

ACC approves appointment of VK Yadav as Railway Board's first ever Chairman and CEO

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of the current chairman of the Railway Board **VK Yadav as the CEO**, making him the first to hold such a post in the railway's history.

The Cabinet had earlier approved the restructuring of the Railway Board, whose strength has been cut from eight to five, as part of large scale reforms initiated by the national transporter.

About VK Yadav

- Sri Vinod Kumar Yadav also known as V.K. Yadav is 1980 batch IRSEE officer.
- He is an engineer holding BE in electrical engineering from University of Allahabad's Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College (now Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Allahabad) (1980) who later did an MBA from Australia's La Trobe University (2004)

India ranked in top 50 nations in the Global Innovation Index 2020

- **Switzerland, Sweden, US, UK and Netherlands** are in the top spots of this year's ranking.
- The India Innovation Index, which was released last year by the NITI Aayog, has been widely accepted as the major step in the direction of decentralization of innovation across all the states of India.
- Global Innovation Index 2020 was released by **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**.
- India climbed four spots on the Global Innovation Index 2020 and is now at **48th position** in the list of top 50 innovative countries.
- The WIPO had also accepted India as **one of the leading innovation achievers of 2019 in the central and southern Asian region.**

The Union Cabinet today approved Mission Karmayogi

- **It aims at building future-ready civil service** with the right attitude, skills & knowledge, aligned to the vision of New India.
- Karmayogi mission is Officially called - "**National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building**" which aims at transforming human resource management in the country.
- This scheme for bringing **post-recruitment reforms in civil services.**
- The move will help officers and government employees get an opportunity to improve their performance.
- NPCSCB has been carefully designed to lay the foundations for capacity building for Civil Servants so that they remain entrenched in Indian Culture and sensibilities and remain connected, with their roots, while they learn from the best institutions and practices across the world.

Ladakh, Lakshadweep join existing national portability cluster of One Nation One Ration Card.

Ladakh and Lakshadweep have been integrated in the existing national portability cluster of **One Nation One Ration Card.**

- With this, a **total of 26 States and UTs** are now seamlessly connected with each other under the One Nation One Ration Card plan.
- migratory PDS beneficiaries in these 26 States and UTs can access their subsidised **foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop of their choice.**
- A total of more than **65 Crore beneficiaries** are now enabled with an option to lift their subsidised foodgrains through One Nation One Ration Card system.
- The remaining States and UTs are targeted to be integrated in national portability by March next year.

The **One Nation One Ration Card** plan is an ambitious endeavour of the Government to ensure the delivery of food security entitlements to all beneficiaries irrespective of their physical



location anywhere in the country. Through this system, the migratory beneficiaries who frequently change their place of dwelling in search of employment are now enabled with an option to lift their entitled quota of foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop in the country using their same ration card.

National Nutrition Week 2020:

- National Nutrition Week 2020 is **celebrated on September 1st through 7th**. During this period, initiatives are taken up by the government. These initiatives center around nutrition and the effects of good food with a healthy body, mind and lifestyle.
- It was first organized by **Food and Nutrition Board that operates under Ministry of Women and Child Development**. Running since **1982**, it puts emphasis on educating people in all states across India regarding the importance and necessity of good nutrition in diets.
- **The theme** for National Nutrition Week 2020 is **‘Eat Right, Bite by Bite’**.
- Awareness generation camps, workshops and educational programmes inform people on how food helps with immunity, preparing food right to avoid loss of nutritional value and more.

Union Cabinet approves J&K Official Languages Bill, 2020

- The Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has approved the introduction in Parliament of the **Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill 2020** in which five languages will be official languages.
- These are **Urdu, Kashmiri, Dogri, Hindi and English**.
- The inclusion of Dogri, Hindi and Kashmiri as official languages in Jammu and Kashmir is not only a fulfillment of a long-pending public demand but is also in keeping with the spirit of equality.

World’s largest solar tree

- It has been developed and installed at Durgapur, West Bengal by CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI).
- The installed capacity of the **Solar Tree** is about 11.5 kWp.
- Annually, this solar tree can generate 12000-14000 units of clean electricity.
- The arms holding the solar panels are adjustable to face the sun during the day, unlike rooftop-mounted solar panels which are fixed in place.

Robot “Spot”:

- A Robot called “Spot” will be used to take vital signs like body temperature and breathing rate of the suspected Covid-19 patients.
- it can take such readings from 2 meters away to reduce infections to health professionals in the pandemic situation.
- The robot looks like a dog and can walk on four legs. it also carries a tablet which can be used by the patients to interact with the doctor without even being in the same room.
- It has been developed by MIT, Boston.