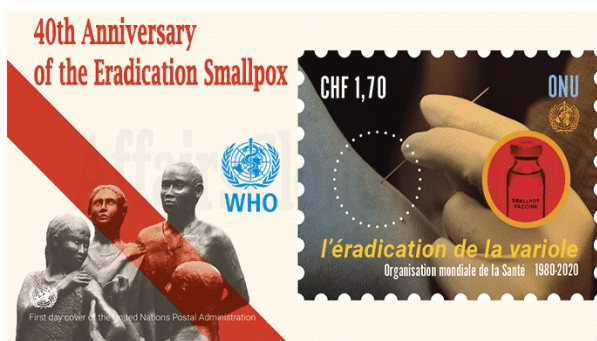


Current Affairs=11-05-2020



WHO and UN's postal agency releases commemorative stamp on 40th anniversary of smallpox eradication



The World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nation (UN) postal agency released a commemorative postage stamp on the **40th anniversary of the eradication of smallpox**. Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, was the speaker on the occasion held in Geneva, Switzerland.

40th anniversary of the eradication of smallpox postage stamps: The commemorative stamp was designed and developed by Sergio Baradat, United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in collaboration with WHO.

Tedros Adhanom expressed his gratitude to a top Indian-origin Mr Atul Khare for making this commemorative stamp possible.

In May 1980, the 33rd World Health Assembly issued its official declaration that "the world and all its peoples have won freedom from smallpox."

High-level digital conference 'RESTART' to be organised by DST Focusing on rebooting the economy through Science and Technology



The Technology Development Board (TDB) a statutory body of the Department of Science & Technology (DST) along with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will organise a high-level digital conference on **'Rebooting the Economy through Science, Technology and Research Translations (RESTART)'** on May 11, 2020, to celebrate

the National Technology Day.

The conference will bring together Scientists, Technocrats, Government officials, Diplomats, WHO officials and dignitaries from national and international Industry, Research Institutions and Academic Institutions on a single platform to share their insights on the role played by S & T in the global healthcare crisis and find solutions that not only address the current pandemic but will also help us in facing the challenges ahead.

India Launches 'Mission Sagar' to Help 5 island nations in Indian Ocean during COVID-19 crisis



The Government of India has launched Mission Sagar on 10 May 2020 as part of its outreach initiative towards assisting five Island nations in the Indian Ocean amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the mission, **Indian Naval Ship (INS) Kesari** has been deployed, carrying on board two medical assistance teams, essential Food Items and COVID related Medicines and Special Ayurvedic Medicines five to Island countries in the Indian Ocean.

The five countries are **Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar and Comoros.**

The mission is inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)** and is in line with India's role as the first responder in the region. It highlights the importance of India's relations with her neighbouring countries and further strengthens the existing bond.

CSIR Approves Project to develop human monoclonal antibodies (hmAbs) that can neutralize SARS-CoV-2 in patients

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has approved a project for the development of Human Monoclonal Antibodies (hmAbs) that have the ability to neutralize SARS-CoV-2 in patients.

CSIR has approved the project under its flagship New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) program.

The project aims to generate hmAbs to SARS-CoV-2 from convalescent phase of COVID-19 patients and select high affinity and neutralizing antibodies as a therapeutic strategy.

Tamil Nadu forms panel for measures to bring economy back on track; Head- R Rangarajan



India (RBI) governor.

The Tamil Nadu government has formed a high-level committee of economists and experts to advise the state government on the medium-term policy response in the wake of covid-19 pandemic.

The Committee will be headed by R Rangarajan, former Reserve Bank of

SAI forms 6-member panel to prepare SOP for phased resumption of training post COVID; Head- Rohit Bharadwaj

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has formed a six-membered committee that will prepare Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the phased resumption of training of sports after the lockdown due to COVID-19 is lifted.

The committee is headed by Rohit Bharadwaj. He is a secretary at the Sports Authority of India.

Eminent historian Hari Shankar Vasudevan passes away



Eminent historian Hari Shankar Vasudevan passed away at the age of 68 years.

