	Press Trust of India Chairman	Sarkar is a man of varied interests and counts books, food, wine and art among his principal loves. He was captain of the Royal Calcutta Golf Club (RCGC) for 10 years. Sarkar's re-election for a two-year term was ratified by PTI's Board of Directors at their meeting.
Ranveer Singh	NBA Brand Ambassador	For the 2021-22 season, Singh will participate in a number of league initiatives that will be featured on NBA India's and his personal social media accounts.
CK Ranganathan	President of All India Management Association (AIMA)	He takes over from Harsh Pati Singhania, vice chairman & managing director, JK Paper Ltd. Under his leadership, technology will drive AIMA's services and the new initiatives would

		include face recognition tools for admission and recruitment testing
Najla Bouden Romdhane	Tunisia's first female PM	She has been named as Prime Minister, two months after President Kais Saied assumed his charge, dismissed the former prime minister and suspended parliament.

BANKING & FINANCE

SBI opened a floating ATM on Dal Lake in J&K's Srinagar

State Bank of India has opened a floating ATM on a Houseboat at Dal Lake in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar for the convenience of locals and tourists. The floating ATM was inaugurated by SBI Chairman Dinesh Khare.

This is not the first time that SBI has launched a floating ATM as back in 2004, the bank took this initiative in Kerala. The SBI installed a floating ATM at Jhankar yacht, which operates between Ernakulum and Vaypeyan region, owned by Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation (KSINC).

RBI sets WMA Limit for Central Government for at Rs. 50,000 crore

The Reserve bank of India has set the limit for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the second half of the financial year 2021-22 i.e October 2021 to March 2022 at Rs. 50,000 crore.

The Reserve Bank may trigger fresh floatation of market loans when the Government of India utilises 75 per cent of the WMA limit. The Reserve Bank retains the flexibility to revise the limit at any time, in consultation with the Government of India, taking into consideration the prevailing circumstances.

PhonePe launches digital payment interactive geospatial platform "Pulse platform"

PhonePe has launched a platform named PhonePe Pulse. Pulse is India's first interactive platform with data insights and trends on digital payments.

The platform shows more than 2000 crore digital transactions by customers on an interactive map of India. PhonePe also launched the Pulse Report, an in-depth study on the evolution of digital payments over the past 5 years.

Govt appoints 10 merchant bankers for managing IPO of LIC

The government of India has appointed 10 merchant bankers for managing the Initial Public Offering of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The IPO of LIC is likely to be launched in the January-March quarter of 2022.

The role of merchant bankers in the case of IPO is of Issue management, Promotional activities, Credit syndication, Project counselling, and Portfolio management, etc.

Bank of Baroda's launches digital platform 'bob World'

Bank of Baroda has announced the launch of its digital banking platform named 'bob World'. The aim of the platform is to provide all banking services under one roof. The pilot test of the platform began on August 23, 2021.

Over 220 services will be converged into one single app, covering nearly 95 per cent of all retail banking services, which can be accessed by customers domestically and globally.

India, ADB sign loan worth \$112 million to improve water supply infrastructure in Jharkhand

The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank on September 8, 2021, signed a \$112 million loan in order to develop water supply infrastructure in Jharkhand.

It will also help in strengthening the capacities of urban local bodies for the improved service deliveries in four towns in the state.

BPCL, SBI Card launch co-branded RuPay contactless credit card

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and SBI Card have joined hands to launch the 'BPCL SBI Card co-branded RuPay Contactless Credit Card, offering fuel and other benefits.

The card will provide rewarding fuel savings and other benefits to the customers. Cardholders will also get accelerated savings on other categories of spends, which include groceries, departmental stores, dining, and movies.

NASSCOM: Cryptotech industry can add \$184B of economic value in India

The crypto industry in India has the potential to add \$184 billion of economic value, in the form of investments and cost savings, by 2030, according to a report from the country's premier trade body for the tech industry.

The report, entitled "Crypto Industry in India," was published by the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) in conjunction with Binance-owned crypto exchange WazirX.

Axis Bank ties up with BharatPe for PoS business

Axis Bank has partnered with BharatPe for the point of sale (PoS) business of BharatPe named BharatSwipe.

Under the partnership, Axis Bank will be the acquiring bank for BharatSwipe and will provide acceptance of credit and debit cards for merchants associated with BharatPe. The partnership will help BharatPe to expand its merchant acquiring business in India.

ADB approves \$150 million loan for urban housing project in Tamil Nadu

Multilateral funding agency Asian Development Bank (ADB) on September 3, 2021, approved a \$150 million (approximately Rs 1,095 crores) loan for a sustainable housing project for the urban poor in Tamil Nadu.

ADB in a release stated that the aim of the loan is to provide access to inclusive, resilient, and sustainable housing for the urban poor in Tamil Nadu. The agency highlighted that Tamil Nadu is vital to India's economic growth, which is currently contributing 8.54 per cent to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

India-ADB sign loan to expand Rural Connectivity in Maharashtra

Indian government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a 300-million-dollar loan on September 8, 2021 to expand rural connectivity in Maharashtra.

Loan agreement was signed as additional financing in order to scale up improvement of rural connectivity. Additional financing for the “Maharashtra Rural Connectivity Improvement Project” will help in improving additional 1,100 rural roads and 230 bridges with total length of 2,900 kilometres in 34 districts of the state.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Ayush Minister Sarbananada Sonowal launches 'Y-Break' app

The Union AYUSH Minister, Sarbananda Sonowal has launched 'Y Break' Yoga protocol mobile application in New Delhi.

The app has been developed by Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY). The app was launched as a part of the week-long activities and campaigns organised by the Ministry of Ayush to commemorate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav from August 30 to September 5, 2021.

India: 1st Asian Country to launch a Plastics pact

India has become the first Asian Country to launch a Plastics pact on September 3, 2021.

This new platform was developed by World-Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India) in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). It will help to promote a circular system for plastics.

India to host conference on International Climate Summit 2020-21

India is all set to host a key conference as part of the International Climate Summit (ICS) 2020-21 to build a dialogue for India's transition to clean energy.

Policymakers, regulators, industry leaders, experts, and scientists from across the globe are going to be a part of the climate summit.

Government sets up India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL)

The government has set up an asset management company (AMC) named India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL) with a paid-up capital of Rs. 80.5 lakh on an authorized capital of Rs 50 crore. IDRCL will work in tandem with the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL) to clean up bad loans.

