

## Top 15 Current Affairs of 21 May 2020

### NATIONAL AFFAIRS

**Indian Railways operationalised its 1st 12,000 hp electric made in India Locomotive-WAG12 manufactured by MELPL**



Indian Railways(IR) operationalized its **1st 12,000** horsepower(**hp**) electric made in India Locomotive(loco), **WAG12**(with Number 60027). It is manufactured by Madhepura Electric Locomotive Pvt. Ltd.(**MELPL**) Factory, Bihar. India became the **6th country** to produce high hp loco indigenously.

**Defence ministry & eGov Foundation signs MoU through video conference for Online Management of Cantonment Boards**



Directorate General Defence Estates(**DGDE**), Ministry of Defence & **eGov Foundation** has signed Memorandum of Understanding(**MoU**) on May 8 through video conference to implement

a cloud-based platform to deliver various citizen services under the program **e-Chhawani** & to drive **e-governance** and improved citizen services across all 62 **cantonment boards** in the country.

### **Coir Geo textiles to be used in rural road construction under PMGSY-III: Govt**



According to the National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency under Union Ministry of Rural Development, **Coir Geo textiles** has been finally gets nod as a good material for rural road construction under the third phase of **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, (PMGSY-III)**. About 1674 km road will be constructed using Coir Geo textiles in 7 states namely- Andhra Pradesh ,Gujarat, Kerala , Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu (TN) and Telengana with a cost of around Rs.70 Crore.

### **Labour ministry notifies EPF contribution to 10% for three months**



In order to retain more money in the hands of the employer and the salary class, **Ministry of Labour & Employment** had decided to reduce the **Employees' provident fund (EPF)** contributions to **10%** from the existing 12% for three months till July 2020..However, this reduction in contribution will not be applicable to Central and State PSUs (public sector

undertakings) or to establishments controlled by Government or State Governments.

### **Nirmala Sitharaman announces several initiatives to boost education sector**



#### **Immediate set of initiatives in this direction includes:**

1. **PM e-VIDYA** will be launched, to enable multi-mode access to education.
2. **Manodarpan initiative** is launched to provide psychosocial support to students, teachers and families for mental health and emotional wellbeing.
3. Government expands **e-learning in higher education** by liberalizing open, distance and online education regulatory framework. **Constituency of Nirmala Sitharaman**– Rajya Sabha (Karnataka)

### **BANKING & FINANCE**

#### **Kotak Mahindra becomes 1<sup>st</sup> bank in India to introduce video-KYC facility for SA customers**



In view of the ongoing lockdown in the country due to Coronavirus (COVID-19), **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has become the 1<sup>st</sup> bank in India to allow **video Know your customer (KYC)** facility for its customers opening savings account (SA) on **Kotak 811** platform.

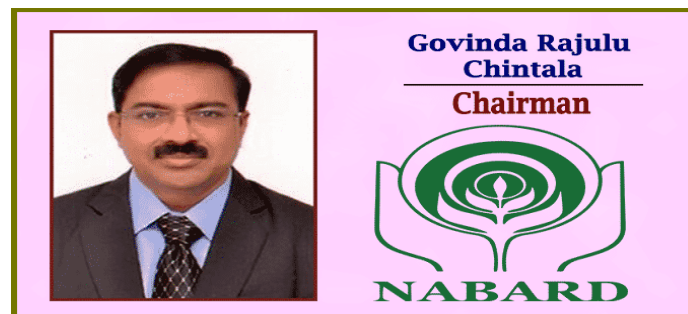
## **Flipkart ties up with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance for digital motor insurance policy**



Flipkart partnered with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company(**BAGIC**) to offer digital motor insurance policy to customers of e-commerce major. This enables consumers to purchase the motor-insurance policy using the Flipkart mobile application.

