



**RACE™**



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## INTERNATIONAL

### 1) Sea Dragon 2022

India and its partners in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue or Quad along with Canada and South Korea are participating in the multinational exercise Sea Dragon 2022 at Guam in the Western Pacific. The six nations that are participating in the exercise are the United States, Australia, Canada, India, Japan and South Korea.

### 2) International Solar Alliance

Antigua and Barbuda joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as the 102nd member by signing the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement, the India-led global green energy initiative. The Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne signed the framework agreement.

## NATIONAL

### 1) UJALA programme

The flagship UJALA programme of the Ministry of Power has successfully completed seven years of distributing and selling LED lights on January 05, 2022. Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All scheme was launched by Prime Minister on January 05, 2015.

## STATE NEWS

### 1) “Student Start-ups and Innovation Policy 2.0 (SSIP-2.0)”

Gujarat Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel has been launched “Student Start-ups and Innovation Policy 2.0 (SSIP-2.0)” for the next five years. The policy contains provisions for the establishment of active innovation and incubation centres in all universities in the state.

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

### 1) UiPath Automation Excellence Awards 2021

South Indian Bank won the UiPath Automation Excellence Awards 2021 for Best Automation under ‘Crisis for Business Continuity’. The 2021 edition of the award recognises the contribution of the individuals and organizations across India and South Asia (Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal) for bringing change through transformative automation projects.

## APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) Zhang Ming

China’s senior diplomat Zhang Ming has taken charge as the new Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in which India is a member. He has taken charge from Vladimir Norov, former Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan for a three-year term.





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## 2) Vijay Paul Sharma

The Centre has re-appointed Vijay Paul Sharma as the chairman of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices after he relinquished the post in May last year following completion of the five-year tenure. The role of the CACP chairman will be crucial in the proposed committee on the minimum support price (MSP) and other reforms.

## 3) Shafali Verma

Bank of Baroda has signed cricketer Shafali Verma as its brand endorser. The Bank continuously supports the youth of the country through its various banking and non-banking initiatives and this announcement reflects the bank's ethos of adding value to its customer experience by choosing youth-icons like Shafali to inspire them."

## 4) T S Tirumurti

India's Permanent Representative to the UN, T S Tirumurti has been appointed as the Chair of the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2022. India has assumed the chairmanship of the United Nations Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee (UNSC-CTC) for one year, beginning from January 01, 2022.

## BOOKS AND AUTHORS

### 1) "Mamata: Beyond 2021"

A new book titled "Mamata: Beyond 2021", authored by political journalist Jayanta Ghosal and translated by Arunava Sinha. The book explores and examines why the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) lost the 2021 West Bengal Election. The book is published by HarperCollins Publishers India

