

Current Affairs: 22.02.2022

Lavender designated as brand product of J&K's Doda district, the birthplace of Purple Revolution

The Union Minister of Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, chaired the District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meetings of several districts in Jammu & Kashmir recently. A key decision taken during the meeting was to **designate Lavender as Doda brand product**, to promote lavender under 'One District, One Product' initiative of the Modi Government. Doda district in J&K is the **birthplace of India's Purple Revolution**, or the cultivation of Lavender. *Though, Lavender cultivation is practiced in almost all the 20 districts of Jammu & Kashmir.*

Centre organise week-long 'Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate' Science exhibition at 75 locations across country

The Government of India has organised a week-long science exhibition titled '**Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate**' (विज्ञान सर्वत्र पुज्यते) from February 22 to 28, 2022, as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav commemoration. It will be conducted simultaneously at 75 locations across the country through a hybrid mode. The festival will celebrate science and technology (S&T) and display the country's scientific legacy and technology prowess. The inaugural programme was held at **Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi** on 22nd of February.

The festival will culminate on February 28, 2022, which coincide with the National Science Day, commemorated in remembrance of Nobel Laureate Sir C.V. Raman's path-breaking discovery of the Raman Effect in 1930.

UK closes 'golden visa' route for investors over security concerns

The **United Kingdom** has closed the UK's **Tier 1 investor visa**, also known as the **golden visa** to all new applicants from all nationalities with immediate effect over security concerns. The announcement was made by **UK Home Secretary Priti Patel**. The UK Investment Visa is a Tier 1 visa offered to wealthy individuals willing to invest a minimum of £2 million in the UK. In another event, **Bahrain** has **launched** the creation of long-term visas for foreigners in an effort to "boost the economy". It will be known as the "**golden residence**" Visa.

Israel successfully tests new naval air defence system 'C-Dome'

Israel successfully tested a new **naval air defense system** "C-Dome," to be used on the **Israeli Navy's Sa'ar 6-class corvettes**.

C-Dome is the naval version of the Iron Dome, an all-weather air defense system of Israel to intercept and destroy short-range rockets and missiles, from the Gaza Strip. The successful test further strengthens the missile defense systems of the Israeli Navy to safeguard the maritime assets of the State of Israel.

India and France sign Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance

India and France have inked a roadmap to enhance their bilateral exchanges on the blue economy and ocean governance.

The partnership will help to explore the potential for collaboration in marine science research for a better understanding of oceans, and ensure that the ocean remains a global common, a space of freedom and trade, based on the rule of law.

Cross & Climb, Rohtak



The agreement on 'Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance' was signed between India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S

Jaishankar's and his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian

Dr. S Jaishankar is on **three-day visit to France**, from February 20 to 22, 2022, to attend **EU Ministerial Forum for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific** scheduled for February 22.

India's teen prodigy R Praggnanandhaa becomes youngest player to beat World No 1 Magnus Carlsen

India's teen chess Grandmaster Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa created history as he defeated world number one chess champion, Magnus Carlsen, of Norway in an online chess tournament on February 20, 2022.

The 16-year-old Pragg achieved the feat in the eighth round of the Airthings Masters, an online rapid chess tournament, in 39 moves with black pieces.

Pragg is also only the third Indian grandmaster to win against Magnus Carlsen apart from Viswanathan Anand and Pentala Harikrishna.

Emma Terho re-elected as Chair of IOC Athletes' Commission

The **International Olympic Committee (IOC) Athletes' Commission (AC)** has re-elected **Emma Terho** as the **Chair** of the commission.

Emma is a double Olympic bronze medallist and former captain of the **Finland women's ice hockey team**.

She took the Chair of the Commission on August 06, 2021, during the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

Apart from this, **Seung Min Ryu** (Republic of Korea, table tennis) has been re-elected as first Vice-Chair of the Commission.

Sarah Walker (New Zealand, cycling) has been elected as IOC AC's second Vice-Chair, a position created in December 2021.

Former Sri Lankan Airlines CEO Vipula Gunatilleka roped in as Jet Airways CFO

Vipula Gunatilleka, the former **Sri Lankan Airlines CEO**, has been appointed as the **Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Jet Airways**, by its new promoters, Jalan Kalrock Consortium.

Gunatilleka was the CEO of SriLankan Airlines until January 2022.

He will join Jet Airways with effect from March 1, 2022.

Takuya Tsumura appointed as new President and CEO of Honda Cars India

Japanese auto major Honda has appointed **Takuya Tsumura** as the new **President and CEO of Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL)**.

Tsumura, 54, will take over from Gaku Nakanishi, with effect from April 1, 2022.

Nakanishi has been appointed as General Manager, Automobile Business of Asian Honda (Regional office-Bangkok, Thailand), which coordinates Honda operations in Asia and Oceania region.

Author Jimmy Soni pens 'The Founders', a History of PayPal

Award-winning US author and biographer **Jimmy Soni** released his new book titled "**The Founders: The Story of PayPal and the Entrepreneurs Who Shaped Silicon Valley**", on February 22, 2022.

The book explores the origin of PayPal and its founding team, including Elon Musk, Amy Rowe Klement, Peter Thiel, Julie Anderson, Max Levchin, Reid Hoffman, and many others whose stories have never been shared.

PayPal is a US-based multinational financial technology company, which operates an online payments system globally.