

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

In a bid to curb a surge in gold imports and check 'windfall gains' being made by producers of crude oil and petroleum products, the Centre has raised the import duty on the yellow metal to 15%, from 10.75%, and levied fresh taxes on the export of fuels, including petrol and ATF, as well as on the domestic sale of crude oil. The higher gold import levy is expected to help rein in India's rising current account deficit and ease the pressure on the rupee. As much as 107 tonnes of gold were imported in May and imports have been 'significant' in June as well, the Finance Ministry said, stressing that the surge in gold imports was putting pressure on India's current account deficit.

The Centre has transformed the Banks Board Bureau (BBB) into Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) by making some amendments. Guidelines for selection of general managers and directors of public sector general insurance companies have been made part of FSIB, sources said. The amendments were required as the Delhi High Court in its order last year said the BBB is not a competent body to select the general managers and directors of state-owned general insurers.

Throughout his career as a diplomat both before and after retirement from government, Satinder K. Lambah ("Sati" to most), who passed away on Thursday in New Delhi at the age of 81, carried a legacy of special relationships with each country he served in, but it was his engagement with Pakistan that lasted the longest, and saw the biggest breakthroughs, when he was Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh's special envoy (2005-14).

India recorded its second highest monthly gross GST revenues in June at ₹1,44,616 crore, 56% more than a year earlier when the second COVID wave had hit economic activity. Revenues from import of goods rose 55%, while domestic transactions and import of services were 56% higher in the month.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully carried out the maiden test flight of a new Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), an autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator, from the Aeronautical

YASUNI NATIONAL PARK

1. Decades of oil drilling in the Yasuni national park is deteriorating the area. The Yasuni National Park and Biosphere Reserve is a Humid Tropical Rain Forest located in the Amazon region of Ecuador. Established in 1979, the Yasuni National Park is one of the world's most biodiverse regions.

2. Yasuni National Park is home to 40% of Ecuador's crude oil reserves - in the Ishpingo-Tiputini-Tambococha (ITT) oil fields. Exploring the region's oil reserves has threatened many native species and habitats, as well as the lifestyle of the indigenous Waorani people.

3. In 2007, Ecuador initiated a unique plan to preserve a portion of the forest within its borders, which lies in Yasuni National Park. Ecuador agreed to forgo development of heavy oil deposits beneath the Yasuni rainforest if other countries and private donors contributed half of the deposits' value to a UN-administered trust fund for Ecuador. In 2013, however, Ecuador abandoned the plan.

ISRO'S POEM PLATFORM

1. Besides placing three Singaporean satellites in precise orbit, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has also successfully launched the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM) of the PSLV-C53 Mission. PSLV-C53 is the second dedicated commercial mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL). It is designed to orbit DS-EO satellite.

2. **This is the 55th mission of PSLV and 15th mission using PSLV-Core Alone variant. The ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) is a 4-stage rocket where, The first 3 spent stages fall back into the ocean, and The final stage (PS4) ends up as space junk, after launching the satellite into orbit. The PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM) is an orbital platform that performs in-orbit scientific experiments using the spent final stage (PS4) of the PSLV.**

3. The 'POEM' is a technological upgrade over what ISRO had initially attempted in 2019, during the launch of PSLV-C44 mission. For the first time, in PSLV-C53 mission, the PS4 stage would orbit the earth as a "stabilized platform" to perform experiments. The PS4 stage is carrying six payloads.

4. **Stabilization - POEM has a dedicated Navigation Guidance & Control (NGC) system for attitude stabilisation, which stands for controlling the orientation of any aerospace vehicle within permitted limits. The NGC will act as the platform's brain to stabilize it with specified accuracy.**

5. POEM will derive its power from solar panels mounted around the PS4 tank, and a Li-Ion battery. It will navigate using 4 sun sensors, a magnetometer, gyros & NavIC. It carries dedicated control thrusters using Helium gas storage. It has been enabled with a tele-command feature.

PROSOPAGNOSIA

1. Prosopagnosia, also known as face blindness, is a cognitive disorder. In this neurological condition, the patient finds it difficult to recognise familiar faces and is unable to recognise people who he/she has known earlier, by face. However, the patient will be able to recognise another individual through voice and/or other gestures. Causes - This condition arises when there is some problem in the Temporo-Occipital area of the right side of the brain.

2. **There are 2 types of prosopagnosia: Developmental prosopagnosia - where a person has prosopagnosia without having brain damage. It is caused by congenital conditions Acquired prosopagnosia - where a person develops prosopagnosia after brain damage, often following a stroke, hampered blood circulation, haemorrhage or head injury.**

3. The occurrence of the disorder could also be attributed to degenerative conditions, including Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, but this happens very rarely. Risk factors - People develop conditions like brain haemorrhage and stroke mostly after the age of 50. Those who suffer from hypertension,

Test Range, Chitradurga, Karnataka.

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) chairperson Justice Arun Kumar Mishra (retd.) said India's policy on nuclear weapons was a manifestation of its past ideology. He said the world was today facing the threat of destructive weapons, the use of which only benefitted the manufacturers of the weapons.

