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NATIONAL NEWS

Justice Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana: The 48th Chief Justice of India



Justice Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana took oath as the 48th Chief Justice of India and his oath was administered by President Ram Nath Kovind at a brief ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Justice Ramana has taken place of Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde who demitted office a day before. Justice Ramana will serve the post for nearly 16 months and will retire on 26th August 2022. Hailing from Andhra Pradesh's Krishna district, Justice Ramana was enrolled as an advocate in February 1983

and was appointed as a permanent Judge of the Andhra Pradesh High Court in June 2000 and has also served as acting Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court from March to May 2013. In September, 2013, Justice Ramana was elevated as the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court and in February 2014 he was elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

India's first 3D printed house at IIT-M

The Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman inaugurated India's first 3D printed house at IIT Madras. Built in just five days, this house has been constructed using native 3D printing technology. It is a concept of former IIT-M students that has been materialized into reality by TVASTA Manufacturing solutions. It is worth knowing here that 3D printing is a process of making three dimensional objects through digital instructions, which is also dubbed as

Additive manufacturing viz. Vat Photopolymerization, Binder Jetting, Directed Energy Deposition, Material Extrusion, Material Jetting, Powder Bed Fusion and Sheet Lamination. It is just the opposite of Subtractive Manufacturing that implies cutting away from a large material. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology had introduced the National Strategy for Additive Manufacturing in 2020 to address issues related to fabrication speed, surface finish of contoured surfaces, data formats and lack of additive manufacturing standards.

End Of Manoj Is An End Of An Era

Odia author Manoj Das, who was honored with prestigious awards like Padma Shri (2001), Padma Bhushan (2020), Kendra Sahitya Akademi award (1972) and Sahitya Akademi Award Fellowship (2006) breathed his last. He was the chief architect of transcendental literature in India and beyond and was one of those living writers on whom maximum number scholars have done their doctoral theses. He had appeared in Indian-English literary sky as a luminous star in the mid-sixties of the last century.

He could write in Odia as well as in English with equal ease and dexterity. He was a follower of the vision and philosophy of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother and always tried to explore the hidden truth in the different realities of life. He dealt with a number of themes ranging from the happenings of everyday life to the events suggestive of the supernatural. His stories were greatly influenced by Indian literature-mythology and folklore. The professor of English Literature held many prominent national and international positions and was richly acknowledged with numerous prestigious awards

KVG Bank Won Five Top Awards

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has claimed five top awards under various campaigns held for enrollment of Atal Pension Yojana (APY) from Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). P. Gopi Krishna, Chairman of KVGB received the five awards viz. Lead to Leap, APY Makers of Excellence, Game Changers, Leadership Capital and Amazing Achievers. During the last financial year 2020-2021, the bank had enrolled 78,129 policies under

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), 94,658 policies under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and 68,961 accounts under Atal Pension Yojana (APY). So far, KVGB has settled 3,809 claims (₹76.18 crore) under PMJJBY and 706 claims under PMSBY (₹13 crore) that has helped poor families to lead life in the event of loss of their caretaker.

Krithi Karanth : The First Indian Woman Chosen As A 'Wild Innovator'



Chief Conservation Scientist at Bengaluru-based Centre for Wildlife Studies (CWS), Dr. Krithi K Karanth, has been chosen as the first Indian and Asian woman for the 2021 'WILD Innovator Award' by the 'WILD ELEMENTS Foundation'. The Foundation brings together a coalition of innovators, advocates and partners to 'disrupt the

status quo and identify solutions to global sustainability and conservation'. In the past Karanth was honoured as National Geographic Society's 10,000th grantee in 2011. In 2012, she was selected as National Geographic Emerging Explorer as well as one of India's Power Women by Femina. In 2013 she was crowned as the Woman of the Year by Elle India and in 2019, she became a proud recipient of the WINGS Women of Discovery Award for Conservation. She also made a place globally after receiving awards that include World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, University of Florida's Outstanding Young Alumna, INK Fellow, Vogue Women of the Year and Seattle Zoo's Thrive Conservation Leadership Award.

Time Magazine's First-ever List Of 100 Most Influential Companies

Two Indian firms, Reliance Industries' technology arm Jio Platforms and e-learning startup Byju's have succeeded in securing a place in Time Magazine's first-ever list of 100 most influential companies that contribute in shaping the

future. For this list, TIME solicited nominations across various sectors like healthcare, entertainment, transportation, technology and evaluated each one on key factors, including relevance, impact, innovation, leadership, ambition and success. Jio Platforms has been listed under the Innovators category alongside Zoom, Adidas, TikTok, Ikea, Moderna and Netflix. Jio built India's largest 4G network by charging some of the lowest data rates in the world (less than 5cents a month for 1 GB). Byju's was listed in the Disruptors category alongside Tesla, Huawei, Shopify, Airbnb and DiDiChuxing. It was founded by Byju Raveendran and the users of this company's signature app nearly doubled to 80 million during the COVID-19 pandemic. Byju's summer acquisition of WhiteHat Jr, an app that teaches kids to code along with the purchase of Silicon Valley educational-game maker Osmo in 2019 cemented the foot of the company in the US e-learning market as well.

Somanathan: The New Finance secretary



The Expenditure Secretary T V Somanathan has been designated as the Finance Secretary by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. The 1987 batch Indian Administrative Service Officer of Tamil Nadu cadre is the senior most officer among all the secretaries in the Ministry of Finance. Apart from this, TuhinKanta Pandey is the present Secretary of Department of Investment Public Asset Management (DIPAM) and Ajay Seth, a 1987 batch Karnataka-cadre IAS officer, the new secretary of Department of Economic Affairs has been nominated as a Director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India and this designation has become effective from 24th April 2021 and will continue till further orders.

N Rangasamy : The Chief Minister of Puducherry



The All India NR Congress (AINRC) founder leader N Rangasamy has become the Chief Minister of the Union Territory of Puducherry for a record fourth time. Lieutenant governor (additional charge) Tamilisai Soundararajan administered his oath of office and secrecy. Before this, the 71-year-old politician was the Chief Minister of Puducherry from 2001 to 2008 as a member of the Indian National Congress and then from 2011 to 2016 as a member of AINRC. Now this will be the first time that Rangasamy will be heading a coalition cabinet, National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the UT, which has members from BJP and AINRC.

DMK chief Stalin : The New Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu governor Banwarilal Purohit appointed DravidaMunnetraKazhagam (DMK) chief MK Stalin as the chief minister of the state. The son of the former five-term Tamil Nadu chief minister, late M Karunanidhi's DMK-led alliance won 159 seats, which is well ahead of the majority mark of 118 seats. This party alone succeeded in occupying 133 seats in the election. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Stalin steered the United Progressive Alliance (UPA), of which the DMK is a constituent, to victory in 38 out of 39 parliamentary seats in Tamil Nadu.

PM Attended European Council Meeting

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the European Council Meeting that took place on 8th May 2021. This year the India-European Union Leaders' Meeting was hosted by Portugal, who holds the chair of the grouping. They exchanged views on COVID-19, Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) waiver on COVID 1-9 vaccine, and

thought about measures for fostering sustainable and inclusive growth. It is worth knowing that 25 members of the European Union intend to sign the "Treaty on Pandemics" along with WHO to bring vaccines to the global community as quickly as possible. Besides these, they also talked about the free trade deal, agreements regarding Geographical Indications as well as about the investment protection agreement.

RM Sundaram : The Director of Indian Institute of Rice Research

Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), an arm of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research appointed Raman Meenakshi Sundaram as its new Director. Before this, he served in the capacity of the Principal Scientist (Biotechnology) at the institute crop Improvement Section. He is a scientist of global repute working in the domain of rice biotechnology, molecular breeding, and genomics and has more than 160 research papers in national and international journals of repute. Besides these, he has published several books, book chapters and popular articles. His research accomplishments involve the

development of one of the first biotechnology products in rice, 'Improved Samba Mahsuri', which is high yielding, has fine-grain type, has a low glycaemic index and exhibits high resistance to bacterial blight.

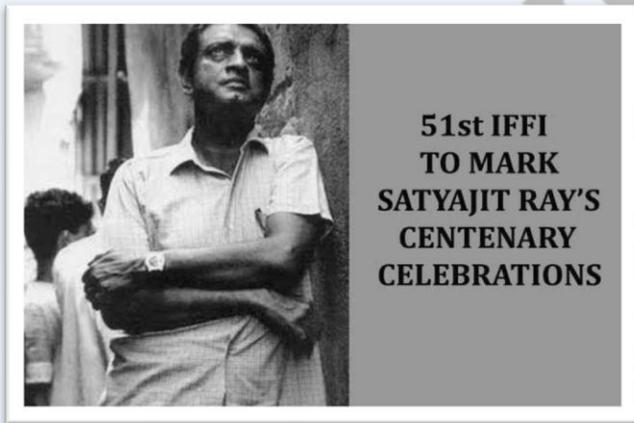
The Smile Of 'Jungle Cry' At Dadasaheb Phalke Award ceremony!



Directed by Sagar Ballary, 'Jungle Cry' was honored with the Best Film (Jury) award at the 11th Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival 2021. The movie has its roots in a true story of 12 underprivileged tribal children from KISS Odisha who won the World Rugby Championship held in the UK in 2007. The jury for this prestigious award involved playback singing queen Asha

Bhosle, director-producer of Saudagar-Subhash Ghai, Malayalam icon Mohanlal, music director and singer Shankar Mahadevan and Biswajeet Chatterjee. In context to this prestigious Dada Saheb award, it is worth knowing that Dadasaheb Phalke, who made the first Indian feature film Raja Harishchandra in the year 1913 was known as the Father of Indian Cinema. As a tribute to the legend, the government of India had instituted the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1969.

Introduction Of Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award In IFFI



The Information and Broadcasting Ministry aired an announcement that legendary late filmmaker Satyajit Ray's 100th birth anniversary (May 2, 2021) will be celebrated throughout the year with various events. Moreover, in order

to pay homage to renowned filmmaker, writer, illustrator, graphic designer and music composer, 'Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Cinema' (cash prize of ₹10 lakh, a certificate, shawl, along with a Silver Peacock medal and a Scroll) has been instituted from this year, which will be given at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) annually starting from this year. The legend started his career in advertising and found inspiration for his first film, Pather Panchali, while illustrating the children's version of the novel by Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay. After that Ray went on to make other great films like Charulata, Agantuk, Nayak and so on. Now the media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting , Directorate of Film Festivals, Films Division, NFDC, NFAI, and Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata will host year long activities for the celebrations.

Odisha's Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana

The Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik declared working journalists of the State of Odisha as the frontline

COVID-19 warriors under the lens of Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana. It has been done to benefit more than 6,500 journalists in the state. This yojana is a health insurance scheme that was launched in 2018 for the journalists by the Odisha state government to provide two lakh rupees of health insurance cover to all the working journalists of the state. It also has a provision of cashless treatment in government and private hospitals and covers illness and injuries faced by journalists while performing their duties. It is worth learning here that this scheme derived its name from a popular reformer, social worker, journalist, political activist, essayist and a poet in Odisha. His outstanding contributions to the field of culture, art and society fetched him the “Epithet of Utkalmani” means the Jewel of Odisha.

Justice Pant : The New NHRC Acting Chairperson

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) member Justice (retired) Prafulla Chandra Pant has been appointed as the Acting Chairperson of the Commission with effect from April 25, 2021. The

appointee is a former Supreme Court judge, who was appointed as member of the NHRC on April 22, 2019. The post of a chairperson was lying vacant since Justice H.L. Dattu, a former Chief Justice of India, completed his tenure on December 2, 2020. Prior to that, Justice Pant was appointed the first Chief Justice of the newly established Meghalaya High Court at Shillong on 20th September 2013 and continued till 12th August 2014.

Mamata Banerjee : The New West Bengal Chief Minister



Although Mamata Banerjee, lost the seat to her former protege-turned-BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari by a margin of 1956 votes in Nandigram, yet the incumbent West Bengal Chief Minister is all set to take oath for the third time on 5th May 2021 by virtue of Article 164 (4) and Article 75 (5), that states that the Chief Minister and Prime Minister shall hold

their offices even if they are not members of their respective houses. By this law, Mamta will be appointed as the Chief Minister of West Bengal even if she has lost the election with a condition that she has to become the member of the West Bengal State Legislature within next six months.

Sikkim Conceived Indian Army's First Green Solar Energy Harnessing Plant

The Indian Army inaugurated the first Green Solar Energy harnessing plant in Sikkim to benefit the troops of the Indian army. Built at an altitude of 16,000 feet with the capacity of 56 KVA, the plant employs Vanadium based battery technology. It is worth knowing here that Vanadium, which is generally used in making steel alloys, space vehicles, nuclear reactors, girders, piston rods as well as redox batteries (in superconducting magnets), is also used to create reliable renewable sources of energy. This plant was constructed in collaboration with IIT Mumbai. Prior to this, the Indian Army has also launched a solar power plant at Jalandhar Cantonment in April, 2021 as a part of

the "Go Green" initiative dedicated to the military hospital in the cantonment.

