

National

India to host G-20 summit in 2023 for the first time; Goyal appointed sherpa for grouping

- The government appointed commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal as India's Sherpa for the G20.
- Goyal is also India's minister for consumer affairs, food & public distribution, and textiles besides being the Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha.
- G20 is a major international grouping that brings together 19 of the world's major economies and the European Union, with its members accounting for more than 80% of global GDR 75% of global trade and 60% of global population. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been leading India's representation at G20 Summits since 2014.
- India has been a member of the G20 since its inception in 1999. India will be holding the G20 Presidency from 1 December 2022 and will convene the G20 Leaders' Summit in 2023 for the first time.
- The next G20 Summit is scheduled for October 30-31, 2021 under Italian Presidency.

PM Narendra Modi to chair 13th BRICS Summit

- As part of India's ongoing Chairship of BRICS in 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair the 13th BRICS Summit in virtual format.
- The meeting will be attended by the President of Brazil Jair Bolsonaro, President of Russia Vladimir Putin, President of China Xi Jinping and President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa.
- The theme for the Summit is BRICS@15: Intra-BRICS cooperation for continuity, consolidation and consensus. India had outlined four priority areas for its Chairship.
- These are Reform of the Multilateral System, Counter Terrorism, Using Digital and Technological Tools for achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Enhancing People to People exchanges.
- In addition to these areas, the leaders will also exchange views on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other current global and regional issues.
- This is the second time PM Narendra Modi will be chairing the BRICS Summit.

Uttarakhand Governor Baby Rani Maurya resigns from post

- Only the second woman to be appointed Uttarakhand governor after Margaret Alva, Baby Rani Maurya resigned from her position on Wednesday, almost two years before completing her term, confirmed Brijesh Kumar Sant, secretary to the governor.

- 1956 born Baby Rani Maurya took charge as Uttarakhand governor in August 2018, succeeding Krishan Kant Paul, who was appointed governor in January 2015. The only other woman governor of the state, Margaret Alva held the post from August 2009 to May 2012.

India's 1st emergency landing strip on highway to be inaugurated in Barmer

- Union ministers Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate an emergency landing strip at Gandhav Bhakasar section on National Highway-925 in Barmer, Rajasthan for Indian Air Force (IAF) planes.
- An IAF plane, carrying the two ministers, will conduct a mock emergency landing on the national highway. Singh, the Union defence minister, will also visit Jaisalmer where he will interact with IAF personnel.

NIRF Rankings 2021: IIT Madras tops charts in overall category

- IIT Madras has topped the Rankings in the overall category in National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
- IIT Bengaluru has come second, which is followed by IIT Bombay at the third place in the ranking.
- Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan released the NIRF Rankings 2021.
- The Rankings have been released under various categories, including, Engineering, Pharmacy, Management and Overall, Research.
- The rankings for all colleges and universities across the country given by the Ministry were based On teaching, learning, and resources; research and professional practice, graduation outcome; outreach and inclusivity; and peer perception.
- Along with the overall rankings, stream-wise rankings have also been released. The complete list of the rankings for all top institutes can be checked on the official website of NIRF on nirfindia.org.

First India-Australia 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue: Bilateral, regional, global issues of mutual interest to be covered

- India will be hosting the inaugural India-Australia 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue of Australia will be visiting India to take part in the Dialogue.
- From the Indian side, Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar will lead the delegation which will comprise of officials from the Ministries of Defence and External Affairs.
- The inaugural 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue is being held pursuant to the elevation of India-Australia bilateral relations to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during the India-Australia Leaders' Virtual Summit on 04 June 2020.

- The agenda for the Dialogue will cover a range of bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest.

Chhattisgarh launches Millet Mission' to become Millet hub of India

- Small grains may prove to a big game-changer in Bastar.
- The Bhupesh Baghel government has included all seven districts of the Maoist-hit Bastar division in its 'Millet Mission' launched.
- Chhattisgarh is the first state to give input assistance for millet. It has fixed support price for kodo-kutki at Rs 3,000 per quintal.
- The government signed an MoU with the Hyderabad-based Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR) for technical knowhow and to train farmers to turn Chhattisgarh into a 'millet hub'.

