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WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS



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1/05/2022 to 6/05/2022

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

MAY 2022



National News

1. VINAY MOHAN KWATRA ASSUMES CHARGE AS NEW FOREIGN



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

2. INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY IS BEING CELEBRATED ON 1ST MAY



- International Workers' Day or Labour Day is celebrated on May 1 in most countries. Labor Day is

observed to commemorate the struggles and sacrifices of the workers' and laborers' movement. It is also known as May Day.

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

3. FORMER PETROLEUM SECRETARY TARUN KAPOOR APPOINTED AS ADVISOR TO PM



- Former Petroleum secretary Tarun Kapoor has been appointed as advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Mr Kapoor is a 1987 batch Himachal Pradesh cadre officer.
- Mr Hari Ranjan Rao and Atish Chandra both have been appointed as Additional Secretaries in the Prime Minister's office.
- Mr Rao is a 94-batch IAS officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre while Mr Chandra is 94 batch of Bihar cadre. has prepared detailed project reports for the Ken-Betwa link, the Daman Ganga-Pinjal link, and the Par-Tapi-Narmada link.

4. EID-UL-FITR TO BE CELEBRATED ACROSS COUNTRY TOMORROW



- Eid-ul-Fitr will be celebrated across the country tomorrow including Kerala as the crescent moon was not sighted last evening.
- Today is the last day of holy fasting month of Ramzan.
- Eid-ul-Fitr is celebrated at the culmination of fasting month.
- In Gulf countries, Eid is being celebrated today

5. AIRTEL BUYS 7% IN CLOUD NETWORKING STARTUP CNERGEE TECH FOR UNDISCLOSED SUM



- Bharti Airtel, India's second-largest telecom operator, announced that the Airtel Startup Accelerator Program has acquired a 7% investment in cloud-based networking solutions firm Cnergee Technologies.
- Cnergee, situated in Navi Mumbai, specializes in cloud-based comprehensive networking solutions for enterprises of all kinds.
- The telco purchased the interest at a pre-money enterprise valuation that was mutually agreed upon, but the figure was not disclosed due to confidentiality concerns.
- Airtel said in a statement that the stake purchase will allow it to strengthen its NaaS offering for Small and Medium Businesses (SMBs) aiming to speed their transition to cloud-based applications.

- The Navi Mumbai-based business has created a set of 5G-ready software tools for Network-as-a-Service (NaaS) that can be scaled up to enable zero-touch service provisioning, central remote monitoring, and management of all connected devices, as well as a variety of real-time analytics.

6. JIOSAAVN APPOINTS FORMER AMAZON MUSIC DIRECTOR SAHAS MALHOTRA AS CEO.



- JioSaavn has named Sahas Malhotra, a former Amazon Music director and entertainment industry expert, as its new CEO.
- Previously, Sahas Malhotra worked for Sony Music India and Tips Industries.
- Sahas Malhotra was the business leader at Tips Music and the marketing director for Tips Film Production at Tips Industries.
- From the JioSaavn company's Mumbai headquarters, Sahas Malhotra will manage the company's efforts in the rapidly changing and fascinating Indian market.
- Sahas Malhotra has more than 24 years of experience in the entertainment sector, including team development, film marketing, music P&L management, licensing, media planning, music publishing, and product management, according to JioSaavn.

7. RAILWAYS, C-DOT TO WORK TOGETHER FOR MODERNIZATION OF TELECOMMUNICATION IN INDIAN RAILWAYS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY SERVICES



- The Ministry of Railways and the Center for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to form a strong collaborative working partnership for coordination and resource sharing in the provision of telecommunication facilities in the delivery and implementation of C-Telecom DOT's Solutions and services in railways.
- During the MoU signing ceremony, Rajkumar Upadhyay, Executive Director and Chairman of the C-DOT Board, Aruna Singh, Additional Member, Telecom and Railway Board, and other top Railways and C-DOT personnel were present.
- Long-Term Evolution for Railways (LTE-R) is a next-generation communications network specialised to railway services, allowing high-speed wireless voice and data connections within trains, as well as between trains.

