PM launched Asom Mala Project in Assam

NATIONAL NEWS

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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the "Asom Mala" Project in Assam on 7th February, 2021.
- Assam Mala or Asom Mala road project under Bharat Mala will play a major role in improving connectivity in the state.
- The cost estimate of the project is ₹8210 crore.
- This Project will improve state highways and connect villages to the urban centres in the next 15 years.
- He also laid foundations for two medical colleges in Assam

Bharat Ratna Pandit Bhimsen Joshi Akashvani Sangeet Sammelan

- The prestigious Akashvani Music Festival, will hereinfter be named after Bharat Ratna Pandit Bhimsen Joshi.
- Pandit Bhimsen Joshi was conferred the Bharat Ratna award in 2009.
- Pandit Bhimsen Joshi was born on 4 February 1922 at Gadag, then part of Dharwad district of Karnataka
- He attained fame as a pre-eminent exponent of the Khayal form of singing, as well as for his popular renditions of devotional music - bhajans and abhangs.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1st India-EU High Level Dialogue on Trade and Investment

- The 1st High Level Dialogue (HLD) between India and European Union was held on 5th February, 2021.
- The dialogue was co-chaired by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal.
- Commitment to the establishment of this Dialogue was a major outcome of the 15th India-EU Leader's Summit held in July 2020, with an objective for a Ministerial level guidance towards the bilateral trade and investment relations.

BUSINESS NEWS

India's Forex reserves jump to record high

- The country's foreign exchange reserves rose by 4.85 billion US Dollars to touch a record high of 590.18 billion dollars in the week ended January 29.
- Forex reserves rose on account of an increase in foreign currency assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves. FCA increased by 5.03 billion dollars to 547.22 billion dollars.
- The gold reserves declined by 164 million dollars to 36.29 billion dollars in the week ended January 29.
- The country's reserve position with the IMF also declined by 6 million dollars to 5.16 billion dollars in the week.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman of National Safety Council

- Shri S. N. Subrahmanyan has been appointed Chairman of the National Safety Council for a period of three years.
- National Safety Council which has a major role to play to ensure safety in work places under new Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.
- S. N. Subrahmanyan is currently the CEO and Managing Director of L&T Ltd.