President Kovind lays foundation stone for National Law University in Allahabad

- President Ram Nath Kovind said that Central and State governments are working with Judiciary for a better judicial system in the country.
- President was speaking at the function of foundation stones laying for Uttar Pradesh National Law University and new building complex of Allahabad High Court in Prayagraj.
- Chief justice of India NV Ramana, many senior judges, Union law minister Kiren Rijiju, Governor of the state Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath were also present at the function.
- The proposed law University should be named after the first president of India Dr Rajendra Prasad.

Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani resigns

- Gujarat chief minister Vijay Rupani tendered his resignation to governor Acharya Dewras and said he is ready to take new responsibilities assigned to him by the party.
- The resignation is in accordance with the party's principle of providing all party workers an equal opportunity. Gujarat is slated to go to the polls in 2022.

Sardar Patel University becomes Gujarat's first accredited green varsity

- One of the greenest districts of Gujarat is now also home to state's first green university.
- Vallabh Vidyanagar-based Sardar Patel University (SPU) in Anand district has been accredited as the first green university of Gujarat with platinum ranking.
- The ranking has been granted by Green Mentors, a United Nations General Assembly's award-winning recognized institute for global green schooling and green university concepts.

Archeological Museum of Artefacts on existence of Ancient Tamils will be set-up at Tirunelveli

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin announced that an Archeological Museum of Artefacts on the existence of Ancient Tamils will be set-up at Tirunelveli.
- In a suo mote statement, the Chief Minister said that the archaeological findings from the sites at Keernadi, Adhichanallur, Sivakalai, Korkai, Kodumunal, Mayiladumparai and Gangai Konda Cholapuram in the state will form a part of the museum.
- The Chief Minister said that the artefacts dated back to 1155 years B.C.

President Ram Nath Kovind appoints new Governors in four states

- President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed new Governors in Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand. Nagaland Governor RN Ravi has been appointed as Governor of Tamil Nadu. Lieutenant General (Retd) Gurmit Singh has been appointed Governor of Uttarakhand.
- Governor of Tamil Nadu Banwarilal Purohit who was holding additional charge of the Governor of Punjab has been appointed as regular Governor of Punjab.
- The President's Secretariat said, Governor of Assam Prof. Jagdish Mukhi has been appointed to discharge the functions of the Governor of Nagaland in addition to his own duties, until regular arrangements are made.

High-level India-Russia Inter-Governmental Consultation on Afghanistan held in New Delhi

- Russian National Security Advisor, General Nikolay Patrushev and his Indian counterpart Ajit Doval held high level consultations on Afghanistan in New Delhi.
- Later, the visiting Russian NSA also called on External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar.
- Dr Jaishankar said, very useful discussions were held on Afghanistan.
- The Russian NSA also met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi this evening.
- Mr Modi said that the visit of General Patrushev allowed useful discussions between both sides on important regional developments.
- Russia's strong commitment to further deepen its Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership with India.

India, Denmark jointly launch 'Centre of Excellence on Offshore Wind' as part of Green Strategic Partnership

- Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy R. IC Singh met Denmark's Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities Dan Jorgensen in New Delhi.
- Mr Singh underlined to the Danish side that energy transition towards green is an important part of India's policy.

- He pointed out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day speech has set a target of 450 Giga Watt of Renewable Energy capacity by 2030.
- The Minister went on to say that India's whole renewable energy portfolio is already at 146 GW.
- He stated that India is the only G-20 country whose actions are in consonance with the Paris Climate agreement with regard to global rise in temperature.
- Discussing the potential of green energy, the Minister said that India is looking at making Ladakh and islands such as Andaman Nicobar and Lakshadweep green in energy including transport.
- The two Ministers jointly launched 'Centre of Excellence on Offshore Wind' as part of the Green Strategic Partnership.

Govt approves Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Textiles

- Union Cabinet approved the Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Textiles.
- Under it, the incentives worth 10,683 crore rupees will be provided over five years. Briefing reporters in New Delhi, Textiles Minister, Piyush Goyal said, this will positively impact states like Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Odisha.
- The decision will help in creating additional employment of over 7.5 lakh people directly and several lakhs more for supporting activities. The scheme will promote production of high value Man Made Fabric, Garments and Technical Textiles in the country.