8. BRO'S ATAL TUNNEL BAGS IBC BEST INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT AWARD.



- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) engineering marvel, Atal Tunnel, built-in Rohtang in Himachal

Pradesh, received the Indian Building Congress (IBC) 'Best Infrastructure Project' award in New Delhi.

- More than thirty state-of-the-art infrastructure projects were nominated for the award.
- The IBC jury selected the strategic tunnel as the 'Best Project for Excellence in Built Environment' in 2021.
- The tunnel, built using the New Austrian Tunneling Method (NATM), was dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 3, 2020.
- It is equipped with a semi-transverse ventilation system, where large fans separately circulate air throughout the tunnel. For evacuation during emergencies, an emergency tunnel has been integrated into the tunnel cross-section beneath the main carriageway.
- Fires inside the tunnel will be controlled within an area of 200 meters, and fire hydrants are provided at specific locations throughout the tunnel.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. DD NATIONAL PET SHOW WINS ENBA AWARD 2021



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

2. SATYAJIT RAY FILM FESTIVAL BEING ORGANIZED FROM TODAY TILL 4TH OF MAY IN MUMBAI



- Today is the 101st birth anniversary of master filmmaker
- Satyajit Ray. Born on May 2, 1921, Ray is regarded as one of the finest filmmakers the world has ever seen.
- He created cinematic masterpieces like Apu trilogy comprising 'Pather Panchali', Aparajito and Apur Sansar as well as other masterpieces like 'Charulata' ' Nayak ,Devi' ,Jalsaghar and Shatranj ke khiladi.
- The maverick maestro of Indian films died at the age of 70 on April 23 in 1992.
- The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has initiated various activities to pay tribute to the legendary filmmaker.

3. BADMINTON ASIA CHAMPIONSHIPS: PV SINDHU CLAIMS BRONZE AFTER LOSING TO AKANE YAMAGUCHI



- In Asia Badminton Championships, India's P.V. Sindhu won her second Asian bronze medal after a heartbreaking three-game loss to top-seed and defending champion Akane Yamaguchi of Japan in the semifinal in Manila.

- She had won her first bronze in the Asia Badminton Championships 2014 Gimcheon edition.
- Sindhu has assured a medal in the championship when she defeated He Big Jiao of China by 21-9,13-21 and 21-19 in the quarterfinal.
- She has won silver in 2016 Rio de Janeiro, and bronze in 2020 Tokyo.

4. CABINET APPROVES SETTING UP OF MAHARASHTRA GENE BANK PROJECT



- Maharashtra Cabinet approved the 'Maharashtra Gene Bank', a first-of-its-kind project in India.
- To conserve genetic resources in Maharashtra including marine diversity, seeds of local crops, and animal diversity.
- In the next five years, an amount of Rs 172.39 crores will be spent on these seven focus areas.
- The project will be implemented by the Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board (MSBB) and will be overseen by committees under the chief secretary and the principal secretary (forests).
- The MSBB will coordinate with institutions like the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) Goa to document and conserve rare and endangered marine species.

5. ANDY JASSY TO BECOME AMAZON CEO ON JULY 5: JEFF BEZOS



- Andy Jassy will officially become the CEO of Amazon on July 5th, the company announced at a shareholder meeting.
- Amazon announced that Jassy, who is the current CEO of Amazon Web Services (AWS), would replace

Jeff Bezos as CEO of the entire company in February.

- Bezos will become executive chair of Amazon's board. Jassy joined the company in the late '90s and was tasked with exploring what would become AWS around 2003..

