

- The portal has been jointly developed by ISRO and the Ministry of Rural Development.
- Yuktdhara will serve as a repository of assets (Geotags) created under various national rural development programmes such as MGNREGA, Integrated Watershed Management Programme, Per Drop More Crop and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana etc., along with field photographs.
- The Yuktdhara portal would ensure the quality of the plan, enable a long term monitoring of the assets created over the years for relevance, facilitate identification of new works for resource allocation.

Defence News

8. 2nd Indo-Qatari joint Naval Exercise “Zair-Al-Bahr” in Persian Gulf



- The second edition of the joint naval exercise, Zair-Al-Bahr, between the Indian Navy and Qatar Emiri Naval Force (QENF) was conducted between August 9 and 14 in the Persian Gulf. This edition of the exercise included a three-day harbour phase followed by a two-day sea phase.
- The sea phase is comprised of tactical maritime exercises involving surface action, anti-piracy exercises, air defence, maritime surveillance, boarding operations and SAR exercises.
- In the sea phase of the exercise, the Indian Navy’s Stealth Frigate INS Trikand, QENF’s missile boats of Barzan and Damsah class, fast-attack crafts of MRTP 34 class and Rafale fighter aircraft participated.
- Qatar Capital: Doha; Currency: Qatari riyal.
- Prime Minister of Qatar: Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdelaziz Al Thani.

Summits and Conferences News

9. WEF'S Sustainable Development Impact Summit 2021



- The World Economic Forum's annual Sustainable Development Impact Summit will take place on September 20-23, 2021 in Geneva, Switzerland. This year's event will focus strongly on inclusively revitalizing economies.
- The United Nations General Assembly, the summit convenes under the theme "Shaping an Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery". It will welcome almost all leaders from government, business and civil society who will work together to drive action and build momentum for a more sustainable and inclusive future.

Science and Technology News

10. IIT Madras develops India's first indigenous motorised wheelchair 'NeoBolt'

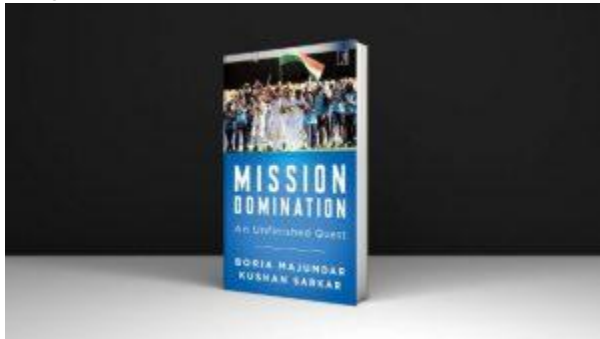


- IIT Madras has developed India's first indigenous motorized wheelchair vehicle named 'NeoBolt', which can be used not only on roads but even on uneven terrains. It has a maximum speed of 25 kmph.
- The researchers collaborated extensively with organisations and hospitals working for people with locomotor disabilities and built the products after factoring in their experiences and making constant design adjustments.

- IIT Madras said the wheelchair will be available to users at an approximate price of ₹55,000.
- It is powered by a Lithium-Ion Battery and can travel up to 25 km per charge. It empowers wheelchair users with a convenient, safe and low-cost mode of outdoor mobility when compared to cars, auto-rickshaws or modified scooters.

Books and Authors News

11. A book “Mission Domination: An Unfinished Quest” by Boria Majumdar & Kushan Sarkar



- A new book titled “Mission Domination: An Unfinished Quest” authored by Boria Majumdar & Kushan Sarkar. The Book Published by Simon & Schuster Publisher India Private Limited.
- The Book talks about the short story of several Indian cricketers life events such as Rishabh Pant, Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, R. Ashwin, Cheteshwar Pujara.

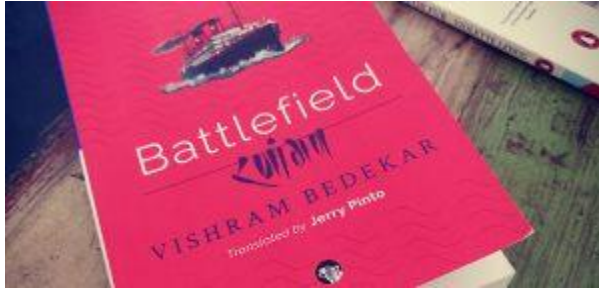
12. A book ‘Address Book: A Publishing Memoir in the time of COVID’ by Ritu Menon



- A book titled has ‘Address Book: A Publishing Memoir in the time of COVID’ by Ritu Menon.

- Menon, who co-founded Kali for Women, India's first feminist press in 1983, is founder-director of Women Unlimited, an associate of KfW. Weeks after the March 2020 lockdown began, Menon started to write a diary.

13. A book titled 'Battlefield' authored by Vishram Bedekar



- A book titled 'Battlefield' has been authored by Vishram Bedekar, translated from the Marathi original Ranaangan by Jerry Pinto.
- The book is the story of a shipboard romance between an Indian man and a German-Jewish woman, both fleeing Europe before the Second World War.

Important Days

14. World Water Week 2021: 23-27 August



- The World Water Week is an annual event organized by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) since 1991 to address the global water issues and related concerns of international development.
- The World Water Week 2021 has been organised from 23-27 August, in entirely digital format. The theme for World Water Week 2021 is 'Building Resilience Faster'.
- SIWI Executive Director: Torgny Holmgren.
- SIWI Headquarters: Stockholm, Sweden.

BY SOHIL SINGH