

## **UK to axe all tariffs on goods to boost Ukrainian economy**



All tariffs on goods coming to Britain from Ukraine under an existing free trade deal will be axed to help the Ukrainian economy, the British government announced. The tariffs would be reduced to zero and all quotas removed following a direct request from Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky, saying the move would provide a boost for Ukrainian businesses involved in key exports such as barley, honey, tinned tomatoes, and poultry.

## **Myanmar court sentences deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi to 5 years in jail for corruption**



In Myanmar, a Junta court sentenced deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi to five years in jail after finding her guilty in the first of 11 corruption cases against her. The Nobel laureate, who led Myanmar for five years before being forced from power in a coup in early 2021, has been charged with at least 18 offences, which carry combined maximum jail terms of nearly 190 years if found guilty.

The case centred on allegations that 76, years old Suu Kyi accepted 11.4 kg of gold and cash payments totalling \$600,000 from her protegee-turned-accuser, former Yangon chief minister Phyo Min Thein.

### **China, India add coal plants as global capacity addition dips 13%**



China led global coal power expansion in 2021, with about 25,000 MW of new plants, followed by India with about 6,100 MW, reported the Global Energy Monitor which conducts an annual survey of coal power capacity under development or deployment. Worldwide, however, coal-plant capacity under development declined 13% last year.

After rising in 2020 for the first time since 2015, total coal power capacity under development slid last year to a record low of 457 gigawatts (GW), from 525 gigawatts.

### **US President Joe Biden's administration expands availability of COVID antiviral pill**



US President Joe Biden's administration is taking steps to expand the availability of the lifesaving COVID-19 antiviral treatment Paxlovid, seeking to reassure doctors that there is ample supply for people at high risk of severe illness or death from the virus. Paxlovid, produced by Pfizer, was first approved in December.

Meanwhile, three out of every four children in the United States have been infected with the coronavirus and more than half of all Americans had signs of previous infections.



## **Border Haat at India-Bangladesh border in Meghalaya opens after two years**



The Border Haat at Bangladesh-Meghalaya border was opened after a gap of two years. The decision to open the Border Haat between Balat in East Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya and Lauwaghar at Dalora in Sunamganj District of Bangladesh was taken by the Joint Border Haat Management Committee on 19 April. At present, India and Bangladesh have seven established Border Haats and nine more new Border Haats are in the pipeline. Border Haats enable local residents on both sides of the border to trade the local produce.

## **Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar virtually interacts with farmers in Krishi Vigyan Kendras across the country**



A day long Kisan Mela has been organized at all Krishi Vigyan Kendras across the country, as a part of Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari Campaign. Launching the campaign virtually, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar interacted with farmers. During the mela, schemes related information both Central Government and State Government have been disseminated among the farmers. During the fair, felicitation of Progressive and innovative farmers, field exhibitions on Natural Farming for small and medium farmers, women farmers and FPOs and Farmers-Scientist Interaction was conducted.

The Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari Campaign is being organized from 25th to 30th April under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

### **DCGI grants emergency use authorization to Covaxin, Corbevax and ZyCov-D COVID vaccines for children of different age groups**



Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has given restricted emergency use authorization to Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for children. The approval has been given for the children between the age of six to twelve years. It has also granted emergency use authorization to Corbevax for those aged between five to twelve years.

The DCGI has also granted emergency use authorization to ZycovD for children above the age of 12 years for a two-dose regime.

### **Central govt. and Netflix launch partnership with 2-minute films**



The Union government and Netflix kicked off a partnership, with the release of two-minute films on seven women change-makers, titled Azadi ki Amrit Kahaniyan. They announced the production of more such shorts and a serial on the Freedom Struggle to celebrate 75 years of Independence.

At the launch event, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said Netflix would produce 25 short films on various topics under the government's Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration. Mr. Thakur asked the streaming service to produce 75 such films.

## Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav: Government to organise North East Festival from April 28



The Union Government will organise North East Festival across all the eight North Eastern States from April 28<sup>th</sup> as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Ministry of Development of North-East Region Kishan Reddy has said that the Seven-day Festival aims to showcase the achievements of North Eastern Region with the Spirit of - Hum Kisi Se Kam Nahi.

## Maximum all India power demand met crosses 201 Gigawatt



The maximum All India power demand met 201.066 Gigawatt on April 27. It has surpassed last year's Maximum demand met of 200.539 Gigawatt which occurred on 7th July. Power Ministry said, the rising power demand reflects the economic growth in the country. In the month of March this year, the growth in energy demand has been around 8.9 per cent. The Ministry said, the demand is expected to reach about 215 to 220 Gigawatt in May-June.



