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# CURRENT AFFAIRS

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**Today's Important News**

Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh  
to be first woman pilot to join  
Rafale fleet.



## 1. Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh to be first woman pilot to join Rafale fleet

- Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh will become the first woman pilot to fly the multi-role fighter aircraft Rafale after finishing her conversion training, according to reports.
- Commissioned into the Indian Air Force in 2017 as part of the second batch of women fighter pilots, Singh currently flies the force's oldest jet MiG-21 Bison. Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, who shot down a Pakistan Air Force (PAF) fighter on 27 February last year near the Line of Control before being shot down himself and taken captive, was Singh's flying instructor.
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) currently has 10 women fighter pilots, who have undergone the arduous training to fly the supersonic jets. Reportedly, it takes around Rs. 15 crores to train a single fighter pilot.



### Foot Notes:

**Air Chief Marshal:** Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

## 2. India aims to end tuberculosis by 2025: Health Minister at UN

- Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan has said that India has accorded high priority for ending tuberculosis by 2025, five years ahead of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan said this while addressing Ministers of Member Nations of WHO, Heads and Representatives of UN Agencies through virtual interaction
- The Minister added that Tuberculosis has been in existence since time immemorial and continues to remain a major global public health problem. Despite the progress made over the last decade, TB remains the leading infectious killer disease worldwide.



**Foot Notes:**

**About WHO:**

**Director-General:** Tedros Adhanom

**Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland

**Founded:** 7 April 1948

**About UN:**

**Headquarters:** New York, United States

**Founded:** 24 October 1945

**Secretary General:** António Guterres

**3. Bougainville elects former rebel chief Ishmael Toroama as its new president**

- Former rebel military commander Ishmael Toroama has been elected president of Bougainville, an autonomous part of Papua New Guinea, electoral officials say, and is set to lead talks seeking independence.
- The general election was the first since Bougainville voted overwhelmingly for a separation from PNG at the end of last year, with Mr Toroama defeating an open field, the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner.
- Bougainville, a mineral-rich and lush group of islands in the South Pacific, has developed little since a decade-long civil war that claimed as many as 20,000 lives came to an end in 1998.



**Foot Notes:**

**About Bougainville:**

**Capital:** Buka

**Currency:** Papua New Guinean kina

#### 4. RBI appoints AK Das as the new administrator of PMC Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed AK Das (ex-general manager at Union Bank of India), as the new administrator of the Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative (PMC) Bank.
- He has replaced JB Bhoria who has stepped down from his role as the administrator of the bank due to health reasons.
- In September 2019, the RBI had superseded the board of PMC bank due to fraud and financial irregularities in the PMC bank.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About RBI:

**Governor:** Shaktikanta Das

**Bank rate:** 4.00%

**Interest on reserves:** 3.35% (market determined)

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

#### About PMC Bank:

**Founded:** 1984

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

#### 5. President Ram Nath Kovind confers NSS Awards for 2018-19

- President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the National Service Scheme Awards for the year 2018-19 through virtual mode.
- The NSS Award for the year 2018-19 was presented to 42 awardees in three different categories like University, NSS Units and their Programme Officers and NSS Volunteers. Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju attended the ceremony from Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.
- Mr Kovind said that it is a matter of happiness that about 40 lakh young students of many technical institutes, colleges and universities are serving the society and the nation by joining the National Service Scheme. He said, so far nearly four crore volunteers have contributed through this scheme.





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### 6. Google Pay, Visa partner for card-based payments with tokenisation

- Google Pay announced the rollout of tokenisation across its platform that will enable users to safely transact with their debit or credit cards. Through tokenisation, Google Pay Android users can use their debit or credit card to make payments through a secure digital token attached to their phone without having to physically share their credit or debit card details.
- The feature also works with online merchants, delivering more native and seamless OTP experiences without any redirects to 3D secure sites. This feature is now available to all users of Axis, SBI Card and Kotak.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Google:

CEO: Sundar Pichai

Headquarters: California, United States.

India & South Asia Group Country Manager of Visa: TR Ramachandran

### 7. A book titled “Voices of Dissent” authored by Historian Romila Thapar

- Noted Indian Historian and author Romila Thapar has written a new book titled “Voices of Dissent”
- The book is a historical essay that explores dissent, including its articulation and public response to its forms, with a focus on the recent protest in India against the citizenship law and the National Register of Citizens.
- Thapar received the Kluge Prize in December 2008.
- She was honoured with Padma Bhushan in 2005 which she declined stating that she made a resolve not to accept any “State Award”.



### 8. Colonel Dr Girija Mungali named in Asian Football Confederation task-force

- Retired Colonel Dr Girija Shanker Mungali has been appointed as one of the seven members of the Asian Football Confederation's task force for regulating football clubs in Asia and Australia. Mungali, who is also currently serving as the Chairman of the Club Licensing Committee of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), is the only Indian to be appointed on this committee.
- According to a statement issued here, the retired Army officer plans to use this platform to promote and create opportunities for young and upcoming footballers especially from the rural areas of the country.
- His appointment to AFC was made on September 15 by Dato' Windsor John, the General Secretary of the Asian Football Confederation and he will be on the panel till 2023.



#### Foot Notes:

##### About AIFF:

**President:** Praful Patel

**Founded:** 23 June 1937

**FIFA affiliation:** 1948

**AFC affiliation:** 1954

**SAFF affiliation:** 1997

##### About ASEAN Football Federation:

**Founded:** 31 January 1984

**President:** Maj. Gen. Khiev Sameth

**Headquarters:** Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

### 9. MoS Railways Suresh Angadi 1st Union minister died of Covid-19

- Union minister of state for railways and Karnataka BJP MP Suresh Angadi, 65, passed away days after he tested positive for Covid-19. Angadi is the first Central minister to die of coronavirus.
- Suresh Angadi was the fourth-term MP from Belagavi.



### 10. Nagaland rolls back COVID-19 cess on petroleum products; Rs 10.32 cr collected so far

- Following a cabinet meeting held in Dimapur, the Nagaland government has announced its decision to revoke the COVID-19 cess on petroleum products. A total of Rs 10.32 crore has so far been collected from the cess which came to force on the midnight of April 28.
- The decision of the state government comes after several civil societies and political parties demanded a rollback on the COVID-19 cess.
- Nagaland government had levied the COVID cess on diesel by 5 rupees per litre and on petrol 6 rupees per litre from 28 April this year.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Nagaland:

**Capital:** Kohima

**Governor:** RN Ravi

**Chief Minister:** Neiphiu Rio

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