CURRENT AFFAIRS

Weekly Capsule (1st-7th November)

CUSTOMIZED STUDY MATERIAL

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Weekly Current Affairs: 1st to 7th October 2020

IMPORTANT DATES

World Vegan Day is observed on November 1

World Vegan Day is celebrated on 1st November to raise awareness about the benefits of a vegan diet and veganism in general. On 1st November 1994, the first Vegan Day was established to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the UK Vegan Society.

All Saints' Day is observed on November 1

On 1 November, All Saints' Day is celebrated to praise all saints'. All Saints' Day is also known as All Hallows' Day or Hallowmas.

All Souls' Day is observed on November 2

All Souls' Day is observed on 2nd November annually to honour the dead souls. In Roman Catholicism, this day commemorates all those souls who are faithfully departed and are believed to be in purgatory because they died with the guilt of lesser sins on their souls.

World Tsunami Awareness Day is observed on November 5

World Tsunami Awareness Day is observed on 5 November to highlight the dangers of tsunami and to focus on the importance of the early warning systems to minimise the damage caused due to the natural hazard. This day also provides traditional knowledge about tsunamis.

Infant Protection Day is observed on November 7

Infant Protection Day is observed on 7 November to spread awareness regarding protecting, promoting and developing infants. No doubt infants are tomorrow's citizens. Therefore, it is necessary to protect them as they are the future of the world.

National Cancer Awareness Day is observed on November 7

National Cancer Awareness Day is observed on 7 November to spread awareness about cancer and to make it global health priority. In 2014, National Cancer Awareness Day was started by the announcement of the former Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan.

Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman Birthday is observed on November 7

Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (C.V Raman) was born on 7 November, 1888 in Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu. He became the first Indian to receive a Nobel Prize in 1930 in Physics.

STATE NEWS

Chhattisgarh celebrates its foundation day on 1 November

Chhattisgarh is celebrating its foundation day today. On this occasion a 'Rajyotsav programme' was organized at the Chief Minister's official Residence. This was the 21st foundation day of Chhattisgarh. The State came into existence on November 1, 2000 after being carved out of Madhya Pradesh.

Andhra Pradesh celebrates its formation day on 1 November

Andhra Pradesh Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan has said that Andhra Pradesh has tremendous potential for growth and it is marching in the right direction towards the path of progress and development. The Governor paid floral tributes to Sri Potti Sriramulu and paid homage to freedom fighters on the occasion of 'Andhra Pradesh Formation Day at a programme held in Raj Bhavan.

Madhya Pradesh celebrating its Foundation Day on 1 November

Madhya Pradesh is celebrating its 65th Foundation Day. The new state of Madhya Pradesh came into existence on the First of November 1956 as a result of the reorganization of states in 1956. This state was formed by merging the erstwhile Central Provinces CP & Berar, Madhya Bharat, Vindhya Pradesh and Bhopal.

Puducherry celebrates 66th Liberation Day on 1 November

Union Territory of Puducherry celebrates its 66th Liberation Day. The celebrations are on a low-key in the wake of COVID 19 pandemic. It was on November 1,1954 the union territory was liberated from French colonialism following a referendum in which all elected members from Puducherry voted against the French and preferred to join India.

Assam CM lays foundation stone of Indo-Israeli Centre of Excellence for Vegetables Protected Cultivation near Guwahati

In Assam, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone of Indo-Israeli Centre of Excellence for Vegetables Protected Cultivation near Guwahati in presence of Israeli Ambassador Dr. Ron Malka. The Rs. 10.33-crore project is expected to bolster the agricultural activities in the state by providing exposure to latest Israeli technologies.

Kerala aims to provide free Internet for poor families, public offices

Kerala aims to start providing free, high-speed Internet to schools, public offices, and poor households in the state by December, making digital connectivity a basic right. KSEB holds 50% in the ₹ ₹1,548 crore KFON project, with the rest held by Kerala State IT Infrastructure Ltd. The optic-fiber network is being laid by using its electricity poles to avoid the cost of laying underground cables.

