INTERNATIONAL

Solomons embattled PM survives confidence vote
Embattled Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare survived a no-confidence vote, while accusing “Taiwan’s agents” of orchestrating recent political violence that plunged the Pacific Island nation into crisis.

U.S. House passes $768 bn defence spending Bill
The U.S. House of Representatives passed the $768 billion National Defense Authorization Act (FY2022), authorising defence spending and addressing defence reforms.

New Zealand plans lifetime ban on cigarette sales to stamp out smoking
The New Zealand government plans to ban young people from ever buying cigarettes in their lifetime in one of the world’s toughest crackdowns on the tobacco industry, arguing that other efforts to extinguish smoking were taking too long.

PM Modi participates in first Summit for Democracy at Prez Biden’s invitation
Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the first Summit for Democracy at the US President Joe Biden’s invitation.

UN GA grants Observer Status to International Solar Alliance
UN General Assembly has granted Observer Status to International Solar Alliance. The ISA was conceived as a joint effort by India and France to mobilise efforts against climate change through the deployment of solar energy solutions.

Indian-American Gautam Raghavan appointed Head of White House Personnel Office
Indian-origin Gautam Raghavan has been elevated to Head of the White House personnel office. Raghavan was Russel’s Deputy at the White House Office of Presidential Personnel.

Israel PM Bennett travels to UAE on historic first visit
Israel’s Naftali Bennett arrived in the United Arab Emirates for the first official visit by a Prime Minister of the Jewish state, after they established diplomatic ties last year.

Dubai world’s first govt to become 100% paperless: Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan
Dubai has become the world’s first government to turn 100 per cent paperless, the Emirate’s Crown Prince, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, has announced, pointing at savings of 1.3 billion Dirham (USD 350 million) and 14-million-man hours.

India votes against UN draft resolution on climate change
India voted against a draft resolution at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) linking climate to security, saying it was an attempt to shift climate talks from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to the Security Council and a “step backward” for collective action on the issue.

Super Typhoon Rai hammers Philippines
Thousands of people in the Philippines fled their homes and beachfront resorts as Super Typhoon Rai pummelled the country. Rai is the strongest storm to hit the disaster-prone archipelago this year.

Sadr’s bloc is biggest winner in Iraq election
Iraq released final results from last month’s general election, confirming populist Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr’s movement’s victory as the biggest bloc, with 73 seats in the fractious 329-seat house.

Honduras ruling party accepts election defeat
Honduras’s leftist presidential candidate Xiomara Castro was headed for election victory thereby making history as the first woman to govern the Central American nation — with her rival from the ruling rightwing National Party conceding defeat.

WHO members agree to forge a pandemic accord
World Health Organization member states agreed to start building a new international accord on how to handle future pandemics and ensure there can be no repeat of COVID-19.

EU plans €300 billion infra fund to counter China’s BRI
The European Commission announced a plan to mobilise €300 billion ($340 billion) in public and private infrastructure investment around the world, a move seen as a response to China’s Belt and Road strategy.

India joins G20’s Troika with Indonesia and Italy
India joined the G20 ‘Troika’. With this move, India has started the procedure for taking over the G20 presidency next year. Troika refers to the top grouping within the G20 that consists of the current, previous and the incoming presidencies — Indonesia, Italy and India.

Taliban urge U.S. to release frozen funds
The Taliban renewed its call for the U.S. to release billions of dollars in frozen funds after two days of talks in Doha as aid-dependent Afghanistan grapples with economic crisis.

Biden warns Russia against Ukraine attack
US President Joe Biden vowed to make it “very, very difficult” for Russian President Vladimir Putin to take military action in Ukraine, saying his administration is putting together a comprehensive set of initiatives to curb Russian aggression.

Taliban decrees ban on forced wedding in Afghanistan
The Taliban decreed that they were banning forced marriage of women in Afghanistan, a move apparently meant to address criteria the international community consider a precondition to recognising their government and restoring aid to the war-torn country.

UAE buys record 80 Rafale jets for €14 billion
The UAE signed a record €14-billion contract for 80 Rafale warplanes and committed billions of euros in other deals as French President Emmanuel Macron kicked off a West Asia tour.

Olaf Scholz to take charge of Germany as Merkel era ends
Germany’s Parliament will officially elect Olaf Scholz as the country’s next Chancellor, bringing the curtain down on Angela Merkel’s 16-year reign and ushering in a new political era with the centre-left in charge.

Myanmar’s Aung San Suu Kyi sentenced to jail
The junta in Myanmar jailed ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi for four years for incitement against the military and breaching COVID-19 rules.

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Omicron infects 70 times faster than Delta, but likely less severe: study
The Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2 infects and multiplies faster than the Delta variant and original SARS-CoV-2 in the human bronchus, which may explain why it may transmit faster between people than previous variants.

Russia drafts pact to limit U.S., NATO role in ex-Soviet nations
Russia unveiled proposals to contain the U.S. and NATO in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, calling for urgent negotiations with Washington as it amasses forces near Ukraine.

OIC nations pledge fund to prevent Afghanistan economic collapse
The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has pledged to set up a humanitarian trust fund for Afghanistan as millions face hunger and poverty.

Philippines typhoon casualties rise to 375
The death toll from the strongest typhoon to hit the Philippines this year surged to 375, as desperate survivors pleaded for urgent supplies of drinking water and food.

Biden to pledge 500 mn free COVID tests to beat Omicron
With the omicron variant on the march, President Joe Biden plans to announce 500 million free rapid tests for Americans, increased support for hospitals under strain and a redoubling of vaccination and boosting efforts.

EU to push for nine-month vaccine validity
The European Union is poised to limit the validity of vaccine recognition in its EU COVID certificate to nine months, its executive said, in a bid to encourage boosters.

UNSC adopts resolution to ease Afghan assistance
The United Nations Security Council has unanimously adopted a resolution proposed by the United States that facilitates humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, which is on the verge of economic collapse, while keeping funds out of the Taliban hands.

India gives 1 million doses to Myanmar
Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla handed over 10 lakh doses of ‘Made in India’ vaccines to the representatives of the Myanmar Red Cross Society to support the people of Myanmar in their fight against COVID-19.

U.S. health regulator authorises Pfizer’s Covid pill
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorised Pfizer’s COVID pill for high-risk people aged 12 and over.

Chinese City Locks Down 13 Million Residents To Fight Covid Outbreak
The northern Chinese city of Xi’an ordered all 13 million residents to stay home in a strict lockdown from Wednesday, while dramatically tightening travel controls to fight a growing Covid-19 outbreak.

EU initiates action after Poland violates bloc laws
The EU announced that it is launching legal action against Poland for ignoring European Union law and undermining the independence of its national judiciary.

US regulator authorizes Merck’s Covid pill
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorised Merck’s COVID-19 pill for high risk adults, a day after giving the green light to a similar pill by Pfizer.

US President Joe Biden signs Bill on forced labour in China
President Joe Biden signed into law a bill banning goods from China’s Xinjiang region unless companies can prove they aren’t made with forced labor, a move that will add to tensions over Beijing’s treatment of the nation’s Uyghur minority.

Japan, Taiwan agrees to boost economic security cooperation
Japan and Taiwan have agreed to bolster cooperation in the field of economic security with an emphasis on supply chain resilience for semiconductors and other crucial goods.

India hands over food aid, defence equipment to Mozambique
India handed over two Fast Intercept Craft (FIC) and other self-defence equipment to Mozambique to assist in its capacity building as the Central African nation battles growing terror threats.

Israel approves plan to double settlers in Golan
Israel’s government approved a $317 million plan to double the Jewish settler population in the Golan Heights, 40 years after it annexed the territory captured from Syria.

Afghanistan as millions face hunger and poverty.

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Pakistan’s top security panel approved its National Security Policy for 2022-26, placing “economic security at the core” of the first-of-its kind document to ensure a “citizen-centric approach to security.”

WHO warns that Omicron could lead to overwhelmed healthcare system
The WHO has warned that the Omicron variant could lead to overwhelmed healthcare systems. WHO has warned against complacency even though preliminary findings suggest that Omicron could lead to milder disease.

Palestinian President makes rare visit to Israel for talks
Israel unveiled a package of “confidence-building measures” for the occupied West Bank, after Defence Minister Benny Gantz hosted talks with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on his first visit in years.

Kuwait swears in fourth government in two years
Kuwait’s Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah appointed his fourth Cabinet in two years, naming a new finance minister and including four lawmakers in the line-up in an effort to break a political impasse that has held back economic reforms in the oil-rich Gulf nation.

Iran announces new space launch amid nuclear talks
Iran has carried out a new space launch, in a move likely to irk Western powers amid tough talks on reviving a 2015 nuclear deal. Tehran successfully put its first military satellite into orbit in April 2020, drawing a sharp rebuke from Washington.

