

## U.S. will defend Taiwan against China



The United States will defend Taiwan if China attacks it, President Joe Biden said, prompting a warning from Beijing on Friday that its determination to take back the democratic island should not be underestimated. China regards self-ruled Taiwan as its own territory and has vowed to one day seize the island, by force if needed. Mr. Biden's comments were welcomed by Taiwan, which has pushed to bolster international alliances to protect itself from china.

## 43 countries call on China at UN to respect Uighur rights



Forty-three countries have called on China to “ensure full respect for the rule of law” for the Muslim Uighur community in Xinjiang, in a statement read at the United Nations that sparked outrage from Beijing. The declaration, signed by the United States as well as several European and Asian member states and others, accused China of a litany of human rights violations against the Uighurs, including torture, forced sterilisation and forced disappearances.

## Air bubbles to continue for some time



International air travel to and from the country will continue only under the “air bubble” arrangement for the foreseeable future, according to Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia. If certain routes see a spurt in demand, the Government could look at increasing frequency of flights within the “air bubble” he said.

Scheduled international flights were banned by the government on March 23 last year. Later that year, the Government started gradually opening up the skies by entering into “air bubble” agreements with various countries, with a limited number of direct flights permitted to and from India. India now has “air bubble” tie-ups with 28 countries.

## Scorsese, Szabó to be honoured with Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award



The Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award will be conferred on filmmakers Martin Scorsese and István Szabó at the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) being held in Goa from November 20 to 28 in a hybrid format. Scorsese has directed Oscar-winning movies such as Taxi Driver and Goodfellas. Szabo, a Hungarian film director, is best known for directing Mephisto, which won an Academy Award.

## India weighs 'net zero' target ahead of CoP



A study by the think tank Council for Energy Environment and Water projects said that for India to achieve the net zero target even by 2070, usage of coal, especially for power generation, will need to peak by 2040 and drop by 99% between 2040 and 2060. The consumption of crude oil across sectors will need to peak by 2050 and fall substantially by 90% between 2050 and 2070.

India's long-term position in climate talks has always been that it will abstain the use of fossil fuels but only gradually because it cannot compromise on development, which is now primarily reliant on coal.

## Bellatrix Aerospace, Dhruva Space sign MoUs with Larsen & Toubro



Indian space technology (spacetech) startups Bellatrix Aerospace and Dhruva Space — have each signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (L&T), even as they ramp up individual efforts to address the growing global demand for affordable access to space. Bellatrix Aerospace, which became the first private Indian company to develop and test a hall-effect thruster (a type of electric propulsion system), said that the partnership with L&T will allow it to work closely with them for building great products for the world.

While Bellatrix has developed unique thrusters for space vehicles and satellites, Dhruva is a developer of satellites and launch platforms.

### **GAIL to build India's largest green hydrogen plant to supplement natural gas production**



State-owned GAIL (India) Ltd will build India's largest green hydrogen-making plant as it looks to supplement its natural gas business with carbon-free fuel. The hydrogen Gail plans to produce can be sold to fertiliser units which as per government mandate are required to use hydrogen as fuel.

Speaking at India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK, GAIL chairman and managing director Manoj Jain said the company has floated a global tender to procure an electrolyser. Jain said the plant planned is for 10MW capacity, the largest announced so far in the country.

### **Reliance Industries quarterly profit jumps 74 pc to Rs 13,680 cr**



Reliance Industries reported a 74% jump in net profit for the quarter ended September, as all its businesses witnessed robust performance. Net profit in the second quarter of the current fiscal was at Rs. 13,680 crore compared with the Rs. 9,567 crore seen a year earlier. Revenue rose to Rs. 1,78,328 crore from Rs. 1,20,444 crore a year earlier.

## CDC invests \$70 million in climate fund



The CDC Group, Britain's official development finance institution and impact investor, has invested \$70 million in the Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF), India's first dedicated climate change fund. The fund is managed by EverSource Capital, a JV between Everstone Group and Lightsource BP. With this investment, the green fund will finance the development of 6-8 green infrastructure companies in India.

## Federal Bank Q2 consolidated net profit jumps 55 pc to Rs 488 cr



Private sector lender Federal Bank reported an almost 55% jump in consolidated net profit to Rs. 488 crore for the second quarter of this fiscal ended September 30. The bank had posted a net profit of Rs. 315.70 crore in the year-earlier period. Total income (consolidated) during the July-September period of 2021-22, however, was down at Rs. 4,013.46 crore, as against Rs. 4,071.35 crore in the same period of 2020-21.

### SEBI approves Rs. 16,600-cr. IPO of Paytm



Digital financial services firm Paytm has received market regulator SEBI's approval for its Rs. 16,600 crore initial public offer. The company expects to hit the bourses by the end of this month and is planning to skip the pre-IPO share sale rounds to fast-track listing. Paytm is said to be looking at a valuation of Rs. 1.47-1.78 lakh crore.

### IIFCL gets Reserve Bank's approval to finance InVITs



State-owned India Infrastructure Finance Co. Ltd. (IIFCL) is set to finance infrastructure investment trusts (InVITs), adding a new funding avenue for infrastructure projects. IIFCL which offers long-term financial assistance to viable infrastructure projects has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India to back InVITs and will spend about ₹4,000 crore in this segment this fiscal.

The InVIT structure allows developers to pool their completed projects under these trusts and reduce debt servicing costs by refinancing or monetising completed projects.

## Yes Bank net rises 74% on lower slippage



Yes Bank reported a profit after tax of Rs. 225 crore for the quarter ended September, an increase of 74.3% from a year earlier, mainly due to lower provisioning requirements. Yes Bank's MD and CEO Prashant Kumar attributed the rise in profit to better business growth and lower provisioning. Net Interest Income declined 23.4% to Rs. 1,512 crore. Net interest margin dipped to 2.2% from 3.1%.

## Edgbaston to host cancelled Test next July



The fifth and final Test of the series at Old Trafford between England and India that was called off after a COVID-19 case in the Indian camp will be played in July 2022 at Edgbaston, England's cricket board (ECB) said.

## Namibia bests Ireland, books a berth in Super 12s



Namibia reached the Twenty20 World Cup second round for the first time, after defeating Ireland by eight wickets. Namibia, the lowest-ranked team in the tournament, chased down a modest target of 126 with skipper Gerhard Erasmus making an unbeaten 53 (49, 3x4, 1x6) and David Wiese, who played for South Africa at the 2016 World Cup, scoring 28 not out (14b, 1x4, 2x6).

## National Aquatic Championships: Ridhima breaks records on day two



Ridhima Veerendra Kumar's record-breaking swim in girls' Group II 100m backstroke was the highlight as Karnataka dominated day two of the sub-junior and junior National Aquatic Championships at the Basavanagudi Aquatic Centre . Ridhima's time of 1:04.87s -- 0.43 seconds faster than Maana Patel's mark set in 2014 was one of four new National records set by the home swimmers on the day.



## Se-young sends Sindhu crashing



P.V. Sindhu bowed out of the Denmark Open Super 1000 badminton tournament losing to World No. 8 Korean An Se-young in the women's quarterfinals. Playing her first tournament since winning the bronze at the Tokyo Olympics, Sindhu lost to Se-young 11-21, 12-21 in 36 minutes.