Supreme Court introduces FASTER system

Supreme Court of India has approved an electronic system named FASTER (Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records). The FASTER system will be used for transferring e-authenticated copies from courts to prisons.

A three-judge bench of Chief Justice N.V. Ramana, Justice Nageswara Rao and Justice Surya Kant has instructed state governments, Union territories, prison departments and other authorities concerned to make arrangements at prisons to accept e-authenticated copies.

Lok Sabha Speaker Launches 'NIDHI 2.0' Scheme

The Speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla has inaugurated the NIDHI 2.0 (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry) scheme, during an event organised by the Ministry of Tourism, on the occasion of 2021 World Tourism Day. The NIDHI 2.0 database will have

more inclusivity, by not only including accommodation units, but also travel agents, tour operators, & others.

‘PM POSHAN’ to be continued in Schools

Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of PM POSHAN scheme in Schools, which is a Centrally Sponsored National Scheme.

PM POSHAN scheme would run for five more years. It will run from 2021-2022 to 2025-26. Scheme has been approved with a financial outlay of 54,062 crore rupees from the Central Government.

Govt launches AYUSH AAPKE DWAR campaign

Ayush Ministry launched the campaign called “AYUSH AAPKE DWAR” from some 45 locations across India on September 3, 2021.

Campaign was launched by Minister of State for Ayush from Ayush Bhawan by distributing medicinal plants to staff. About 21 states are participating in launch activities in which more than 2 lakh saplings will be distributed across India.

Wild orchids conservation and propagation center inaugurated in Ziro

Agriculture and Horticulture Minister Tage Taki inaugurated a Centre for Conservation and Propagation of Wild Orchids of Arunachal Pradesh at Hapoli in Lower Subansiri District of the state.

Orchids form one of the largest families of flowering plants. There are nearly 24,500 orchids in the world.

PM Modi inaugurates Shikshak Parv-2021

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the “Shikshak Parv-2021” and addressed the inaugural conclave through a video conference.

The theme of ‘Shikshak Parv-2021’ is “Quality and Sustainable Schools: Learnings from Schools in India”. The event was organised by the Ministry of Education, will continue to be celebrated from September 07 to 17, 2021.

TRIFED and MEA to set up Atmanirbhar Bharat corners

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, is setting up an Atmanirbhar Bharat corner in 75 Indian Missions/ Embassies across the world in the next 3 months.

The first such Atma Nirbhar Bharat corner was successfully inaugurated at Indian Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand on August 15, 2021. Apart from this, TRIFED will also be establishing Atmanirbhar corners in 75 embassies of foreign countries set up in India.

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurates PRANA portal

Union Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav launched a portal named PRANA, for the regulation of air pollution in 132 cities across the country.

PRANA stands for Portal for Regulation of Air pollution in Non-Attainment cities. The portal (prana.cpcb.gov.in) will support tracking of physical as well as the financial status of city air action plan implementation and disseminate information on air quality to the public.

India's first high ash coal gasification based methanol production plant inaugurated

India's first indigenously Designed High Ash Coal Gasification Based Methanol Production Plant at Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) Research and Development Centre, Hyderabad was inaugurated.

The project was funded by the Department of Science and Technology, which provided a Rs 10 crore grant, at the initiative of NITI Aayog, PMO-India and the Ministry of Coal.

India's 1st Emergency Landing Facility on National Highway in Rajasthan

Union Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh and Union Highways Minister, Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Emergency Landing Facility on a National Highway in Rajasthan. This emergency landing facility has been constructed on the Satta-Gandhav stretch of National Highway (NH) 925A in Barmer, Rajasthan.

This is the first time that a national highway (NH-925) will be used for the emergency landing of IAF aircraft. The project will cost ₹765.52 crores under the Bharatmala Pariyojana.

Vijay Rupani resigns as Gujarat Chief Minister

Vijay Rupani has resigned as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. He submitted his resignation to governor Acharya Devvrat. The resignation comes following a flurry of developments in Gujarat following a meeting in Gandhinagar.

He reached the Raj Bhavan shortly after PM Modi inaugurated Sardardham Bhavan in Gujarat's Ahmedabad and performed 'bhoomi puja' of Sardardham Phase-II Kanya Chhatralaya (girls' hostel) through video conferencing.

India's largest open air fernery opened in Uttarakhand

India's largest open-air fernery has been inaugurated in Ranikhet of Uttarakhand. The new centre will serve the dual objective of 'conservation of fern species as well as 'create awareness about their ecological role and promote further research.

The fernery is home to a large number of fern species, some of which are endemic to the state, some hold medicinal value while some are threatened species that demand care and conservation.

Kushinagar Airport declared as Customs Notified Airport

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has declared Kushinagar Airport as a Customs notified airport. This would also facilitate international passenger movements including that of Buddhist pilgrims.

India's first indigenous cruise liner launched by IRCTC

The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has joined hands and signed the agreement with Cordelia Cruises being operated by M/s Waterways Leisure Tourism Pvt. Ltd for promotion and marketing of the first indigenous luxury cruise in India. This is another incredible luxury travel offering under IRCTC's umbrella of tourism services to the public.

Agriculture Minister launches Amul Honey

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched 'Amul Honey' on September 28, 2021. Amul Honey is a product of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. This product was launched under cooperation with the 'National Bee Board (NBB)'.

During the event, Tomar emphasized on importance of National Beekeeping and Honey Mission in increasing the income of small farmers.

CABINET AFFAIRS

Assam cabinet decides to remove Rajiv Gandhi's name from Orang national park

The Assam cabinet has decided to remove the name of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi from the Orang National Park.

Since the name Orang is associated with the sentiments of the Adivasi and tea-tribe community, the cabinet has decided to rename the Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park as Orang National Park.

Union Cabinet approves production linked incentive scheme worth Rs. 10,683 crores for textile sector

The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi on September 8, 2021, gave its approval to the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for the textile sector.

The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal informed that a package of Rs. 10,683 crores will be allocated for the 10 different segments of the textiles sector as part of the newly approved scheme over 5 years.

Cabinet approves Russia-India pact for cooperation in geosciences

Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Russian on cooperation in the field of Geosciences.

MoU was signed between the Joint Stock Company Rosgeologia (State holding Company) of Russia and the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Ministry of Mines.