T Rabi Sankar : The Fourth RBI Deputy Governor



The Government of India appointed T Rabi Shankar as the fourth Deputy Governor of RBI. The incharge of fintech, payment system, risk management and information technology at the Apex Bank has taken the place of B P Kanungo. Before this, he held many significant designations in prestigious organizations like he was the Chairman of RBI subsidiary Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS); he served in the Ministry of Finance between 2008 and 2014 and the International Monetary Fund consultant to the Central Bank of Bangladesh

State Assembly Election Results

The Election Commission of India declared the results of the State Assembly Elections for Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. In Assam, BJP won 60 seats, Congress won 29, AIUDF won 16, AGP won 9 and Bodoland People's Front (BPF) won 9. The Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal registered victory from Majuli constituency, the star campaigner of BJP, Finance and Health Minister of Assam became the winner in Jalukbari. And the anti-CAA activist Akhil Gogoi occupied the seat of Sibsagar. The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly has 234 seats. The DMK has secured 126, AIADMK (64), Congress (18), BJP (4) and Patali Makkal Katchi (PMK) (4). In Tamil Nadu now the DMK-Congress coalition will form the government under Stalin (son of Late CM Karunanidhi). In 294 seats of West Bengal, the Trinamool Congress led by Mamta Banerjee secured 212 seats, while BJP occupied 77 seats. In Kerala, the Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan led Left Democratic Front (LDF) won 99 seats. CPI (M) won 62 seats, Congress (21 seats), CPI (17) and IUML (15 seats). The Chief Minister is likely to form the Government in state for the second time. Apart from these, election

results of Union Territory Puducherry have also been declared. Here among 30 seats, NDA won 16 seats and both the All-India NR Congress (AINRC) and BJP together will form the next government in Puducherry as they crossed the half-way mark in the 30-member Assembly.

Development of A New Soybean Variety 'MACS 1407'

The Indian scientists of the Agharkar Research Institute of Pune along with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Reported development of a new Soybean variety called the "MACS 1407". The new variety is said to be a high yielding variety that gives 39 quintals per hectare having 41% protein and 19.81% oil content. It takes 104 days to mature and 43 days for 50% flowering. It has yellow seeds, white coloured flowers and black hilum. The new variety has a thick stem, providing higher pod insertion till seven centimetres. It exhibits good resistance for pod shaking. With high germinability, this variety is best suited for the rain fed regions of North East India. It is resistant to pests as well as to the vagaries of monsoon. It will be made available to farmers in 2022 Kharif season.

Ayushman Bharat Diwas



Like every year, the Ayushman Bharat Diwas was celebrated on April 30 to achieve twin missions of promoting health and wellness to the poor and providing insurance benefits to them. Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April 2018, the Ayushman Bharat Scheme has so far operationalised 75,532 Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres and it has a target of establishing 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres by 2022. Its beneficiaries are selected from the Socio-Economic Caste Census Database, which is the largest health cover in the world. The scheme provides five lakh rupees of health cover per family per year.

India's First Video-based Wealth Community

In order to allow users to learn, discuss, trade, and invest, Paytm launched a video-based wealth community on its

Paytm Money app. It will feature live sessions on topics, including stocks, F&O, IPO, ETFs, mutual funds, gold, personal finance, and fixed income, among others, and users will not only be able to gain knowledge about these topics from the experts but will also be able to interact with them to clarify doubts. The sessions will be conducted in multiple Indian languages viz. Hindi, Gujarati, and others. Currently the feature is in beta testing and only a limited set of users can access it. Further, the feature aims to get users to create custom discussion rooms, become content creators on the platform, and discuss investing strategies with their followers.

Shyamala Ganesh : Recipient of Japan's Order of the Rising Sun

The Japanese Government presented the "Order of Rising Sun" to a Bengaluru based Japanese teacher, Shyamala Ganesh. She teaches at the Septuagenarian institution and also at the Ohara School of Ikebana (Japanese art of flower arrangement) in RT Nagar, Bengaluru. So far she has tutored over hundreds of students since its inception 38 years ago. She along with her

husband Ganesh started a Japanese language school in 1983 in Bengaluru. Instituted in 1875, the award is presented by the Emperor of Japan to acknowledge distinguished achievements in promotion of Japanese culture, achievements in international relations, advancements in their field and conservation of environment.

Andaman And Nicobar Islands Have Been Certified “Organic”

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare informed that around 14,491 hectares of land in Andaman And Nicobar Islands have been certified as “Organic”. This is the first large contiguous territory to get certified under the Large Area Certification Scheme of the Participatory Guarantee System certification programme. Under this each village is considered as one cluster or group and it is mandatory for the farmers to adhere to the standard requirements without the need to undergo a conversion period to get certified. This was launched under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, which is meant to promote natural farming. It is

worth understanding here that under the standard norms of organic production systems, the areas with chemical input usage history will have to undergo a transition period of two to three years to get qualified as organic and this transition period has been removed under the Large Certification Scheme.

Aditya-L1 Support Cell (AL1SC)

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Aryabhata Research Institute for Observational Sciences (ARIES) together have set up a Community Service Centre called Aditya-L1 Support Cell (AL1SC) at the ARIES at Haldwani, Uttarakhand. This centre is meant to accommodate guest observers and help them by providing data under one single interface from the mission to analyse the findings. Further, the centre will conduct periodic training on data analysis and frequent E-workshops. Aditya-L1 is an Indian space mission that will carry seven payloads developed by different institutions of the country and will study the sun as well as the region between the earth and the sun.

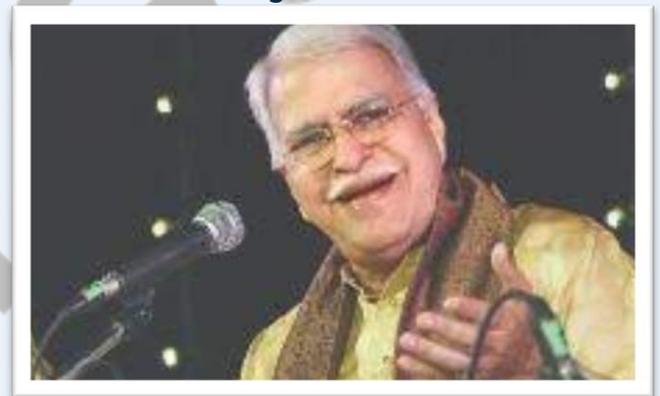
Indo- French 'VARUNA-2021'



The 19th edition of the Indian and French Navy bilateral exercise 'VARUNA-2021' began on 25th April in the Arabian Sea. During this three day event, the units of both the navies are undertaking high tempo-naval operations at sea like advanced air defence and anti-submarine exercises, intense fixed and rotary wing flying operations, tactical manoeuvres, surface and anti-air weapon firings, underway replenishment and other maritime security operations. Guided-missile stealth destroyer INS Kolkata, guided-missile frigates INS Tarkash and INS Talwar, Fleet Support Ship INS Deepak, with Seaking 42B and Chetak integral helicopters, a Kalvari class submarine and P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft are participating from Indian side. And the Aircraft Carrier Charles-de-Gaulle with Rafale-M fighter,

E2C Hawkeye aircraft and helicopters Caiman M and Dauphin embarked, Horizon-class Air defence destroyer Chevalier Paul, Aquitaine-class multi-mission frigate FNS Provence with a Caiman M helicopter embarked and Command and supply ship war are participating from France.

Demise Of Classical Vocalist Pt Rajan Mishra



Famous Hindustani classical vocalist Pt Rajan Mishra died of COVID-19 complications at the age of 70 in Delhi. He along with his brother Sajan Mishra was one of the foremost exponents of khayal gayaki. The deceased was a Padma Bhushan awardee. His timeline reveals that he was born in 1951 and was brought up in Varanasi. The two brothers belonged to the Banaras gharana and have performed for both Indian and global audiences for decades.

National Panchayati Raj Day

Like every year, the National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated on 24th April. It was instituted by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on April 24, 2010 to commemorate the implementation of Panchayati Raj System, which happened on April 24, 1993. There are more than 2.6 lakh Panchayats in India. It is worth remembering here the Panchayati Raj System was introduced through the 73rd Constitutional amendment. On this occasion, Child friendly Gram Panchayat award, E-Panchayat award, DeenDayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashakti karan Puraskar as well as Nanaji Deshmukh Rashtriya Gaurav Sabha Puraskar are distributed to Gram Sabhas. This year over 74,000 Panchayats are participating in National Panchayati Raj Awards, 2021, which is 28% higher than the National Panchayati Raj Awards, 2020.

Demise Of Composer Shravan Rathod Of Nadeem-shravan Duo

Shravan Rathod of music composer duo Nadeem-Shravan died of Covid-19 complications at the age of 66 in Mumbai. Nadeem-Shravan were among the nationally acclaimed composers of

the 90s, who together rendered memorable hits like Aashiqi, Dil Hai Ke Manta Nahin, Saajan, Pardes, Sadak and Dil Ka Kya Kasoor, among others. In 2000, when Nadeem left India for London and the musician duo lost its charm and Do Knot Disturb was their last film together as music composers which was released in 2009. Several big actors and music composers paid tribute to him on Twitter.

Demise Of M Narasimham, The Father Of Indian Banking Reforms



Former RBI Governor Maidavolu Narasimham, also known as the father of Indian banking reforms died of Covid-19 at the age of 94 at Hyderabad hospital. He was RBI Governor between May and November 1977 and had also served as chairperson of Committee on the Financial System, 1991 and the

Committee of Banking Sector Reforms, 1998. The deceased had also founded the credit planning cell in RBI, which became the monetary policy department. Among the various reforms, the idea of bank mergers and creating strong megabanks was first mooted by the Narasimham Committee. New-generation private sector banks like ICICI, HDFC, Axis, Kotak etc came into existence on account of the recommendations of the first Narasimham Committee. Same is the story of the Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs).

Sivasubramanian Ramann : The Chairman And Managing Director Of SIDBI



Indian Audit & Accounts Service (IA&AS) officer of 1991 batch, Sivasubramanian Ramann has been appointed as the

Chairman And Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), which is the principal financial institution engaged in the promotion, financing and development of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). Prior to this, Ramann has served in capacities of the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of National E- Governance Services Ltd. (NeSL), which is India's first information utility; Principal Accountant General of the State of Jharkhand from 2015 to 2016; Executive Director with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), while he was on deputation from the Government of India from 2006 to 2013.

Death Of Marathi filmmaker Sumitra Bhave



Veteran National award-winning film director, and writer Sumitra Bhave took an exit from film of life at the age of 78.

'Bai' of 1985 was her first short film about a woman living in a slum and her survival against all the odds. This critically acclaimed movie fetched her several National Awards. In 1995, she along with Sukthankar, made their directorial debut with 'Doghi' which also won the 'National Film Award'. Vaastupurush and Kassav was her another National Award-Winning Film that was screened at the Mumbai Film Festival in 2016. Besides these, Gho Mala AsalaHawa, Devrai (2004), Ha Bharat Maza, Samhita, Astu-So Be It, Dahavi Fa, short movie was 'Pani' and many more were her other acclaimed works.

Tribunal Reforms Ordinance, 2021

The President of India promulgated "The Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and conditions of Service)" Ordinance, 2021 and dissolved appellate authorities under nine acts and transferred their functions to high courts. The nine acts include Cinematograph Act, 1952; Copyrights Act, 1957; Trade Marks Act, 1999; Customs Act, 1962; Airports Authority of India Act, 1994; Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection)

Act, 1999; Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002; Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act, 2001 and Patents Act, 1970. Apart from these nine acts, the Ordinance amended Section 184 of the Finance Act, 2017 and has added the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission within the purview of Finance Act, 2017. And subtracted Airport Appellate Tribunal, the Film Certification Appellate Authority, the Authority of Advance Ruling and the Appellate Board established under the Trade Marks Act, 1999 from the purview of Finance Act, 2017:

Pressure Swing Adsorption Plants to increase oxygen

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recently allotted 162 Pressure Swing Adsorption Plants to increase oxygen capacity in the country. These oxygen manufacturing plants will reduce the burden on the National grid for its supply of medical oxygen. Among the 162 Pressure Swing Adsorption plants, 33 have been installed viz. Madhya Pradesh (5 plants), Chandigarh(3), Himachal Pradesh(4), Uttarakhand(3) and Gujarat (3), Chhattisgarh(1), Andhra Pradesh(1),

Haryana(1), Delhi (1), Maharashtra (1), Punjab(1), Kerala(1), Uttar Pradesh(1) and Puducherry(1). And the rest of the plants will be installed by April end and May. This will be done in wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

National Climate Vulnerability Report

The Department of Science and Technology recently launched the National Climate Vulnerability Report in which eight eastern states viz. Mizoram, Bihar, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand and Assam emerged as highly vulnerable to climate change. In this index Jharkhand received the highest Vulnerable Index of 0.67, while Maharashtra received the lowest Vulnerability Index of 0.42. Apart from Maharashtra, states like Goa, Nagaland, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Haryana came under “Relatively Low Vulnerable states”. And “Relatively Moderately vulnerable states” are Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Tripura, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Meghalaya with their Vulnerability Indices between 0.42 and 0.50.

National Dialogue on UN Food Systems Summit 2021



The United Nations General Secretary made announcement of the first upcoming United Nations Food Systems Summit, which will be held in September 2021. During this summit a strategy will be made for positive change in Agri-food systems. It will concentrate on the pathways to shape food systems globally to accelerate progress in Sustainable Development Goals. Action tracks for Safe and nutritious food, Sustainable Consumption patterns, Nature-Positive production, Advance equitable livelihoods and Resilience to vulnerabilities, stress and shocks will be sought. Among these India will volunteer for Advance Equitable Livelihood. Under this, the inequality and power imbalances at community and household level will be studied. Climate Change is

one of the major factors that creates obstacles for advance equitable livelihoods as it threatens food production. Besides this, the increase in sea level is increasing the risk of catastrophic flooding.

