

**RACE™****24.12.2021**

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## **NATIONAL**

### **1) Surface-to-surface missile 'Pralay'**

India successfully conducted the maiden flight test of the indigenously-developed, surface-to-surface missile 'Pralay' off the Odisha coast. The solid-fuel, battlefield missile developed by the Defence Research Development Organisation is based on Prithvi Defence Vehicle from the Indian ballistic missile programme. The missile, launched from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island.

### **2) Vernacular Innovation Programme**

Niti Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission has unveiled Vernacular Innovation Programme, which will enable innovators and entrepreneurs in India to have access to the innovation ecosystem in 22 scheduled languages by the Centre. This will help in overcoming the barriers of language & empower innovators.

### **3) S-400 air defence missile system**

Indian Air Force has deployed the first squadron of the S-400 air defence missile system in the western Punjab sector which will take care of aerial threats from Pakistan and China. The S-400 air defence system was contracted for by India from Russia.

## **STATE NEWS**

### **1) Chalo mobile application**

Maharashtra Tourism and Environment Minister, Aaditya Thackeray has launched the Chalo mobile application and Chalo smart cards to facilitate digital and advance purchase of Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) bus tickets. Chalo mobile app will allow passengers to buy online bus tickets and have access to bus passes through an e-wallet.

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

### **1) Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice 2021**

Environmentalist Dr Anil Prakash Joshi, who was conferred upon the Padma Bhushan this year, has been awarded the Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice 2021. Vidyut Mohan, the winner of the Earth shot Prize, and Ridhima Pandey, a young environmental activist from Uttarakhand, were also the recipients of the award.

### **2) 'Digital Innovation of the Year Award'**

O. P. Jindal Global University has won the 'Digital Innovation of the Year Award' in the prestigious Times Higher Education Asia Awards 2021 for creating a free, cloud-based application to help schools and universities manage data. JGU was the only Indian University to be shortlisted for the "Digital Innovation of the Year".





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## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1) National Consumer Rights Day

National Consumer Rights Day is observed every year on December 24. On this day in 1986, the Consumer Protection Act 1986 received Presidential assent and thus came into force. The Act aims to provide consumers with effective safeguards against different types of exploitation, such as defective goods, deficiency in services and unfair trade practices.

## SPORTS

### 1) SAFF U 19 Women's Championship

Bangladesh women team has won the SAFF U 19 Women's Championship by defeating India in the finals. Shaheda Akter Ripa of Bangladesh scored the maximum number of goals in the tournament. She received the 'most valuable player' award. Five countries have participated in the 2021 SAFF U-19 Women's Championship.

### 2) Asian Champions Trophy men's hockey tournament

India defeated Pakistan 4-3 to secure the bronze medal, while Korea defeated Japan 4-2 to emerge Asian Champions Trophy men's hockey tournament held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The five-nation tournament came to an end with two matches being played on the last day of the game. Suraj Karkera of India was adjudged the best goalkeeper.

## OBITUARY

### 1) Richard Rogers

British-Italian Architect, Richard Rogers has passed away at his residence in London, United Kingdom. He received the Pritzker Prize, known as the Nobel Prize of Architecture, in 2007. He received the Knight Bachelor in 1991 and he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II. He was the architect of the new World Trade Center in New York City.