Farmers are getting benefits of PM-KUSUM scheme, Haryana becomes the first state in the country to install solar pump

- The farmers of the country are getting the benefit of PM-KUSUM scheme.
- Under the scheme, Haryana has stood first in the country in the installation of off-grid solar pumps under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahablaian (PMKUSUM) by installing 14,418 pumps against sanctioned 15,000 pumps for 2020-21.
- This announcement was made at the concluding session of the week-long nationwide 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' organized by Union Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.

Govt launches 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' campaign for Digital Onboarding & Training for street vendors

- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology launched the pilot drive 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' —A special Campaign for Digital Onboarding and Training for street vendors under PM SVANidhi scheme across 223 cities in the country.
- The BharatPe, Mswipe, PhonePe, Paytm, Aceware are participating in this drive to issue UPI IDs, QR code and provide digital Veining. Digital Payment Aggregators will handhold the street vendors to bring about enhanced adoption of digital transactions and behaviour change.

- To promote digital transactions instruction has been issued to the lending Institutions to handover a durable QR Code and also train the beneficiaries for conducting digital receipt and payment transactions within a week of disbursement.

Bhupendra Patel to be next CM of Gujarat

- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel will be the next Chief Minister of Gujarat.
- Outgoing Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has proposed the name of Bhupendra Patel in the legislative party meeting which was unanimously accepted.
- BIP's central observer Narendra Singh Tomar has officially declared Mr Patel - MLA from Ghatlodiya seat of Ahmedabad as the new leader of BJP legislative party.

'Medicines from the sky' project launched to send medicines to Primary Health Care Centres using drones

- Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia has launched the Medicines from the Sky project to send medicines to Primary Health Care Centres using drones.
- The project was launched at Vikarabad in Telangana. Drones carry a payload of vaccines and other medicines to Public Health Centers under the project.
- The first sortie was carried out by a drone built by SkyAir Mobility for its Consortium partner Blue Dart Express and delivered a five-kg box of vaccines to a community Health Care Center located 3 kms away.

Tamil Nadu increases reservation for women in govt jobs from 30 to 40 per cent

- Tamil Nadu Government has increased reservation for women in Government jobs from 30 per cent to 40 per cent.
- The State Government will bring necessary amendments.
- The Government is providing horizontal reservation while filling vacancies through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission and the Teachers' Recruitment Board.
- The Minister said, the government will give preference to Orphans who have lost their parents in COVID-19 pandemic, first generation graduates and Tamil medium students in government schools while filling vacancies in government posts.

PM Modi to lay foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh.
- The university is being established by the State government in the memory and honour of the great freedom fighter, educationist and social reformer Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh.
- The university is being set up in a total area of over 92 acres.

- It will provide affiliation to 395 colleges of the Aligarh Division.
- The Prime Minister will also visit the exhibition models of Aligarh Node of Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor and Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University.
- A total of six nodes - Aligarh, Agra, Kanpur, Chitrakoot, Jhansi and Lucknow have been planned in the Defence Industrial Corridor.
- In the Aligarh Node, land allocation process has been completed and land has been allotted to 19 firms, who will invest Rs. 1,245 crore in the Node.
- This Corridor in Uttar Pradesh will help in making the country self-reliant in the field of Defence production and promoting Make in India.

Govt to start PM Adarsh Gram Yojna covering 36 thousand villages across country

- Union Tribal Affairs minister Arjun Munda said that his ministry would start Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojna covering 36 thousand villages across the country.
- Those villages with 50 percent tribal population would be given priority under it.
- 1,700 tribal villages in Assam will be converted into model village.
- The Minister said that another 184 new Van Dhan Kendra to be set up in the state that would benefit nearly 60 thousand people.

Two-day conference of Tourism & Culture Ministers of North Eastern states begins in Guwahati

- A two-day conference of the Tourism and Culture Ministers of the North Eastern states has begun in Guwahati.
- Union Tourism and Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy said that the tourism sector has the potential of being a game changer for the North East.
- Mr. Reddy hoped that people of North Eastern states would directly benefit from the tourism sector through its various initiatives.
- He said, the conference is a great opportunity to showcase the potential of tourism in the region and emphasised to build confidence among the tourists in the wake of COVD situation.

