



National News

1. Women and Child Development Minister inaugurates NUTRI GARDEN

The Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Smriti Zubin Irani inaugurated NUTRI GARDEN to mark the beginning of Poshan Maah – 2021 at All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA). Plantation of Shigru (Sahijan) and Amla saplings were also carried out. AIIA, New Delhi under the direction of the Ministry of Ayush initiated the celebration of Poshan Maah – 2021.

Nutri kitchen garden/Nutri garden is a method of planting and harvesting nutrient-rich crops in residential houses or in their vicinity to meet the requirements of the family all year round.

In urban areas, Nutri kitchen gardening can be promoted in the form of rooftop gardening, terrace gardening, vertical gardening and container gardening.

In rural areas, Nutri kitchen gardens can be promoted in the backyard of the houses.

2. I&B ministry to form a committee to review Journalist Welfare Scheme

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has decided to form a committee to review the existing guidelines of the Journalist Welfare Scheme (JWS).

The 12-member committee, with Ashok Kumar Tandon, Member, Prasar Bharati Board, as its chairperson, will revise the quantum of ex-gratia payment in case of death as well as in other cases under the scheme.

The terms of reference (ToR) of the committee include examining the need for such a revision of the quantum of ex-gratia payment. The committee will look into the aspect of differentiation or parity between accredited and non-accredited journalists for availing benefits under the scheme. The committee shall give its recommendations within two months and all secretarial assistance for convening its meetings will be provided by the Press Information Bureau (PIB).

Minister of Information and Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur.

International News

3. New Development Bank approves UAE, Bangladesh and Uruguay as a new member

The Shanghai-based New Development Bank (NDB) has approved the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Bangladesh as its new member countries. In 2020, the NDB Board of Governors initiated the negotiation to expand its membership.

As a result UAE, Uruguay and Bangladesh have been admitted as the first new member countries of the NDB.

NDB was established by the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries in 2015. The bank supports public or private projects through loans, guarantees, equity participation and other financial instruments.

New Development Bank Headquarter: Shanghai, China;
New Development Bank President: Marcos Prado Troyjo;
New Development Bank Founder: BRICS;
New Development Bank Founded: 15 July 2014.
Appointments News

4. Pankaj Kumar Singh takes over as new DG of BSF

Pankaj Kumar Singh, a 1988-batch IPS officer from the Rajasthan cadre, has taken charge as the new Director General (DG) of the Border Security Force (BSF). Prior to this, he was serving as the special DG at the BSF headquarters in Delhi.

The 58-year-old Pankaj Singh replaces IPS officer and Indo-Tibetan Border Police Director General (DG) SS Deswal who was holding the additional charge of BSF DG since July 2021. Apart from this, Sanjay Arora, a 1988-batch IPS officers from Tamil Nadu cadre, has taken over as the new DG of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

BSF was formed on December 1, 1965;

BSF Headquarters: New Delhi;

ITBP Founded: 24 October 1962;

ITBP Headquarters: New Delhi, India.

5. Centre appoints Atul Bhatt as CMD of RINL

Atul Bhatt has been appointed as chairman and managing director (CMD) of disinvestment-owned steel company Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL).

He was the CMD of state-owned consultancy firm MECON, which offers a full range of services required to set up a project from concept to commissioning including turnkey execution.

PK Rath retired as CMD RINL on May 31, after serving the company for 38 years. RINL is a special steel-making player based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The company, without any captive iron ore mines, owns and operates a 7.3-million tonne (MT) steel plant in the state.

:

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd Founded: 18 February 1982;

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd Headquarters: Visakhapatnam.

6. PPK Ramacharyulu appointed Rajya Sabha secretary-general

Rajya Sabha Chairman, M Venkaiah Naidu has appointed Dr PPK Ramacharyulu, who is the secretary in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat since 2018, as the secretary general. He succeeds Desh Dipak Verma, who demitted office as secretary-general after serving the top post for four years.

Ramacharyulu is the first insider to have risen from the ranks of the secretariat to the top post in the about 70 years of the Rajya Sabha.

Rajya Sabha Chairperson: M. Venkaiah Naidu;

Rajya Sabha Founded: 3 April 1952;

Rajya Sabha Term limits: 6 years.

Defence News

7. Gujarat to host Defence Expo 2022

The next Defence Expo will be hosted by Gujarat in 2022. This was announced by chief minister Vijay Rupani. The Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Department of Defence Production and the Gujarat Government in this regard.

About 100 countries are expected to participate in this biannual event. Defence Expo-2022 will be held in Gandhinagar from 10th to 13th March next year.

The aim of Defense Expo 2022 is to move from Make in India to make for the world. The Defence Expo-2022 will focus on making India a Defence manufacturing hub.

Schemes and Committees News

8. J&K LG Manoj Sinha inaugurates 'Saath' initiative for women

In Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched a Rural Enterprises Acceleration Programme titled 'Saath' for Self Help Group (SHG) women.

The programme aims to transform the lives of women and make them independent and strong in social and financial aspects, by mentoring the women associated with SHGs and create market linkages of products created by these women.