RMI India launch 'Shoonya' Campaign

NITI Aayog, in association with the RMI and RMI India, launched Shoonya campaign on September 15, 2021. Shoonya campaign is an initiative to work with consumers and industry in order to promote pollution-free delivery vehicles.

This campaign was launched with the aim of accelerating the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in urban delivery segment and raise consumer awareness regarding the benefits of pollution-free delivery.

Cabinet approves 100% FDI under automatic route in Telecom Sector

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a number of structural and process reforms in the Telecom sector, to provide relief to ailing telecom service providers, struggling with high levels of debt. A total of 9 structural and 5 process reforms have been approved by the Union Cabinet.

Cabinet approves Rs 26,058 crore PLI Scheme for Auto and Drone Industry

The Union Cabinet has approved a production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for auto, auto-components and drone industries to enhance India's manufacturing capabilities.

The PLI scheme will incentivise the emergence of advanced automotive technologies' global supply chain in India. Incentives worth Rs. 26,058 crore will be provided to industry over five years, the minister told reporters after the Cabinet meeting.

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Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment launches Elder Line

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched India's first Pan-India helpline for senior citizens named 'Elder Line' for which the toll-free number is 14567. The platform will allow senior citizens to connect and share their concerns, get information and guidance on problems that they face on a day-to-day basis.

Motor Vehicles (Registration and Functions of Vehicle Scrapping Facility) Rules, 2021

Ministry of road transport and highways announced the detailed procedure of setting "Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF)" under the "vehicle scrapping policy".

Vehicle Scrapping Policy was launched in August 2021 by prime minister Narendra Modi last month.

National Action Plan for dog Mediated Rabies Elimination by 2030 (NAPRE)

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya and Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala released the "National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination by 2030 (NAPRE)" on the occasion of "World Rabies Day" on September 28, 2021

Union Cabinet approved listing of ECGC IPO; investment of Rs. 4,400 crores in next 5 years

The Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal informed on September 29, 2021, that the Union Cabinet has approved the listing of state-owned Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) Ltd through the Initial Public Offer (IPO) on the Stock Exchange.

STATE RELATED AFFAIRS

Punjab to Launch 'Mera Kaam Mera Maan' Scheme to Help Unemployed Youth

The Punjab Cabinet gave a nod to a new scheme that will help the unemployed youth in the state to hone their skills and increase their chances of getting a job.

These youngsters will be given short-term skill training free of cost under the "Mera Kaam Mera Maan" scheme of the state government. A target of 30,000 beneficiaries has been proposed, at a cost of ₹ 90 crores.

'Katley' declared as state fish of Sikkim

The Government of Sikkim has declared 'Cooper Mahseer' locally named as 'Katley' as the state fish. *Neolissochilus hexagonolepis* is the scientific name of the Cooper Mahseer.

The decision has been taken to highlight the importance of the Katley fish and to give emphasis to its conservation measures. The fish has high market value and is highly preferred by the public in the State.

Naga Cucumber from Nagaland gets geographical identification tag

Nagaland's "sweet cucumber" was awarded a geographical identification (GI) tag as an agricultural product under provisions of The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

The cucumber is one of the most important crops in the Northeast region. Nagaland has the fifth-highest cultivation of this fruit area-wise and ranks third in production.

Maharashtra to set up science city named after Rajiv Gandhi in Pune

The Maharashtra Government has decided to set up a world-class science city at Pimpri-Chinchwad near Pune to develop a scientific outlook among the students and prepare them to become students in future.

To be named as 'Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Science Innovation City', a science Centre will be developed on one acre area in an eight-acre complex in the PCMC area. The Centre has granted an assistance of Rs 191 crore to build the Science city in the PCMC area.

Arunachal Pradesh launches Two Agri schemes

Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Pema Khandu, launched two ambitious schemes on September 3, 2021. One scheme was launched in agriculture sector, called 'Atmanirbhar Krishi Yojana', and Second scheme was launched in horticulture sector, called 'Atmanirbhar Bagwani Yojana'.

Both the schemes are part of the Atmanirbhar programme that was announced by central government during the budget session of 2021.

Odisha to host Men's Hockey Junior World Cup

Odisha will host the Men's Hockey Junior World Cup at the Kalinga Stadium here from November 24 to December 5.

Hockey India had recently approached the Odisha government to support them for the Men's Junior World Cup to be held in two months time. Patnaik also unveiled the logo and the trophy for the event. Lucknow had hosted the tournament's last edition in 2016 where India claimed the honours.

World's Highest EV Charging Station inaugurated in Himachal Pradesh

The world's highest electric vehicle charging station has been inaugurated in Kaza village of Lahaul and Spiti district in Himachal Pradesh.

The electric vehicle charging station is set up at a height of 500 ft. The aim of this initiative is to check vehicular pollution and promote electric vehicles for a clean and green environment in the region. India is gaining good momentum in the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem.

Tamil Nadu to set up India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve

Government of Tamil Nadu recently announced its plan to set up India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve in the Palk Bay on the southeast coast.

Dugong or sea cow is an endangered marine mammal. It is facing extinction because of habitat loss, sea pollution, and loss of seagrass.

Gujarat launches Vatan Prem Yojana

Governing body of Vatan Prem Yojana held its first meeting on September 4, 2021. The Vatan Prem Yojana was launched on August 7, 2021.

They held the meeting at Gandhinagar under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Vijay Rupani. Presentation of details of the scheme was put before the chief minister.

Karbi-Anglong Peace Accord – How will the agreement end decades-long crisis over Assam's territorial integrity

The centre, Assam state government and five Karbi insurgency groups signed a tripartite agreement- "Karbi Anglong Agreement" on September 4, 2021 to establish peace in Assam's Karbi-Anglong region.

The Karbi-Anglong Peace Accord has been hailed as historic, as it aims to end decades-old crisis and ensure stability in the state.

It was signed by five Karbi insurgent groups including Karbi Longri North Cachar Hills Liberation Front, People's Democratic Council of Karbi Longri, United People's Liberation Army and Karbi People's Liberation Tigers factions.

Chandigarh Railway Station certified five-star 'Eat Right Station'

The Chandigarh Railway Station(CRS) was awarded a 5 star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.

The certification was awarded by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) upon the conclusion of the FSSAI-empanelled third-party audit agency. CRS was selected to upgrade on the pattern of the World Class Railway Station.

