India and Maldives sign defence pact

NATIONAL NEWS

India and Maldives sign defence pact

- India and the Maldives on Sunday signed a defence Line of Credit agreement worth $50 million during the ongoing visit by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.
- Both sides agreed to maintain peace and security in the Indian Ocean Region.
- The defence Line of Credit will "facilitate capability building in the maritime domain.
- An agreement to develop, support and maintain a Maldives National Defence Force Coast Guard Harbour at Sifvaru was also signed.

BANKING NEWS

YONO Merchant App

- SBI Payments is set to launch its new YONO Merchant App to provide low-cost digital payments infrastructure to the merchants.
- SBI Payments is the subsidiary of State Bank of India.

SPORTS NEWS

Australian Open Tennis

- Novak Djokovic won his 9^{th} Australian Open by defeating Russia's Daniil Medvedev.
- This is his 3^{rd} hat trick Australian Open for the 2^{nd} time.

30th Adriatic Pearl tournament

- Vinka (60kg) and T. Sanamacha Chanu (75kg) won gold in boxing in the 0th Adriatic Pearl tournament held in Budva, Montenegro.
- Also, India has secured two silver and three bronze at the end of the tournament.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Mother Language Day

- International Mother Language Day is a worldwide annual observance held on 21 February to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism.
- The theme of international mother language day 2021 is “fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society”.

MISCELLENEOUS NEWS

Country’s youngest pilot

- Ayesha Aziz became the country’s youngest pilot by getting her pilot licence at the age of 22.
- She became the role model for the girls from Kashmir where she lives.
- She got her student flying licence at the age of 16.
- Ms. Aziz was given the First Ladies’ Award by the President of India in 2018.