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NEWS IN SHORT

- NEWS ①:** India is celebrating 400th Prakash Purab of Guru Tegh Bahadur
- NEWS ②:** Russia produced the first batch of COVID-19 vaccines for animals
- NEWS ③:** Germany to return the artefacts called the "Benin Bronzes" to Nigeria
- NEWS ④:** World largest airplane built by Stratolaunch completed
- NEWS ⑤:** UK Became the First Country to Adopt Self-Driving Cars on Motorways
- NEWS ⑥:** Ministry of Finance released the first instalment of State Disaster Relief Fund
- NEWS ⑦:** "Scheme of Financial Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure"
- NEWS ⑧:** COVID19 curbs to delay multiplexes recovery
- NEWS ⑨:** Facebook to offer vaccine finder tool
- NEWS ⑩:** Former Attorney General Soli Sorabjee passes away

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

400th Prakash Purab of Guru Tegh Bahadur

- India is celebrating 400th Prakash Purab of Guru Tegh Bahadur. He was the ninth Sikh Guru.
- He was the youngest son of Guru Hargobind Sahib. He wrote 115 hymns that were included in Guru Granth Sahib.

STATE AFFAIRS

Ashirwad Scheme

- The cabinet of Punjab approved the hike in Ashirwad Scheme from Rs 21000 to Rs 51000 per beneficiary for the marriage of women of low-income families. The cabinet has also directed to clear all the pending dues.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Carnivac-Cov

- Russia produced the first batch of COVID-19 vaccines for animals. The name of the vaccine is Carnivac-Cov.
- The World Health Organisation recently confirmed the possibility for transmission of virus between humans and virus. It was produced by Rosselkhoznadzor.

"Benin Bronzes"

- The Government of Germany announced that it is to return the artefacts called the "Benin Bronzes" to Nigeria. The "Benin Bronzes" are currently held in the museum of Germany.
- They are a group of thousand metal sculptures. These sculptures once decorated the royal palace of Kingdom of Benin, the current Nigeria.

Stratolaunch

- The World largest airplane built by Stratolaunch completed its second test flight from Mojave Air and Space Port in California.
- It reached a top speed of 320 kilometre per hour. The wingspan of the aircraft is 117 metres. This is greater than an American football field.

UK Became the First Country to Adopt Self-Driving Cars on Motorways

- The United Kingdom government became the first country in the globe to permit self-driving cars on motorways after the announcement of its plan to regulate the use of self-driving vehicles at slow speeds on motorways.

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BUSINESS & ECONOMY

State Disaster Relief Fund

- The **Ministry of Finance** released the **first instalment of State Disaster Relief Fund**. The ministry released 50% of the amount, which is **Rs 4,436.8 crores**.
- The total amount of **SDRF** to be released for 2021-22 is **Rs 8,873 crores**.

“Scheme of Financial Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure”

- The **Ministry of Finance** announced that it is to provide **Rs 15,000 crores** to the states for their **Capital Expenditure for 2021-22**.
- This is being provided as **interest free fifty-year loan to spend on capital projects**. Fresh guidelines have been announced in this regard.

COVID19 curbs to delay multiplexes recovery

- According to the report by **domestic credit rating agency Crisil**, Localised lockdowns and night curfews amid the **newer wave of COVID-19** are set to take a **toll on multiplexes in the country**, and companies in this sector will report operating **losses for the second consecutive year**.

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

Fish die in Lebanon

- Around **forty tonnes of fish** were washed on the **banks of Qaraoun lake** due to **excessive pollution**.
- The pollution was mainly due to **sewage dumping**. This has gained an international spotlight. Such a huge disaster is happening for the first time in the region.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

First embalmed pregnant woman

- The **researchers of Poland** discovered the **first embalmed pregnant woman**. This is the **first time in the history** scientists have found a **foetus in a mummy**.
- The identification was made under the **“Warsaw Mummy Project”**.

Facebook to offer vaccine finder tool

- **Facebook** said it is **partnering** with the **Indian government** to roll out a **vaccine finder tool** on its mobile app in India, which will help **people identify places** nearby to get **inoculated**.
- The information will be available in **17 languages**.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

“Interpreting Politics: Situated Knowledge, India, and the Rudolph Legacy”

- The new book titled **“Interpreting Politics: Situated Knowledge, India, and the Rudolph Legacy”** pays tribute to the **Padma Bhushan award winners Lloyd and Susanne Rudolph** who elaborated the seminal insights about Indian politics.
- The book was **edited by John Echeverri-Gent and Kamal Sadiq** and published by **OUP India**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Maharashtra Day

- Every year, **Maharashtra Day** is celebrated on **May 1**. It commemorates the **formation of the state of Maharashtra**.
- It was formed on **May 1, 1960**. The **Bombay state** was **divided** into **Gujarat and Maharashtra in 1960**.

International Worker’s Day

- **May Day** is also called **International Workers’ Day** or **Labour Day**. The first **Labour Day in India** was hosted by the **Labour Kisan Party in Madras in 1923**.
- It was initiated from the **Labour Union Movement**.

SPORTS

Unadkat donates for COVID relief

- **Rajasthan Royals fast bowler Jaydev Unadkat** will donate **10% of his IPL salary** to help **COVID-19 patients** who need essential medical resources as India battles an unprecedented health crisis.

Dhawan donated Rs.20 lakh for oxygen cylinders

- **Shikhar Dhawan** has donated **Rs. 20 lakh** to an NGO for **buying oxygen cylinders and concentrators**, helping the country tackle the **second wave of the pandemic**.

OBITUARY

Former Attorney General Soli Sorabjee passes away

- **Eminent jurist and former Attorney General of India Soli Sorabjee** passed away on Friday due to **COVID19 complications**.
- He appeared in several historic cases, including the **Kesavananda Bharati case** or the **Basic Structure Doctrine case**. He received the **Padma Vibhushan** for championing free speech and human rights.

‘Shooter Dadi’ succumbs to COVID-19

- **Octogenarian Chandro Tomar**, who became the **oldest woman sharp shooter** in the world after taking up the sport in her 60s, died after battling **COVID-19**. She was **89**.
- Tomar, who was nick named **‘Shooter Dadi’** for her exploits.