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INTERNATIONAL

1) First BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022

The first BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022 was held virtually, with the members thanking India for its BRICS chairship in 2021. China has taken on the rotating chairmanship of BRICS in 2022.

2) Children's Word of the Year 2021

The Oxford University Press has picked up 'Anxiety' as the Children's Word of the Year 2021, based on their recent research. Apart from "anxiety", "Challenging", "isolate" (14%), "Wellbeing" (13%) and "resilience" (12%) were the children's top five words.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Ind-Ra Projects India's GDP Growth Rate at 7.6% in FY23

India Ratings and Research has projected the real gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of the Indian economy to grow at 7.6 per cent year-on-year in 2022-23 (FY23). Ind-Ra is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fitch Group.

2) Microsoft Corp. is set to acquire Activision Blizzard Inc.,

Microsoft Corp. is set to acquire game making company, Activision Blizzard Inc., in an all-cash transaction for \$68.7 billion. (\$95.00 per share). This acquisition will boost the competitiveness of Microsoft in the mobile gaming business and virtual-reality technology, across mobile, PC, console and cloud and will provide building blocks for the metaverse.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Vikram Dev Dutt

Senior bureaucrat Vikram Dev Dutt has been appointed as the chairman and managing director (CMD) of Air India Ltd. He has been appointed as the Air India chief in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry.

2) Chanchal Kumar

Chanchal Kumar has been appointed as the Managing Director, National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL), under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways. He is appointed in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.

3) Dileep Sanghani

The board of directors of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative has unanimously elected Dileep Sanghani as the 17th Chairman of the Cooperative. He succeeds Balvinder Singh Nakai, who passed away recently.





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4) Genesis Prize 2022

The global pharmaceutical giant Pfizer Inc.'s Chairman and Chief Executive, Albert Bourla, has been awarded with the prestigious Genesis Prize 2022. He has been awarded for his efforts in leading the development of a COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer–BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) NASA's International Air and Space Program

Jahnvi Dangeti, has completed NASA's International Air and Space Program (IASP) at the Kennedy Space Centre in Alabama, US, making her the first Indian to accomplish this feat. She is part of a carefully shortlisted group of 20 students from around the world.

OBITUARY

1) Saturnino de la Fuente García

Guinness World Records holder for the oldest person living (male), Saturnino de la Fuente García (Spain) has passed away at the age of 112 years and 341 days. Saturnino claimed the record as the oldest person living (male) in September 2021 when he was exactly 112 years and 211 days.

SPORTS

1) ICC Men's T20I team of the year for 2021

Pakistani skipper Babar Azam has been named as the captain of the ICC Men's T20I team of the year for 2021. The ICC Team of the Year recognises the 11 best players in men's cricket who have impressed one and all with their performances in a calendar year, either with the bat, ball or their all-round performance.