China issues names for 15 places in Arunachal
Two days ahead of China implementing new border law, the Chinese government renames 15 places of
Arunachal Pradesh in its map. China’s Ministry of Civil Affairs issued a statement stating that they have ‘standardised’ names for 15 places in Arunachal Pradesh, to be used on Chinese maps.

**NATIONAL**

6 lakh Indians renounced citizenship
More than six lakh Indians renounced citizenship in the past five years, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) informed the Lok Sabha. This year, till September 30, 1,11,287 Indians gave up their citizenship.

Govt. appoints three-member panel to review EWS quota
The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment appointed a three-member committee to revisit the criteria for 10% reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS) in educational institutions and Government jobs, after a rap from the Supreme Court in November.

New crypto Bill will be introduced soon: Govt.
Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the Union government was working on a new Bill on cryptocurrency which would take into account the rapidly changing dimensions in the virtual currency space.

Govt. notifies Farm Laws Repeal Act
The Centre notified a legislation to repeal the three agriculture laws against which thousands of farmers have been protesting and nearly 700 have lost lives over a year now.

Railways Ministry scraps ‘private trains’ tender
The Ministry of Railways has scrapped the tender inviting bids from private operators to run trains on select routes following muted response, the Parliament was informed. The bids were invited to induct 151 trains over 12 clusters via public private partnership (PPP).

Facial recognition at airports from 2022
After a delay of three years, come March 2022, passengers will be able to use a face scan as their boarding pass at four airports in the country. Airports at Varanasi, Pune, Kolkata and Vijaywada will be the first to roll-out the facial recognition technology-based biometric boarding system, and the service will go live from March 2022.

Paika rebellion to be in history textbooks
The 1817 Paika rebellion of Odisha could not be called the first war of Independence but considering it as a beginning of a popular uprising against the British, it would be included as a case study in the Class 8 National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) history textbook.

Sambit Patra appointed as Chairman of ITDC
BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra has been appointed as the Chairman of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC).

Indian Army to have new combat uniform
The Indian Army is set to introduce a new combat uniform for its rank and file, which will be showcased at the Army Day parade on January 15.

June 2023 deadline for smart cities
The deadline for completing projects under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) was extended for all 100 participating cities to June 2023 due to the delays caused by COVID-19 and based on a NITI Aayog recommendation in August.

Meta steps up measures to protect women online
Meta, formerly Facebook announced initiatives in India to ensure women’s safety on the platform, including measures to combat the spread of non-consensual intimate images and the introduction of a ‘Women’s Safety Hub’ in Indian regional languages.

MGNREGA seeks ₹25,000 crore more
The Centre has sought ₹25,000 crore as additional funding for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme as part of the supplementary demand for grants submitted to Parliament, after the demand-driven rural jobs scheme ran out of funds midway through the year.

Implement panel’s anti-pollution measures, says SC
The Supreme Court of India approved the measure taken by the Centre’s Air Quality Commission to create an ‘Enforcement Task Force’ and flying squads to prevent and penalise polluters in Delhi NCR.

Supreme Court comes to the aid of sex workers
The Supreme Court has reiterated its direction to States and Union Territories to supply dry rations to sex workers identified by the National AIDS Control Organisation and district legal authorities without insisting on the production of identity documents like ration card.

Neelam Rao appointed PF Commissioner
The Union Government appointed Madhya Pradesh cadre IAS officer Neelam Shammi Rao as the Central Provident Fund Commissioner in the Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).

Centre reaches out to Naga insurgents
The Union Government has reached out to all Naga insurgent groups, following the killing of 13 civilians in an operation by the armed forces in Mon district of Nagaland.

Coastal Odisha bears brunt of rain triggered by Jawad
Heavy rain lashed coastal Odisha submerging harvest-ready crops of vast hectares of land as Cyclone Jawad weakened into a depression on Sunday.

India, Russia conclude AK-203 deal, renew 10-yr pact for military cooperation
India and Russia concluded a much-awaited ₹5,100-crore deal for the joint production of more than 600,000 AK-203 assault rifles at a facility in Uttar Pradesh’s Amethi district to advance self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector. The two countries also renewed their military-technical cooperation arrangement for 2021-31.

Afforestation funds released to States
The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) has so far disbursed ₹48,606 crore to 32 States, according to a response by the Environment Ministry in the Lok Sabha.

RBI export ban on PPE kits was legitimate: SC
The Supreme Court of India held that a Reserve Bank of India (RBI) ban on exporting PPE kits during the second wave of the pandemic was a “legitimate aim”, which was of sufficient importance to override the constitutional right of freedom to conduct business.

LS nod for Bill on pharma institutes
The Lok Sabha passed a Bill seeking to accord special status to six more institutes of pharmaceutical education and research and set up a council for these institutes.

Alka Upadhyaya appointed NHAI chief
Senior bureaucrat Alka Upadhyaya has been appointed as the chairperson of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

Cabinet nod for Ken-Beucha project
The Union Cabinet approved the funding and implementation of the Ken-Beucha river interlinking project at a cost of ₹4,605 crore at the 2020-21 price level. The project will be of immense benefit to the water-starved Bundelkhand region, spread across Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
Supersonic missile-assisted torpedo system tested: DRDO
A supersonic missile-assisted torpedo system developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was successfully launched from Wheeler Island in Odisha.

Help children left homeless by pandemic: SC
The Supreme Court of India directed States to take immediate steps to identify and rescue homeless children hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SC approves widening of three Char Dham highways
The Supreme Court of India upheld the Government’s mandate to broaden three Himalayan highways, considered crucial by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for quick troop build-up along the Indo-China border.

Vaccine for children in 6 months: SII
The Serum Institute of India (SII) plans to launch a COVID-19 vaccine ‘COVAX’ for children in six months, its Chief Executive Officer Adar Poonawalla said.

Union Cabinet approves ₹76,000-crore push for semiconductor makers
The Union Cabinet approved a ₹76,000 crore scheme to boost semiconductor and display manufacturing in the country, taking the total amount of incentives announced for the electronics sector to ₹2.30 lakh crore.

Cabinet nod likely for electoral reforms Bill
The Union Cabinet learnt to have cleared a Bill on electoral reforms, including the one to link electoral roll with Aadhaar on a voluntary basis to root out multiple enrolments. The Bill is likely to be introduced in the ongoing winter session.

NTPC awards India’s first green hydrogen-based microgrid project
National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) has awarded a standalone fuel-cell based Green Hydrogen Microgrid Project at Simhadri in Andhra Pradesh, informed the Ministry of Power.

Meta, CBSE expand partnership to train 10 million students in virtual, augmented reality
Meta founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced the expansion of his company’s collaboration with the CBSE in India, under which it will train 10 lakh teachers and more than a crore students in virtual and augmented reality over the next three years.

India marks 50 years of 1971 victory
Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the nation in paying tribute to the heroes of the 1971 India-Pakistan war and marking 50 years of victory in the third war with the neighbour that led to the liberation of Bangladesh.

Kolkata’s Durga Puja gets UNESCO heritage tag
The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) inscribed “Durga Puja in Kolkata” on the “Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity”.

Cabinet nod to raise girls’ marriage age to 21
The Centre has decided to raise the legal age of marriage from women from 18 to 21 years and is likely to move legislative reforms, including the one to link electoral roll with Aadhaar on a voluntary basis to root out multiple enrolments. The Bill is likely to be introduced in the ongoing winter session.

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Railways starts to run 4 Rajdhani Express trains with new upgraded Tejas Rakes
Indian Railways has introduced a new era of train travel experience with enhanced comfort with the conversion of Rajdhani Express coaches with new upgraded Tejas Trains.

Army Chief Gen Naravane Takes Charge As Head Of Chiefs Of Staff Committee
Army Chief Gen MM Naravane has assumed the charge as the chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee that comprises the three service chiefs.

WHO nod for Serum Institute’s Covovax
Covovax, the COVID-19 vaccine manufactured by the Serum Institute of India (SII), received emergency use nod from the World Health Organisation (WHO). The vaccine is being produced by the Pune-based SII under licence from American biotechnology company Novavax.

ISRO signed 6 agreements with 4 countries to launch foreign satellites during 2021-23: Jitendra Singh
Minister of State for Atomic Energy and Space Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed six agreements with four countries for launching foreign satellites during 2021-2023.

CCI freezes Amazon-Future deal
The Competition Commission of India (CCI) froze its approval given to Amazon’s investment in a Future Group unit on the grounds that the U.S. e-commerce company had suppressed the scope and full details of its investment while seeking regulatory approval.

Union Minister Giriraj Singh launches MIS portal for rankings of States/UTs in Land Acquisition Projects

India successfully test fires advance version of nuclear capable Agni-missile
India has successfully test-fired new generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile ‘Agni P’, from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam island off the coast of Odisha.