6. AT 48 BILLION, INDIA ACCOUNTS FOR LARGEST NUMBER OF REAL-TIME TRANSACTIONS



- India's payments system has been bolstered by the fact that it registered the highest number of real-time transactions in the world last year, with 48 billion.
- India surpassed China, which had 18 billion real-time transactions, and was 6.5 times larger than the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany combined.
- This could be attributed to merchants' increasing adoption and use of UPI-based mobile payment apps and QR code payments.
- The growth can also be attributed to the increased usage of digital payments during the Covid-19 outbreak, which enabled India's real-time payments secure 31.3 percent of overall payment volume last year.
- Furthermore, India's real-time payments share of total global payments volume is expected to exceed 70% by 2026, resulting in \$92.4 billion in net savings for businesses and consumers.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. GOA: 12TH HOCKEY INDIA SUB JUNIOR MEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2022



- The 12th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2022 will start in Goa this afternoon.
- A total of 29 teams will participate in the tournament.
- The participating teams are divided into eight pools.
- Pool matches will be played on the initial eight days and these will be followed by Quarter-Finals on May 12 and the Semi-Finals on May 14.
- The final match is scheduled to be played on May 15.

2. ITTF WORLD RANKINGS: MANIKA BATRA CLIMBS 10 PLACES TO ACHIEVE CAREER-BEST RANKING OF 38 IN WOMEN'S SINGLES



- India paddler Manika Batra has achieved a career-best ranking of 38 in women's singles after she climbed 10 places in the latest ITTF Table Tennis World Rankings.
- The Olympian was ranked 48th in women's singles last week. Batra broke into the top 50 earlier this year and rose to 46th in March, her previous career-best standing, before dropping down to 48.
- Manika and Archana Kamath, who won bronze at the WTT Star Contender Doha in March, retained

their fourth spot in the women's doubles rankings.

- Sutirtha and Ayhika are the next best-ranked Indian team at 29th.

3. HARSHADA SHARAD GARUD FIRST INDIAN TO WIN GOLD MEDAL AT IWF JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN GREECE



- In Weightlifting, Harshada Sharad Garud scripted history by becoming the first Indian to win a gold medal at the IWF Junior World Championships at Heraklion in Greece yesterday.
- She lifted 153-kilogram in the 45-kilogram weight category, which included 70 kilograms in Snatch and 83 kilograms in Clean and Jerk to finish on top of the podium.
- Garud left eight competitors behind as India bagged a medal on the opening day of the competition.
- Turkey's Bektas Cansu bagged the silver medal while Moldova's Teodora-Luminita Hincu won the bronze medal.
- The other Indian in the same weight category, Anjali Patel finished fifth with a total effort of 148 kilograms which included 67 kilograms in snatch and 81 kilograms in clean and jerk.

4. BANGLADESH DISCOVERS A NEW GAS FIELD OF 20 MMCFD CAPACITY



- Bangladesh has discovered a new gas field with the capacity to produce 20 million cubic feet of gas per day (MMCFD) at the Koilastila Gas field.
- The announcement was made by the State Minister for power, energy and mineral resources Nasrul

Hamid on Monday on his verified Facebook page.

- According to a press release from the Ministry of power, energy and mineral resources, the Sylhet Gas Fields authorities have said that it will be possible to supply 17-19 million cubic feet of gas daily to the national grid from the newly discovered well number 6 by May 10.
- The production capacity of the well will last for several years. The remaining extractable gas reserves of the Lower Gas Sand Zone at Koilashtila Field are 758 billion cubic feet.
- They hope that the remaining gas will be produced through various wells in phases.
- Minister Nasrul Hamid has said that the method and scope of gas exploration activities have been extended.
- He said that Koilastila Gas Field is one of the five gas fields purchased from the Shell Oil company by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975 for just 4.5 million pounds which shows his foresight

5. IRS OFFICER SANGEETA SINGH GIVEN ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF CBDT CHAIRMAN



- Sangeeta Singh, a 1986 batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer has been given additional charge of Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), after incumbent JB Mohapatra retired as the head of the direct taxes administration body on April 30.
- Currently, the board has four members including Sangeeta Singh.
- Singh is currently holding charge of Audit and Judicial. She is also holding additional charge of Income Tax and Revenue and Tax Payers services.
- Her Husband, Arvind Singh is a Maharashtra Cadre IAS and presently serving as Secretary of Tourism, Government of India.

