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PM Modi lays foundation stone of Maharaja Suheldev Memorial and Chittaura Lake Development Work at Bahraich in Uttar Pradesh



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Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of **Maharaja Suheldev Memorial at Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh** on February 16, 2021, via video conference. PM Modi also laid the foundation stone of the **development work of Chittaura Lake in Bahraich**. A medical College building named after

Maharaja Suheldev was also inaugurated by Modi. The 2021 event marked the **112th birth anniversary celebration of Maharaja Suheldev**. Maharaja Suheldev was the **ruler of Shravasti in Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh**, who ruled in the 11th century.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches e-Chhawani portal for online civic services to Cantt Boards



E-CHHAWANI
One portal to serve 20 lakh citizens across the country
• To enable the user to use Cantonment Board offices for accessing civic services
• Enabling more citizens of Cantonment Boards to use of 24x7 services in emergency
• Move from paper based transactions to paperless services

Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** recently launched an **online portal 'e-Chhawani' and mobile app**, to facilitate 'ease of living' and 'ease of doing' for the residents of the Cantonment Boards across the country.

The 'e-Chhawani' portal will provide online municipal services to more than **20 lakh citizens across all 62**

Cantonment Boards of India while sitting at home.

The portal can be accessed at <https://echhawani.gov.in/>

The residents of cantonment areas can register their complaints regarding civic issues and even get their documents like trade licence, sewerage connectivity applications through the portal. **Jointly been developed by** : eGov Foundation, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Directorate General Defence Estates (DGDE), and National Informatics Centre (NIC). A cantonment board is a **civic administration body in India** under control of the Ministry of Defence. It takes care of mandatory duties such as provision of public health, water supply, sanitation, primary education, and street lighting etc.

SpaceKidz India-built Satish Dhawan Nanosatellite to be launched on Feb 28 along with Bhagavad Gita, PM Modi's photo & names of 25,000 individuals

The **Chennai-based SpaceKidz India**, has developed the **nanosatellite called Satish Dhawan Satellite, or SD SAT**.

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The SD SAT, a 30x10x10cm cuboid, is an **experimental communication satellite**, to test the capabilities of LoRa(Long range) technology in Space.

The indigenously designed and developed miniature spacecraft, will be launched on February 28 by the polar satellite launch vehicle (PSLV), **C51 rocket of ISRO** (Indian Space Research Organization).



Besides its scientific payloads, the nanosatellite will also carry a **copy of Bhagavad Gita**, a **photograph of Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, and names of **25,000 common**

individuals to space. SpaceKidz India is an organisation dedicated to promoting space science among students.

China Overtakes the US as Largest Trading Partner of European Union



The **People's Republic of China** has overtaken the **United States (US)** as the **biggest trading partner of the European Union (EU) in 2020**, according to the data by the European Union statistics agency, Eurostat.

Britain, which left the European Union in 2020, was the **third-largest** trading partner for the bloc, behind China and the United States. The trade volume of EU with China reached **586 billion euros (\$711 billion) in 2020**, compared to **555 billion euros (\$673 billion) for the US**. Bilateral trade with UK reached **444.7 billion euros**.

1. The EU exports to China rose by 2.2 percent to 202.5 billion euros while imports from China increased by 5.6 percent to 383.5 billion euros.
2. Similarly, EU exports to the United States fell by 13.2 percent in the same period and imports by 8.2 percent.
3. Exports to the UK fell by 13.2 percent, while imports dropped by 13.9 percent.

Dr Ajay Mathur elected new Director General of International Solar Alliance



The **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** has elected **Dr. Ajay Mathur** as its new **Director General** on February 15, 2021, at the first special assembly of ISA members. He will take over the leadership of ISA on March 15, 2021.

Dr. Mathur will replace **Mr. Upendra Tripathy**, who has served as Director-General since the inception of the ISA in **2015**. Mathur currently heads the New Delhi-based The Energy and Research Institute Based in **Gurugram**, the ISA is a coalition of **73 member countries**, established to accelerate the demand for and use of safe, sustainable,

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and affordable solar energy for all. ISA aims to mobilize over \$1 trillion USD of investment into solar projects by 2030.



President Ramnath Kovind appoints Justice Puligoru Venkata Sanjay Kumar as the Chief Justice of Manipur High Court



Justice Puligoru Venkata Sanjay Kumar has been sworn-in as the **Chief Justice of Manipur High Court**. He was appointed by the **President of India Shri Ramnath Kovind**, in exercise of the power conferred by clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution of India, on February 12, 2021. Prior to this, Justice PV Sanjay Kumar served as a **Judge in the Punjab and Haryana High Court**.

Indian-origin Preeti Sinha appointed to head United Nations Capital Development Fund



The **UN Capital Development Fund** has appointed Indian-origin investment and development banker **Preeti Sinha** as its Executive Secretary, the highest leadership rank in the institution. She succeeds Judith Karl. Sinha will work with focus on providing micro-finance assistance to women, youth, small and medium-sized enterprises in under-served communities. The **New York-based United Nations Capital Development Fund** is an autonomous UN organization affiliated with UNDP. It was established in **1966**.

Wicket-keeper batsman Naman Ojha announces retirement from all forms of cricket

Former **India wicketkeeper-batsman Naman Ojha** has announced his **retirement**, from all formats of cricket on 15 February 2021. Ojha made his **first-class debut for Madhya Pradesh** in 2000-01. The 37-year-old from Madhya Pradesh, holds the record for the most dismissals by a wicketkeeper in the Ranji Trophy. Ojha has also represented India in all three formats, featuring in **one Test, one ODI and two T20 Internationals**.