Kongthong: Meghalaya's whistling village nominated as 'Best Tourism Village'

Meghalaya's Whistling village, Kongthong, has been nominated by the Ministry of Tourism for the UNWTO (World Tourism Organisation) 'Best Tourism Villages' award.

The two other villages in India that have also been nominated for UNWTO 'Best Tourism Villages' award are- Ladhpora Khas in Madhya Pradesh and Pochampally in Telangana

Mahakavi Day: Tamil Nadu to observe on Subramania Bharati's death anniversary

Tamil Nadu government has decided to commemorate the death anniversary of Subramania Bharathi, a firebrand poet & freedom fighter, as Mahakavi Day.

Death anniversary of Subramania Bharati is on September 11. Year 2021 will mark the 100th death anniversary of the poet. His works ignited patriotism and left indelible mark on Tamil literature.

'Medicine from the Sky' initiative launched in Telangana

Civil aviation minister Jyotiradiya Scindia has launched a first of its kind "Medicine from the Sky" project in Telangana.

The project has aimed at transporting vaccines and other essential products to remote areas using drones. The Medicine from the Sky project will be taken up on a pilot basis in 16 green zones in Telangana and later scaled up on the national level based on data.

Chhattisgarh govt launches 'Millet Mission' to become Millet Hub of India

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has announced the launch of 'Millet Mission', which aims to provide proper price rates to farmers for minor cereal crops. The initiative is also a step towards the Chief Minister's vision for the state to become India's millet hub.

To implement the mission, the state government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR), Hyderabad and the collectors of 14 districts of the state.

Uttar Pradesh Government to set up 'Electronic Park'

The Yogi Adityanath led Uttar Pradesh government has cleared a proposal to develop an 'Electronic Park', along the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) area, near Noida, to promote the electronics industry. The park is proposed to be developed in an area of 250 acres of the YEIDA near Jewar Airport.

Tamil Nadu and Puducherry beaches get coveted 'blue flag' certification

Two more beaches in India have been awarded “Blue Flag” certification, an international eco-level tag, taking the total number of such beaches in the country to 10. The two beaches to receive the certification this year are Kovalam in Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry.

India's 61st Software Technology park centre opened in Nagaland

Nagaland's first and India's 61st Software Technology Park of India (STPI) centre was inaugurated at Kohima.

The inauguration of the STPI centre in Kohima is a fulfilment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of creating a technology ecosystem in the northeast to create opportunities for future generations in the region.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Sri Lanka declares food emergency as forex crisis

Sri Lanka has declared a state of emergency as the food crisis worsened after private banks ran out of foreign exchange to finance imports.

With the country suffering a hard-hitting economic crisis, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said he ordered emergency regulations to counter the hoarding of sugar, rice and other essential foods. The Sri Lankan rupee has fallen by 7.5% against the US dollar this year.

Australia, Malaysia, Singapore and South Africa launch CBDC Scheme

Central banks in Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and South Africa launched a Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDC) Scheme on August 2, 2021.

CBDC scheme is a cross border payments trial that uses different central bank digital currencies (CBDC) in order to assess if this allows transactions to be settled in a cheap and easy manner.

Canadian City Burnaby to Observe September 5 As Gauri Lankesh Day

The Canadian city of Burnaby has declared September 5 as “Gauri Lankesh Day”, as a tribute to the dead journalist on her death anniversary, her sister Kavitha Lankesh.

The proclamation issued by the office of the Mayor of Burnaby Mike Hurley said Gauri Lankesh was a courageous Indian journalist who stood up for truth and justice, challenged superstition and social ills, and dedicated her life to serving the poor and oppressed.

France- Greece sign defence deal

France and Greece signed a multibillion-euro defence deal on September 27, 2021, to boost the defence capabilities. The defence deal includes Athens’ decision to buy three French warships under a strategy of boosting its defence capacities across the Eastern Mediterranean amid recurring tensions with Turkey.

President of France Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister of Greece, Kyriakos Mitsotakis announced the defence and security strategic partnership at a joint news conference in Paris.

Sri Lankan Economic Crisis

Government of Sri Lanka declared an economic emergency in last week of August 2021 because of rising food prices, depreciating currency, and depleting forex reserves.

Tourism industry in Sri Lanka has hit hard because of covid-19 pandemic. It represents more than 10% of the its Gross Domestic Product and brings in huge foreign exchange. Thus, forex reserves have decreased to \$2.8 billion in July 2021 from over \$7.5 billion in 2019.

Cuba becomes first country to start vaccination for toddlers

Cuba became the first country in the world on September 6, 2021, to vaccinate toddlers with the COVID-19 vaccine. The children in Cuba from the age of 2 are being vaccinated with home-grown jabs which are not recognized by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Cuba with a population of 11.2 million people aims at vaccinating all its children. The move is significant before the government decides to reopen the schools that have been closed since the outbreak of the COVID-19 in March 2020.

Statue of Bitcoin founder Satoshi Nakamoto unveiled in Hungary

Hungary has unveiled the statue of Bitcoin founder Satoshi Nakamoto. The imposing bronze statue was unveiled in Hungary's capital, Budapest. This is the first such statue across the world to pay homage to the creator of Bitcoin digital currency. It has been constructed in a business park near the Danube River in Budapest.

China declares all Cryptocurrency transactions illegal

Central bank of China has declared all the Cryptocurrency transactions illegal on September 23, 2021. The global values of cryptocurrencies including Bitcoin have massively fluctuated in during 2020-2021 partly due to Chinese regulations, that sought to prevent speculation and money laundering.

According to People's Bank of China (PBOC), Virtual currency-related business activities are illegal financial activities.

China endorses Taliban government, announces USD 31 million aid to Afghanistan

The Foreign Ministry of China on September 8, 2021, announced an aid of USD 31 million for Afghanistan and endorsed the new caretaker government "Islamic Emirate" of Taliban.

A spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Hua Chunying said that the decision was announced during the first meeting of the foreign ministers of the neighbouring countries of Afghanistan. The aid will be for emergency use to the Afghan people.

El Salvador becomes 1st country to adopt Bitcoin as National Currency

El Salvador has become the first country in the world to accept Bitcoin as legal tender. The government of El Salvador claimed that the move will give many citizens of the country access to bank services for the first time.

