

**RACE™****19.09.2021**

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INTERNATIONAL

1) G20 Agriculture meeting

India's Agriculture Minister addressed the G20 Agriculture meeting virtually. It is one of the ministerial meetings organised as part of the G20 Leaders Summit 2021 to be hosted by Italy in October 2021. It is an informal group of 19 countries and the European Union (EU), with representatives of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

2) Statue of Bitcoin founder Satoshi Nakamoto

Hungary has unveiled the statue of Bitcoin founder Satoshi Nakamoto. The imposing bronze statue was unveiled in Hungary's capital, Budapest. This is the first such statue across the world to pay homage to the creator of Bitcoin digital currency.

NATIONAL

1) Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana

Ministry of Railways launched Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana. This is a skill development programme, where training will be provided to youth with a special focus on jobs that are relevant to the Railways.

2) Delhi-Mumbai Expressway

The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways concluded the two-day review of the work progress on the eight-lane Delhi-Mumbai Expressway. It will be the world's longest highway once completed. It is expected to be completed by March 2023.

3) "Ek Pahal Drive"

The Ministry of Law and Justice has launched a Pan-India Special Campaign called "Ek Pahal Drive" for Justice Delivery at doorstep. The campaign was launched in a bid to encourage mass registration under Tele-Law. This campaign seeks to actualize the aspiration of access to justice for citizens in India.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) "instant, low-cost, cross- border fund transfers"

The central banks of India and Singapore will link their respective fast digital payment systems - Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and PayNow - for "instant, low-cost, cross- border fund transfers". The linkage is targeted to be operationalised by July 2022.

2) 45th GST council Meeting

45th GST council Meeting was chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Lucknow. Discussions over bringing petrol & diesel under the GST regime was discussed and several key decisions were taken. Issue of Petrol & Diesel was discussed as Kerala High Court had





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questioned it. However, Council decided not to put petrol and diesel under GST.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Earthshot Prize

Two Indian Projects have been selected to get the Environment Prize. One of the selected projects is- Solar-Powered Ironing Cart project Second project is- Agricultural Waste Recycling Concept developed by an entrepreneur from Delhi. The first-ever Environment Prize, called Earthshot Prize, was launched by Britain's Prince William and David Attenborough in 2020.

GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

1) Sea cucumber

The Indian Coast Guard has seized two tonnes of sea cucumber, a banned marine species, in the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay areas in Tamil Nadu. Sea cucumbers are marine invertebrates that live on the seafloor found generally in tropical regions. They're named for their unusual oblong shape that resembles a fat cucumber.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) 36th International Coastal Clean-up Day

The 36th International Coastal Clean-up Day was celebrated on September 18, 2021, for the tenth consecutive year. The day was celebrated by the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) at Visakhapatnam. International Coastal Clean-Up Day 2021 is being celebrated under the theme: "Keep trash in the bin and not in the ocean"

