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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Oil and Gas PSUs inks MoU for Shri Badrinath Dham

The top Oil and Gas PSUs of India, including IndianOil, BPCL, HPCL, ONGC and GAIL, have inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with the Shri Badrinath Utthan Charitable Trust, for Construction and Redevelopment of Shri Badrinath **Dham in Uttarakhand** as a Spiritual Smart hill Town.

Rolls-Royce and HAL Sign MoU for Supporting MT30 **Marine Engine Business**

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Rolls-Royce have signed an MoU to establish packaging, installation, marketing, and services support for Rolls-Royce MT30 marine engines in India.
- This partnership will leverage the rich experience of HAL's IMGT (Industrial and Marine Gas Turbine) Division that works on marine gas turbines with Indian shipyards.

BRO celebrates 61st raising day on 7th May

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) was formed on 7 May 1960, with the primary goal of securing India's borders and developing infrastructure in remote areas of India's north and northeastern states.

On 7 May 2021 BRO celebrated its 61st Raising Day (foundation day).

STATE AFFAIRS

DMK chief Stalin appointed as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu governor Banwarilal Purohit has appointed Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) chief MK Stalin as the chief minister of Tamil Nadu. The 68year-old is the son of the former five-term Tamil Nadu chief minister, the late M Karunanidhi.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Serum Institute to invest £240 million to expand its vaccine business in UK

- **Serum Institute of India (SII)** is expanding its **vaccine** business in the United Kingdom with an investment of £240 million.
- The serum has already started phase one trials in the **UK** of a **one-dose nasal vaccine** for coronavirus, in partnership with Codagenix INC.

India, France, Australia hold first trilateral dialogue

The first-ever India-France-Australia Trilateral Foreign Ministerial Dialogue was held in London, UK, on the sidelines of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

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BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Kotak Mahindra Bank to Extend Online Payments to Farmers & amp; Traders

- Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL) announced it has been selected as a digital payments partner by the National Agriculture Market (eNAM), a pan-India electronic trading portal for farm produce.
- KMBL will enable and facilitate online transactions for all stakeholders on the eNAM platform, including farmers, traders and farmer producer organisations (FPOs).

Fitch Ratings GDP forecast

- Fitch Solution has estimated the GDP of the Indian economy to grow 9.5 per cent in 2021-22 (April 2021 to March 2022).
- The cut in the real GDP is due to the economic damage caused as a result of state-level lockdowns imposed because of the sudden and steep surge in the number of coronavirus cases.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Gita Mittal to be awarded Arline Pacht Global Vision Award

- Former Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir High Court, Justice Gita Mittal, has been declared as one of the two recipients of the Arline Pacht Global Vision Award for 2021.
- The Award will be presented at IAWJ's Biennial Conference during the virtual opening ceremony on May 7, 2021.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

RM Sundaram

RM Sundaram appointed as Director of Indian Institute of Rice Research.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Meghan Markle set to release Children's Book 'The Bench'

Meghan Markle will be releasing her new book, titled **The Bench,** on June 8, which was inspired by a **poem** she wrote to her husband, Prince Harry, on his first Father's Day as a dad to son Archie.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Athletics Day 2021: 05 May

- The World Athletics Day-2021 is observed on the 5
- The date is subject to adjustment, the date of World Athletics Day is decided by the IAAF, however, the month stays the same as May.

OBITUARY

Actress Abhilasha Patil passes away due to Covid-19

- Actress Abhilasha Patil, who featured in films like 'Good Newwz', 'Badrinath Ki Dulhania' **'Chhichhore'**, passed away due to Covid-19 complications.
- She was in her early 40s.

Former Union Minister and RLD Founder Ajit Singh Passes **Away**

- Former Union Minister and Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) founder and leader Ajit Singh has passed away battling COVID-19.
- He was the son of former Prime Minister of India, Chaudhary Charan Singh.

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