Saath is aimed at accelerating the livelihoods of rural women, associated with SHGs and which are doing small works. There is not much profit in their work and there is a lack of knowledge about marketing, packaging and branding. This initiative aims to teach women such skills and convert their businesses into Higher Order Enterprises.

9. RBI to setup committee on NUE licenses

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will set up a committee to scrutinize applications and give recommendations on New Umbrella Entity (NUE) licenses. The 5 member committee will be headed by Shri. P. Vasudevan.

The committee will be responsible for looking into several aspects of NUE, from the macroeconomic impact of such a step to the security risks. The committee's recommendations will be taken into consideration before doling out the licences.

NUEs will establish their own payment infrastructure to compete with the National Payments Corp. of India (NPCI). The government hopes to build a settlement system similar to the unified payments interface (UPI) with the NUEs.

The system will be focused on small and medium enterprises, merchants and consumers. The RBI had in August 2020 issued guidelines for creating "for-profit NUEs".

:

RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
Awards News

10. Alejandro Prieto wins Bird Photographer of the Year 2021

Mexican photographer Alejandro Prieto has emerged as the winner of the Bird Photographer of the Year (BPOTY) 2021. He has won for capturing a photograph of a greater roadrunner staring up at the barbed-wire-clad border wall between the USA and Mexico, with what almost looks like a sense of bewilderment. The image has been given the title as 'Blocked'.

The Bird Photographer of the Year comes with a cash prize of £5,000. He was chosen from among 22,000 entries from 73 countries.

11. Powergrid Wins the Prestigious global ATD Best Award

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India has been awarded the coveted "Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award".

POWERGRID securing 8th rank among the 71 organizations from around the globe, thus becoming the only PSU to win this award and one of the only two companies of India in the Top 20.

The Association for Talent Development (ATD, formerly ASTD) is the world's largest association dedicated to those who develop talent in organizations and ATD's BEST Award is the talent development industry's most rigorous and coveted recognition.

POWERGRID Founded: 23 October 1989;

POWERGRID Headquarters: Gurgaon, India.
Banking News

12. RBI imposes Rs 25 lakh fine on Axis Bank for flouting KYC norms

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 25 lakh on Axis Bank for violating certain provisions of know your customer (KYC) norms, on September 01, 2021. RBI had carried out scrutiny during February 2020 and March 2020 in a customer account maintained with the bank, where it was observed that the bank failed to comply with the KYC norms. As a result, the banking regulator issued the notice that Axis Bank did not comply with RBI – KYC Direction, 2016.

Axis Bank CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry;
Axis Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
Axis Bank Founded: 3 December 1993, Ahmedabad.
Sports News

13. Tokyo Paralympics: Avani Lekhara becomes first Indian woman to win two medals

Avani Lekhara won the bronze medal in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions SH1 event with a score of 445.9 to become the first Indian woman to win two medals at the Paralympics. Lekhara had also won gold in the 10m air rifle standing SH1 event. India's medal tally now stands at 12 at these Paralympics. It has now won two golds, six silvers and four bronze medals.

This is India's best tally at a single edition of the Para Games. It had won four medals at Rio 2016 and four at the 1984 Paralympics.

14. Tokyo Paralympics: Praveen Kumar wins silver in men's high jump

Praveen Kumar became India's fourth medallist in men's high jump and 11th medallist overall at the Tokyo Paralympics 2020 as he won silver with an Asian record jump of 2.07m.

Praveen cleared the Asian record with a 2.07m jump, finishing behind Great Britain's Jonathan Broom-Edwards, who managed the best jump of 2.10m on a rain-soaked track at the Olympic Stadium.

Praveen is India's fourth medallist in men's high jump at Tokyo Games after Nishad Kumar, Mariyappan Thangavelu, and Sharad Kumar.

Obituaries News

15. Senior Journalist and former Rajya Sabha MP Chandan Mitra passes away

Former Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist Chandan Mitra has passed away. He was the Editor and Managing Director of The Pioneer newspaper in New Delhi. Mitra was nominated as a member of the Rajya Sabha from August 2003 to 2009.

In June 2010, Mitra was elected to another term in the Rajya Sabha by BJP from Madhya Pradesh. His term ended in 2016. In July 2018, he resigned from the BJP and joined the Trinamool Congress (TMC).

Miscellaneous News

16. Ladakh announces snow leopard as state animal, black-necked crane as state bird

The Union Territory of Ladakh has declared snow leopard (*Panther unica*) as the new state animal and black-necked crane (*Grus nicricollis*) as the new state bird.

The notification in this regard was released by Shri Radha Krishna Mathur, Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Ladakh on August 31, 2021.

The decision was taken keeping in view bifurcation of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh into separate administrative divisions in 2019. In the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, the black-necked crane and Kashmir stag (Hangul) were the state bird and animal respectively.

17. PM Modi unveils special Rs 125 coin on ISKCON founder's 125th birth anniversary

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually unveiled a special commemorative coin of Rs 125 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of ISKCON founder Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. In July 1966, Prabhupada founded the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) commonly known as the 'Hare Krishna movement'.

The spiritual leader was born as Abhay Charan De on September 1, 1896, in Calcutta and later came to be known by the honorific A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

ISKCON Founded: 13 July 1966, New York, United States;

ISKCON Headquarters: Mayapur, West Bengal.