In addition, trading in cryptocurrency will help the country save around \$400 million in fees that is levied by banks and financial institutions on the money sent home by expats.

China successfully launches new Earth observation satellite "Gaofen-5 02"

China successfully launched a new Earth observation satellite, Gaofen-5 02, into space, aboard a Long March-4C rocket, from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in north China's Shanxi Province.

The Gaofen-5 02 satellite is the 24th in the series of Gaofen Earth-observation satellites of China, to monitor environmental protection efforts and boost its natural resources surveillance.

Iceland gets world's largest plant capturing carbon dioxide from air

The world's largest plant that can capture carbon dioxide directly from the air and can deposit it underground started operating on September 8, 2021, in Iceland. The news was shared by the company behind the nascent green technology.

Swiss start-up Climeworks AG, which specializes in capturing carbon dioxide directly from the air, partnered with Icelandic carbon storage firm 'Carbfix'.

IOC Suspends North Korea From Beijing Olympics

North Korea was formally suspended from the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on 10th Sept as punishment for refusing to send a team to the Tokyo Games citing the COVID-19 pandemic.

Zimbabwe's Brendan Taylor announces retirement from International Cricket

Former Zimbabwe skipper and wicket-keeper batsman, Brendan Taylor has announced his retirement from international cricket.

He made the announcement while playing the third final ODI match on September 13, 2021, against Ireland. The 34-year batsman made his ODI debut for Zimbabwe in 2004 against Sri Lanka. He has scored 6677 runs from 204 ODI matches in his 17-year ODI career.

US, UK and Australia announce new partnership "AUKUS"

United States, United Kingdom and Australia have announced the new partnership "AUKUS" a new trilateral security partnership for the Indo-Pacific region. The trilateral grouping was formally announced by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison and US President Joe Biden with a vision for a safer and more secure Indo-Pacific.

Iran becomes 9th member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

Iran was officially admitted as a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The decision to admit Iran as a full member was declared in the 21st summit of the SCO leaders in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

At the end of the 21st Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), the leaders of the eight main members of the organisation agreed to change the membership of the Islamic Republic of Iran from an observer member to a full member and signed the relevant documents.

WHO revises air quality norms for first time since 2005

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has announced a tight revision in its air quality guidelines (AQG). This is the first revision in the global air quality by WHO since 2005.

In the new guidelines, WHO has lowered the acceptable exposure levels to key pollutants, including ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide and particulate matter (PM).

North Korea tests fire hypersonic missile “Hwasong-8”

North Korea successfully tested a new hypersonic missile called Hwasong-8, in a bid to increase the nation’s capabilities for self-defence.

The missile was one of the five most important new weapons systems laid out by North Korea in the five-year military development plan. This was the country’s third missile test in a month. Earlier it tested a new type of cruise missile, as well as a new train-launched ballistic missile system.

FOREIGN RELATION

India, US sign agreement for Air-Launched Unmanned A'erial Vehicle

Ministry of Defence, Government of India, and the US Department of Defence on July 30, 2021, signed a Project Agreement (PA) for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (ALUAV) under the Joint Working Group Air Systems in the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI).

India-Singapore announces to link UPI and PayNow

India and Singapore have announced the linking of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and PayNow, in order to enable users to make instant, low-cost fund transfers.

The project to link the fast payment systems of both the countries was announced by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS).

India is Dubai's second biggest trade partner

India has emerged as the second biggest trading partner of Dubai, after China. India's overall volume, in the first half of 2021, is touching 38.5 billion dirhams.

As per a statement of Dubai government, Dubai had a trade volume of 86.7 billion dirham with China in H1 (first half) of 2021. It is followed by India and the U.S. respectively at second and third positions.

India to participate in SCO anti-terror exercise in Pakistan

India will send a three-member team next week to participate in a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) anti-terror exercise in Pakistan. The anti-terror exercise is reportedly scheduled to be held in Pabbi in Pakistan's Nowshera district from October 3rd.

The exercise will be conducted under SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), which aims to promote cooperation in counter-terrorism between all the SCO member-states.

RANKS & INDICES

Amul ranks 18th in Rabobank 2021 Global Dairy Top 20 Report

Amul, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) has dropped two places to rank 18th in Rabobank's 2021 Global Top 20 Dairy Companies list. Amul was placed at 16th spot in 2020. Amul has achieved an annual turnover of \$5.3 billion.

India becomes 3rd largest Unicorn ecosystem in the world

Hurun Research Institute has released the Hurun India Future Unicorn List 2021, as per which India is the third-largest Unicorn/startup ecosystem in the world.

The USA is on top followed by China on second. India has 51 unicorns according to the list. The USA has 396 and China has 277 unicorns.

University of Oxford tops Times World University Rankings 2022

The Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2022 has been announced. The University of Oxford is at the top of the list, followed by the California Institute of Technology and Harvard University at the second and third positions, respectively.

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, is placed between the 301-350 position. Incidentally, it is also the only university in the top 350 rankings.

PM Modi tops Morning Consult Global Ratings

According to US-based global leader approval tracker morning consult, approval rating of Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the highest among thirteen world leaders who were surveyed.

Bank of Baroda tops the MeitY Digital Payment Scorecard for 2020-21

Bank of Baroda, announced that the bank has Ranked #1 with a total of 86% marks on the scorecard issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for the month of February and March 2021.

The scorecard ranks 44 banks (Public Sector Banks, Private Banks, Foreign Banks, Payments Banks, Small Finance Banks) on various parameters on the digital business. In the same period last year, BOB was rated "Average" by Meity, which has now been upgraded as "Good".

IIT Madras Retains Top Spot in Overall Category of NIRF India Ranking 2021

The Union Minister of Education, Dharmendra Pradhan released the NIRF India Rankings 2021, on September 09, 2021, through video conferencing.

The NIRF India Rankings 2021 is the sixth edition of the annual list which ranks higher educational institutions in the country based on objective criteria to promote competitive excellence.

In Overall Winner: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has retained the top spot in the overall category.

Haryana topped in installation of solar pumps under PM-KUSUM

Haryana has topped among all other states of the country in terms of installation of off-grid solar pumps under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahaabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM), as per the data by the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Haryana has installed 14,418 pumps against 15,000 sanctioned pumps for the year 2020-21. Haryana was given a target of 15,000 pumps for the year 2020-21 with a total cost of Rs 520 crore.