India on Friday called on Pakistan to release and repatriate 536 Indian fishermen and three civilian prisoners who have completed their jail term and whose nationality has been confirmed. Pakistan has been asked to provide immediate consular access to 105 fishermen and 20 civilian prisoners who have been in Pakistan's custody and are believed to be Indians, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

During a recent visit to Chhattisgarh's Jashpur, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was asked about the delisting of tribals who have converted to other religions, primarily Christianity — an issue that has been festering in the State since the beginning of this year. A number of rallies have been held in Jashpur in recent months to protest against tribals who have converted, but still avail benefits of the Scheduled Tribe provisions.

Pharmacopoeia is important to develop a Swasthya and Samrudh Bharat, to maintain standard quality of our medical products — vaccines, medicines, equipment, etc. and to keep an eye on the effect of these medicines on patients, said Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Friday. The Minister released the 9th edition of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) at Vigyan Bhawan and said the country should work towards getting the IP appreciated worldwide.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday held a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, where the leaders discussed Ukraine and the latest developments in the global commodities market. The talks came days after Mr. Modi participated in the G7 summit in Germany. "The two leaders reviewed the implementation of the decisions taken during President Putin's visit to India in December 2021. In particular, they exchanged ideas on how bilateral trade in agricultural goods, fertilizer and pharma products could be encouraged further," an official press release said.

diabetes and smokers, too, develop a high risk of developing prosopagnosia. Symptoms - This varies across patients.

4. Since the disorder involves the Occipito Temporal area, it can lead to some symptoms like loss of vision. Individuals might experience drowsiness due to edema or swelling in the region. Treatments - The treatment of this cognitive disorder will be in accordance with the treatment of the underlying cause.

5. If the disorder is caused by a stroke, then that has to be contained first. If the underlying cause is a tumour, then an operation, chemotherapy or radiotherapy can be used. If it is caused by haemorrhage, then it will have to be treated accordingly.

iGOT KARMAYOGI

1. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has urged its officials to register for the service of the e-learning platform iGOT Karmayogi. Integrated Government Online Training (iGOT) platform is an online training platform launched by the Department of Personnel and Training. It was launched for the capacity building of frontline workers to tackle the pandemic.

2. It is hosted on the Digital Infrastructure Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) platform of the Human Resources Development Ministry. iGOT Karmayogi is an e-learning platform developed as an integral part of the Digital India stack for capacity building of all government employees. It is designed for providing necessary digital infrastructure to upload courses and conduct online training.

3. It will allow the ministry to provide training resources and opportunities to its employees at a hitherto impossible scale. Mission Karmayogi is the biggest bureaucratic reform initiative that was launched in 2020.

4. It is aimed at building capacity to make government employees more creative, proactive, professional and technology-enabled, ending the culture of working in silos and ensuring transparency.

DIABETES

1. The International Diabetes Foundation estimates that 537 million people across the world are afflicted with diabetes. Diabetes is a chronic (long-lasting) health condition that affects how our body turns food into energy. Most of the food we eat is broken down into sugar (glucose) and released into your bloodstream.

2. When blood sugar goes up, it signals the pancreas to release insulin. Insulin allows the blood sugar into the body's cells for use as energy, and then stores the rest in the liver and other organs for future use. If a person has diabetes, either their body does not make enough insulin or can't use the insulin it makes as well as it should. When there isn't enough insulin or cells stop responding to insulin, too much blood sugar stays in your bloodstream. Over the time, this can cause serious health problems.

3. Types of Diabetes There are three main types of diabetes - Type 1, Type 2, and Gestational diabetes (diabetes while pregnant). Type 1 diabetes is largely genetic in nature, while Type 2 depends on the lifestyle of the individual. Approximately 5-10% of the people who have diabetes have type 1, while 90-95% of people with diabetes have type 2. Type 1 diabetes is thought to be caused by an autoimmune reaction that stops your body from making insulin.

4. Symptoms of type 1 diabetes often develop quickly. It is usually diagnosed in children, teens, and young adults. Injecting molecule insulin every day will be needed for type 1 diabetes. Currently, no one knows how to prevent type 1 diabetes. Type 2 diabetes is caused when your body does not use insulin well and can't keep blood sugar at normal levels. It is largely lifestyle-based and does not need insulin injection. It is age-related; it often develops at the age of 45 and beyond. It develops over many years and is usually diagnosed in adults (but more and more in children, teens, and young adults).

5. It's seen more among urban populations than in rural populations. Gestational diabetes is caused by the insulin-blocking hormones that are produced during pregnancy. This type of diabetes only happens during pregnancy. It is often seen in people with preexisting pre-diabetes and a family history of diabetes. About 50% of people diagnosed with gestational diabetes go on to develop type 2 diabetes. An ICMR-funded study has estimated that there are about 77 million diabetic patients across India today.

Price pressures dampened growth in India's manufacturing sector to the slowest pace in nine months, with the survey based Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) sliding to 53.9 in June, from 54.6 in May. Worries about inflation also dragged business confidence sentiment down to a 27-month.

Major carmakers including Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai and Tata Motors on Friday reported growth in passenger vehicle wholesales in June as pandemic led semiconductor shortage woes showed gradual signs of easing.

6.Prevention of Type 2 Diabetes While the Type 1 Diabetes is not preventable, the Type 2 Diabetes can be prevented if an individual makes lifestyle changes, like Losing small amount of weight, Eating a healthy diet, Reducing total carbon intake in the food, and Doing physical exercise regularly. Brisk 30-minute-walk five times a week, or cycling for 10 minutes a day, or weight-lifting or yoga can also help prevent Type 2 diabetes.