Mohit Jain elected as new president of Indian Newspaper Society
Mohit Jain of The Economic Times was elected president of The Indian Newspaper Society, an apex body of Publishers of Newspapers, Magazines & Periodicals in the country, for the year.

PM Modi lays foundation stone of Ganga Expressway at Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh
Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the longest highway in India, the Ganga Expressway in Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh (UP) to offer fast-paced connectivity in India.

India’s first International Arbitration and Mediation Centre opens in Hyd
India’s first International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC) was jointly inaugurated by Chief Justice of India, N.V. Ramana, and Telangana Chief Minister, K. Chandrasekhar Rao at Hyderabad.

Indian Navy’s stealth destroyer Mormugao begins her maiden sea trial
Indian Navy conducted the maiden sea trials for Mormugao, the second indigenous stealth destroyer of the P15B class. Built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDSL), the ship has been named after the port town in Goa.

Indian Immunologicals launches Goat Pox Vaccine
Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) has launched Goat Pox Vaccine (Raksha Goat Pox) which is expected to help Control of Goat Pox disease.

CSC, Infosys to upskill 6 crore rural people
CSC e-Governance Services India and IT giant Infosys have collaborated to impart digital skills among six crore students of the age of 10 to 22 years, mainly in rural areas in the country.

Pradeep Rawat to take over as next Ambassador to China
Pradeep Kumar Rawat, a Mandarin-speaking career diplomat, will take over as envoy in Beijing. Mr. Rawat will replace Vikram Misri, who completed a close to three-year term earlier this month.

₹13,109 cr. recovered from fugitives, says FM
Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Lok Sabha that banks have recovered ₹13,109.17 crore by selling the assets of fugitives like Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi.

Bill to link electoral rolls with Aadhaar passed
The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 that seeks to link electoral roll data with the Aadhaar ecosystem was passed by Lok Sabha amid protests by Opposition members who raised strong objection to the Bill, saying it violates the fundamental right to privacy.

DRDO Conducts Flight Demonstration of CADS
The Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), Agra conducted a flight demonstration of Controlled Aerial Delivery System of 500 kilogram capacity (CADS-500).

Odisha CM launches air ambulance service for free healthcare facilities
In Odisha, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the Mukhyamantri Vayu Swasthya Seva (air ambulance Service) in Bhubaneswar to provide health services to people of remote and backward areas of the State.

Centre calls for curbs to combat Omicron
The Union Health Ministry has written to the States to impose restrictions such as night curfews and declare containment zones if districts either have a 10% positivity rate or the occupancy in oxygen-supported or intensive care units rises to 40%.

DRDO scientist Atul Dinkar Rane is the new DG for BrahMos Aerospace
Atul Dinkar Rane has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the BrahMos Aerospace Limited that manufactures the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile.

27th World Yoga Festival begins in Puducherry
In Puducherry the 27th World Yoga Festival was held from - January 4th to 7th, 2022. The International Yoga festival is being conducted by the government in Pondicherry since 1992.

Haryana bans unvaccinated people from using public places
Haryana government has banned unvaccinated people from using public places from January 1, next year.

‘Pralay’, India’s first conventional ballistic missile, test-fired again
India conducted the second trial of ‘Pralay’ conventional ballistic missile off the APJ Abdul Kalam island in Odisha. ‘Pralay’ is India’s first conventional ballistic missile and the missile range was 400 kilometres.
Indigenously developed armoured engineer reconnaissance vehicle inducted into Indian Army

The first set of indigenously developed next-generation armoured engineer reconnaissance vehicle was inducted into the Corps of Engineers of Indian Army.

Market-linked tariff for PPP port projects

Projects under public-private partnerships (PPP) at major ports will be able to now determine tariffs in accordance with market dynamics, according to new tariff guidelines unveiled by the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal.

Madhya Pradesh: International Van Mela begins in Bhopal

In Madhya Pradesh International Van Mela is being organised from December 22nd to 26th of this month at Lal Parade Ground in Bhopal.

India-Australia trade deal to be fast-tracked

Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal held a virtual meeting with his Australian counterpart Dan Tehan to fast-track negotiation regarding the bilateral Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).

Gadkari inaugurates intelligent transport system on Eastern Peripheral Expressway

Union minister Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated an intelligent transport system on the Eastern Peripheral Expressway to minimise traffic woes and enhance safety.

Play Indian music at airports: ICCR

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has requested Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia to make it mandatory for the country’s airlines and airports to play Indian music.

Security of Offshore Assets reviewed during exercise “Prasthan”

The security of the Offshore Development Area (ODA) in Krishna Godavari Basin on the East Coast of India was reviewed during exercise “Prasthan” conducted from December 21-22.

Indian Army launches indigenous messaging application called ASIGM

The Indian Army has launched a messaging application named Army Secure IndiGeneous Messaging Application (ASIGMA) with features such as multi-level security and message prioritisation.

Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin gets nod for emergency use in children from 12 to 18 years of age

Bharat Biotech’s COVID-19 vaccine ‘Covaxin’ has received approval for emergency use in children between 12 to 18 years of age.

INS Khukri decommissioned after 32-year service

INS Khukri (Pennon number 49), the first indigenously built Missile Corvette, was decommissioned after 32 years of service at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

COVID vaccination for children between 15 and 18 years of age to begin from Jan 3

The Prime Minister announced that the COVID-19 vaccination for children between 15 and 18 years of age will start from 3rd of next month. In his address, Mr Modi said, this will strengthen the country’s fight against COVID.

HM Amit Shah releases Good Governance Index 2021

Mr Shah released the Good Governance Index 2021 prepared by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. As per the GGI, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa topped the composite rank score covering 10 sectors.

NMCG and TERI launch Centre of Excellence on Water Reuse

Director General of National Mission for Clean Ganga, NMCG and Director General of The Energy and Resources Institute, TERI launched Centre of Excellence, CoE on Water Reuse in New Delhi.

Govt to constitute panel to look into AFSPA withdrawal from Nagaland

Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio said that the Centre has decided to constitute a five-member committee to look into the withdrawal of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 or AFSPA from the northeastern state.

Rajnath Singh lays foundation of BrahMos unit, defence technology centre in Lucknow

Defence minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone of the Defence Technology and Test Centre and BrahMos manufacturing centre that will be established by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in Lucknow.

Kerala tops NITI Aayog Health Index again

For the fourth year in a row, Kerala has topped a ranking of States on health indicators for 2019-20. Uttar Pradesh has come in at the bottom.

J&K real estate open to all: govt.

The Centre and the administration of Jammu and Kashmir decided to throw open real estate in the Union Territory for “second homes and summer homes” to all Indian citizens.

Former China envoy Vikram Misri appointed Deputy NSA

Vikram Misri has been appointed Deputy National Security Adviser (Dy NSA), working with NSA Ajit Doval at the National Security Council.

Government notifies Consumer Protection rule

Centre has notified the Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) Rules, 2021. These Rules shall apply to all goods and services bought or sold through direct selling, all models of direct selling, all direct selling entities offering goods and services to consumers in India, all forms of unfair trade practices across all models of direct selling.

Govt approves Corbevax and Covovax vaccines and anti-viral drug Molnupiravir for restricted use on adults in emergency situations

Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation has given approval to Corbevax vaccine, Covovax vaccine, and anti-viral drug Molnupiravir for restricted use in emergency situations.

CESL achieves 50 lakhs LED bulbs distribution milestone under flagship Gram Ujala Programme

Power Ministry has achieved a remarkable milestone of distributing 50 lakh LED bulbs under the Project One Crore under Gram Ujala Programme.

DRDO hand over technology for extreme cold weather clothing systems to 5 Indian companies

Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation Dr. G Satheesh Reddy handed over technology for indigenous extreme cold weather clothing systems to five Indian companies.

Punjab makes double-dose vaccination mandatory for entry into public places from January 15

Punjab government has announced that people who have not received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine will not be allowed to enter public places in the state from January 15.

Atal innovation ranks puts IITs, IISc on top

Seven Indian Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, are among the top 10
central institutions in promotion and support of innovation and entrepreneurship development, according to Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIA). The top rank has been bagged by the IIT, Madras followed by the IITs in Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur and Roorkee.

AFSPA extended by six months in Nagaland

The controversial law Armed Forces (Special) Powers Act, or AFSPA, that gives sweeping powers to security forces has been extended for another six months in Nagaland, where the army is conducting a court of inquiry into an ambush that went horribly wrong on December 4.

Unified licence to cover voice mail, audiotext

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) said the licensing framework for audio conferencing, audiotext and voice mail services would be part of the ‘unified licence’, going forward.

Banks must pay back customers their money on demand, says SC

Banks have a “super-added obligation” to pay back customers their money on demand with the agreed rate of interest, the Supreme Court had observed in a recent judgment.

Poll bonds open for sale from Jan. 1

Ahead of the Assembly elections in five States, the union government approved issuance of the 19th tranche of electoral bonds that will be open for sale from January 1 to 10. State Bank of India (SBI) has been authorised to issue and encash electoral bonds through 29 authorised branches.

