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INTERNATIONAL

1) Russia's attack on Ukraine

Russian President accused the U.S, and its allies of ignoring Russia's demand to prevent Ukraine from joining NATO and offer security quarantees. Russia wanted a legally binding pledge from West that NATO does not expand further in the region.

NATIONAL

1) FSSAI Health Star Rating

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is starting a star rating system for packaged foods. Rating system will be similar to star energy rating by Bureau of Energy Efficiency for an electronic appliance. Packaged foods will display the number of stars on the front of the pack, indicating how healthy or unhealthy it is depending upon the amount of salt, sugar and fat it has.

2) Dry root rot (DRR) disease

Indian scientists have identified that high temperatures, drought conditions, and low soil moisture content are favorable conditions for dry root rot (DRR). It is caused Macrophomina phaseolina, a soil-borne necrotrophic. It damages the roots or girdles the trunk in chickpea.

3) Ombudsperson App

To ensure transparency and accountability, Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has launched Ombudsperson App for Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. Developed for smooth reporting and categorization of grievances based on complaints received from various sources related to the implementation of the MGNREGA.

4) Sustainable Cities India Program

World Economic Forum (WEF) and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on a jointly designed Sustainable Cities India program. The program intends to enable cities to decarbonize in a systematic and sustainable way that will reduce emissions and deliver resilient and equitable urban ecosystems.

5) 'DHARA, an Ode to Indian Knowledge System'

Ministry of Culture has announced 'DHARA, an Ode to Indian Knowledge System' as a part of Science Week Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate. It comprises a series of lecture demonstrations to revisit our history and celebrate the achievements of India and the contribution of great scholars, mathematicians, scientists, and leaders to its heritage.

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6) "Devayatanam - An odyssey of Indian temple architecture"

Archaeological Survey of India of Ministry of Culture, Government of India is organizing a two-day international conference 'Devayatanam – An odyssey of Indian temple architecture" on 25th – 26th February 2022 at Hampi, Karnataka. The Union Minister for Culture, Tourism, G Kishan Reddy inaugurates the conference.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) T+1 settlement cycle

India will implement a T+1 stock settlement from T+2 system. T+1 means that settlements will have to be cleared within one day of the actual transactions taking place. Now India will become only the second country after China to move to the T+1 stock settlement mechanism in a phased manner.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Rishabh Pant

Dish TV India, has announced the appointment of Indian cricketer Rishabh Pant as brand ambassador. Pant will feature in the brand's 360-degree communication for the next two years.

2) Rakesh Sharma

Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has informed the stock exchanges that its board has approved the reappointment of Rakesh Sharma as the managing director and chief executive officer of the bank for a period of three years, effective March 19, 2022.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) "The Great Tech Game: Shaping Geopolitics and the Destinies of Nations"

Indian author, Anirudh Suri has come out with his new book titled "The Great Tech Game: Shaping Geopolitics and the Destinies of Nations." It has been published by HarperCollins India. In this book, the author lays out a roadmap for how any country must develop its own strategic plan to succeed in this technology-dominant era.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) Central Excise Day

Central Excise Day, which is observed on February 24 commemorates the Central Excise and Salt Act which was enacted on 24th February 1944. This annual event is celebrated to highlight the essential role played by the Central Excise Department in the industrial development of the country.