

Military plane carrying 92 people crashes in Philippines



A military transport aircraft carrying 92 people has crashed in the southern Philippines. Seventeen bodies were found at the crash site on Jolo island. 40 people survived the crash and were taken to a nearby military hospital. Philippines Defence Secretary informed that the plane, a C130 Hercules, was trying to land at Jolo airport when it overshot the runway.

USA celebrates 245th Independence day



The United States of America is celebrating its 245th Independence day on July 4. The celebration of Fourth of July honours the signing of the American Declaration of Independence by the founding fathers of the US on 4 July, 1776. It declared that the 13 American colonies were no longer part of the British Empire.

Cyprus appeals for help fighting huge forest fire



Cyprus has appealed for international help to tackle a huge wildfire described by officials as the worst in the country's history. The blaze, fanned by strong winds, is spreading through the southern Limassol district and has forced the evacuation of several villages. Dozens of properties have been damaged but no casualties have been reported. Cyprus has been experiencing a week-long heatwave, with temperatures reaching up to 104 Fahrenheit.

Over 400,000 people in Ethiopia's Tigray face famine now: UN



The United Nations said that more than 400,000 people in Ethiopia's crisis-wracked Tigray region are now facing the worst global famine in decades and 1.8 million are on the brink, and warned that despite the government's unilateral ceasefire there is serious potential for fighting in western Tigray. The largely agricultural Tigray region of about 6 million people already had a food security problem amid a locust outbreak when Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on November 4 announced fighting between his forces and those of the defiant regional government. Tigray leaders dominated Ethiopia for almost three decades but were sidelined after Abiy introduced reforms that won him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019.

UN urges Myanmar military to release Aung San Suu Kyi



United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres has urged the Myanmar military to release the ousted State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and President Win Myint immediately. According to the human rights group tracking political prisoners Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP), the government has detained 6462 people since the protests started after the military government removed the Aung San Suu Kyi led civilian government on February 1. AAPP reports that 885 people have been killed in the protests during the same period.

INS Sarvekshak completes survey around MV X-Press Pearl off Colombo



Indian Navy's Hydrographic Survey Ship Sarvekshak successfully completed survey action around the site of ill-fated MV X-Press Pearl and handed over the survey data to the Sri Lankan authorities. The ship equipped with the state of the art survey equipment including the Side Scan Sonar, was deployed on 25 June at the request of Government of Sri Lanka.

INS Sarvekshak, is based at Southern Naval Command at Kochi and is fitted with state-of-the-art survey equipment like Deep Sea Multi beam echo sounder system, Side Scan Sonar, Sound Velocity Profilers and a fully automated digital surveying and processing system.

Chinese astronauts complete first spacewalk at new station



Chinese astronauts successfully performed the country's first tandem spacewalk on Sunday, working for seven hours on the outside of the new Tiangong station in orbit around the Earth. Three astronauts blasted off last month to become the station's first crew, where they are to remain for three months in China's longest crewed mission to date.

Tiangong's construction is a major step in China's ambitious space programme, which has seen the nation land a rover on Mars and send probes to the Moon.

UAE against OPEC plan to extend production pact



The United Arab Emirates on Sunday pushed back against a plan by the OPEC oil cartel and allied producing countries to extend the global pact to cut oil production beyond April 2022, a rare statement revealing the country's frustration with the group. The Emirati Ministry of Energy called the proposal to extend the agreement for the entirety of 2022 without raising its production quota "unfair to the UAE," One of the group's largest oil producers, the UAE is seeking to increase its output — setting up a contest with ally and OPEC heavyweight Saudi Arabia, which has led a push to keep a tight lid on production.

Pushkar Dhami sworn in as Uttarakhand CM



Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Pushkar Singh Dhami has taken oath as the eleventh chief minister of Uttarakhand, a day after he was elected as the leader of the BJP's legislature party in the hill state. Governor Baby Rani Maurya administered the oath to Dhami and all the ministers at a ceremony in Raj Bhavan. All members of the previous council of ministers led by Tirath Singh Rawat were given place in the new cabinet.

