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# NEWS IN SHORT

Ministry of Women and Child Development is

celebrating the Poshan Pakhwada

NEWS ②: Lok Sabha cleared the Appropriation Bill

NEWS 3: 392 routes under UDAN 4.1 bidding process

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Covid-19 vaccination

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NEWS 7: World Bank has approved USD 200 million to help Bangladesh

NEWS 8: International Solar Alliance (ISA) Framework Agreement signed by Italy

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NEWS (1): 16th Annual Banking Technology Awards by

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS - 18.03.2021

# **NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

#### Poshan Pakhwada

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development is celebrating the Poshan Pakhwada.
- The **key focus areas** of the Pakhwada are to address the nutritional challenges using the Food Forestry and to organize the Poshan Panchayats.

## **Appropriation Bill**

- The Lok Sabha cleared the Appropriation Bill, allowing the Central government to draw funds from the Consolidated Fund of India.
- Appropriation Bill gives power to the government to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund of India for meeting the expenditure during the financial year.

#### **UDAN 4.1**

- On the commencement of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', the Ministry of Civil Aviation has proposed about 392 routes under UDAN 4.1 bidding process.
- The UDAN 4.1 focuses on connecting smaller airports, along with special helicopter and seaplane routes.

## Telugu version of NEP launched

• The Central University of Punjab launched the Telugu version of National Education Policy 2020 at its Bathinda campus, VicePresident M. Venkaiah Naidu was also present at the event.

# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

#### "Digital Green Certificate"

The European Commission has proposed for a Covid-19 certificate called "Digital Green Certificate" covering the details regarding the Covid-19 vaccination, testing and recovery.

## "Sinatra Doctrine"

• The Central and Eastern Europe member countries have accepted the "Sinatra Doctrine" as a counter to the increasing China's aggressiveness to undermine the unity of the European Union through the divide and rule policy.

## **International Solar Alliance**

- The Ministry of External Affairs of India has informed that Italy has signed a framework agreement with India to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- The ISA Framework Agreement was signed by Ambassador of Italy, Vincenzo De Luca.

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## World Bank has approved USD 200 million to help Bangladesh

- The World Bank has approved USD 200 million in order to help Bangladesh.
- It will be used to provide support and services to lowincome urban youths who have been impacted by COVID 19 pandemic and the migrants who lost their jobs amid the covid-19 pandemic.

# ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

### **Artificial Photosynthesis**

- A team of Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research have found artificial photosynthesis method.
- It is the natural process of reducing the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The artificial photosynthesis method was developed in order to capture excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

### "TraceBioMe Project"

- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National **Institute of Oceanography, Goa**, has launched the "TraceBioMe Project" in order to map the genetic diversity of organisms.
- It will also forecast the extensive sampling of water, planktons, sediments and several organisms in different parts of Indian Ocean.

# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

#### **Underwater space telescopes**

- Russian scientists have launched one of the biggest underwater space telescopes of the world.
- This underwater space telescope was deployed deep into universe from pristine waters of Lake Baikal. The telescope has been named as "Baikal-GVD".

# "Embracing Digital: Is covid-19 the catalyst for lasting

- The survey was conducted by the EY and Imperial College London's institute for Global Health Innovations.
- As per the survey, **India** has witnessed the **highest the** adoption of the digital technologies by the health & human services in during the time when covid-19 pandemic.

# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Banking Technology Awards

- Telangana Grameena Bank has been adjudged The Best IT Risk and Cyber Security Initiatives Bank at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Banking Technology Awards function of Indian Banks' Association.
- In the Best Digital Financial Inclusion Initiatives Bank award category, the **regional rural bank** was declared the runnerup.

## APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

#### Dr. Harsh Vardhan

- The Union Health Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, has been appointed as the chairman of "Stop TB Partnership Board".
- This appointment was made to recognise his outstanding contribution towards the movement of eradicating Tuberculosis (TB) from India by 2025.