

Current Affairs: 19.10.2021

NITI Aayog joins hand with ISRO to launch Geospatial Energy Map of India



NITI Aayog has launched the **Geospatial Energy Map of India** which will provide a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country. The comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) Energy Map of India was jointly launched by Dr Rajiv Kumar (Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog), Dr V K Saraswat (Member, NITI Aayog), and Shri Amitabh Kant (CEO, NITI Aayog) on 18 October 2021. The map has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and Energy Ministries of Government of India. The map will help to identify and locate all primary and secondary sources of energy and their transportation/transmission networks to provide a comprehensive view of energy production and distribution in a country, which would further help in planning and making investment decisions.

ICC and UNICEF partners for campaign on mental health issues among children and adolescents



The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** and **UNICEF** have announced their partnership to raise awareness about the **mental health issues and wellbeing amongst children and adolescents**. Under this partnership, ICC will promote the #OnYourMind campaign of UNICEF at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021, beginning on October 17, 2021. The ICC will use its global platforms, including its broadcast and digital channels to support UNICEF's work and urge for greater commitment, connection and conversation around mental health and physical wellbeing.

RBI imposes Rs 1 crore penalty on State Bank of India for non-compliance with the aforesaid directions



The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs 1 crore** on India's largest public lender **State Bank of India (SBI)** on October 18, 2021. The penalty has been imposed for non-compliance with the directions contained in "RBI (Frauds classification and reporting by commercial banks and select FIs) directions 2016". The penalty has been imposed in the exercise of powers vested in RBI under the provisions of section 47A (1) (c) read with sections 46(4)(i) and 51(1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

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Amit Rastogi appointed as Chairman & Managing Director of National Research Development Corporation



Commodore Amit Rastogi (Retd) has been appointed as the **Chairman & Managing Director of National Research Development Corporation** on October 18, 2021. He has served 34 years in the Indian Navy. NRDC is an enterprise of DSIR, **Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India**. It engages in the development, promotion and transfer of technologies emanating from various national R&D institutions.

Indian Entrepreneur's Agro Waste Project 'Takachar' Wins Prince William's inaugural 'Eco-Oscar' Award



New Delhi-based 17-year-old entrepreneur **Vidyut Mohan** is among the five global winners for the inaugural **'Earthshot Prize'**, also known as the **'Eco-Oscars'**, that honours people trying to save the planet. The 'Eco-Oscars' is an environmental award established by **Prince William, Duke of Cambridge and renowned British historian David Attenborough** in 2020, to be awarded annually from 2021 to 2030 to 5 winners.

Vidyut has been awarded in Clean our Air category, for his technology called **'Takachar'**, a small and portable device that uses crop residue to convert it into bio-products like fuel and fertilisers to reduce smoke emissions and combat air pollution. Each of the five winners will receive **£1 million** for their project. The awards were announced in **five categories** namely: Protect and Restore Nature, Clean our Air, Revive our Oceans, Build a Waste-Free World and Fix our Climate.

Indian Army team wins gold medal in the Exercise Cambrian Patrol 2021



The **Indian Army** has been awarded the gold medal at the **2021 Cambrian Patrol Exercise**, held at Brecon, Wales, in **United Kingdom** from October 13 to 15, 2021. The Indian Army was represented by a team from **4/5 Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force)** which competed against 96 teams representing special forces and regiments from around the world. General Sir Mark Carleton-Smith, the Chief of General Staff of British Army presented the Gold Medal to the team members. The Ex Cambrian Patrol is an international event organised by UK Army, in which militaries from across the world take part. The drill, sometimes referred as the **Olympics of Military Patrolling** among militaries in the world, is considered the ultimate test of human endurance and team spirit..

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Saurashtra Cricketer Avi Barot passes away at 29



Saurashtra cricketer Avi Barot passed away at the age of 29 years after suffering a cardiac arrest. He has represented **Haryana and Gujarat** in his career. He is a former India Under-19 captain and a member of the Ranji Trophy-winning team in the 2019-20 season. Saurashtra cricket team is one of the three first-class cricket teams based in Gujarat.