Affordable housing gets a ₹10,000-crore booster

NATIONAL NEWS

HRD Releases List Of 20 'Institutions of Eminence'

- The University Grants Commission or UGC, the higher education regulator, has released a list of 20 institutes - **10 public and 10 private** - which are recommended for **Institutions of Eminence or IoE status**.
- In case of the private institutions proposed as IoEs, there **will be no financial support**, but they will be entitled for more autonomy as a special category Deemed University
- Institutes which are given IoE status from public category includes IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IISC Bangalore, IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur, Delhi University, University of Hyderabad, and BHU.
- Private institutes which are recommended for IoE status include BITS Pilani, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Jio Institute (Reliance Foundation, Maharashtra), Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bangalore, VIT Vellore, Jamia Hamdard, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, O.P JINDAL University, Shiv Nadar University, and Bharti (Satya Bharti Foundation).
- Among these Bharti and Jio Institute are **'Greenfield Institutions'** which are according the ministry, "not there right now but where well-meaning, responsible private investment wants to bring global standards to the country" and these institutes would get 3 year period to establish and operationalise the institution, and thereafter, EEC will consider giving IoE status to such institutions.

Affordable housing gets a ₹10,000-crore booster

- In order to boost the housing sector, the government announced providing liquidity of ₹10,000 crore for individual housing loans.
- The National Housing Bank (NHB) is making available from August 2, a liquidity infusion facility of ₹10,000 crore for Housing Finance Companies as additional liquidity for individual housing loans, for affordable housing.

Infosys opens cyber defence centre in Romania

- Infosys announced the launch of its **state-of-the-art Cyber Defence Center in Bucharest, Romania.**
- The Defence Center is an expansion of services delivered through Infosys Digital Innovation Center which opened in Bucharest earlier this year.
- The Defence Center will provide end-to-end, real-time, 24/7 cyber security monitoring and protection services to support European and global businesses on their digital transformation journey.

BANKING

Karnataka Bank inks pact for MF business

- **Karnataka Bank** has entered into an agreement with **fintech company Finwizard Technology**

(known as ‘fisdom’) to offer wealth management products and services to customers, beginning with mutual funds, through the bank’s ‘**KBL Mobile Plus’** app.
- The **‘KBL Mobile Plus’** app will offer enhanced interface to help customers navigate and choose the best-suited funds.

FACTS

MD and CEO of Karnataka Bank-Mahabaleshwara MS

Headquarter-Mangalore

SBI posts ₹2,312-cr profit in first quarter

- State Bank of India on Friday reported a standalone net **profit of ₹2,312 crore** in the first quarter ended June 30, 2019, compared with a **net loss of ₹4,876 crore** in the year ago period.
- Lower provisioning and better net interest margins helped the largest public sector bank make profits despite higher slippages.

FACTS

SBI Chairman- Rajnish Kumar

Headquarter-Mumbai

Tagline-With you all the way, Pure Banking Nothing Else, The Nation's banks on us.

APPOINTMENT

Ravi Capoor assumes charge as textiles secretary

- **Ravi Capoor, an Indian Administrative Service (IAS)** officer of 1986 batch, assumed charge as secretary in the Union Ministry of Textiles.
- As Additional Chief Secretary, Assam, from 2016 to 2019, he was in charge of Mines & Minerals, Forest & Environment, Act East Policy Affairs and Public Enterprises Department. In addition, he also had the portfolios of Industry and Commerce.

Giriraj Prasad Gupta takes over as new CGA

- **Giriraj Prasad Gupta**, a 1983-batch Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) officer, took over as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) with effect from August 1, 2019.
- Gupta succeeds **Anthony Lianzuala** as the new Controller General of Accounts (CGA) under the Finance Ministry.
- Gupta has a vast and rich experience in the government at the Centre. He worked at higher positions in the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Finance**.

Mindtree appoints Cognizant’s DebashisChatterjee as new CEO



- Home-grown IT company Mindtree Ltd appointed **Debashis Chatterjee** as its new chief executive officer (CEO) and managing director (MD).
- Chatterjee, who stepped down as the **president of global delivery at New Jersey-headquartered Cognizant** on 31 July, has been appointed for a period of five years**.**
- In an exchange filing, Mindtree has also appointed **S.N. Subrahmanyan** as its **non-executive vice chairman**. Subrahmanyan currently serves as L&T group's managing director and CEO.

AWARDS

Indian-origin doctor Bhasha Mukerjee wins Miss England 2019 crown

- A 23-year-old Indian-origin doctor has been crowned Miss England after fending off competition from dozens of other models.
- Bhasha Mukherjee, 23, from Derby, holds two different medical degrees, has an IQ of 146, making her officially a 'genius' and is fluent in five languages.

Infosys, TCS, Tech Mahindra bag HYSEA awards

- Information technology major Infosys won the Best Exporter award at the **27th annual conference of the Hyderabad Software Exporters Association (HYSEA).** Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Tech Mahindra bagged the second and third places respectively.
- **Deloitte** bagged the **top Exporter award with highest revenues from Telangana**. Value Labs and HCL Technologies received the top player awards in the below Rs 1,000-crore category.
- **Tripuraneni Hanuman Chowdary**, 88, was presented the Life Time Achievement Award for his contribution to the IT and telecom sectors in the country.

Indian journalist Ravish Kumar wins 2019 Ramon Magsaysay Award



- **Indian journalist Ravish Kumar** was awarded this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award, regarded as

the Asian version of the Nobel Prize.

- Kumar, 44, who is NDTV India's senior executive editor is one of India's most influential TV journalists, He is among five individuals who were declared winners of the award.
- The four other winners of the 2019 Ramon Magsaysay Award are

Ko Swe Win from Myanmar, (Human Rights Defender)

Angkhana Neelapaijit from Thailand, (Human Rights activist)

Raymundo Pujante Cayabyab from Philippines, (Musician)

Kim Jong-Ki from South Korea, (Activist working with violence and mental Health issues)

OBITUARY

Russi Taylor: Minnie Mouse voice actress dies aged 75



- **Russi Taylor**, the voice of Disney's Minnie Mouse for more than 30 years, has died aged 75.
- The actress died in Glendale, California.
- Since 1986, Taylor provided voice-overs for animated TV series, films and theme parks featuring Mickey Mouse's high-pitched and giggly partner Minnie.

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