

21st August, 2021

Prime Minister inaugurates and lays foundation stone of multiple projects in Somnath

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple projects in Somnath, Gujarat via video conferencing. The projects inaugurated include the Somnath Promenade, Somnath Exhibition Centre and reconstructed temple precinct of Old (Juna) Somnath. The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of Shree Parvati Temple during the event.

DCGI approves Zydus Cadila's DNA-based vaccine ZyCoV-D for Emergency Use Authorization

Zydus Cadila has received approval for Emergency Use Authorization from the Drug Controller General of India for ZyCoV-D vaccine. Ministry of Science and Technology in a statement said that it is the world's first and India's indigenously developed DNA-based vaccine for COVID-19 to be administered in humans including children and adults 12 years and above.

It has been developed in partnership with the Department of Biotechnology under the Mission COVID Suraksha and implemented by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council, BIRAC. This three-dose vaccine, when injected produces the spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and elicits an immune response, which plays a vital role in protection from disease as well as viral clearance.

U. Raja Babu appointed as Director of Hyderabad-based Research Centre Imarat

An Outstanding Scientist and Programme Director U. Raja Babu has been appointed as Director of the Hyderabad-based Research Centre Imarat (RCI). RCI is the premier avionics laboratory of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Missile Complex of DRDO in Hyderabad. Raja Babu is renowned for his significant contribution as Programme Director at RCI.

He provided necessary thrust to the design, development and successful demonstration of Ballistic Missile Defence system capabilities. Strengthening indigenous defence capabilities, India's first Anti Satellite Missile Test (A-SAT), 'Mission Shakti' has been successfully demonstrated under his leadership.

World Mosquito Day observed on August 20; theme: “Reaching the zero-malaria target”

To raise awareness and alertness about the disease caused by mosquitos, World Mosquito Day is observed annually on 20 August. Despite being very small or tiny in size, mosquitoes are the only predator in history that has lived through centuries and caused death through vector-borne diseases like malaria.

This year amid the coronavirus pandemic, the theme of World Mosquito Day 2021 is “Reaching the zero-malaria target”.

Manika Batra, G Sathiyam win mixed doubles title at WTT Contender Budapest

India's Manika Batra and G Sathiyam outplayed Hungary's Dora Madarasz and Nandor Ecseki 3-1 to win the mixed doubles title at the WTT Contender in Budapest on 20th August, 2021. They beat the 94th-ranked Hungarian pairing 11-9, 9-11, 12-10, 11-6. It was a memorable win for Manika and Sathiyam, who don't play a lot of mixed doubles together