

2nd September, 2021

1. Govt launches Yoga Break mobile application to de-stress and refresh individuals at workplace

As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations to commemorate 75th Year of Independence, Union Minister of Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal, along with Union Ministers Kiren Rijju, Jitendra Singh, Meenakshi Lekhi and Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai launched the Yoga Break (Y-Break) mobile application in New Delhi.

The 5-minute Yoga Break Protocol consists of a very useful Yoga practices devised to de-stress, refresh and re-focus on work to increase the productivity of individuals at workplace. The concept of Yoga Break is relevant to working professionals across the world. It has been carefully developed by eminent experts under a tested protocol. About 600 participants including eminent Yoga Practitioners, Scholars, Policy Makers, Bureaucrats, Yoga Enthusiasts and Experts of Allied Sciences participated in the launch of the App.

2. India, Kazakhstan joint military exercise 'KAZIND-21' begins today

The India – Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND-21 commenced today at Training Node Aisha Bibi, Kazakhstan. This is the 5th Edition of Annual bilateral joint exercise of both Armies and will continue till 10th of September. The fourth edition of the exercise was held at Pithoragarh, India in September 2019.

Defence Ministry said, the contingent comprises 120 troops from Kazakhstan and 90 soldiers from the Indian Army. Both the contingents will share their expertise and skills in the field of counter-terror operations. The exercise will culminate in a 48 hours joint validation exercise scheduled on 8th and 9th of September. The validation exercise will be a test bed for the soldiers of both Armies as they would be undergoing challenges of actual operations in such scenarios.

This exercise will provide impetus to the ever growing military and diplomatic ties between the two nations. The joint exercise also reflects the strong resolve of both nations to counter terrorism and will stand shoulder to shoulder to combat the same.

3. Indian Army to participate in Multilateral Exercise ZAPAD, 2021 in Russia

A 200 personnel contingent of Indian Army will participate in Exercise ZAPAD, 2021, a Multi Nation exercise being held at Nizhniy, Russia from Friday. The Exercise will continue till 16th of September. Ministry of Defence in a statement said that Exercise ZAPAD is one of the theatre level exercises of Russian Armed Forces and will focus primarily on operations against terrorists. Over a dozen countries from Eurasian and South Asian Region will participate in this signature event. The exercise aims to enhance military and strategic ties amongst the participating nations while they plan and execute this exercise.

The Ministry said that the NAGA Battalion group participating in the exercise will feature an all Arms combined task force. The Indian Contingent has been put through a strenuous training schedule which encompasses all facets of conventional operations including mechanised, airborne and heliborne, counter-terrorism, combat conditioning and firing.

4. President Ram Nath Kovind to award 'President's Colour' to Indian Naval Aviation at ceremonial parade to be held at INS Hansa in Goa

President Ram Nath Kovind will award the President's Colour to Indian Naval Aviation at the ceremonial parade to be held at INS Hansa in Goa on 6th September. The President's Colour is the highest honour bestowed on a military unit in recognition of its exceptional service to the nation. Indian Naval Aviation came into being with acquisition of the first Seal and aircraft on 13th January 1951.

5. Civil Aviation Minister inaugurates first direct flight between Gwalior and Indore

Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurated the first direct flight between Gwalior and Indore. He virtually flagged off two flights strengthening the international and domestic aerial connectivity of Madhya Pradesh. The event marked the commencement of Indigo's new direct flights on the Gwalior-Indore - Delhi route and resumption of Air India's flight between Indore and Dubai.

6. Separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani passes away after prolonged illness

Hardline separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani passed away at his residence in Srinagar last night following prolonged illness. He was 92.

Police said, restrictions have been imposed including suspension of internet services in the Kashmir valley as a precautionary measure.

7. PM Modi to release Commemorative coin on Iskcon founder Swami Prabhupada

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release a special commemorative coin of 125 rupees and address the gathering on the occasion of the 125th Birth Anniversary of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada Ji through video conferencing. Union Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy will be present on the occasion.

Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada founded the International Society for Krishna Consciousness ISKCON commonly known as the "Hare Krishna movement". ISKCON has translated Shrimad Bhagvad Geeta and other Vedic literature in 89 languages, playing a stellar role in dissemination of Vedic literature across the world.

Swami ji also established over a hundred temples and wrote several books, teaching the path of Bhakti Yoga to the world.

8. RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARDS

Ramon Magsaysay Award 2021 awardees have been announced, the winners will be formally awarded the Magsaysay Award during the November 28 event at the Ramon Magsaysay Centre in Manila.

List of awardees of Ramon Magsaysay Awards 2021:

- Muhammad Amjad Saqib: A visionary who founded one of the largest microfinance institutions in Pakistan, servicing millions of families.
- Firdausi Qadri: A Bangladeshi scientist who has been instrumental in discovering vaccines that have saved millions of lives.
- Steven Muncy: A humanitarian who has been helping the displaced refugees of Southeast Asia rebuild their lives.
- WatchDoc: A production house that ingeniously combines documentary filmmaking and alternative platforms to highlight underreported issues in Indonesia.
- Roberto Ballon: A fisherman from Southern Philippines who has led a community in restoring their rich aquatic resources and their primary source of livelihood.