LG Manoj Sinha and MoS in PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurate Comprehensive Mansar Rejuvenation/Development Plan in Jammu virtually

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Minister of State in PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the prestigious Comprehensive Mansar Rejuvenation/ Development Plan in Jammu through virtual mode. Mansar is the most sought out tourist destination visited by the tourists in Jammu & the implementation of its Rejuvenation/ Development Plan will certainly bring Mansar on the world tourism map. Speaking to the media persons, the LG said that J&K has high potential to become a preferred tourist destination and can support a much higher employment workforce.

Cabinet approves ₹1,810-crore hydropower project in Himachal Pradesh

Union Cabinet approved ₹1,810 crore investment for 210 megawatt Luhri stage-I hydropower project on river Satluj in Shimla &Kullu districts of Himachal Pradesh. The project aims to generate 758.20 million units of electricity annually. The power generated from the Project will help in providing grid stability and will improve the power supply position.

Odisha Assembly to upgrade to e-Vidhan Sabha

The Odisha Assembly is set to go paperless following the model of the e-Vidhan Sabha of Himachal Pradesh legislative assembly. The Odisha Assembly will be upgraded to e-Vidhan Sabha after the winter session. E-Vidhan Sabha is a concept and under that concept, there will not be any hard file. Everything will be done online.

Haryana govt decides to give exemption in electricity-duty for 20 years

Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala has said that the state government has decided to give exemption in electricity-duty for 20 years under "Haryana Enterprises and Employment Policy -2020" (HEEP) to attract more industries in the state.

Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurates Tourist Facilitation Centre facility in Kerala

Tourism Minister Prahlad Singh Patel virtually inaugurated Tourist Facilitation Centre at Guruvayur, Kerala under PRASHAD Scheme. The PRASHAD scheme was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in 2014-15 with the objective of integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations. The scheme is aimed at infrastructure development such as entry points, last mile connectivity, basic facilities like information centers, eco-friendly modes of transport, area lighting and illumination with renewable sources of energy, drinking water, toilets, cloak room and waiting rooms.

Dehradun Municipal Corporation launcheds Plastic Lao MASK LE JAO initiative

In Dehradun, the Municipal Corporation has launched an initiative named Plastic Lao MASK LE JAO to fight against the menace of plastic waste and contain the spread of Covid-19. It has distributed Five thousand face masks in exchange for plastic waste.

Odisha Govt bans sale & use of firecrackers

The Odisha Government has banned the sale and use of firecrackers in the state from the 10th to the 30th of this month. The decision has been taken in view of the potentially harmful consequences of burning crackers amidst covid-19 situation and the approaching winter. Firecrackers release copious amounts of toxic gases like nitrous oxide, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide which negatively impacts the respiratory health, particularly of the vulnerable groups like the elderly, the children and those with comorbidities.

Rajasthan assembly passes bill to make wearing mask mandatory

Rajasthan assembly has passed the Rajasthan Epidemic Diseases (Amendments bill 2020) making it mandatory to wear masks. The bill prohibits the movements of any person in public place, public transport, workplace or at any Social, Political, general function or gathering. The bill, however, does not specify the penalties if someone is caught without masks.

Assam Education Dept launches toll free tele-education helpline number for govt school students

In Assam, the Education department has launched a toll free tele education helpline number for government school students. Principal Secretary of the department B Kalyan Chakravarthy said the helpline number is to guide 6th to 10th standard students on subject matters and psycho-social aspects. The tollfree no is - 18003453578. Mr. Chakravarthy said that it would work on all 6 days in week except Sunday from 10 am to 3 pm.

UP govt to hold grand annual Deepotsav celebrations in Ayodhya on Diwali

Uttar Pradesh government will celebrate the annual Deepotsav in Ayodhya on Diwali in a grand manner and this time it is planning to break its own last year record by lighting around 6 lakh diyas, earthen lamps on the ghats of Saryu. The celebration will not be scaled down due to the coronavirus pandemic, even though there will be minimal public participation.

Website for Atal Medical and Research University launched in Himachal Pradesh

In Himachal Pradesh, the website for Atal Medical and Research University Ner Chowk, in Mandi district was launched through video conferencing. Chief Minister, Jai Ram Thakur said the University would go a long way in the field of research and medical education.

