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Current Affairs

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Today's Important News

World Bank to provide 600 million US dollars financial assistance to Sri Lanka to make payments for essential imports.



1. World Bank to provide 600 million US dollars financial assistance to Sri Lanka to make payments for essential imports

- The World Bank will provide financial assistance to Sri Lanka of USD 600 dollars to meet the payment requirements for essential imports.
- Sri Lanka has also talked with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for financial assistance, but the country needs 3 to 4 billion dollars in bridge financing to help meet its essential expenses.
- India has helped Sri Lanka by assisting with USD 1.9 billion.



Foot Notes:

About Sri Lanka:

President: Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Prime Minister: Mahinda Rajapaksa

About World Bank:

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

President: David Malpass

Founded: July 1944

2. India spends third highest in the world on military

- According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India's military expenditure is the third highest in the world behind the US and China.
- **Top Five:** The United States, China, India, the United Kingdom, and Russia
- Military spending in India is amounting to \$76.6 billion in 2021 which grew by 0.9% from 2020.
- Russia has also increased its military expenditure for the third consecutive year.



Foot Notes:

About SIPRI:

Headquarters: Solna

Founded: 6 May 1966

Director: Dan Smith

Founders: Alva Myrdal, Tage Erlander

3. I&B Ministry & Netflix launch videos on women changemakers

- Netflix joins hands with the I&B ministry to launch some short films on women changemakers named 'Azadi Ki Amrit Kahaniya'.
- The videos are narrated by actor Neena Gupta and produced by Netflix.
- It would be shared on social media and broadcast on Doordarshan.
- **Aims:** To bring out inspiring stories of Indians which empower more people to achieve their goals



Foot Notes:

About I&B Minister: Anurag Thakur

Secretary: Apurva Chandra

About Netflix

CEO: Ted Sarandos

Founded: 29 August 1997

Founders: Reed Hastings, Marc Randolph

4. N Chandrasekaran takes charge as Tata Digital Chairman

- Tata Sons executive chairman N Chandrasekaran has formally taken charge as chairman of Tata Digital. At present, Tata's digital strategy is being spearheaded by its CEO Pratik Pal along with Mukesh Bansal, founder of



Cultfit. Chandrasekaran's formal appointment is of significance considering its future plans of raising funds from external investors.

- For Chandrasekaran, who was reappointed as the chairman of Tata Sons for another five years in February, Tata Digital has been his brainchild since he took charge as Tata Sons chairman. He has been closely involved in its growth plans from the beginning as the Mumbai-based conglomerate eyes to make a dent in the Indian eCommerce universe.

Foot Notes:

About Tata Sons:

Founder: Jamsetji Tata

Founded: 1868

Headquarters: Mumbai

5. Himachal Pradesh govt signs MoU for development of seven ropeway projects

- Himachal Pradesh government has signed an MoU for the development of seven ropeway projects in Kangra, Kullu, Chamba, Sirmour and Bilaspur districts.
- The MoU was signed between Ropeways and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation (RTDC) HP Limited and National Highways Logistic Management Limited (NHLML).
- The MoU was signed in the presence of road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari and chief minister Jai Ram Thakur in New Delhi.



Foot Notes:

About Himachal Pradesh:

Founded: 25 January 1971

Chief Minister: Jai Ram Thakur

Capitals: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)

6. Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 amended to promote Make in India

- To promote Make in India initiative in defence the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 has been amended based on the approvals accorded by Defence Acquisition Council (DAC).
- Import of defence equipment has to be undertaken with specific approval of DAC/Raksha Mantri.
- The defence ministry also cut the waiting time for projects under the iDEX framework.



- The timelines in the Make-II procedure will be reduced to 101-109 weeks from 122-180 weeks.
- India spends third highest in the world on military

7. NITI Aayog organises National Workshop on Innovative Agriculture

- NITI Aayog has organized a National Level Workshop on Innovative Agriculture under the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations in New Delhi.
- The first session was chaired by Dr. Ravi Kumar (Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog).
- Yogi Adityanath (CM of Uttar Pradesh), CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan (MP), CM Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy (Andhra Pradesh), and CM Pushkar Singh Dhami (Uttarakhand) have joined the first technical session of the workshop virtually.



Foot Notes:

About NITI Aayog:

Formed: 1 January 2015

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairperson: Narendra Modi

Vice Chairperson: Rajiv Kumar

8. TCS to take decade-long relationship with SBI Cards to a new level

- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has expanded its strategic partnership with SBI Cards to power digital transformation.
- TCS had helped the SBI cards to transform its core cards sourcing platform and digitized a significant portion of the process.
- TCS will digitalize and transform the online onboarding processes to enable a faster turnaround and frictionless experience.
- SBI Card CEO: Rama Mohan Rao Amara; TCS CEO: Rajesh Gopinathan.



Foot Notes:

About TCS:

CEO: Rajesh Gopinathan

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1 April 1968

9. Airtel Payments Bank offers FD Facility with IndusInd Bank

- Airtel Payments Bank has partnered with IndusInd Bank to offer fixed deposit (FD) facilities to its customers.
- A customer can open FD of Rs 500 up to Rs 190,000 on the Airtel Thanks app.
- With this partnership, customers of Airtel Payments Bank savings account will get an interest rate of up to 6.5 %p.a. and senior citizens will get an additional 0.5% on all fixed deposits.
- Customers can book multiple FDs for a fixed duration of either 1, 2 or 3 years.



Foot Notes:

About IndusInd Bank:

Headquarters: Mumbai

CEO: Sumant Kathpalia

Founder: S. P. Hinduja

Founded: April 1994

About Airtel Payments Bank:

CEO: Anubrata Biswas

Headquarters location: New Delhi

Founded: January 2017

10. Former women's hockey team captain Elvera Britto died

- Former Indian women's hockey team captain, Elvera Britto has passed away at 81 due to old-age-related problems.
- Elvera led Karnataka's domestic team to win seven national titles. She ruled the domestic circuit from 1960 to 1967.
- She also represented India against Japan, Sri Lanka, and Australia.
- She is the second women hockey player to be conferred with the Arjuna Award(1965) after Anne Lumsden.



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