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NATIONAL

1) India's oldest female sloth bear has passed away

India's oldest female sloth bear, whose name was Gulabo, has passed away at the Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, located in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Gulabo was the oldest sloth bear of the country.

2) Justice Indu Malhotra committee

The Supreme Court of India has constituted a five-member committee to probe the security breach during the recent visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Punjab. The committee will be headed by former apex court judge Justice Indu Malhotra.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Retail inflation

Retail inflation in December 2021 rose to a six-month high of 5.59 per cent from 4.91 per cent in November 2021, mainly due to a sharp rise in food prices as food inflation for the period under review also rose steeply to 4.05 per cent against 1.87 % in November 2021.

2) 'Global Economic Prospects'

The World Bank has projected the Indian economy to grow at the following rate in its 'Global Economic Prospects' report. The World Bank retained its FY22 growth forecast for India at 8.3 per cent but upgraded it to 8.7 per cent for FY23.

3) Largest shareholder in Vodafone Idea

The Government of India is set to become the largest shareholder in Vodafone Idea. The company's board approved the conversion of Rs 16,000 crores in interest into equity. India's third-largest network Vi or Vodafone Idea Limited has approved the interest on the spectrum and Adjusted Gross Revenue dues into government equity.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1) Heart transplant from a genetically-modified pig

David Bennett, 57, has become the first person in the world to get a heart transplant from a genetically-modified pig. The possibility of using animal organs for so-called xenotransplantation to meet the demand has long been considered, and using pig heart valves is already common.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Dr S Somanath

Indian Space Research Organisation has announced the appointment of the eminent rocket

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scientist Dr S Somanath as its new chairman and Space Secretary. He will succeed K Sivan who completes his extended tenure.

2) Rajkummar Rao

RenewBuy, an online insurance platform, has appointed Rajkummar Rao as the brand ambassador for its 1st 360-degree consumer advertising campaign that highlights consumers' insurance needs. "Smart Tech, Right Advice" is the theme of the campaign.

3) Alikhan Smailov

The parliament of Kazakhstan has unanimously approved the appointment of Alikhan Smailov as the new Prime Minister of the country. His name was nominated by Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) "Indomitable: A Working Woman's Notes on Life, Work and Leadership"

"Indomitable: A Working Woman's Notes on Life, Work and Leadership" the autobiography of Arundhati Bhattacharya, retired Indian banker and former first-ever woman Chairperson of the State Bank of India. Indomitable features the story of Arundhati Bhattacharya's life as a banker and the difficulties she faced in the male-dominated sector.

SPORTS

1) Tata group has replaced Vivo for IPL

The Board of Control for Cricket in India has informed that Tata group has replaced Chinese mobile phone manufacturer Vivo as the title sponsor of the Indian Premier League for the 2022 and 2023 seasons. The multinational conglomerate will pay Rs. 300 crore per year as the title sponsor of IPL for the next two seasons.