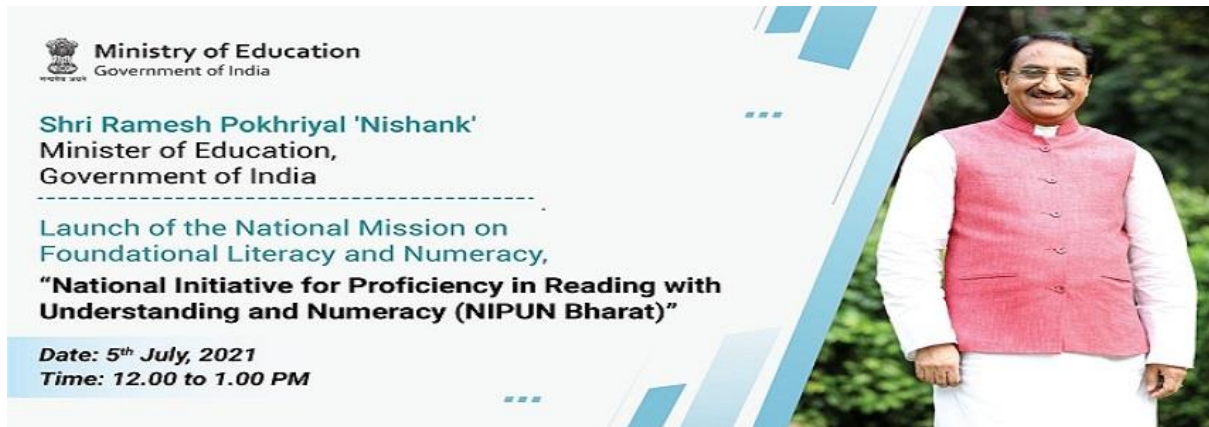
Union Education Minister to launch Innovation Ambassador- Online Training Programme for CBSE Teachers on July 16



Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank will launch the Innovation Ambassador- Online Training Programme for CBSE Teachers on 16th of this month. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) had announced that the Board in collaboration with Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) will impart training to 50 thousand teachers as Innovation Ambassadors.

The CBSE schools can nominate maximum five teachers each for the programme and training will be provided on first come, first-served basis. CBSE schools can register their teachers for this programme till 10th of July. The first batch of this programme will start from 20th of July.

Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank to virtually launch NIPUN Bharat on July 5



Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank will virtually launch National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy – NIPUN Bharat. The launch of NIPUN Bharat marks an important step undertaken by the Department of School Education and Literacy, among a series of measures taken for implementation of the National Education Policy 2020.

The vision of NIPUN Bharat Mission is to create an enabling environment to ensure universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy. This is to ensure that every child achieves the desired learning competencies in reading, writing and numeracy by the end of Grade 3, by 2026-27.

WCD Ministry invites suggestions from all stakeholders on Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2021



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Public Notice and Draft Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2021

- DRAFT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (PREVENTION, CARE AND REHABILITATION) BILL 2021 (560.4 KB) [\[Download\]](#)
- PUBLIC NOTICE (78.05 KB) [\[Download\]](#)

Women and Child Development Ministry has invited comments and suggestions from all stakeholders on the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2021. The objective of the bill is to prevent and counter trafficking in persons, especially women and children. It will provide care, protection, and rehabilitation to the victims, while respecting their rights, and creating a supportive legal, economic and social environment for them and also to ensure prosecution of offenders.

The Bill, once finalized, will be sent to the Cabinet for approval and then for the assent of both the houses of Parliament to become an Act. This Act shall apply to every offence of trafficking in persons with cross-border implications.

Unique Project To Boost Tribal Income And Bamboo Economy In Rajasthan



A unique scientific exercise serving the combined national objectives of reducing desertification and providing livelihood and multi-disciplinary rural industry support has been initiated by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

The project named “Bamboo Oasis on Lands in Drought” (BOLD) is the first- of-its-kind exercise in India which was launched on Monday from the tribal village NichlaMandwa in Udaipur, Rajasthan.

Delhi Metro’s phase 4 being monitored digitally through indigenous software



In a major initiative towards digitalizing its functioning, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has implemented a custom-made project monitoring software known as the Integrated Project Monitoring Software (IPMS) for monitoring the progress of its Phase 4 corridors and the Patna Metro. Through IPMS, all the stages of project planning and implementation right from the tender stage to revenue operation of each corridor will be monitored including the issues of work front availability such as land availability, tree transplantation and shifting of services and design status. For this purpose, corridor wise Master Construction Schedule has been prepared and uploaded in IPMS.

