

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense, lush green forest. Several cars are visible on the road, including a white car, a blue car, and a white van. The road has white dashed lines for lane markings. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down on the road and the surrounding trees.

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DAILY NEWS DECODE

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World's largest Khadi National Flag hoisted in Leh, Ladakh



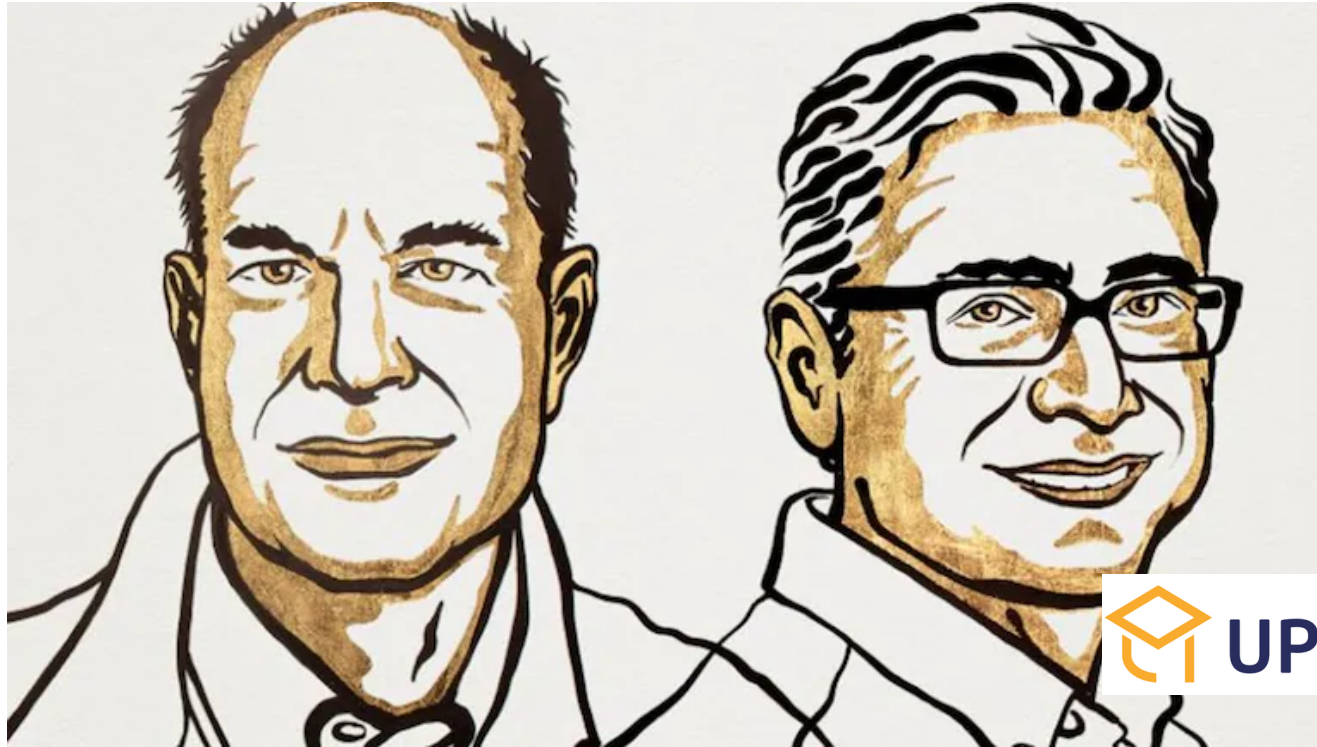
- **The world's largest national flag, made up of Khadi cloth, has been installed in Leh, Ladakh, on the occasion of the 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 02, 2021.**
- **The Khadi national flag was inaugurated by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur. The flag is made by Khadi Dyers and Printers based in Mumbai which is affiliated to the Khadi Village and Industries Commission.**
- **The Sura-Soi Engineer Regiment was entrusted with the responsibility of bringing the national flag from Mumbai to Leh and also with the task of installing it at the top of the high mountains for the unveiling ceremony.**

Gov launches 'Waste to Wealth' web portal



- The government of India has launched a web portal called “Waste to Wealth” to enhance cooperation for sustainable development through economy and community participation.
- The web portal will bring together technology providers, government stakeholders and urban local bodies to find solutions to India’s waste problems, mainly plastic waste.
- The portal has been launched by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser and inaugurated by the Principal Scientific Advisor K. Vijay Raghavan on October 02, 2021, on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021 announced



