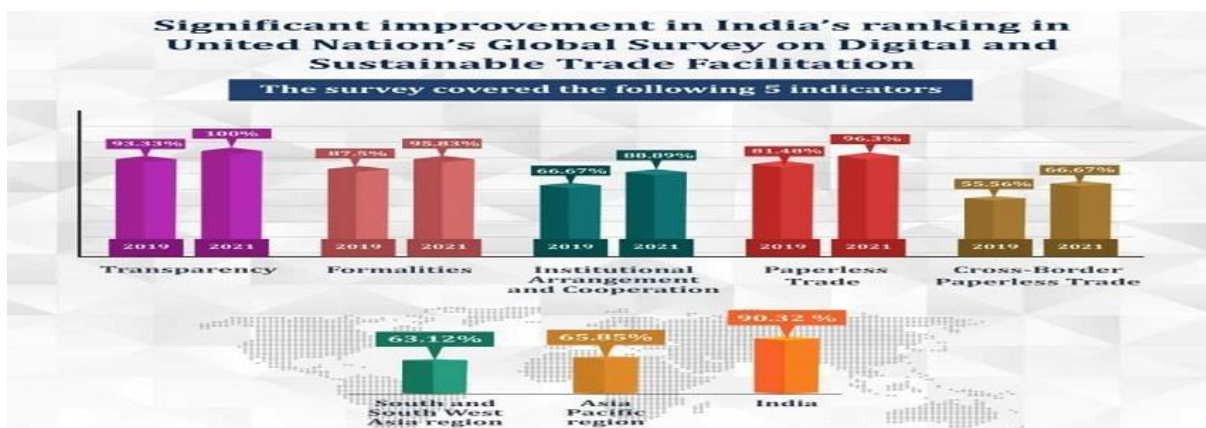


Bangladesh receives 180 tonnes of imported Oxygen from India



India supplied more than 180 tonnes of medical oxygen to Bangladesh during the Eid holidays under special arrangements. The oxygen was imported by three companies of Bangladesh in eleven tankers through the Benapole border post. The supply of oxygen to Bangladesh will help it in the fight against COVID 19 which has been spreading in the country over the last several weeks.

India scores 90.32 % in UNESCAP's latest Global Survey on Digital & Sustainable Trade Facilitation



India has scored 90.32 per cent in United Nation's Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific, UNESCAP's latest Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation. The survey hails this as a remarkable jump from 78.49 per cent in 2019. India has achieved a 100 per cent score for the Transparency index and 66 per cent in the Women in trade component. The overall score of India has also been found to be greater than many OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries including France, UK, Canada, Norway and Finland and the overall score is greater than the average score of EU. The Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation is conducted every two years by UNESCAP. The 2021 Survey includes an assessment of 58 trade facilitation measures covered by the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Need to curb bogus voting, booth capturing with iron hand: SC



Booth capturing and bogus voting should be dealt with an iron hand, said the Supreme Court while upholding the conviction of eight persons involved in rioting and causing injuries with firearms outside a polling station in what is now Jharkhand ahead of the 1989 Lok Sabha elections. Directing the eight to surrender forthwith and undergo the remaining sentence of six months, a bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and MR Shah said, “The essence of the electoral system should be to ensure freedom of voters to exercise their free choice. Therefore, any attempt at booth capturing, or bogus voting should be dealt with iron hands because it ultimately affects the rule of law and democracy”.

Army to use jammers to protect forward bases from drone attacks



Under the increasing threat of drone attacks, Indian Army has decided to increase its jamming capability along the Line of Control (LoC) by augmenting the use of available equipment and also by investing into new procurement. There have been multiple drone sightings along the LoC and International Borders since the twin-drone attack at the Jammu air base on June 27. India is also carrying out repair work of its own defences, including the communication trench (which soldiers use to move while firing and shelling is on), bunkers (to sit and keep a watch and counter the enemy) and community bunkers (for civilians and their animals).

SC upholds NGT ban on firecrackers



The Supreme Court of India dismissed a challenge to a National Green Tribunal (NGT) ban on the sale and use of firecrackers during the COVID-19 pandemic in the National Capital Region (NCR) and all cities and towns where the ambient air quality is in the poor or above categories. Firecracker manufacturers and sellers moved the SC against the ban. The SC said the NGT order was fair, but clarified: “If the air quality improves, the authority may permit sale or use of firecrackers depending on the quality of air in that area.

Bids for PPP in Passenger Train Operations project opened



The bids for Public Private Participation, PPP in Passenger Train Operations project opened after detailed exercise and multiple rounds of discussion with the industry players. Ministry of Railways said this is an entirely new attempt to bring world-class trains through PPP in India. The Ministry has received bids from both private and public sectors to operate 29 pairs of trains with around 40 modern rakes entailing an investment of around 7200 crore rupees.

'Gatekeeper Model' mooted to prevent suicides in prisons



In a bid to prevent suicides triggered by mental health issues in prisons across the country, the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, has recommended the “Gatekeeper Model” where selected inmates, trained to identify prisoners at risk of suicide, would refer them to treatment or supportive services.

