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## INTERNATIONAL

### 1) Donbas

Russian President recognised independence of two separatist eastern Ukrainian regions- Donetsk and Luhansk. Donetsk and Luhansk regions are collectively Known as the Donbas. Its main industries are coal mining and steel Donetsk and Luhansk production.

## NATIONAL

### 1) Co-location facilities

Co-location facilities dedicated spaces in National stock exchange building, right next to the exchange servers, where high-frequency and algo traders can place their systems or programs. With the co-location facilities being extremely close to stock exchange servers, traders here have an advantage over other traders due to the improvement in latency.

### 2) Conversion therapy is banned

National medical commission held that conversion therapy is banned in India. Conversion therapy - sometimes called "reparative therapy" or "gay cure therapy" - tries to change someone's sexual orientation or gender identity.

### 3) Avalokiteshvara

Indian Officials have received a 1200-year-old Buddha statue that went missing more than two decades ago from the Devasthan Kundalpur Temple in Bihar. The statue, also known as an Avalokiteshwara Padmapani idol, depicts Buddha holding the stem of a blossoming lotus in his left hand with two female attendants below his feet. Avalokiteshwara is the Bodhisattva of Infinite Compassion.

### 4) 'Kisan Drone Yatra'

Prime Minister has inaugurated the 'Kisan Drone Yatra', an initiative by Garuda Aerospace Pvt Ltd and flagged off 100 'Kisan Drones' in various cities and towns across India to spray pesticides in farms across the states of India. The farmers can use the high capacity Kisan drones to transport their produce such as fruits, vegetables and flowers to markets in a minimal time and boost their income.

### 5) 'Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance'

India and France have inked a roadmap to enhance their bilateral exchanges on the blue economy and ocean governance. The agreement on 'Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance' was signed between India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar's and his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian.





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## 6) 'Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate'

The Government of India has organised a week-long science exhibition titled 'Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate' from February 22 to 28, 2022, as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav commemoration. It will be conducted simultaneously at 75 locations across the country through a hybrid model.

### STATE NEWS

#### 1) Panruti Cashews

Cashew Processors and Exporters based in Tamil Nadu have sought GI tag for Panruti Cashews. Known as the 'goldmine' of Cuddalore, demand for Panruti Cashew is huge because of its unique taste and quality. A GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.

#### 2) Byanjana Dwadashi

Celebrated by Vaishnavas, festival celebrates a variety of food (Byanjana in Odia) on 12th day (Dwadashi) of bright lunar phase of moon in the month of Margashira of Hindu calendar. Dedicated to Krishna, tale goes that Yashoda on noticing that Kahn's body had collapsed prepared a variety of nutritious and delicious dishes to feed Krishna.

### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

#### 1) Sanjay Malhotra

The Centre government has nominated Sanjay Malhotra, as a Director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The nomination of Malhotra, a 1990 batch IAS officer of Rajasthan cadre, is effective from February 16, 2022, and until further orders.

### SPORTS

#### 1) Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa

India's teen chess Grandmaster, Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa has created history as he defeated world number one chess champion, Magnus Carlsen, of Norway in an online chess tournament. The Airthings Masters is the first of the nine events of the 2022 Meltwater Champions Chess Tour, being held from February to November 2022.