India to host defence ministers of African countries during DefExpo

- India will host the defence ministers of African nations on the sidelines of the next edition of India's mega defence exhibition --the DefExpo-- to be held at Gandhinagar in Gujarat in March next year.
- "The broad theme of this India-Africa Defence Dialogue will be 'India-Africa: Adopting Strategy for Synergising and Strengthening Defence and Security Cooperation,'".
- The theme of the upcoming DefExpo will be "India: The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub".

IIT-Bombay launches 'Project Udaan' that enables translation of textbooks and other study material

- With an aim to break the language barrier that many students face when they join institutes of higher education, IIT-Bombay launched 'Project Udaan', that enables translation of textbooks and other study material related to engineering and other streams.
- Prof. Ganesh and his team have built an Artificial Intelligence-based translation ecosystem, which can help translate engineering textbooks and teaching materials in one-sixth the time it would take for a team consisting of domain and linguistic experts working manually.
- Translation of text books in other educational domains will be taken up in due course.

Tamil Nadu govt to set up new Police Commission

- Tamil Nadu Government will set up a new Police Commission to get to know the demands and needs of cops.
- Chief Minister M. K. Stalin said, a Police Commission will be constituted again to recommend ways to strengthen the relationship between police and public, necessary schemes and new training programs for police personnel.

I&B ministry launches account on Telegram for fact-checking

- The Union Information and Broadcasting Ministry launched its account on social media platform Telegram to counter fake news.
- It was launched as 'PM Fact Check', which is one of the few government entities to have a telegram channel, and aims to verify information related to the Centre and disseminate to its subscribers.

India-UK to sign early harvest deal by March 2022

- India and UK aim to launch negotiations on a free trade agreement (FTA) by November this year, expect to sign an interim agreement involving high-priority products and services by March next year, and later conclude a comprehensive agreement.
- Proposed ETA between India and UK is expected to unlock extraordinary business opportunities and generate jobs. Both sides have renewed their commitment to boosting trade in a manner which benefits all.
- In services, certain services of mutual interest may be included in the interim agreement through request offer approach wherein the two countries may include priority sectors that are immediately deliverable.
- India is a key economic partner of UK. Merchandise trade between the two countries was \$15.45 billion in 2019-20 with the trade balance in favour of India.

International

India and UK expected to sign agreement by March 2022

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- "Proposed ETA between India and OX is expected to unlock extraordinary business opportunities and generate jobs" said the sources.

Norway's left-wing opposition headed by Labour Party leader Jonas Gahr Store won general election

- Norway's left-wing opposition headed by Labour Party leader Jonas Gahr Store won general election after a campaign dominated by questions about the future of the key oil industry in Western Europe's largest producer.
- The centre-right coalition headed by Conservative Prime Minister Erna Solberg was in power since 2013.
- The Nordic region will now all be governed by left-wing governments.

Hament Dhanji SC has been appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court of NSW

- Leading Sydney barrister Hament Dhanji SC has been appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court of NSW.
- Hament Dhanji will become the first Australian of Indian descent to serve on the NSW Supreme Court bench, having been admitted as a legal practitioner in 1990.
- He was called to the Bar in 1997 and took silk in 2010.

Taliban reveals New Cabinet also includes members present in UN's terror list

- According to the new cabinet announced by Taliban there were names of members present in UN's and US's terror list.
- Some of the main members include, Mullah Mohammad Hassan, the head of the Taliban's leadership council, is named as prime minister.
- Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, the main public face of the group, will serve as his deputy. Sirajuddin Haqqani, leader of the Haqqani Network who is on the **FBI's most wanted list for terrorism**, will serve as acting interior minister.

World First Aid Day 2021

- World Aid Day is celebrated every year in September. It is celebrated on the second Saturday of September and is observed to promote awareness about how first aid can save several lives. This year it occurred on September 11 in 2021.
- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) believes that first aid should be available to everybody, especially the most vulnerable, and that it should be a component of a broader development strategy.
- The day is also observed to promote first aid training for all people and to increase awareness about the necessity of first aid in the event of an accident.