L&T and ReNew sign green hydrogen pact

Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (L&T) and ReNew Power, a renewable energy company, have entered into an agreement to tap the emerging green hydrogen business in India.

Govt. moots national retail trade policy

The Union government proposes to have a national retail trade policy for creating a conducive environment to streamline the growth of all formats of such trade.

Uday Shankar takes 51% stake in James Murdoch’s entity Lupa Indi

Uday Shankar, former chairman of Star India and president of Walt Disney Company Asia Pacific, has taken a 51 per cent stake in Lupa Indi, an investment entity set up by media mogul James Murdoch through his family office.

Vodafone files application with govt for settlement of retro tax dispute

British telecom giant Vodafone has filed an application with Indian authorities for settlement of their retrospective tax dispute.

Forex reserves down by $2.713 million to $637.687 billion

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The country's foreign exchange reserves declined by USD 2.713 billion to USD 637.687 billion in the week to November 26, RBI data showed.

PSBs restructured MSME loans worth ₹58,500 cr.

Public sector banks (PSBs) effected restructuring of ₹8,8 lakh accounts of micro, small and medium enterprises, due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, amounting to ₹58,524 crore as of November 26.

CUB unveils payment ‘keychain’

City Union Bank (CUB), in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and manufacturing partners Seshasai, has unveiled ‘On-the-Go’ contactless wearable keychains for debit cards.

Nestle sets up India-based IT services arm

Swiss firm Nestle S.A. had set up Nestle Global Services India (NGSI) in Bengaluru to provide IT services to its entities in more than 45 countries across Asia, Oceania and Africa and to complement its network of IT hubs across the globe.

Number of ATMs in India at over 2.13 lakh, says Fin Min

The number of ATMs across the country stood at 2.13 lakh by the end of September this year, and over 47 per cent of these are in rural and semi-urban areas.

Shivalik Small Finance Bank, Indiagold partner to launch India’s first loan against digital gold

Shivalik Small Finance Bank (SSFB) announced a partnership with fintech firm Indiagold to launch India’s first loan product against digital gold.

Ujjivan SFB appoints Ittira Davis as MD & CEO for 3 years

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank appointed Ittira Davis as managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of the bank for a period of three years.

New premium income of life insurers rises 42%

The new premium income of life insurance companies jumped by almost 42% to ₹27.177.26 crore in November, data from regulator IRDAI showed.

Hyundai plans 6 EVs by 2028, to invest ₹4,000 cr.

Hyundai Motor India plans to invest about ₹4,000 crore for research and development over the next seven years as it looks to roll out six new electric vehicles in India by 2028.

RBI Monetary policy highlights

Repo and reverse repo rates currently stand at 4 per cent and 3.35 per cent, respectively. Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) & bank rate too have remained unchanged, at 4.25%. RBI has retained its GDP growth projection at 9.5 percent for FY22. CPI inflation is now projected at 5.3% during FY22.
RBI to extend UPI to feature-phone users
RBI has decided to launch a UPI-based payment product for feature phone users. Feature phones are basic phones, which typically provide voice calling and text messaging functionalities.

RBI plans to enhance 14-day VRRR auction amounts in December
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is planning to enhance the 14-day variable reverse repo rate (VRRR) auction amounts in December. The central bank will conduct a VRRR auction for ₹6.5 lakh crore on December 17 and for ₹7.5 lakh crore on December 31.

Reliance BP, Mahindra in MoU for EV products, services
Reliance BP Mobility Ltd. (RBML), operating under the Jio-bp brand, and Mahindra Group have announced a non-binding MoU for creation of EV products and services, alongside identifying synergies in low-carbon and conventional fuels.

ADB approves ₹2,645-crore loan to improve urban services in India
Asian Development Bank has approved a ₹2,644.85 crore (US$ 350 million) loan for India to help improve its urban services.

Paytm Payments Bank gets RBI approval to operate as scheduled bank
Paytm Payments Bank, an associate entity of Paytm, has received the banking regulator’s approval to operate as a scheduled payments bank, helping it to expand its financial services operations.

Imports made up 86% of India’s gold supply between 2016-2020: WGC
Imports made up 86 per cent of India’s gold supply between 2016-2020, and inbound shipments continue to grow despite high import duty, as per a report by the World Gold Council (WGC).

LIc gets central bank approval to hike stake in IndusInd Bank to 9.99%
RBI has approved the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to raise its stake in IndusInd Bank by up to 9.99 per cent. The insurer holds 4.95 per cent in the private lender.

RBI enforces 20-digit LEI for cross-border deals above ₹50 crore
RBI made Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) mandatory for cross-border transactions for capital or current account transactions of ₹50 crore and above, from October 1 next year.

Federal Bank and Star Health Insurance tie up for bancassurance
Federal Bank has partnered with Star Health and Allied Insurance Co Ltd as a corporate agent to provide health insurance products to the lender’s 8.9 million customers spread over 1,291 banking outlets across the country.

Sebi extends deadline for risk mgmt framework implementation till April’22
Sebi extended the deadline till April 1 next year for implementing the risk management framework for mutual funds as well as the two-tier structure for benchmarking of certain categories of schemes.

RBI and PM signal reforms in troubled urban co-op banks
Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has indicated that the banking regulator will ring in sweeping regulatory changes to reform urban cooperative banks that have been plagued by a spate of failures, and warned people against parking their savings in banks offering high returns.

Industrial output grew 3.2% in Oct
Industrial production grew by 3.2 per cent in October. In October, only the mining sector saw double-digit growth at 11.3%, while electricity and manufacturing sectors grew at low single digits.

Anti-dumping duties doubled during peak Covid, WTO report shows
Countries, led by the US, India and China, doubled their use of anti-dumping measures in the pandemic period (July 2020-June 2021) against cheap inflow of certain goods, such as steel and chemicals, numbers collated by a recent WTO report show.

Bank of Maharashtra cuts home and car loan rates
Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has cut its home loan and car loan interest rate to 6.40 per cent (against 6.80 per cent now) and 6.80 per cent (7.05 per cent), respectively.

Kotak Mahindra Bank appoints Ashu Suyash as independent director
Kotak Mahindra Bank has appointed Ashu Suyash as an independent director on its board. The appointment is for a period of five years effective January 24, 2022.

Urban Company valuation rises 33 pc within 6 months to USD 2.8 bn in 4th ESOP sale
Home services marketplace Urban Company has recorded a 33 per cent jump in valuation to USD 2.8 billion in the employee stock sale programme concluded recently, the company said.

Dues to PSBs by 13 firms cost ₹2.85 lakh cr.
Public sector banks (PSBs) have lost almost ₹2.85 lakh crore on account of loan dues of 13 corporates even as the banks are used to bail out ailing financial institutions such as Yes Bank and IL&FS, United Forum of Bank Unions alleged.

Inflation spikes to 4.91% in November
India’s retail inflation hardened for the second month in a row in November touching 4.91% from 4.48% recorded in October.

Three Shriram group companies to merge
Shriram City Union Finance Ltd. (SCUF) and Shriram Capital Ltd. (SCL) announced their merger with group firm Shriram Transport Finance Co. (STFC), with an aim to form India’s largest retail financing NBFC.

TVS Motor floats entity to focus on e-mobility
TVS Motor Company floated a wholly owned subsidiary named TVS Electric Mobility Ltd. (TVSEM), which will focus on the electric mobility business.

Ninjacart raises $145 mn from Flipkart-Walmart
Flipkart India and Walmart announced a fresh round of joint strategic investment worth $145 million in Ninjacart, a fresh produce supply chain firm.

Equitas SFB, Chola unveil health cover for women
Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd. has partnered Cholamandalam MS General Insurance to introduce the Chola Sarva Shakti Policy, a women-specific health insurance policy.

Nov. exports jump 27.2% to $30.04 bn
India’s merchandise exports jumped 27.2% to $30.04 billion in November on the back of good performance by sectors like petroleum products, engineering goods and electronic items.

RBI ushers in corrective action scheme to better control NBFCs
The Reserve Bank of India announced a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), to strengthen applicable supervisory tools.

Wholesale price inflation spikes to a record as food, fuel surge
India’s wholesale inflation accelerated to a new high of 14.2% in November from 12.5% in October, led by a surge in primary food inflation that hit a 13-month high and a continued uptick in mineral, fuel and power, as well as oil and gas prices.

ADB pares India’s FY22 growth to 9.7%
The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has marginally lowered its growth projection for the Indian economy to 9.7% in 2021-22, from 10% estimated in September.

Triumphant Institute of Management Education Pvt. Ltd. (T.I.M.E.)
HO: 95B, 2nd Floor, Siddamsetty Complex, Secunderabad – 500 003.
Tel : 040–40088400 Fax : 040–27847334 email : info@time4education.com website : www.time4education.com
Natco to buy U.S. firm Dash in $18-mn deal
Drug maker Natco Pharma is planning to acquire U.S. firm Dash Pharmaceuticals LLC, for a cash consideration of $18 million, through one of its subsidiaries.