Karnataka govt signs agreement with Tata Technologies to upgrade 150 Govt ITIs

The Government of Karnataka has entered into an agreement with Tata Technologies to upgrade 150 Government ITIs at a cost of 4,636.50 crore rupees. The agreement was signed in the presence of Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa in Bengaluru. Along with Tata Technologies, about 20 other companies are contributing 4,080 crore rupees from their CSR funds for this programme.

Kerala govt grants ₹20 lakh aid for education of children of prisoners

The Kerala government has granted a fund of ₹20 lakh as financial assistance for the education of children of jail inmates. A total of ₹15 lakh has been sanctioned for the assistance of their basic education and ₹5 lakh as the aid for their professional studies. A total of ₹15 lakh has been sanctioned for the assistance of their basic education.

NATIONAL NEWS

AYUSH Ministry and Invest India to jointly set up "Strategic Policy & Facilitation Bureau" for planned and systematic growth of Ayush sector

The Ministry of AYUSH and M/s Invest India will form a collaboration to set up a "Strategic Policy & Facilitation Bureau" to facilitate planned and systematic growth of the Ayush sector. This is among the various steps which the Ministry has initiated to chart future directions along which the stake-holding groups of the Ayush Sector can move.

Centre launches 'nurturing neighborhoods challenge'

To ensure development of common spaces along with creation of data banks for better planning in smart cities, union minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the 'nurturing neighborhoods challenge'. According to estimates, 40% of India's population is expected to live in urban areas by 2030 and to cater to this growth, India will have to build 600 to 800 million square meters of urban space each year.

Cabinet approves a MoU between India and Israel on cooperation in the healthcare and medicine sector

The cabinet had approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Israel on cooperation in the healthcare and medicine sector. The MoU covers areas of cooperation such as exchange and training of medical doctors and other health professionals, assistance in development of human resources and setting up of healthcare facilities and exchange of information regarding regulation of pharmaceutical, medical devices and cosmetics

Cabinet approves a MoU between the CDSCO, India and the UK MHRA on cooperation in the field of medical product regulation.

Cabinet has given its approval for signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), India, and the United Kingdom Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (UK MHRA) on cooperation in the field of medical product regulation.

First Phase of Malabar Naval Exercise begins in Bay of Bengal

The First Phase of the 24th edition of the Malabar Naval Exercise has begun in Visakhapatnam, Bay of Bengal. Indian Navy, United States Navy, Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force and Royal Australian Navy are taking part in the Naval Exercise. It will continue till 6th of this month.

ECI organizes 3-day International Virtual Election Visitors Programme for Foreign Election Management Bodies

Election Commission of India is organizing a three-day International Virtual Election Visitors Programme for Foreign Election Management Bodies and Organizations from, in the context of the ongoing Bihar Legislative Assembly Elections.

India receives single largest infra loan from KfW for Mumbai Metro

German development bank KfW has approved a loan of euro 545 million to the union finance ministry to fund Mumbai Metro Line 4 and Line 4A, part of the city's plans to expand its mass rapid transit systems and having the largest metro rail network in the world. The project cost of the two lines will be about ₹23,000 crore and KfW's loan will amount to roughly ₹4,000 crore.

India hosts 5th Joint Working Group on Coal between India and Indonesia through video conference

India successfully hosted the 5th Joint Working Group (JWG) on Coal between India and Indonesia through a video conference. The JWG was co-chaired from the Indian side by Vinod Kumar Tiwari, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India and by Jonson Pakpahan, Director for Mineral and Coal, Non Tax State Revenue of Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Republic of Indonesia, from the Indonesian side.

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Govt makes use of FASTag mandatory for all four wheelers from Jan 1, 2021

The road transport and highways ministry on Saturday has said that use of FASTag will be mandatory in all four wheelers from 1 January, 2021, as a part of its attempt to drive faster adoption of the electronic toll collection. As far as national permit vehicles are concerned, the fitment of FASTag has been mandated since 1 October 2019.