India, US launch 'Climate Action and Finance Mobilisation Dialogue

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry launched Climate Action and Finance Mobilisation Dialogue under India-US Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership.

International Day of Democracy- 15 September

- 15 September is observed as International Day of Democracy. The International Day of Democracy provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world.
- Democracy is a system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.

England becomes the 1st country to require new homes to include EV chargers

- The British government will introduce legislation in 2021 that will require all newly built homes and offices to feature electric vehicle chargers in England.
- Specifically, all new homes and offices will have to feature "smart" charging devices that can automatically charge vehicles during off-peak periods.
- The proposal is part of the movement to rapidly boost the number of chargers across England ahead of the UK's 2030 ban of new fossil-fuel vehicles.

PM Modi to attend Quad summit to be hosted by US President Joe Biden

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the first-ever in-person summit of Quad leaders in US on September 24 along with President Joe Biden, Australia PM Scott Morrison and Japan PM Yoshihide Suga.
- The meeting comes amid mounting global concerns over China's growing military and dominating aim in the Indo-Pacific region.

India, Japan holds sixth Maritime Affairs Dialogue in virtual format

- India and Japan held their sixth Maritime Affairs Dialogue in a virtual format.
- The consultations involved exchanges on developments in the maritime security environment, regional cooperation activities and opportunities for cooperation between the two countries in the Indo-Pacific region.

Business & Economy

NPCI, Fisery to open RuPay API platform

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has tied up with Nasdaq-listed fintech firm Fisery to launch an application programming interface (API) platform for startups and banks looking to build credit card-based products on top of the RuPay rails.
- The collaboration comes at a time when card networks Mastercard and American Express have been barred by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from issuing any new cards owing to non-compliance with data localisation mandate resulting in a clutch of card-issuing banks migrating their networks to Visa and NPCI's homegrown RuPay.

Bank of Baroda launches one-stop digital platform 'bob World'

- State-owned Bank of Baroda announced the launch of its digital banking platform 'bob World', aimed at providing all banking services under one roof.
- The lender aims to provide an all-inclusive and seamless virtual banking experience, encompassing all digital banking services under one roof for the convenience of customers.
- 'bob World' will offer a wide gamut of banking products and services, to be rolled out in phases, under four key pillars — Save, Invest, Borrow and Shop —the lender.
- Over 220 services will be converged into one single app, covering nearly 95 per cent of all retail banking services, which can be accessed by customers domestically and globally.

Surety insurance cover limit set at 30% of project value: IRDAI

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has said the limit of guarantee under surety insurance contracts should not exceed 30 per cent of the project value.
- Also, the contracts should be issued only to specific projects and not clubbed for multiple ones.

- The guidelines once approved and implemented promise to address the high funding requirement for construction and infra companies.
- Surety insurance contracts may be offered to construction companies in India that cover road projects, housing/commercial buildings and other infrastructure projects of the government and the private sector, Irdai said while unveiling the draft Irdai (Surety Insurance Contracts) Guidelines, 2021.

Paytm Money Launches WealthBasket Marketplace To Empower Retail Investors

- To democratise wealth creation in the country, IPO-bound Paytm's wholly-owned subsidiary Paytm Money has announced a wealth and investment advisory marketplace on its platform that will offer curated advisory services and products to retail investors.
- Paytm Money has partnered with investment tech startup WealthDesk to offer investment portfolios that will be called WealthBasket'. \$14.5 Bn by 2025.
- With its wealth and investment advisory offering, Paytm is entering into an already saturated market, which has over 400 investment tech startups.

Union Bank of India inks its first sustainability-linked overseas loan

- Union Bank of India has become one of the first few banks in Asia Pacific region to tangibly demonstrate its commitment towards achieving ambitious environmental and responsible lending, reducing its carbon footprint.
- Union Bank of India, through its international banking division, has secured a sustainability-linked loan aggregating to total syndicated facility of \$1.5 billion with one of the leading trading corporates globally.
- Under the facility Union Bank of India will include three key performance indicators (KPIs) relating to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, responsible sourcing of metals and growing renewable power portfolio.