## **Fasal Bima Pathshala to be organized under 'Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari' campaign**



Fasal Bima Pathshala will be organized across the country under 'Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari' campaign. Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar will chair the National level special programme on Fasal Bima Pathshala. Kisan Bhagidari Prathamikta Hamari Campaign is being organized from 25th to 30th April under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. During the campaign, all Implementing Insurance Companies will organize Fasal Bima Pathshala at Block, Gram Panchayat and village with the participation of at least one hundred farmers.

The Campaign aims to make the farmers aware about key scheme aspects of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana like basic scheme provisions, importance of insuring the crops and how to avail scheme benefits.

## **More than 27.31 lakh people participated in Ayushman Bharat block level Health Melas in 3204 blocks organized across 33 States/UTs in a week**



The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in collaboration with States and Union Territories is celebrating the 4th Anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav from 16th April to 22nd April 2022. The Block Health Melas commenced on 18th April 2022 in 33 States/UTs across India. These health melas are serving as platforms to attract thousands of people to avail quality healthcare services along with essential medicines and diagnostic services.

### **World Bank agrees to provide US dollar 600 million in financial assistance to Sri Lanka**



The World Bank has agreed to provide Sri Lanka with 600 million US dollars in financial assistance to help meet payment requirements for essential imports. Sri Lankan President's media division said in a statement that the World Bank would release 400 million dollars "shortly". The World Bank said that it would continue to help Sri Lanka to overcome the current economic crisis.

Sri Lanka's worst financial crisis since independence in 1948 was caused by a drastic drop in its reserves that dropped 70 percent over the past two years, hitting 1.93 billion dollars at the end of March. This left Colombo struggling to pay for essentials, including fuel, medicines and food.

### **Gautam Adani become world's fifth richest person, overtakes Warren Buffett**



Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani has now reached the 5th position in the list of billionaires of the world in terms of net worth. He has achieved this position by beating 'investment guru' Warren Buffett. According to the latest rankings of the Forbes Real-Time Billionaires Index, Adani is ranked 5th with a net worth of \$123.2 billion and Warren Buffett stands at the sixth position with \$121.7 billion.

### **White goods PLI attracts 19 more firms**



The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for white goods has attracted fresh interest from 19 more companies who have applied to undertake investments worth Rs. 1,548 crore to manufacture LED lights and AC components. The Commerce and Industry Ministry said they aim to achieve a combined production of about Rs. 26,880 crore over the next five years, creating 5,522 direct jobs. The government had earlier approved 42 firms with a committed investment of Rs. 4,614 crore.

### **Biocon unit bags \$90-mn insulin deal**



Biocon Biologics Limited (BBL), a subsidiary of Biocon, had bagged a three-year contract valued at \$90 million from the Malaysian government for the supply of recombinant human insulin brand Insugen. Biocon Sdn Bhd., a subsidiary of Biocon Biologics, will manufacture and supply its range of insulins to its partner Duopharma Marketing Sdn. Bhd. (DMktg), a subsidiary of Duopharma Biotech, a pharma & biotech firm in Malaysia.



### **Khelo India Youth Games-2021 to be organised from 4th June to 13th June**



Khelo India Youth Games-2021 will be organised from 4th to 13th June this year. Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur virtually interacted with Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal at the Organizing and Coordinating Committee Meeting to review the preparedness of the games. The Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry informed that the games will be held in Shahbad, Ambala, Chandigarh and Delhi apart from Panchkula. It said that under-18 age category, around 8500 players will participate in the games from a total of 25 sports, including five indigenous games of India.

### **Ex-football international Devanand passes away**



Former international footballer B. Devanand, a star of Kerala's maiden Santosh Trophy triumph in 1973, passed away at Tripunithura . He was 71. Devanand was a defender in the Indian team, led by Shabbir Ali, which shared the title with Iran in the 1974 Asian youth championship in Bangkok.

### Djokovic will be allowed to defend Wimbledon title



Novak Djokovic will be allowed to defend his title at Wimbledon, despite not being vaccinated against COVID-19, because the shots are not required to enter Britain, All England Club chief executive Sally Bolton said. Djokovic, a 34-year-old Serb who is ranked No. 1, missed the Australian Open in January after being deported from that country because he was not vaccinated against the illness caused by the coronavirus that has led to the deaths of millions during the pandemic that began in 2020.