6. NITISH INAUGURATES BIHAR'S FIRST GRAIN- BASED ETHANOL PLANT AT PURNIA



- Bihar's Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has inaugurated India's first ethanol plant in Purnia district, Bihar.
- The plant has been set up by Eastern India Biofuels Private Limited at a cost of Rs 105 crores.
- Bihar came up with an ethanol production promotion policy in the first half of 2021. It is the country's first grain-based ethanol plant.
- The plant, situated at Ganeshpur Parora, about 12 km from Purnia town, is spread over 15 acres of land.
- Purnia, Katihar, Araria and Kishanganj districts, known as the Seemanchal region, account for 80% of the total maize produced in Bihar and together produce 30-35 lakh metric tonnes (MTs) from April to August.
- Bihar came up with an ethanol production promotion policy in the first half of 2021.
- In Bihar, 17 ethanol production plants are being set up, which is likely to produce 35 crore litres of fuel every year by using sugarcane, molasses, maize and broken rice.
- The ethanol manufactured will be supplied to oil marketing companies for blending into petrol and diesel.

7. INDIAN BANK ROLLS OUT PRE-APPROVED PERSONAL LOAN



- The public sector bank, The Indian Bank has presented a pre-approved personal loan product under Project WAVE.

- The Chennai-based bank announced the World of Advance Virtual Experience, WAVE digital transformation project in January 2022 to introduce its first digital product, the Pre-Approved Personal Loan (PAPL), which intends to give consumers with rapid loan disbursements.
- They proclaimed their commitment to ushering in an era of digital change at Indian Bank through project WAVE at the start of the year. They debuted their first PAPL product, which will only be available through internet outlets.
- The service is offered to existing clients who have regular income and pension accounts, as well as PAPL loan products, and can be accessed via a mobile application, the bank's website, and internet banking.
- The loan would have a ten percent annual interest rate and no foreclosure fees

8. SANTOSH TROPHY: KERALA BEAT WEST BENGAL IN PENALTY SHOOTOUT TO LIFT TITLE FOR SEVENTH TIME



- Kerala beat West Bengal 5-4 in the penalty shootout to win the 75th Santosh Trophy 2022 at the Manjeri Stadium in Malappuram, Kerala.
- The teams were level 1-1 after extra time in a pulsating encounter in which plenty of chances were created at both ends with the finishing being astray.
- This is Kerala's third win in a Santosh Trophy tournament on home soil.
- Earlier, they had won two editions in Kochi, in 1973-74 and 1992-93.
- Kerala captain Jijo Joseph, who was adjudged the player of the match for a commanding performance in the middle of the park.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. GOVT PREPARES NEW DRAFT NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY



- The government has prepared a new draft National Youth Policy (NYP). The draft policy envisages a ten-year vision for youth development that the country seeks to achieve by 2030.
- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports said, it is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and serves to unlock the potential of the youth.
- The draft policy seeks to catalyse widespread action on youth development across five priority areas including education, employment and entrepreneurship, youth leadership and development, health, fitness and sports and social justice.
- The Department of Youth Affairs has sought comments and views on the draft policy from all stakeholders.

2. JAIN UNIVERSITY BECOMES THE KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES 2021 CHAMPIONS



- JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) with 20 gold, 7 silver and 5 bronze medals has won the 2nd edition of the Khelo India University Games 2021.
- Lovely Professional University (LPU) with 17 golds has placed second and Punjab University placed third with 15 gold medals.

- Siva Sridhar has emerged as the star swimmer by winning 11 gold.
- The closing ceremony of KIUG was held at Sri Kanteerava Outdoor Stadium, Bengaluru. Veera was the mascot of KIUG 2021.
- A total of 20 games were played and participated by 3900 students from 210 Universities in the second edition of the Khelo India University Games.
- The Games introduced indigenous sporting competitions such as Yogasana and Mallakhamba for the first time in the history of national sports.