India, Singapore announce linking of UPI and PayNow fast payment systems

- The RBI and the Monetary Authority of Singapore have announced a project to link their respective fast payment systems, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and PayNow.
- The linkage is targeted for operationalisation by July 2022.
- The UPI-PayNow linkage will enable users of each of the two fast payment systems to make instant, low-cost fund transfers on a reciprocal basis without a need to get onboarded onto the other payment system.
- UPI is India's mobile based, 'fast payment system that facilitates customers to make round the clock payments instantly using a Virtual Payment Address created by the customer.

- This eliminates the risk of sharing bank account details by the remitter. UPI supports both Person to Person and Person to Merchant payments as also it enables a user to send or receive money.
- PayNow is the fast payment system of Singapore which enables peer-to-peer funds transfer service, available to retail customers through participating banks and Non-Bank Financial Institutions in Singapore.

Ministers prepare for worst in gas price crisis

- Small business minister Paul Scully told the BBC his department was working closely with regulator Ofgem to protect customers if more firms went bust.
- Nearly 1.5 million customers have been hit in just two weeks by energy firms collapsing under soaring gas prices.
- Among them are Avro Energy and Green, which ceased trading on Wednesday.
- Their 830,000 combined customers face being switched to a new, potentially more expensive, provider. All affected customers will still receive energy while a new supplier is appointed by Ofgem.
- Smaller providers launched in recent years have been overwhelmed by a global spike in wholesale gas prices, as economies have reopened from lockdowns and high demand from Asia has pushed down supplies to Europe. In another development, Dorset-based Utility Point, which had already ceased trading, said it had now gone into administration. Its 220,000 customers have been transferred to EDF.

Failing energy firms may mean higher bills, warns regulator

- The cost of protecting customers from failing energy providers could lead to higher bills, the boss of the energy regulator Ofgem has told the BBC.
- It comes as energy firm Green said it was on the brink of collapse due to soaring wholesale gas prices.
- "As underlying costs rise, pressure on bills does go up", Jonathan Brearley, Ofgem chief executive said.
- The government has said it is looking at lending money to bigger firms to help them take on stranded customers.
- If an energy firm collapses, customers are automatically switched to a tariff provided by the new supplier. This is a tariff agreed with the regulator Ofgem, but it may well be more expensive than the deal they had with the former company which went bust.
- Mr. Brearley said protecting customers of failed energy firms was the regulator's "number one priority".

The epic adventures of the Gilgamesh Dream tablet

- An ancient clay tablet displaying part of the story of a superhuman god will be returned to Iraq by the US on Thursday.
- Known as the Gilgamesh Dream Tablet, the 3,600-year-old religious text shows a section of a Sumerian poem from the Epic of Gilgamesh.

- It is one of the world's oldest works of literature and was looted from an Iraqi museum during the Gulf War in 1991.
- Over the past 30 years, it has been smuggled through many countries, accompanied by false documents. Until just two years ago, it was prominently displayed in a museum near the seat of the US government.
- But later on Thursday, the text will begin a new journey back to its homeland when it is formally handed over at a ceremony in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC.

Angela Merkel: Four expert verdicts on a contested legacy

- She has turned German politics into a discussion about policy rather than politics, says Matt Qvortrup, professor of political science at Coventry University, and author of Angela Merkel: Europe's Most Influential Leader.
- German politics used to be a testosterone-fuelled männerclub - a club of men. Under Mrs Merkel, things have become much more policy-oriented.
- The problem with that, I suppose, is that it ends up being quite mechanical and scientific. Mrs Merkel trained as a physicist, and has a PhD in quantum chemistry. So, for someone like her, she has an approach that is very factually based.

Science & Technology

Razan Al Mubarak becomes first woman from the Arab world to head IUCN

- Razan Al Mubarak who is the Managing Director of both the Environment Agency — Abu Dhabi and the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, was elected President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- She is the first woman from the Arab world to head IUCN.

