

## NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Ravi Shankar Prasad attended an extraordinary virtual 'G20 Digital Economy Ministers' meeting



- i. An Extraordinary Virtual G20 Digital Economy Ministers meeting was held to discuss the challenges posed by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and to forge a global coordinated response harnessing Digital Technologies.
- ii. Work from home being practised during the ongoing lockdown might become a trend in coming days.

### About G20 or Group of Twenty:

**Members**– Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom (UK), United States (US), and European Union (EU). Spain is a permanent guest invitee to the G20 meetings.

**Current Presidency**– Saudi Arabia

**2020 G20 Presidency theme**– Realizing Opportunities of the 21st Century for All

**Chairman**– Saudi Arabian King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud (2020).

## Kashmir saffron gets GI tag



- i. The **Kashmir saffron** cultivated and harvested in the Karewa (highlands) of Jammu and Kashmir gets Geographical Indication(GI) tag by the Geographical Indications Registry.
- ii. It is the only saffron in the world grown at an altitude of 1,600 metre(m) to 1,800 m Above Mean Sea Level.

### About GI tag:

Darjeeling Tea (2004) is the 1st indian product to get a GI tag.

Other Indian products with GI tag– Tirupati Laddu, Madhubani Paintings, Nagpur Orange, Kashmir Pashmina, Rajasthani Kathputlis, and Lucknow Chikan Crafts among others...

## BANKING & FINANCE

### USD 400 million multi-year financial support to India: World Bank



The **World Bank**'s Board of Executive Directors has approved a **USD 400** million multi-year financial support to help India enhance its coastal & marine resources, protect marine resources & coastal populations from pollution, erosion, sea-level rise, and improve livelihood opportunities for coastal communities over the next decade

#### About World Bank:

**Formed**– 1944

**Headquarters**– Washington, United States

**President**– David Malpass

## APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Ramesh Babu appointed as NTPC director operations



On May 1, 2020, State-owned power giant NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation Limited) appointed Ramesh Babu V as director (operations). He was the successor of Prakash Tiwari who retired on April 30, 2020. Before his appointment Babu served as the Executive Director (ED) to the CMD (Chairman and Managing Director) while also working on system improvement activities & strategies related to the operational excellence of NTPC power plants.

### About National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC):

Headquarters– New Delhi.

Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)– Shri Gurdeep Singh.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### CSIR Launched 'Kisan Sabha' App to Connect Farmers to Supply Chain and Freight Transportation Management System



On 1st May 2020 Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Director General(DG), Indian Council of Agricultural Research(ICAR) and Secretary Department of Agriculture Research Education(DARE), remotely launched the Kisan Sabha app developed by CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI), New Delhi to connect with the supply chain and Freight Transportation Management System for the farmers trying to reach the market, seed/fertilizer procurements to make timely delivery of the produce and to provide economic and timely logistics to benefit the farmers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### About CRRI:

Director– Satish Chandra  
Headquarters– New Delhi  
Established in– 1952