

## Current Affairs: 07/08.05.2021

### Fitch Solution Projects India's GDP Growth Rate for FY22 to 9.5%



**Fitch Solution** has estimated the GDP of Indian economy to grow **9.5 percent in 2021-22** (April 2021 to March 2022). The cut in the real GDP is due to the economic damage caused as a result of state level lockdowns imposed because of the sudden and steep surge in the number of coronavirus cases.

### Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Declares Journalists as Frontline Covid Warriors



The state government of Odisha under Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has declared working journalists of the state as frontline Covid warriors. The state had launched “**Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana**” for working journalists of the state in

2018. Under this scheme the working journalist are getting **health insurance cover of Rs 2 lakh each**. Now Odisha has also announced an ex gratia of **Rs 15 lakh for the next of kin of journalists** who die of COVID-19 while performing their duty.

### World's Longest Pedestrian Suspension Bridge Arouca 516, Unveiled in Portugal



**Arouca Bridge 516**, the world's longest pedestrian suspension bridge and was officially inaugurated on 02 May 2021 in northern **Portugal**. The steel and concrete suspension bridge is a 1,693 ft (516 m) long and 175 m (574 ft) above the Paiva River. It is a hanging metal walkway bridge, which is supported by two v-shaped concrete towers and suspended from cables.

### Bengaluru slips to 40th spot globally in Knight Frank's global prime property index for Q1 of 2021

**Bengaluru** has slipped four positions to rank **40th among 46 global cities** in the ‘**Prime Global Cities Index Q1 2021**’ report, released by real estate consultant **Knight Frank**. Bengaluru saw a fall of 2.7 percent year-on-year (YoY) in prime residential prices during January-March 2021. Other Indian cities included **New Delhi (32)** and **Mumbai (36)**, which too witnessed negative growth in prime residential prices.

Three Chinese cities, **Shenzhen**, Shanghai and Guangzhou lead the index in Q1 of 2021, with Shenzhen registering the strongest growth of 18.9% in the price.

**New York**, which is among world's top metropolises was the **weakest performing market**, ranked at 46th spot with negative 5.8% growth.

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**Prime residential property** is defined as the most desirable and most expensive property in a given location, or generally defined as the top 5% of housing market by value. The **Prime Global Cities Index** is a valuation-based index tracking the movement in prime residential prices in local currency across 45+ cities

worldwide.

## India-France-Australia Holds First-ever Trilateral Foreign Ministerial Dialogue in London



The **first-ever India-France-Australia Trilateral Foreign Ministerial Dialogue** was held on 4 May 2021, in **London, UK**, on the sidelines of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The meeting was attended by **External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar from India**, France's Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jean-Yves Le

Drian and Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator Marise Payne. The France, India, Australia trilateral meet was launched in **September 2020** at Foreign Secretaries' levels but has been elevated to ministerial level within one year of its inception. It has three joint priorities which are maritime security, environment, and multilateralism. The G7 foreign ministers meeting is the first in-person meeting of foreign minister of the grouping amid pandemic, with the last such meeting taking place in 2019.

Members of the G7 are **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States.**

The host nation UK invited India, Australia, South Korea, South Africa and the secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to be part of this meet.

## Oil and Gas PSUs inks MoU for Construction and Redevelopment of Shri Badrinath Dham as a Spiritual Smart Hill Town

The top **Oil and Gas PSUs of India**, including IndianOil, BPCL, HPCL, ONGC and GAIL, have inked a Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the **Shri Badrinath Utthan Charitable Trust** on May 06, 2021, for Construction and Redevelopment of **Shri Badrinath Dham in Uttarakhand** as a **Spiritual Smart hill Town**. Under the MoUs, these PSUs will contribute **Rs. 99.60 crore** in the **first phase** of project. The Phase I will include developmental activities such as river embankment work, building all-terrain vehicular path, building bridges, beautifying existing bridges, establishing



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gurukul facilities with accommodation, creating toilet and drinking water facilities, installing streetlights, mural paintings etc.

The initiative is part of the Government's effort to boost tourism by attracting more tourists, which in turn would strengthen the economy of the state.

The rejuvenation work of Shri Badrinath Dham is expected to be completed within a span of three-year time.

## Former Union Minister and RLD Founder Ajit Singh Passes Away at 82



Former **Union Minister and Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) founder and leader Ajit Singh** has passed away battling COVID-19. He was 82. Singh was the son of former Prime Minister of India, **Chaudhary Charan Singh**.

Ajit Singh had served as **Minister of Commerce & Industry** under Prime Minister V. P. Singh; **Minister of Food Processing Industries** in P. V. Narasimha Rao's cabinet; **Minister of Agriculture** in Atal Bihari Vajpayee's government and **Minister of Civil Aviation** in Manmohan Singh's cabinet.

