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NEWS IN SHORT

NEWS (1): India to emerge as 2nd most Resilient

Economy in 2021

NEWS ②: 'Upskilling for Shared Prosperity'

NEWS 3: UK Visa Scheme For Hong Kong Residents

NEWS 4: India's Transition towards EV in 2020-30 to

cost around INR 19.7 Lakh Crore

NEWS (5): 2021 ASEAN-India Hackathon

NEWS 6 HAL to Launch Tejas Mark II in 2022

NEWS 7: Ageing Dams of India: UN Report

NEWS 8: Vaghai-Bilimora Heritage Line

NEWS 9: Indian Coast Guard Day 2021 – February 1

NEWS (10): Domestic Cricket: Tamil Nadu wins 2020-21

Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 competition

NEWS 11: R S Sharma appointed as the CEO of National

Health Authority





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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

India's Transition towards EV in 2020-30 to cost around INR 19.7 Lakh Crore

According to the report 'Mobilising Finance for EVs in India: A Toolkit of Solutions to Mitigate Risks and Address Market Barriers, January 2021' released by NITI Aayog & Rocky Mountain Institute, India's transition towards **Electric Vehicles** adoption between the years 2020-2030 will need a capital of INR 19.7 Lakh crore.

2021 ASEAN-India Hackathon

- Union Education Minister addressed the inaugural session of 2021's ASEAN-India Hackathon.
- ASEAN-INDIA Hackathon 2021 is launched by Association of Southeast Asian Nation in partnership with Ministry of Education India. Two broad themes -"Blue Economy" & "Education".

HAL to Launch Tejas Mark II in 2022

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is planning to launch the Indigenous Tejas Mark II Multirole Combat **Jet** in August-September of 2022.
- Tejas Mark II will be more advanced than Tejas Mark-IA, which is being procured by Indian Air Force from HAL.

Ageing Dams of India: UN Report

According to a United Nations (UN) report "Ageing water infrastructure: An emerging global risk", over 1,000 large dams in India will be roughly 50 years old in 2025 and such ageing embankments across the world pose a growing threat.

Vaghai-Bilimora Heritage Line

- The Western Railway has decided to not stop the services of three trains, including the 107-year-old narrow gauge heritage train between Vaghai and **Bilimora**, in Gujarat permanently.
- In rail transport, track gauge or track gage is the spacing of the rails on a railway track.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

India to emerge as 2nd most Resilient Economy in 2021

- According to the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, India is set to emerge as the 2nd Most Resilience Economy in 2021 among top-10 leading economies showcasing the strong recovery in the Post COVID-19 era.
- Germany took the top spot & South Korea took the 3rd spot.

'Upskilling for Shared Prosperity'

• 'Upskilling for Shared Prosperity' – a report released by World Economic Forum in collaboration with Price Waterhouse coopers, Investments in Upskilling can boost the Global GDP by USD 6.5 Trillion by 2030 also adding that it has the potential to boost India's GDP by USD 570 Billion by 2030.

UK Visa Scheme For Hong Kong Residents

• The UK has launched a **special visa scheme** that will allow the **Hong Kong residents** a chance **to migrate** and eventually apply for British citizenship.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Uttar Pradesh Adjudged as the Best Tableau Award

- The Republic Day parade tableau of Uttar Pradesh was adjudged as the best tableau among the 32 tableaux that participated in the Parade on 26th January 2021.
- The theme of the UP tableau was "Ayodhya: The cultural heritage of Uttar Pradesh".

BOOKS & AUTHORS

"Yes Man: The Untold Story of Rana Kapoor"

Pavan C.Lall's new book titled "Yes Man: The Untold **Story of Rana Kapoor"** provides the details about the rise and fall of one of the India's promising bankers Rana Kapoor and it also questions the banking system, its regulators and the business environment that led to the fall of YES Bank.

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"This Life at Play: A Memoir by Girish Karnad"

- The English translation of the "This Life at Play: A Memoir by Girish Karnad" the Kannada book authored by Girish Karnad is set to be released on 19th May 2021 by HarperCollins Publisher.
- The Kannada book is translated into English by writer and translator Srinath Perur and Girish Karnad.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

R S Sharma appointed as the CEO of National Health Authority

- Ram Sewak Sharma former Chairman of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India took charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Health Authority (NHA) of India.
- R.S. Sharma replaced the outgoing CEO Indu Bhushan.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Indian Coast Guard Day 2021 - February 1

- Indian Coast Guard Day is annually observed across India on 1st February which marks the Raising day of the Indian Coast Guard.
- 1st February 2021 marks the **45th Raising day of the Indian Coast Guard,** Operating under the Defence
 Ministry.

SPORTS

Domestic Cricket: Tamil Nadu wins 2020-21 Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 competition

- Tamil Nadu Cricket Team defeated Baroda in the finals of the 2020-21 Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Competition held at Sardar Patel Stadium, Gujarat to win the trophy.
- The Tamil Nadu cricket team was led by Dinesh Karthik.