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

**Nearly 1.23 lakh EPF accounts of high net worth individuals have total contribution of Rs 62,500 cr**

Nearly 1.23 lakh employee provident fund (EPF) accounts of high net worth individuals have total contribution of Rs 62,500 crore, sources in the revenue department said, justifying the move to remove tax exemption to contributions above Rs 2.5 lakh to provident fund. "One of the highest contributors has more than Rs 103 crore in his PF account, followed by two second highest ones having more than Rs 86 crore each... top 20 HNIs have about Rs 825 crore in their accounts while top 100 HNI contributors have more than Rs 2000 crore,"

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

**World Cancer Day: 4 February**

World Cancer Day is observed on 4<sup>th</sup> February every year. The aim to observe World Cancer Day is to reduce misconceptions about cancer and to help people in getting the right information about it. The top cancers that affect the Indian population are lung, breast, cervical, head and neck and colorectal cancer (CRC). The theme for World Cancer Day 2021 is 'I Am and I Will.'

## **SPORTS**

**Virat Kohli: India's top celebrity endorser**

Indian cricket team captain Virat Kohli retained the top celebrity endorser rank for the fourth consecutive year in the 2020 Duff & Phelps celebrity brand valuation report. His brand value stands at \$237.7 mn. Akshay Kumar retained the second position with a brand value of \$118.9 mn, registering a 13.8% jump. Ranveer Singh maintained the third position with a brand value of \$102.9 mn.

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS**

**Bikram Singh Bedi: MD of Google Cloud**

Google Cloud has announced the appointment of Bikram Singh Bedi as the Managing Director for its India business. With the current appointment, Bedi will succeed Karan Bajwa, who was recently elevated as the Vice President of Google's Asia Pacific Cloud. He joined Google Cloud from Indian online grocery delivery startup, Grofers where he served as President Strategy and New Initiatives.

## **SCHEMES AND POLICIES**

**Web portal of the Gobardhan scheme launched**

A web portal for monitoring the progress of Gobardhan scheme was launched on 3 Feb 2021. Gobardhan is an important component of Swachh Bharat Mission Phase-2 for organic solid waste management. Through the scheme, the country will get ethanol, bio-diesel and compressed bio-fuel in the coming years. It aims at supporting villages effectively to manage their cattle dung and organic waste.

## AWARDS AND HONOURS

NO MAJOR UPDATES



## NATIONAL

### FIR against farmers' family for insulting national flag

The mother and brother of a farmer, who died in a road accident near the Ghazipur protest site, have been booked along with another person for allegedly insulting the national flag after a video of his last rites here showed the body draped in the Tricolour, police said Friday. According to the flag code of India, draping the Tricolour in a civilian funeral is an offence.

### Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates Assam's first heliport

The first heliport of Assam has come up at Kerelagaon in Majuli district. Assam chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated heliport. The heliport having facility for simultaneous landing of three helicopters was constructed with an expenditure of Rs. 50 lakh under untied fund of the State government. The Chief Minister on the occasion also inaugurated a guest house built with Rs. 50 lakh at the heliport.

### Telangana: No road tax, registration fee on EV

The Telangana Transport Department has exempted road tax and registration fee for a fixed number of electric vehicles of various categories. This is in line with the Telangana Electric Vehicles (EV) and Energy Storage Policy 2020-30 announced by the State IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao to encourage electric vehicles by providing exemption from road tax and registration fee.

## INTERNATIONAL

NO MAJOR UPDATES

## DEFENCE

### Indian Navy receives three Mk III Advanced Light Helicopters from HAL

The Indian Navy has received three "made in India" advanced light helicopters, customised for coastal security, from the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on Friday. The Mark-III Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) is meant for coastal security. Out of the 16 Mk-III helicopters, HAL delivered three to Indian Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh at Aero India.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Reliance gets world's 1st 'carbon-neutral' oil

Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd has sourced the world's first consignment of 'carbon-neutral oil' from the US as it aims to become a net zero-carbon company by 2035. Reliance got 2 million barrels of consignment Permian basin.

## OBITUARIES

NO MAJOR UPDATES

## MISCELLANEOUS

### India sent 56 L COVID-19 vaccines to foreign nations as gift; 100 L doses as commercial supplies

India provided 56 lakh doses of coronavirus vaccines under grants assistance to a number of countries while 100 lakh doses were sent under commercial supplies, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday. MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said Indian vaccines are scheduled to reach the Caribbean countries, Pacific Island states, Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Mongolia, in the coming weeks.

### Boeing to manufacture 737 vertical fin structures in India

Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited (TBAL), a joint venture between the Tata Group and Boeing, will manufacture complex vertical fin structures for the 737 family of airplanes, Boeing announced today. The vertical fin is a complex structural part and the new production line will utilize cutting-edge robotics and automation in manufacturing.

## IMPORTANT TERMINOLOGIES

EPF = employee provident fund

CRC = colorectal cancer

HAL = Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

ALH = Advanced Light Helicopter

MEA = Ministry of External Affairs

MEA = Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited



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