Himachal Celebrated Its Statehood Day

Like every year, the state of Himachal Pradesh celebrated Himachal Day on 15th April. On this day in 1948, Himachal Pradesh was formed as the province to get administered by the Chief Commissioner. On January 25, 1950 it was made a "C" category state. It is worth knowing here that the 1950 Constitution distinguished three main types of states. Among them, Category A states included the former provinces of British India, which were ruled by the governors appointed by the President. Bihar, Bombay, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Madras, Punjab, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh were included under this category. Category B included the former princely states governed by Rajpramukh. Between 1947 and 1956 the Rajpramukh was appointed by the President of India. As per the

constitution, Jammu and Kashmir, Hyderabad, Mysore, Madhya Pradesh, East Punjab States Union, Rajasthan, Saurashtra and Travancore were included in this category. Category C included both the former chief commissioners' provinces and the princely states like Bhopal, Ajmer, Bilaspur, Delhi, Coorg, Cutch, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura and Vindhya Pradesh. In 1956, Himachal Pradesh was declared as a Union Territory. Then in 1970, Parliament approved the Himachal Pradesh Act, by virtue of which Himachal Pradesh came into existence as a full-fledged state. Finally on January 25, 1971, Himachal Pradesh got official recognition as a state.

Conclusion Of The 6th Raisina Dialogue

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had inaugurated the sixth edition of the annual dialogue "Raisina Dialogue", through video-conferencing on 13th April which got concluded on 16th April 2021. The Raisina Dialogue was India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics, organised annually since 2016. The theme for the 2021

conference was “#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control”. It was organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the think-tank Observer Research Foundation. During this event the Prime Minister invoked the global community to introspect on some pertinent questions in the present context. It was about addressing the underlying causes and not just the symptoms, while keeping humanity at the centre of our thoughts and action, and creating systems that solve the problems of today and the challenges of tomorrow. He also informed about India’s pandemic response efforts, both domestically as well as in form of assistance to other countries.

Demise of Historian Yogesh Praveen

Eminent Historian and an expert on Awadh especially Lucknow, Yogesh Praveen breathed his last in Lucknow at the age of 82. The deceased had become a proud recipient of Padma Shri in 2019 for his services to literature and education and had a long association with All India Radio Lucknow as well. Praveen had a deep knowledge of the

culture and history of Avadh and his books and articles kept the public well informed about the rich heritage and culture of Avadh.

Ambedkar Jayanti



Like every year, India celebrated Ambedkar Jayanti or Bhim Jayanti on 14th April 2021. His birthday is also dubbed as “Equality Day” as he struggled for equality throughout his life and India has even placed a demand to celebrate his birthday as International Equality Day to the United Nations, though in the past the United Nations celebrated Ambedkar Jayanti for three consecutive years viz. 2016, 2017 and 2018. In 2020, Canada decided to celebrate Ambedkar jayanti as Dr B R Ambedkar Day of Equality and in 2021, the Government of British Columbia decided to institute 14th April as ‘Dr B R Ambedkar Equality Day’. His

timeline shows some of the major events of his life such as in 1932 he inked Poona Pact with Madan Mohan Malaviya for provision of reserved seats for depressed classes and by virtue of this pact, the depressed classes received 148 seats instead of 71 seats; he founded Independent Labour Party in 1936; in 1940, he wrote a book called “Thoughts on Pakistan” that analysed the concept of Pakistan; he converted to Buddhism in 1956; he was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly; he was honored with Bharat Ratna in 1990 and his portrait was unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament in 1990. Time period April 14, 1990 and April 14, 1991 was observed as “Year of Social Justice”.

Kalpana Sampat : The New MD & CEO of Pramerica Life Insurance

Certified ACMA, a Fellow of the Insurance Institute of India and Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute UK, Kalpana Sampat has been appointed as the new MD & CEO Of Pramerica Life Insurance . The appointee was the CEO

for Swiss Reinsurance Co., India branch, and was instrumental in its launch in 2015. She is a veteran business leader with more than three and a half decades of profound experience. Before this appointment, she was the Chief Operating Officer for the Company.

Sushil Chandra: The New Chief Election Commissioner



President appointed Sushil Chandra as the Chief Election Commissioner in the Election Commission of India. His appointment came into effect from the 13th April, 2021. He took the place of Sunil Arora after his demitting the Office of the Chief Election Commissioner on the 12th April, 2021. A notification in this regard was issued by the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law & Justice. The past reveals that 1980 batch Indian Revenue Service officer took office as an

Election Commissioner on February 15, 2019 after retiring as the chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes. He has served in the areas of international taxation and investigation.

Dutee Chand Became Chhattisgarh Veerni Awardee

The Chhattisgarh state government established the Chhattisgarh Veerni Awards to acknowledge the contribution of Indian women in different fields including sports, literature, education, law, music, history, social work and business. Among them, Dutee Chand, who is a sprinter, who holds the national record of 11.22 secs in 100m, was felicitated with the Chhattisgarh Veerni Award at the inaugural edition of the awards on 14th April 2021. The names of other awardees in different fields include Amita Shriwas (Sports), Shubha Mudgal (Music, art, and culture), Teejan Bai (Performing Arts), Sabbah Haji (Education), Lakshmi Karyare (Education & Literature), Budhri Taati (Social Service), Rebecca Mammen John (Law), Savita Awasthi (Law and legal literacy), Ameera Shah (Healthcare and women's

entrepreneurship), Keshkunwar Panika (Entrepreneurship and women's financial empowerment), Ankita Gupta (Women empowerment and public service), Rana Safvi (History) and Yashica Dutt (Journalism).

Poonam Gupta : The First Woman Director General Of NCAER

The policy think tank, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) appointed Poonam Gupta as its first woman Director General and she will take the place of Shekhar Shah, who has led NCAER since 2011. Her appointment will come into effect from early May 2021 after the completion of his second five year term. Currently, Poonam is working as a lead economist at the World Bank, Washington DC and is said to have a set of unique experiences and perspectives that will accelerate, deepen and broaden the research agenda of NCAER with impact and rigour. Before joining the World Bank in 2013, she had served as the Reserve Bank of India chair professor at the National Institute of

Public Finance and Policy and a professor of macroeconomics at ICRIER.

India Hosted The 30th BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change

The 30th edition of BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change took place virtually in India on April 7th and 8th April 2021. Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar presided the meeting. The group called the developed countries to review their climate change mitigation targets under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol and it asked the developed countries to fulfil their commitments of providing support to developing countries. The main motive of this group that comprises Brazil, South Africa, India & China is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions & raise massive funds which are required to fight climate change. In this meeting the member countries highlighted the initiatives taken by them to curb climate change and they have jointly opposed the idea of 'Carbon Border Tax' proposed by European Union recently because such trade barriers will not only be

discriminatory but will also be against the principles of equity under the Paris Agreement on climate change.

World's First Gamified Sanskrit Learning Application "Little Guru"



On its 71st Foundation Day, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in collaboration with the Gamapp Sportswizz Tech Private Limited launched the world's first gamified sanskrit learning application named "Little Guru". It is said to be a specialized mobile application for learning Sanskrit with an interactive platform that makes learning easier. It is based on competition, games, peer to peer interactions, etc. It will be of great help to the Indian Diaspora wishing to stay connected with their roots and through it a number of students and faculties

associated with Sanskrit Universities located all over the world will stay connected.

The Announcement of Lilavati Awards

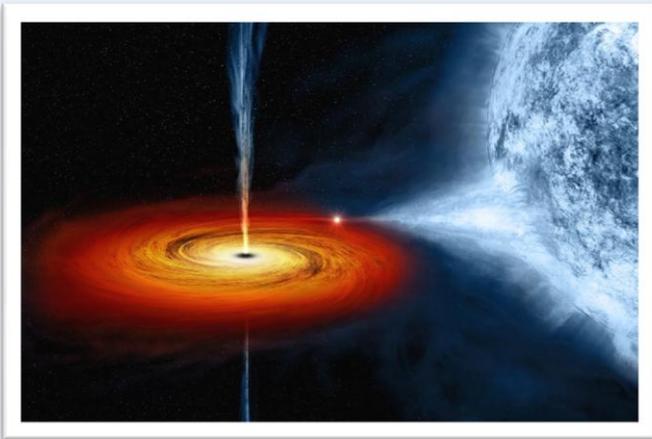


Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' distributed the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Lilavati Awards 2020 in New Delhi. In context to the awards it is worth knowing that AICTE on the basis of 'Women Empowerment' theme selected winners in 6 sub themes viz. Women's Health, Self-Defense, Sanitation and

Hygiene, Literacy, Women Entrepreneurship and Legal Awareness. The names of the winners under sub themes include SWEAT (Sona Women Entrepreneurship and Training) from Sona College of Technology, Tamil Nadu (Women Entrepreneurship); Bharati Vidyapeeth of Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development Pune (Literacy); WIT Women Health Coalition from Walchand Institute of Technology, Maharashtra (Women's Health); Radiant Seetha from Thiagarajar Polytechnic College (Legal Awareness) and Paritrana from St. Joseph's College of Engineering, Tamil Nadu (Self Defense).



Discovery Of Unicorn : The Smallest Black Hole



The Astronomers have recently reported the discovery of the smallest black hole, “Unicorn” via tidal distortion. It is 1,500 light years away from the earth and is the closest of all the black holes found so far. It is three times the mass of the sun and it seems to accompany a red giant star. The scientists were able to locate the Unicorn by documenting the changes in the red giant star as the black holes are generally not visible. It is worth knowing that black holes provide insights about the way the stars take birth and die.

SIPRI Military Spending Report

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute has put out its “Trends in world Military Expenditure” report, which reveals that the top military spenders in the world are the United States, China and India and the trio alone contributed 62% global military expenditure. Globally, the military expenditure hiked to 1981 billion USD as compared to that of 2019. In 2020, the US spent 778 billion USD on its military, China (252 billion USD) and India (72.9 billion USD). Russia (61.7 billion USD), UK (59.2 billion USD), Saudi Arabia (57.5 billion USD), Germany and France spent around 53 billion USD each. The military expenditure of the US has grown by 4.4%, China (1.9%) and India (2.1%). On the other hand, the global GDP shrank by 4.4%. The US spent 3.7% of its GDP on the military, India 2.9% and China 1.7%

Chandler Good Government Index



The Chandler Institute of Governance headquartered in Singapore prepared and released the Chandler Good Governance Index based on seven pillars namely leadership and foresight, strong institutions, robust laws and policies, attractive market place, financial stewardship, helping people rise, global influence and reputation. Finland topped the ranking followed by Switzerland, Singapore, Netherlands, Denmark and Norway. India ranked 49th among 104 countries. Among BRICS nations Brazil secured 67th position, Russia (48th), South Africa (70th). Pakistan secured 90th rank , Sri Lanka (74th) and Nepal (92nd).

World's Most Powerful Climate-change Forecasting Supercomputer

The UK Government announced its plan of making the world's most powerful climate-change forecasting super-computer at an estimated cost of 1.2 billion Pound Sterling. Met Office and Microsoft will handle this project. The proposed supercomputer will be equipped with more than 1.5 million processor cores and will be able to do 60 quadrillion calculations per second i.e. 60,000,000,000,000,000. It will be one of the top twenty-five supercomputers in the world that will help in better understanding of Climate Change, provide detailed weather models, help to improve localised forecasts, run more potential weather scenarios and help in prediction of severe weather. It will run completely on renewable energy and therefore will help to save 7,415 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide per year.

China's First Mars rover 'Zhurong'

China National Space Administration (CNSA) recently informed that China named its first Mars rover 'Zhurong' after

traditional fire god. Literally, Zhu (means wish) expresses the good wishes for humankind's exploration of the universe and 'Rong' means integration and cooperation that shows China's vision of the peaceful use of space and the building of a community with a shared future for humanity. In ancient Chinese mythology, there is a description of Huoxing that means the planet of fire and fire brings warmth and brightness to the ancestors of humankind, and fire brightened human civilization. Naming China's first Mars rover after the God of fire has significance of igniting the flame of China's planetary exploration

Demise Of Michael Collins



American Astronaut Michael Collins, who was the pilot of the spaceflight Apollo 11 command module on the occasion of July 20, 1969, when Buzz Aldrin and Neil

Armstrong became the first humans to walk on the moon, passed away at the age of 90. He was also called the forgotten third astronaut in the Apollo mission as he stayed behind for 21 hours in the spacecraft, when his two colleagues did the feat of walking over the moon. The worst part of his story was that he had lost contact with Houston when his spacecraft circled the dark side of the moon. He penned an Autobiography "Carrying the Fire". The Apollo 11 had three parts viz. Command module, service module and lunar module. The Command Module was the place where Michael was while the others landed on the moon and it was the only part that returned to the earth. The Service Module supported the Command Module with electrical power, propulsion, oxygen and water and the Lunar Module had two stages namely the descent stage to place the astronauts on the moon and an ascent stage to place the astronauts into orbit.

The Ongoing World Immunization Week

The annual World Immunization Week started from 24th April on 'Vaccines bring us closer' theme. It aims to

promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease. This year's campaign eyes to build solidarity and trust in vaccination as a public good that saves lives and protects health. It is important to understand that immunization saves millions of lives every year and is widely recognized as one of the world's most successful health interventions, yet it is disheartening to learn that there are still nearly 20 million children in the world today who are not getting the requisite vaccines and many miss out on vital vaccines during adolescence, adulthood and into old age.

