

Current Affairs: 20-22.05.2021

India Ranks Third in 2020 EY Index; The US Retains Top Position

India's renewable energy sector has been placed at the **third position** in the **57th EY Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI)** released by consultancy firm **Ernst & Young (EY)**. India has moved one position above to rank third in 2020 index, compared to the 2019, when it was at fourth spot, mainly due to an exceptional performance on the solar photovoltaic (PV) front. India is committed to set up 450 GW for renewable energy power capacity (installed) by 2030. The **United States** retained its top position on RECAI 57, followed by **China** at the second position. The RECAI 57 index ranks 40 global markets on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities, based on a number of macro, energy market and technology-specific indicators.

India emerges as second-largest insurance technology market in Asia-Pacific region after China



As per a new report by **S&P Global Market Intelligence**, **India** is the **second largest insurance-technology market in Asia-Pacific region**. India accounts for **35% (USD 1.28 billion)** of the total venture capital (**USD 3.66 billion**) attracted by the insurtech sector in the Asia Pacific region so far. **China** was the largest insurance-technology market accounting for around 43% of the total investment. Out of these, around half of them are headquartered in India and China, and collectively attracted about **78% of the total investment**.

Suresh Mukund Becomes First Indian to Win Annual 'World Choreography Award 2020'



The Emmy Award-nominated **Indian choreographer Suresh Mukund**, has won the **10th Annual 'World Choreography Award 2020'**, (also known as Choreo Awards), becoming the **first Indian** to win the prestigious honor.

Suresh Mukund won the award in the **'TV REALITY SHOW/COMPETITION'** category, for his work on hit American TV reality show **'World of Dance'**. Mukund is the director and choreographer of Indian dance crew **'The Kings'**, which won 2019 season of World of Dance. The World Choreography Awards, famously known as the "Oscars of Dance", takes place every year, in Los Angeles, to showcase the most innovative and original works by the world's best choreographers featured in television, film, commercials, digital content, and music videos.

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Indian-Origin Chemist Shankar Balasubramanian and David Klenerman Wins 2020 Millennium Technology Prize



British-Indian Chemist Shankar Balasubramanian along with his colleague **David Klenerman** from the **Cambridge University** have been declared the winners of the **2020 Millennium Technology Prize**. The duo have been recognised for development of ever faster and cheaper ways

of revolutionary sequencing techniques, which means DNA can now be read in super-fast times. The **Next-Generation DNA Sequencing technology (NGS)** developed by the duo will help in fighting killer diseases such as Covid-19 or cancer, better understand crop diseases and enhance food production.

The biennial prize, worth **Euro 1 million**, is given the **Technology Academy Finland**. The prize is considered as **Finland's version of the Nobel Science Prizes**.

World Metrology Day: 20 May

The **World Metrology Day** is observed on 20 May to celebrate the International System of Units. Metrology is the study of measurement. The theme for World Metrology Day 2021 is **Measurement for Health**. The theme aims to create awareness of the important role measurement plays in health, and thus in the wellbeing of every one of us. 20 May marks the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875, by representatives of seventeen nations.

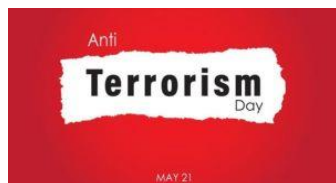
International Tea Day: 21 May



The United Nations recognised **International Tea Day** is observed annually on **May 21** by the **UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** to raise awareness of the deep cultural and economic significance of tea around the world and promote its importance in fighting hunger and poverty. The day was adopted by United Nations on December 21, 2019. In 2021, the world is celebrating

second International Tea Day.

National Anti Terrorism Day: 21 May



In India, the **National Anti Terrorism Day** is observed on **May 21** to commemorate the **death anniversary of former Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi**. The day is also observed to spread the message of peace, harmony, and humankind and to promote unity among the people. Rajiv Gandhi was India's youngest Prime Minister. He was appointed as

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the sixth Prime Minister of the country and served the nation from 1984 to 1989. Mr Gandhi was assassinated on May 21, 1991 by a human bomb.