NCC conducts online 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' camp

Online NCC Camp 'EK BHARAT SHRESTH BHARAT' conducted by NCC group Dibrugarh under the aegis of NCC Directorate NER, Shillong culminated on 07 November 2020. A total of 250 NCC Cadets/ Associate NCC Officers from seven states of North Eastern Region, West Bengal and Sikkim attended the six days camp.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Priyanca Radhakrishnan becomes New Zealand's first-ever Indian-origin minister

After New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern inducted five new ministers into her executive, Priyanca Radhakrishnan became the country's first-ever Indian-origin minister. Born in India, 41-year-old Radhakrishnan, went to school in Singapore before moving to New Zealand to further her education. She has spent her work life advocating on behalf of people whose voices are often unheard – women survivors of domestic violence, and migrant workers who have been exploited.

World's strongest storm in 2020 makes landfall in the Philippines

The world's strongest storm this year repeatedly slammed into the eastern part of the Philippines on Sunday, bringing "catastrophic violent winds" in what weather experts say is set to be the hardest landfall on record. Categorized by the US Joint Typhoon Warning Center as a super typhoon, it's now packing maximum sustained winds of 225 kilometers per hour.

Singapore to stop printing S$1,000 notes to reduce money laundering risk

Singapore will stop issuing S$1,000 banknotes from 1 January next year, to curb the risk of them being used for money laundering and terrorism financing risks. From now until Dec, a limited quantity of S$1,000 notes will be made available each month, the MAS said. Existing notes will remain legal tender and banks can continue to re-circulate the notes, it added.

Australia to join Malabar naval exercise involving India, US, Japan

Australia will join the Malabar naval exercise involving India, US and Japan. The Annual Naval Exercise Malabar-2020 is expected to be held in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. The participants of Exercise Malabar-2020 are engaging to enhance safety and security in the maritime domain. The Malabar series of Naval exercises started in 1992 as a bilateral Indian Navy-US Navy exercise and Japan joined the Naval exercise in 2015.

Bangladesh, US launch joint naval exercise 'CARAT Bangladesh 2020'

The Bangladesh and US Navies launched the 'Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Bangladesh-2020' to expand relationships and broaden maritime awareness between the two countries.

World's largest IPO halted in China, Ant Group's dual listing postponed in Shanghai & HK exchanges

Chinese fintech giant Ant Group's dual listing at Shanghai and Hong Kong stock exchanges, has been delayed. The largest Initial Public Offering in global finance, worth around 35 billion USD, has been delayed just two days ahead from its trading debut, following a meeting of the group's co-founder Jack Ma by the Chinese market regulators.

PM Modi, Italian PM hold Virtual Bilateral Summit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Italian counterpart Giuseppe Conte are currently holding a Virtual Bilateral Summit. During the Summit, the two leaders will comprehensively review the broad framework of the bilateral relationship and exchange views on major regional and global issues of mutual concern. Several Government-to-Government and Private Sector agreements or MoUs will be concluded on the occasion.

India and Italy sign 15 agreements in various sectors

India and Italy signed 15 agreements in various sectors following a Virtual Bilateral Summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Italian counterpart Giuseppe Conte. The agreements signed will provide for cooperation in a diverse range of areas including energy, green energy, shipbuilding and media sector.

BANKING & FINANCE

SBI Card and Paytm to launch contactless Paytm SBI credit card

SBI Card and Paytm will launch India's next generation credit cards. The credit card will be available in two variants, Paytm SBI Card and Paytm SBI Card SELECT, the product has been launched on the Visa platform. Paytm SBI Cards will be equipped with instant one-touch services such as blocking/ unblocking the card for online transactions. Cardholders receive cashback of 5% and 3% on Paytm SBI Card SELECT and Paytm SBI Card respectively, upon booking movie tickets and travel tickets on Paytm app.

ICICI Bank launches 'Mine' for millennials

ICICI Bank announced the launch of India's first comprehensive banking programme for millennials. Inspired by 'Millennial Network', the proposition is called 'ICICI Bank Mine' and offers an instant savings account, a feature driven iMobile application that offers investment guidance to suit the demand of millennials, curated credit and debit card, instant personal loans & overdrafts, and even an experiential branch with social engagement space.

RBI imposes penalty on 2 co-operative banks in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹15 lakh on two co-operative banks, including Millath Co-operative Bank, Davangere (Karnataka) and The Thiruvaikuntam Co-operative Urban Bank Limited, Thoothukudi (Tamil Nadu).