WTO backs Australia, others on India sugar
A World Trade Organisation dispute resolution panel has ruled against India’s sugar subsidies, and in favour of complainants Brazil, Guatemala and Australia.

Government Earned ₹ 8 Lakh Crore From Taxes On Fuels In Last 3 Years
The Union Government earned around ₹8 lakh crore from taxes levied on petrol and diesel in the last three financial years, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed Parliament.

FSS and CSB Bank Launch Smart Cash to Boost Financial Inclusion
FSS, a globally leading provider of integrated payment products and a payments processor, and CSB Bank, have joined forces to deliver hyperlocal banking services to financially underserved segments.

India’s rice exports rose by over 33% to 11.79 MT in first seven months of current FY
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Ashok Leyland in pact with DRDO arm to develop combat vehicle engines
Ashok Leyland has partnered with Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE), a premier lab of DRDO, to develop and manufacture 600-HP indigenous engine to power futuristic combat vehicles under Atmanirbhar Bharat mission.

Rahul Bajaj
Regulation needed for cryptocurrencies: IMF
International Monetary Fund (IMF) Chief Economist Gita Gopinath has made a strong case for regulating cryptocurrencies, saying it will always be a challenge to ban them as they operate from offshore exchanges.

IMF warns of interest rate risks as global debt hits $226 trillion
Global debt surged to $226 trillion last year, its biggest one-year jump since World War Two, and will be put at risk if global interest rates rise faster than expected and growth falters, the International Monetary Fund said.

Power discoms owe gencos more than ₹1.56 lakh cr:
Total outstanding dues owed by power distribution utilities or discoms to generation firms (gencos) are estimated to be more than ₹1.56 lakh crore, Parliament was informed.

Ola raises ₹500 mn from global firms
Mobility platform Ola has raised ₹500 million through term loan B from international institutional investors.

ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel to invest ₹1.02 lakh cr. in Odisha
The Odisha government approved ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel’s proposal to set up a 24 million tonne per annum integrated steel plant in Mahakalpara block of Kendrapara district at an estimated investment of ₹1.02 lakh crore.

India registers highest-ever annual FDI inflow of 81.97 billion dollars in 2020-21
India has registered the highest ever annual Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow of 81.97 billion dollar in 2020-21. Top five countries from where FDI Equity Inflows were received during 2014 to 2021 are Singapore, Mauritius, USA, Netherlands and Japan.

Computer Software and Hardware sector attracted the largest share of FDI inflows, followed by Service, Trading and Telecommunications.

SBI lifts base rate a tad, to affect pre-2019 loans
State Bank of India (SBI) has increased the benchmark lending rate or base rate by 10 basis points, to 7.55%. The new rate is effective from December 15, it said.

Advance tax collection rises 54% to ₹4.60 lakh cr.
The finance ministry said advance tax collection increased by 53.50% to ₹4.60 lakh crore so far this fiscal year, indicating recovery in the economy.

India offers 8 oil, gas blocks for bidding in latest round
India has offered 8 oil and gas blocks, mostly in Assam, for bidding in the latest bid round with a view to bringing more area under exploration, so as to increase domestic production and reduce imports. The “8 Blocks spread over 6 Sedimentary Basins, 5 States covering 15,766 sq. km of area”.

Net direct tax collection jumps 60.8% to ₹9.5 trillion in FY22 so far
Net direct tax collection in FY22 as of now rose 60.8 per cent to ₹9.5 trillion, signaling that the government may end up this fiscal year with a comfortable revenue position.

Razorpay raises $375 million
Fintech unicorn Razorpay has raised ₹375 million Series F funding from Lone Pine Capital, Alkeon Capital, and TCV, at a valuation of ₹7.5 billion.

ITL to sell entire stake in Future Generali Life for ₹225 cr
Industrial Investment Trust Ltd (IITL) said it will sell its entire 16.62 per cent equity shareholding in Future Generali India Life Insurance Company Ltd (FGILICL) for ₹225 crore to Generali Participations Netherlands N.V.

Meta removes seven ‘surveillance-for-hire’ companies that targeted users across globe
Meta (formerly Facebook) has removed seven surveillance-for-hire that targeted user across 100 countries including journalists, activists, politicians, lawyers and doctors.

Foreign investors pull out over 17,500 crore rupees from Indian markets in Dec so far
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Govt. cuts import duty on refined palm oil to 12.5% 

Concerned over high prices of cooking oils, the union government has reduced the basic customs duty on refined palm oil to 12.5% from 17.5% till March next year to boost domestic supplies and bring down rates in the domestic retail markets.

IPO pipeline seen swelling by ₹2 lakh cr. 

After the record-breaking IPO rally this year, with as many as 65 issuers generating a whopping ₹1.35 lakh crore, the market frenzy is set to continue in 2022 with new issues worth over ₹2 lakh crore ($26 billion) in the pipeline, according to a report.

IOC acquires 5% stake in IGX 

State-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has acquired a nearly 5 per cent stake in Indian Gas Exchange Ltd - the country’s first automated national level exchange for the trading of natural gas.

Akasa Air unveils logo 

Rakesh Jhunjhunwala-promoted Akasa Air unveiled its logo which includes the symbol A along with the tag line, ‘It’s Your Sky’.

India adds 33 unicorns in one year, displaces U.K. 

Adding 33 ‘unicorns’ in a single year has helped India displace the United Kingdom (U.K.) to be third in the list of countries that are home to such enterprises valued at more than $1 billion each, according to a report.

Sony’s India unit agrees to absorb Zee Entertainment 

Sony Pictures Networks India Private Ltd. (SPNI) and Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. (ZEE) have agreed to merge ZEE with and into SPNI and combine their linear networks, digital assets, production operations and program libraries.

Vayana Network and Federal Bank Bag the ‘Most Effective Bank-Fintech Partnership’ 

Vayana Network, one of India’s largest trade finance platform, and Federal Bank, a leading Private Sector Bank have been awarded the ‘Most Effective Bank-Fintech Partnership: Agile and Adaptable’ at the IBSI-Global Fintech Innovation Awards 2021.

RBI defers tokenisation deadline by six months 

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to defer the implementation of tokenisation of debit and credit cards for online transactions by a further six months following representations from stakeholders.

HSBC to buy L&T’s MF arm for $425 mn 

HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Ltd has entered into an agreement with L&T Finance Holdings Ltd. (LTFH) to fully acquire L&T Investment Management Ltd. (LTIM) for $425 million.

Corporate-promoted NBFCs can have 15% stake in banks, with increase in cap 

Corporate houses, which are not allowed to own a bank, can now pick up 15 per cent stake in commercial banks through their non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).

Canara Bank raises ₹2,500 crore through Basel-III compliant bonds 

Canara Bank has raised ₹2,500 crore by issuing Basel-III compliant bonds to a total of 10 allottees.

SIDBI signs MoU to develop MSME ecosystem in West Bengal 

SIDBI has signed a memorandum of understanding with the government of West Bengal to develop the MSME ecosystem in the state.

IndusInd Bank, NPCI tie-up to offer remittances to Indians using UPI IDs 

IndusInd Bank has joined hands with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for offering real-time cross-border remittances to India using UPI IDs for its Money Transfer Operator (MTO) partners. It thus has become the first Indian bank to go live on UPI for Cross Border Payments/NRI Remittances.

India Expected To Become 3rd Largest Economy By 2031, Overtaking All European Nations: WEL 

As India’s economy picks up, the World Economic League (WEL) estimates that India will overtake all European powers to become the third-largest economy in 2031.

RBL Bank’s financial health stable, says RBI 

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a statement with respect to the speculation related to private sector lender RBL Bank in wake of the recent concerning events surrounding the bank.

Gujarat government signs 96 MoUs 

The Gujarat government signed 96 MoUs with various industries ahead of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Investment Summit to be held in Gandhinagar from January 10 to 12.

Dec. exports rise 28% from pre-pandemic level 

India’s merchandise exports have hit $23.82 billion in the first three weeks of December, almost 28% higher than in the same period in the pre-COVID year 2019, the Commerce Ministry said.

IPPB signs MoU with HDFC Bank to provide banking products in semi-urban, rural India 

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with HDFC Bank to offer various banking products and services to its IPPB customers in semi-urban and rural areas, focusing on unbanked and underserved segments.

Centre appoints Atul Kumar Goel as new MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank 

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Atul Kumar Goel, MD & CEO of UCO Bank, as MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB) with effect from February 1 next year.

