

**RACE™****20.12.2021**

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## INTERNATIONAL

### 1) Cannabis for personal use

Malta became the first European country to allow limited cultivation and possession of cannabis for personal use, following a vote in parliament. Cannabis, also known as marijuana among other names, is a psychoactive drug from the Cannabis plant. Native to Central and South Asia, the cannabis plant has been used as a drug.

## NATIONAL

### 1) Ganga Expressway

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of Ganga Expressway in Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh. PM Modi also addressed a rally at Railway Ground, Rouza on the occasion. After completion of work, it will become the longest expressway of Uttar Pradesh. It will connect the western and eastern regions of the state.

### 2) Spam call rates in India

Spam call rates in India have spiked again, with the country moving up in global rankings from 9th position to 4th position owing to a significant increase in sales and telemarketing calls in 2021, according to the latest insights by callerID, spam detection and blocking company, Truecaller.

## STATE NEWS

### 1) 'Khel Nursery Scheme 2022-23'

Haryana's Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs, Sandeep Singh launched 'Khel Nursery Scheme 2022-23' to promote sports in the state. The players of Haryana have given a new identity to the state at the international level with their sports talent. The state government is always striving to develop new sports talents in the state.

### 2) Goa Liberation Day

Goa Liberation Day is observed on 19 December every year in India and it marks the day Indian armed forces freed Goa in 1961 following 450 years of Portuguese rule. The year 2021 marks the 60 years of Goa's independence.

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

### 1) United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment

ICICI Prudential Life Insurance became the first Indian insurance company to sign United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment, to demonstrate commitment towards the environmental, social and governance issues. In order to promote sustainability, IPRULIFE is integrating ESG factors into its investment management framework.





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## APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) Mohit Jain

Mohit Jain of The Economic Times has been elected President of The Indian Newspaper Society for the year 2021-22. He succeeds L. Adimoolam of Health & The Antiseptic. The 82nd Annual General Meeting of the Indian Newspaper Society – an apex body of Publishers of Newspapers, Magazines & Periodicals in the country, was held through Video Conference.

### 2) Unsoo Kim

Hyundai Motor Company has appointed Unsoo Kim as the Managing Director of Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL), starting from 1st January 2022. He will replace Seon Seob Kim (SS Kim), who will lead the Global Operations Division in Hyundai headquarters in Seoul, South Korea.

## SPORTS

### 1) Avani Lekhara

Indian shooter Avani Lekhara, who has created history by winning India's first Gold medal in Shooting at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics, won the "Best Female Debut" honour at the 2021 Paralympic Sport Awards. The Awards were announced by the International Paralympic Committee. She became the 1st Indian woman to win 2 Paralympic medals in a single edition of the Paralympic Games.

## BOOKS AND AUTHORS

### 1) "The Monk Who Transformed Uttar Pradesh"

The book titled "The Monk Who Transformed Uttar Pradesh: How Yogi Adityanath Changed UP Waala Bhaiya' abuse to a Badge of Honour", authored by Shantanu Gupta. A new book chronicles how Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath transformed the state .

### 2) 'Gandhi Topi Governor'

Vice President, M Venkaiah Naidu has released the Telugu book titled 'Gandhi Topi Governor' by Padma Awardee Dr Y Lakshmi Prasad, Chairman, Official Language Commission, Andhra Pradesh. The book chronicles the life of Barrister Idpuganti Raghavendra Rao.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1) International Human Solidarity Day

International Human Solidarity Day is observed globally on 20 December every year to celebrate unity in diversity and raise awareness about the importance of solidarity. According to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, solidarity is among the fundamental values that are essential to international relations.