The 2021 Academy Awards



The annual Academy Awards that are also known as Oscars have been announced. The winners in different categories are as follows:

- Best Picture: "Nomadland"
- Best Actor: Anthony Hopkins - "The Father"

- Best Actress : Frances McDormand - "Nomadland" -
- Best Original Screenplay: "Promising Young Woman," Emerald Fennell
- Best Adapted Screenplay: "The Father," Christopher Hampton, Florian Zeller
- Best International Feature Film : "Another Round" (Denmark)
- Best Supporting Actor : Daniel Kaluuya ("Judas and the Black Messiah")
- Make-up and Hairstyling : "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" - Sergio Lopez-Rivera, Mia Neal and Jamika Wilson
- Best Director : Chloe Zhao ("Nomadland") (It is worth knowing here that Zhao became the first Asian woman to win best director Oscar)
- Best Supporting Actress :YounYuh-jung - "Minari"
- Best Animated Feature Film: "Soul"
- Best Documentary Film: "My Octopus Teacher"
- Best Sound: "Sound of Metal" - Nicolas Becker, Jaime Baksht, MichelleCouttolenc, Carlos Cortés and Phillip Bladh

- Film Editing: "Sound of Metal" - Mikkel E. G. Nielsen
- Best Original Song : "Fight for You" - "Judas and the Black Messiah"
- Short Film (Animated) : "If Anything Happens I Love You" - Will McCormack and Michael Govier
- Cinematography : "Mank" - Erik Messerschmidt
- Visual Effects: "Tenet" - Andrew Jackson, David Lee, Andrew Lockley and Scott Fisher
- Music (Original Score) : "Soul" - Trent Reznor, Atticus Ross and Jon Batiste.

Gambia Eliminated Trachoma

Gambia became the second African country to eliminate Trachoma after Ghana. Trachoma is said to be one of the leading causes of blindness. Ghana did this feat in 2018. Trachoma that has been one of the Neglected Tropical Diseases, is a bacterial eye infection caused by bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis that damages the eye lids that causes the eye lashes to turn inwards. It eventually leads to irreversible vision losses and blindness if not corrected with surgery. Gambia

eliminated Trachoma after 40 years of rigorous efforts of NGOs, health workers and local communities. A network of eye units were created with the help of NGOs that identified people with Trachoma and thousands of health volunteers were trained to go door-to-door to find people with the disease. India became free from Trachoma in 2017.

World Malaria Day



Globe observed the annual World Malaria Day (WMD) on 25th April on 'Reaching the zero malaria target' theme to acknowledge the efforts of the people worldwide to control malaria. This day was instituted in May 2007 at the 60th session of the World Health Assembly. World Malaria Day was developed from Africa Malaria Day which was first observed in 2008. African governments have been observing this occasion since 2001. They worked towards controlling malaria and reducing its mortality in African countries.

Saudi Arabia, The New Member of 'Net Zero Producers Forum'

Saudi Arabia aired an announcement about joining the United States, Canada, Norway, and Qatar in forming 'Net Zero Producers Forum' for oil and gas producers to discuss how they can support the implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change. Saudi Arabia is the world's biggest crude exporter that aims to reduce its carbon emissions by generating 50% of the country's energy from renewables by 2030. US President Joe Biden also intends to cut emissions by 50%-52% from 2005 levels at the start of a two-day climate summit kicked off on Earth Day.

The Multilateral Robotic-solar Collaboration Agreement

Israel, India and UAE entered into one-of-a-kind multilateral robotic-solar collaboration agreement initiated by the International Federation of Indo-Israel Chambers of Commerce (IFIICC) through an Israel-based company, Ecoppiathat produces an innovative robotic solar cleaning technology in India for a landmark project in UAE. Ecoppia's CEO Jean Scemama and IFIICC Founder & Chairperson MerziSodawaterwala were

duly applauded for this landmark achievement inked in UAE. The proposed Israeli company's fully autonomous innovative, water-free robots are expected to enable the dusty as well as arid region to achieve maximum productivity while safeguarding the water resources.

World's First 2nm Chip Technology

American multinational technology company, International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) launched the world's first 2nm Chip Technology, which is 45% faster than 7nm Options. This 2nm chip is smaller and faster than current leading edge 5nm chips, which are just now showing up in premium smartphones like Apple's iPhone 12 models, and it is 75% more power efficient as well. The major manufacturer of chips, IBM will outsource its high-volume chip production to Samsung Electronics and will maintain a chip manufacturing research centre in Albany, New York that produces test runs of chips and has joint technology development deals with Samsung and Intel Corp to use IBM's chip making technology.

May : Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month



The Asian American Pacific Islanders are celebrating the month of May as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month on 'Advancing Leaders Through Purpose-Drive Services' theme to honour the contributions made by the Pacific Islanders and Asian Americans to the culture, history and achievements of the United States. It is worth knowing here that the month of May was chosen to celebrate as it was the first time when the Japanese immigrants had arrived in the US. It is worth recalling here that last month the US Senate passed a bill to tackle the rise of hate crimes against the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The bill provides support to the local law enforcements in controlling hate crimes, which are currently at peak in California as it has the highest Asian population.

German Philosopher Refused UAE Prize

The board of trustees of a high-priced literary award from the United Arab Emirates informed that prominent German philosopher Juergen Habermas has turned down the Sheikh Zayed Book Award over its ties "with the existing political system" in the UAE, a hereditarily ruled country long criticised for its suppression of dissent. The 91-year-old was named the Cultural Personality of the Year, a distinction that entitled him for a cash prize of 1 million dirhams. Habermas' influential writings on human rights, morality and democracy, among other topics, have sparked a debate in Germany and beyond. Administered by Abu Dhabi culture and tourism authorities, the award is named after Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the first president of the UAE when the federation of seven sheikhdoms became a country in 1971.

Panga ya Saidi Cave : The Oldest Human burial Site In Africa

Scientists have found the oldest human burial site called "Panga ya Saidi cave" near Kenyan coast in Africa. The

site is said to be 78,000 years old. The discovery of this cave came their way when they came across the remains of a child whose age was two to three years and was put to rest with a pillow made up of perishable material. Besides this, the remains of different types of antelope species and other prey were also found at the site suggesting the existence of a community that lived near the site belonged to hunter-gatherer culture that used stone tools to scrap and bore holes. It leads to the conclusion that both ancient Homo sapiens and Neanderthal practised funerals.

Discovery of Millisecond Pulsars

A group of astronomers have discovered 8 Millisecond Pulsars within the dense clusters of stars called the "Globular Clusters" through the MeerKAT telescope located in South Africa. Before learning further, it is worth understanding that Pulsar is a neutron star packed with the mass of at least 1.4 times the mass of the sun. They are born from the explosive deaths of their parent star. They have strong magnetic fields and emit radio waves at each pole. And the recently discovered entities are

Millisecond pulsars that are the most compact stars that spin up to 700 times per second and their rotational period is less than ten milliseconds. They are much rarer than the slower spinning pulsars and are believed to be the most extreme objects in the universe with a diameter of about 24 kilometres having mass hundreds of thousands of times the mass of the earth.

The First Artificial Intelligence Ship 'Mayflower 400'



In order to study marine pollution and analyze plastics in water in the 80% of the unexplored underwater world, scientists have created the world's first Artificial Intelligence ship, 'Mayflower 400'. The 15 metres long and nine tonnes heavy trimaran (a yacht with three hulls in parallel) equipped with sophisticated cameras and radars and covered with solar panels is capable of

navigating with complete autonomy. It is meant to provide data and has been taught to avoid collisions. It has been trained with hundred hours of audio data, has self-activating hydrophone to listen to whales and can detect the presence of marine animals and thus provide information about the population distribution of these animals in the ocean. So far the ship is capable of handling waves that are fifty metres high. Once deployed for the mission, it will be monitored from England.

First Blow Away Galaxy discovered

The astrophysicists from the Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics recently discovered the first blow away galaxy called 'Pox 186' via "Gemini Telescope". The discovery of the blow away galaxy has solved the mystery of the re-ionisation state of the Universe as it was when it was formed after the Big Bang. In that state the electrons and protons moved freely and combined to form atoms and the water vapor condensed into clouds. According to the scientists, the energy for re-ionisation must have come from the galaxies themselves. It is

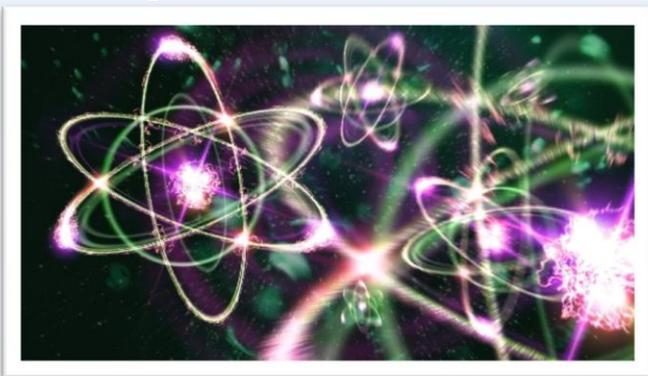
hard for the light energy to escape a galaxy as the hydrogen clouds absorb the light. The Blow away state implies that the hydrogen clouds have been removed and with that the light escaped. Dying stars, super novas must have played a role in removing the hydrogen clouds.

UK-India \$1.4 billion Investment deal

The Indian and the British government signed a one billion pound trade and investment deal named 'The Enhanced Trade Partnership' on 4th May 2021. The deal has lifted restrictions to enable fruit producers across the UK to export pears, British Apples and quince to India for the first time and has made way for acceptance of UK certification of Free sale in India, which will remove the additional accreditation of UK medical devices in exporting to Indian market. It also deepens the cooperation in educational services allowing the student flows and skill transfer between them. It has established an ambitious target of doubling the trade between the two nations by 2030. The deal also proclaimed a shared intent to start the base work towards a comprehensive

Free Trade Agreement that covers export deals of more than 446 million Great British Pounds, which will generate more than 400 British jobs.

“Uranium-214”, The Lightest form of Uranium



The scientists have reported creation of the lightest form of Uranium called the ‘Uranium-214’ at the Heavy Ion Research Facility in Lanzhou, China. This isotope of Uranium has a greater number of neutrons than protons and further, the neutrons have mass. Uranium-214 is said to be the lightest form of Uranium. It has a half-life (the time taken for half of the radioactive sample to decay) of just half a milli-second. For its creation, scientists projected a beam of Argon on Tungsten inside Gas-filled recoil separator and then added protons and neutrons to the material through a LASER beam to create Uranium-214. The nuclear force in Uranium-214 is greater than the nuclear

force in other isotopes. The invention shows some unique behaviours during its decay that will help scientists understand a radioactive process called Alpha decay (the atomic nucleus loses two protons and two neutrons).

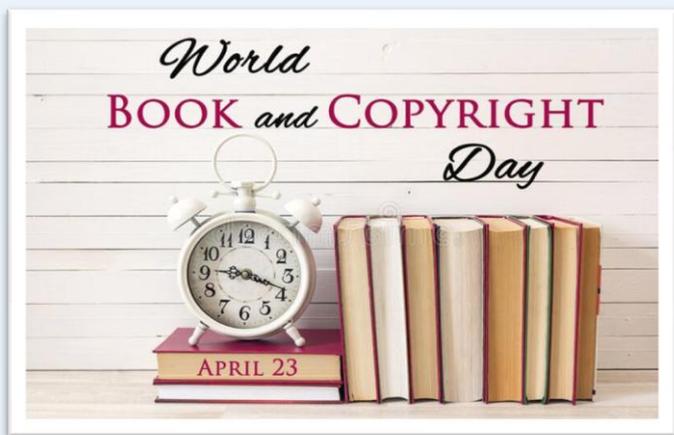
Stratolaunch test flies World Largest Airplane



The world’s largest airplane named “Roc” built by Stratolaunch has recently completed its second test flight from Mojave Air and Space Port in California. During this test flight, the airplane touched an altitude of 4,267 metres with a top speed of 320 kilometre per hour. The wingspan of the aircraft is 117 metres, which is greater than an American football field and it can carry more than 220 tonnes of payload. It is worth knowing here that Roc is an enormous bird usually addressed in the mythological stories of the Middle East

and is quite popular from “Sinbad, the Sailor”. And Stratolaunch was founded by Paul Allen, who was also a co-founder of Microsoft.

World Book and Copyright Day



UNESCO celebrated the annual World Book Day And Copyright Day on 23rd April 2021 on 'To share a story' theme by creating a 'Bookface' challenge to encourage people to explore new topics, formats, or genres out of their ordinary. Books are our best friends, guides, and philosophers and the day paid tribute to great literary figures like Cervantes and Shakespeare who died on 23rd April 1616. April 23 also marks the death and birth anniversary of many other prominent authors, such as Maurice Druon, Halldor K. Laxness, Josep Pla, and Manuel Mejía Vallejo. UNESCO instituted this day in 1995.

Russia Expelled 7 Foreign Diplomats

Russia's Foreign Ministry came in news for ordering the expulsion of seven diplomats from Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, in retaliation for the expulsion of Russian envoys. The Russian ministry has given them a week to leave the country. Russia accused these mentioned foreign countries of showing 'pseudo-solidarity' with the Czech Republic, which ordered most Russian diplomatic staff in Prague to leave last week after accusing Russian spies viz. Ruslan Boshirov and Alexander Petrov of being behind a 2014 blast at an ammunition depot. However, Russia denies these accusations. With this, Russia and Czech are said to have locked in their biggest row since the end of the Communist era in 1989.

NATO Military Exercise “DEFENDER-Europe 21”

In order to build operational readiness and interoperability the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) recently started the joint military exercises in Albania called the “DEFENDER-Europe 21”. Thousands of military forces from

the US and its allies are taking part in this exercise. Under this exercise over 26 nations are conducting simultaneous operations in more than thirty training areas from Black Sea, Balkan regions to Baltics and Africa. This is a US-led annual multinational exercise, which is defensive in nature and is meant to deter aggression.

