

Current Affairs: 21.09.2021

IRCTC Partners with Cordelia Cruises to launch India's first indigenous luxury cruise liner

- The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (**IRCTC**) has launched **India's first indigenous cruise liner** on September 18, 2021, in partnership with **Cordelia Cruises**, a private company operated by M/s Waterways Leisure Tourism Pvt. Ltd.
- The luxurious cruise will take the passengers on-boards to some of the most popular Indian and international tourist destinations such as **Goa, Diu, Kochi, the Lakshadweep islands, and Sri Lanka**.
- In phase I, the cruise will have its base from Mumbai, and will sail to the Indian destinations only.
- In the phase II, starting from May 2022, the cruise will be shifted to Chennai and it will sail to Sri Lankan destinations like Colombo, Galle, Trincomalee, and Jaffna.



Ranking

India ranked 46th in the Global Innovation Index 2021; Top- Switzerland

- **India** has been ranked at **46th** place in the **Global Innovation Index 2021** released by World Intellectual Property Organization (**WIPO**). Switzerland has topped the ranking.
- The Global Innovation Index 2021 captures the innovation ecosystem performance of 132 economies and tracks the most recent global innovation trends.
- India has climbed 2 spots from last year's ranking. Under the Lower middle-income category group, India has been ranked at the second spot after Vietnam.

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Global Innovation Index 2021 rankings

GII rank	Economy	Score	Income group rank	Region rank
1	Switzerland	65.5	1	1
2	Sweden	63.1	2	2
3	United States of America	61.3	3	1
4	United Kingdom	59.8	4	3
5	Republic of Korea	59.3	5	1
6	Netherlands	58.6	6	4
7	Finland	58.4	7	5
8	Singapore	57.8	8	2
9	Denmark	57.3	9	6
10	Germany	57.3	10	7

Banking & Economy

HDFC Bank ties up with Paytm to launch co-branded credit cards in October 2021

- **HDFC Bank** has announced its partnership with leading payments company **Paytm**, to offer co-branded credit cards on the **Visa platform** to businesspersons, millennials and merchants.
- The **HDFC Bank-Paytm co-branded credit cards** will be launched in **October 2021**, during the festive season..
- The collaboration between HDFC Bank and Paytm is part of the strategies of the HDFC Bank to regain its lost market share in the credit card space due to the ban imposed on it by RBI for eight months as penalty, following several outages in its digital offerings.



Awards

2021 Emmy Award Winners: A Complete List

- The **73rd Primetime Emmy Awards** ceremony was held on September 19, 2021 in Los Angeles, California.
- The award honored the best in **U.S. prime time television programming** from June 1, 2020, until May 31, 2021, as chosen by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

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Some winners at the Emmy Award 2021:

- Outstanding Drama Series: *The Crown*
- Outstanding Comedy Series: *Ted Lasso*
- Outstanding Variety Talk Show: *Last Week Tonight* with John Oliver
- Outstanding Limited Series: *The Queen's Gambit*
- Outstanding Actor – Comedy: Jason Sudeikis – *Ted Lasso*
- Outstanding Actor – Drama: Josh O'Connor
- Outstanding Actor – Limited Series or Movie: Ewan McGregor – *Halston*
- Outstanding Actress – Comedy: Jean Smart – *Hacks*
- Outstanding Actress – Drama: Olivia Colman – *The Crown*
- Outstanding Actress – Limited Series or Movie: Kate Winslet – *Mare of Easttown*

Sports

Warangal-based R. Raja Rithvik becomes India's 70th Chess Grandmaster

- The 17-year-old **R Raja Rithvik** from **Warangal** has become India's **70th** and newest chess **Grandmaster (GM)**.
- Rithvik achieved his third and final norm at First Saturday Chess Tournaments in Budapest, Hungary, to enter the GM club.



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Days



International Week of Deaf People 2021: September 20 to 26

- Every year, the **full week ending on the last Sunday of September** is observed as the **International Week of the Deaf (IWD)**. In 2021, IWD is being observed from **September 20 to 26, 2021**.
- The last Sunday of the month of September is celebrated as the World Day of Deaf or International Day of the Deaf (September 26, 2021).
- It is an initiative of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and was first launched in 1958 in Rome, Italy to commemorate the month when the first World Congress of the WFD was held.
- The theme of 2021 IWD is **“Celebrating Thriving Deaf Communities”**



Theme for 2021:

Celebrating Thriving Deaf Communities

20 to 26 september 2021



**INTERNATIONAL WEEK
OF DEAF PEOPLE**

International Day of Peace: 21 September

- The **International Day of Peace (or World Peace Day)** is observed annually on **21 September**, as a period to observe 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire and to spread awareness and preach peace and harmony all across the globe.
- The Day established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1981 and formally designated in 2001.
- The 2021 theme for the International Day of Peace is **“Recovering Better for an Equitable and Sustainable World.”**

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