

Japan approves use of COVID-19 antiviral treatment pill



In Japan, Government's regulatory panel has approved the use of COVID-19 antiviral treatment pill called Molnupiravir developed by Merck & Co Inc.

National broadcaster NHK reported that the approval was widely expected and opens the door to shipments of 200,000 doses across the country from this weekend.

US President Joe Biden signs Bill on forced labour in China



US President Joe Biden signed into law a bill banning goods from China's Xinjiang region unless companies can prove they aren't made with forced labor, a move that will add to tensions over Beijing's treatment of the nation's Uyghur minority.

The bill passed with unanimous backing in both the House and Senate earlier this month, showcasing how Republicans and Democrats are largely aligned on China policy despite Washington's deep partisan divisions on most major issues.

The new law could pose a significant challenge for American and other firms that source items from Xinjiang for products used in the US.

Omicron: US drops in-person interviews for H-1B, other visas for a year



The United States will allow its consular officers to waive in-person interviews for H-1B and other certain non-immigrant visa applicants through next year to help reduce visa wait times.

The consular officers will now be temporarily authorised to waive in-person interviews for nearly a dozen visa categories, including Persons in Specialty Occupations (H-1B visas), visas for students, temporary agricultural and non-agricultural workers, student exchange visitors, as well as athletes, artists and entertainers.

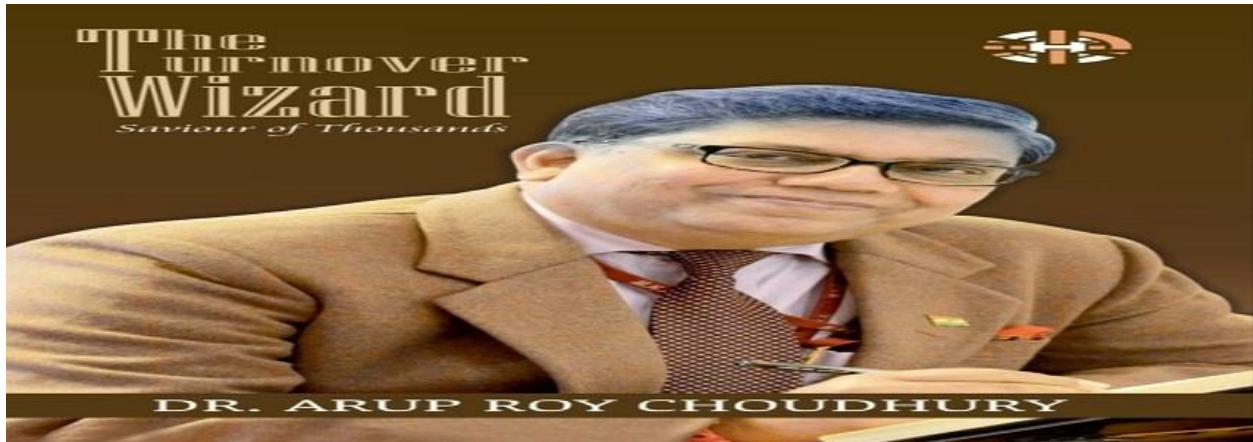
National Consumer Day: 24th December



National Consumer Day is observed on 24 December annually to highlight the importance of the consumer movement and spread awareness about the rights and responsibilities of every consumer. On this day the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 was enacted.

The Act aims to provide consumers with effective safeguards against different types of exploitation, such as defective goods, deficiency in services and unfair trade practices.

M Venkaiah Naidu released a book titled “The Turnover Wizard – Saviour Of Thousands”



Vice-President of India M Venkaiah Naidu has released the book titled “The Turnover Wizard – Saviour Of Thousands”, an autobiography of Arup Roy Choudhury, the former Chairman and Managing Director of NTPC Limited and NBCC (India) Limited.

The book consolidates Arup Roy Choudhury’s learnings from life and brings out the management lesson from his life. The book is also endorsed by E Sreedharan, The Metro Man of India.

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin gets nod for emergency use in children from 12 to 18 years of age



Bharat Biotech's COVID-19 vaccine 'Covaxin' has received approval for Emergency use in children between 12 to 18 years of age. In a statement, Bharat Biotech said, Covaxin is formulated uniquely such that the same dosage can be administered to adults and children.

The company said it has documented excellent safety and immunogenicity data readouts in children. The company said it looks forward for Covaxin to provide for similar levels of protections for adults and children alike.

Construction of 1,07,000 lakh houses approved in five states under PMAY(U)



Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Housing for All (Urban)
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India



What's New : on is provided in ULB under Beneficiary Tag. Please mark the house completed details. 2. New mobile app for
PPP Policy | Documents | Disclaimer | MIS Events | Search Beneficiary | Citizen Assessment | Others | Help | GHTC-India



Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana :

The Mission will be implemented during 2015-2022 and will provide central assistance to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and other implementing agencies through States/UTs for:

Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has approved the construction of one lakh seven thousand houses in five states under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban). These states are Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Puducherry and Uttarakhand. The approval was given in the 57th meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee held in New Delhi.

The total number of sanctioned houses under the Mission is now one crore 14 lakh. Of which around 91 lakh have been grounded for construction and more than 53 lakh have been completed and delivered to the beneficiaries. The total investment under the Mission is over seven lakh 52 thousand crore rupees.