IndusInd Bank announces launch of ‘green fixed deposits’ 

IndusInd Bank has announced the launch of ‘green fixed deposits’, whereby the deposit proceeds will be used to finance projects and firms supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Over 443 lakh tonnes of paddy procured in Kharif Marketing Season 2021-22 

Union Government has said that more than 443 lakh tonnes of paddy have been procured in Kharif Marketing Season 2021-22. Consumer Affairs Ministry said, over 47 lakh farmers have been benefitted from the procurement with Minimum Support Price value of around 87,000 crore rupees.

Govt issues advisory to Automakers to begin manufacturing Flex Fuel Vehicles in 6 months 

Union Government has advised the Automobile Manufacturers in India to start manufacturing Flex-Fuel Vehicles and Flex-Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles complying with BS-6 Norms in a time-bound manner within a period of six months.

Govt approves PLI Scheme for Textiles with an outlay of 10,683 crore rupees over 5 year period 

The Union government has approved the Production Linked Incentive, PLI Scheme for Textiles, with an approved outlay of 10 thousand 683 crore rupees over a five-year period.

Bank GNPs may rise to 9.5% by Sept 

The gross non-performing asset (GNPA) of commercial banks may increase to 9.5% by September 2022 under a severe stress scenario, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in a report. This compares with 6.9% seen in September this year.

OCIs buying property don’t need RBI nod 

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has clarified that Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) do not require approval for purchase or transfer of immovable property
in India other than in the case of agricultural land, farm house or plantation property.

I-T department eases norms for ‘faceless’ appeal scheme
The Income Tax department has brought in changes to the existing faceless appeal scheme, easing the process for taxpayers wanting a personal hearing through video conference while appealing against a tax demand by the department.

India welcomes Egypt as member of New Development Bank of BRICS
India welcomed Egypt's entry as the fourth new member of the New Development Bank (NDB) that was established by the BRICS countries six years ago. The NDB admitted Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Uruguay as its new members in September.

IRDAI retains LIC, GIC, New India as D-SIIs
Life Insurance Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation of India and New India Assurance remain Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) and consequently subject to enhanced regulatory supervision.

RBI extends KYC deadline to March 31
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the deadline for mandatory periodic updating of customer KYC by regulated entities till March 31, 2022.

NTPC Renewable Energy to float tender for 3 GW by Feb
NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd. (NREL) will float a global engineering procurement and construction tender to set up a 3 GW renewable energy project with a battery storage system worth about ₹15,000 crore by February 2022.

World Athletics Awards 2021:
World Athletics has awarded sprinter Anju Bobby George as ‘Woman of the Year’ Olympic champions Elaine Thompson-Herah of Jamaica and Karsten Warholm of Norway were named the World Athletes of the Year.

Indian-American mathematician among three selected for inaugural Ciprian Foias Prize
Eminent Indian-American mathematician Nikhil Srivastava has been jointly selected for the inaugural Ciprian Foias Prize in Operator Theory by American Mathematical Society (AMS). Along with Srivastava, the other two awardees are Adam Marcus and Daniel Spielman.

Highest education accolade, Yidan Prize, for Pratham CEO Rukmini Banerji
Rukmini Banerji, CEO of Pratham Education Foundation, has been awarded the world’s highest education accolade, the 2021 Yidan Prize for Education Development, for her work in improving learning outcomes.

T.N. lauded for efforts to empower the disabled
Tamil Nadu was awarded the best State for promoting empowerment of persons with disabilities (PwD) in the Centre’s annual national-level awards for the disability sector.

Indian Architect Balkrishna Doshi Wins Royal Gold Medal 2022
Acclaimed Indian architect Balkrishna Doshi will receive the Royal Gold Medal 2022, one of the world’s highest honours for architecture, the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) announced.

Neena Gupta becomes fourth Indian mathematician to receive the Ramanujan Prize
Professor Neena Gupta, a mathematician and faculty member of the Indian Statistical Institute, has become the fourth Indian to win Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians.

Indian Teen Avani Prashanth to Receive Global Child Prodigy Award 2022
India’s No.1 amateur female golfer, 15-year-old Avani Prashanth has successfully made it to the Top 100 child prodigies’ across the globe and has been selected for the prestigious “Global Child Prodigy Award 2022” for excellence in golf.

DBS Bank India clinches two awards at ET BFSI Excellence Awards 2021
DBS Bank India’s persistent efforts to drive digital transformation for its customers have been awarded at the ET BFSI Excellence Awards 2021. The bank has won two awards.

HDFC Life wins the ‘Best Governed Company Listed Segment: Large Category’ at the 21st ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance
HDFC Life, one of India’s leading life insurance companies, has been adjudged the ‘Best Governed Company Listed Segment: Large Category’ at the 21st edition of the ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance.

Gavaskar conferred with SJFI Medal
The Sports Journalists’ Federation of India (SJFI) decided to confer the prestigious SJFI Medal on legendary cricketer Sunil Gavaskar.

Neeraj Chopra, who won India’s lone gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics, was named the SJFI Sportsman of the Year award while weightlifter Mirabai Chanu, who clinched a silver at the quadrennial extravaganza, was adjudged SJFI Sportswoman of the Year.

Modi to get Bhutan’s top civilian award
Bhutan conferred the Order of the Druk Gyalpo, its highest civilian honour, on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

SAIL receives prestigious Golden Peacock Environment Management Award 2021
Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been awarded with the prestigious Golden Peacock Environment Management Award for the year 2021 in the Steel Sector by the Institute of Directors.

Indian climate action entrepreneur wins United Nations Women’s Award for Leadership Commitment to Gender Equality
Divya Hegde from Udipi, coastal Karnataka, has won the UN Women’s Award for Leadership Commitment at the 2021 Regional Asia-Pacific Women’s Empowerment Principles Awards ceremony.

JGU wins “Digital Innovation of the Year” at the Times Higher Education Asia Awards 2021
O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) has won the “Digital Innovation of the Year” award at the distinguished Times Higher Education (THE) Asia Awards 2021. JGU was the only Indian University to be Shortlisted for the “Digital Innovation of the Year”.

HDFC Bank wins coveted CII award for ‘Most Innovative Best Practice’
HDFC Bank's efforts in furthering financial inclusion through partnership with the Government of India's Common Service Centres (CSC) have been adjudged ‘Most Innovative Best Practice’ for financial inclusion at the coveted CII Digital Transformation Award 2021.

Greenman Viral Desai honoured with Global Environment and Climate Action Citizen Award
Surat’s noted industrialist Viral Desai, popularly known as Greenman for his love for the environment, has been awarded the prestigious Global Environment and Climate Action Citizen Award in Dubai.

Redlink Awards 2021
Senior journalist Prem Shankar Jha and Reuters’ photojournalist Danish Siddiqui, who died while reporting in Afghanistan in July, will be awarded with the top two
Redlink Awards by the Mumbai Press Club. While Jha will get the lifetime achievement award, Siddiqui will be bestowed upon the journalist of the year, posthumously.

**Ramnath Goenka Awards 2019**

Sumant Banerji of Business Today is the print media winner in the Business and Economic Journalism category while Ayushi Jindal of India Today TV is the winner in broadcast media.

In the Uncovering India Invisible category, Shiv Sahay Singh of The Hindu is the winner from print media, while Tridip K Mandal of The Quint is the broadcast media winner.

Journalists Dheeraj Mishra and Seemi Pasha have won the Award in the Government and Politics category, Team PARI (People’s Archive Of Rural India) is the winner of the Environment, Science And Technology Reporting category in print while Team Scroll is the winner in broadcast media.

**Sahitya Akademi announces awards in 20 languages**

The Sahitya Akademi has announced its awards for 2021 for literary works in 20 languages: seven books of poetry, five of short stories, one each of biography, autobiography, criticism and epic poetry and two plays had won the awards, which would be presented later. The awards for works in Gujarati, Maithili, Manipuri and Urdu would be announced later.

Namita Gokhale won the award for her English novel Things to Leave Behind

**PERSONS IN NEWS**

**Abdulla Yameen**

Former Maldives President Abdulla Yameen was released from house arrest after winning an appeal on his money laundering conviction.

**Olaf Scholz**

Olaf Scholz became Germany’s new chancellor after 16 years with Angela Merkel at the helm, pledging his allegiance to the UN.

**Gita Gopinath**

IMF’s chief economist Gita Gopinath will become the second woman to officiate at the Washington-based crisis lender. IMF, Gopinath will succeed Geoffrey Okamoto as first deputy managing director.

**Catherine Russell**

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Catherine Russell as the head of UN children’s agency UNICEF, also known as the United Nations Children’s Fund.

**Harnaaz Sandhu**

India’s Harnaaz Sandhu is the new Miss Universe, 21 years after Lara Dutta won the title in 2000. Ms Sandhu represented India at the 70th Miss Universe 2021, held in Elia, Israel.

**Adama Barrow**

Adama Barrow comfortably won a second term in Gambia’s Presidential election. Barrow garnered 53 percent of the vote.

