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Current Affairs: 18-21.11.2021

Union Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurates India's first food museum in Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur

The Union Minister for Commerce, Industry, Food and Public Distribution, Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated **India's first Food Museum at Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu** on November 15, 2021 through virtual platform. The Food Security Museum showcases India's agri revolution story from being dependent to becoming self-sufficient and one of the largest food grain exporters nations. The museum has been established by the **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration. FCI and Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museums, Bangalore, have co-developed the museum at an estimated cost of Rs 1.1 crore over 1,860-sqft area.

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates Adarsh Village 'Sui' in Haryana's Bhiwani



The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind visited **Sui village in Bhiwani district of Haryana** on November 17, 2021 to inaugurate various public facilities in the village. This village is being developed as **Adarsh Gram (Model village) by Mahadevi Parameshwaridas Jindal Charitable Trust** under Swa-Prerit Adarsh Gram Yojana (SPAGY) scheme of Haryana Government. The Jindal trust has undertaken developmental works of over Rs 25 crore to transform

Sui into an ADARSH VILLAGE. It must be noted that **Bhiwani is the first district in India where two Presidents have visited**. Prior to this President APJ Abdul Kalam visited Bhiwani in 2007.

Uttar Pradesh's first Anti-Air Pollution Tower inaugurated in Noida



The Union Minister of Heavy Industries **Mahendra Nath Pandey** inaugurated the **first air pollution control tower of the state of Uttar Pradesh in Noida** on November 17, 2021. The **Air Pollution Control Tower (APCT)** prototype has been developed by state-run Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (Bhel). The indigenously developed APCT

is set up between the DND flyway and the slip road to Noida Expressway. The tower will help to mitigate the rising air pollution problem in the city.

PM Modi virtually delivers keynote address at The Sydney Dialogue

Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered keynote address at **The Sydney Dialogue** on November 18, 2021 via video conferencing. PM addressed the event on the theme **'India's technology evolution and revolution'**. The Sydney Dialogue has been organised from November 17-19, 2021 by the **Australian Strategic Policy Institute**. The event will bring together political, business and government leaders to debate, generate new ideas and work towards common understandings of the opportunities and challenges posed by emerging and critical technologies.

AIB approves USD 150 million loan for implementation of Sustainable Urban services program for Chennai Metropolitan Area

The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** has approved **USD 150 million loan** for the Government of India for the implementation of the Sustainable Urban services program for **Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA)**. The CMA project will cover the core urban services, including water resource management, water supply and sewerage, urban mobility, solid waste

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management, and public health. India is the largest beneficiary of AIIB receiving loan of around USD 6.8 billion for 29 projects.



Centre extends Sanjay Kumar Mishra's tenure as ED Director for one year till November 2022

The Ministry of Finance has extended the tenure of **Sanjay Kumar Mishra**, the Director of **Enforcement Directorate (ED)**, for one year until November 18, 2022. Mishra's extension comes following the introduction of The Central Vigilance Commission Amendment Ordinance 2021. This is the second extension being given to Mishra. His first extended tenure was ending on November 18, 2021. Mishra was first time appointed as the ED director for a period of two years on November 19, 2018.

India re-elected to UNESCO Executive Board for 2021-25 term with 164 votes

India has been re-elected to the **Executive Board of UNESCO** for the term **2021-25** on November 17, 2021. India received **164 votes** to get re-elected to four-year term of office.

Apart from India, Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Cook Islands and China have also been elected in Group IV Asian and Pacific States category. UNESCO Executive Board consists of 58 member-states each with a four-year term of office.

Spain's Garbine Muguruza wins 2021 WTA Finals

In tennis, **Garbine Muguruza of Spain** beat Anett Kontaveit of Estonia, 6-3, 7-5 in the final to claim her first **WTA Final** title on November 17, 2021. Muguruza is also the first Spaniard to win the WTA Finals. In doubles, Czech's Barbora Krejčíková and Kateřina Siniaková defeated Hsieh Su-wei (Chinese Taipei) and Elise Mertens (Belgium) 6-3, 6-4

National Newborn Week 2021: 15-21 November

In India, the **National Newborn Week** is observed every year from **15 to 21 November**. **Purpose:** to reinforce the importance of newborn health as a key priority area of the health sector and reduce the infant mortality rate by improving healthcare conditions for babies in the neonatal period. The theme of National Newborn Week 2021 is **'Safety, quality and nurturing care – birth right of every newborn'**.

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week: 18-24 November

The **World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW)** is celebrated every year from **18-24 November**. **Purpose:** increase awareness of global antimicrobial resistance, encourage best practices among the general public, health workers and policy makers to avoid the further emergence and spread of drug-resistant infections. Theme 2021 : **Spread Awareness, Stop Resistance**.

The theme calls on One Health stakeholders, policymakers, health care providers, and the general public to be Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness champions.

The antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has been declared as one of the top 10 global health threats by the World Health Organization (WHO).