Tata Boeing Aerospace delivers 100th fuselage for AH-64 Apache Combat Helicopter



Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited announced the delivery of the 100th fuselage for the AH-64 Apache combat helicopter to Boeing from its state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Hyderabad. Tata Advanced Systems Limited stated that the fuselage will be transported to Boeing's AH-64 Apache manufacturing facility in Mesa, Arizona, USA, for integration into the final assembly line.

India's Forex reserves touch all-time high 612.73 billion dollars



India's foreign exchange reserves rose by 835 million dollars to touch a fresh lifetime high of 612.73 billion dollars in the week ended 16th July. Foreign currency assets, a major part of the overall reserves, increased by 463 million dollars to 568.748 billion dollars. In the previous week, the reserves had jumped by 1.883 billion dollars to 611.895 billion dollars. The gold reserves went up by 377 million dollars in the reporting week to reach 37.34 billion dollars. Country's special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund went up by 1 million dollars to reach 1.548 billion dollars while reserve position with the IMF declined by 7 million dollars to 5.1 billion dollars.

RBI eases loan restrictions for bank directors



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said banks without their boards' approval can sanction personal loans up to Rs 5 crore to directors of other banks. The earlier limit was Rs 25 lakh. Currently, sanction by the board/management committee for grant of loans to a company is required, where the relative of a director holds substantial interest which is defined as 10 per cent of paid-up capital or Rs 5 lakh, whichever is less.

According to the notification, proposals for credit facilities of an amount less than Rs 25 lakh or Rs 5 crore (as the case may be) to such borrowers may be sanctioned by the appropriate authority in the financing bank but the matter should be reported to the board.

Magma is now Poonawalla Fincorp



Non-banking financial company (NBFC) Magma Fincorp Ltd. has been renamed Poonawalla Fincorp Ltd. following the acquisition of controlling stake by the Adar Poonawalla-led Rising Sun Holdings in May. Rising Sun Holdings had acquired a controlling stake in the NBFC through an equity infusion of Rs 3,456 crore. The transaction was completed on May 21, and Adar Poonawalla was appointed as the company's Chairman on May 31.

Poonawalla is also the Chief Executive Officer of Serum Institute of India, which is manufacturing the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine (Covishield) against COVID-19.

RIL net rises 4.2% to Rs. 13,806 cr. as refining lifts revenue by 57%



Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) reported first-quarter net profit rose 4.2% to Rs. 13,806 crore, as higher price realisation in the oil to chemicals (O2C) business helped propel a 57% jump in overall revenue. Revenue surged to ₹1,58,862 crore, from ₹1,00,929 crore a year earlier, aided by a doubling of revenue from the Oil & Gas business due to incremental production from KG D6 block, and increased revenues from the Jio and Retail units.

Tannu and Priya become cadet World champions



Young wrestlers Tannu and Priya became the latest world champions as India's spectacular run continued at the Cadet World Championship. Tannu did not concede a single point enroute the 43kg title, winning three of her four bouts by fall, including the final against Belarus' Valeryia Mikitsich. Priya grabbed the 73kg title with a 5-0 win over Belarus' Kseniya Patapovich. Another Indian, Varsha won the bronze medal in the 65kg category with a victory by fall against Turkey's Duygu Gen.

India finished on top with 147 points, ahead of mighty USA (143) and formidable Russia (140).

Nivedita Karki clinches gold



Uttarakhand's Nivedita Karki stunned reigning youth World champion Gitika of Haryana 3-2 in the 48kg final to clinch the gold at the youth National boxing championships. Nivedita, who made headlines last year in February after winning gold medal for the country at Golden Girl Box Cup in Sweden, showed courageous efforts in a nail-biting women's 48kg summit clash against the Haryana boxer Gitika and tilted the result of the match 3-2 in her favour.

Fernando, Rajapaksa guide Lanka to consolation win



Avishka Fernando and Bhanuka Rajapaksa hit half-centuries as Sri Lanka beat India by three wickets for a consolation win in the rain-hit third ODI. With India electing to bat first, Sri Lanka spinners Akila Dananjaya (3-44) and Praveen Jayawickrama (3-59) did the bulk of the damage as the visitors were bowled out for 225 in 43.1 overs. The match had been reduced to 47-overs-a-side due to rain, but half-centuries from Avishka Fernando (76) and Bhanuka Rajapaksa (65) helped the home side to a consolation win with eight overs to spare.

Pandemic-hit Tokyo Olympics kicks off with opening ceremony



The COVID 19-hit 32nd Olympic Games formally began on Friday with a glittering opening ceremony. United by Emotion' was the theme of the night which opened with a countdown video dating back to the time when Tokyo won the bid to host the Games in 2013 before persevering through a year of postponement due to the pandemic.

Nineteen Indians took part in the ceremony and have been marshalled by 2012 London Olympics bronze-medallist Mary Kom and the Indian males's hockey workforce's captain Manpreet Singh.