India will become 3rd largest importer by 2050

India could become the world's third-largest importer by 2050, according to a report released by the UK's Department of International Trade.

With a 5.9 per cent share of global imports by 2050, the country will become the third-largest importer, following China and the United States.

PM Modi on Time's '100 most influential' list

Prime Minister Narendra Modi have been named among 100 most influential people of 2021 by the Time Magazine. Apart from PM Modi, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and CEO of Serum Institute of India, Adar Poonawalla have also been named among the world's 100 most influential people.

Time magazine unveiled its annual list of 'The 100 Most Influential People of 2021' on September 15, 2021.

India ranks 46th in Global Innovation Index 2021

India has been ranked at 46th place in the Global Innovation Index 2021 released by World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

India has jumped 2 spots from last year's ranking. Under the Lower middle-income category group, India has been ranked at the second spot after Vietnam.

The Global Innovation Index 2021 captures the innovation ecosystem performance of 132 economies and tracks the most recent global innovation trends.

The Top 5 countries in Global Innovation Index 2021 rankings: Switzerland, Sweden, USA, UK, Republic of Korea.

Asiamoney 2021 Poll: HDFC Bank most outstanding company in India

According to Asiamoney 2021 Poll, HDFC Bank has received the most votes among listed companies in India, leading to the bank being awarded the 'Overall Most Outstanding Company in India.

This is in addition to the bank being voted 'Most Outstanding Company in India – Banking Sector,' for the 4th consecutive year, since the inception of the poll in 2018. The poll aims to identify and recognise publicly listed companies by country and sector.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Amazon India launches Kisan Store

Amazon India announced the launch of Kisan Store. The store was launched by Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar on September 2, 2021.

Kisan Store is an online platform that enable farmers of India to get access of more than 8,000 agriculture inputs like farm tools & accessories, seeds, plant protection, nutrition etc.

HDFC Life to acquire Exide Life Insurance for ₹6,687 crore

HDFC Life has announced to acquire a 100 per cent stake in Exide Life Insurance Company in a stock and cash deal, for Rs 6,887 crore. Subsequently, Exide Life will be merged with HDFC Life, subject to regulatory approvals.

Exide Life is a wholly-owned subsidiary of battery maker Exide Industries. This acquisition will mark one of the first and the largest acquisitions in the life insurance space.

Skyroot Aerospace becomes first Spacetech startup to formally tie-up with ISRO

A Hyderabad-based Space technology startup, Skyroot Aerospace has become the first private company to formally enter into an agreement with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The Framework MoU will allow the company to undertake multiple tests and access facilities at various ISRO centres and avail the technical expertise of ISRO for testing and qualifying their space launch vehicle systems and subsystems.

Zee Entertainment merges with Sony India

The Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL) on September 22, 2021, announced that its board of directors have unanimously given in-principle approval for the merger between ZEEL and Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI).

Punit Goenka will continue to be the Managing Director (MD) and CEO of the merged ZEEL-SONY. The merged entity will be publicly listed in India.

Tata Steel commissions India's first plant to capture CO2

Tata Steel has commissioned India's first carbon capture plant that extracts CO2 directly from the blast furnace gas, at its Jamshedpur Works.

With this achievement, Tata Steel has become the country's first steel company to adopt such a carbon capture technology.

Infosys launches digital commerce platform Equinox

Infosys, a global leader in next-generation digital services and consulting, launched Infosys Equinox to help enterprises securely deliver hyper-segmented, personalized omnichannel commerce experiences for B2B and B2C buyers.

The platform's future-ready architecture offers unprecedented flexibility for enterprises to pick and choose out-of-the-box microservices and pre-built experiences to build curated digital journeys that enhance their digital commerce or launch it grounds-up in a matter of weeks.

The CCU plant was inaugurated by T.V. Narendran, CEO and MD, Tata Steel, in the presence of company officials and other dignitaries.

Amazon Future Engineer Programme launched in India

E-commerce giant, Amazon India, announced the launch of "Amazon Future Engineer" on September 27, 2021 in India. Amazon Future is its global computer science education programme.

As per company, Amazon future programme will enable access to quality computer science education as well as career opportunities for students from underrepresented and underserved communities.

Ordnance Factory Board dissolved, split into 7 new corporate entities

The Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) that supplies arms, ammunition and clothing to the Indian armed forces, will be dissolved with effect from October 1, 2021.

Centre informed that OFB's 41 factories will be split into seven new corporate entities. The Ordnance Factory Board is the main producer of weapons and military equipment in India.

DEFENCE NEWS

Indian Army contingent to participate in Exercise ZAPAD 2021

Indian Army will participate in Exercise ZAPAD 2021, a Multi Nation exercise being held at Nizhny in Russia from 3-16 September.

ZAPAD 2021 is one of the theatre level exercises of the Russian Armed Forces and will focus primarily on operations against terrorists. Over a dozen countries from the Eurasian and South Asian Regions will participate in this signature event.

28th Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise 'SIMBEX-2021'

The 28th edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) took place from September 02 to 04, 2021.

The SIMBEX-2021 annual bilateral maritime exercise was hosted by the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) in the southern fringes of the South China Sea.

Indian military participates in SCO Exercise 'Peaceful Mission' 2021

The Indian military contingent comprising of an all arms combined force of 200 personnel is participating in the Exercise PEACEFUL MISSION -2021, a Joint Counter Terrorism Exercise between Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states.

The Exercise PEACEFUL MISSION- 2021 is being hosted by Russia in the Orenburg Region of South-West Russia from September 13 to 25, 2021. In 2021, the 6th edition of the biennial multilateral Exercise PEACEFUL MISSION is being undertaken.

Indo-Nepal joint military exercise Surya Kiran-XV to begin at Pithoragarh

The 15th edition of Indo–Nepal Joint Military Training Exercise Surya Kiran will be held from September 20, 2021, at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand. The previous edition of the Exercise Surya Kiran was conducted in Nepal in 2019. The exercise was called off in 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Indian & Indonesian Navy participate in 3rd edition of 'Samudra Shakti'

The 3rd edition of Bilateral Exercise 'Samudra Shakti' is scheduled from September 20 to Sep 22.

Indian Naval Ships Shivalik and Kadmatt had already arrived in Jakarta, Indonesia in the preparedness of this one of a kind exercise aimed at improving bilateral ties between India and Indonesia.