Demise of President Chad Amid FACT Rebels Conflict

Chad's President Idriss Deby, who was one of Africa's longest-serving leaders, died of injuries that sustained on his forehead during a clash with FACT rebels. The 68-year-old had first come to power in 1990 via an armed rebellion and thereafter, he had remained in power for more than 30 years till his death. The deceased was an army officer by training and was known as a true warrior president. He was a long-term ally of France and the United States in the battle against Islamic radicalism in the Sahel region of Africa. His latest election victory secured almost 80 percent of the vote, paving way for his another six-year term. FACT i.e. "Front for Change and

Concord in Chads" is a Libya based rebels that had split from 'Union of Forces for Democracy and Development (UFDD)' and was formed in 2016 under leadership of Jerome Tubiana. This group has been fighting to overthrow Deby from power considering Deby's victory in 2016 and 2021 elections as fraudulent. They also accused the deceased for human rights violations and for the repression of his political opponents.

US Senate Approved Bill To Fight Hate Crimes Against Asian-Americans

The US Senate gave nod to a bill with 94-1 votes to combat the rise of hate crimes against Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders during the coronavirus pandemic. It is worth knowing that around 3,800 hate-related incidents have been reported against Asian-Americans since the beginning of the pandemic. This measure is expected to speed up the review of hate crimes and provide support for local law enforcement in response to thousands of reported violent incidents in the past year.

MOXIE On Mars!

NASA pioneered the MOXIE experiment via its Perseverance rover on Mars 2020 Mission. Equipped with a golden box for “Mars Oxygen In-Situ Resource Utilization Experiment (MOXIE)” in front, the rover succeeded in converting carbon dioxide into oxygen on Mars. MOXIE is also called a “Mechanical Tree” as it uses electricity and chemistry to split carbon molecules into carbon and oxygen as well as carbon monoxide as a by-product. MOXIE succeeded in producing five grams of oxygen in its first run, which is equivalent to ten minutes of breathable oxygen for an astronaut performing a normal activity. Capable of generating ten grams of oxygen in one hour, MOXIE was designed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Built with nickel-alloy, it can tolerate temperatures of 1,470 degrees Fahrenheit.

Insect Potamophylax coronavirus

Biologist Halillbrahimi of European nation Kosovo, that lies at the centre of the Balkans, has named a newly discovered insect Potamophylax coronavirus” after COVID-19 virus. The

Entomologist, who has been working on a different type of Caddisfly species, found this species in the Accursed Mountains in Kosovo’s Western Bjeshket e Nemuna National Park along the Decanit river ecosystem, which is severely deteriorated due to the construction of a hydropower plant. The construction of the hydropower plant across the river has a similar impact as the coronavirus creates on humans. Thus, this new species has been named after coronavirus. In comparison to other species, this new species is considerably smaller and lives in open and high-altitude zones, that is, 2,000 metres above the sea level.

Global CO2 Emissions Set For Second-Biggest Spike In History

According to a recently released International Energy Agency (IEA) report, Global energy-related CO2 emissions are on course to swell by 1.5 billion tonnes in 2021, the second-largest increase in history. This will be the biggest annual rise in emissions since 2010, during the carbon-intensive recovery from the global financial crisis. It will reverse most of last year's decline caused by the

Covid-19 pandemic. As per the IEA's Global Energy Review 2021 estimates the CO2 emissions will rise by almost 5% this year to 33 billion tonnes, based on the latest national data from worldwide as well as real-time analysis of economic growth trends and new energy projects that are set to come online. Coal demand, which is ready to grow by 4.5%, surpassing its 2019 level and approaching its all-time peak from 2014, with the electricity sector accounting for three-quarters of this increase is said to be the reason behind this.

The New Shark : Godzilla



It has been found recently that Shark Godzilla which was discovered in 2013 at Albuquerque in New Mexico by John-Paul Hodnett is a fossil of a new shark species “Dracopristishoffmanorum” so far not known to man. After seven years of excavation, it has been named as

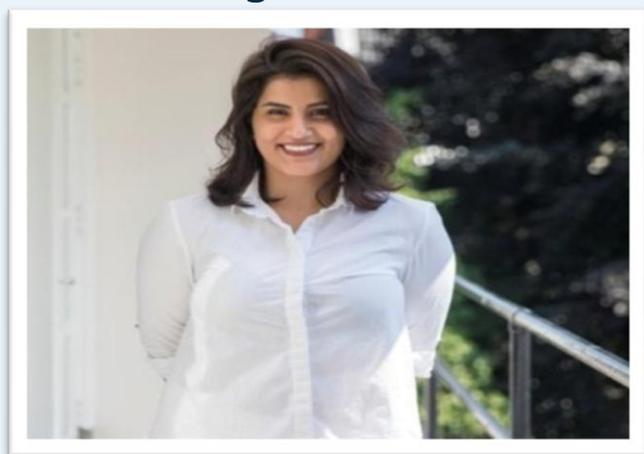
Dragon shark to honour the New Mexico family that owns the land in the Manzano mountains, where this fossil was discovered. As the 2 metres long shark has 0.75-metre-long fin spines so it was named Godzilla Shark initially. The shorter, squatter and less than an inch (2 centimetres) long teeth of the shark indicated that it might be a different species. This recovered fossil is said to be the most complete of its evolutionary branch (ctenacanthus) which existed around 390 million years ago during the Carboniferous period and went extinct some 330 million years ago.

The 11th Anniversary Of Deepwater Horizon Disaster

On April 20, 2010 a surge of natural gas blasted through the concrete core and led to the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon Oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico that killed eleven people. After two days of this explosion, oil continued to spill from the pipe for eighty-seven days and released around 377,514 tonnes of oil into the Gulf. This was considered as the largest marine oil spill in history. This oil spill affected 70,000 square miles of ocean and by 2011 coastal states like

Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and Florida were contaminated by oil, which is referred to as Deepwater Horizon Disaster.

Loujain Alhathloul Received 8th Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize



Saudi women's rights activist Loujain Alhathloul has been felicitated with the 8th Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize during the opening day of the spring plenary session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). She has received 60,000-euro prize money for her outstanding civil society action in defence of human rights. The end of the male guardianship system, as well as the Saudi ban on women's driving, and assurance of greater protection for women facing

abuse in the Kingdom are her credentials. The awardee had spent around 1001 days in prison because of her stand, and was released in February 2020, though is still subject to house arrest and other restrictions in her home country.

NASA's Mars helicopter Created History !

NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter scripted history by making successful flights on the red planet. The helicopter used its navigation camera and captured images as it hovered over the Martian surface on April 19, 2021, during this first instance of powered, controlled flight on another planet. The navigation camera autonomously tracked the ground during flight. With this Solar-powered whirligig's debut on Mars, NASA marked a 21st-century Wright Brothers moment. This success has the potential of making the way for new modes of exploration on Mars and other destinations in the solar system like Venus and Saturn's moon Titan.

World Liver Day 2021



Globe observed the annual World Liver Day on 19th April 2021 on 'Keep your liver healthy and disease-free' theme to spread awareness about the liver, the second largest organ in the body. It is the most complex organ in the body responsible for performing crucial functions regarding immunity, digestion, metabolism, storage of absorbed nutrients, and excretion. Hepatitis A, B, C, alcohol and drugs cause Liver diseases. Viral Hepatitis occurs because of consumption of contaminated food and water, unsafe sexual practices and drug abuse.

World Press Freedom Index, 2021

The Reporters Without Borders, a not-for-profit body has put out the World Press Freedom Index, 2021. It ranked 180 countries. Like last year, Norway again

topped the index followed by Finland and Denmark among 180 countries. On the other hand Eritrea crept last in the index just after North Korea (179th rank), Turkmenistan (178th rank), China (177th rank). India ranked 142nd in the index, which is the same position in 2020 as well.

Miguel Díaz-Canel : The New President of Cuba

Miguel Diaz-Canel has become the new President of Cuba. He has succeeded Raul Castro as the Cuban Communist Party's first secretary, the most powerful position on the island. It is worth learning here that he is the first person without the surname Castro to run Cuba since the 1959 revolution. Díaz-Canel is almost 30 years younger than his predecessor Castro and will now hold Cuba's two most important positions, head of the party as well as the president of the state. It is worth remembering here that the eighty nine year old Raul Castro had been on the post since 2011, when he took over from his older brother, Fidel Castro.

Italy's First Food Park in India

Italy recently inaugurated its first "Mega Food Park" in India involving food processing facilities and with this the park has become the first Italian-Indian Food Park project launched in the country. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), the registered corporation under the Companies Act will implement this project to develop an interaction between agriculture and industry and focus on the research and development of efficient technologies in the sector. The project has the purpose of connecting agricultural production with markets by bringing together processors, farmers and retailers to ensure maximizing value addition, increasing farmers income, minimizing wastage and creating employment opportunities.

Death of Charles Geschke

Charles Geschke, who helped in development of Portable Document Format (PDF), Acrobat, Illustrator, Premiere Pro, and Photoshop and founded Adobe in 1982 with colleague John Warnock from Xerox, breathed his last at the age of 81. It is interesting to

learn that the teacher of Math stumbled upon Computer Science by accident when he was at John Carroll University in the 1960s. President Barack Obama had conferred the National Medal of Technology upon Geschke and Warnock in 2009.

Guneet Monga Received The Second Highest Civilian French Honour



Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga, known for backing films like 'The Lunchbox' and 'Masaan' has been felicitated with the second highest civilian French honour by French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Dria. The honour of Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters was conferred upon Monga for her contribution to world cinema through her Indo-French productions and "her

relentless work towards women empowerment,” as per a statement. Using her production company, Sikhya Entertainment, Monga has spearheaded various well known Indo-French productions including actor Irrfan Khan starrer “The Lunchbox”, filmmaker Neeraj Ghaywan’s 2015 drama “Masaan” and “Taj Mahal”.

Claude Joseph : The New Prime Minister Of Haiti

President of Haiti Jovenel Moise appointed former Minister of foreign affairs and worship, Claude Joseph as the new Prime Minister of the Caribbean nation. The move followed the resignation of Joseph Jouthe in wake of the problem of insecurity and the President accepted this resignation for the requisite consensus for the political and institutional stability of the country. Jouthe, who assumed the post in early March 2020 thanked the members of his government as well as technical and financial partners for their collaboration. It is worth knowing that Haiti being one of the poorest nations in the Western Hemisphere has been hit hard by an economic crisis exacerbated by the

coronavirus outbreak. The small Caribbean island with nearly 12M people has so far registered 13,000 coronavirus infection cases and 251 related deaths.

World Haemophilia Day



The World Federation of Haemophilia observed its annual World Haemophilia Day on April 17, 2021 on “Adapting to Change” theme. Haemophilia is a rare disorder where the human blood doesn't clot normally on account of lack of sufficient blood clotting proteins. It is an inherited genetic disorder that normally victimizes men but women rarely suffer from this disease. Since 1989, on this day, several iconic structures in the world are lit in red to raise awareness and help those affected by the disorder. April 17 is the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel, who founded the World Federation of Haemophilia.

Guillermo Lasso: The New President of Ecuador



Conservative ex-banker Guillermo Lasso won Ecuador's presidential election with 52.4% of the vote and will assume office on 24th May 2021. His opponent, the left-wing economist Andres Arauz received just 47.6% of the votes. Lasso had been a three time presidential candidate and had finished second in the 2013 and 2017 presidential elections. Lasso has vowed to attract increased foreign investment, create two million new jobs and increase oil production. Besides this, he has also proposed to increase the minimum monthly wage and launch tax cuts for small businesses and to create a fund to stimulate entrepreneurship.

World Chagas Disease Day : 14 April

The World Chagas Disease Day was observed on 14th April to raise public awareness and visibility among people about Chagas Disease , which is also dubbed as American trypanosomiasis or silent or silenced disease and the resources needed for the prevention, control or elimination of the disease. The WHO permitted the institution of Chagas Disease Day on May 24, 2019, at the 72nd World Health Assembly. It is one of 11 official global public health campaigns recognized by WHO. The first edition of this World Chagas Disease Day was observed on 14 April 2020, named after Carlos Ribeiro Justiniano Chagas, the Brazilian doctor, who diagnosed the first case on 14 April 1909.

Odyssey Completed 20 years!

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)'s spacecraft Odyssey, which was launched on 7th April 2001 for Mars mission, recently completed its 20 years and the US space organization released the image of dunes in Mars to mark the 20th anniversary of

Odyssey. Odyssey is the longest lasting spacecraft in Mars till date that landed on Mars on October 24, 2001. It was launched to map the levels of elements across the entire Martian surface; determine how much hydrogen exists in shallow sub surfaces of the planet; provide information about the morphology of the surface of the planet and identify radiation induced risks to humans in the planet.

Discovery of The Farthest Gamma-ray Emitting NLS1 Galaxy

Indian researchers from the Aryabhata Research Institute of observational sciences (ARIES), Nainital discovered a rare and farthest gamma-ray emitting galaxy named “Narrow-Line Seyfert 1 (NLS1) galaxy”, which was formed when the Universe was only about 4.7 billion years old. The discovery came their way when the researchers were studying around 25,000 Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN) from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) and were able to devise a new method to find high-z NLS1 galaxies till now unknown by comparing different

emission lines in their spectra. One of the largest ground-based telescopes in the world, the 8.2 m Subaru Telescope located in Hawaii, US confirmed this finding. This galaxy is about 31 billion light-years away from us. It is worth remembering here that the current age of the Universe is 13.8 billion years.

