

## National News

### **Indian Railways has signed an agreement with a Russian firm to manufacture 120 Vande Bharat trains.**

- A Russian firm has been awarded a contract to manufacture 120 'Vande Bharat' trains for Indian Railways. It has been agreed to provide Rs.120 crores for making one train.
- Vande Bharat trains are being manufactured at the ICF factory in Chennai under the 'Make in India' programme. The contract to manufacture 120 Vande Bharat trains has been awarded to Russia's JSC Metrowagonmush-Mitissi (DMH).

## International news

### **Georgia has become the first US state to pass a resolution condemning Hinduphobia.**

- The US Georgia Legislature has passed a resolution condemning Hinduphobia. Georgia is the first US state to pass such a law.
- The resolution said Hinduism is one of the world's largest and oldest religions with more than 1.2 billion adherents in more than 100 countries. The resolution was passed to condemn Hindu bigotry and anti-Hindu bigotry and oppose violence and oppression.

## State news

### **5 projects worth ₹35,760 crore have been approved to create 38,100 jobs in Odisha.**

- The Odisha state government has approved five industrial projects worth ₹35,760 crore, providing employment to 38,100 people. Out of five projects, two projects are approved in the steel sector.
- One project each in green energy and equipment sector, chemical sector, technical textile sector etc. has been approved by the government. These projects will be constructed in Bhatrak and Dhenkanal districts.

### **Amit Shah inaugurated several development works worth Rs.1 crore in Mizoram Aizawl.**

- Union Home Minister and Co-operation Minister Mr. Amit Shah inaugurated various development works worth Rs.1 crore in Mizoram capital Aizawl. It was attended by many important dignitaries including Mizoram Chief Minister Shri Joram Thanga.
- Also Union Home Minister and Co-operation Minister laid foundation stone for 4 new road projects for circular development of Mizoram worth about Rs.4 crores which will boost Mizoram's industry and trade and trade between Mizoram and Myanmar.

### **Pakistan recorded an all-time high inflation of 35.37% in March**

- Pakistan's consumer price inflation for March rose to 35.37% from 31.5% in the previous month, the country's statistics office said. Inflation was high due to expensive food, cooking oil, electricity etc.
- This is the highest inflation data Pakistan has ever recorded since monthly records began to be maintained in the 1970s.

## Appointment

### **Indian-origin Richard Rahul Verma has been selected as the US Deputy Secretary of State.**

- Last year, President Joe Biden appointed Indian-origin Richard Rahul Verma to the position of Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources. Richard was elected by a vote of 67 votes in the Senate.

- Following this, Richard Verma has the honor of being the highest-ranking Indian-origin in the US State Department. Hailing from Punjab, he is working as the Chief Legal Officer of Mastercard and served as the US Ambassador to India during 2015-17.

#### **Vice ADM Atul Anand took charge as Director Naval (DGNO).**

- Vice ADM Atul Anand took over as Director of Naval Operations, who is also involved in the prestigious Advance Security Cooperation at the Asia Pacific Center for Defense Studies in Hawaii, USA. A recipient of the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and the Vishisht Seva Medal, he has held many important appointments during his naval career.
- He has served in Torpedo Rescue Vessel IN TRV A72, Missile Boat INS Satak, Corvette INS Gukri and Destroyer INS Mumbai.

#### **Science and Technology**

##### **World's first human infected with plant fungus that kills humans**

- The first case of a deadly plant-borne fungal infection was discovered in a man from Kolkata. The 61-year-old plant microbiologist has long worked with decaying matter, mushrooms and various plant fungi.
- He reported constant bed rest, hoarseness, difficulty in swallowing, sore throat and fatigue for three months. He does not have diabetes, HIV infection, kidney disease etc. Following this, he was found to be infected with a plant fungus that kills humans. He was the first person in the world to be infected with a plant fungus.

#### **Archaeological studies**

##### **A 200-year-old British coin was found on the Keelakarai**

- 200-year-old British-era coins were found by school students near Keelakarai. Pravinraj and Ayyappan have found four circular coins of the British era at Keewalasa, Sethukarai etc.
- Out of which 3 copper coins and 1 bronze coin. One of them was published in 1833 AD. The coin bears the East India Company seal on one side and a scale image on the other. Another coin was issued in 1887 AD during the reign of Queen Victoria.

#### **Important Day**

##### **Odisha Day**

- Odisha Day is also known as Utkal Divas or Utkala Deepasha.
- Odisha Day is celebrated every year on 01 April to commemorate the emergence of Odisha as an independent state after the struggle of 1936.