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NEWS IN SHORT

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NEWS ②: Prime Minister of United Kingdom, Boris Johnson to visit India

NEWS ③: Project RE-HAB (Reducing Elephant-Human Attacks using Bees) launched

NEWS ④: Hurun India Wealth Report, 2020 identifies novel household category in India

NEWS ⑤: "Chenab Bridge" has completed a major milestone

NEWS ⑥: Life Insurance Corporation of India is not being privatized

NEWS ⑦: India - Finland Virtual Summit

NEWS ⑧: Office of the Economic Adviser, DPIIT released the Wholesale Price Index

NEWS ⑨: NPCI has launched the "UPI-Help" on the BHIM UPI Application

NEWS ⑩: Nokia, to develop a new cloud-based 5G radio solution

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Decline in India's Arms Imports

- According to a recent report by **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute**, India's arms imports came down by a third (about 33%) between 2011- 2015 and 2016-2020.
- India remains the **second highest importer**, only behind Saudi Arabia. Russia is the largest arms supplier to India.

Boris Johnson to visit India

- The **Prime Minister of United Kingdom, Boris Johnson**, is set to visit India.
- During the visit, the British government will look towards **boosting the United Kingdom's opportunities** and **countering the influence of China** in the Indo-Pacific region.

Project RE-HAB

- A pilot project **RE-HAB (Reducing Elephant-Human Attacks using Bees)** has been launched in Karnataka to **mitigate human-elephant conflict**.
- It is intended to create **"bee fences"** to thwart elephant attacks in human habitations using honeybees.

Hurun India Wealth Report, 2020

- The report identifies **novel household category** in India called the **'New Middle Class'** which accounts for an **average savings of Rs 20-lakh per annum**.
- The report highlights that these households have major allocation towards the **physical assets like primary residential property and automobiles**.

"Chenab Bridge"

- The **World's highest Bridge** called the **"Chenab Bridge"** has completed a **major milestone** after the engineers completed the **arch bottom of the bridge**.
- The arch of the bridge across the river is being built by **novel method of construction using the cable car**.

Life Insurance Corporation of India is not being privatized

- The Central Government has informed the **Lok Sabha** that, the **LIC is not being privatised**.
- This information was provided by the government in a reply to a supplementary question during the Question Hour in Lok Sabha.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

India - Finland Virtual Summit

- In the virtual summit, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and his **Finland counterpart Sanna Marin** will cover entire spectrum of the **bilateral relationship**.
- They will also exchange their views on the **regional and global issues** of the **mutual interest**.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Inflation Data

- The **Office of the Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade** has released the **Wholesale Price Index** for the month of **February, 2021**.
- **WPI increased for the second consecutive month to 4.17%**. It measures the changes in the prices of goods sold and traded in bulk by wholesale businesses to other businesses.

“UPI-Help”

- **National Payments Corporation of India** has launched the **“UPI-Help”** on the **BHIM UPI Application**.
- **UPI-Help** will act as the **grievance redressal mechanism** on the **BHIM application** for the users. **UPI** is an instant real-time payment system which has been developed by **NPCI**.

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

Unscientific mining in Meghalaya

- The **National Green Tribunal** have established an oversight committee to prevent the **unregulated and Unscientific mining in Meghalaya**.
- The committee was established after the **NGT** observed that **rat-hole mining** is so often in Meghalaya despite the government has put ban on it.

Great Indian Bustards

- The **Supreme Court of India** has given its suggestion in the behalf of the **critically endangered Great Indian Bustards** after the **number of birds falling dead** due to **collision with power lines** is increasing over time.
- This bustard is found on **Indian subcontinent**.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

5G radio solution

- **Nokia**, announced that it has partnered with the **Microsoft, Amazon web services** and **Google** so as to develop a **new cloud-based 5G radio solution**.
- This solution will be developed with its **radio access network (RNA) technology**. **RAN** is the part of a **mobile telecommunication system**.

Mosquito protein - AEG12

- The researchers have found that, a **mosquito protein** called **AEG12** strongly inhibits the family of viruses which causes **dengue, yellow fever, Zika and West Nile**.
- They also noted that the protein also inhibits the **coronaviruses**. The researchers used the **X-ray crystallography** to **solve structure of the protein**.