Dubai gets world's first 'green' mosque

- Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) inaugurated the world's first green mosque.
- The mosque has a 25 m high minaret, green charger station, car and motor bicycle parking, and other facilities.
- The mosque conserves around 55 per cent of water and 26.5 per cent of energy. Solar photovoltaic panels have been installed and a water treatment unit to reuse the water for cleaning and irrigation.
- The mosque has also received platinum rating for green buildings by the Leadership for Energy and Environmental Design.

India's largest open air fernery was inaugurated at Ranikhet

- India's largest open air fernery developed in Ranikhet.
- It has been developed by the research wing of the Uttarakhand Forest Department over a period of three years, under the central government's CAMPA scheme.

Tata Steel commissions India's first plant for CO2 capture from Blast Furnace gas at Jamshedpur

- Tata Steel commissioned a carbon capture plant at its Jamshedpur Works, making it the county's first steel company to adopt such a carbon capture technology that extracts CO2 directly from the Blast Furnace gas. It has a capacity of 5 tonnes per day (TPD).
- This project has been executed with technological support from Carbon Clean and according to the company it will the captured CO2 on-site to promote the circular carbon economy.
- The depleted CO2 gas is sent back to the gas network with increased calorific value. This Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) facility uses amine-based technology and makes the captured carbon available for onsite reuse.

NASA to launch its \$10 Billion Space Telescope in December

- The dollar 10 billion telescoped also known as The James Webb Space Telescope, which astronomers hope will herald a new era of discovery, will launch.
- It is a joint project by NASA, the European Space Agency and the Canadian Space Agency, will blast off on an Arian 5 rocket from Spaceport in French Guiana.
- This telescope will be the largest and most powerful ever built, to look back in time over 13.5 billion years to see the first stars and galaxies that formed, a few hundred million years after the Big Bang.
- A key feature is its ability to detect infrared, as by the time the light from the first objects reaches our telescopes, it has shifted towards the red end of the electromagnetic spectrum as a result of the universe's expansion.

Former managing director of Mahindra & Mahindra Pawan Kumar Goenka has been proposed as the chairperson of Indian National Space Promotion Authorization Centre (In-Space)

- ACC proposes Pawan Goenka as chairperson of In-SPACe Pawan Kumar Goenka who is the former managing director of Mahindra & Mahindra been proposed as the chairperson of Indian National Space Promotion Authorization Centre (In-Space).
- In-Space is the regulator for India's space industry. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the proposal of appointment on September 7.

India all set for trial of Agni-V missile

- India is set to conduct the first user trial of Agni V missile. It is a three-stage solid-fuelled weapon with advanced guidance and new generation propulsion was fired with multiple independently targetable re-entry warheads.
- Final preparations have started at a defence facility off Odisha coast for the mission by the Strategic Forces Command of Indian Army.
- As per the schedule learnt by TN1E, the 5,000-km range missile is likely to be flight-tested. The mission has been planned close on the heels of the successful trial of Agni Prime missile, the first of the new class of Agni series of missiles, developed by DRDO.

Tamil Nadu's \$10-billion green energy island will get Denmark's help

- Tamil Nadu's \$10-billion green energy island will get Denmark aid. With Tamil Nadu looking to expand its footprint in green energy, the state is likely to see a \$5-10 billion renewable sector investment with Danish participation, including an energy island in the Gulf of Mannar.
- The island may produce 4-10 Gw. The value of Danish investment in Tamil Nadu between January 2003 and January 2021 is estimated at S 751.72 million. In the last decade Denmark has invested over S1 billion in the country.

Water tech startup Maithri Aquatech Pvt Ltd has set up the world's first water-from-air bottling water plant

- Watertechstartup Maithri Aquatech Pvt Ltd has set up the world's first water-from-air bottling water plant with a capacity of generating 2.5 million litres per annum and bottling 3.4 million bottles per annum in Hyderabad.
- The BIS and FSSAI approved bottling plant will be equipped with multiple Meghdoot atmospheric water generators (AWG), which have been developed and patented by the company in partnership with CSIR-IICT.

Sports

Prime Minister Felicitates the Paralympic contingent on 9th September in New Delhi

- India's Paralympians presented Prime Minister Narendra Modi with an autographed stole on Thursday during a breakfast hosted by him to felicitate the contingent at his residence here.

