



CURRENT AFFAIRS

07 October 2020

Today's Important News

Dinesh Kumar Khara takes charge as State Bank of India chairman.



1. Edappadi K Palaniswami named as AIADMK's CM candidate for Tamil Nadu assembly polls, BJP welcomes decision

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami (EPS) has been named as the chief ministerial candidate of All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) for Tamil Nadu 2021 Assembly polls.
- The announcement was made by Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister and AIADMK leader O Panneerselva during a press conference on October 7, 2020.



Foot Notes:

About Tamil Nadu:

Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

Capital: Chennai

Chief Minister: Edappadi K Palaniswami

2. IACC presents lifetime achievement award to Ratan Tata

- The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) has presented the lifetime achievement award to business icon Ratan Tata as part of its recent global leadership awards.

- The IACC leadership bestowed the IACC Lifetime and Global Excellence Awards to Tata at a closed-door meeting, owing to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, according to a statement.
- This award was announced in the virtual event of IACC “COVID Crusader Award-2020”. This is the 1st time IACC conferred the Lifetime Achievement award to any individual.



Foot Notes:

About IACC:

President: Purnachandra Rao Surapaneni.

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra

3. Delhi's Deputy CM Manish Sisodia launches a book "Bapu-The unforgettable"

- On the occasion of the 151st Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi, Manish Sisodia has launched the coffee-table book titled "Babu - The Unforgettable" over the virtual event.
- This virtual event was organised by the Delhi Archives & Department of Art, Culture and Language, Government of Delhi. The department also organised a webinar on "Footprints of Gandhi Ji in Delhi".
- The book "Bapu - The Unforgettable" will make the readers think and provide a glimpse of the ideology and philosophies of Mahatma Gandhi. The book also holds several untouched aspects of history, rare photographs, epigraphs and other details about Delhi.



Foot Notes:

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Lt. Governor: Anil Baijal

4. Sikkim's Dalle Khursani one of the world's spiciest chillies gets GI tag

- Dalle Khursani, the famous red hot cherry pepper of Sikkim, is set to get a geographical indication (GI) tag from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- The GI tag is a name or a sign given to a certain product that has a specific geographical location or origin. An application filed by the Guwahati-based North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited



(Neramac) for the GI tag of Sikkim's Dalle Khursani has been accepted by the DPIIT.

- Considered one of the world's hottest chillies, it has a range of 1,00,000 to 3,50,000 SHU (Scoville Heat Units). The Scoville scale is a measurement of spiciness or heat of chillies. The famous Bhut Jolokia, grown in neighbouring Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur, has an SHU range of 8,55,000 to 10,41,427.

Foot Notes:

About Sikkim:

Capital: Gangtok

Governor: Ganga Prasad

Chief Minister: Prem Singh Tamang

5. Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A Doudna wins Nobel Prize in Chemistry for developing CRISPR/Cas9 genetic scissors

- The Nobel Prize for Chemistry, 2020 has been awarded to Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A Doudna for "Development of a method for Genome Editing". The scientists had developed the Gene Editing Technique called "CRISPR-Cas9 Snipping Scissors".
- The researchers can change the DNA of animals using the Gene Editing Technique invented by the Nobel Laureates. The technology has had revolutionary impact on life sciences contributing to new cancer therapies. It has potentials to cure inherited diseases.



Foot notes:

About Nobel Prize:

The Nobel Prize is a set of annual international awards bestowed in several categories by Swedish and Norwegian institutions in recognition of academic, cultural, or scientific advances. The will of the Swedish chemist, engineer and industrialist Alfred Nobel established the five Nobel prizes in 1895.

Founder: Alfred Nobel

Nobel Prize in Medicine 2020: Harvey J Alter, Charles M Rice, and Michael Houghton



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6. Senior IPS officer M A Ganapathy appointed Director General of BCAS

- Senior IPS officer M A Ganapathy has been appointed as director-general of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security. The 1986 batch, Uttarakhand cadre IPS officer is currently CISF special director-general and head of the airport sector.
- PM Modi-headed appointments committee of cabinet approved the aviation ministry's proposal to appoint Ganapathy as DG BCAS till his superannuation on February 29, 2024, or until further orders, whichever earlier.
- Rakesh Asthana, a 1984 batch IPS officer, held this position till this August when he was appointed as the chief of the Border Security Force (BSF). Asthana is also holding additional charge of DG, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).



Foot Notes:

About BACS:

Founded: 1976

Director-General: M A Ganapathy

7. Dinesh Khara takes charge as the Chairman of State Bank of India

- The senior-most Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI) Dinesh Kumar Khara on Wednesday took charge as the new chairman of India's largest public lender. The government had appointed Khara as the chairman of the bank for a period of three years. Khara has replaced chairman Rajnish Kumar, whose three-year term came to an end on October 7.
- "The Central Government, hereby appoints Dinesh Kumar Khara, Managing Director, State Bank of India as Chairman, for a period of three years with effect from the date of his taking over charge of the post on or after 7.10.2020, or until further orders, whichever is earlier," a notification by the Department of Financial Services.



Foot Notes:

About SBI:

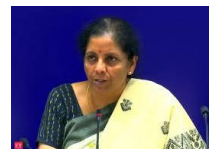
Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1 July 1955

Managing directors: Praveen Kumar Gupta

8. Nirmala Sitharaman launches Indian Bank's business mentoring programme 'MSME Prerana' for MSMEs

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched 'MSME Prerana', an online business mentoring programme for MSMEs by state-run Indian Bank. The programme, to be made available in local languages, is aimed at empowering entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity building workshops, the bank said in a release.
- "Indian Bank has taken an out-of-the-box initiative in launching MSME Prerana which will handhold the entrepreneurs through a mentoring program. This novel initiative shall further inspire others in the banking sector to adopt similar measures," Sitharaman said.
- The initiative was launched by the finance minister at the bank's corporate centre in Chennai. Financial Services Secretary Debashish Panda, who also participated in the launch event through video conferencing, delved on the various initiatives taken by the government to support MSMEs.



9. Govt removes export curbs on N-95 masks to promote outbound shipments

- The government removed export curbs on N-95 masks, to promote outbound shipments of the product.



- "The export policy of N-95/FFP-2 masks or its equivalent is amended from restricted to free category, making all types of masks freely exportable," the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a notification.
- In August, a monthly export quota of 50 lakh units was fixed for N-95/FFP2 masks or its equivalent for issuance of export licences to eligible applicants.


10. Rock star and guitar legend Eddie Van Halen dies of cancer aged 65

- Rock star and guitar legend Eddie Van Halen has died aged 65 after a "long and arduous battle" with cancer, his son has said.
- Kiss band singer Gene Simmons remembered him as a "Guitar God", while other stars likened him to a modern-day Mozart.
- The Dutch-American musician had been receiving treatment for throat cancer. His band were best known for their song Jump, which hit the top of the US charts in 1984.



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