

CURRENT AFFAIRS= 16/17-03-2020

NITI Aayog's AIM & NASSCOM launch ATL Artificial Intelligence Step-up modules for school students

On August 14, 2020 National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog)'s Atal Innovation Mission(AIM) in collaboration with National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) has launched Atal Tinkering Lab(ATL) Artificial Intelligence(AI) Step-up module (ATL AI Step Up Module) through 'ATL AI Modules' for school students to empower youngest minds and drive innovations in the country to the next level.

ii.The module was launched in a virtual platform attended by CEO NITI Aayog Mr Amitabh Kant, Mission Director Atal Innovation Mission Mr R Ramanan and NASSCOM President Debjani Ghosh.

EU launches Nirmanshree For Odisha and Maharashtra Women in Housing Sector

European Union has launched project 'Nirmanshree' for enhancing the women skill towards housing construction sector.

This is the first-of-its-kind sustainable housing on a large scale in India .The project will be implemented in Beed and Osmanabad districts of Maharashtra and the Dhenkanal and Jajpur districts of Odisha.

i.A non-profit organisation, Habitat for

Humanity India has also join hands with EU for funding this project.

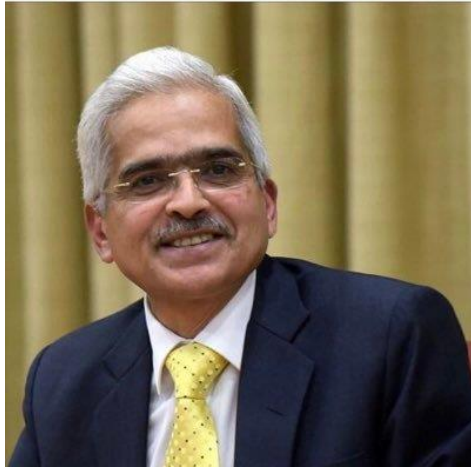
ii.The total cost of the project is EUR 9,49,694 (INR 7,40,85,628 or US\$1,075,307).90 percent of fund provides by EU and remaining 10 percent will be issued by Habitat for Humanity India.

iii.3,000 women will be trained for technical and entrepreneurial skills in housing sector which focus on area such as masonry, plumbing and electrical fitting, among others.

RBI's Central Board headed by Shaktikanta Das approved a dividend of Rs 57,128 crore to Central Govt



i. The 584th meeting of the **Central Board** of Reserve of Board (RBI) under the Chairmanship of Governor **Shaktikanta Das** approved the transfer of **Rs 57,128 crore** in surplus as **dividend** to the **Central government** for the accounting year **2019-20**.

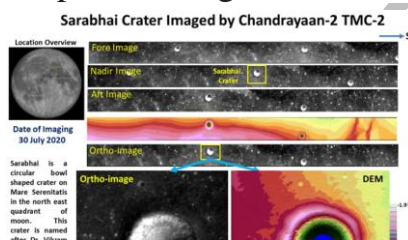


ii. The board decided to maintain the **Contingency Risk Buffer** at **5.5%**.

iii. The Board reviewed the current economic situation, continued global and domestic challenges, and the monetary, regulatory and other measures taken by the RBI to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

ISRO's Chandryaan-2 Captured Images of Crater of Moon; one of the Craters Named 'Sarabhai Crater' after Vikram Sarabhai

i. Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) announced that Chandrayaan-2 has captured images of Crater of the Moon by Terrain Mapping Camera – 2 (TMC-2)



and named one of the craters as '**Sarabhai Crater**' after Indian astrophysicist **Dr. Vikram**

Ambalal Sarabhai who is regarded as the Father of Indian Space program, to celebrate his birth centena

