

## World Soil Day: 5th December



World Soil Day is observed every year on December 5 to raise awareness of the importance of soil quality for human well-being, food security and ecosystems.

World Soil Day 2021 aims to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being by addressing the growing challenges in soil management, fighting soil salinization, increasing soil awareness and encouraging societies to improve soil health.

The date of 5 December was chosen because it corresponds with the official birthday of the late H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, King of Thailand, who was one of the main proponents of this initiative.

## International Day of Banks: 4 December



International Day of Banks is celebrated on December 4 to recognise the importance of multilateral and international development banks in financing sustainable developments. United Nations observes the day in recognition of the vital role of banking systems in Member State in contributing to the improvement of the standard of living.

The day is celebrated to the recognition of the significant potential of multilateral development banks and other international development banks in financing sustainable development and providing know-how, and also in recognition of the vital role of the banking systems in the Member States in contributing to the improvement of the standard of living.

## Indian Navy Day:4 December



In India every year December 4 is observed as the National Navy Day , to celebrate the achievements and role of the naval force to the country.

The theme of Indian Navy Day 2021 is ‘Swarnim Vijay Varsh’ signifying 50 years of India’s victory in the Indo-Pakistan war that took place in 1971.

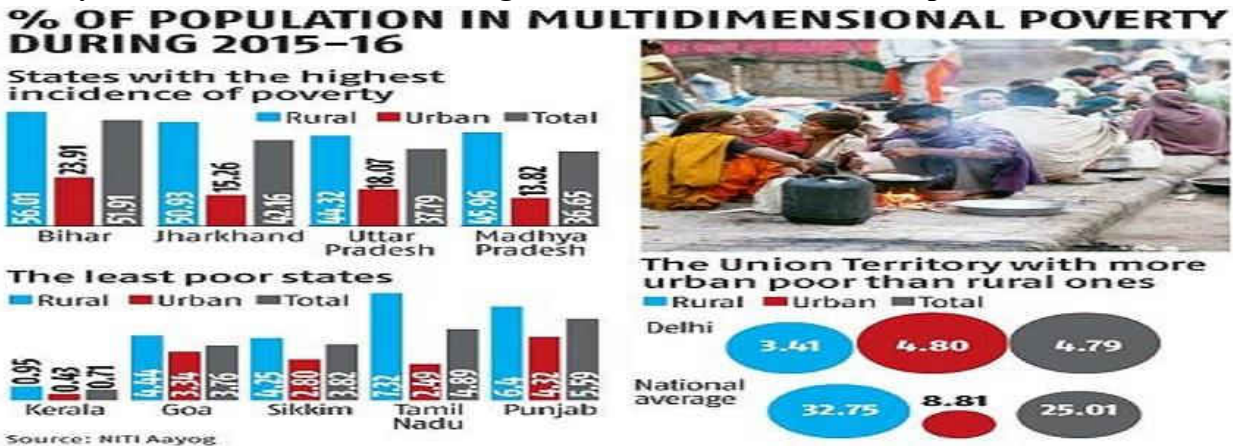
## Highest education accolade, Yidan Prize, for Pratham CEO Rukmini Banerji



Rukmini Banerji, CEO of Pratham Education Foundation, has been awarded the world's highest education accolade, the 2021 Yidan Prize for Education Development, for her work in improving learning outcomes.

Among Banerji's pioneering work, along with Pratham's team, is the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) assessment approach that revealed literacy and numeracy gaps among children who have already spent several years at school.

## Poverty ratio 32.75% in rural areas against 8.81% in urban: NITI report



Urban areas, by all accounts, have skimmed off the fruits of development at least during 2015-16, the year of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), on which the NITI Aayog's multidimensional poverty report is based.

While 25.01 per cent of the population was multidimensionally poor in the country, the poverty ratio was as high as 32.75 per cent in rural areas during that year. This was against 8.81 per cent of the population in urban areas.

Extrapolating the multidimensional poverty as given by the NITI Aayog would mean that a bit over 288 million people in rural areas and close to 38 million in urban areas were poor in 2015.



### **PM Modi launches projects worth Rs 18,000 cr in Dehradun**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple projects worth around 18,000 crore rupees at Dehradun in Uttarakhand.

