

**RACE™****23.10.2021**

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INTERNATIONAL

1) Financial Action Task Force

Global terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force has retained Pakistan on its 'Grey List' of countries. In a briefing, FATF president Marcus Pleyer also said that three new countries Turkey, Jordan, and Mali have also been added to the Grey List.

2) Global Agricultural Productivity Report

According to a new report, Global agricultural productivity is not growing as fast as the demand for food, amid the impact of climate change. The report was released in conjunction with the World Food Prize Foundation's annual conference. Total Factor Productivity is growing at an annual rate of 1.36% (2020-2019).

3) World Meteorological Congress 2021

The World Meteorological Congress 2021 has endorsed a Water Declaration, including the Water and Climate Coalition. It has also approved a new vision and strategy for hydrology and an associated plan of action. India is a member. It produces annually the State of the Global Climate Report.

NATIONAL

1) Microsoft AI Innovate

Microsoft recently announced the launch of Microsoft AI Innovate, a 10-week initiative that will support startups in India leveraging AI technologies. The program will also enable startups to reach out to newer customers and geographies with Microsoft's sales and partners.

2) Azad Hind Formation Anniversary

The anniversary of the formation of the Azad Hind Government is celebrated on 21st October every year. On 21st October 1943, Subhash Chandra Bose announced the formation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind (Free India) in Singapore, with himself as the Head of State, Prime Minister and Minister of War.

STATE NEWS

1) 'Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store scheme'

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has virtually launched a new scheme named 'Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store scheme' to provide low-cost generic medicines and enable seamless healthcare services to the vulnerable people of the state.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) HDFC Bank, Mastercard, DFC, USAID launched a \$100 Million Credit Facility

HDFC Bank, Mastercard, United States International Development Finance Corporation, and US





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Agency for International Development launched a \$100 million credit facility for MSMEs in India. The credit facility is part of USAID's global Women Economic Empowerment Fund initiative and its COVID-19 response in India.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) 'The Origin Story of India's States'

The book titled 'The Origin Story of India's States' is written by Venkataraghavan Subha Srinivasan and published by Penguin Random House India. It is a story about the birth of India's 28 states and 8 union territories. Also, their continuous changes.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Earth Guardian Award

The Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation has bagged the Earth Guardian Award instituted by the NatWest Group. The eight winners of the award were felicitated by the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora secretary-general Ivonne Higuero through a virtual ceremony.

2) Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award

Hollywood veteran Martin Scorsese and celebrated Hungarian filmmaker Istevan Szabo will be honoured with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award at this year's International Film Festival of India. The 52nd edition of the film festival will be held from November 20 to 28 in Goa.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) International Snow Leopard Day

October 23 is observed as International Snow Leopard Day since 2014. The day commemorates the anniversary of the Bishkek Declaration and to celebrate this endangered cat and raise awareness for its conservation and protection.

2) Mole day

On 23rd October every year mole day is celebrated which is popular amongst all chemistry enthusiasts. This day is marked to commemorate and honour the Avogadro's number. The theme for the occasion, inspired by the mascot – A Mole. This year the theme is Dispicamole Me.