**Leena Nair**

Leena Nair, the first female and youngest-ever Chief Human Resources Officer of Anglo-Dutch FMCG major Unilever has stepped down to join French luxury group Chanel as its Global Chief Executive.

**Elon Musk**

Tesla’s CEO Elon Musk was named Time magazine’s “Person of the Year” for 2021, a year that saw his electric car company become the most valuable carmaker in the world.

**Huang Wei (Viya)**

A leading Chinese influence – known as the “queen of livestreaming” has been hit with a record fine for “major tax evasion”. Huang Wei, known as Viya by her fans was fined 1.34 billion yuan ($A295 million).

**Gabriel Boric**

Leftist Gabriel Boric became Chile’s youngest-ever President-elect at the age of 35 with an unexpectedly large victory over his far-right rival.

**Sunil Arora**

Former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora had joined the board of advisers for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.

**Paing Takhon**

In Myanmar, one of the country’s most popular celebrities, Paing Takhon was jailed for three years for taking part in mass protests that rocked Myanmar following a military coup last February.

**Ghislaine Maxwell**

British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell was convicted of luring teenage girls to be sexually abused by the late American financier Jeffrey Epstein.

**Sirada Menon**

Sirada Menon, the longest-serving head of the Institute of Mental Health, died in Chennai. She was 98. She is the country’s first woman psychiatrist and was honoured with Padma Bhushan in 1992.

**Anupam Ray**

Senior diplomat Anupam Ray has been appointed as India’s next permanent representative to the UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

**Admiral Hari Kumar is Navy chief**

Admiral R. Hari Kumar took charge as the 25th Chief of the Naval Staff from Admiral Karambir Singh, who retired.

**Uzra Zeya**

U.S. official Uzra Zeya has been appointed the country’s new Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues.

**Vinod Dua**

Veteran journalist Vinod Dua passed away. He was one of the pioneers in Hindi broadcast journalism. He was awarded Padma Shri in 2008.

**Konijeti Rosaiah**

Former Governor of Tamil Nadu and former Chief Minister of the unified State of Andhra Pradesh, Konijeti Rosaiah (89-years) passed away.

**Srivennela’ Seetharama Sastry**

Award-winning Telugu lyricist and Padma Shri awardee Srivennela Seetharama Sastry passed away following lung cancer-related complications. He was 66.

**Anne Rice**

Anne Rice, the Gothic novelist best known for “Interview With the Vampire,” the 1976 book that in 1994 became a popular film starring Tom Cruise and Brad Pitt, died.

**Richard Rogers**

British architect Richard Rogers passed away. He designed a series of landmark buildings around the world, including London’s “Cheesegrater” and the famous Pompidou arts centre in Paris.

**Joan Didion**


**KS Sethumadhavan**

Legendary Malayalam film maker KS Sethumadhavan has passed away. He directed over 60 movies in five languages including Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi during his career. He has won 10 National Film Awards, 9 Kerala State Awards among others.
Desmond Tutu
South African anti-apartheid icon and Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who was labelled as the country’s moral compass, died.

Ray Illingworth

Karolos Papoulias
Veteran Greek politician Karolos Papoulias, who served as president at the height of the economic crisis of the 2010s, died at the age of 92.

Bipin Rawat
Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat, his wife Madhulika Rawat, an Army Brigadier, and 10 others were killed when an Indian Air Force helicopter carrying them crashed into a heavily wooded area of the Coonoor ghat in the Nilgiris in western Tamil Nadu.

Jean-Marc Vallee
Award-winning Canadian film-maker Jean-Marc Vallee has died at age 58. The Quebecois producer and director was Oscar-nominated for Dallas Buyers Club in 2013, for which actors Matthew McConaughey and Jared Leto both took home Academy Awards.

Edward O. Wilson
Edward O. Wilson, the trailblazing U.S. scientist, professor and author whose study of insects and clarion call to protect earth earned him the nickname “Darwin’s natural heir”, has died at age 92.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum
The ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum was ordered to pay his former wife and children around £550 million ($730 million) in what is thought to be the highest divorce settlement set by an English court.

WTA suspends events in China over Peng concerns
The Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) has taken the unprecedented step of immediately suspending all of its events in China, citing the failure of the authorities to take up Chinese star Peng Shuai’s allegations of sexual abuse by a former senior Communist Party leader.

Asian team squash: Indian men’s team lose to Malaysia in final
Saurav Ghosal went down to Ng Eain Yow while Ramit Tandon stretched Ivan Yeun to four games but the Indians could not quite make a match of it.

Viktor Axelsen, Tai Tzu Ying named 2021 BWF Male & Female Player of the Year
Denmark’s Viktor Axelsen and China’s Tai Tzu Ying were named Male and Female player of the year 2021 respectively by the Badminton World Federation (BWF).

Lewis Hamilton wins thrilling Saudi Arabian Grand Prix after Max Verstappen collision
Lewis Hamilton beat Max Verstappen in a chaotic and controversial Saudi Arabian Grand Prix.

Medvedev stars as Russia wins Davis Cup after 15-year wait
Russia’s 15-year wait for a Davis Cup title ended after another clutch performance from Daniil Medvedev.

Sindhu wins silver in BWF World Tour Finals
P V Sindhu settled for a silver medal at the BWF World Tour Finals after going down meekly against Korean teen sensation An Se Young in the summit clash.

FIH Junior Hockey World Cup: Argentina Beat Germany in Final to Clinch 2nd Title
Argentina stun 6-time champions Germany by 4-2 in the FIH Junior Hockey World Cup 2021 as the South American team clinch their second Junior World Cup title.

Debutant Viktor Hovland wins the Hero World Challenge
A horror final round for Collin Morikawa allowed Viktor Hovland to grab the Hero World Challenge title, at Albany Golf Course.

India vs New Zealand, 2nd Test: India win by 372 runs, clinch series 1-0
India wrapped up the second test match and registered its biggest victory in terms of runs with a 372-run drubbing of the Kiwis. With this the hosts also clinched the two-match series 1-0.

Badminton: Aman wins in South Africa
Indian shuttler Aman Farogh Sanjay claimed a second successive men’s singles title with a hard-fought win over second seed Robert Summers in the finals of the South Africa International Future Series.

Sabari crowned champion
Chennai’s Sabari J became the inaugural winner of the World Boxing Council’s (WBC) India welterweight title, defeating the more experienced Akashdeep Singh of Chandigarh in an eight-round bout.

Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships, Tashkent, Uzbekistan:
Indian weightlifter Jhili Dalabehera won the gold medal in the women’s 49kg category.

Asian Rowing Championships: Arjun Lal Jat and Ravi win Gold in Men’s Doubles Sculls
Indian rower duo Arjun Lal Jat and Ravi won the gold medal in the men’s double sculls event.

Abu Dhabi Grand Prix: Max Verstappen Confirmed As F1 World Champion
Max Verstappen clinched his first Formula One World Championship after beating Lewis Hamilton in a controversial season finale at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

Magnus Carlsen claims fifth successive world chess crown
Magnus Carlsen remains World Chess Champion after beating Ian Nepomniachtchi in Dubai with a crushing 7.5-3.5 scoreline. This is his fifth title.

David Warner, Hayley Matthews Named ICC Players of the Month
Australia’s David Warner and West Indies’ Hayley Matthews have been named as ICC’s player of the month.

Indian bridge team wins
The Indian team of Sumit Mukherjee, Jaggy Shivdasani, Keyzad Ankelsaria, Sundesh Thakral, Rajeswar Tewari and Debabrata Majumder defeated UAE to win the Asia and Middle East bridge championship.

Purnima wins gold
Purnima Pandey created eight National records on the way to gold in the women’s +67kg category at the Commonwealth weightlifting championship. Purnima lifted 229kg (102 + 127) to take the title.

Kidambi Srikanth bags historic silver in BWF World Championships in Spain
Kidambi Srikanth bagged a historic silver medal after losing to Loh Kean Yew of Singapore 15-21, 20-22 in the Men’s
singles final of BWF World Championships at Huelva in Spain. India’s Lakshya finished with the bronze medal.

**Dhull to lead India in U-19 World Cup**

Delhi batter Yash Dhull will lead a 17-member Indian squad in the Under-19 World Cup, which is scheduled to be held in the West Indies from January 14 to February 5.

**Karting: Kyle Kumaran gets laurels for India in Rotax Max Challenge Grand Finals**

Peregrine Racing’s Kyle Aditya Kumaran made India proud, winning the silver trophy at the Rotax Max Challenge Grand Finals, the annual Karting competition for Rotax National Champions.

**Aashes 2021: Australia beats England by 275 runs in Adelaide test**

Jos Buttler's dogged resistance ended in a bizarre fashion as Australia thrashed England by 275 runs in the day-night second test to go 2-0 up in the five-match Ashes series.