The Indian navy will be participating in Samudra Shakti with the Indonesian navy to enhance mutual understanding and interoperability in maritime operations between the two navies.

India Army to organise ‘Bijoya Sanskritik Mahotsav’ in Kolkata

Indian Army will organize “Bijoya Sanskritik Mahotsav” from 26 to 29 September in Kolkata. This Mahotsav will be observed to mark the golden jubilee of the India-Pak war 1971.

The event will be inaugurated by Lieutenant General Manoj Pande, Army Commander, Eastern Command. Various cultural programs including a film screening, theatre plays, musical concerts, and band performances will be conducted during this event.

Defence ministry places order for 118 Arjun Mk-1A tanks

Ministry of Defence will procure 118 Main Battle Tanks, MBTs Arjun Mk-1A for the Indian Army.

The order was worth Rs 7,523 crore with Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi to sharpen the army’s combat edge. It will support the Make in India initiative in the defence sector and it will help in achieving the goal of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IIT Madras to Develop Online Marketplace called e-Source

IIT Madras is in process of developing an online platform called e-Source that will be used to tackle electronic wastes (e-waste). E-Source will be used to tackle e-waste by linking stakeholders of the formal and informal economy.

e-Source will act as an exchange platform to serve as an online marketplace for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE).

IIT Ropar develop's world's first 'Plant based' smart air-purifier

Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), Ropar and Kanpur and Faculty of Management Studies of Delhi University have jointly launched a living-plant based air purifier named "Ubreathe Life". This air purifier will boost the air purification process in indoor spaces, such as hospitals, schools, offices and Homes. It is the world's first, state-of-the-art 'Smart Bio-Filter' that can make breathing fresh.

India's first bio-brick based building opened at IIT Hyderabad

India's first building made of bio-bricks from agro-waste has been inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad. The sample building is made up of bio-bricks supported by a metal framework. The roof is also made of bio-bricks over PVC sheets to reduce heat. It is part of the Bold Unique Idea Lead Development (BUILD) project to demonstrate the strength and versatility of the material.

Niti Aayog tie-up with ISRO, CBSE launch 'Space Challenge' for school students

Niti Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission in collaboration with ISRO and CBSE has launched 'Space Challenge' for school students across India.

This challenge has been designed for all the school students, mentors and teachers across the country who not only are associated with schools having Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) labs but for all the non-ATL schools as well.

NASA Lucy Mission: First Spacecraft to study Jupiter's Trojan asteroids

NASA is set to launch Lucy, the first spacecraft to study Jupiter's Trojan asteroids on October 16, 2021. The Lucy spacecraft is scheduled to be launched on an Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.

NASA's Juno spacecraft has been orbiting Jupiter since 2016 but the Lucy spacecraft will be the first expedition by NASA to study the Trojan asteroids that orbit the Sun in two swarms, one leading ahead of Jupiter and other trailing behind the planet.

BOOK NEWS

Know Your Rights and Claim Them: A Guide for Youth by Angelina Jolie

Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie has recently announced her upcoming book, titled “Know Your Rights and Claim Them: A Guide for Youth”. The book has been written jointly by Angelina Jolie, Amnesty International and human rights lawyer Geraldine Van Bueren QC.

Tamannaah Bhatia unveils her book titled ‘Back to the Roots’

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia launched her book ‘Back to the Roots’. She has co-authored the book with celebrity lifestyle coach Luke Coutinho. The book is based on intensive research and mentions India’s ancient secrets of health and wellness. All the chapters in ‘Back To the Roots’ are complete with tried-and-tested secrets that have served generations of this country.”

A book “Bullets Over Bombay: Satya and the Hindi Film Gangster” by Uday Bhatia

A new book has titled “Bullets Over Bombay: Satya and the Hindi Film Gangster” authored by Uday Bhatia. The Book deals with the testimonies from Ram Gopal Varma, Anurag Kashyap, Manoj Bajpayee, Vishal Bhardwaj, Saurabh Shukla.

Rajnath Singh launches a book title ‘Shining Sikh Youth of India’

The Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has released a book titled ‘Shining Sikh Youth of India’ in New Delhi, as a part of the commemoration of the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Guru of Sikhs.

The book has been authored by Dr Prabhleen Singh, administrative officer at the Punjabi University, Patiala. It covers 100 inspirational and motivational success stories of Sikh youth in India who have done exemplary work in their respective fields.

Book title “The Three Khans: And the Emergence of New India” by Kaveree Bamzai

A book has titled “The Three Khans: And the Emergence of New India” authored by Kaveree Bamzai. In the book, senior journalist, Kaveree Bamzai has juxtaposed the careers of the 3 Khans, Aamir, Shah Rukh, & Salman, with the most tumultuous times in the history of the republic.

Art often responds to social and political dimensions,& in a country short of role models, film stars often play double roles.

A audiobook title ‘Jungle Nama’ released by Amitav Ghosh

Amitav Ghosh’s “Jungle Nama” has now been released as an audiobook with music and voice of US-based Ali Sethi. Jungle Nama evokes the wonder of the Sundarban through its poetry, accompanied by stunning artwork by the renowned artist Salman Toor. This is an illuminated edition of a fabulous folk tale that every book lover will want to possess.

A book title “The Fractured Himalaya” authored by Nirupama Rao

A book titled “The Fractured Himalaya: How the Past Shadows the Present in India-China Relations”, authored by Nirupama Rao.

The book traces how the origins of the dispute between India and China form part of a living history that shapes their fractious relationship today. Understanding this complex panorama yields lessons for all of us who seek a wider perspective on China and its profile in the Indo-Pacific. Nirupama Rao is a former Foreign Secretary.

Akash Prime: DRDO successfully tests new version of Akash Missile system

The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) on September 28, 2021, successfully tested a new version of the Akash Missile known as Akash Prime.

The test was conducted from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha. During the test, the Akash Prime missile intercepted and destroyed an unmanned aerial target mimicking enemy aircraft. The flight test of Akash Prime comes months after the successful flight test of another Akash Missile version called Akash-NG.

Indra Nooyi memoir “The secrets to balancing work and family life”

In her book, My Life in Full: Work, Family and our Future, Indra Nooyi focuses on the importance that organisational support plays in working women’s lives. For instance, she lists the offer of three months of paid leave by BCG to take care of her father in India when he was diagnosed with cancer.

