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BANKING / FINANCIAL / ECONOMICAL NEWS

BRICS development bank approves \$1 billion loan for Russia's frontline health workers

The New Development Bank (NDB) has approved a loan of up to \$1 billion to support healthcare workers treating patients for COVID-19 in Russia, it said on Monday. The NDB was established by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, a group of emerging economies known as the BRICS. It set up an Emergency Assistance Facility in April 2020 to provide up to \$10 billion in crisis-related assistance to its member countries.

100% privatisation of Air India

Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri on 27 March 2021 announced the complete disinvestment of Air India. Air India is a first-rate asset but has an accumulated debt of Rs 60,000 Crore. Air India has been in losses since it merged with Indian Airlines in 2007.

IMPORTANT DAYS

NO MAJOR UPDATES

SPORTS

Virat Kohli becomes 3rd captain to lead India in 200 international matches

Virat Kohli has become the third captain to lead India in 200 international matches. Kohli, who became India's captain in all formats of the game in January 2017, led India for the 200th time on Sunday in the third ODI against England. He thus joins his predecessor MS Dhoni and Mohammad Azharuddin as the only players to have led India in 200 international matches. While Azharuddin had led India in 221 matches, Dhoni led India in 332 matches. Dhoni retired from Test cricket in December 2014 after which Kohli became India's captain in the longest format of the game.

India move to 7th position on ICC WC Super League standings

India moved up to seventh position on the International Cricket Council's (ICC) Men's Cricket World Cup Super League standings after their seven-run win over England in the third ODI. The victory helped India seal a 2-1 win over England in the series.

APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS

New Andhra Election Commissioner

Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Secretary Nilam Sawhney has been appointed as the new State Election Commissioner (SEC). She will replace the Andhra Election Commissioner Ramesh Kumar. She was the first woman Chief Secretary of the state.

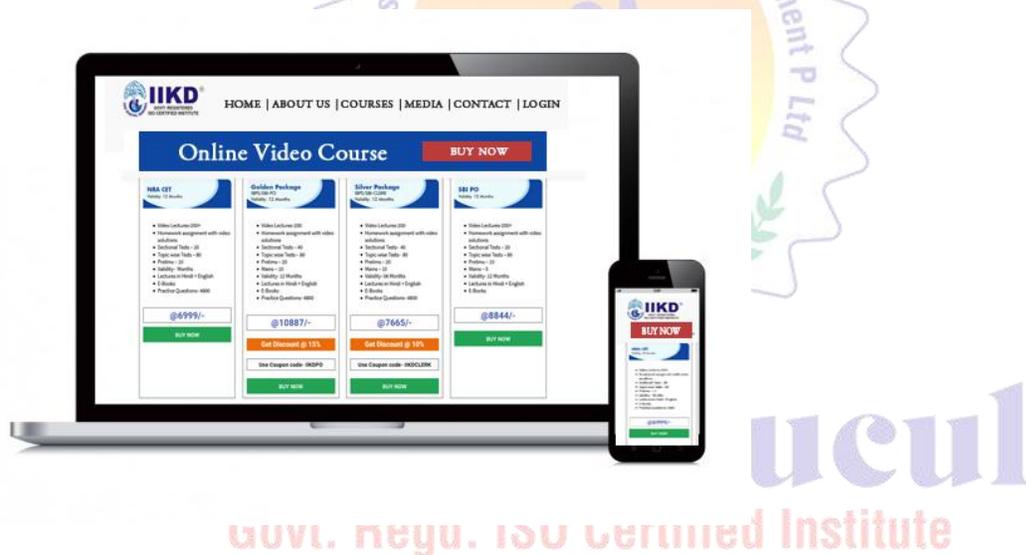
SCHEMES AND POLICIES

NO MAJOR UPDATES

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Mahinder Giri wins International Ranger Award

Mahinder Giri becomes the only ranger from Asia to win the prestigious International Ranger Award for his contribution towards conservation. He is deployed as a Range Officer at Motichur range of Rajaji Tiger Reserve, Uttarakhand.



NATIONAL

India against Asean in supply chain trilateral

India has opposed Japan's suggestion to include the Asean countries in the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) which seeks to reduce dependence on China and build resilient supply chains in the IndoPacific region. While Japan is keen to on-board the 10-member Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean), officials said New Delhi wants to safeguard its interests from China's indirect influence through the bloc as it builds on its self-reliance through reduced dependence on imports. India, Japan and Australia are members of the SCRI.

INTERNATIONAL

Indian Army donates 1 lakh doses COVID-19 vaccines to Nepal Army

The Indian Army on Sunday gifted one lakh doses of made in India anti-COVID-19 vaccines to the Nepal Army, according to sources. The vaccines brought on Air India aircraft were handed over by the Indian Army officials to their counterparts from the Nepal Army at the Tribhuvan International Airport.

DEFENCE

Indian Ocean partnership: Growing defence ties between India and Madagascar

A 5 member Indian mobile training team completed imparting 14 days special training to 50 Malagasy Special Forces in the port city of Antsiranana. The Malagasy special forces consisted from both the navy and army of Madagascar. Indian Navy mobile training team was deployed in Madagascar for capacity building and training of the Malagasy Special Forces for two weeks from March 14-28.

India, US begin two-day naval exercise in eastern Indian Ocean region

India and the US on Sunday kicked off a two-day naval exercise in the eastern Indian Ocean Region, reflecting the growing congruence in their defence and military partnership. The Indian Navy deployed its warship Shivalik and long-range maritime patrol aircraft P8I in the 'PASSEX' exercise while the US Navy was represented by the USS Theodore Roosevelt carrier strike group. A carrier battle group or carrier strike group is a mega naval fleet comprising an aircraft carrier, accompanied by a large number of destroyers, frigates and other ships.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NO MAJOR UPDATES

OBITUARIES

NO MAJOR UPDATES

MISCELLANEOUS

Tata Power: Offer 100% green energy in Mumbai

Tata Power company announced that it will offer its retail consumers in Mumbai the option to switch to 100% green energy for an additional 66 paise per unit. This applicable for retail consumers in Mumbai as well as industrial and commercial establishments in the entire state. The plan will be rolled out in the next 3-6 months.

Anti-dumping duty on bottle grade PET

India has imposed anti-dumping duty on the import of bottle grade Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) resin originating in or exported from China for 5 years. Imports of bottle grade PET from China increased over 67 per cent, from FY18 to FY19.

IMPORTANT TERMINOLOGIES

NDB = New Development Bank

BRICS = Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa

ICC = International Cricket Council's

SEC = State Election Commissioner

SCRI = Supply Chain Resilience Initiative

ASEAN = Association of South East Asian Nations

PET = Polyethylene Terephthalate



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