- The Indian Para athletes returned from Tokyo on the back of a sensational campaign that saw them win an unparalleled 19 medals, including five gold, eight silver and six bronze. This was the country's best ever Paralympics campaign as it finished 24th in the overall tally.
- The PM was presented with a white stole signed by all the medal winners, which he was seen wearing around his neck.

India's Jehan Daruwala dominates second sprint race

- India's Jehan Daruwala sealed his second Formula 2 win with a dominating drive in the second sprint race in Monza on Saturday.
- The Red Bull Junior started second at the 'Temple of Speed' behind German racer David Beckman. As the lights went out, Jehan had an excellent start and braked really late to make an excellent move into the first corner.
- An incident behind resulted in a Virtual Safety Car situation. Jehan's dominance meant he won the race by over six seconds, ahead of Viscaal & Shwartzman.
- This was Jehan's third podium of the season and second Formula 2 victory after the Sakhir Grand Prix weekend last season.

Qualifier Raducanu wins battle of teens to be crowned queen

- British teenager Emma Raducanu completed the greatest underdog title triumph in tennis history on Saturday, becoming the first qualifier to capture a Grand Slam title with a straightset defeat of Canada's Leylah Fernandez in the US Open women's final.
- Raducanu, 18, was the first British woman in 44 years to win a Slam crown after beating 73rd ranked 19yearold lefthander Fernandez 64, 63 to take the \$2.5 million top prize.
- It was a stunning achievement for the unheralded 150th ranked teen, who didn't drop a set in three qualifying matches and seven main draw matches over two weeks on the New York hardcourts in producing a stunner for the ages.
- Not since Virginia Wade in 1977 at Wimbledon had a British woman taken a Slam singles title, with Raducanu the first Briton to claim the US Open crown since Wade in 1968.

Clinical Medvedev dashes Djokovic's Grand Slam dream, wins US Open 2021

- Daniil Medvedev shattered Novak Djokovic's Grand Slam dream with a straightset victory in the US Open final here on Sunday, denying the World No. 1 a record breaking 21st Major men's singles title.
- Russia's second ranked Medvedev dominated Djokovic 64, 64, 64 to prevent the first calendaryear Grand Slam since 1969 and keep Djokovic level with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal atop the career Slam title list.
- "Sorry for you fans and Novak because we all know what he was going for," Medvedev said. "What you have accomplished in your career... for me, you are the greatest tennis player in history."

- Medvedev captured his first Grand Slam title in his third Slam final, a rematch of February's Australian Open final, won in straight sets by the 34-year-old Serbian to launch his Slam quest.

Riyaz, Appoorwa emerge champions

- Riyaz Akbar Ali of Air India and reigning world champion S. Appoorwa of LIC won the men's and women's title respectively in the Indian online carrom challenge, organised by the All India Carrom Federation (AICF). In the final, Riyaz scored 25 points in clearing the eight boards, as against 31 points of Mohd. Arif, who had been brilliant in the Champions league.
- In the women's title clash, Appoorwa had 49 points as against 60 of former world champion Rashmi Kumari of PSPB, in emerging victorious. Josef Meyer, president, International Carrom Federation, had announced a cash prize of ₹25,000 to the two champions.
- The runners up will get ₹15,000 each, while the third place would fetch ₹5,000. There were also special cash prizes for the universal slam and white slam performances.
- Mohd. Ghufuran and Aakanksha Kadam were presented ₹5,000 each as special choice of the ICF president for their exemplary fare in the online challenge

Milkha Singh becomes first golfer in world to be granted 10-year Dubai Golden Visa

- India's Jeev Milkha Singh becomes first golfer in world to be granted 10-year Dubai Golden Visa.
- Indian golfer Jeev Milkha Singh has become the first professional golfer in the world to receive the prestigious 10-year Dubai Golden Visa in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the sport.

Rajeev Ram, Joe Salisbury clinch Men's Doubles title

- In US Open Tennis, Daniil Medvedev entered into the Men's Singles finals after producing a dominant performance to overcome 12th seed Canadian Felix Auger-Aliassime in New York.
- Auger-Aliassime is 21-year-old and has been hailed among the sport's brightest young stars, who reached the Wimbledon quarter-finals earlier this year.

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