The seven projects inaugurated by the Prime Minister, consist of initiatives focusing on making travel safer by tackling the problem of chronic landslides in the region. He also inaugurated the 120 MW Vyasi Hydroelectric Project, built over Yamuna river at the cost of over 1,700 crore rupees, along with a Himalayan Culture Centre in Dehradun.

The 11 projects for which foundation was laid include the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor which will be built at a cost of around 8,300 crore rupees. It will significantly reduce the travel time from Delhi to Dehradun from six hours to around 2.5 hours. It will have Asia's largest wildlife elevated corridor of 12 kilometres for unrestricted wildlife movement. It will also boost inter-state tourism.

### **Veteran journalist Vinod Dua passes away at 67**



Veteran journalist Vinod Dua passed away.

Vinod Dua, one of the pioneers in Hindi broadcast journalism, worked with Doordarshan to present youth programme Yuva Manch in the mid-'70s and later with several other television news channels. He was awarded Padma Shri in 2008.

### **Former Andhra Pradesh CM Konijeti Rosaiah passes away**



Former Governor of Tamil Nadu and former Chief Minister of the unified State of Andhra Pradesh, Konijeti Rosaiah (89-years) passed away. He had served as MLA, MLC, Lok Sabha members. He held several key portfolios including finance, transport, energy in the cabinets headed by Kotla Vijayabhaskhara Reddy, Channa Reddy, and YS Rajasekhara Reddy.

### **Uday Shankar takes 51% stake in James Murdoch's entity Lupa India**



Uday Shankar, former chairman of Star India and president of Walt Disney Company Asia Pacific, has taken a 51 per cent stake in Lupa India, an investment entity set up by media mogul James Murdoch through his family office. The company's key focus will be to invest in the media, education and healthcare sectors, according to sources.

### **Vodafone files application with govt for settlement of retro tax dispute**



British telecom giant Vodafone has filed an application with Indian authorities for settlement of their retrospective tax dispute.

The government in August enacted a law to end all retrospective taxation imposed on indirect transfer of Indian assets. The rules under the law seek to withdraw tax demands made using a 2012 retrospective legislation to tax the indirect transfer of Indian assets and also refund the amount paid in these cases without any interest.

### **Forex reserves down by \$2.713 million to \$637.687 billion**



The country's foreign exchange reserves declined by USD 2.713 billion to USD 637.687 billion in the week to November 26, RBI data showed.

In the previous week ended November 19, the reserves had increased by USD 289 million to USD 640.401 billion. It touched a lifetime high of USD 642.453 billion in the week ended September 3, 2021.

In the reporting week ended November 26, the dip in the foreign exchange reserves was on account of a decline in foreign currency assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves and gold reserves.

## Tega Industries subscribed 219 times, becomes 6th most subscribed IPO



Tega Industries' initial public offering (IPO) ended with demand for shares exceeding those on offer by a whopping 219 times.

Tega Industries received bids for 2.09 billion shares, as against the 9.6-million on offer, with those bids cumulatively worth nearly Rs 95,000 crore. Tega is now the sixth most subscribed IPO in India, and it has received the third highest subscription this year after Latent Views and Paras Defence, which garnered 339x and 304 x subscription, respectively.

The retail portion of the IPO was subscribed 29 times, the wealthy investor portion 666 times, and the institutional investor portion 216 times.

The Kolkata-based company is the country's leading producer of polymer-based mill liners.

## Asian team squash: Indian men's team lose to Malaysia in final



Saurav Ghosal, the top player, went down to Ng Eain Yow 10-12 4-11 8-11 while Ramit Tandon stretched Ivan Yeun to four games but the Indians could not quite make a match of it.

The top-seeded Indian men's team went down 1-2 to second seed Malaysia in the final of the 20th Asian squash Team Championship.

This was the third time the Indian men had entered the final after having previously done so in 1981 and 2012.

The Indian women's team had lost to Hong Kong in the semi finals.



### **Viktor Axelsen, Tai Tzu Ying named 2021 BWF Male& Female Player of the Year**



Denmark's Viktor Axelsen and China's Taipei's Tai Tzu Ying were named Male and Female player of the year 2021 respectively by the Badminton World Federation (BWF).

It was the first season-ending award in this category for both Viktor Axelsen and Tai Tzu Ying the All England champions of 2020.