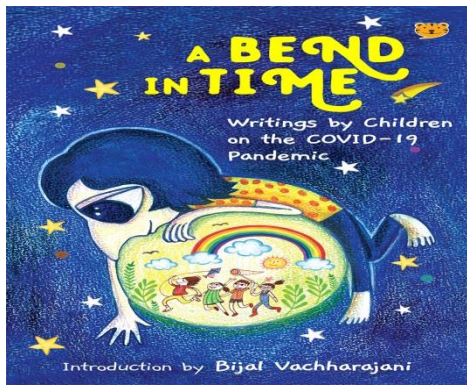
ii. Vikram Ambalal Sarabhai's 100th birth century was observed on 12th of August, 2020.

iii. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), to pay tribute to him, announced that Chandrayaan 2 Orbiter has captured the Moon images of "Sarabhai" Crater.

About ISRO:

Headquarters– Bangalore, Karnataka

Book "A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic" by Bijal Vachharajani Released



A book titled “A Bend in Time : Writings by Children on the COVID 19 Pandemic” was released in July 2020, the introduction of which is written by award-winning children’s author Bijal Vachharajani. The book is published by **Talking Cub** (children’s imprint of Speaking Tiger).



The book showcased the emotions and thoughts of children and young adults, from across the country and social groups, about the greatest global crisis in recent times: the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bijal Vachharajani is the winner of the **AutHer Children’s Book Award 2020** and also named in the **Parag Honour List 2020** of TATA Groups. There are **12** contributing authors of the book

Celebration of India’s 74th Independence Day 2020 – August 15

Indians all around the world celebrate the 74th Independence Day on 15th August 2020, to mark the independence of India from rule of British Raj on 15th August 1947.



This day is celebrated to remember the sacrifice of the freedom fighters and to pay tribute to the personnels of the Armed forces, paramilitary and police forces for ensuring national safety.

- Narendra Modi, The Prime Minister of India, addresses the nations following the flag hoisting ceremony at

the ramparts of Red Fort in Delhi.

- Due to the current covid-19 situation the around 4000 guests of the 74th Independence day at Red Fort which includes diplomats, officials and media personnels followed the social distancing norms.

Guard of honour:

The Guard of honour inspected by the Prime Minister Modi, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Gaurav S Yewalkar consists of one officer and 24 men from Army, Navy, Air Force and Delhi Police.

The Anti-drone system of DRDO:

i. On 15th August 2020, on the event of 74th Independence day, an anti-drone system developed by the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) deployed near the Red Fort.

ii. The system is capable of detecting and jamming the micro drones within 3 kilometers, it uses lasers to destroy the targets within 1 to 2.5 kilometers based on the wattage of the laser weapon.

iii. The counter drone system has the ability to detect and destroy the drones in the air, this was first deployed during the 2020 Republic Day Parade.

Events of 2020 Independence Day:

Patriotic film festival:

i. The National Film Development Corporation organised the first of its kind online patriotic film festival which began on 7th August 2020 and runs till 21st August 2020.

ii. The film festival showcases the high quality independence day themed patriotic films on the website: www.cinemasofindia.com

iii. The movie Gandhi by Sir Richard Attenborough is made accessible for the people with vision and hearing impairment.

“Ek India Team India” Campaign of IOA:

i. On the occasion of 74th Independence Day the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) launched the digital campaign “Ek India Team India” as a part of the adaptation of the new identity and logo of IOA, marking its 100 years of participation in Olympic games.

ii. As a part of the campaign video, IOA promotes the new logo on its social media and websites.

Awards & Decorations to Armed force personnels at 74th Independence Day:

i. President Ram Nath Kovind, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, approved 84 gallantry awards and decorations to the personnels of Armed Forces and members of Paramilitary Forces.

ii. The 84 awards include Kirti Chakra(1), Shaurya Chakras(9), Sena Medals(60), Bar to Sena Medals(5), Nao Sena Medals(4) and Vayu Sena Medals(5).

iii. He also approved 19 mention-in-despatches to the army personnels for their contribution to the nation through various military operations which includes 8 posthumous for operation Meghdoot and Operation Rakshak.