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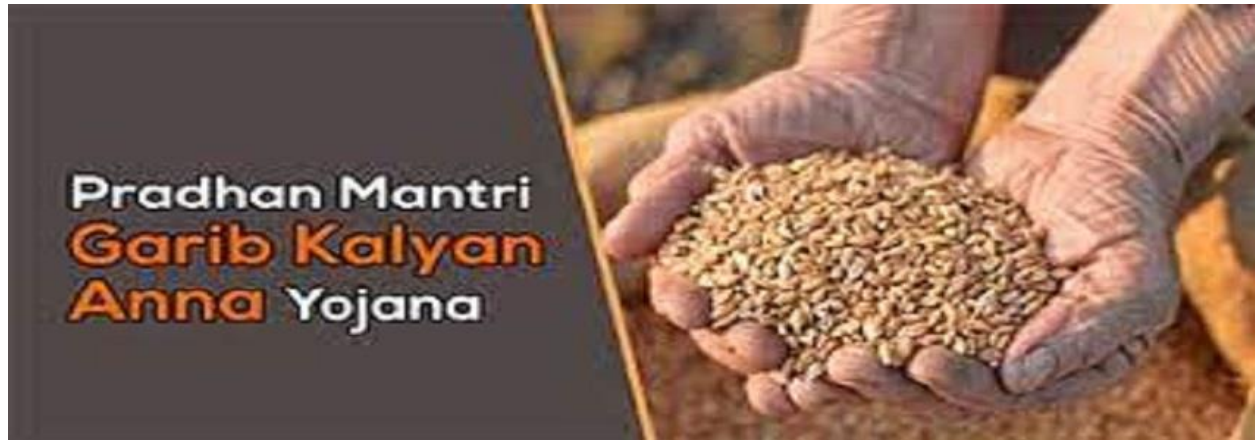
PMAY MIS

What's New

▶ PMAY MIS Presentation

▶ PMAY MIS Work Flow

Govt extends Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana till March 2022



Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana, Centre is providing five-kilogram food grains per person per month free of cost to all beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act. The scheme is a food security welfare scheme that was envisaged by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to provide assistance and help mitigate the economic impact of Covid-19.

The Government in March last year had announced the distribution of additional foodgrains free-of-cost to about 80 Crore National Food Security Act beneficiaries.

The government will be incurring an expenditure of nearly two lakh 60 thousand crore rupees on Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana. Last month, Union Cabinet had approved the extension for this scheme for a period of another four-month, till March next year.

INS Khukri decommissioned after 32-year service



INS Khukri (Pennant number 49), the first indigenously built Missile Corvette, was decommissioned after 32 years of service at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The warship was built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MSD) and commissioned on 23rd August 1989 and had been part of both the Western and Eastern Fleets.

The ship was commissioned in Mumbai by Shri Krishna Chandra Pant, the then Raksha Mantri and Mrs Sudha Mulla, wife of late Capt Mahendra Nath Mulla. Commander (now Retired Vice Admiral) Sanjeev Bhasin was the first Commanding Officer.

HDFC Bank wins coveted CII award for 'Most Innovative Best Practice'



HDFC Bank's efforts in furthering financial inclusion through partnership with the Government of India's Common Service Centres (CSC) have been adjudged 'Most Innovative Best Practice' for financial inclusion at the coveted CII Digital Transformation Award 2021.

HDFC Bank focuses on financial inclusion by offering entire bouquet of its world-class products through CSC's network of VLE centres.

The key objective of Award is to recognize excellence in Digital Transformation in India and facilitate sharing of information on Best Practices & Technologies.

GMR partners with Angkasa Pura II for Medan Airport in Indonesia



Infrastructure major GMR Group has signed shareholders agreement with Indonesia's Angkasa Pura II for the development of Medan Airport.

GMR Airports, a part of the GMR group, had in November won the bid for this high growth potential brownfield airport, through a closely contested international competitive bid process.

Medan is the fourth largest urban area in the country and is capital of North Sumatra province. An operating airport with healthy cash flows, it handled more than 10 million passengers in 2018.

Govt mandates telcos to keep call data, internet usage record for 2 years



Department of Telecom (DoT) has extended the duration of archiving call data and internet usage records of subscribers to two years from one year due to security reasons.

Telecom companies may destroy the data stored thereafter if there is no direction from the DoT thereafter.

The amendment mandates telecom companies to maintain internet data records of subscribers including login and logout details of all subscribers for services provided such as internet access, e-mail, internet telephony services like calls made from mobile applications or wifi calling for at least two years.

Earlier the rules mandated the archive call data and internet usage records for at least 1 year.

Veteran spinner Harbhajan Singh announces retirement from all forms of cricket



Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh has announced retirement from all forms of competitive cricket. The 41-year-old spinner from Punjab, who made his Test debut against Australia in Bangalore back in 1998, took a total of 417 wickets in 103 Tests.

He also scalped 269 wickets in 236 One Day International and 25 wickets in 28 T20 internationals during his over two-decades-long career. Harbhajan also played 163 IPL matches and took 150 wickets.

FIS Alpine Skiing Competition: Ace Indian skier Aanchal Thakur wins Bronze medal in Montenegro



Ace Indian skier Aanchal Thakur has bagged Bronze medal at the FIS Alpine Skiing Competition in Montenegro. She finished 3rd with an overall timing of 1:54:30. Georgia Epiphaniou, who won Silver medal was just 2 seconds ahead of Aanchal.

With this, Aanchal has become the first Indian Ski athlete to win two medals at international level. She has previously won a bronze medal in the 2018 FIS Alpine 3200 Cup held in Turkey.