



CURRENT AFFAIRS 15 february 2022

National News

PNB launches co-branded contactless credit cards with Patanjali in partnership with RuPay



- Punjab National Bank (PNB), and Patanjali Ayurved Limited (PAL) have launched co-branded contactless credit cards in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The co-branded credit cards are offered on NPCI's RuPay Platform and are available in two variants - PNB RuPay Platinum and PNB RuPay Select.
- The cardholders may enjoy suitable cashback @2% for transactions over and above 2500, subject to ceiling of 50 per transaction at Patanjali Stores.
- PNB RuPay Platinum and PNB RuPay Select cardholders will receive a welcome bonus of 300 reward points on activation. Additionally, the customers will get complimentary domestic and

international airport lounge access, PNB Genie Mobile Application for card management, add-on card facility. Lucrative reward points on spends, along with cash advance/revolve, EMI, and auto-debit facilities.

RBI to observe financial literacy week during February 14-18



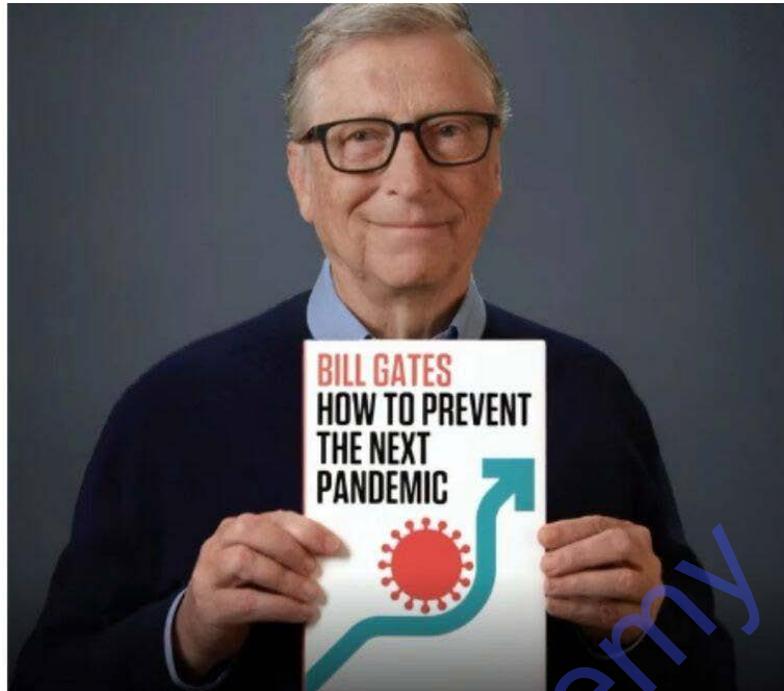
- The theme of this year's week-long financial literacy and awareness programme will be "Go Digital, Go Secure".
- This theme is one of the strategic objectives of the National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025. The focus will be on creating awareness about (a) Convenience of digital transactions; (b) Security of digital transactions; and (c) Protection of customers, the RBI said in a statement.
- The RBI has been conducting financial literacy week every year since 2016 to propagate financial education messages on various themes among members of the public across the country.

NABARD launches JIVA to promote natural farming under its existing watershed, wadi programmes



- The JIVA programme will be implemented on a pilot basis in 25 projects across 11 states covering five agroecological zones.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) on Wednesday launched an agroecology-based programme JIVA that will promote natural farming under its existing watershed and wadi programmes in 11 states.
- JIVA aims to ensure using the principles of agroecology long-term sustainability and transform the pre-existing social and natural capital, and nudge the farming community towards natural farming as commercial farming cannot work in these regions.
- The Joint Initiative for Village Advancement (JIVA) is an integrated community development program supported by the John Deere Foundation and implemented by PYXERA Global and local partners in three rural villages of Rajasthan, India.
- JIVA, which means “livelihood” or “life” in the local dialect, focuses on improving agricultural productivity, bolstering educational opportunities, and building basic infrastructure to improve the quality of life for local residents.

How to Prevent the Next Pandemic



- The book, to be published by Penguin Random House internationally and Knopf in the US, will release on May 3.
- Touted to be a clear and hopeful plan of what countries, government leaders, and individuals must do to help prevent another pandemic, the book, according to Gates, lays out the “specific steps we can take to not only stop future pandemics but, in the process, provide better health care for everyone around the world”.
- His last book, “How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need”, was released in February 2021.

Germany re-elects President Frank-Walter Steinmeier for second term



- **German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier was elected to a second five-year term Sunday by a special assembly of lawmakers and state-nominated delegates.**
- **The position of president in Germany is largely symbolic, but its holder is nonetheless the country's highest authority.**
- **Prior to his first election as president in 2017, Steinmeier was served twice as foreign minister under Merkel, and also as her vice chancellor from 2007 to 2009. Before that he was chief of staff to former Chancellor Gerhard Schröder.**

Germany Chancellor: Olaf Scholz;

Germany Capital: Berlin;

Germany Currency: Euro.

RBL Bank tie-up with Creditas Solutions for 'Neo Collections' platform



- **Customers can access their consolidated account information anytime, on any device and choose the most convenient payment option for repayments in a few clicks. The intuitive platform will guide customers with personalised and insights to improve their credit score**
- **Private sector lender RBL Bank has announced a partnership with Creditas Solutions, a global technology company in the field of delinquency management, for its 'Neo Collections' platform.**
- **RBL Bank will utilise the SaaS-based (software as a service) platform to accelerate efficiency in collections across the loan cycle.**
- **The platform can also determine the best course of action for every customer by offering customised payment plans to service debt, schedule an EMI plan or opt for payment resolution options. The Neo Collections Platform, a Do It Yourself (DIY) debt management platform, will help our customers seamlessly monitor, manage and pay their dues.**

RBL Bank Founded: 1943;

RBL Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;

RBL Bank CEO & MD: Rajeev Ahuja;

RBL Bank Tagline: Apno Ka Bank.

Indian Railways to set up country's biggest & world-class Wrestling Academy in Delhi



- The Indian Railways will provide a world class wrestling academy at Delhi's Kishanganj at an approximate cost of ₹30.76 crore, ministry informed.
- The most of the medals won by India in wrestling in Olympics were from Indian Railways like Sushil (2008 and 2012), Sakshi Malik (2016), Ravi Kumar and Bajranj (2020)".
- Lauding the performances of railways wrestlers in Tokyo Olympics 2020, the railway minister said that the railway sportspersons had done marvelous and out of 7 medals won by India 3 individuals medals were won by the railway sportspersons.
- The Railways sportspersons have been honoured with 27 Padamshreee, 176 Arjuna, 12 Dhayanchnad, 14 Dronacharaya and 9 major Dhayanchand Khel Ratna awards for their outstanding sports achievements".

INSPIRESat-1 satellite- First Taiwan Presence in ISRO



- **INSPIRESat-1 has jointly been developed by team of international researchers including from universities of India, US, Taiwan, and Singapore.**
- **The first signals from INSPIRESat-1, the student satellite launched aboard the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle C-52 (PSLV C-52/EOS-04) mission on Monday, indicate that the satellite is 'healthy' and in orbit as planned,**
- **INSPIRESat-1 is part of a constellation of satellites planned under the International Space Program in Research and Education (INSPIRE) involving the Small-spacecraft Systems and Payload Centre (SSPACE) at IIST, LASP, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore, and National Central University (NCU), Taiwan.**
- **Both the satellite will provide information on Sun's corona as well as its impact on Earth's ionosphere.**