

BANKING / FINANCIAL / ECONOMICAL NEWS

Rupifi joins hands with Axis Bank

☐ Axis Bank has partnered with fintech lending platform Rupifi to offer a business credit card powered by Visa.

☐ The card will be offered to MSMEs to transact on aggregator platforms for their business purchases.

TCPL to sell MAP Coffee Business

☐ Tata Consumer Products Ltd informed that its Australia based subsidiary Earth Rules Pty Ltd is selling MAP Coffee Business to Buccheri Group for 1.25 mn Australian dollars.

☐ MAP Coffee was established in 2002 and supplied Australian cafes, restaurants and bars with a range of Italian and locally roasted coffee.

IMPORTANT DAYS

8th North East Festival from 19 to 20 December

☐ The 8th North East Festival will be held in Guwahati on December 19 and 20, 2020.

☐ The North East Festival is an attempt to showcase and create awareness about India's North East and to promote entrepreneurship and tourism.

SPORTS

NO MAJOR NEWS

APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS

Radhakrishnan Nair: Chief Coach of AFI

☒ Athletics Federation of India has appointed Radhakrishnan Nair as its full-time Chief Coach, filling the post left vacant after the resignation of Bahadur Singh in July 2020.

☒ Nair was the acting Chief Coach of Indian athletics since then.

☒ He is the first Indian to have an International Coaching Enrichment Programme Certificate of the International Olympic Committee.

Corey Anderson announces retirement

☒ New Zealand all-rounder Corey Anderson has announced his retirement and signed a three-year deal with USA's Major League Cricket (MLC).

☒ Anderson, who holds the record for the fastest ODI century in men's cricket, has 93 caps for New Zealand across all formats.

☒ He scored 2277 runs with two hundreds and 10 half-centuries and also picked 90 wickets.

SCHEMES AND POLICIES

Rajasthan CM approves amnesty schemes

☒ Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved two amnesty schemes for mandi traders and land allottees.

☒ "Interest waiver scheme" has been implemented in various Agricultural Produce Market Committees of the state for 75 per cent interest waiver on interest payable in respect of Mandi fee, allocation fee and other dues for disposal of cases.

☒ The scheme can be availed till Mar 31, 2021.

Delhi govt launches electric vehicles forum

☒ The Delhi government announced the launch of an "EV forum", a common platform for multiple stakeholders to hold discussions on the government's electric vehicle policy.

☐ The focus of Delhi's EV forum would be to enable engagement of a wide range of stakeholders in the EV ecosystem for successful implementation of the EV policy.

☐ The objective of the policy is to combat air pollution in Delhi.

AWARD AND HONOURS

Writer Ranendra honoured with an award

☐ Writer and critic in Hindi Ranendra has been honoured with the Shrilal Shukla Smriti IFFCO Sahitya Samman for the year 2020 by Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO).

☐ The award is given annually to a person who has made an important contribution in the field of literature.

☐ This award was started in the year 2011 in the memory of the storyteller Shrilal Shukla.

NATIOANAL

Assam proposes 6th National Park

☐ The Assam government has proposed setting up a national park in a militancy ravaged reserve forest, which, if approved, would make it the state's sixth national park.

☐ The process for approving Raimona National Park has been initiated.

☐ The existing national parks in Assam are Kaziranga, Manas, Dibru-Saikhowa, Manas and Orang.

Mumbai-Nagpur Expressway's to open from 1 May

☐ The first phase of the Mumbai- Nagpur Samruddhi Expressway from Nagpur to Shirdi will be thrown open to public on May 1, 2021.

☐ The eight-lane, 701 km long expressway is being built at the cost of Rs. 55,000 crores Adar Poonawalla named as 'Asian of the Year'

☐ Serum Institute of India's CEO Adar Poonawalla has been named among six people as "Asians of the Year" by Singapore's The Straits Times.

☐ The five others who made to the list are Chinese researcher Zhang Yongzhen, Major-General Chen Wei (China), Dr Ryuichi Morishita (Japan), Ooi Eng Eong (Singapore) and South Korean businessman Seo Jung-jin

MH nod for Kanhalgaon Wildlife sanctuaries

☐ Kanhalgaon, spread over 270sqkm in Chandrapur district, Maharashtra is the latest to be declared a wildlife sanctuary.

☐ It will be the 50th wildlife sanctuary in the state.

☐ Kanhalgaon is a corrior for tigers moving to Kawal tiger reserve in Telangana and Indravati reserve in Chattisgarh.

