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NEWS IN SHORT

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- NEWS ⑦:** *‘e-SANTA’ Web Portal for Aqua Farmers*
- NEWS ⑧:** *The direct tax collections for the financial year 2020-21 are Rs 9.45 lakh crores.*
- NEWS ⑨:** *Flipkart, Adani sign logistics, data unit pact*
- NEWS ⑩:** *Global Food Policy Report released by the International Food Policy Research Institute*

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Remdesivir Shortage in india

- **Remdesivir** is an **injectable anti-virus**. It is injected to **prevent replication of the virus**. It was manufactured in large scale to **treat Ebola**. Later it was used to **treat SARS and MERS**.
- After the **COVID-19 crisis**, it has been repurposed for **COVID-19 treatment**. The shortage of Remdesivir is increasing day by day mainly because of **rising COVID-19 cases**.

“Mission Aahaar Kranti”

- The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare **Dr Harsh Vardhan** launched **“Mission Aahaar Kranti”**.
- It aims to spread the message of the **importance of nutritionally balanced diet**. It will also promote the importance of accessibility to local fruits and vegetables.

Atal Innovation Mission & Embassy of Denmark signed a Statement of Intent

- **Atal Innovation Mission & Embassy of Denmark** signed a **SoI** for **promoting innovation and entrepreneurship** among **aspiring entrepreneurs** in India.

- The **SoI** was signed in **New Delhi** and is part of the **Indo-Danish Bilateral Green Strategic Partnership**.

M.Venkaiah Naidu releases commemorative postage stamp of Rajyogini Dadi Janki

- **M Venkaiah Naidu** released a **commemorative postage stamp** on the memory of **Rajyogini Dadi Janki**, the **former Chief of Brahma Kumaris** commemorating her **Spiritual works & fight social evils** like **gender discrimination, casteism and communalism** at **New Delhi**.

India approves Use of Russia's Sputnik V Covid-19 Vaccine

- **Drugs Controller General of India** has approved the use of **Russia's Covid-19 vaccine, “Sputnik V”** in India, to tackle the **2nd Wave** of the virus spread in India.
- With this approval, India has **3 Covid-19 vaccines** – **Covaxin, Covishield and Sputnik-V**.

‘Trade Facilitation App’

- Union Minister **Piyush Goyal** launched the **DGFT ‘Trade Facilitation’ Mobile App** for promoting **Ease of Doing Business in India** and providing quick access to **information to importers/exporters**.
- The app has been developed by **Tata Consultancy Services**.



'e-SANTA' Web Portal for Aqua Farmers

- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry **Piyush Goyal** virtually inaugurated the web portal called '**e-SANTA**' (**Electronic Solution for Augmenting NaCSA farmers' Trade in Aquaculture**).
- It is an electronic marketplace providing a platform to connect **Aqua Farmers and the Buyers**.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Global Food Policy Report

- The **Global Food Policy Report** is published by the **International Food Policy Research Institute**.
- This year the institute has released the report based on the theme "**Transforming Food Systems After COVID-19**".

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Tax collection figures for the financial year 2020-21

- The **Ministry of Finance** released the **tax collection figures** for the **financial year 2020-21**. The **direct tax collections** for the financial year 2020-21 are **Rs 9.45 lakh crores**.
- The Direct Tax Collections include **Personal Income Tax collections** and **Corporation Tax collections**.

Flipkart, Adani sign logistics, data unit pact

- Ecom firm **Flipkart** has entered into a **strategic and commercial partnership** with the **Adani Group** for **logistics and data centre** related businesses.
- Under the pact, Flipkart would work with Adani Logistics Ltd. to strengthen **Flipkart's supply chain infrastructure** and enhance the ability to serve its customers.

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

Radioactive water from the Fukushima nuclear power plant

- The **Japanese Government** approved a plan to **release more than 1 million tonnes of treated radioactive water** from the **Fukushima nuclear power plant**.
- The release of the treated **radioactive water** could take several years to begin and will take decades to complete.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

20th anniversary of Odyssey

- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration** released the image of Mars to mark the **20th anniversary of Odyssey**.
- The image depicted **Dunes in Mars**. The title of the image was "**Blue Dunes on the Red Planet**".

China opens 5G Signal base

- **China** opened its **5G Signal base** at the **World's Highest Radar Station**, "**Ganbala radar station**" which is located at a height of **5,374 meters**, in the remote Himalayas of China's **Tibet autonomous region**.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

National Award for Innovation Training Practices

- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited**, a central public sector undertaking based in Bengaluru, Karnataka has won the **National Award for Innovation Training Practices 2019-2020** at the **30th National Award Ceremony** organised by the **Indian Society for Training and Development** in New Delhi.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Sushil Chandra

- **President Ram Nath Kovind** appointed **Senior-most Election Commissioner, Sushil Chandra** as the **24th Chief Election Commissioner of India**.
- He succeeds **Sunil Arora** whose tenure ended on **12th April 2021**. **Sushil Chandra** will assume charge on **April 13, 2021**. His tenure will end on **Mid 2022**.

OBITUARY

Ibn Abdur Rehman

- **Ibn Abdur Rehman**, the **human rights icon of Pakistan** and **former journalist**, who was known as the "**Titan of Human Rights**" passed away at the age of **90** in **Lahore, Pakistan**.
- He was a protégé of **Faiz Ahmed Faiz**, a great **Urdu Poet**.