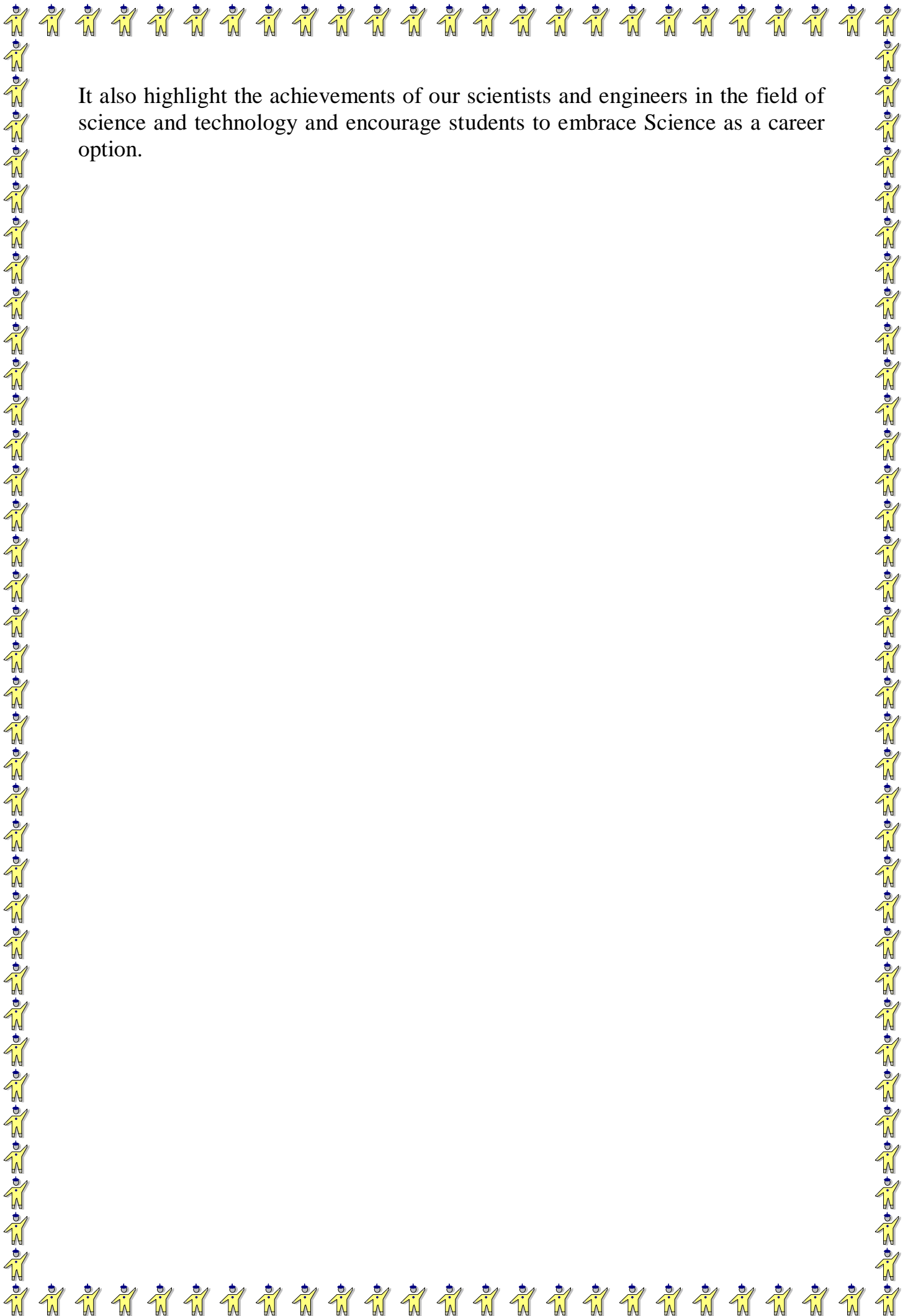
He died due to coronavirus in Kolkata. He was an expert in Russian, Central Asian and East Asian history.

National Technology Day: 11 May



The National Technology Day is observed every year on May 11 since 1999 to mark the anniversary of 1998 Pokhran nuclear tests and India's technological advancements in space.

It was on this day in 1998 that India successfully fired an Operation Shakti missile at the Indian Army's Pokhran Test Range in Rajasthan. The Test was led by late aerospace engineer and President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.



It also highlight the achievements of our scientists and engineers in the field of science and technology and encourage students to embrace Science as a career option.