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## **BANKING / FINANCIAL / ECONOMICAL NEWS**

### **Confusion over when to levy GST on gift vouchers and gift cards finally gets cleared**

Can a gift voucher be taxed differently than a gift card, especially if one is made of paper and another of plastic or metal? And what should be taxed—the card, the voucher, the points therein, or the goods purchased? In what could give clarity to taxing gift cards and vouchers such as the ones by Shoppers Stop Zara or Amazon, a quasi-judicial body just articulated the concerns and the way forward.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

*NO MAJOR UPDATES*

## **SPORTS**

*NO MAJOR UPDATES*

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS**

### **Google's Waymo CEO John Krafcik steps down**

John Krafcik is stepping down as the CEO of Waymo after more than five years on the job. Waymo is a company spun out from Google. Two of Krafcik's top lieutenants will replace him as co-CEOs.

### **Subhash Kumar appointed as ONGC CMD**

Subhash Kumar, Director (Finance) at the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd (ONGC), has assumed additional charge of the post of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD). He was appointed upon the superannuation of incumbent CMD Shashi Shanker.

## **SCHEMES AND POLICIES**

### **TRIFED launches two competitions**

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd (TRIFED), has launched two interesting competitions, Be the Brand Ambassador of Tribes India and Be a friend of TRIBES INDIA Contest in association with MyGov.in. These competitions have been launched with the objective of promoting tribal craft, culture and lifestyle.

### **Odisha govt transfers Rs 693.94 cr to farmers**

The Odisha govt has transferred Rs 693.94 crore to the bank accounts of 34 lakh farmers under its flagship Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme. The

KALIA Yojana is one of the most important farmer welfare programmes of Odisha. It is the only scheme in the country which also helps landless poor along with the small and marginalised farmers.

## AWARDS AND HONOURS

### Andhra Pradesh Governor receives an award

Andhra Pradesh Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan has been conferred the 'Kalinga Ratna' award for the year 2021. The award instituted by Sarala Sahitya Sansad was presented to him during the 600th birth anniversary of Adikabi Sarala Das and the 40th annual celebrations of Sarala Sahitya Sansad.

### Sharan Kumar Limbale wins an award

Dr Sharan Kumar Limbale has bagged the Saraswati Samman, the country's highest literary award, for the year 2020 for his Marathi novel 'Sanaatan' published in 2018. He is the former head of Nashik's Yashwantrao Chavan Open University and author of 40 books. He is the first Dalit writer to get the award.



## NATIONAL

### President Ram Nath Kovind, PM Narendra Modi greet nation on Easter

President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted people on the occasion of Easter on Sunday. "Greetings on Easter! On this day, we remember the pious teachings of Jesus Christ. His emphasis on social empowerment inspires millions across the world," Modi tweeted. "Easter greetings to all! The resurrection of Jesus Christ, celebrated across the world, gives us hope and happiness; reaffirms our faith in innate goodness of humanity. May the teachings of Jesus Christ strengthen the bonds of love, affection and harmony in our society!" tweeted the official Twitter handle of Rashtrapati Bhavan.

### Chhattisgarh: 15 jawans missing after Bijapur Naxal encounter

Around 15 security personnel are missing following the encounter with Naxals in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district on Saturday. "A reinforcement party has rushed to the encounter spot. Bodies of two jawans have been recovered as of now," Chhattisgarh Police sources said. "23 injured have been admitted to Bijapur hospital and 7 have been admitted to a Raipur hospital," it added. Five security personnel were killed and about 10 were injured in the encounter with Naxals in jungles near Tarrem in Bijapur district.

### **India's biggest floating solar power plant**

India's biggest floating solar power plant with a capacity of 100 MW will be set up at Ramagundam in Telangana. The project, which is estimated to cost around 423 crore rupees, will have 4.5 lakh photovoltaic panels. The world's largest solar power plant with 600 MW capacity is being set up on Omkareshwar Dam on Narmada river in Madhya Pradesh.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **India Inc in China concerned over China's COVID-19 travel restrictions**

The CEOs of a host of Indian businesses and industries in China have expressed concern over the continuing COVID-19 related visa and travel restrictions being pursued by Beijing which they say are hampering their activities. They expressed their concern during their interaction with the Indian Ambassador to China, Vikram Misri.

### **Bangladesh to impose 7-day nationwide lockdown amidst spike in COVID-19 cases**

The Bangladesh government on Saturday decided to impose a week-long nationwide lockdown from Monday as COVID-19 cases and deaths surged across the country. Road Transport Minister Obaidul Quader made the announcement at a media briefing in Dhaka on Saturday, the Dhaka Tribune newspaper reported. Bangladesh on Friday logged 6,830 new cases of the coronavirus, the highest count in a day, taking the tally of infections to 624,594. The death toll climbed by 50 in 24 hours to 9,155, according to data released by the government.

## **DEFENCE**

### **Eyeing Guinness record, soldier begins 4,300-km run to be completed within 50 days**

Soldier Naik Velu P is all set to make his 30th birthday memorable as he left for a mission to enter the Guinness Book of World Records by running from Kashmir to Kanyakumari under 50 days. Last year in June, Naik Velu became the first Indian ultra-runner to complete 1,600 km in just 17 days, a feat which is in the process of being entered as an Asian record.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **First baby born in Spain with Covid-19 antibodies: Reports**

A boy born last week on the Spanish island of Ibiza has become the first newborn in Spain with Covid-19 antibodies, after his mother received the vaccine in the third trimester of her pregnancy, according to local media reports. A sample from the baby's umbilical cord analysed at the Hospital Son Espases in Mallorca confirmed that he had developed antibodies against Covid-19.

## World's first Covid-19 vaccine for animals

Russia has registered the world's first vaccine for animals against COVID-19 after tests showed it generated antibodies against the virus in dogs, cats, foxes and mink. Mass production of the vaccine, called Carnivac-Cov, can start in April 2021.

## OBITUARIES

NO MAJOR UPDATES

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Rising prices hit households reeling from shrunk budgets

Households across the country are facing the onslaught of rising prices and are witnessing a sharp dent in their monthly spend capabilities as prices of vegetables, groceries and transport mount steadily. Price pressures have added to the burden of households dealing with job cuts, salary reductions and loss of income as the effect of the pandemic-induced lockdown still plays out across some sectors, despite a strong economic recovery.

### Oldest salt production site in UK

A new archaeological discovery in the UK's North Yorkshire has proved that neolithic people had been manufacturing salt in the region around 6,000 years ago. This makes it one of the oldest salt-processing sites in western Europe. The excavations at a farm near the town of Loftus unearthed evidence of salt-processing, including three hearths, all dating back to around 3,800 BC.

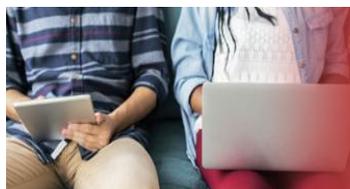
## IMPORTANT TERMINOLOGIES

ONGC = Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd

CMD = Chairman and Managing Director

TRIFED = Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd

KALIA = Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation



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