3. RONNIE O'SULLIVAN WINS RECORD SEVENTH WORLD SNOOKER TITLE; BEATS JUDD TRUMP IN FINAL



- Ronnie O'Sullivan (England) has won the 2022 World Snooker Championship by defeating Judd Trump (England) against 18-13 in the finals, which were held from April 16 to May 2, 2022 at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, England.
- The tournament was organised by the World Snooker Tour and sponsored by sports betting company Betfred.
- The Total prize money is 2,395,000 Euros and the Winner gets a share of 500,000 Euros.
- O'Sullivan (Aged 46) becomes the oldest world champion in Crucible history, eclipsing Ray Reardon, who won his sixth title aged 45 in 1978.
- It was Ronnie O'Sullivan's seventh World Snooker Championship title, previously in 2001, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2013 and 2020, equalling Stephen Hendry's modern-day record of seven world titles (Hendry won all of his in the 1990s).

4. INDIA FALLS 8 POSITIONS TO 150TH RANK IN RSF 2022 WORLD PRESS FREEDOM INDEX



- Reporters Without Borders (RSF) has released the 20th World Press Freedom Index 2022, which assesses the state of journalism in 180 countries and territories.
- The Index highlights the disastrous effects of news and information chaos – the effects of a globalised and unregulated online information space that encourages fake news and propaganda.
- India's ranking in the Index has fallen down to 150th position from last year's 142nd rank.
- The ranking of India's neighbours, except that of Nepal, has also slid down, with the index placing. Nepal has climbed up by 30 points in the global ranking at 76th position.
- Pakistan at 157th position, Sri Lanka 146th, Bangladesh 162nd and Maynmar at 176th position.
- Norway (1st) Denmark (2nd), Sweden (3rd) Estonia (4th) and Finland (5th) grabbed the top positions, while North Korea remained at the bottom of the list of the 180 countries and territories.
- Russia was placed at 155th position, down from 150th last year, while China climbed up by two positions with the Reporters Without Borders placing it at 175th position. Last year, China was placed at 177th position. The availability of Fleet Card will permit the convoy to refuel at any IOCL fuel station, thus increasing the pace of movement and reducing the lead time for readiness at operational locations across the nation.

5. NEOBANK OPEN 100TH INDIAN UNICORN; IIFL LEADS \$50-MN FUNDING



- India got its 100th unicorn when neobanking fintech portal, “Open”, raised fresh capital to push up its value to over a billion dollars.
- The five-year-old Bengaluru-based neobank raised \$50 Mn in a Series D funding round from IIFL, Singaporean state holding company Temasek, American investment firm Tiger Global and another Indian firm 3one4 Capital.
- This helped its valuation cross the \$1 bn mark.
- The funding comes just six months after Google, Temasek, Visa, and Japan’s SoftBank invested \$100 million in the neobank startup.
- This funding signifies the enthusiasm in the Indian startup ecosystem, which is the world’s third-largest according to Economic Survey, 2021-22.

6. COCHIN SHIPYARD TO BUILD FIRST INDIGENOUS HYDROGEN-FUELLED ELECTRIC VESSELS



- Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, announced that the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways would develop and build India’s first indigenous hydrogen-fueled electric vessels at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), kicking off the country’s efforts toward green shipping.
- At a session titled Green Shipping in India – 2022, organised by the Ministry in collaboration with

the shipyard and The Energy and Resources Institute, he also revealed the government's intention for developing such vessels in order to stay up with the Global Maritime Green Transitions.

- Transportation, commodities handling, stationery, and portable and emergency backup power applications are all possible applications for hydrogen fuel cells.
- Fuel cells fueled by Hydrogen are an efficient, environmentally friendly, zero-emission direct current (DC) power source that has already been used in heavy-duty bus, truck, and train applications and is now being developed for marine applications.
- Sonowal stated that the project would be carried out in partnership with Indian partners by the Cochin Shipyard.

