

### Delivery of S-400 air defence missile systems to be on schedule

It has been reported that all the major military contracts between Russia and India, including the deliveries of S-400 air defence missile systems, will be on schedule despite the coronavirus pandemic.

India had signed a \$5 billion deal with Russia to buy the S-400 air defence missile systems in 2018. The system is also known as the 'Triumph' interceptor-based missile system.

It can simultaneously track numerous incoming objects — all kinds of aircraft, missiles and UAVs — in a radius of 400km and launch appropriate missiles to neutralise them.

The S-400 is Russia's most advanced long-range surface-to-air missile defence system. Russia plans to complete the delivery by 2025.

The U.S. imposed sanctions on Russia under the stringent Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) for manufacturing S-400.

The law also provides for punitive action against countries purchasing defence hardware from Russia.

### Pradhan Mantri Janaushadhi Kendra (PMJK): Corona Warriors delivering affordable quality medicines

Pradhan Mantri Janaushadhi Kendra (PMJK) people are working as Corona Warriors to serve the nation in order to contain the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pharmacists at Kendras are delivering quality generic medicines at affordable prices to the common citizens of the country amidst the crisis.

### Anak Krakatau volcano eruption

Indonesia's Anak Krakatau recent volcano eruption is the longest eruption since its explosive collapse in 2018.

Anak Krakatoa is an island in the Sunda Strait in the Indonesian province of Lampung.

In 1927, Anak Krakatoa emerged from the caldera formed in 1883 by the explosive volcanic eruption that destroyed the island of Krakatoa.

### SATYAM: Yoga Against Viruses

Recently, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has initiated the Science and Technology of Yoga and Meditation (SATYAM) programme.

Under SATYAM, DST has invited proposals to study appropriate intervention of yoga and meditation in fighting Covid-19 and similar kinds of viruses.



## **Bharat Padhe Online and YUKTI Portal: MHRD**

Recently, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has launched two new initiatives - Bharat Padhe Online Campaign and YUKTI web-portal - for improving and monitoring the online education ecosystem in India.

### **Bharat Padhe Online**

‘Bharat Padhe Online’ is a week-long campaign upto 16th April, 2020 for crowdsourcing of ideas for improving the online education ecosystem of India. It aims to invite all the best brains in India to share suggestions/solutions directly with the HRD Ministry to overcome constraints of online education while promoting the available digital education platforms. Students and teachers are the main target audience in it.

## **Covid-19 Affects Odisha’s Art and Festival**

Recently, Odisha’s Ganjam district administration banned the Meru Jatra festival and congregations related to it at temples on the occasion of Mahavishub Sankranti (13th April, 2020), due to Covid-19.

Covid-19 has also affected the sale of Pattachitra paintings. Pattachitra style of painting is one of the oldest and most popular art forms of Odisha. The name Pattachitra has evolved from the Sanskrit words Patta, meaning canvas, and Chitra, meaning picture. Pattachitra is done on canvas and is manifested by rich colourful application, creative motifs and designs, and portrayal of simple themes, mostly mythological in depiction.

## **Yanomami Tribe**

Recently, a Yanomami indigenous boy died in Brazil after contracting Covid-19, raising fears for the Amazon tribes. Yanomami, also called South American Indians, live in the remote forest of the Orinoco River basin in southern Venezuela and the northernmost reaches of the Amazon River basin in northern Brazil. It can be noted that recently, a Brazilian indigenous leader Davi Kopenawa who secured the land rights of the Yanomami people was awarded the Right Livelihood Award-2019, also known as Sweden's alternative Nobel Prize.