

Cross & Climb, Rohtak



Current Affairs: 15.02.2021

PM Modi visits Tamil Nadu to inaugurate and lay foundation stone of multiple projects



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Tamil Nadu on 14 February, 2021, where he **inaugurated and laid the foundation stones** for several key projects.

PM also handed over the State-of-the-Art **Arjun Main Battle Tank (MK-1A)** to the Indian Army at **Chennai**.

The state- of-the-art tank, has been indigenously designed, developed, and manufactured by **DRDO's Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment**.

• Projects inaugurated includes:

- The **Chennai Metro Rail Phase-I extension**, completed at a cost of Rs. 3770 crore
- The **fourth Railway line between Chennai Beach and Attipattu**, laid at a cost of Rs.293.40 crore
- The **Railway Electrification of single line section** in Villupuram – Cuddalore – Mayiladuthurai – Thanjavur and Mayiladuthurai-Thiruvarur, completed at a cost of Rs. 423 crore.

Projects whose foundation stone were laid includes:

Extension, renovation and modernization of the **Grand Anicut Canal System** – cost Rs.2,640 crore.

Discovery Campus of IIT Madras – The Campus will be built at Thaiyur near Chennai at an estimated cost of Rs.1000 crore in the first phase, over an area of 2 lakh sqm.

PM Modi Visits Kerala to dedicate to the nation and lay foundation stone of multiple projects



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was on a day long visit to Kochi in Kerala on 14 February, 2021 to lay the foundation stone and dedicate various projects to the nation. During his visit, PM laid the foundation stone of **Reconstruction of South Coal Berth at Cochin Port Trust**. The port is being reconstructed at an estimated cost of

Rs 19.19 crore under the Sagarmala Scheme.

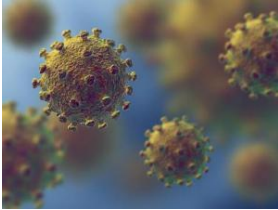
Projects dedicated to the nation includes:

The **Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project (PDPP)**, developed by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) at a capital cost of about Rs 6000 crore. The complex will produce Acrylates, Acrylic Acid and Oxo-Alcohol, which are at current scenario imported from other nations.

The Ro-Ro Vessels of Inland Waterways at Willingdon Islands, Cochin

The International Cruise Terminal “Sagarika” at Cochin Port Trust, constructed at a cost of Rs.25.72 crore. The Marine Engineering Training Institute, Vigyana Sagar, Cochin Shipyard Ltd, constructed at a capital cost of Rs 27.5 crore

Puducherry launches campaign to become Covid-free by February 28



In Puducherry, a campaign has been launched titled “Zero Covid by Feb28” to ensure that there is no COVID-19 cases by the end of February 2021, in the union territory.

Under the campaign, all those who had come into contact with people infected with coronavirus would be identified and provided treatment, so that the further spread of the pathogen could be prevented.

Famous Mandu Festival Begins in Madhya Pradesh



The three-day famous “Mandu Festival” began at the historic town of Mandu in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh from February 13, 2021. The festival will culminate on February 15, 2021.

The festival is organised by the state government of Madhya Pradesh to showcase each and every aspect of the ancient Mandu city, ranging from food, music, history & heritage, art & craft etc.

During the festival, the state culture and tourism minister Usha Thakur inaugurated the newly constructed Dino Adventure Park and Fossils Museum in Mandu and construction of Astro Park building at a cost of Rs 59 lakh. The Dinosaur Park is the first modern fossil park in India which has 24 eggs and other fossils of dinosaurs on display.

Four Women Scientists wins SERB Women Excellence Award 2021

The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has announced the SERB Women Excellence Award for the year 2021, on the occasion of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science on 11 February.

Four young women fellows of National Science Academies have been awarded SERB Women Excellence Award 2021. The winners include:

- **Dr. Shobhna Kapoor** – Assistant Professor at Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, working in the area of Chemical Biology with expertise in ‘Host-Pathogen Interactions and Membrane Biology, Chemical Biology and Biophysics’
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- **Dr. Antara Banerjee** – Scientist B National Institute For Research In Reproductive Health, Mumbai, Maharashtra from the Health Sciences area with expertise in Signal Transduction, Biology of Reproduction and Endocrinology,
- **Dr. Sonu Gandhi** – Scientist D from National Institute Of Animal Biotechnology, Hyderabad from Bionanotechnology area focusing on Nanosensors, Design and Fabrication of Label-free Biosensors
- **Dr. Ritu Gupta** – Assistant Professor at Indian Institute Of Technology Jodhpur, Rajasthan working on Nanotechnology with expertise in Materials Science, Nanodevices and Sensors, Health & Energy

About SERB Women Excellence Award 2021



**WOMEN
EXCELLENCE
AWARD**

It is a one-time award being presented by SERB to women scientists since **2013** to support basic research in the frontier areas of science and engineering. The women scientists should be **below 40 years** of age. She must have received recognition from any one or more of the National Academies such as Young Scientist Medal, Young Associateship, etc. The award provides a grant of **Rs. 15 lakhs** for a period of **three years** to the awardees to pursue their research ideas.

FinMin to infuse Rs 3,000 cr in state-owned general insurers in Q4 of FY21

The **Finance Ministry** will infuse **Rs 3,000 crore** capital into **state-owned general insurance companies** during the **current quarter, of 2020-21, for recapitalization**, to improve their financial health. The three public sector general insurance companies are: **National Insurance, Oriental Insurance and United India Insurance**. The capital infusion will enable these companies to improve their financial and solvency position, meet the insurance needs of the economy, absorb changes and enhance the capacity to raise resources and improve risk management.

Peter Mukerjea pens memoir 'Starstruck: Confessions of a TV Executive'

Former media baron **Peter Mukerjea** has come out with his memoir '**Starstruck: Confessions of a TV executive**'.

The book is presented as a recollection of his experiences in the satellite television industry in India and the changes it has gone through over the years. Mukerjea is the former chief executive of Star India. Through this book, he has shared his journey, to highlight and showcase the plenty of mistakes made and the plenty of lessons learnt over almost three decades