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development: 21 May



The **World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development** is held every year on **May 21**. The day aims to celebrate the richness of the world's cultures and highlight the significance of its diversity as an agent of inclusion and positive change for achieving peace and sustainable development. In 2001, UNESCO adopted the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and in December 2002, the UN General Assembly declared May 21 to be the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

Indian Navy's first destroyer INS Rajput decommissioned after 41 years of service



The **Indian Navy** is set to decommission its first destroyer, **INS Rajput**, on May 21, 2021, which had been in service for **41 glorious years**. The motto of INS Rajput was 'Raj Karega Rajput'. INS Rajput was the lead ship of the **Kashin-class destroyers**, and was built by the erstwhile **USSR (Soviet Union)**. It was constructed in the 61 Communards Shipyard in Nikolaev (present-day Ukraine) under her original Russian name 'Nadezhny' meaning 'Hope'. The ship was commissioned on **May 4, 1980** as INS Rajput at **Poti, Georgia** by IK Gujral, the then Indian Ambassador to the USSR. **Captain Gulab Mohanlal Hiranandani** was her first commanding officer. While being in service, the ship had **31** Commanding Officers at her helm. The ship had participated in several key missions and numerous bilateral and multi-national exercises. It was **the first Indian Naval Ship** to be affiliated with an Army regiment, the Rajput regiment.

Pinarayi Vijayan takes oath as 12th Chief Minister of Kerala for second time in row



Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan was sworn in for his **second straight five-year term** on May 20, 2021. The 76-year-old Pinarayi Vijayan assumed the charge as the **12th Chief Minister of Kerala**. He was administered the oath of the office and secrecy as Chief Minister of Kerala by state **Governor Arif Mohammad Khan**, along with **twenty other cabinet ministers**. Left Democratic Front (LDF) leader Pinarayi Vijayan is the first chief minister from Kerala to be re-elected after completing a full term (five years) in office.

RBI to transfer Rs. 99,122 crore surplus to Central Government for FY21



The Reserve Bank of India will transfer Rs 99,122 crore surplus to Central Government for the accounting period of nine months ended March 31, 2021 (July 2020-March 2021). The Contingency Risk Buffer will remain at 5.50%. This year RBI has changed its Accounting year from July-June to April-March to coincide with the accounting year of Government. As a result the accounting year 2020-21 of RBI has only 9 months. It must be noted that every year, RBI transfers its entire surplus which it has earned as profit to Central Government.

Microsoft to retire iconic Internet Explorer (IE) browser on 15 June 2022



Tech-giant Microsoft has decided to retire its iconic Internet Explorer (IE) browser, with effect from 15 June 2022, after more than 25 years of its launch.

The Internet Explorer (IE) browser was launched in 1995. Microsoft recommends its users to shift to Microsoft Edge (2015) before June 15, 2022, for a faster, more secure and more modern browsing experience. Microsoft Edge has in-built Internet Explorer mode (IE mode), so users can access legacy Internet Explorer-based websites and applications straight from Microsoft Edge. Internet Explorer was once the most widely used web browser, with 95 percent usage share by 2003. However, its usage share declined since the launch of Firefox (2004) and Google Chrome (2008), as well as the growing popularity of mobile operating systems such as Android and iOS that do not support Internet Explorer. Internet Explorer 11 (IE11) is the eleventh and final version of the Internet Explorer web browser officially released on October 17, 2013.

JK Dutt, former NSG DG, who led Commando Forces during 26/11 Mumbai Counter-Terror Operation, Passes Away at 72



The former Director General of National Security Guard (NSG), Jyoti Krishan Dutt, who led the commando force during the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks (also referred to as 26/11 and Operation Black Tornado), has passed away due to complications arising out of Covid-19. He was 72.

He served as the DG of the National Security Guard (NSG) from August 2006 to February 2009. Besides this, he has also worked in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

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International Day for Biological Diversity: 22 May



22 MAY 2021
BIODIVERSITY DAY
We're part of the solution #ForNature

The International Day for Biological Diversity (also known as World Biodiversity Day) is a United Nations-sanctioned international day held on May 22 every year to increase understanding

and awareness of biodiversity issues. The theme of 2021 World Biodiversity Day is “We’re part of the solution”.