SPORTS NEWS

Name	Tournament Name	Extra Information
Mariyappan Thangavelu	Silver in men's high jump – Paralympics	He cleared the 1.86m mark to take home silver. In the same event, Sharad Kumar won the bronze medal, clearing 1.83m mark.
Joe Root	world's number one Test batsman	ICC Men's Test Player Rankings: England captain Joe Root has reclaimed top rank in the latest ICC Men's Test Player Rankings after nearly six years. With 916 rating, he has surpassed New Zealand captain Kane Williamson, who is now ranked second with 901 rating.
Harvinder Singh	Bronze in Archer -	The 31-year old has become India's first-ever archer to win a medal in the Paralympics. With this win, India's medal haul at the ongoing Paralympics Games in Tokyo has reached 13 [2G,6S,5B].
Manish Narwal	Gold in 50m Mixed Pistol	The 19-year-old Manish created the Paralympic record as he amassed 218.2 points to clinch the gold while Singhraj grabbed his second medal of the Tokyo Paralympics with 216.7 points. The Russian Paralympic Committee's (RPC) Sergey Malyshev won the bronze medal.
Praveen Kumar	Silver in high Jump	Praveen cleared the Asian record with a 2.07m jump, finishing behind Great Britain's Jonathan Broom-Edwards, who managed the best jump of 2.10m on a rain-soaked track at the Olympic Stadium.
Max Verstappen	Dutch Grand Prix 2021	Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) has won the

		formula one Dutch Grand Prix 2021. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) came second while Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes-Finland) came third.
Daniel Ricciardo	Italian Grand Prix 2021	This is the first victory for McLaren in 9 years. Lando Norris came second while Valtteri Bottas came third in the F1 race. Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen crash out of Italian Grand Prix 2021 due to collision.
D Gukesh	Norway Chess Open 2021	Iniyar secured sole second position with 8.5/10 points, finishing a half point ahead of top seed Dmitriy Kollars (Germany) and Valentin Dragnev (Austria).
Pankaj Advani	Asian Snooker Championship 2021	Pankaj also became the only player who won the titles in all forms of billiards, snooker, 6Reds, and 10Reds competitions. Yasin Merchant (1989, 2001), Alok Kumar (2004), Aditya Mehta (2012) were the other Indians who won the championship.
Raja Rithvik	70th Grandmaster	India's R Raja Rithvik became chess Grandmaster after he crossed the ELO Rating of 2500. The 17-year-old achieved this GM title in Vezerkepzo Grandmaster Chess Tournament at Budapest, Hungary. He thus became the 70th Grandmaster from the country.
Lewis Hamilton	Russian Grand Prix 2021	It was Hamilton's fifth win of the season and his first since the British Grand Prix in July. Max Verstappen (Red Bull-Netherlands) came second while Carlos Sainz Jr. (Ferrari-Spain) came third in the Russian Grand Prix 2021.

Sania Mirza & Zhang Shuai	Ostrava Open WTA Doubles Title	India's Sania Mirza and her Chinese partner Zhang Shuai won the women's doubles title in the women's doubles final at the Ostrava Open in Ostrava, Czech Republic.
Rohit Sharma	Became the first batter in the Indian Premier League (IPL) history to score 1000 runs against a single team	The 34-year-old achieved the feat in the fourth over of MI's innings. Rohit now has 1015 runs against KKR at an average of 46.13 and a strike rate of 132.16, including six fifties and one hundred.
US	Ryder Cup golf tournament	The United States has clinched the 2021 Ryder Cup after rookie Collin Morikawa secured the final half-point to get to a 19-9 victory, which is the largest margin of victory in Ryder Cup history since the 28-point format came about.

OBITUARY

Name	Associated Field
Jean-Pierre Adams	Former France Footballer
Rajni Kaul	First News Broadcaster for BBC
Keshav Desiraju	Former Union Health Secretary
Yuriy Sedykh	2 times Olympic Gold Medalist
Bhabani Roy	Former India footballer and Mohun Bagan captain
Aziz Hajini	Eminent Kashmiri Writer
Manorama Mohapatra	Odia litterateur, social worker and journalist
Narendra Giri	Akhara Parishad chief
Jimmy Greaves	Former England Footballer
Thanu Padmanabhan	Renowned Padma Shri awardee astrophysicist
Kamla Bhasin	Women rights activist

IMPORTANT DAYS AND THEMES

Day	Date	Theme
World Coconut Day	September 02	Building a Safe Inclusive Resilient and Sustainable Coconut Community Amid COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond
International Day of Charity	September 05	
National Teachers' Day	September 05	
Food Processing Week	September 06 – 12	
International Day of Clean Air for blue skies	September 07	
International Literacy Day	September 08	Narrowing the digital divide.
Himalayan Day	September 09	Contribution of Himalayas and our responsibilities
World EV Day	September 09	
World Suicide Prevention Day	September 10	Creating hope through action
World First Aid Day	September 11	
World Lymphoma Awareness Day	September 15	
National Engineer's Day	September 15	
International Day of Democracy	September 15	
International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	September 16	
World Patient Safety Day	September 17	
International Red Panda Day	September 18	
International Coastal Clean-Up Day	September 18	Keep trash in the bin and not in the ocean
World Water Monitoring Day	September 18	valuing water
International Equal Pay Day	September 18	
World Bamboo Day	September 18	PlantBamboo: It Is Time To Plant Bamboo'
World Alzheimer's Day	September 21	Know Dementia, Know Alzheimer's
International Week of Deaf People 2021	September 20 to 26	"Celebrating Thriving Deaf Communities"
International Day of Peace	September 21	Recovering Better for an Equitable and Sustainable World
World Rhino Day	September 22	
International Day of Sign Languages	September 23	We Sign For Human Rights
Antyodaya Divas	September 25	
World Pharmacist Day	September 25	Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health

World Rivers Day	September 26	Waterways in our communities
World Environmental Health Day	September 26	Prioritizing Environmental Health for healthier communities in the global recovery
International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons	September 26	
World Tourism Day	September 27	
International Day for Universal Access to Information	September 28	
World Rabies Day	September 28	
World Heart Day	September 29	Use Heart to Connect
International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste	September 29	Stop food loss and waste. For the people. For the planet.
World Maritime Day	September 30	Seafarers at the core of shipping's future
International Translation Day	September 30	United in translation