

Current Affairs:23.07.2021

Aaykar Diwas (Income Tax Day) celebrated by CBDT on July 24

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) observed the 161st **Income Tax Day (also known as Aaykar Diwas) on 24 July, 2021**. In India, the Income Tax Day is celebrated every year on July 24, as it was on 24 July 1980 that Income Tax was introduced for the first time in India by Sir James Wilson. The purpose of this tax was to compensate for the losses incurred by the British regime during the first war of independence against British Rule in 1857. July 24 was first celebrated as the Income Tax day in 2010.

India score 90.32% in United Nation's Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation

India has scored **90.32 percent** in **2021 UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation**. India's score was 78.49 percent in 2019. The survey reveals that India has made significant improvement in the scores on all 5 key indicators, as follows:

1. Transparency: 100% in 2021 (93.33% in 2019),
2. Formalities: 95.83% in 2021 (87.5% in 2019),
3. Institutional Arrangement and Cooperation: 88.89% in 2021 (66.67% in 2019),
4. Paperless Trade: 96.3% in 2021 (81.48% in 2019) and
5. Cross-Border Paperless Trade: 66.67% in 2021 (55.56% in 2019)

The overall score of India is found to be greater than many OECD countries including France, UK, Canada, Norway, Finland. India is the best performing country when compared to South and South West Asia region (63.12%) and Asia Pacific region (65.85%). The overall score of India is even greater than the average score of EU

About the survey

- The survey is conducted by **United Nation's Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (UNESCAP)** every two years since 2015 to help countries benchmark and reduce the time and cost of trading across border, as well as helps businesses in their investment decisions..
- The survey evaluates 143 economies on 58 trade facilitation measures covered by the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement and 5 key indicators which are Transparency, Formalities, Institutional Arrangement and Cooperation, Paperless Trade, and Cross-Border Paperless Trade.

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav Participates in G20 Environment Ministerial Meeting 2021

The **G20 Environment Ministerial Meeting 2021** was organised on July 22, 2021, at Naples, in Italy. From India, **Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav** participated in the two-day meeting virtually, along with Minister of State for Environment Ashwini Choubey and senior officials. The meeting was held as part of the 16th G20 Leaders Summit, scheduled to be held in October 2021, under the Presidency of Italy, with primary theme of “People, Planet’ and Prosperity”.

Liverpool removed from UNESCO World Heritage list

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee has voted to remove **Liverpool Maritime Mercantile City** from its world heritage list. The United Kingdom’s Liverpool City waterfront has been stripped off as a historic heritage site by the committee because of “irreversible loss of attributes conveying the outstanding universal value of the property”. The committee took the decision citing concerns about the ongoing overdevelopment and plans for a new football stadium in the city.

Former RBI Governor Duvvuri Subbarao Unveils Book titled ‘Bank With A Soul: Equitas’, by Dr. C K Garyali

The former Governor of RBI, Shri. Duvvuri Subbarao, released a book titled **‘Bank with a Soul: Equitas’**, on July 17, 2021. The book has been written by retired IAS officer **Dr. C K Garyali**, founder trustee of EDIT (Equitas Development Initiative Trust). The book chronicles the journey of Equitas SFB and EDIT in transforming the lives of women with frequent social reform initiatives helping them setup micro-enterprises and pioneering financial inclusivity right from its inception.

Sandesh Jhingan and Bala Devi Named as AIFF Players of the Year for 2020-21

Indian national football team (Blue Tigers) and ATK Mohun Bagan’s senior defender **Sandesh Jhingan** has been named as the AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year for the season 2020-21. Apart from Jhingan, midfielder Suresh Singh Wangjam has been named as the Emerging Player of the Year. In Women’s category, Indian women’s team forward **Bala Devi**, was named AIFF Women’s Footballer of the Year. This is the third time that Bala Devi has claimed the title. At the same time, Manisha Kalyan won the Women’s Emerging Player of the year awards.

Cross & Climb, Rohtak



Rubina Francis of Madhya Pradesh sets world record; bags Olympics quota

Indian para shooter **Rubina Francis** won gold in the 10-metre air pistol para event for women, at the Para World Cup Shooting in Lima, Peru. The 21-year-old Rubina, who hails from Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh, scored 238.1 points to set a new world record, beating the earlier world record set by Aysegul Pehlivanlar of Turkey. With this, Rubina has also secured the quota for India at the Tokyo Summer Paralympics.

Noted Carnatic Classical Violinist Sikkil R Bhaskaran passes away at 85

Noted **violinist** in Carnatic Classical music and Tamil Isai, **Sikkil R Bhaskaran**, has passed away. He was 85. Bhaskaran started learning the Violin at the age of 11. During his 5 decades of Musical Career, Bhaskaran has been bestowed with many laurels, Awards & Honours, including Kalaimamani title by Tamil Nadu government and Sangeetha Nataka Academy award by the Central Government

Bhageerathi Amma, India's oldest student, passes away at the age of 107

Bhageerathi Amma, the oldest women in India to take the equivalency exams, has passed away due to age-related ailments. She was 107-years-old.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has expressed grief over the demise of respected Bhageerathi Amma. Amma, who hailed from **Kollam district of Kerala**, decided to continue her education at the age of 105. She had quit formal education in class three, when she was 9 years old. The centenarian was felicitated with the prestigious Nari Shakti Puraskar by the central government for her exceptional contribution towards women's empowerment.