

**RACE™****08.01.2022**

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NATIONAL

1) ECI hikes election expenditure limit for candidates

The Election Commission of India has increased the existing election expenditure limit for candidates in Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies, due to the rise in inflation.

- The ceiling on parliamentary poll expenditure has been raised from 70 lakh to 95 lakh rupees in bigger states and 54 lakh to 75 lakhs in smaller states.

- For Assembly constituencies, expenditure limits have been enhanced from 28 lakh rupees to 40 lakh rupees in bigger states and from 20 lakhs to 28 lakhs in smaller states.

2) First Mobile Honey Processing Van

Khadi and Village Industries Commission Chairman, Vinai Kumar Saxena has launched the country's first Mobile Honey Processing Van at Village Sirora in Ghaziabad. It aims at training beekeepers, distributing Bee Boxes to farmers and helping rural, educated as well as unemployed youth to earn extra income through beekeeping activities.

3) 'Startup India Innovation Week'

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry have decided to organise a week-long virtual innovation celebration called 'Startup India Innovation Week' to showcase the spread and depth of entrepreneurship across India.

4) 'OmiSure'

The Indian Council of Medical Research has approved a testing kit for detecting the Omicron variant of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus. The covid kit developed by Tata is called 'OmiSure' and will be an enhancement for the detection of the Omicron variant. The kit is manufactured by Tata Medical and Diagnostics.

5) Open Rock Museum

Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh has inaugurated India's first Open Rock Museum in Hyderabad, Telangana. Museum displays around 35 different types of rocks from different parts of India with ages ranging from 3.3 billion years to around 55 million years of the Earth's history.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Ind-Ra has downgraded the GDP of India for the current fiscal FY 2021-2022

The rating agency India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has downgraded the GDP of India for the current fiscal FY 2021-2022. Ind-Ra expects the GDP to clock a growth rate of 9.3% y-o-y in FY22. Earlier this estimate was 9.4%.





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2) '#BahaneChhodoTaxBachao'

State Bank of India General Insurance Company Ltd has launched a campaign titled '#BahaneChhodoTaxBachao' to increase awareness around the need to buy health insurance to save tax. It will also highlight the other benefits of opting for health insurance.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) National Water Awards for the year 2020

Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared the winners of the third National Water Awards for the year 2020. Uttar Pradesh has been adjudged as the Best State in water conservation efforts in the National Water Awards 2020. It is followed by Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu respectively.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Ayesha Malik

Pakistan has moved closer to appointing the first woman judge of the Supreme Court, after a high-power panel approved the elevation of Lahore High Court judge Ayesha Malik to the apex court. The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP), headed by Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed, approved Malik's elevation

OBITUARY

1) Sidney Poitier

Bahamian-American actor Sidney Poitier, who won an Academy Award for Best Actor in 1964, has died at the age of 94. In 1963, Poitier had made a film in Arizona, Lilies of the Field. The performance led to a huge milestone making him the first black winner of a lead-acting Oscar.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) "Gandhi's Assassin: The Making of Nathuram Godse and His Idea of India"

Dhirendra K. Jha, a Delhi-based journalist, has authored a new book titled "Gandhi's Assassin: The Making of Nathuram Godse and His Idea of India". The book explores Godse's relationship with the organizations that influenced his view.