

Sarojini Naidu's 141st Birth Anniversary: National Women's Day

India celebrates Sarojini Naidu's birthday as National Women's Day of India every year on February 13.

Sarojini Naidu was India's first women governor and also famous as 'Bharat Kokila'. She actively participated in the Indian National Movement for the independence of the country.

She was famous for her nickname 'Nightingale of India' because of her poems.

15th Finance Commission forms panel on defence, internal security funding

The Fifteenth Finance Commission has constituted a five member group on Defence and Internal Security.

The chairman of the commission K. Singh will head the group. Home Secretary and Defence Secretary will be the members of the group among others.

The panel will examine whether a separate mechanism for funding of defence and internal security ought to be set up, and if so, how such a mechanism could be operationalised.

RBI to conduct Rs. 2.25-lakh cr reverse repo auction

The RBI will seek to mop up a whopping ₹25-lakh crore via a 14-day variable rate reverse repo auction under its revised Liquidity Management Framework, which was unveiled on February 6. This move shows the banking system is awash with liquidity and comes amid rising inflationary pressures.

As per the RBI's sixth bi-monthly monetary policy statement, overall liquidity in the system remained in surplus in December 2019 and January 2020. Average daily net absorption under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) amounted to ₹61-lakh crore in December 2019. In January 2020, the average daily net absorption of surplus liquidity soared to ₹3.18-lakh crore.

Under the Liquidity Management Framework, the instruments of liquidity management include fixed and variable rate repo/reverse repo auctions, outright open market operations (OMOs), forex swaps and other instruments as may be deployed from time to time to ensure that the system has adequate liquidity at all times.

EIU lowers global growth forecast for 2020

The Economist Intelligence Unit has revised downwards its global growth forecast for 2020 to 2% from 2.3%. This impact because of Novel coronavirus outbreak in China and also the virus starts spreading globally. The virus originated in Wuhan, a city of around 11.3 million people in central Hubei province, China, and has spread to most provinces in mainland China and overseas.

Global growth was sluggish throughout 2019 amid trade tensions, a sharp deceleration in real GDP growth in the US, China and India and political uncertainty in a number of EU countries. EIU also revised China's growth downwards by lowering the real GDP (Gross Domestic Product) forecast for China in 2020 to 4 per cent from 5.9 per cent earlier.

Former India all-rounder Robin Singh appointed UAE's Director of Cricket

The Emirates Cricket Board has appointed former Indian cricketer Robin Singh as the new director of cricket.

Robin Singh's appointment was announced after Emirates Cricket Board fired head coach Dougie Brown.

Robin Singh represented India for 1 test and 136 ODIs (One Day International) between 1989 & 2001.

Narayana Murthy's son-in-law appointed as UK's new Finance Minister

Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy's son-in-law, Rishi Sunak has been appointed as UK's Finance Minister. He replaced Pakistani Chancellor Sajid Javid. After the reshuffle, three Indian origin Members of Parliament are now a part of Britain's most diverse cabinet led by UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

The 47-year-old Priti Patel has been appointed as the Home Minister. The 51-year-old Alok Sharma has been appointed as the Business Secretary in the British Cabinet. Sharma was elevated to the role of the secretary of state for business, energy and industrial strategy.

Indian-origin UK Minister Alok Sharma to lead UN climate summit

Indian-origin Alok Sharma was named the new UK Minister in charge of the crunch UN climate talks to be hosted by Britain at This November.

Agra-born Sharma has been promoted to the post of Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy in UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Cabinet reshuffle. He will take charge of the crucial summit 'COP26' as its former president was removed amid controversy just weeks ago.

Senior IAS officer Debasish Panda appointed finance secretary

Senior IAS officer Debasish Panda was appointed as the new finance secretary, according to a Personnel Ministry order. Panda, a 1987-batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre, is at present special secretary, department of financial services.