India achieves highest ever Merchandise export of 95 Billion dollar in first quarter of current financial year



India has recorded the highest ever merchandise export in the first quarter of April to June this year despite the severity of the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic. Also, the country has also received the highest ever Foreign Direct Investment of 81.72 billion US dollars in the last financial year. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal informed this during a press conference in New Delhi. The highest ever Merchandise export of 95 Billion dollar was achieved in the first quarter of this financial year which surpassed the earlier peak of export of 90 Billion dollars in quarter four of 2020-21.

He said, the export of engineering goods increased by 5.2 billion dollars over the first quarter of 2019-2020. He also said, Rice exports growth has also remained positive since May last year. He said, India has set a target of 400 billion US dollars merchandise exports in the current financial year.

Government imposes stock limit for all pulses except moong till October 31 this year



The Union Government has imposed stock limit for all pulses except moong till the 31st of October this year. The decision has been taken to prevent hoarding and check price rise. The order will be applicable to wholesalers, retailers, millers and importers. Stock limit will be 200 metric tonnes for wholesalers, five metric tonnes for retailers. The Removal of Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions on Specified Foodstuffs (Amendment) Order, 2021 has been issued. The highest ever production of major pulses amounting to over 255 lakh metric tonnes took place in the last financial year.

RBI tweaks norms for interest on unclaimed amount after deposit matures



The RBI has tweaked the norms for interest on the amount left unclaimed with the bank after a term deposit matures. Currently, if a term deposit matures and the proceeds are unpaid, the amount left unclaimed with the bank attracts the rate of interest as applicable to savings deposits. On a review, the RBI said, it has decided that if a term deposit matures and proceeds are unpaid, the amount left unclaimed with the bank shall attract rate of interest as applicable to savings account or the contracted rate of interest on the matured TD, whichever is lower. The new norms are applicable for deposits in all commercial banks, small finance banks, local area banks, and cooperative banks.

Term deposit refers to a interest-bearing deposit received by the bank for a fixed period. It also includes deposits such as recurring, cumulative, annuity, reinvestment deposits and cash certificates.

Euro cup; Italy, Spain, Denmark and England storm into last four



The battle lines are drawn for the semi-final clashes of the Euro Cup Football 2020. Italy, Spain, Denmark and England have stormed into the last four and will go toe to toe to make it to the grand finale of the coveted soccer tournament. Italy beat Belgium 2-1 in the first quarter-final to extend their unbeaten run to 32 matches. Italy and Spain will face off in the first semi-final at Wembley on Tuesday.

Spain advanced by beating Switzerland 3-1 on penalties after a 1-1 draw. England, meanwhile, crushed Ukraine 4-0 in Rome to set-up a last-four clash against Denmark at London's Wembley Stadium on July 7. Denmark overcame the Czech Republic 2-1 to make it to the last four.

Messi inspires Argentina into semifinals



Lionel Messi scored his 76th international goal and is now only one shy of Pele for the South American record as Argentina beat Ecuador 3-0 to progress to the semi-finals of the Copa America. Messi scored from a late freekick and earlier laid on two assists as Argentina eventually subdued Ecuador and kept the superstar's dream of winning his first major international title alive.

Goldmoney Asian Rapid online chess: Aronian blanks Artemiev, wins title



Levon Aronian cruised to a 2-0 shutout of Vladimir Artemiev in the second set to win the Goldmoney Asian Rapid online chess title on Sunday. The title ensured Aronian's place in the 10-player Champions Tour Final in September. For the third place, Magnus Carlsen defeated Ding Liren in the blitz tie-break 1.5-0.5.

Cricket:South Africa clinches series



South Africa beat West Indies to claim a series-clinching 25-run victory in the final T20I of their five-match contest to clinch the series 3-2. Defending a total of 168-4, thanks to half-centuries from Aiden Markram and Quinton de Kock, all the Proteas' main bowlers made significant strikes to limit the defending World T20 champions to 143-9 despite a typically flamboyant 52 from opener Evin Lewis.