7. RAJ'S 'MIYAN KA BADA', 5 OTHER RAILWAY STATIONS RENAMED RECENTLY



- 'Miyan Ka Bada' railway station in the Balotra area of Rajasthan's Barmer district was renamed "Mahesh Nagar Halt." Since Independence, the people of Mian Ka Bada in Rajasthan have demanded that the village's name be changed, claiming that the village's original name was Mahesh Ro Bado
- Prominent stations have got their names changed, like Ayodhya, Bhopal
- The Habibganj railway station in Bhopal was renamed after Gond queen Rani Kamlapati in 2021.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had inaugurated the revamped railway station with world-class amenities.
- Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath on October 21 last year announced the renaming of Faizabad railway junction as Ayodhya Cantt, this three years after the Faizabad district was renamed as Ayodhya.
- In October 2018, the Yogi Adityanath government approved the renaming of Allahabad to Prayagraj amid protests by the opposition parties.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. OVER 3 LAKH 65 THOUSAND TELE CONSULTATIONS CONDUCTED UNDER eSANJEEVANI, SAYS HEALTH MINISTER DR MANSUKH MANDAVIYA



- Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya said, over three lakh 65 thousand teleconsultations were conducted yesterday across the country.
- In a tweet today, Mr. Mandaviya said, government is working relentlessly towards creating a holistic digital health ecosystem in the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The e-Sanjeevani is a telemedicine service to provide general and specialized health services in rural areas.
- It enables virtual connection between the beneficiary at Wellness Centres, doctor and specialist at the hub.

2. COVID FORCES FIRST-EVER POSTPONEMENT OF ASIAN GAMES



- In a surprising development, the Asian Games, scheduled to be held in Hangzhou, China, from September 10-25, was postponed on Friday.
- The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) said the decision was taken “after carefully considering the pandemic situation and the size of the Games.” OCA has not said whether the Games will happen anytime this year or be pushed to 2023.
- This is the first time ever that an Asian Games has been postponed since its inaugural edition in New Delhi in 1951.
- Chinese Olympic Committee (COC) and the Hangzhou Asian Games Organising Committee (HAGOC), the OCA Executive Board (EB) decided to postpone the 19th Asian Games.
- The new dates will be agreed between the OCA, the COC and the HAGOC and announced in the near future
- The host city of Hangzhou is less than 200km away from Shanghai, which is currently fighting another major COVID19 outbreak and has strict restrictions in place, including a weeks-long lockdown.

3. INDIA'S FIRST REGIONAL RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM TRAIN-SET TO BE HANDED OVER TO NCRTC AT SAVLI IN GUJARAT



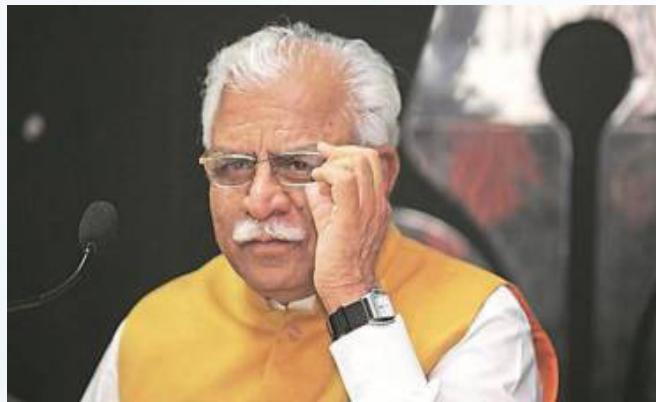
- At Alstom's Savli project in Gujarat, the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) will receive India's first semi-high-speed train set for Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS).
- Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, will be present at the occasion.
- The RRTS train sets are produced under the Make in India initiative and can reach a top speed of 180 kilometres per hour.
- The train will be transported to Duhai Depot in Uttar Pradesh, where it will be repaired and operated.
- Cushioned seating, laptop-mobile charging, luggage racks, and a dynamic route-map are among the modern commuter-centric features of the completely airconditioned train.
- The NCRTC is in charge of putting India's first RRTS corridor between Delhi and Meerut into action. The 82-kilometer-long route is now under construction.
- The 17-kilometer priority segment between Sahibabad and Duhai is expected to be operational by 2023, with the entire corridor completed by 2025.

