

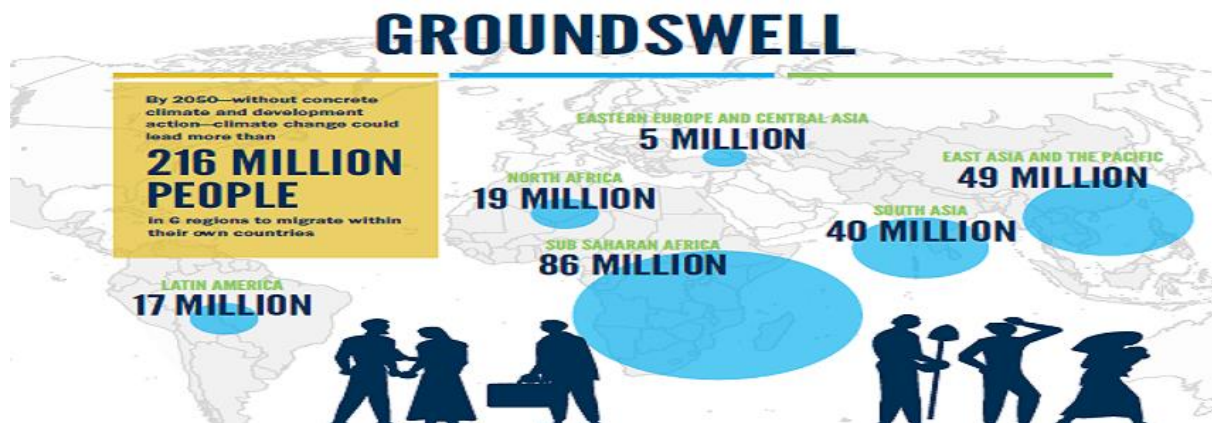
Israeli firm unveils autonomous armed robot to patrol battle zones, borders



An Israeli defense contractor unveiled a remote-controlled armed robot it says can patrol battle zones, track infiltrators and open fire. The unmanned vehicle is the latest addition to the world of drone technology, which is rapidly reshaping the modern battlefield. Proponents say such semi-autonomous machines allow armies to protect their soldiers, while critics fear this marks another dangerous step toward robots making life-or-death decisions.

The four-wheel-drive robot was developed by the state-owned Israel Aerospace Industries' "REX MKII."

Climate change could cause 216 mn to migrate: World Bank



Without immediate action to combat climate change, rising sea levels, water scarcity and declining crop productivity could force 216 million people to migrate within their own countries by 2050, the World Bank said in a new report. The latest report includes three new regions -- Eastern Europe and Central Asia, North Africa and East Asia and the Pacific -- to provide a "global estimate" of the scale of potential migration.

This trend could have significant implications for host countries, which are often unprepared to cope with these migration flows.

Iran agree to allow new memory cards in UNs' nuclear site cameras



Iran has agreed to allow international inspectors to install new memory cards into surveillance cameras at its sensitive nuclear sites and to continue filming there, potentially averting a diplomatic showdown this week. Tehran holds all recordings at its sites as negotiations over the U.S. and Iran returning to the 2015 nuclear deal remain stalled in Vienna.

Meanwhile, Iran is now enriching small amounts of uranium to its closest-ever levels to weapons-grade purity as its stockpile continues to grow.

Sudan and India conduct naval training exercise in Red Sea



Indian Navy and Sudanese Navy carried out a bilateral maritime exercise in the Red Sea off the Sudanese coast. INS Tabar and two Sudanese Navy ships- Almazz and Nimer- participated in this maiden exercise with the Indian Navy. As part of her ongoing overseas deployment to Europe and Africa, INS Tabar undertook a maritime partnership exercise with ships of the Sudanese Navy.

The exercise involved multiple activities covering a wide range of naval operations. These included co-ordinated maneuvering, replenishment at sea drills, helo operations, operations for interdicting suspect vessels at sea and communication procedures.

Bhupendra Patel takes over as Gujarat CM



Bhupendra Patel was sworn in as the 17th Chief Minister of Gujarat at the Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar, a day after he was unanimously elected the leader of the BJP Legislature Party. The 59-year old, first-time MLA from Ghatlodia in Ahmedabad, took over as CM after Vijay Rupani tendered his resignation on Sunday.

