

## News Digest

## NATIONAL

## ■ PM Distributes 71,000 Appointment Letters as Part of Rozgar Mela

As part of the Rozgar Mela, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi distributed about 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits through video conference on 13th April 2023. The new recruits have been selected for various positions in the Central Government including the post of Train Manager, Station Master, Inspector, Constable, Stenographer, Junior Accountant, Postal Assistant, Income Tax Inspector, Assistant Professor, Teacher, and Nurse among others. The appointees will get an opportunity to train themselves through Karmayogi Prarambh, which is an online orientation course for newly inducted government servants.

## ■ Home Minister Launches Vibrant Villages Programme in Kibithoo of Arunachal Pradesh

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah launched the 'Vibrant Villages Programme' at Kibithoo - a border village in Arunachal Pradesh on 10th April 2023. He said, the goal of the Project is to stop migration from all the villages of the entire northern border, to promote tourism and provide facilities akin to cities. He also inaugurated nine micro hydel projects of Arunachal Government and 14 infrastructure projects of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) worth Rs 120 crore. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, in a tweet has urged everyone, particularly the youth of India to visit border villages, stating that it would acquaint our youth with different cultures and give them an opportunity to experience the hospitality of those living there.



## ■ AAP Gets ECI Recognition as 'National Party'

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has granted 'National Party' status to Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). After its recognition as a 'State Party' in Gujarat, the AAP has become a 'State Party' in four states, namely Delhi, Punjab, Goa and Gujarat, hence it fulfills the eligibility conditions for granting recognition as a 'National Party'. Meanwhile, the All India Trinamool Congress (AITC), Communist Party of India (CPI) and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) have lost the 'National Party' status. The ECI has granted recognition to Tipra Motha Party as a State Party in Tripura, Voice of the People Party as a State Party in Meghalaya, and Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) as a State Party in Nagaland.

## ■ Digital Version of Employability Skills Curriculum for ITI Students Launched

Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan has unveiled the digital version of Employability Skills Curriculum for students enrolled in Industrial Training Institutes. The minister launched the initiative at the Future Skills Forum held in New Delhi organised by the Future Right Skills Network - a collaborative effort by QUEST Alliance, Accenture, Cisco, and J.P. Morgan. It brings together government skills training institutions, civil society organisations, industry and corporate social responsibility partners to help young people acquire critical skills for the future. Around 2.5 million learners across skills ecosystem can be job ready by accessing the digital lessons.

## ■ Jal Shakti Ministry Onboards 49 Universities in Water Conservation Agenda

Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on 12th April 2023 presided over the 'Namami Gange: Universities Connect' event where an agreement was signed with 49 universities to foster awareness among the youth on water conservation in general and river rejuvenation in particular. The MoU aims to bring the student community to the forefront of the mass movement for creating a sustainable ecosystem of our rivers. Apart from seeking active public participation, the event will also be historical towards creating knowledge-based short-term programmes, training sessions, and fostering more research on the water sector.

## ■ NITI Aayog to Host Mentorship Platform for Women Proposed by G20 EMPOWER

G20 EMPOWER, a partnership between governments and the private sector, has proposed two groundbreaking initiatives that could significantly impact women-led development. The first is an online Mentorship Platform which will be hosted on the Women's Empowerment Platform of NITI Aayog. Through this initiative, women entrepreneurs across small, medium, and large enterprises, as well as grassroots leaders, can accelerate their success by accessing mentorship, networking, knowledge sharing, capacity building, and best practices. The second initiative is a Digital Inclusion Platform, a comprehensive education and upskilling portal designed to bridge the gender divide in digital skills, education, and skilling more broadly. Available in 120+ international and Indian languages, it will serve as an aggregator of global content and courses in various domains, and help guide, provide content, and match women with internships and jobs. The framework of the platform was presented and discussed in the G20 EMPOWER meeting held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 5th - 6th April 2023.

## INTERNATIONAL

## ■ India Conveys Concerns over Misuse of UK's Asylum by Extremists

On 12th April 2023, the 5th India-UK Home Affairs Dialogue was held in New Delhi. During this meeting, India and the UK reviewed their ongoing cooperation and identified further steps to explore opportunities and synergies in advancing cooperation in various areas. These areas included counter-terrorism, cyber security &

global supply chains, drug trafficking, migration, extradition, and anti-India activities in the UK including pro-Khalistan extremism. The Indian side specifically conveyed its concerns regarding the misuse of the UK's asylum status by pro-Khalistani elements to aid and abet terrorist activities in India. They requested better cooperation by the UK in monitoring of the activities of the extremists and appropriate proactive action. India's concerns over the breach of security of the Indian High Commission were also emphasised.



## ■ India, Vietnam Reiterate Commitment to UNCLOS to Ensure Free and Open Indo Pacific

India and Vietnam have emphasised the significance of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and reiterated their commitment to resolving any disputes in accordance with international law, rejecting threats and unilateral actions that alter the status quo. National Security Adviser, Shri Ajit Doval held a delegation-level meeting on bilateral security cooperation with Vietnamese Public Security Minister Tô Lâm in New Delhi. In the meeting, both the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership that aims to improve strategic, security, and defence ties to maintain peace, prosperity, and stability in their countries, the region, and the world. The leaders further reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, stability, maritime safety and security, and freedom of navigation and over-flight in the Indo-Pacific Region.

## ECONOMY

## ■ Indian Aviation Retains FAA Category 1 Status

India has retained the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) 'Category 1' status. Notably, air carriers of 'Category 1' countries are permitted to operate or expand their services to destinations in the US and code share with US air carriers. The US FAA, under its IASA programme, had conducted an audit of India's Directorate General Civil Aviation (DGCA) in the areas covering aircraft operations, airworthiness and personnel licensing. The 'Category 1' determination has come at a time when Indian aviation is on a high growth trajectory and air carriers in India have major capacity induction and expansion plans.



## ■ India Calls for Increased Global Efforts to Address Growing Debt Distress

Union Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has underlined the need to increase efforts to address growing debt distress globally. Participating in the Global Sovereign Debt Roundtable Meeting in Washington DC, the Minister stressed the need for debt transparency and information-sharing and clarity on the predictability and timeliness of the debt restructuring process. She added that India is committed to its reform agenda, aimed at creating a stronger and more dynamic economy, overcoming challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Also present in the meeting were the Managing Director of International Monetary Fund, Ms. Kristalina Georgieva and President of World Bank Mr. David Malpass.

## SPORTS

## ■ Antim Panghal Clinches Silver at Asian Wrestling Championships

Antim Panghal won silver at the 2023 Asian Wrestling Championships in the 53-kg category title clash in Astana, Kazakhstan. She lost to Japan's Akari Fujinami, the reigning world champion, who successfully defended her Asian crown. Four other Indian wrestlers including Anshu Malik (57kg), Sonam Malik (62kg), Manisha (65kg) and Reetika (72kg) added to India's medal tally by winning their bronze medal bouts.



(Source: AIR/PIB)