## World Athletics Day 2021 : 05 May



The **World Athletics Day 2021** was observed on **05 May 2021**. The day aims to boost participation in athletics among youngsters and make people aware of the various health issues and create awareness about the importance of fitness. World Athletics Day was introduced in 1996 by then-president of **International Amateur Athletic Federation**

(IAAF) Primo Nebiolo. The date to celebrate this day is **different every year** and is decided by IAAF, but the month remains the same which is May.

## RBI sets up an advisory group headed by SBI MD, S Janakiraman, to assist RRA 2.0

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted an **advisory group** to assist the **second Regulatory Review Authority (RRA 2.0)**, which was set by the central bank on May 01, 2021 to streamline regulations and reduce the compliance burden of regulated entities. The Advisory Group will be **headed by SBI Managing Director S Janakiraman**.

Other members of the 6-member advisory group are:

T T Srinivasaraghavan (Former Managing Director and Non-Executive Director, Sundaram Finance),

Gautam Thakur (Chairman, Saraswat Co-operative Bank),

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Subir Saha (Group Chief Compliance Officer, ICICI Bank),  
Ravi Duvvuru (President and CCO, Jana Small Finance Bank),  
Abadaan Viccaji (Chief Compliance Officer, HSBC India)

## MK Stalin Takes Oath as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu along with 33 Cabinet Ministers



**Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin** has been sworn in as **Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu** on May 07, 2021. Stalin was administered the oath of office and Secrecy by state **Governor Banwarilal Purohit**. Along with him, **33 Cabinet colleagues** were also sworn in by Governor. Stalin is the President of **Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)** party, and led the party to win the 2021 Assembly election

with landslide victory, gaining 159 seats out of 234 total seats. The 68-year-old Stalin is the **8th Chief Minister** of the state. It is his first stint as CM, and he is the **oldest first-time Chief Minister** in the history of Tamil Nadu.

## N Rangasamy Sworn in as Chief Minister of Puducherry for Record Fourth Time



The **All India NR Congress (AINRC)** founder leader **N Rangasamy** has been sworn in as the **Chief Minister of the Union Territory of Puducherry**, for a record fourth time, on May 07, 2021. N Rangasamy was administered the oath of office and secrecy by Lieutenant governor (additional charge) **Tamilisai Soundararajan**. Prior to this, the **71-year-old** served as Chief

Minister of Puducherry from 2001 to 2008 as a member of the Indian National Congress and then from 2011 to 2016 as a member of AINRC

## Meghan Markle's First Children's Book 'The Bench' to be Released in June 2021



**Meghan Markle**, the Duchess of Sussex, is about to release her first children's book titled '**The Bench**' in June 2021. The book is a narration about the relationship between Prince Harry and their son, Archie. It will be published by **Random House Children's Books**. The new book

contains watercolor illustrations by award-winning, millennial American illustrator **Christian Robinson**. Meghan will also narrate the audiobook edition of this book.

## 61st Raising Day of BRO Celebrated on 07 May 2021

The **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** celebrated its **61st Raising Day** on 07 May 2021. The BRO was formed on **7 May 1960**. BRO develops and

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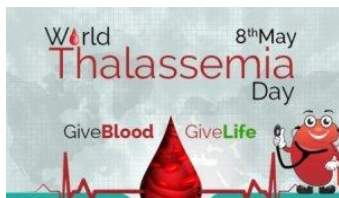
maintains road networks in India's border areas and friendly neighboring countries. It is a part of the Indian Armed Forces, and operates under the **Ministry of Defence** since 2015. **Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry** is the incumbent Director General of Border Roads (DGBR).

## World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day: 8 May



The **World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day** is observed every year on **8 May**. The day aims to celebrate the principles of the **International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement**, to reduce the suffering of people and enabling them to lead a dignified life with independence, humanity, impartiality, universality, unity and neutrality. **Theme 2021 World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day: 'Unstoppable'**. The day also marks the anniversary of the birth of Henry Dunant (8 May 1828), who was the founder of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). He was the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize.

## World Thalassemia Day: 08 May



**World Thalassemia Day** is celebrated on **May 8** every year to commemorate Thalassemia victims and to encourage those who struggle to live with the disease. The **theme for 2021 World Thalassemia Day** is **"Addressing Health Inequalities Across the Global**

### **Thalassaemia Community"**

Thalassemia is an inherited blood disorder which is characterised by less haemoglobin and lesser than normal blood cells. A person suffering from thalassemia has at least one of the parents as carrier of the disease.