- **The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021 was awarded jointly to David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian “for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.”**
- **These breakthrough discoveries launched intense research activities leading to a rapid increase in our understanding of how our nervous system senses heat, cold, and mechanical stimuli.**

TRINCOMALEE HARBOUR



- **Foreign Secretary of India, Harsh Vardhan Shringla visited the Second World War-era oil storage facility in the strategically important port district of Trincomalee on Sri Lanka's east coast, which has been a key bilateral economic partnership link for decades.**
- **The Trincomalee harbour, one of the deepest natural harbours in the world, was developed by the British during the War.**
- **Since 2003, the Lanka IOC, the Sri Lankan subsidiary of India's oil major Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), has the leasing rights to 99 tanks at the facility for a period of 35 years for an annual payment of \$100,000.**

- **His visit to the site assumes significance as oil sector trade unions in Sri Lanka have demanded that tanks be brought under the control of the state fuel entity Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC).**
- **As per the agreement, the IOC was also given a one-third share of the Sri Lankan government entity, Petroleum Storage Limited. However, the CPC trade unions had been pressing for the takeover of the tanks.**

LOKAPRIYA GOPINATH BORDOLOI AWARD FOR NATIONAL INTEGRATION AND NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION



- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has conferred Assam Government's biennial Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and National Contribution at a special function in Guwahati.
- The awardees are Assam branch of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, German based Assamese litterateur Dr. Nirod Kumar Barooah and Shillong Chamber Choir at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra.
- The award carries five lakh rupees each, a citation and an angavastram.
- The Gopinath Bordoloi Award is named after the first chief minister of Assam after independence and He was a freedom fighter. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1999 posthumously.

Senegalo-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin



- Ministers of the Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Senegal signed a joint declaration recently to advance transboundary cooperation in the Senegal-Mauritanian Aquifer Basin (SMAB).
- The four West African countries have, through the declaration, agreed to establish a legal and institutional framework for cooperation on SMAB.
- It is in line with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Water Convention.
- The SMAB is the largest basin in the Atlantic margin of north-west Africa, having an area of 350,000 square kilometres.
- More than 24 million inhabitants of the region are dependent on it for drinking water and other needs.

- **Some 80 per cent of the populations of the four countries that have signed the declaration, depend on the SMAB.**
- **In the 9th session of the Meeting of Parties (MOP9) to the UNECE Water Convention, the declaration was signed.**
- **Senegal, upon accession to the UNECE Water Convention in 2018, had requested for such a declaration.**

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India-made drone delivers COVID-19 vaccines in Manipur, a first in South Asia



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- Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Monday launched ICMR's Drone Response and Outreach in North East (i-Drone), a delivery model to transport life-saving vaccines.
- He said, for the first time a 'Make in India' drone has been used in South Asia to transport COVID-19 vaccines between two locations over an aerial distance of 15 km in 12-15 minutes in Manipur.

What are the Pandora Papers?



- These are 11.9 million leaked files from 14 global corporate services firms which set up about 29,000 off-the-shelf companies and private trusts in not just obscure tax jurisdictions but also countries such as Singapore, New Zealand, and the United States, for clients across the world.
- These documents relate to the ultimate ownership of assets 'settled' (or placed) in private offshore trusts and the investments including cash, shareholding, and real estate properties, held by the offshore entities.
- There are at least 380 persons of Indian nationality in the Pandora Papers.
- Of these, The Indian Express has so far verified and corroborated documents related to about 60 prominent individuals and companies. This is an ongoing investigation.

- **The Pandora Papers reveal how the rich, the famous and the notorious, many of whom were already on the radar of investigative agencies, set up complex multi-layered trust structures for estate planning, in jurisdictions which are loosely regulated for tax purposes, but characterised by air-tight secrecy laws.**
- **The purposes for which trusts are set up are many, and some genuine too. But a scrutiny of the papers also shows how the objective of many is two-fold: i) to hide their real identities and distance themselves from the offshore entities so that it becomes near impossible for the tax authorities to reach them and, ii) to safeguard investments — cash, shareholdings, real estate, art, aircraft, and yachts — from creditors and law enforcers.**