Philippines-US Joint Balikatan Military Drill

Philippine and US soldiers started a two-week joint military exercise from April 12, 2021 resuming the annual training event after last year's cancellation due to the pandemic. The two countries' defence secretaries discussed the drills, the situation in the South China Sea, and recent regional security developments and decided to conduct this exercise. This year's "Balikatan" (Shoulder-to-Shoulder) drills will test the readiness of the militaries of participants to respond to threats like natural disasters and militant extremist attacks. Around 1,700 troops , 700 from the United States and 1,000 from the Philippines are participating in this event.

World Homeopathy Day



Globe observed World Homeopathy Day on 10th April on “Building a fairer, healthier world” theme to spread awareness about homeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine. This year marked the 266th birth anniversary of German physician Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, who founded the system of alternative medicine called Homeopathy. He researched the efficacy of Cinchona, the bark of Peruvian trees in treating malaria. He introduced the concept that “Like Cures Like”, that is, “that which can produce symptoms in healthy individuals can treat a sick patient who is suffering from the same kind of symptoms”. This principle was named by him as “Homeopathy” and this is the very base of homeopathic treatment. The Central

Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), Ministry of AYUSH, organised a two-day scientific conference on “Homoeopathy – Roadmap for Integrative Medicine” theme on 10th and 11th April 2021. In this conference there was an exchange of experience by policymakers and experts to identify strategic actions towards an effective and efficient inclusion of Homoeopathy in integrative care.

Egypt Unveiled 3,000-Year-Old “Lost Golden City” Near Luxor

Egyptologist Zahi Hawass broke the news of the discovery of the “Aten”, the lost golden city near Luxor, which was the largest ancient city in Egypt. It was unearthed within weeks of the excavation that began in September 2020. Jewellery, coloured pottery, scarab beetle amulets and mud bricks bearing seals of Amenhotep III were also found. The city dates back to the reign of Amenhotep III, one of Egypt's most powerful pharaohs, who ruled from 1391 to 1353 BC. This discovery of the lost city is the second most important archaeological discovery since the tomb

of Tutankhamun. Tutankhamun's nearly intact tomb was discovered in the Valley of the Kings by British archaeologist Howard Carter in 1922.

Iran's National Nuclear Energy Day

On 10th April 2021, Iran launched advanced uranium enriching machines or centrifuges at the underground Natanz nuclear plant to mark its National Nuclear Energy Day in Tehran. The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran announced 133 new atomic energy projects. Iran revealed its accomplishments in fields of quantum mechanics, heavy water, enrichment and laser technology. This year this annual Day celebration coincided with a meeting in Vienna between Iran and the Joint Committee on the Nuclear Agreement (its 18th meeting), which was intended to return the United States to the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) nuclear agreement. It is worth recalling here that Iran has breached many restrictions imposed by a 2015 deal on its atomic activities in response to former president Donald Trump's withdrawal from the deal in 2018.

Noura al-Matroushi : UAE's First Female Astronaut



The ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, named Noura al-Matroushi as the first female astronaut among 4,000 other applicants in the UAE. Noura al-Matroushi will accompany Mohammed al-Mulla in a training at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas for future space exploration missions. Born in 1993, Noura al-Matroushi has earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the United Arab Emirates University and worked as an engineer at the Abu Dhabi-based National Petroleum Construction Co. She has been a chair of several committees and has an excellent record of volunteer work, along with other achievements such as Mathematics Olympiad and many more.

The Announcement of BAFTA Awards

British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA) were presented in London and the names of winners are as follows:



- Best Picture: 'Nomadland'
- Best Actor: Anthony Hopkins for 'The Father'
- Best Actress: Frances McDormand for 'Nomadland'
- Best Director: Chloe Zhao for 'Nomadland'
- Supporting Actress :Yuh-jungYoun (Minari)
- Supporting Actor : Daniel Kaluuya (Judas and the Black Messiah)
- Outstanding British Film : Promising Young Woman
- Outstanding Debut By A British Writer, Director Or Producer : His House (Remi Weekes)
- Film Not In The English Language : Another Round
- Documentary : My Octopus Teacher
- Animated Film : Soul
- Original Screenplay: Promising Young Woman
- Adapted Screenplay : The Father
- Original Score : Soul (Jon Batiste, Trent Reznor, Atticus Ross)
- Casting : Rocks (Lucy Pardee)
- Cinematography :Nomadland (Joshua James Richards)
- Editing : Sound Of Metal (Mikkel E.G. Nielsen)
- Production Design :Mank (Donald Graham Burt, Jan Pascale)
- Costume Design : Ma Rainey's Black Bottom (Ann Roth)
- Makeup & Hair: Ma Rainey's Black Bottom (MatikiAnoff, Larry M. Cherry, Sergio Lopez-Rivera, Mia Neal)
- Sound : Sound Of Metal (Jaime Baksht, Nicolas Becker, Phillip Bladh, Carlos Cortés, Michelle Couttolenc)
- Special Visual Effects : Tenet (Scott Fisher, Andrew Jackson, Andrew Lockley)
- British Short Animation : The Owl And The Pussycat (Mole Hill, Laura Duncalf)
- British Short Film : The Present Farah Nabulsi
- Ee Rising Star Award :BukkyBakray



India Topped 2021 AIBA Youth World Boxing



India has won 11 Medals (8 Gold, 3 Bronze) at 2021 AIBA Youth Men's and Women's World Boxing Championships that took place in Kielce, Poland from 10th April to 24th April, 2021. India has topped the overall medals tally and was followed by Russia & Uzbekistan. The names of winners include Sachin (56 Kg Men's Bantamweight, gold); Gitika Narwal (48 Kg Women's Light flyweight, gold); Naorem Babyrojisana Chanu (51 Kg Women's Flyweight); Poonam Punia (57 Kg Women's Featherweight, gold) ; Vinka (60 Kg Women's Lightweight, gold) ; Arundhati Choudhary (69 Kg Women's

Welterweight, gold) ; Thokchom Sanamacha Chanu (75 Kg Women's Middleweight, gold); Alfiya Pathan (+81 Kg Women's Heavyweight, Gold) ; Bishwamithra Chongtham (49 Kg Men's Lightweight, Bronze); Ankit Narwal (64 Kg Men's Light welterweight, Bronze) and Vishal Gupta (91 Kg Men's Heavyweight, Bronze). It is worth learning here that AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships is a biennial event, and 414 boxers from 52 nations participated in this 2021 edition.

Demise Of Chennai Super Kings Chairman L Sabaretnam

L Sabaretnam, director and chairman of Chennai Super Kings Cricket Limited, and a cement industry veteran, died after a brief illness at the age of 80. The deceased served in Chettinad Cement Corporation and was Executive Director of the Company for a long period. Prior

to that he was director of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. He had also served in the capacity of advisor for India Cements and Director and CEO of Coromandel Sugars.

India Won 14 Medals in Asian Wrestling Champions 2021!



India bagged 14 Medals (5 Gold, 3 Silver, 6 Bronze) in the 34th edition of the Asian Wrestling Championships 2021 that was hosted at Almaty, Kazakhstan between April 13 to 18, 2021. Iran (Gold - 7, Silver- 5, Bronze -5) & Kazakhstan (Gold - 7, Silver- 5, Bronze -5) both finished at the Top Position with 17 Medals each. And India secured the third spot with 14 Medals (Gold - 5, Silver - 3, Bronze - 6).

The names of the winners and the category in which they won medal Include Ravi Kumar Dahiya (Men's Freestyle - 57 Kg Gold); VineshPhogat (Women's Freestyle - 53 Kg Gold, this was her Maiden Gold Medal in Asian Wrestling Championships); Anshu Malik (Women's Freestyle - 57 Kg Gold); Santa Mor (Women's Freestyle - 59 Kg Gold, with this, she became the first Indian Woman to win consecutive gold medals at the Asian Wrestling Championships. Before this, she bagged the Gold Medal in the same category in the 2020 Asian Wrestling Championships); DivyaKakran (Women's Freestyle - 72 Kg Gold); BajrungPunia (Men's Freestyle - 65 Kg Silver); Deepak Punia (Men's Freestyle - 86 Kg Silver); Sakshi Malik (Women's Freestyle - 65 Kg Silver); Karan Mor (Men's Freestyle - 70 Kg Bronze); Narsingh Yadav (Men's Freestyle - 79 Kg Bronze); Sanjeet (Men's Freestyle - 92 Kg Bronze); Satyawart (Kadian Men's Freestyle - 97 Kg Bronze); Pooja Sihag (Women's Freestyle - 76 Kg Bronze) and Seema Bisla (Women's Freestyle - 50 Kg Bronze).

Demise of Legendary footballer Ahmed Hussain

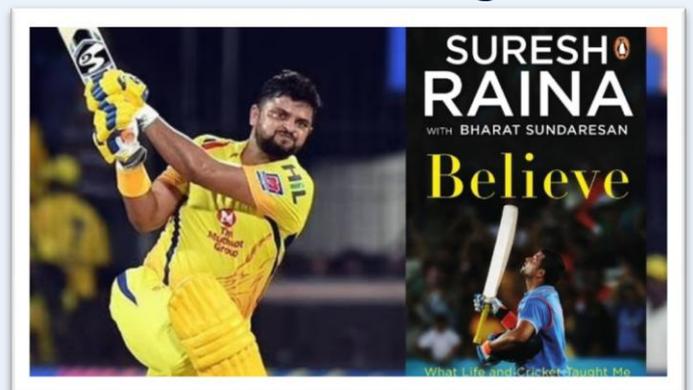
Legendary footballer Ahmed Hussain, who was part of the Indian football team that reached the semi-finals of the 1956 Melbourne Olympics breathed his last in Bangalore at the age of 89. He was part of India's team that won the Gold medal at the 1951 Asian Games. Hussain Ahmed was an instrumental figure during the golden era of Indian football when the national team reached great heights during the 1950s. Hussain played for the famous Hyderabad Police City FC back in his prime, under the supervision of legendary coach Syed Abdul Rahim. Subsequently, he moved to Kolkata in 1957 and then played for clubs like Mohammedan Sporting and Mohun Bagan.

India Boxed The Wrestling Asian Championships

Indian women dominated the Wrestling Asian Championships as VineshPhogat, Anshu Malik, DivyaKakran won gold medals in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 16th April 2021. The Olympic-bound star grappler VineshPhogat led India's charge

in women's wrestling by winning her first ever Asian Championship gold medal in the 53 Kg category. Her timeline in Asian Championship (senior) for the past 8 years shows that in 2013 in (51kg category she won a Bronze; 2014 (48kg): No medal; 2015 (48kg): Silver; 2016 (53kg): Bronze; 2017 (53kg): Silver; 2018 (50kg): Silver; 2019 (53kg): Bronze; 2020 (53kg): Bronze. Besides her, Anshu Malik (57kg) and DivyaKakran (72kg) also won gold medals in their respective categories. Prior to this, on 15th April 2021, Sarita Mor had won the final with a sensational comeback in the 59kg category.

Suresh Raina's "Believe — What Life and Cricket Taught Me"



Indian cricketer recently authored his memoir titled, "Believe — What Life and Cricket Taught Me" with the help of

Bharat Sundaresan. Published by Penguin Random House, the book will be released by May 2021. Raina scripted a historical account or biography from personal knowledge and it describes his life, challenges he faced as a young cricketer. Hailing from Uttar Pradesh, Suresh Raina is not only the first Indian batsman to hit a century in all three formats (Test, ODI, T20I) of international cricket but also the 1st Indian player to score 6,000 and 8,000 runs in T20 cricket. Besides these, he is the first cricketer in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL) to complete 5000 runs. The co-author of this book, Bharat Sundaresan is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning cricket writer currently based in Adelaide, Australia as the Australian correspondent and senior writer for Cricbuzz. "The Dhoni Touch" is his famous book.

Demise of Great Australian swimmer John Konrads

Legendary Australian swimmer John Konrads, who won the 1,500-meter freestyle gold and two bronze medals at

the 1960 Olympics in Rome passed away at the age of 78. He had set 26 individual freestyle swimming world records and was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985. He was born in Konrads Latvia in 1942 and moved to Australia in 1949. At the age of 14, he was a reserve for Australia's Olympic swim team at the 1956 Melbourne Games. He was a swimming sensation of the 1950's and 60's and broke every freestyle world record between 200 meters and 1,500 meters by the time he was 15. It is worth knowing that he started swimming because his father thought it would help him recover from a childhood illness of polio. He was trained under Australian swimming coach great Don Talbot and blossomed into a sporting prodigy. He was involved in the Olympic movement, contributing to Sydney's successful bid for the 2000 Games.

Kane Williamson Received Sir Richard Hadlee medal

Star cricketer of New Zealand Kane Williamson has been recently awarded the Sir Richard Hadlee medal. It was his 4th Sir Richard Hadlee award in 6 years.

He had a great test season as he scored 251 against West Indies followed by a century on the boxing day. It is by virtue of Williamson's staggering performance against Pakistan, New Zealand was able to book a berth in the ICC World Test Championship final. Under his captainship the New Zealand team registered 17 wins out of 20 resulting in victory in all 7 series. Besides this, the Women's team all-rounder Amelia Kerr was also felicitated along with the upcoming star Devon Conway at the New Zealand Cricket Awards for the 2020-21 season. Conway was presented the Men's Player of the year award in both ODIs and T20s. And 21-year old Fin Allen was honoured with the Super Smash player of the year award for his staggering strike rate of 193.