**Rishabh Pant appointed as Uttarakhand's brand ambassador**

India wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant has been appointed the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand to promote sports and create mental health awareness among the state’s youth.

**PV Sindhu gets re-elected to the BWF Athlete’s Commission for a second term**

Two-time Olympic medallist and 2019 World Champion PV Sindhu got re-elected to the prestigious BWF Athlete’s Commission and is one of the six-key members of it.

**India beat Pakistan 4-3 to win bronze medal in Asian Champions Trophy hockey**

India defeated arch-rivals Pakistan 4-3 in a pulsating third-fourth place play-off match to win the bronze medal at the Asian Champions Trophy men’s hockey tournament.

**Labuschagne ranked No. 1**

Australia’s Marnus Labuschagne, riding on his prolific Ashes form, displaced England skipper Joe Root to become the new world No. 1 in Test cricket.

**WADA restores NDTL accreditation**

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has restored the accreditation of the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL).

**Veteran spinner Harbhajan Singh announces retirement from all forms of cricket**

Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh has announced retirement from all forms of competitive cricket. He took a total of 417 wickets in 103 Tests.

**Ace Indian skier Aanchal Thakur wins Bronze medal in Montenegro**

Ace Indian skier Aanchal Thakur has bagged Bronze medal at the FIS Alpine Skiing Competition in Montenegro.

**Vijay Hazare Trophy Final: Himachal stuns mighty TN for maiden title**

Shubham Arora’s brilliant unbeaten 113 powered Himachal Pradesh to its maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy with a 11-run win over Tamil Nadu.

**Mohammad Shami becomes fifth Indian pacer to take 200 Test wickets**

Mohammed Shami has become only the fifth Indian pacer to take 200 Test wickets. Shami has joined Kapil Dev, Javagal Srinath, Zaheer Khan, and Ishant Sharma in the elusive list.

**Australian thrash England by an inning to win 3rd test**

England surrendered the Ashes on the morning of the third day of the third Test as Australia crushed them by an innings and 14 runs to take an unassailable 3-0 series lead.

17-year-old Nodirbek Abdusattorov dethrones chess champion Carlsen

Nodirbek Abdusattorov, 17, dethroned Magnus Carlsen as World Rapid Chess Champion in Warsaw by beating Ian Nepomniachtchi in a tiebreaker.

Meanwhile, Alexandra Kosteniuk survived some tricky moments to win her first Women’s World Rapid Championship

**India breach fortress Centurion with a 113-run win over South Africa**

India signed off 2021 with a 113-run win over South Africa in the first Test at SuperSport Park. The win is also India’s first-ever Test victory at the venue, which is largely considered to be a fortress for South Africa.

**de Kock quits from Tests**

South Africa wicketkeeper-batter Quinton de Kock has announced his retirement from Test cricket with immediate effect.

**Ross Taylor to retire from international cricket**

New Zealand cricket icon Ross Taylor confirmed that he is bowing out of international cricket. Taylor will retire as New Zealand’s top-scorer in Test and one-day international matches.

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**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Tel Aviv Ranked World’s Priciest City for First Time**

Tel Aviv is the world’s most expensive city to live in as soaring inflation has pushed up living costs globally, according to a survey published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

**IFFCO ranks first among top 300 cooperatives in the world, retains position**

The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has been ranked ‘number one Cooperative’ among the top 300 cooperatives in the world, withholding its position from last year.

**India ranks 4th on list of most spammed countries of 2021**

India has jumped from ninth to the fourth position on a list of countries, that received the highest number of spam calls, according to a new report by Truecaller. Brazil is by far the most spammed country in the world.

**Multi-National Exercise PANEX-21 Begins In Pune With Focus On Effective Humanitarian Assistance**

PANEX-21, a multi-national multi-agency exercise is being organised at Pune from 20-22 December with a focused aim to foster common and develop capabilities in Disaster Management aspects for the BIMSTEC nations.

**India placed 3rd in the global doping list published by WADA**

India was placed third in the anti-doping rule violations in 2019. India is only behind Russia (167) and Italy (157), while Brazil (78) is at fourth and Iran (70) fifth.

**Pakistan test fires home-grown cruise missile with enhanced range**

Pakistan has successfully test-fired a version of its indigenous developed Babur cruise missile 1B with enhanced range.

**India to chair Counter Terrorism Committee of UNSC in January 2022**

India will chair the Counter-Terrorism Committee of UNSC in January 2022 after 10 years. The Counter-Terrorism Committee was established in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks in the US.

**NASA launches world’s most powerful space telescope to scour universe for hints of life**

World’s largest and most powerful space telescope The James Webb Space Telescope has been launched successfully into orbit to make breakthrough discoveries...
Three Indian companies among top 100 in arms sales globally
Three Indian companies Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Indian Ordnance Factories, and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) are among the world’s top 100 for combined arms sales in 2020, said a new report by the SIPRI. With 41 arms companies, the USA has the highest number of companies in the top 100 worldwide.

China is world’s biggest captor of journalists: RSF Report
A new report by Reporters Without Borders (RSF) has said China is the world’s biggest captor of journalists with at least 127 reporters currently detained.

NASA launches X-ray space telescope to unlock secrets of black hole
US space agency NASA launched its new X-ray Mission to unlock the secrets of extreme cosmic objects. The first space observatory of its kind, the Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer, or IXPE.

India re-elected to international maritime council
India has been re-elected to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council after elections were held at its Assembly in London for the 2022-23 biennium.

Record 488 journalists jailed, 46 killed in 2021, says RSF
There are currently 488 media professionals imprisoned around the world, the highest number since Reporters Without Borders began counting more than 25 years ago, the NGO announced. China leads the way for imprisoned journalists with 127, Myanmar was second with 53.

U.S. imposes sanctions against China over abuse of Uighurs
The Biden administration said it is imposing new sanctions on several Chinese biotech and surveillance companies and government entities for actions in Xinjiang province, the latest step against Beijing over human rights abuses of Uighur Muslims.

Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates renovated Hindu shrine in Bangladesh
In a symbolic gesture, the Indian President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated a famous Hindu shrine named Ramkali temple that was destroyed by the Pakistani forces during the war of 1971.

WEF defers Davos Annual Meeting 2022 due to Omicron outbreak
The World Economic Forum (WEF) had decided to defer its Annual Meeting 2022 in the Swiss Alpine ski resort town of Davos in the light of continued uncertainty over the Omicron outbreak.

International Day of Banks: 4 December
International Day of Banks is celebrated on December 4 to recognise the importance of multilateral and international development banks in financing sustainable developments.

Indian Navy Day: 4 December
In India every year December 4 is observed as the National Navy Day, to celebrate the achievements and role of the naval force to the country.

World Soil Day: 5 December
World Soil Day is observed every year on December 5 to raise awareness of the importance of soil quality for human well-being, food security and ecosystems.

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Remember the Victims Prevent Genocide: 9 December
The International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime is observed annually on December 9.

International Anti-Corruption Day: 09 December
International Anti-Corruption Day is observed annually on 9 December to raise public awareness for anti-corruption.

Human Rights Day: 10th December
Human Rights Day is celebrated on 10th December every year since 1950 in commemoration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UDHR by the United Nations in 1948.

International Mountain Day: 11th December
The International Mountain Day is celebrated on 11th of December every year. The day aims to encourage sustainable development in mountains.

UNICEF Day 2021: 11th December
UNICEF Day is observed on December 11 every year, to spread awareness on saving children’s lives, defending their rights and helping them fulfil their potential from childhood to adolescence.

International Universal Health Coverage Day 2021: 12th December
Every year Universal Health Coverage is observed on December 12 to raise awareness about having strong and resilient world-class health systems across the globe with multi-stakeholder partners.

International Migrants Day: 18th December
The International Migrants Day is observed globally on 18 December every year. The theme of International Migrants Day 2021 is Harnessing the potential of human mobility.

World Arabic Language Day: 18th December
World Arabic Language Day is observed globally on 18th December every year. The theme of this year’s World Arabic Language Day is “The Arabic Language and Civilizational Communication”.

National Minorities Rights Day: 18th December
Every year, December 18 is observed as the Minorities Rights Day to uphold the right to freedom and equal opportunities for the ethnic minorities in India and create awareness about the respect and dignity of the minorities.

National Mathematics Day 2021: December 22
India celebrates National Mathematics Day on December 22 every year. The day marks the birth anniversary of famous mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan.

Kisan Diwas 2021: Celebrating the birthday of Chaudhary Charan Singh
National Farmer’s Day or Kisan Diwas is celebrated every year on December 23, which is also the birth anniversary of the country’s fifth Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh.

National Consumer Day: 24th December
National Consumer Day is observed on 24 December annually to highlight the importance of the consumer movement and spread awareness about the rights and responsibilities of every consumer.

Good Governance Day: 25th December
Good Governance Day (Sushasan Divas) is observed annually on 25th December. On this day nation celebrates the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna and former-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.