India's largest open air fernery developed in Ranikhet



The country's largest open air fernery was inaugurated at Ranikhet in Uttarakhand's Almora district. The fernery is home to a large number of fern species, some of which are endemic to the state, some hold medicinal value while some are threatened species that demand care and conservation. The newly inaugurated fernery is one of the biggest ferneries in India. The fernery has the largest collection of fern species, second to only Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram. The Ranikhet fernery spreads over four acres of land at an altitude of 1,800 metres.

Inflation dips marginally to 5.3% in August



Retail inflation fell marginally to 5.3% in August mainly due to easing food prices, official data showed. The retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 5.59% in July and 6.69% in August 2020. As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), inflation in the food basket was 3.11% in August compared to 3.96% in the preceding month.

DBS partners SWIFT to enable real-time digital cross-border tracking



DBS has launched real-time online tracking for cross-border collections for businesses in India in partnership with SWIFT Global Payments Innovation (gpi). DBS is the first bank in India and Asia-Pacific to offer this service to clients, which is expected to benefit close to 4000 corporate and SME clients in India, with numbers expected to grow further.

New deadline for COVID policies is Mar. 31: IRDAI



The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has permitted general and health insurance companies to offer and short-term Covid-specific products, including Corona Kavach and Corona Rakshak till March 31, 2022. Earlier, in March this year, the regulator decided to extend the timeline for the sale and renewal of such policies till September, looking at the prevailing situation. Insurance companies were initially allowed to offer these policies till March 31, 2021.

Jet to resume local flights in Q1 of 2022



Jet Airways is all set to resume domestic operations with its first flight from New Delhi to Mumbai by Quarter 1 of 2022, while its international flights will be operational by the second half of next year, the company said. The process of reviving the grounded carrier is on track with the existing Air Operator Certificate (AOC) already under process for revalidation. It is the first time in the history of Aviation that an airline grounded for more than 2 years is being revived.

NCLT can't allow tweaks in a successful resolution plan: SC



The Supreme Court of India held that the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) cannot permit withdrawals or modifications of a successful resolution plan, once it has been submitted to it after due compliance with the procedural requirements and timelines, solely at the behest of the resolution applicant. It ruled that Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) carried out under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) must be completed within 330 days as laid down by the Code.

Paytm Payments Bank Launches India's First FASTag-Based Metro Parking Facility



India's homegrown Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) has announced that it has enabled the country's first FASTag-based metro parking facility in partnership with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC). As an acquiring bank for the parking facility at the Kashmere Gate metro station, PPBL will facilitate the processing of all FASTag based transactions for cars having a valid FASTag sticker, thus eliminating the hassle of stopping and paying cash at the counter.

Online Chess Olympiad: India edges out Ukraine in tie-break to reach semi-final



India held off a fighting Ukraine via the tie-breaker to enter the semi-finals of the FIDE Online Chess Olympiad with B Adhiban, D Harika, and Nihal Sarin playing key roles. The blitz tie-break saw India outclass its opponent 5-1 thanks to wins for Adhiban, Harika, Sarin, and R Vaishali storm into the last four.

Italian GP, F1 2021: Daniel Ricciardo Wins



Daniel Ricciardo won the Formula One Italian Grand Prix as the Australian took advantage of Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen's dramatic crash which eliminated both championship rivals. Ricciardo was followed by his McLaren teammate Lando Norris in the British team's first win since the 2012 Brazilian GP, while Valtteri Bottas will take third.

Joe Root, Eimear Richardson Named ICC Players Of The Month For August



England Test skipper Joe Root and Ireland's Eimear Richardson have been voted as the winners of the ICC Players of the Month for August 2021. Root was voted the ICC Men's Player of the Month for August for his consistent performances in the Test series against India that was the part of the next cycle of the ICC World Test Championship (WTC).

In women's cricket, Ireland's Eimear Richardson has had a sensational August as well, and was adjudged the ICC Women's Player of the Month for August 2021.