

**RACE™****13.10.2021**

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INTERNATIONAL

1) IEA invites India to become full member

International Energy Agency has invited India to become its full-time member. This membership invitation was given in the light that, India is the world's third-largest energy consumer. Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri held discussions with IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol.

NATIONAL

1) India announces \$200-million line of credit for Kyrgyzstan

India announced a \$200-million line of credit for Kyrgyzstan and signed an agreement to carry out small but high impact projects for community development in the Central Asian state. The two initiatives were among several measures announced by external affairs minister S Jaishankar at the end of a two-day visit to Kyrgyzstan.

STATE NEWS

1) Haryana bans govt employees from participation in politics, elections

Haryana government has banned the participation of its employees in politics and elections. A notification has also been issued from the office of the chief secretary in this regard while implementing Haryana Civil Services (Government Employees Conduct) Rules, 2016.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) RBI has granted a banking licence to Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd

The Reserve Bank of India has granted a banking licence to Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd, which was established jointly by the Centrum Financial Services Ltd (CFSL) and Resilient Innovations Private Limited (BharatPe), to carry on a SFB business in India. It is the first time ever that two partners are uniting equally to build a Bank.

2) India's retail inflation eases to 4.35% in September

Retail inflation declined to 4.35 per cent in September, mainly due to lower food prices, according to government data released. The Consumer Price Index-based inflation was at 5.30 per cent in August and at 7.27 per cent in September 2020. RBI has projected the CPI inflation at 5.3 per cent for 2021-22.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1) Germany launches World's first self driving train

German rail operator, Deutsche Bahn and industrial group, Siemens launched the first automated & driverless train of the world. The self-driving train was launched in the city of Hamburg. This project is being developed by 'Siemens and Deutsche Bahn'. These automated trains will offer a reliable service without laying a single kilometre of new track.



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AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) 22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence

The Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu presented the 22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence to the eminent pulmonologist and Director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Dr Randeep Guleria at Upa-Rashtrapati Nivas.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Amit Khare

Amit Khare, who last month retired as higher education secretary, has been appointed as advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for two years on contract basis. Mr Khare, a 1985 batch (retired) IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Khare as advisor to the prime minister.

2) Rajnish Kumar

BharatPe has appointed former State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman Rajnish Kumar as the Chairman of its board. The former SBI chairman will work closely with the top officials of the company on key business and regulatory initiatives. He will also take part in defining BharatPe's long-term and short-term strategy.

3) Alexander Schellenberg

Alexander Schellenberg was elected as Austrian Chancellor after the resignation of Sebastian Kurz. Sebastian Kurz resigned because of his involvement in a corruption scandal. Apart from Alexander, Michael Linhardt joined in for the role of foreign minister. He was the former ambassador to France.

4) Arun Kumar Mishra

Energy Efficiency Services Limited, a joint venture of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power has announced the appointment of Arun Kumar Mishra as chief executive officer on deputation. He will be responsible for EESL's operations across the nation.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) International Day for Disaster Reduction

The United Nations International Day for Disaster Reduction is held annually on 13 October since 1989. The day is celebrated to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction. The theme of the 2021 International Day for Disaster Reduction is "International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses".