

**RACE™****14.12.2021**

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## INTERNATIONAL

### 1) UAE becomes first country to transition to 4.5-day Work Week

The United Arab Emirates has announced to change its existing five-day workweek to a four-and-a-half day starting January 1, becoming the world's first country to make the employee-friendly transition as part of its efforts to improve productivity and work-life balance.

### 2) Dubai became the world's first government to turn 100 percent paperless

Dubai became the world's first government to turn 100 percent paperless, the announcement was made by the United Arab Emirate (UAE) Crown Prince, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. The Dubai Paperless Strategy was implemented in five consecutive phases, each entity consisting of a different group of the Dubai Government's entities.

## NATIONAL

### 1) 'Code-Unnati'

Department of Youth Empowerment & Sports, Government of Karnataka has signed a Letter of Understanding with the United Nations Development Programme as a part of the State-level initiative 'Code-Unnati' to improve the access to entrepreneurship and employment opportunities among the youths, including women.

### 2) National Helpline against atrocities on SCs, STs

Union Minister Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr Virendra Kumar has launched National Helpline against atrocities on SCs, STs. It's objective is to build awareness about the provisions of the Act that are aimed at ending discrimination and providing protection to all. The Helpline will be available 24-7 on toll-free number – 14566.

### 3) Swarnim Vijay Parv

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated Swarnim Vijay Parv commemorating 50 years of India's victory in the 1971 war. He inaugurates 'Wall of Fame -1971 Indo-Pak War' at the inaugural ceremony. Swarnim Vijay Parv is an event commemorating the valour & professionalism of the Armed Forces and their contribution to the liberation of Bangladesh.

### 4) Kashi Vishwanath Corridor project

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the first phase of the Rs 339 crore Kashi Vishwanath Corridor project that connects the temple town's two iconic landmarks – Kashi Vishwanath temple and Ganga ghats. Modi offered prayers at the Kashi Vishwanath Temple and planted a Rudraksha tree at the premises of the temple.



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## STATE NEWS

### 1) “Samanya Varg Aayog”

Himachal Pradesh govt announced setting up a Commission for upper castes, on the lines of Madhya Pradesh. The Commission, to be named as “Samanya Varg Aayog”. A Scheduled Caste Commission is already in operation in Himachal Pradesh and is chaired by former Shimla MP Virendra Kashyap.

### 2) Gwalior Drone Mela

In Madhya Pradesh, the first drone fair in the country was organised at Gwalior. Gwalior Drone Mela was organised jointly by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Government of India, the Government of Madhya Pradesh, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry.

## APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) Gautam Raghavan

US President Joe Biden has elevated Indian-American political advisor Gautam Raghavan as the head of the White House Office of Presidential Personnel. The PPO is one of the offices most responsible for assessing candidates to work at or for the White House.

## OBITUARY

### 1) Anne Rice

American gothic-fiction writer Anne Rice, best known for The Vampire Chronicles novel series, passed away. Anne Rice’s debut novel, published in 1976, Interview with the Vampire revolves around a vampire named Louis de Pointe du Lac, who narrates the story of his life to a reporter.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1) National Energy Conservation day

Every year on the 14th of December, National Energy Conservation day is celebrated in India. This occasion has been celebrated since 1991 when is led by the Ministry of power. This day is celebrated to raise awareness regarding the conservation of energy as it is the best way to have a greener and brighter future.