



**RACE™**



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## NEWS IN SHORT

**NEWS ①:** *West Central Railway became the first fully electrified Indian Railways zone*

**NEWS ②:** *Atal Innovation Mission launched 'AIM-PRIME'*

**NEWS ③:** *Union Education Minister launched "MyNEP2020" platform of NCTE Portal*

**NEWS ④:** *Indian Army participated in Multinational Military Exercise 'Shantir Ogroshena -2021'*

**NEWS ⑤:** *India contributed USD 300,000 to UN Women to support gender equality*

**NEWS ⑥:** *National Payments Corporation of India sets up its subsidiary called NPCI Bharat BillPay*

**NEWS ⑦:** *Ford and Mahindra ended their collaboration on all projects in India*

**NEWS ⑧:** *Lt General Manjinder Singh took over as the Western Command Chief of Staff*

**NEWS ⑨:** *Lewis Hamilton wins 2021 Bahrain Grand Prix*

**NEWS ⑩:** *Indian Skipper Virat Kohli retained the top spot in ICC ODI rankings*

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS – 02.04.2021

### NATIONAL AFFAIRS

*West Central Railway became the first fully electrified Indian Railways zone*

- **Kota – Chittaurgarh railway section** (Srinagar – Jalindri) in the state of **Rajasthan**.
- The zonal railway now boasts a **3012 Route Km** electrified network.

*Atal Innovation Mission launched 'AIM-PRIME' in partnership with BMGF & Venture Center*

- AIM has joined hands with **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)** to launch this **nationwide program**, which will be implemented by **Venture Center**, a non-profit technology business incubator.

*Union Education Minister launched "MyNEP2020" platform of NCTE Portal*

- Union Education Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** launched the **"MyNEP2020" Platform of NCTE Web Portal**.
- The platform seeks to invite suggestions/ inputs/ membership from the stakeholders for preparing a draft for the development of **National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST)** and **National Mission for Mentoring Program membership (NMM)**.

### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

*Indian Army participated in Multinational Military Exercise 'Shantir Ogroshena -2021' in Bangladesh*

- **Indian Army contingent** comprising **30 personnel** from the **Dogra Regiment** will participate in the exercise along with contingents of **Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh Armies**.
- The theme of the exercise is **Robust Peace Keeping Operations**.

*India contributed USD 300,000 to UN Women to support gender equality*

- India had contributed **USD 300,000** to the **United Nations agency for gender equality and women empowerment**.

### BUSINESS & ECONOMY

*National Payments Corporation of India sets up its subsidiary called NPCI Bharat BillPay*

- **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** announced the formation of its wholly-owned subsidiary firm – **NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd (NBBL)**. The new entity came into effect from **1 April 2021**.

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- The brand under the new entity **Bharat BillPay** offers various **recurring payment services to customers**.

### **Ford and Mahindra ended their collaboration on all projects in India**

- **Ford Motor Co** and **Mahindra & Mahindra** will not collaborate on any project they had agreed to as part of their **abandoned joint venture in India**.
- Ford and Mahindra had proposed a joint venture to develop at least three **sport-utility vehicles (SUVs)** for India and emerging markets, as well as share suppliers, powertrains, and technology.

## **APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS**

### **Mallika Srinivasan appointed as the chief of the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)**

- **Mallika Srinivasan**, Chairman and Managing Director of Tractors and Farm Equipment (TAFE) Limited has been appointed as the **chairperson of the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)**.

### **Lt General Manjinder Singh took over as the Western Command Chief of Staff**

- **Lieutenant General Manjinder Singh** took over as the **Chief of Staff (CoS) of the Western Command**.
- He was commissioned into the **19 Madras regiment** on 20 December 1986.

### **Mukhmeet S. Bhatia appointed as the Director-General of ESIC**

- **Mukhmeet S. Bhatia** took over as the **charge of Director General of Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)**.
- **Employees State Insurance Corporation of India** is a multidimensional social system tailored to provide socio-economic protection to the worker population and immediate dependent or family covered under the scheme.

## **BOOKS & AUTHORS**

### **Vice President released a book titled 'Suparipalana' authored by retired civil servant Shailendra Joshi**

- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** released the **Telugu translation** of "Echo T Calling: Towards People-Centric Governance," titled "Suparipalana."
- **Annavarapu Brahmaiah** is the **translator of the Telugu version** and the book was published by **Maruthi**.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **International Children's Book Day – 02 April**

- Founded in **1967**, the day is observed on or around **Hans Christian Andersen's birthday, April 2**.
- 2021 Theme: "**The Music of Words**"

### **World Autism Awareness Day – 02 April**

- **World Autism Awareness Day** is observed every year on 2 April to spread awareness about **autism and make people understand the challenges faced by those with developmental disorders**.
- 2021 Theme: "**Inclusion in the Workplace: Challenges and Opportunities in a Post-Pandemic World**".

## **SPORTS**

### **Lewis Hamilton wins 2021 Bahrain Grand Prix**

- **Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton** won the **2021 Bahrain Grand Prix**.
- The **defending seven-time champion** defended with supreme skill over the closing laps in his Mercedes to hold off the Red Bull driver, Max Verstappen, and claim a record-stretching **96th Formula One victory**.

### **Nine cities in Australia and New Zealand to host 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup**

- The **2023 Women's World Cup** of football will be spread across **nine cities in Australia and New Zealand**.
- The opening match will take place at **Eden Park in Auckland**, with **Sydney's Stadium Australia** hosting the final.

### **Indian Skipper Virat Kohli retained the top spot in ICC ODI rankings**

- **Team India captain Virat Kohli** had retained his **top spot** in the ICC rankings for ODI batsmen.
- Kohli has **870 points** in his kitty. **KL Rahul** has moved up from **31st to 27<sup>th</sup>**, **Hardik Pandya** has achieved a **career-best 42nd position** while **Rishabh Pant** has entered the **top 100**.