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## NATIONAL

### 1) Blockchain-based digital degrees

Under the National Blockchain Project, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched blockchain-based digital degrees at the 54th Convocation Ceremony of IIT Kanpur. Later Prime Minister also inaugurated the completed section of the Kanpur Metro Rail Project and the Bina-Panki Multiproduct Pipeline Project.

## STATE NEWS

### 1) 'e-RUPI' payment solution

Karnataka government has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) & State Bank of India (SBI) to enable and implement the 'e-RUPI' payment solution to students under its scholarship programme.

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

### 1) ICRA Credit rating expects India to grow at 9% in FY 22-23

ICRA Credit rating agency has expected India's real gross domestic product will grow with 9% rate in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. The Indian economy has grown at 8.4 percent in the second quarter of the current fiscal year. ICRA said the growth momentum is not enough to confirm a change in the Monetary Policy stance in the February 2022 review.

### 2) Axis Bank has become the 2nd largest merchant-acquiring bank

Axis Bank has become the second-largest merchant-acquiring bank in the country, leapfrogging two spaces during 2021 by installing over two lakh card-swipe machines during the year. This is part of the bank's 'Axis One' strategy.

### 3) "Report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India"

RBI has released its annual report on the financial performance of the country. The report, titled 'Report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India,' RBI details that, despite the devastation caused by the COVID-19 outbreak in India, the financial performance of banks has improved, citing a fall in the gross non-performing asset ratio for scheduled commercial banks.

## APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### 1) Chandra Prakash Goyal

Chandra Prakash Goyal (IFS) has been appointed as the Director-General of Forests & Special Secretary (DGF&SS), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change. Goyal, a 1986 batch IFS officer was previously the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest under Uttar Pradesh Department of Forest.





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## 2) Vikram Misri

Vikram Misri has been appointed as deputy national security adviser in the national security council secretariat. The appointment of Misri, a 1989-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, came after he served as the Indian ambassador to China for nearly three years. Misri will report to national security adviser Ajit Doval.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### 1) 'Sibir'

Russia has launched its first in the series Project 22220 versatile nuclear-powered icebreaker known as 'Sibir', which will support the growing fleet of icebreakers to keep the Northern Sea Route open for year-round shipping through the Arctic and enable a wider presence of India in the arctic region.

## OBITUARY

### 1) Mahendra Prasad

Seven-time Rajya Sabha MP from the Janata Dal (United) & industrialist, Mahendra Prasad passed away. He was a seven-term Rajya Sabha MP from Bihar and was also elected to the Lok Sabha once. He was first elected to the Lok Sabha on a Congress ticket in 1980.

## BOOKS AND AUTHORS

### 1) 'Dr V L Dutt: Glimpses of a Pioneer's Life Journey'

Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu has launched the book titled 'Dr V L Dutt: Glimpses of a Pioneer's Life Journey' authored by Dr V L Indira Dutt, Chairperson and Managing Director of KCP Group, in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The book is based on the life of Late Velagapudi Lakshmana Dutt (V.L. Dutt), the former Chairman of KCP Group.