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## INTERNATIONAL

### 1) World Bank has stopped funding for projects in Afghanistan

World Bank has stopped funding for projects in Afghanistan after the Taliban seized control in the country. World Bank also raised concerns over how the Taliban offensive will affect development prospects in Afghanistan, especially with respect to women.

## NATIONAL

### 1) GUAREX

India's first sectoral index in the Agri commodities basket i.e. GUAREX was launched by the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited. GUAREX is a price based sectoral index that tracks the movement in the futures contracts of guar gum refined splits and guar seed on a real-time basis.

### 2) "KAZIND-21"

The 5th edition of Indo- Kazakhstan Joint Training Exercise, "KAZIND-21" will be held from August 30 to September 11, 2021, at Training Node, Aisha Bibi, Kazakhstan. The joint training exercise will boost the bilateral relations between India and Kazakhstan Armies.

### 3) BRICS High Representatives Responsible for National Security

The 11th Meeting of the BRICS High Representatives Responsible for National Security was held, via video conferencing. The National Security Advisor of India Ajit Doval hosted the meeting since India is the chair for the 2021 BRICS summit. The BRICS meeting of the NSA provided a platform for the five countries to strengthen political-security cooperation.

### 4) SUJALAM campaign

Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched a '100 days campaign' named SUJALAM. The Campaign would help in the management of the wastewater and in turn, would help to revive the water bodies through the creation of 1 million Soak-pits and also other Greywater management activities.

### 5) SAMRIDH programme

Ministry of Electronics has launched the "Start-up Accelerators of MeitY for pProduct Innovation, Development and growth (SAMRIDH)" programme. The programme was launched by Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Union Minister MeitY. Its objective is to create a conducive platform to Indian Software Product start-ups to enhance their products and securing investments for scaling their business.

### 6) PRAGATI meeting

Prime Minister chaired the meeting of 37th edition of PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and





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Timely Implementation). It is a platform, enabling the Prime Minister to discuss issues with concerned Central and State officials with full information and visuals of ground-level situation.

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

### 1) BharatPe has launched a “12% Club” app

BharatPe has launched a “12% Club” app that will allow consumers to invest and earn up to 12 per cent annual interest or borrow at a similar rate. BharatPe has partnered with LenDenClub (RBI-approved NBFC) for this app and lending arrangement.

### 2) “Ananda mobile app”

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) launched a mobile app called “Ananda mobile app” for its agents and intermediaries in order to onboard the prospective customers. ANANDA stands for Atma Nirbhar Agents New Business Digital Application. It was launched for LIC Agent only.

## GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

### 1) India’s first green hydrogen electrolyzer

US-based Ohmium International has started India’s first green hydrogen electrolyzer manufacturing unit at Bengaluru, Karnataka. The factory will manufacture India-made Proton Exchange Membrane hydrogen electrolyzers. Green hydrogen is made from non-fossil sources as against blue hydrogen that is made from fossil sources.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### 1) HGCO19

The Drugs Controller General of India gave nod for Phase-2 and Phase-3 trials of India’s first mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine. First mRNA-based covid-19 vaccine, called HGCO19, is being developed by a Pune-based biotechnology company, Genova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd.

## APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) Sandeep Bakhshi

The Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as the MD & CEO of ICICI Bank. This will be with effect from October 15, 2021, till October 3, 2023.

## OBITUARY

### 1) O Chandrasekharan

Former India footballer O Chandrasekharan, popularly known as Olympian Chandrasekharan in his home state Kerala, passed away. Chandrasekharan, who played as a defender, was a member of the Indian team in the 1960 Rome Olympics the last time the country participated in football at the Games.



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## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1) International Dog Day

International Dog Day is observed every year on August 26 to raise awareness about dog adoption and the importance of providing rescue dogs with a safe and loving environment. The day was started as National Dog Day in the US in 2004.

