

**RACE™****22.08.2021**

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INTERNATIONAL

1) Online Privacy Law

China passed a new Online Privacy Law with the aim of preventing businesses from collecting any sensitive personal data. New law was passed in the backdrop of China facing an uptick in internet scams. Law also provided that, personal data of Chinese nationals cannot be transferred to countries having lower standards of data security than China.

2) "Threats to International Peace & Security Caused by Terrorist Acts"

President of UN Security Council & External affairs minister of India, S. Jaishankar, slammed at China for terror stand. He chaired the UNSC Briefing on "Threats to International Peace & Security Caused by Terrorist Acts". International community holds a collective view on terrorism that, it must be condemned in all its forms and manifestations.

NATIONAL

1) India's highest herbal park

India's highest herbal park, at a height of 11,000 feet, was inaugurated near Indo-China border at Mana village in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand. This high-altitude herbal park was inaugurated with the aim of conserving various medicinally and culturally important alpine species and to conduct research on propagation and habitat ecology of these species.

2) AK-103 Rifles

India and Russia have signed a deal to immediately procure AK-103 Rifles. This deal was inked as a part of mega infantry modernisation programme. Under this programme, India is procuring a number of AK-103 series of assault rifles from Russia for the Indian Army.

3) Kigali Agreement

India has approved the ratification of the Kigali Agreement to the Montreal Protocol in order to phase down Hydrofluorocarbons. India now requires to reduce its HFCs usage by 80% by 2047. China and the US have to achieve the same in 2045 and 2034.

4) 2nd 'Zair-Al-Bahr'

The 2nd edition of Bilateral Maritime Exercise Zair-Al-Bahr (Roar of the Sea) 2021 between the Indian Navy and Qatar Emiri Naval Force (QENF) was conducted in the Persian Gulf. It consisted of a three day harbour phase followed by a two day sea phase.

STATE NEWS

1) Wanchuwa festival 2021

Tiwa tribal community living in the hills celebrated the Wanchuwa festival 2021 in Morten Village in Karbi Anglong District of Assam. This festival is related to agriculture as it marks a good harvest and also involves prayers for protection from pests and natural calamities.





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BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) “Small Business Loans Initiative”

Facebook India has launched a new initiative called the “Small Business Loans Initiative”. This initiative was launched in partnership with online lending platform, Indifi. India is the first country where Facebook rolled out this initiative. Indifi is the first lending partner with which Facebook has tied up.

2) India’s largest Floating Solar PV

India’s largest Power Producer, NTPC Ltd launched India’s largest Floating Solar Photovoltaic project with the capacity of 25MW on the reservoir of its Simhadri thermal station in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The floating solar PV project became the 1st project to be set up under the Flexibilisation Scheme.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1) INSACOG report

A genome sequencing government consortium of Laboratories in India, INSACOG, stressed that breakthrough infections of coronavirus cases in India comprise a high proportion of Delta variant. It adds, vaccination is still very effective in reducing severe disease and death. Sequencing of vaccination breakthroughs across India is also showing a high proportion of Delta variant.

2) ZyCoV-D vaccine

The Drug Controller General of India has approved ZyCoV-D vaccine by Zydus Cadila for Emergency Use Authorization. According to Ministry of Science and Technology, ZyCoV-D vaccine is the world’s first and India’s indigenously developed DNA-based vaccine for COVID-19. It will be administered to humans including children and adults aged 12 years and more.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Ismail Sabri Yaakob

King of Malaysia has appointed Ismail Sabri Yaakob as the prime minister of the country. Ismail Sabri Yaakob replaced Muhyiddin Yassin as Prime Minister. Ismail Sabri was earlier Muhyiddin’s deputy who has now taken over amid surge in covid-19 infections and economic slowdown.

OBITUARY

1) Kalyan Singh

Former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Kalyan Singh passed away. He had served as the CM of Uttar Pradesh twice - June 1991 to December 1992 and September 1997 to November 1999 and was the CM of UP during the demolition of the Babri Masjid. He’s a two-time Member of Parliament and a former governor of Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

