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NEWS IN SHORT

- NEWS ①:** IIT-Guwahati have signed a MoU with the North East Frontier Railway
- NEWS ②:** Indian Army initiated the "Ladakh Ignited Minds Project: A Centre of Excellence and Wellness"
- NEWS ③:** WHO unveiled Global Immunization Strategy
- NEWS ④:** 'Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2020' report released
- NEWS ⑤:** India ranked 49th in Chandler Good Governance Index
- NEWS ⑥:** Population of the United States has increased by 7.4%
- NEWS ⑦:** Paytm Launched India's 1st Video-based Wealth Community
- NEWS ⑧:** Saudi activist Loujain al-Hathloul was awarded 8th Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize
- NEWS ⑨:** DRDO has developed Single Crystal blades technology for helicopter engine application.
- NEWS ⑩:** A New Global Partnership called 'Blue Nature Alliance' has been launched

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

IIT-Guwahati have signed a MoU with the North East Frontier Railway

- Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the North East Frontier Railway to collaborate on research projects aiming at improving maintenance and operations of train running in the region and other fields.

Ladakh Ignited Minds Project

- The Fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army initiated the "Ladakh Ignited Minds Project: A Centre of Excellence and Wellness" in Ladakh.
- It's objective is to provide better training facilities to disadvantaged Ladakhi students and provide them with the opportunity to study in better educational institutes.

STATE AFFAIRS

Retirement age of DCCB staff hiked

- A meeting of the board of directors of District Cooperative Central Bank of erstwhile Karimnagar district resolved to hike the retirement age of DCCB

staff from 58 to 61 years. It was also resolved to extend health insurance scheme to the 480 employees and their dependents.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

'Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2020'

- According to the report 'Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2020' released by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, India with a Military Expenditure of USD 72.9 Billion in 2020 (3.7% of Global Share) was ranked as the 3rd Highest Military Spender in 2020.

India ranked 49th in Chandler Good Governance Index

- The Chandler Good Governance Index is released by the Chandler Institute of Governance headquartered in Singapore.
- India ranked 49th in the Chandler Good Governance Index out of 104 countries. Finland topped the ranking following Switzerland, Singapore, Netherlands, Denmark and Norway.

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Global Immunization Strategy

- The **World Health Organisation** unveiled the **Global Immunization Strategy** led by the United Nations to reach around **50 million children who missed their vaccination** against **measles, yellow fever and diphtheria**.

United States has increased by 7.4%

- The **Central Bureau of the United States** announced that the **population of the United States** has **increased by 7.4%**.
- This is the **second slowest growth of US Population** since the **Great Depression**. The population of the United States increased to **331,449,281 in 2020**.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Paytm Launched India's 1st Video-based Wealth Community

- **Paytm**, introduced **India's first video-based wealth community** for the users to interact with subjectmatter experts in live sessions on different wealth topics such as **IPO, F&O, ETFs, mutual funds, stocks, gold, fixed income, and personal finance**.

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

'Blue Nature Alliance'

- A **New Global Partnership** called '**Blue Nature Alliance**' has been launched jointly by several **Philanthropic Organizations** across the world to protect **18 Million Square kilometres** of the **ocean** over the **next 5 years**.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Single Crystal blades technology

- **DRDO** has developed **Single Crystal blades technology for helicopter engine** application.
- The technology will help in the **production of blades** that are capable of withstanding high temperatures of operation.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize

- **Saudi activist Loujain al-Hathloul** was awarded a **top European rights prize**, the prestigious **8th Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize** by the **Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Ravindra Jadeja

- The **Japanese sports brand ASICS** has appointed **Indian cricketer Ravindra Jadeja** as its **brand ambassador**.
- **Bollywood Actor Tiger Shroff** is also the **brand ambassador** of the **Japan based ASICS**.

Justice Rajesh Bindal

- President **Ram Nath Kovind** appointed **Justice Rajesh Bindal** as **Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court**.
- He will succeed **Justice Thottathil Bhaskaran Nair Radhakrishnan**

OBITUARY

Manzoor Ahtesham

- **Hindi writer and Padma Shri awardee Manzoor Ahtesham** passed away at the age of **73**.
- He was honoured by the **Government of India** in **2003** with **Padma Shri**.

John Konrads

- **Australian Swimmer and Olympic gold medalist John Konrads** passed away at the age of **78** in **Sydney, Australia**.
- **JohnKonard** was selected to the **Australian swim team** during the **1956 Olympics** in **Melbourne**.

Auto veteran Jagdish Khattar passes away

- **Automobile industry veteran and former Managing Director of Maruti Suzuki India Jagdish Khattar, 78**, passed away due to **cardiac arrest**. Prior to his association with **Maruti**, he had been an **IAS officer**.
- After he retired from **Maruti**, he founded **Carnation**, an **automobile service company**.