

Current Affairs

21th August 2021



Today's Important News

Govt appoints Shanti Lal Jain as MD and CEO of Indian Bank for 3 years

1. Govt appoints Shanti Lal Jain as MD and CEO of Indian Bank for 3 years

- Shanti Lal Jain has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Indian Bank for a period of three years. He will replace Ms. Padmaja Chunduru as MD and CEO of Indian Bank.
- Shanti Lal Jain is currently the Executive Director (ED) at Bank of Baroda. He will take charge after September 01, 2021.



Foot Notes:

About Indian Bank:

Headquarters: Chennai

CEO: Padmaja Chunduru

Founded: 15 August 1907

2. Apple tops Hurun Global 500 Most Valuable Companies list 2021

- Apple is the world's most valuable company (USD 2,443 billion) according to the Hurun Global 500 Most Valuable Companies list 2021.
- Reliance Industries (USD 188 billion) ranked at 57 is the top Indian company in the list. There are total 12 Indian companies in this list.



- Microsoft is second while Amazon is second in the list. In terms of number of companies from a country, USA led the ranking with 243 companies while India is ranked 9th with 12 companies.

Foot Notes:

About Apple:

CEO: Tim Cook

Founded: 1 April 1976, Los Altos, California, United States

Headquarters: Cupertino, California, United States

Founders: Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, Ronald Wayne

3. World Senior Citizen Day: 21 August

- The World Senior Citizen Day is observed globally on August 21 every year to raise awareness about issues affecting older people, such as deterioration with age and the abuse of the elderly and support, honor and show appreciation to seniors and to recognize their achievements.
- The Day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 14, 1990.
- The day was officially founded by the former President of the United States of America, Ronald Reagan in 1988 to dedicate a day to older adults and their issues.



4. PM Modi inaugurates and lays foundation stone of multiple projects at Somnath in Gujarat

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple projects in Somnath, Gujarat on August 20, 2021 via video conferencing.
- **Projects inaugurated included:**
- Somnath Promenade – This project is developed under PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive) Scheme, at a cost of over Rs. 47 crore.
- Somnath Exhibition Centre – This centre has been developed in the premises of ‘Tourist Facilitation Centre’. It displays the exhibits from dismantled parts of old Somnath temple and its sculptures having Nagar style temple architecture of old Somnath.
- Reconstructed temple precinct of Old (Juna) Somnath – This temple is also known as Ahilyabai Temple because it was built by Queen Ahilyabai of Indore. The recon-



structed project has been completed by Shree Somnath Trust with a total outlay of Rs 3.5 crore.

5.NPCI global arm ties up with Mashreq Bank for UPI payments in UAE

- NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) has partnered with Mashreq Bank to launch the payment system facility of Unified Payments Interface (UPI), in the UAE.
- Mashreq Bank is the oldest privately owned bank in the United Arab Emirates.
- This step will benefit the Indian tourists and who travel to UAE for business or leisure purposes to pay for their purchases using UPI-based mobile applications across shops and merchant stores in the UAE.



Foot Notes:

About NPCI:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 2008

6.Facebook launches Small Business Loans initiative across 200 cities in India for SMEs

- Facebook India has launched “Small Business Loans Initiative” in India in partnership with online lending platform Indifi. India is the first country where Facebook is rolling out this programme.
- The objective of this initiative is to help small and medium businesses (SMBs) that advertise on Facebook to get quick access to credit/loans through independent lending partners.
- This will make business loans more easily accessible to small businesses, and reduce the credit gap within India’s MSME sector.



Foot Notes:

About Facebook:

CEO: Mark Zuckerberg

Founded: February 2004

Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States

7.Govt forms 8-member committee headed by FDCI Chairman for promotion of handloom sector

- Government of India has constituted an 8-member Committee with an aim of doubling the production and quadrupling the exports of handlooms in 3 years.
- Shri Sunil Sethi, Chairman of Fashion Design Council of India (FDCI) New Delhi, is the Chairman of the committee.



8. Indian Film Festival of Melbourne Awards 2021 announced

- The Family Man 2 actors Manoj Bajpayee and Samantha Akkineni were among the winners of the latest edition of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne Awards. The IFFM 2021 were held virtually on Friday with several stars from various film industries in attendance.
- Eminent Indian artists like Shoojit Sircar, Anurag Kashyap, Thiagarajan Kumararaja, Sriram Raghavan were amongst the presenters, along with Richa Chadha, Guneet Monga, Onir and others as jury members.



9. India ranks second in terms of crypto adoption in the world

- India ranks second in the global cryptocurrency adoption index only behind Vietnam, according to the 2021 Global Crypto Adoption Index by blockchain data platform Chainalysis.
- The worldwide adoption of cryptocurrency has grown by over 2,300 percent since the third quarter of 2019 and over 881 percent in the last year.
- The ranking was based on three metrics including peer-to-peer (P2P) exchange trading volume and value received. India was followed by Pakistan and Ukraine at rank three and four respectively. The US and China's ranking dipped from sixth to eighth and from fourth to thirteenth respectively.
- The report attributes this drop in ranking to falling P2P volumes in the two countries compared to worldwide volumes.



10. Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal to inaugurate country's first smog tower on August 23

- The country's first smog tower will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on August 23.
- The smog tower, located at Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Connaught Place, will clean 1,000 cubic metres of air every second and reduce PM 2.5 and PM 10 levels in Delhi.
- PM2.5 is defined as fine particulate matter suspended in the air that is two and a half microns or less in width.



Foot Notes:

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

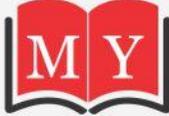
Lt. Governor: Anil Baijal



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