

National News

PFC has entered into MoUs with 20 companies worth over ₹2.37 trillion.

- **Power Finance Corp Ltd(PFC)**, a central energy transition company, has signed various MoUs worth **₹2.37 trillion** with nearly **20 private and public sector companies**, the company said in a statement on **July 21**.
- These MoUs are intended to further enhance **PFC's power transmission division** and provide **guidelines** that can further strengthen the objectives of the country's energy transition goals.

India and Sri Lanka have entered into five MoUs for the development of major economic cooperation.

- Prime Minister **Modi** of India and Sri Lankan President **Ranil Wickremesinghe** signed **five agreements** covering major areas of economic cooperation on **July 21** during the recent visit of the Sri Lankan President to India.
- Various MoUs have been signed in Sri Lanka's **Trincomalee district** for economic development projects and renewable energy development in the country. The President of Sri Lanka said that these agreements will be a milestone in **strengthening the good relations** between the two countries.

The 14th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) and 8th Mission Innovation (MI) meeting begins under the chairmanship of the Union Minister.

- **The 14th Clean Energy Ministerial and 8th Mission Innovation Public Meeting** began on **21st July 2023** in **Goa** under the chairmanship of Union Minister for Renewable Energy and Power **Shri RK Singh**.
- The conference is organized with the aim of discussing the possible ways to overcome the burdens and obstacles in the way of energy transmission of the country and how to overcome the problems in them. Also in this conference, the Union Minister stated that by **2030**, **50%** of the country's energy needs will be met from **Non-fossil sources and natural factors**.

DGR has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IBM for the development of ex-servicemen.

- The **Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR)** has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **IBM** to improve the quality of life of **ex-servicemen** by providing them with a **second job** and facilitating their seamless integration into the **civilian workforce**.
- It is reported that the **quality of life of ex-servicemen** who have served and retired from the army will improve through this recently concluded agreement.

SJVN has signed an agreement with REC to get Rs 50,000 crore in funding.

- According to an **SJVN company** report released on **July 21**, an agreement has been entered into with **REC** to **provide financial assistance** to the project for setting up **new power plants** based on **renewable energy sources**.
- Through this agreement, REC has agreed to finance major development projects of SJVN and its subsidiaries to the tune of **Rs 50,000 crore**.
 - It is notable that the deal is aimed at acquiring nearly **25 GW** of generating capacity by the end of the current decade.

The Union government has launched technology advancement schemes in crop insurance to empower farmers.

- To **empower farmers** and further strengthen operations, the **Ministry of Agriculture Welfare** has on **July 21** launched several new **High-technological advancement** schemes under the **Pradhan Mantri Fazal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**.
- **Union Minister Tomar** said that these projects have been developed with the aim of reaching full benefit to the small farmer in every village by using technology through these initiative projects.

State news

The Poonch district administration is going to start a two-day "Passport Mela".

- The **Poonch district** administration of **Jammu and Kashmir**, in collaboration with the "**Union Ministry of External Affairs**", has launched a **Passport Mela** on **July 22**.
- The **two-day program** is aimed at clearing the passport issues and doubts and ensuring the stability of the central government to the people there.

The Union Finance Minister inaugurated "GST BHAWAN" in Agartala.

- Union Minister for Corporate and Financial Affairs **Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman** inaugurated the "**GST Bhavan**" project of CX, CGST and Customs Office of **Guwahati Regional Zone** under CBIC in **Tripura's capital Agartala on July 21**.
- Built on an area of **0.71 acres at a cost of Rs 28 crore**, the project complex is designed with an aim to enhance cash-based engagements around the region.

Appointments

Sri Sandeep Chakravorty has been appointed as the New Ambassador of India to Indonesia.

- **Sandeep Chakravorty**, a 1996-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer currently serving as Joint Secretary in the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**, was appointed as **India's Ambassador to Indonesia on July 21**.
- Also, India is the **Second largest buyer** of crude palm oil and coal from Indonesia and it is reported that he will do a good job in taking this relationship to the next level.

Admiral Lisa Franchetti has become the first woman to head the US Navy.

- **Admiral Lisa Franchetti**, who has been serving as the **US Vice Chief of Naval Affairs**, has now been appointed by the **US Army as its Chief**. The appointment was made in a notification issued by the **US Army on July 21**.
- With this appointment, she became the **First woman in US history** to serve as both the Chief of Naval Affairs and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff or Commanders-in-Chief.
 - She also became the **Second woman to hold the rank of "Four-Star" admiral in the US Navy**.

Arun Roy appointed as Special Officer of the World Investor Conference.

- The **Tamil Nadu Government** has taken some important steps and released a number of nomination notices in **July 2023**. Accordingly, **Arun Roy** has been appointed as the **Special Officer of the World Investors Conference**.
- Also, **Devraj Dev** has been appointed as the **Vice-Chairman of Science City Planning** and **Akash** as the **Chief Executive Officer of CHIPKAT Administration**. Through these appointments, they have been informed that they will improve the field through their outstanding efforts in the fields allotted to them.

Awards

A Sikh youth who tried to save an 8-year-old girl has been awarded America's highest award.

- **Manjit Singh**, a young Sikh who tried to save an **eight-year-old girl** who was drowning in a river in the United States without knowing how to swim, has been awarded the prestigious and **highest award of North America**, "**Carnegie Hero Award**" recently.
- A **Fresno resident** took her own life on **August 5, 2020** while trying to save a girl, identified as **Samantha Cruz**, from the **Kings River in Reedley**. It is notable that he has been awarded this **prestigious award for this act of heroism**.

The Union Minister presents the 55th Youth Parliamentary Competition Awards for the year 2023.

- Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs **Arjun Ram Maghwal** presented the awards of the 55th Youth Parliamentary Competition for 2023 to **Delhi schools on July 21.**
- **"Running Parliamentary Shield"** and **Winning Trophy** awarded to **"School of Excellence", Kalkaji, Delhi** for topping this competition. Another 10 schools have received Appreciation Merit Trophies for **"Effective Performance"**.

Sports news

India won the silver medal at the ISSF World Junior Championships.

- India's trio of **Rajkanwar Singh, Sameer** and **Mahesh Anandakumar** won the **silver medal** in the **men's 25m rapid fire pistol event** at the **International Shooting Sports (ISSF) World Youth Championship in Changwon, South Korea.**
- It is notable that on the sixth day of these championships, the Indian team scored a total of **1730 points** and the Chinese team maintained their presence in the table with **1747 points.**

Obituary

Tony Bennett, the legendary American singer and songwriter who won 19 Grammy Awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award, has died.

- World-renowned Famous American singer and Lyricist **Tony Bennett** has died of old age at the **age of 96.**
- He had no major cause of death but was diagnosed with **Alzheimer's disease** in **2016.** It is also notable that he has received the **Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001** and **19 Grammy Awards** for many important and diverse songs.

Important day

National Parents Day 2023

- Every year **23rd July** is observed as **National Parents Day** to celebrate our valued parents and thank them for all they have done for us.
- **Every fourth Sunday of July** is celebrated as **National Parents Day.** The theme for this year is **"The Power of Parents: Raising Happy, Healthy and Confident Children.**