

**RACE™****24.09.2021**

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NATIONAL

1) India-United Kingdom Consular Dialogue

The government of India has hosted the first India-United Kingdom Consular Dialogue in the virtual medium. Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Devesh Uttam led the Indian delegation while the UK delegation was led by Jennifer Anderson. Both sides discussed the ways to strengthen people-to-people contacts as part of the India-UK 2030 roadmap.

2) Kasturirangan to head education ministry's panel

The Union education ministry has formed a 12-member committee to develop new curriculums for school, early childhood, teacher and adult education. The panel tasked with developing four national curriculum frameworks will be headed by National Education Policy-2020 drafting committee chairperson K Kasturirangan.

3) Arjun Mk-1A

The Ministry of Defence placed an order with Heavy Vehicles Factory, Chennai for supply of 118 Main Battle Tanks (MBTs) Arjun Mk-1A for the Indian Army. The state-of-the-art MBT Mk-1A is a new variant of Arjun Tank designed to enhance fire power, mobility and survivability.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) BPCL SBI Card co-branded RuPay Contactless Credit Card

Bharat Petroleum and SBI Card have joined hands to launch the 'BPCL SBI Card co-branded RuPay Contactless Credit Card, offering fuel and other benefits. The card will provide rewarding fuel savings and other benefits to the customers. Users of BPCL SBI Card RuPay will get 13X reward points on every ₹100 spent on fuel purchases at BPCL petrol pumps.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1) Lunar Crater named after Arctic explorer Matthew Henson

The International Astronomical Union has named a crater at the Moon's south pole after the Arctic explorer Matthew Henson, a Black man who in 1909 was one of the first people to stand at the very top of the world. Artemis Programme was launched by NASA which aims to land the next slate of lunar explorers on the Henson Crater.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) 'Global Goals Awards' 2021

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced its annual Goalkeepers 'Global Goals Awards' 2021. Goalkeepers is the foundation's campaign to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The 2021 award has been awarded to Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, former United Nations under-secretary-general and executive director of UN Women.





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APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Rajiv Bansal

Rajiv Bansal appointed as Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Bansal is currently Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Air India. He is a 1988-batch IAS Nagaland cadre. He will replace the current Aviation Secretary Pradeep Singh Kharola, who retires on 30 September.

OBITUARY

1) Yudhvir Singh Dadwal

Former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and Commissioner of Delhi Police, Yudhvir Singh Dadwal, has passed away. In 2016, Dadwal was appointed as the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. He was the 16th police commissioner of Delhi from July 2007 to November 2010.

SPORTS

1) Men's Hockey Junior World Cup

Odisha will host the Men's Hockey Junior World Cup at the Kalinga Stadium here from November 24 to December 5. Hockey India had recently approached the Odisha government to support them for the Men's Junior World Cup to be held in two months time.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) "Jungle Nama"

Amitav Ghosh's "Jungle Nama" has now been released as an audiobook with music and voice of US-based Ali Sethi. Jungle Nama evokes the wonder of the Sundarban through its poetry, accompanied by stunning artwork by the renowned artist Salman Toor.

2) '400 Days'

Chetan Bhagat will release his new novel titled '400 Days' on October 08, 2021. He has released the cover for the same. It is the third novel in the Keshav-Saurabh series, after 'The Girl in Room 105' and 'One Arranged Murder'.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) National Pension System Diwas

Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority will observe October 01, 2021 as the National Pension System Diwas. This campaign has been started by PFRDA under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to promote pension and retirement planning for a carefree 'azad' retirement. PFRDA is promoting this campaign on its social media platforms with #npsdiwas.