## **APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS**

**Govinda Rajulu Chintala appointed as NABARD chairman, Shaji KV and PVS Suryakumar appointed as DMD of NABARD**



On May 20,2020, The appointments committee of the union cabinet appointed **Govinda Rajulu Chintala** as Chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). He was the successor of Harsh Kumar Bhanwala. Shaji K V and P.V.S Suryakumar have been appointed as Deputy Managing Directors (DMD) of NABARD.

**Indian Steel Association appoints Dilip Oommen as new president**



On 19th May 2020, Indian Steel Association unanimously appointed Dilip Oommen, CEO of ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India as the new President for the next two years with immediate effect after T V Narendran ,CEO of TATA Steel stepped down on May 1, before the end of his term in August. This was decided in the Extra Ordinary Boards Meeting of ISA held on May 19,2020

### **Moeketsi Majoro sworn in as Lesotho's new prime minister**



On May 20, 2020, **Moeketsi Majoro (58)** has been sworn in as **Lesotho's new prime minister (PM)** after Thomas Motsoahae Thabane, who has stepped down as prime minister following months of pressure after he was named as a suspect in the 2017 murder of his ex-wife Lipolelo. Majoro, who was previously served as the finance minister of the country, took the oath at the king's palace in front of dignitaries.

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

## Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launches ‘National Test Abhyas’ an AI-powered mobile app for mock tests for JEE Main, NEET 2020



Union Human Resource Development Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** launched an Artificial Intelligence(AI)-powered mobile app called the ‘**National Test Abhyas**’. The app is developed by National Testing Agency(NTA) to enable candidates to take mock tests for upcoming exams such as Joint Entrance Examination (**JEE**) main, National Eligibility cum Entrance Test exam(**NEET**) under the NTA’s purview.

## SPORTS

### NADA provisionally suspends Savita Kumari, Ankit Shishodia for violating anti-doping rules



On May 18, 2020, The **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** provisionally suspended powerlifters Savita Kumari and Ankit Shisodia for violating anti-doping rules. Athletes were given an opportunity to present themselves before the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP) and explain their cases on the date and time fixed by the panel for a hearing.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Bee Day 2020, May 20



The May 20th of every year is celebrated as the World Bee Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Anton Jansa, the pioneer of beekeeping born in 1734 in Slovenia and to acknowledge the role of bees in the ecosystem. The United Nations(UN) approved the proposal of World Bee Day in December 2017 and the first World Bee Day celebrated on Sunday, May 20, 2018. The theme of world Bee Day 2020 is “Save the Bees” to insist on the protection of bees and other pollinators and their natural habitats.

### World Metrology Day 2020: May 2020



**World Metrology Day** (WMD) is celebrated every year on May 20, celebrating the International Systems of Units. The term Metrology is a study of measurements. On this day, many nations internationally collaborate to create awareness about metrology and its advancement in the respective field. **Theme for the year 2020:** Measurements for global trade.

## STATE NEWS

### J&K starts an initiative ‘SUKOON’ – COVID-19 Beat the Stress



On May 20, 2020, In Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) has started an initiative ‘SUKOON’- COVID-19 Beat the Stress, in order to spread awareness about psychological impact of lockdown and measures to be adopted to overcome them.

### Jammu and Kashmir notifies new rules for issuing domicile certificates



On 17th May 2020, The administration in the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir issued a new set of rules named “**Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile Certificate Rules 2020**” which defines the rules for issuing domicile certificates in the UT.

### Ranchi district launches “Tatpar” programme to transport migrants



On 18th May 2020, the Ranchi district launched the “Tatpar” program to help the migrant workers to get back to their native places on bus instead of tiresome travel by foot. The administration launched a helpline “1950” to support the migrant workers in arranging buses.

### **‘Mee Annapurna’ initiative launched for farmers welfare across Maharashtra**



After the Department of Agriculture, Govt of Maharashtra announced a 3 year empanelment of insurance companies and intermediaries for implementation of crop insurance scheme, the Integrated Risk Insurance Brokers Limited(IRIBL), announced ‘**Mee Annapurna**’ for farmers welfare across Maharashtra