



RACE™



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NEWS IN SHORT

NEWS ①: Indian and French Navies conducted the Varuna Naval Exercise

NEWS ②: Agreement was signed on Customs Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs matters.

NEWS ③: "Supply Chain Resilience Initiative" of India, Japan & Australia

NEWS ④: Cost of vaccinating India's entire population above 18 years 0.36% of GDP

NEWS ⑤: Asian Development Outlook, 2021 released

NEWS ⑥: World Health Organisation to provide Oxygen Concentrators to India

NEWS ⑦: SC allows Vedanta to produce oxygen at its Tamil Nadu plant

NEWS ⑧: Government has infused Rs 200 crore capital in IFCI

NEWS ⑨: MIDHANI has bagged the Telangana State Intellectual Property Award

NEWS ⑩: World Day for Safety and Health at Work - April 28th

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Varuna Naval Exercise

- The Indian and French Navies conducted the Varuna Naval Exercise in the Arabian Sea.
- The exercise included surface and anti-weapon firings, tactical manoeuvres, rotary wing flying operations including cross deck helicopter landings and air defence and anti-submarine exercises.

Customs Cooperation

- Union Cabinet approved the agreement signed between Government of India and the Government of UK.
- The agreement was signed on Customs Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs matters. It will help to ensure if Customs laws are abided.

"Supply Chain Resilience Initiative"

- During a trilateral Ministerial Meeting, the Trade Ministers of India, Japan & Australia virtually launched the "Supply Chain Resilience Initiative".
- SCRI aims to build a resilient supply chain with focus on free, transparent trade & investment environment in the Indo-Pacific region.

Cost of vaccinating India's entire population above 18 years 0.36% of GDP

- The India Ratings and Research said the estimated cost to vaccinate all the Indians of age 18 years will be Rs 67,193 crores.
- This is 0.36% of the GDP of the country. With this, the total size of population eligible for vaccination is 84.19 crores.

STATE AFFAIRS

'Large Area Certification scheme'

- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has certified around 14, 491 Hectares of land in Car Nicobar and nancowry group of Islands in UT of A&N as 'Organic Area' under the Large Area Certification scheme of the Participatory Guarantee System -India certification programme.

SC allows Vedanta to produce oxygen at its Tamil Nadu plant

- The Supreme Court allowed Vedanta to operate its oxygen production unit at the Sterlite copper plant in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, as an extraordinary measure to tide over the national shortage of oxygen amid the second wave of the COVID19 pandemic.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Asian Development Outlook, 2021

- The **Asian Development Bank** released its **Asian Development Outlook, 2021**. According to the report, **India is to grow at 11%**.
- The ADB released its Annual outlook. The outlook says that ADB has provided a **financial support of 1.5 billion USD to India** to fight against COVID-19.

World Health Organisation to provide Oxygen Concentrators to India

- The **World Health Organisation** announced that it will provide **4,000 Oxygen Concentrators to India** to help the country in its fight against COVID-19.

Vayu Initiative

- **Amazon** has joined hands with **Temasek Foundation, ACT Grants** and other partners to **help India in its fight against oxygen shortage** under the **Vayu** initiative.
- Under the initiative, **500 BiPAP machines** and **8,000 oxygen concentrators** will be transported from Singapore.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Industrial Finance Corporation of India

- In order to improve the **financial health of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India**, the Government has **infused Rs 200 crore capital** in IFCI through issue of **equity shares**.
- After the capital infusion, the government's holding in IFCI was increased from 61.02 per cent to **63.8 per cent**.

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

Earthquake in Assam

- **Seven back-to-back earthquakes** occurred in **Assam** and other north eastern states.
- The first shocks were of **6.4 magnitude**. Later, the jolts were at **3.2 to 3.4 magnitude** in **Richter scale**. The Epicentre of the earthquake was located at a depth of 17 km.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Python missiles

- The **DRDO** test fired a **series of missile trials**. It included the **Derby missiles** and the **Python missiles**.
- The missiles were test fired in Goa. With this the DRDO announced that the **Python 5 Air to Air Missile** has been successfully added to the **Light Combat Aircraft Tejas**.

NEO-01 robot

- A **Space Mining Startup of China** launched **NEO-01**. It is a robotic platform launched into the **low earth orbit**.
- It will conduct experiments on **space debris removal technique**. It was launched to observe the **small celestial bodies in deep space**.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

WILD Innovator Award

- The **WILD ELEMENTS Foundation** has awarded **Dr Krithi K Karanth, Chief Conservation Scientist** at Bengaluru-based **Centre for Wildlife Studies**, the **'WILD Innovator Award'** for 2021.
- She became the **first Indian and Asian woman** to receive such an award.

Telangana State Intellectual Property Award

- Defence public sector undertaking **Mishra Dhatu Nigam (MIDHANI)** has bagged the **Telangana State Intellectual Property Award for Best IP Portfolio** under the **PSU category**.
- The awards were announced by the **Confederation of Indian Industry, Telangana** during the **World Intellectual Property Day** celebrations.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Miguel Díaz-Canel

- **Miguel Díaz-Canel, The President of Cuba** has been named as the **first secretary of the Central committee of the Cuban Communist Party**.
- He succeeded Raúl Castro as the first non Castro First Secretary of the communist party since the cuban revolution in 1959.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day for Safety and Health at Work

- The **United Nation's World Day for Safety and Health at Work** is annually observed across the globe on **28th April** to highlight the **prevention of accidents and diseases** at work and to **raise awareness about occupational safety and health**.

OBITUARY

Satyanarayana Rao

- **Former PCC president and senior Congress leader M. Satyanarayana Rao** breathed passed away due to age-related issues.
- He actively participated in the 1969 Telangana movement and was jailed for several months. He served in the Y.S. Rajashekhar Reddy cabinet from 2004 to 2007.