Death of Balbir Singh Junior

Renowned former Hockey player, Balbir Singh Junior, who was a member of the silver medal-winning 1958 Asian Games Indian hockey team, died of heart attack at the age of 88. He had played for the Services hockey team in the national tournaments at Delhi. He had played alongside legends like Balbir Singh

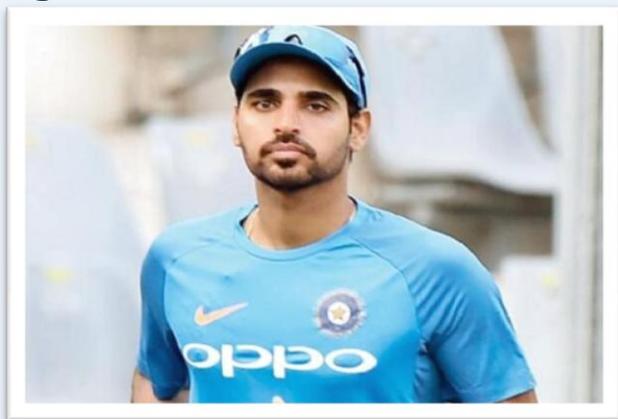
Dosanjh, popularly known as Balbir Singh Senior as well as Leslie Claudius, Prithipal Singh, Balkishan, Charles Stephen among other top players. It is worth remembering here that Balbir Singh Junior was born on May 2, 1932, at Sansarpur in Jalandhar, which is also known as the nursery of hockey players in India and Balbir took to hockey when he was just six years old. He was first selected to play for the Indian hockey team in 1951. In 1962 he joined the Army as an emergency commissioned officer and retired as a Major in 1984.

Sri Lanka Cricket Is In News

Thisara Perera, Sri Lankan all-rounder and former captain has announced his retirement from international cricket that spanned for nearly 12 years. Perera played six Tests, 166 ODIs (2338 runs, 175 wickets), and 84 T20Is (1204 runs, 51 wickets) for the Island nation, after making his debut in December 2009. However, he will continue to play domestic and franchise cricket. Apart from this, former Sri Lanka player and coach, Nuwan Zoysa has been banned for 6 years for breaching ICC's anti-

corruption code. The ban for the player is backdated to 31st October 2018, when he was provisionally suspended. On 3rd May 2021 Sri Lanka clinched the test series after defeating Bangladesh by 209 runs by virtue of Sri Lankan left-arm spin prodigy Praveen Jayawickrama, who grabbed a five-wicket haul on the final day of the second Test at Kandy.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar : The ICC Players of the Month Awardee



Indian seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar has been selected for the ICC Player of the Month award for his superlative show in the recent limited over series against England in March. Bhuvneshwar became the third successive Indian recipient of this award since its inception early this year. He is a 31-year-old Indian cricketer, who took six wickets with an economy rate of 4.65 in the three ODIs while

hitching four wickets with a fantastic economy rate of 6.38 in the five T20Is to emerge as the standout bowler on either side in the white ball series.

Barcelona Won 2021 Copa del Rey



Barcelona booked the 2021 Copa del Rey with a 4-0 victory against Athletic Bilbao. They earned the Spanish King's Cup trophy, after scoring all their goals in the second half of the final at La Cartuja Stadium, Seville. French star Antoine Griezmann scored the opener in the 59th minute to give Barcelona the lead. Dutch midfielder Frenkie de Jong doubled the gap in the 63rd minute. Argentine superstar Lionel Messi netted two goals in the 68 and 72 minutes to seal the victory. It is worth remembering here that in the past Barcelona had won the Spanish Cup 31 times to become the most successful club in the domestic tournament.

Mark Selby: The World Snooker Champion



The English professional snooker player Mark Selby won the World Snooker Championship for the fourth time by defeating Shaun Murphy. Prior to this, he had won the World Championships in 2014, 2016 and 2017. He topped the world rankings between 2015 and 2019. The World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association has been hosting the annual World Snooker Championship at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, England since 1927. It is worth remembering that Snooker is a cue sport played on a table with four pockets or six pockets. It is played using snooker balls and a cue. The main objective of the

game is to hit the white cue ball with the cue so that it strikes the other balls and in turn they fall into the pockets. The balls are of different colours and each colour denotes a different point. The player who scores maximum points in the game wins.

Death of Noted shooting Coach Sanjay Chakraverty

Renowned shooting coach Sanjay Chakraverty, who has trained some of its finest shooters of India, including guiding the likes of Olympic medallist Gagan Narang and Anjali Bhagwat etc. passed away at the age of 79 in Mumbai. In his 40 year career, the Dronacharya awardee has helped many aspiring shooters, who went on to make it big in the sport. The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), several Arjun awardees as well as national and international medallists condoled his demise.



Current Affairs

1. Satishwar Balakrishnan has been appointed as’s MD & CEO
(a) HDFC Life (b) Max Life (c) ICICI Prudential Life
(d) Aegon Life (e) Aditya Birla SunLife
2. Oscar-winning filmmaker Roberto Benigni received a Lifetime Achievement Award in Film Festival.
(a) Venice (b) Cannes (c) Berlin
(d) Toronto (e) India
3. Recently government reconstituted panel for studying river
(a) Godavari (b) Narmada (c) Sindhu
(d) Kaveri (e) Saraswathi
4. IAS officer Siddharth Singh Longjam has become the’s Director-General.
(a) National Anti-Doping Agency
(b) National Investigation Agency
(c) National Human Rights Commission
(d) Research and Analysis Wing
(e) National Disaster Response Force
5. Anish Shah took over as MD and CEO of
(a) Maruti Suzuki (b) Hyundai India (c) Tata Motors
(d) Mahindra & Mahindra (e) Honda Cars

6. Who among the following penned “My Experiments with Silence”?
(a) SonuSood (b) Samir Soni (c) Akshay Kumar
(d) Ranbir Kapoor (e) Ayushmann Khurrana
7. World Art Day was celebrated on April.
(a) 11th (b) 12th (c) 13th
(d) 14th (e) 15th
8. Which of the following banks has been named as India’s Best SME Bank by Asiamoney?
(a) SBI (b) HDFC (c) IDBI
(d) BOB (e) ICICI
9. 13th April 2021 wasanniversary of Jallianwala Bagh Massacre
(a) 100th (b) 101st (c) 102nd
(d) 103rd (e) 104th
10. SportzXchange has appointed as brand ambassador
(a) Ravindra Jadeja (b) CheteshwarPujara (c) Jaydev Unadkat
(d) Robin Uthappa (e) Prithvi Shaw
11. President Bazoum named Mahamadou as the new Prime Minister.
(a) Nigeria (b) Niger (c) Chad
(d) Cameroon (e) Egypt
12. Ramesh Pokhriyal launched NanoSniffer, a microsensor based explosive trace detector developed by Incubated startup.
(a) Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
(b) Indian Institute of Technology Madras
(c) Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
(d) Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
(e) Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

13. got appointed as brand ambassador for Punjab's anti-COVID vaccination programme.
(a) Sunny Deol (b) SonuSood (c) Randeep Hooda
(d) Rajkummar Rao (e) Yashpal Sharma
14. PM Modi addressed the Global Ayurveda Festival.
(a) 1st (b) 2nd (c) 3rd
(d) 4th (e) 5th
15. The 69th National volleyball championship was held in
(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Delhi (c) Jammu & Kashmir
(d) Madhya Pradesh (e) Odisha
16. National Maritime Day was observed on April.
(a) 3rd (b) 4th (c) 5th
(d) 6th (e) 7th
17. Recently Indian researchers named a new plant species after
(a) P. Chidambaram (b) Sharad Pawar (c) Prakash Javadekar
(d) Piyush Goyal (e) Anil Desai
18. The 2023 Men's Boxing World Championships will be hosted in
(a) Uzbekistan (b) Kazakhstan (c) Turkmenistan
(d) Afghanistan (e) Pakistan
19. The Union Health and Family Welfare Minister recently launched the Tribal Health Collaborative called.....
(a) Ananya (b) Aseem (c) Anamaya
(d) Aishvarya (e) Aashirvad

20. became the 1st player to cross the billion-transaction mark on UPI.
(a) PayPal (b) Amazon Pay (c) PhonePe
(d) Paytm (e) JioMoney
21. got listed in the 100 most-valued Indian firms list.
(a) Hindalco (b) Jindal Steel (c) SAIL
(d) JSW Steel (e) Essar Steel
22. Vijay Goel became CMD of
(a) Torrent Power (b) THDCIL (c) NTPC
(d) Tata Power (e) JSW Energy
23. India has tied up with to promote tech startups.
(a) Japan (b) Singapore (c) UK
(d) USA (e) France
24. INS Kolkata reached to bring liquid medical oxygen (LMO).
(a) Bahrain (b) Kuwait (c) Iraq
(d) Oman (e) Qatar
25. Senior officer Manikant Thakur, died of corona infection.
(a) Indian Administrative Service (IAS)
(b) Indian Foreign Service (IFS)
(c) Indian Police Service (IPS)
(d) Indian Information Service (IIS)
(e) Indian Revenue Service (IRS)
26. India's Amit Panghal won a bronze medal in thekg category at the Governor's Cup in St Petersburg, Russia.
(a) 45 (b) 50 (c) 52
(d) 55 (e) 60

27. Vaishali Hiwase of was appointed as the first women officer commanding in Border Roads Organisation (BRO).
(a) Punjab (b) Haryana (c) Rajasthan
(d) Maharashtra (e) Gujarat
28. got India's first floating LNG storage and regasification unit.
(a) Punjab (b) Haryana (c) Rajasthan
(d) Maharashtra (e) Gujarat
29. is producing COVID-19 vaccines for animals.
(a) Mexico (b) Canada (c) Cuba
(d) Bahamas (e) Russia
30. The Government of India recently welcomed the ASEAN Initiative on
(a) Myanmar (b) Bangladesh (c) Sri Lanka
(d) Indonesia (e) Malaysia
31. WHO's E-2025 initiative is about eradicating
(a) Malaria (b) Ebola (c) Covid virus
(d) Pneumonia (e) AIDS
32. Lewis Hamilton reached his career Grand Prix victory in the form of the Portuguese Grand Prix.
(a) 95th (b) 96th (c) 97th
(d) 98th (e) 99th
33. Cricketer became Japanese Sportswear brand ASICS 's ambassador.
(a) Virat Kohli (b) MS Dhoni (c) Ravindra Jadeja
(d) Rohit Sharma (e) Shikhar Dhawan

- 34.** World Tuna Day, which was observed globally on 2nd May was started in
- (a) 2015 (b) 2016 (c) 2017
(d) 2018 (e) 2019
- 35.** In the Lok Sabha by election, Dr. Maddila Gurumoorthy of the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP) secured the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) seat in
- (a) Karnataka (b) Andhra Pradesh (c) Kerala
(d) Tamil Nadu (e) Telangana
- 36.** The World Health Organisation, GAVI and UNICEF launched the Immunisation Agenda (IA).....
- (a) 2026 (b) 2027 (c) 2028
(d) 2029 (e) 2030
- 37.** Former World No.1 Deepika won her individual gold medal at the Archery World Cup 2021 Stage 1 in Guatemala City.
- (a) Second (b) Third (c) Fourth
(d) Fifth (e) Sixth
- 38.** Amitabh Chaudhry got re-appointed as MD & CEO of Bank
- (a) Yes (b) ICICI (c) HDFC
(d) IDBI (e) Axis
- 39.** According to the official statement of the government how many existing Nitrogen plants will be converted into oxygen manufacturing Plants?
- (a) 30 (b) 40 (c) 50
(d) 60 (e) 70

40. Which of the following nations celebrated its statehood day on 1st May?
(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Bihar (c) Rajasthan
(d) Maharashtra (e) Goa
41. Rafael Nadal won the Barcelona Title after defeating Tsitsipas in the longest ATP Match of 2021.
(a) 12th (b) 13th (c) 14th
(d) 15th (e) 16th
42. Vivo appointed as brand ambassador.
(a) Ravindra Jadeja (b) Shikhar Dhawan (c) Prithvi Shaw
(d) Rishabh Pant (e) Virat Kohli
43. Arun Raste became the new MD & CEO of NCDEX for years.
(a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4
(d) 5 (e) 6
44. USCIRF recommended nations for designation as 'countries of particular concern'
(a) 12 (b) 13 (c) 14
(d) 15 (e) 16
45. The 2021 Earth Day was celebrated on April.
(a) 20th (b) 21st (c) 22nd
(d) 23rd (e) 24th
46. Which among the following received the 'Role Model' award at 11th CII National HR Excellence Award 2020-21?
(a) Adani Group (b) Tata Power (c) JSW Energy
(d)Torrent Power (e) NTPC

47. Soma Mondal, chairperson of has been elected as the new chairperson of the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE).
(a) Essar Steel (b) Hindalco Industries Limited
(c) JSW Steel (d) Steel Authority of India Limited
(e) Tata Steel
48. Who among the following has been honoured with the 2021 FIAF Award?
(a) Rekha (b) Amitabh Bachchan (c) Naseeruddin Shah
(d) Shabana Azmi (e) Jeetendra
49. The World Bank has approved a \$32 millionHealth Systems Strengthening Project to improve management capacity and quality of health services in this state.
(a) Assam (b) Nagaland (c) Tripura
(d) Mizoram (e) Manipur
50. won the e-panchayat award with first rank in category I.
(a) Punjab (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Rajasthan
(d) Maharashtra (e) Gujarat



ANSWERS



- 1.(d)** Satishwar Balakrishnan has been appointed as Aegon Life's MD & CEO. It is India's first digital-only life insurance company. Balakrishnan was with IndiaFirst Life, Reliance Life and ICICI Prudential Life before joining Aegon Life.
- 2.(a)** Oscar-winning filmmaker Roberto Benigni will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award in Venice Film Festival. Roberto Benigni, best known for Holocaust drama Life is Beautiful, was honoured with the Golden Lion at the 78th edition of Venice International Film Festival.
- 3.(e)** Recently government reconstituted panel for studying Saraswathi river. It will chalk out a plan for studying the mythical Saraswathi River for the next two years after the earlier panel's term ended in 2019. The Saraswathi River is an extinct river mentioned in the Rig Veda and later Vedic and post-Vedic texts.
- 4.(a)** IAS officer Siddharth Singh Longjam has become the National Anti-Doping Agency's Director-General. Prior to this, he was serving as joint secretary in the sports ministry and was the CEO of the currently suspended National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL). He has taken the place of Navin Agarwal who listed the creation of Athletes Biological Passport (ABP) for around 60 elite Indian sportspersons as one of the highlights of his tenure.
- 5.(d)** Anish Shah took over as MD and CEO of Mahindra & Mahindra. The Finance veteran is the first in Mahindra's history to have completed oversight of the group when Anand Mahindra became non-executive chairman.

