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NEWS IN SHORT

NEWS ①: *Valedictory Session of the Combined Commanders' Conference*

NEWS ②: *EC asked Health Ministry to remove PM Modi's photo from vaccine certificate*

NEWS ③: *All India State Judicial Academies Directors' Retreat*

NEWS ④: *Conference of Association of Physicians of India*

NEWS ⑤: *Dr Harsh Vardhan addressed the inaugural session of 'TechBharat 2021'.*

NEWS ⑥: *Application ANMOL under the National Health Mission.*

NEWS ⑦: *Sanitisers not medicament, to face 18% GST*

NEWS ⑧: *NPCI tie up with SBI Payments to launch the 'RuPay SoftPoS' solution.*

NEWS ⑨: *Fastrack ties up with Yono-SBI bank*

NEWS ⑩: *Federal Bank to Launch Independent Credit Card with Mastercard.*

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Valedictory Session of the Combined Commanders' Conference

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** chaired the **Valedictory Session of the Combined Commanders' Conference** at the **Statue of Unity** in Kevadia, Gujarat.
- The Conference, which is a **premier brainstorming event of the military officials**, took place after 3 years.

Remove PM Modi's photo from vaccine certificate

- The **Election Commission** has asked the **health ministry to remove Prime Minister Narendra Modi's image and name on Covid-19 vaccination certificates** in poll bound states (**West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry**).

All India State Judicial Academies Directors' Retreat

- **President Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated **All India State Judicial Academies Directors' Retreat** at **Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh**.
- Kovind said that the objective of the judicial system is **not merely to resolve disputes, but also to uphold justice**.

Conference of Association of Physicians of India

- Union Minister of State, **Dr. Jitendra Singh** addressed the **76th Annual Conference of Association of Physicians of India**, which is being held virtually.
- The **theme** of this year's API conference was **"Engaging Minds: Empowering Medicine"**.

TechBharat 2021

- Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, **Dr Harsh Vardhan** addressed the **inaugural session of TechBharat 2021**.
- **Laghu Udyog Bharati** and **IMS Foundation** have organized the **2nd edition** of the conclave.

'Desikan Bhawan'

- Union Minister of Health, **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** inaugurated the **new research building 'Desikan Bhawan'** equipped with **new COVID-19 diagnostic facility** at **National JALMA Institute for Leprosy & Other Mycobacterial Diseases, Agra**.

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STATE AFFAIRS

Application ANMOL

- Jammu and Kashmir government has launched the application ANMOL under the National Health Mission.
- The app will empower frontline health workers to carry out their day-to-day work efficiently and effectively through identification and tracking of beneficiaries.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Sanitisers not medicament, to face 18% GST

- The Karnataka bench of the GST Authority for Advance Rulings has held that hand sanitisers are not a medicament.
- As a result, these would be subject to a GST levy of 18%.

NPCI tie up with SBI Payments

- National Payments Corporation of India partnered with SBI Payments to launch the 'RuPay SoftPoS' solution.
- It will convert the merchants and retailers NFC enabled smartphones into Point of Sale terminals.

Fastrack ties up with Yono-SBI bank

- Titans's Fastrack joined with Yono-State Bank of India planned to introduce a new smart wearable fitness band with digital payment components under its sub-brand Reflex.
- The chip in the smart band will be linked with their SBI account.

Federal Bank to Launch Independent Credit Card

- Federal Bank has partnered with Mastercard for launching Credit Cards. It will start issuing Credit Cards to its own customers.
- It has also tied up with Fiserv, for the digitisation of the end-to-end issuance & processing cycle.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IIT Jammu entered into a MoU with the Indian Army's Northern Command

- IIT Jammu entered into a MoU with the Indian Army's Northern Command to provide innovative technical solutions.
- It will be involved in research and product development collaborations with the Northern Command field units to empower them with technical excellence.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

GR Chintala

- GR Chintala, the Chairman of the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development took over as the Chairman of Asia Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association.
- He succeeds DPK Gunasekera.

Ajai Malhotra

- Ajai Malhotra has become the first Indian to be elected as the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee of the United Nations Human Rights Council.
- His 3-year term on the committee will expire in 2023.

OBITUARY

Mohammed Muthu Meera Lebbai Maraikayar

- Mohammed Muthu Meera Lebbai Maraikayar, the elder brother of former President of India A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, passed away at his residence in Ramanathapuram district.
- He was 104.

N.S. Lakshminarayana Bhatta

- N.S. Lakshminarayana Bhatta, 85, well known Kannada poet, critic and translator passed away.
- Many of his bhavageethes (lyrical poems) were set to tune and popularised through cassettes in the 1980s. He taught Kannada literature at Bengaluru University until his retirement.