

News Digest

NATIONAL

PM Modi Launches LIFE Movement on World Environment Day

On the occasion of World Environment Day on 5th June, PM Shri Narendra Modi launched the 'Lifestyle for the Environment (LIFE) Movement'. The launch also initiated the 'LIFE Global Call for Ideas and Papers', inviting individuals, universities, thinktanks, non-profits and others worldwide to submit measurable and scalable behavior change solutions that can drive climate-friendly behaviors among individuals, communities and organisations. The PM said that the vision of LIFE is to live a lifestyle that is in tune with our planet and does not harm it. Mission LIFE borrows from the past, operates in the present and focuses on the future. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle are the concepts woven into our life. The Circular Economy has been an integral part of our culture and lifestyle, he added.



First Ever National Air Sports Policy Announced

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia announced the National Air Sports Policy-2022 in New Delhi on 6th June. The objective of this policy is to include India among the top air sporting nations by 2030 by promoting safe, affordable and sustainable air sports ecosystem in the country. Eleven air sports including Aerobatics, Ballooning, Gliding, Parachuting, Powered aircraft and Rotorcraft will be promoted through this policy. Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Scindia said, this will help in generation of one lakh jobs in the sector and increase the revenue from existing 100 crore rupees to 10,000 crore rupees in coming years.

Govt Widens Eligibility for Appointing New Chief of Defence Staff

The Ministry of Defence has issued three separate notifications amending the rules of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force for the appointment of the next Chief of Defence Staff, CDS. Serving three-star Lieutenant General in Army, Air Marshal in Air Force and Vice-Admiral in Navy or retired Service Chiefs or three-star officers can be appointed Chief of Defence Staff if considered necessary in the public interest. The officers should not have attained the age of 62 years. The CDS post has been lying vacant since the passing away of General Bipin Rawat who lost his life in a chopper crash in Tamil Nadu on 8th December last year.

Green Open Access Rules, 2022 Notified for Promoting Green Energy Access and Consumption



The Ministry of Power notified the Green Open Access Rules, 2022 on 6th June for promoting generation, purchase and consumption of green energy including the energy from Waste-to-Energy plants. The rules aim to further accelerate the country's ambitious renewable energy programmes having the end goal of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and green energy for all. The notified Rules enable simplified procedure for the open access to green power. It will enable faster approval of Green OA, Uniform Banking, Voluntary purchase of RE power by commercial & industrial consumers, Applicability of OA charges etc. Commercial and industrial consumers are allowed to purchase green power on voluntarily basis. Captive Consumers can take power under Green Open Access with no minimum limitation. Discum Consumers can demand for supply of Green power to them.

NHAI Makes Guinness World Record for Laying Highway in Less than 5 Days

The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has set a Guinness World Record by completing the longest highway length of 75 kilometers (km) of bituminous concrete in a single lane between Amravati and Akola in the record time of—105 hours and 33 minutes. Construction on the project

began at 7:27 a.m. on 3rd June 2022, and ended at 5 p.m. on 7th June 2022, lasting less than 5 days. A team of NHAI employees along with 720 workers from a private company, including independent consultants, worked day and night to complete the task in record time. Earlier, the Guinness World Record for the longest continuously built bituminous was set in Doha, Qatar in February 2019 for constructing 25.275 km in ten days.



INTERNATIONAL

India, Vietnam Sign Joint Vision Statement for Defence Partnership

India and Vietnam have signed a Joint Vision Statement on 'Defence Partnership Towards 2030' which will significantly enhance the scope and scale of existing defence cooperation on 8th June. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was in Hanoi to hold bilateral talks with Vietnam's Minister of National Defence General Phan Van Giang. On the occasion, a Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Logistics Support was also inked, the first such major agreement which Vietnam has signed with any country. The two sides have also agreed for early finalisation of US\$ 500 million Defence Line of Credit extended to Vietnam. Implementation of the projects will add substantially to Vietnam's Defence capabilities and further PM Modi's vision of Make in India, Make for the World.

ECONOMY

RBI Proposes Linking of Credit Cards with UPI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed to allow linking of credit cards to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). RBI said, the facility would initially be enabled for Rupay Credit Cards after the required system development is complete. The proposal has been made owing to the fact that the UPI is the most inclusive mode of payment in India with over 26 crore unique users and 5 crore merchants onboard the platform. It added that 594 crore 63 lakh transactions amounting to Rs 10.40 lakh crore were processed through UPI in the month of May 2022 alone. The apex bank hopes that the linking of credit cards with UPI will provide more avenues and convenience to the customers in making payments.



Govt Enhances TDF to Rs 50 Cr to Encourage Atmanirbharta Defence

The Ministry of Defence has approved the enhancement of funding under Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme to Rs 50 crore per project from Rs 10 crore. The TDF scheme supports indigenous development of components, products, systems and technologies by MSMEs and start-ups. The scheme aims to provide a major fillip to the defence manufacturing sector by encouraging the industry to innovate and develop defence technologies to place India on the 'Atmanirbhar' (self-reliance) trajectory. In Union Budget 2022-23, 25 per cent of defence R&D budget was earmarked for private industry, start-ups and academia.

SPORTS

Indian Wrestlers Finish Second with 12 Medals at Bolat Turlykhanov Cup

India ended their campaign at the Bolat Turlykhanov Cup at Almaty in Khazakstan on the second position with 12 medals. This included a tally of six golds, one silver, and five bronze medals in total. Iran topped the medal tally with 14 medals. Out of six gold medals, five were clinched by women. World and Asian Championship bronze medalist Sarita Mor grabbed her first gold medal of the 2022 season in 59 kg, while Manisha won her first gold in seniors in 65 kg. Mansi Ahlawat won yellow metal in 57 kg while Sakshi Malik grabbed gold in 62 kg. Divya Kakran also won gold medal in 68 kg. Bipasha won Silver in 72 kg while Pooja Sihag in 76 kg and Sushma Shokeen in 55 kg bagged Bronze medal. In Men's category, Aman Sehrawat grabbed gold in 57 kg while Bajrang Punia in 65 kg, Mohit Grewal in 125 kg, and Neeraj in 63 kg won Bronze medals.



(Source: AIR/PIB)