WhatsApp gets NPCI green signal to launch UPI payment

The National Payments Corporation of India has given its approval to WhatsApp to 'Go Live' on UPI in a graded manner. The instant messaging platform has been testing the payment method for over two years but the expansion was stalled due to privacy concerns.

RBI announces co-lending scheme for banks, NBFCs for priority sector

The Reserve Bank came out with a Co-Lending Model (CLM) scheme under which banks can provide loans along with NBFCs to priority sector borrowers based on a prior agreement. Under the Co-Lending Model (CLM), banks will be permitted to co-lend with all registered NBFCs (including HFCs) based on a prior agreement, the RBI said, adding that 'the co-lending banks will take their share of the individual loans on a back-to-back basis in their books'.

WhatsApp starts UPI payments service in India

WhatsApp has started its payments service in India, the messaging app said in a blog post. WhatsApp received NPCI approval to 'Go Live' on UPI in a graded manner. WhatsApp had been running a peer-to-peer payments service with limited users for over two years.

SBI integrates Yono Krishi with IFFCO eBazar

The country's largest lender State Bank of India has facilitated the integration of Yono Krishi with IFFCO eBazar under its Mandi section. Over three crore registered Yono customers will benefit with the integration of Yono Krishi and IFFCO eBazar. IFFCO eBazar is a 100 percent subsidiary of IFFCO Ltd. Through its online B2C platform IFFCO eBazar sells a variety of agro products.

Angel Broking to allow UPI AutoPay facility for mutual fund

Angel Broking has become the first in the industry to offer Unified Payment Interface (UPI) AutoPay for mutual funds, the company said. It has received approval from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for the new service. The introduction of UPI AutoPay will bring down the turnaround time of e-mandate authentication for SIPs down to a few seconds.

Sebi introduces flexicap category in mutual funds

Market regulator Sebi has introduced a 'flexicap category' in mutual funds. Schemes in this category are required to invest at least 65% of their corpus in equity. However, there is no restriction in terms of large-, mid- or small-cap allocation. MF schemes in the new category will have to adopt the name flexi cap. Existing schemes can reclassify themselves to this category.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

CCI approves acquisition of Bharti AXA by ICICI Lombard

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved acquisition of General Insurance Business of Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Limited (Bharti AXA) by ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited (ICICI Lombard) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.

Manipal Health to acquire 100% stake in Columbia Asia Hospitals

Manipal Health Enterprise Pvt Ltd has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire 100% stake in Columbia Asia Hospitals Pvt Ltd, which will give the Ranjan Pai-led hospital chain control of 11 hospitals across the country. After completion of the acquisition, which is subject to regulatory approval, the combined entity will have 27 hospitals across 15 cities with more than 7,200 beds, and around 4,000 doctors and over 10,000 employees.

Airtel to set up data centres in Mumbai and Pune

Nxtra, a subsidiary of Bharti Airtel Ltd, will set up one data centre each in Mumbai and Pune to meet the rising demand for digital services. The company announced signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation for setting up two new data centre campuses in Maharashtra.

Prasar Bharati signs MoU to launch 51 education TV channels

In a landmark step, India's public broadcaster Prasar Bharati entered into a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU with Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology today. Under the MoU, 51 DTH education TV channels will be available as DD co-branded channels to all DD FreeDish viewers.

IREDA signs MoU with MNRE, setting key targets for year 2020-21

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), for setting key targets for the year 2020-21. The MOU was signed by MNRE Secretary, Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi and IREDA CMD, Pradip Kumar Das.

Amazon to invest over ₹20,000 cr in Telangana for data centres

Amazon Web Services (AWS) will be investing $2.77 billion (₹20,761 crore) in Telangana. It is the largest Foreign Direct Investment in the history of the state. AWS, the cloud platform offered by Amazon, is investing to set up an AWS Region with three AZs in the state.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Indian-American lawyer becomes 1st South Asian woman to be elected to New York State Assembly

38-year-old Indian-American lawyer Jenifer Rajkumar has become the first South Asian woman to be elected to the New York State Assembly. Democrat Rajkumar has defeated her Republican rival Giovanni Perna. Rajkumar will represent New York City in the New York State Assembly, representing the 38th Assembly district, which includes Woodhaven, Ridgewood, Richmond Hill, Ozone Park and Glendale.

