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BANKING / FINANCIAL / ECONOMICAL NEWS

Free visas to 5 lakh tourists, financial support for tourism sector

The government will provide free visas to 5 lakh tourists visiting India, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday. Announcing measures to revive the tourism sector battered by Covid-19, Sitharaman said financial support would be provided to more than 11,000 registered tourist guides, travel and tourism stakeholders. She said once the visa issuance for international travel is restarted, the first five lakh tourists will be issued visas free of charge. The total financial implication of this measure would be Rs 100 crore.

IMPORTANT DAYS

NO MAJOR UPDATE

SPORTS

SFI announces Rs 5 lakh cash reward for Olympic-bound Sajan Prakash

Swimming Federation of India on Monday announced a cash reward of Rs 5 lakh for Sajan Prakash who scripted history by becoming the first swimmer from the country to earn a direct qualification for the Olympics. Prakash qualified for the Tokyo Olympic Games on Saturday by breaching the 'A' standard time, clocking 1:56:38 seconds in the men's 200m butterfly event at the Sette Colli Trophy in Rome, Italy.

Shooting: Sensational Rahi grabs gold at World Cup

Olympic-bound Rahi Sarnobat displayed sensational form to clinch the women's 25m pistol gold medal at the ISSF shooting World Cup here on Monday but teen sensation Manu Bhaker ended seventh in the same event. Sarnobat's gold is India's first in the ongoing edition after the country secured one silver and two bronze medals earlier in the tournament.

Deepika Kumari bags 3 gold medals

In Archery, India's Deepika Kumari defeated Russia's Elena Osipova 6-0 in the final of the women's individual recurve event on 27 June'21. She completed a hat-trick of gold medals in one day at the World Cup Stage III in Paris. She was also a part of the mixed recurve event and women's recurve team winning gold medal. In the mixed recurve team event, Atanu Das and Deepika Kumari won a gold.

APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS

NO MAJOR UPDATE

SCHEMES AND POLICIES

FM announces stimulus package for economic revival, raises ECLGS scheme limit to Rs 4.5 lakh crore

To help revival of the economy battered by COVID-19, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday announced a slew of measures, including Rs 1.1 lakh crore credit guarantee scheme for improving health infrastructure, and enhancing the limit under the ECLGS by 50 per cent to Rs 4.5 lakh crore for the MSME sector facing liquidity crunch. Sharing the details of stimulus package, the finance minister said this comprises eight relief measures and other eight measures to support the economic growth.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

NO MAJOR UPDATE



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NATIONAL

Majority of Mumbai children have antibodies

A paediatric serosurvey conducted by the Mumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has shown that 51.18 per cent of children between 1 and 18 years in Mumbai have developed antibodies

against the Covid virus, raising hopes of protection from a possible third wave feared to be detrimental to children. The survey was conducted in all 24 civic wards of the city between April 1 and June 15 by BYL Nair Hospital and Kasturba Molecular Laboratory. In all, 2,176 blood samples were collected from pathology labs that included 893 from two private labs, according to the Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

\$400 bn export target ambitious but achievable, needs aggressive marketing

The Federation of Indian Exports Organisation on Monday said that the \$400 billion export target for FY22 is a 'little ambitious' but achievable and requires aggressive marketing strategy and venturing into new markets. "The government aims at the export of \$400 billion in the current fiscal. This looks a little ambitious but certainly achievable... Such a target requires an aggressive marketing strategy and venturing into new markets," FIEO president A Sakthivel said, adding that free trade agreements with the UK, Europe, Australia, and the US would help further push the country's exports.

INTERNATIONAL

NO MAJOR UPDATE

DEFENCE

Need to invest more in research, tech to counter rogue drone ops

India needs to invest more in counter-drone research and technology and procure them in a planned manner to address the security concerns arising from rogue operations the unmanned aerial vehicles, said a senior official of the Drone Federation of India (DFI) on Monday. His comments come in the wake of the attack in which drones dropped two bombs at the IAF station at Jammu airport, injuring two air force personnel.

DRDO successfully test-fires Agni-Prime

India successfully carried out the test-firing of a new missile of the Agni series known as Agni-Prime off the coast of Odisha on 28 June 2021. The new nuclear-capable missile is fully made up of composite material and it was a textbook launch. It is a canisterised missile with a range capability between 1000 and 2000 kilometres.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NO MAJOR UPDATE

OBITUARIES

NO MAJOR UPDATE

MISCELLANEOUS

NSDC and WhatsApp launch a program

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and WhatsApp have announced an alliance to launch the Digital Skill Champions Program. It aims to train India's youth on digital skills, to make them employment-ready. Through this program, school and university students would be coached to imbibe digital and online skills that would culminate with 'Digital Skill Champions' certification.

IMPORTANT TERMINOLOGIES

ECLGS = Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme

DFI = Drone Federation of India

NSDC = National Skill Development Corporation



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