Kolkata's Majerhat Bridge named "Jai Hind"

☐ West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has named the newly-built Majerhat bridge in Kolkata as "Jai Hind" bridge to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Subhas Chandra Bose.

1st phase of Agra Metro to be inaugurated

☐ PM Narendra Modi will inaugurate the construction of the first phase of the Agra Metro Rail Project (AMRP) virtually on Dec 7, 2020.

☐ The total cost of the AMRP is Rs. 8,379.62 crore and in the first phase, the Sikandra -- Taj East Gate corridor will be constructed.

UP: 1st to conduct over 2 cr COVID tests

☐ Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the country to conduct more than 2 crore tests so far.

☐ This was informed by Uttar Pradesh Additional Chief Secretary, Health, Amit Mohan Prasad on 5 Dec 2020.

☐ 1,66,938 samples were examined in the state on 4 Dec 2020

☐ Till date, a total of 2,10,28,312 samples have been examined, which has not been done in the country by any state.

INTERNATIONAL

China unfurl its Flag on Moon

- ☐ China becomes the second nation to plant flag on the Moon.
- ☐ Chinese spacecraft Chang'e-5 the Chinese flag was raised on the Moon's surface.
- ☐ The Chang'e-5 mission was sent to the Moon to understand the origin of the Moon and to bring back Moon samples.
- ☐ China will be the third country to retrieve samples from the Moon, after the United States and the former Soviet Union in the 1960s and 1970s.

JD.com: 1st to accept China's digital currency

- ☐ Chinese e-commerce company JD.com Inc has become the country's first virtual platform to accept Beijing's homegrown digital currency.
- ☐ JD Digits, the company's fintech arm, will accept digital yuan as payment for some products on its online mall.

Mizoram's first solar power plant commissioned

- ☐ Mizoram's first solar power plant has been commissioned at Tlungvel.
- ☐ The grid-connected 2 megawatts solar photovoltaic (SPV) solar power plant was opened by state Power minister R Lalzirliana on 4 Dec 2020.

DEFENSE

NO MAJOR NEWS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MH Governor flags off Mobile Medical Van

- ☐ Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari flagged off a Mobile Medical Van and dedicated it in the service of the people of Mumbai at a function held at Raj Bhavan in the city.

☐ The Mobile Medical Van will provide free health check-up, medicines and spectacles and arrange for essential surgeries of people from nearly 20 slum areas of Mumbai.

Pixxel to launch remote-sensing satellite

☐ Pixxel will launch its 1st remote-sensing satellite on the ISRO rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) in early 2021.

☐ For this, the firm has entered into an agreement with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a Govt of India company under the Space Dept.

OBITUARIES

Judge G.R Udhwani passes away of COVID-19

☐ Gujarat High Court sitting Judge G.R Udhwani passed away in Dec 2020 due to Covid19.

☐ He began his law practice in 1987 and was elevated as an Additional Judge of the Gujarat High Court in 2012.

☐ Prior to that, he was Registrar General in the High Court.

☐ He was among the three sitting judges who were tested positive in Nov 2020.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dandupur rly stn to be renamed M B Devi Dham

☐ The Dandupur railway station, situated between Pratapgarh and Badshahpur on Lucknow-Varanasi rail section, will now be named Maa Barahi Devi Dham.

☐ The Union government has given its consent after which Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath gave his nod to the renaming of the railway station.

☐ There is a temple of Maa Barahi Devi, six kilometres from the railway station.

Vice President releases a book

☐ Vice President Venkaiah Naidu has virtually released the book, '40 Years with Abdul Kalam- Untold Stories' authored by Dr Sivathanu Pillai.

☐ The book provides a gripping first-hand account of Dr Kalam's life.

☐ It has been published by Pentagon Press LLP and the foreword has been written by Pranab Mukherjee, former President of India.

NIS collaborates with NIE

☐ The National Institute of Siddha (NIS) entered into an MoU with the National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), an institute of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

☐ The two institutes have agreed to collaborate in the following areas: conduct joint research and development projects in the areas of clinical and health system research, epidemiological studies and basic medical research, etc.

IMPORTANT TERMINOLOGIES

Electric Vehicle (EV)

Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)

Agra Metro Rail Project (AMRP)

Tata Consumer Products Ltd (TCPL)

Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)

Solar Photovoltaic (SPV)

Athletics Federation of India (AFI)

National Institute of Siddha (NIS)

National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE)

Major League Cricket (MLC)

Purple Style Labs (PSL)

HKD Gurukul
Govt. Regd. ISO Certified Institute