4. AIR MARSHAL SANJEEV KAPOOR ASSUMES THE APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL (INSPECTION AND SAFETY)



- The Air Marshal is a graduate of National Defence Academy and was commissioned in the Flying branch of IAF in December 1985 as a Transport Pilot.
- He is an alumnus of Defence Services Staff College (DSSC) Wellington, College of Defence Management and National Defence College.
- The Air Officer is a Qualified Flying Instructor with more than 7700 hours of flying experience on various aircraft in the inventory of IAF.
- He was Commandant of National Defence Academy, Pune prior to assuming the present appointment.

5. HARYANA LAUNCHED ‘VEHICLE MOVEMENT TRACKING SYSTEM’ MOBILE APP



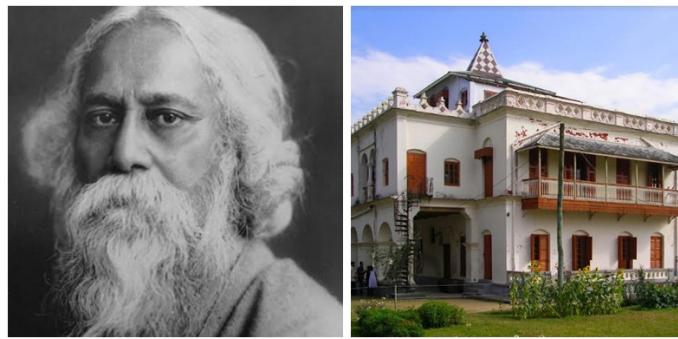
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Wednesday launched a Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS) mobile app that will help in tracking vehicles carrying sand and other mining material.
- The app will be used at different checkpoints in all the districts of Haryana and vehicle details —like vehicle number, vehicle type, moving from, moving to — along with driver details, like name, driver mobile number and driver license number, will be punched into it.
- All the travel history of the vehicle will be logged and can be viewed through the app at anytime.

6. SC APPOINTS PANEL TO MONITOR RECOVERY FROM NSEL DEFAULTERS



- The Supreme Court on Wednesday formed a high-level committee, headed by Retired Bombay High Court Judge Pradeep Nandrajog, for recovery of money from the defaulters against whom National Spot Exchange (NSEL) has secured money decrees.
- NSEL has already secured decrees and arbitration award of ₹3,534 crore against the defaulters.
- Further, defaulters' liabilities of ₹ 760 crore have already been crystallised by the committee appointed by the Bombay High Court
- Proceedings for a decree against NK Protein worth Rs 964 crores is pending before the Bombay High Court.
- In 2013, investors and traders in NSEL lost about Rs 5,600 crores after the exchange shut trading abruptly leading to a series of defaults.
- Two of the defaulters have already paid their liabilities worth Rs 196 crores.

7. BANGLADESH TO CELEBRATE 161ST BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF GURUDEV RABINDRANATH TAGORE MAY 8



- The Government of Bangladesh will organise several programmes across the country to celebrate the 161st Birth Anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore on 8th of May.
- The main event will be held at the Rabindra Kuthibari in Shilaiddaha of Kumarkhali upazila of Kushtia district.
- Parliament Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury will be the Chief Guest on the occasion.
- The decision was taken at the meeting of the National Committee chaired by State Minister for Culture K M Khalid in Dhaka today.
- Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy will organise a three-day long cultural programme and a month-long exhibition of Tagore's painting. A documentary on the poet will also be shown.

- The theme of this year's celebration of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore Birth Anniversary has been kept as 'Crisis of Humanity and Rabindranath'.

8. KHELO INDIA MASCOT AND LOGO LAUNCHED AT PANCHKULAIN IN HARYANA



- In Haryana, the Mascot, Logo and Jersey and theme song of Khelo India Youth Games were launched in a special ceremony held at Indradhanush Stadium in Panchkula today.
- Chief Minister Manohar Lal along with Union Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Anurag Thakur launched the Mascot and Logo and theme song on this occasion.
- They were accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala and Haryana Sports Minister Sandeep Singh and other dignitaries.
- More than 8,000 athletes will be participating in the Khelo India Youth Games scheduled to take place from 4th to 13th of June at Panchkula, Ambala, Shahbad, Chandigarh and Delhi.

By Sameer singhal