



08.05.2021

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NEWS IN SHORT

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- NEWS ②:** India, Israel and UAE sign first-ever trilateral cooperation agreement
- NEWS ③:** Axis Mutual Fund launches 'Axis Global Innovation Fund of Fund'
- NEWS ④:** IBM unveils the world's first 2-nanometer chip technology
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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS – 08.05.2021

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

NABARD extends financial support of Rs. 9162 crores to West Bengal

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has extended financial support of 9162 crores to West Bengal during the year 2020–21 for the development of agriculture and allied sectors despite challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- NABARD has estimated a credit potential of 2.21 lakh crores for West Bengal to be disbursed by various banks for the priority sector activities.

India, Israel and UAE sign first-ever trilateral cooperation agreement

- India, Israel and the UAE have signed their first-ever trilateral pact, the first such association since Israel and UAE established diplomatic ties. A trilateral partnership has been initiated by the International Federation of Indo-Israel Chambers of Commerce (IFIICC).
- An Israel-based firm, Ecoppia, is producing a modern robotic solar cleaning technology in India for a project in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Axis Mutual Fund launches 'Axis Global Innovation Fund of Fund'

- Axis Mutual Fund has announced the launch of their new fund, 'Axis Global Innovation Fund of Fund'. The fund will provide investors with an opportunity to invest in Schroder International Selection Fund Global Disruption, an equity fund that aims to provide long-term capital growth by investing in companies worldwide that benefit from disruption.
- Schroder ISF (International Selection Fund) Global Disruption seeks to provide capital growth by investing in innovative companies.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IBM unveils the world's first 2-nanometer chip technology

- IBM (International Business Machines Corporation) has unveiled a breakthrough in semiconductor design and process with the development of the world's first chip with 2 nanometers (nm) nanosheet technology.
- It is projected to achieve 45 per cent higher performance or 75 per cent lower energy use than today's most advanced 7 nm node chips.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

KVG Bank bags PFRDA awards

- Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank (KVGB), a regional rural bank, has bagged **five awards (Lead to Leap, APY Makers of Excellence, Game Changers, Leadership Capital and Amazing Achievers)** under various campaigns held for enrolment of **Atal Pension Yojana (APY)** from the **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)**.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

RM Sundaram was named as the Director of the Indian Institute of Rice Research

- **Raman Meenakshi Sundaram** was appointed as the **Director of the Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR)**, an arm of the **Indian Council of Agricultural Research**.
- Prior to this elevation, he was working as **Principal Scientist (Biotechnology)** at the Institute's **Crop Improvement Section**. He is a **scientist** associated with **rice biotechnology, molecular breeding, etc.**

RBI sets up advisory group headed by S Janakiraman to assist regulatory review authority

- The **RBI** has set up the **second Regulatory Review Authority (RRA 2.0)**, initially for **one year** from 1 May 2021.
- The advisory group will be **headed by SBI Managing Director S Janakiraman**. Reserve Bank of India Deputy Governor **M Rajeshwar Rao** was appointed as the **Regulations Review Authority**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Migratory Bird Day – 8 May

- **World Migratory Bird Day** is observed globally on **8 May** to **raise awareness of migratory birds** and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.
- The day is celebrated bi-annually on the second Saturday in May and in October. 2021 Theme: **“Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a Bird!”**

World Red Cross Day – 8 May

- **World Red Cross Day** is also known as **Red Crescent Day**. It is observed annually on **8 May**. This date marks the **birth anniversary of Henry Dunant**, who is the **founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**. He is also a recipient of the **Nobel Peace Prize**.
- The **first Red Cross Day** was celebrated on **8 May 1948**. 2021 Theme: **“Together we are #unstoppable!”**

World Thalassaemia Day – 8 May

- **World Thalassaemia Day** is observed on **8 May** every year to **raise awareness about the disease (Thalassaemia)**, its symptoms and prevention.
- **Thalassaemia** is an inherited blood disorder, which is characterised by less hemoglobin and lesser than normal blood cells. 2021 Theme: **“Addressing Health Inequalities Across the Global Thalassaemia Community”**

OBITUARY

Veteran music composer Vanraj Bhatia passed away at 94

- **Veteran music composer Vanraj Bhatia** passed away in Mumbai after a brief illness. He won the **National Film Award for Best Music Direction** for the **television film Tamas (1988)**, the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award** for Creative and Experimental Music (1989).
- He also won the **Padma Shri** (India's fourth-highest civilian honour) in **2012**.

Former Union Minister Matang Singh passed away at 58

- **Former Union Minister Matang Singh** passed away in New Delhi.
- He was elected to the **Rajya Sabha** in 1992 from Assam and served as the **Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs** from 1994 to 1998 in **PV Narasimha Rao's**.

Veteran journalist Shesh Narayan Singh passed away at 70

- **Veteran journalist Shesh Narayan Singh** passed away at the age of 70.
- He was a **columnist, political commentator** and an expert on foreign policy.

Padma Shri awardee and social activist Gutha Muniratnam passed away at 85

- **Social Activist Gutha Muniratnam** passed away at the age of 85. He was a **member of the National Planning Commission of India** and the founder of **Rashtriya Seva Samithi (RASS)**.
- He was honored with the fourth highest Indian civilian award, the **Padma Shri** by the Union Government of India in 2012.

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