- 6.(b)** Samir Sonipenned “My Experiments with Silence”. It is his first book that explores his anxiety and self discovery, which will be published by OM Books International.
- 7.(e)** World Art Day was celebrated on 15th April to promote creativity which exists in many forms and spheres. The International Association of Art (IAA) chose the birth anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci, who was born on 15th April 1452. Da Vinci has been the symbol of world peace as well as the significance of art in other areas.
- 8.(b)** HDFC has been named as India’s Best SME Bank by Asiamoney. Asiamoney’s award decisions were made by a team of senior journalists after receiving detailed submissions from market participants and in conjunction with research into the banking and capital markets by the bank's editorial committee.
- 9.(c)** 13th April 2021 was the 102nd anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre. It is also known as the Amritsar massacre, which took place on 13th April 1919. Acting Brigadier-General Reginald Dyer ordered troops of the British Indian Army to fire their rifles into a crowd of unarmed Indian civilians in Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar, Punjab. 379 men and women were killed and 1100 were injured. The Jallianwalabagh garden has been converted into a memorial and people on this day come to pay their respects to the martyred men, women, who were killed on that fateful day for the nation.
- 10.(e)** SportzXchange has appointed Prithvi Shaw as brand ambassador. He is an Indian professional cricketer and former Indian national under-19 cricket team captain. He plays for Mumbai in the Ranji Trophy and Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League. The fantasy sports platform will create engaging content featuring Prithvi Shaw as part of an integrated campaign with a theme 'Yahaan Hai KuchXtra'

- 11.(b)** Niger President Bazoum named Mahamadou as the new Prime Minister. OuhoumoudouMahamadou has previously served as a minister in charge of the finance and mining portfolios. He was the chief of staff to former President Mahamadou Issoufou between 2015 and 2021.
- 12.(a)** Ramesh Pokhriyal launched NanoSniffer, a microsensor based explosive trace detector developed by Indian Institute of Technology Bombay incubated startup NanoSniff Technologies. NanoSniffer is a 100% Made in India product in terms of research, development & manufacturing. The core technology of NanoSniffer is protected by patents in the U.S. & Europe.
- 13.(b)** SonuSood got appointed as brand ambassador for Punjab's anti-COVID vaccination programme. During the coronavirus-induced lockdown in 2020, the actor had helped migrants reach their home states. Sood had come to the national spotlight for feeding thousands of underprivileged people amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 14.(d)** PM Modi addressed the 4th Global Ayurveda Festival. The festival witnessed plenaries, symposiums, parallel sessions, paper presentations, virtual exhibition and virtual networking. Centre for Innovation in Science and Social Action (CISSA) in association with the Governmental and Non-Governmental bodies, organized this Global Ayurveda Festival.
- 15.(e)** The 69th National volleyball championship was held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Haryana men and Kerala women won the 69th National volleyball championships at the KIIT University in Bhubaneswar.
- 16.(c)** National Maritime Day was observed on 5th April that marked the 58th edition of this day. This day was celebrated for the first time in 1964 to spread

awareness about intercontinental commerce and the economy. The legacy of Indian shipping first started on April 5, 1919, when the first ship the SS Loyalty manufactured by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Ltd. sailed from Mumbai to the United Kingdom.

- 17.(b)** Recently Indian researchers named a new plant species after Maharashtra politician, Rajya Sabha member, National Congress Party (NCP) president Sharad Pawar. The newly discovered plant species is a flowering plant that has been spotted in south Maharashtra's Kolhapur district. It belongs to the genus 'Argyreia' and has been named 'Argyreisharadchandrajii' to acknowledge Sharad Pawar's work as the Union agriculture minister.
- 18.(a)** The 2023 Men's Boxing World Championships will be hosted in Uzbekistan's capital Tashkent. International Boxing Association (AIBA) President Umar Kremlev confirmed this information after the successful bid presentation by the Boxing Federation of Uzbekistan.
- 19.(c)** The Union Health and Family Welfare Minister recently launched the Tribal Health Collaborative called "Anamaya". It is a multi-stake holder initiative to enhance the health and nutrition eco-system of tribal communities in India. It will also be supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Piramal Foundation.
- 20.(c)** PhonePe became the 1st player to cross the billion-transaction mark on UPI. The Bengaluru-based digital payments and financial services company achieved the feat in March 2021, when the total transactions clocked around 1.3 billion on its platform, across the payment instruments offering of wallet, cards as well as UPI.

- 21.(c)** Steel Authority of Indian Limited (SAIL) got listed in the 100 most-valued Indian firms list. The stock of SAIL increased to a nine year high of Rs 135.60 on the BSE. as well as the stocks of SAIL has increased by 85%. With five large integrated steel plants viz. Rourkela steel plant, Bhilai Steel plant, Durgapur steel plant, IISCO and Bokaro Steel plant, the annual turnover of SAIL is around 10 billion USD.
- 22.(b)** Vijay Goel became CMD of THDC India Ltd (THDCIL) from 1st May 2021. In 1990, he joined the company as a senior personnel officer (SPO) from NHPC Ltd. He has more than 35 years of varied experience in the field of human resource management.
- 23.(b)** India has tied up with Singapore to promote tech startups. The Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) and Start-up Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) of IIT-Kanpur together will offer a plethora of opportunities to tech-based startups to lead a circular economy and an entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- 24.(b)** Stealth guided missile destroyer, INS Kolkata reached Kuwait to bring liquid medical oxygen (LMO). This has been done as a part of Operation Samudra Setu II. Before this, it embarked 43 oxygen concentrators and two hundred bottles of oxygen from Qatar.
- 25.(d)** Senior Indian Information Service (IIS) officer Manikant Thakur, died of corona infection. He served in different departments of the Ministry of I&B viz. the Bureau of Outreach & Communication, News Services Division of All India Radio and DD News. He was recently posted in the Health & Family Welfare Ministry as the Chief Media officer.

- 26.(c)** India's Amit Panghal won a bronze medal in the 52 kg category at the Governor's Cup in St Petersburg, Russia. The world championships silver-medallist, lost 5-0 to the Uzbek, who is also the reigning Olympic champion and this was his second loss to Zoirov after the 2019 world championships, when he lost in the final.
- 27.(d)** Vaishali Hiwase of Maharashtra was appointed as the first women officer commanding in Border Roads Organisation (BRO). She will be responsible for providing connectivity through an Indo-China border road.
- 28.(d)** Maharashtra got India's first floating LNG storage and regasification unit at H-Energy's Jaigarh Terminal in the Ratnagiri district on the west coast of India. It aims at providing the ability to enhance the pace of natural gas import capability in an environment-friendly and efficient manner
- 29.(e)** Russia is producing COVID-19 vaccine 'Carnivac-Cov' for animals. Rosselkhoznadzor, a federal service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance in Russia. The World Health Organisation recently confirmed the possibility for transmission of virus between humans and animals as in 2020, Denmark reported deaths of more than 17 million minks because of transmission of virus from humans to minks.
- 30.(a)** The Government of India recently welcomed the ASEAN Initiative on Myanmar. The five points of the initiative include ending violence, organising a constructive dialogue among all parties, appointing a special ASEAN Envoy to facilitate the all-party dialogue and acceptance of aid.
- 31.(a)** WHO's E-2025 initiative is about eradicating Malaria and for this WHO has recently identified twenty-five countries with the potential to eradicate malaria by 2025. The WHO will provide technical guidance and specialised support to these countries under the initiative.

- 32.(c)** Lewis Hamilton reached his 97th career Grand Prix victory in the form of the Portuguese Grand Prix. Valtteri Bottas and Max Verstappen secured the second and third spots respectively in this Portuguese Grand Prix. This was Hamilton's record eighth world title this year.
- 33.(c)** Cricketer Ravindra Jadeja became Japanese Sportswear brand ASICS 's ambassador. Ravindra Jadeja, who is all-rounder of the Indian cricket team and Chennai Super Kings will now be featured in the campaigns of the brand. In India, ASICS is being promoted by actor Tiger Shroff.
- 34.(c)** World Tuna Day, which was observed globally on 2nd May was started in 2017. This annual observation was instituted by the United Nations (UN) to raise awareness about the importance of tuna fish. more than 96 countries have tuna fisheries.
- 35.(b)** In the Tirupati Lok Sabha by election, Dr. Maddila Gurumoorthy of the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP) secured the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) seat in Andhra Pradesh. The YSRCP candidate won the polls with a large majority of 2,71,592 votes against the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) candidate Panabaka Lakshmi.
- 36.(e)** The World Health Organisation, GAVI and UNICEF launched the Immunisation Agenda (IA) 2030. It has been titled as the "A Global Strategy to Leave No One Behind" that aims to maximise the lifesaving impact of vaccines.
- 37.(b)** Former World No.1 Deepika won her third individual gold medal at the Archery World Cup 2021 Stage 1 in Guatemala City. Before this, she has won gold medals in Antalya 2012 and Salt Lake City in 2018, while her husband Atanu bagged his first gold medal at the Archery World Cup.

- 38.(e)** Amitabh Chaudhry got re-appointed as MD & CEO of Axis Bank for three more years by the bank board. His second 3 years term will begin with effect from January 1, 2022, up to December 31, 2024. He was first appointed as Managing Director (MD) and CEO of Axis Bank for a period of three years, with effect from January 1, 2019 up to December 31, 2021. Before that, he was the MD and CEO of HDFC Standard Life Insurance Company.
- 39.(a)** According to the official statement of the government 30 existing Nitrogen plants will be converted into oxygen manufacturing Plants. This will be done to augment availability of oxygen for medical purposes in the country. The Central Government has asked the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to identify the industries having spare nitrogen plants and explore the feasibility of converting existing Nitrogen plants to produce oxygen.
- 40.(d)** Maharashtra celebrated its statehood day on 1st May. It was formed on May 1, 1960 on the basis of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956. The Samyukta Maharashtra Samiti played a key role in the movement to divide Bombay state into two states namely Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- 41.(a)** Rafael Nadal won the 12th Barcelona Title after defeating Tsitsipas with 6-4, 6-7 (6/8), 7-5 in the longest ATP Match of 2021. The Spaniard had secured his first title of the year and 87th of his career.
- 42.(e)** Chinese smartphone major Vivo appointed Virat Kohli as brand ambassador. With the association, Vivo will reach the millennials and technologically driven consumers, and Kohli will be seen spreading awareness and promoting the launch of Vivo's upcoming product series in the pipeline. The association will cover all ATL and BTL (above and below the line) activities, including the brand's forthcoming events, TV, print, outdoor and social media campaigns.

- 43.(d)** Arun Raste became the new MD & CEO of NCDEX for 5 years. Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) approved this appointment. He is associated with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as an Executive Director and before that he has worked with IDFC First Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, NABARD, ACC Cement, and a non-profit NGO IRFT.
- 44.(c)** US Commission for International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) recommended 14 nations viz. Myanmar, China, Eritrea, Iran, North Korea, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, India, Nigeria, Russia, Syria, and Vietnam for designation as 'countries of particular concern' alleging that religious minorities are under increasing assault in these nations.
- 45.(c)** The 2021 Earth Day was celebrated on 22nd April on 'Restore Our Earth' theme. It was founded by American senator Gaylord Nelson for environmental education.
- 46.(e)** NTPC received the 'Role Model' award at 11th CII National HR Excellence Award 2020-21. This award is the highest level of recognition in the field of Human Resources by Confederation of Indian Industry. Since the institutionalization of CII National HR Excellence Award, this is only the second time when the award of Role Model has been presented to any organization. NTPC is the only PSU that has received this prestigious award.
- 47.(d)** Soma Mondal, chairperson of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been elected as the new chairperson of the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) for a two-year term. SCOPE is an apex professional

organization representing the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) that promotes excellence in organisations where public investment is involved, in order to enable them to be globally competitive

- 48.(b)** Amitabh Bachchan has been honoured with 2021 FIAF Award by the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF), the worldwide organisation of film archives and museums from across the world. The 78-year-old Bollywood icon's name was nominated by the FIAF affiliate Film Heritage Foundation.
- 49.(d)** The World Bank has approved a \$32 million Mizoram Health Systems Strengthening Project to improve management capacity and quality of health services in this state. Project will benefit the people across all eight districts of the state as well as the health sector staff, specifically at the secondary and primary levels, by strengthening their planning and management capacity along with building their clinical skills and competencies.
- 50.(b)** Uttar Pradesh won the e-panchayat award with first rank in category I. It was followed by Assam and Chhattisgarh at the second position, Odisha and Tamil Nadu stood third. The Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj awards acknowledge those states, which ensure maximum use of information technology to keep a tab on the work done by gram panchayats.