World Toilet Day: 19 November

World Toilet Day (WTD) is observed every year on **19 November** to inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis. The day was established by the World Toilet Organization in 2001 and officially declared by UN General Assembly in 2013. 2021 theme– **"valuing toilets"**.

Veteran sports commentator and football pundit Novy Kapadia passes away at 68

Veteran author, football journalist and sports commentator **Novy Kapadia** has passed away due to health complications. He was 68. Kapadia was often called as **'the voice of Indian football'**.

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The noted commentator had covered nine FIFA World Cups, as well as Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. As an author, Kapadia had written books like Barefoot To Boots, The Many Lives Of Indian Football among others.

Telangana's Pochampally village named among Best Tourism Villages by UNWTO

The **Pochampally village in Telangana** has been selected for the 'Best Tourism Villages' award by the **United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)**. The award will be presented on December 2, 2021, in Madrid, Spain on the occasion of the 24th session of the UNWTO General Assembly. The 'Best Tourism Villages' by UNWTO pilot initiative aims to award those villages which are outstanding examples of rural destinations and showcase good practices in line with its specified nine evaluation areas. Pochampally village in Nalgonda district is also referred to as **the silk city of India** for its exquisite sarees woven through a unique style called Ikat.

The **Pochampally Ikat** received **Geographical Indicator (GI Status)** in 2004.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh dedicates renovated Rezag La Memorial to the nation at Chushul in Ladakh

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh dedicated to the Nation **renovated Rezag La War Memorial (Ahr Dham) at Chushul in Ladakh** on November 18, 2021. Rezag La is a mountain pass on the Line of Actual Control between India and China, where the Indian troops fought Chinese soldiers in 1962. The Memorial was constructed in 1963 in the Chushul plains, at an altitude of over 15,000 feet to honour the troops of Charlie Company of 13 KUMAON Regiment.

PM Modi visits Mahoba and Jhansi district in Uttar Pradesh

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the Nation various developmental projects in **Mahoba and Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh** on November 19, 2021. At Mahoba, Prime Minister inaugurated multiple projects with cumulative cost of more than Rs. 3250 Crore, related to alleviating the issue of water shortage in the region. These projects include Arjun Sahayak Project, Ratauli Weir Project, Bhaoni Dam Project and Majhgaon–Chilli Sprinkler Project. In Jhansi, Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of 600 MW Ultramega Solar Power Park at Garautha, constructed at a cost of over Rs 3000 crore. He also inaugurated Atal Ekta Park in Jhansi, named after former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Maharashtra government appoints Salman Khan as Covid vaccination ambassador

Maharashtra Government has roped in veteran Bollywood actor **Salman Khan** as **vaccine ambassador** for campaigning and appealing to people to take both the jabs of the Covid vaccine, especially in Muslim-dominated areas. The decision of the state authority to onboard Salman Khan comes after observing hesitancy among people in Muslim majority areas for the vaccine. As an ambassador, Salman Khan will persuade people to get vaccinated. This step will also ensure better vaccination counts in the state.

India Ranks 82nd in TRACE Global Business Bribery Risk Rankings 2021

India is placed at 82nd **position** in the **TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix 2021**. **The country stood at 77 position in 2020**. India has achieved the score of 44 in a global list that measures business bribery risks in 2021. North Korea, Turkmenistan, Venezuela and Eritrea showed highest commercial bribery risk.

Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand reported lowest bribery risk.

The TRACE Matrix list is released by **TRACE International**, an anti-bribery standard setting organisation, which measures business bribery risk in 194 countries, territories, and autonomous and semi-autonomous regions.

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•The score is based on four factors, which are business interactions with the government, anti-bribery deterrence and enforcement, government and civil service transparency, and capacity for civil society oversight which includes the role of the media.

Alexander Zverev Beats Frances Tiafoe to win 2021 Erste Bank Open

In Tennis, **Alexander Zverev (Germany)** defeated America's Frances Tiafoe 7-5, 6-4 to win the **2021 Erste Bank Open** in Vienna. This is his fifth ATP title of the season and 18th overall. Meanwhile, in doubles competition, Colombia's **Robert Farah and Juan Sebastian Cabal** beat Joe Salisbury of the UK and Rajeev Ram of the USA to win the doubles title.

Badminton legend Prakash Padukone to be presented Lifetime Achievement Award by Badminton World Federation

Indian badminton legend Prakash Padukone has been selected for the prestigious **Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021 by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Council**. The former world no 1 has already been honored with Badminton Association of India's (BAI) Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018. Padukone is the first-ever Indian to win medal at World Championships in 1983 Copenhagen tournament.

World Children's Day : 20 November



The **Universal/World Children's Day** is celebrated on **20 November** annually to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare. 2021 Theme: **A Better Future for Every Child**. The day also marks the anniversary of adoption of Declaration and Convention of the Rights of the Child. In 1959, UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. In 1989 UN General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child. 2021 marks the **32nd anniversary** of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.