Portea Medical appoints Vaibhav Tewari as co-founder

Home healthcare startup Portea Medical appointed Vaibhav Tewari as its co-founder and board member. Amid the pandemic, Tewari conceptualized and executed remote monitoring solutions in partnership with state governments, RWAs and corporates. This has not only reduced the burden on hospitals but also ensured that there is timely testing and detection of covid-19.

Dalmia Bharat Group appoints ex-Infosys official Rajiv Bansal as ED

Dalmia Bharat Group has appointed Rajiv Bansal as senior executive director. Bansal was chief financial officer at DXC Technology before joining the firm, and has worked as CFO at both Ola (ANI Technologies) and Infosys Ltd in his previous stints.

HDFC Bank appoints Ramesh Lakshminarayanan as its new CIO

Largest private sector lender HDFC Bank has hired Ramesh Lakshminarayanan as its next chief information officer (CIO). This is the first major hiring the bank has announced under its new chief executive and managing director Sashidhar Jagdishan.

Indian American Pia Dandiya appointed the White House fellow for 2020-21

Indian American Pia Dandiya has been appointed the White House Fellow among 14 others announced this year. Pia Dandiya is the only Indian American among 14 other White House Fellows. She has been placed at the United States Department of Education.

Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha takes oath as Chief Information Commissioner

Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha today took oath as the Chief Information Commissioner, CIC. President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath to Mr Sinha at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

India successfully testfires advanced version of Pinaka rockets

An advanced version of the DRDO-developed Pinaka rocket was successfully flight tested from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. A total of six rockets were launched in series and all the tests met complete mission objectives.

Indian e-bicycle startup AlphaVector launches its first e-bike Meraki

AlphaVector, an Indian startup has announced the launch of its first e-bicycle in India – Meraki by Ninety One. Launched at a price of 29,999, the e-bicycle requires no license and is aimed at the growing e-bike market in India. Meraki has already received 100+ pre-booking registrations from cities like Mumbai, Banglore, Delhi, Chennai, Pune, Ahmedabad.

ISRO to launch Earth Observation Satellite EOS01

The Indian Space Research organisation ISRO has scheduled the launch of the Earth Observation Satellite EOS01. Nine other customer satellites will also be carried into space by the workhorse launch vehicle PSLV-C49. The ISRO has however added the launch timings are subject to the local weather. This would be the first launch by the ISRO after the Covid-triggered lockdown. The mission will be performed from the first launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in southern Andhra Pradesh, close to Chennai.

SPORTS

BCCI announces Jio as title sponsor of Women's T20 Challenge 2020

Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced Reliance Jio as the title sponsor of the Women's T20 Challenge 2020. This is the first time a sponsor is partnering with the BCCI exclusively for the women's counterpart to the IPL. The Board announced the development in a post on the IPL T20 website.

Sports Ministry approves six centres as Khelo India Centre of Excellence

The Sports Ministry has approved six centres as the Khelo India Centre of Excellence. The Ministry has also sanctioned over 67 crore rupees in the current financial year to upgrade these six centres. The six centres include States Sports Academy in Assam, JNS Complex in Meghalaya, New Sports Complex in Daman & Diu, MP State Academy in Madhya Pradesh, Shree Shivchhatrapati Sports Complex in Maharashtra and Paljor Stadium in Sikkim.

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OBITUARY

Tamil Nadu Agriculture Minister R. Duraikannu passes away
Tamil Nadu Agriculture Minister R. Duraikannu passed away late last night. He was 72. Duraikkannu is the third legislator from Tamil Nadu to succumb to Covid-19 and the complications arising out of it. The other two are the Kanyakumari Lok Sabha member H.VasanthaKumar and the state Assembly member J.Anbalagan.

Legendary violinist T N Krishnan passes away
The legendary violinist T.N. Krishnan passed away in Chennai. He was 92. The eminent violinist is a recipient of several coveted awards and titles including Padma Vibushan. He also served as the Dean of the School of Music and Fine Arts, University of Delhi.

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