

## 2 January, 2022 Current Affairs

### 1. Tech Mahindra to acquire 100 percent stake in Allyis India, Green Investments



- Tech Mahindra has approved a proposal for the acquisition of a 100 per cent stake in Allyis India and Green Investments, for a total consideration of up to USD 125 million.
- The acquisition will bolster Tech Mahindra's capabilities in Digital Experience Solutions, Learning & Development, Marketing, Instructional Design; Engineering: Cloud & Automation, BI & Analytics, Technical support services.
- Tech Mahindra will pay total consideration of up to \$125 million, including employment-related and performance-related earnouts, as per a regulatory update filed with the exchanges.
- Allyis India Pvt Ltd and Green Investments LLC offer technology consulting and managed services for organisations to help reduce costs, improve performance, and meet their objectives. Allyis India Pvt Ltd was incorporated in 2018 while Green Investments LLC was incorporated in 2013.

**Tech Mahindra CEO:** C. P. Gurnani

**Tech Mahindra Headquarters:** Pune

**Tech Mahindra Founder:** Anand Mahindra

**Tech Mahindra Founded:** 1986.

## 2. IRDAI: LIC, GIC Re and New India systemically important insurers



- Insurance regulator, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has stated that LIC, GIC Re and New India continue to be identified as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for 2021-22.
- D-SIIs refer to insurers of such size, market importance and domestic and global interconnectedness, whose distress or failure would cause significant dislocation in the domestic financial system.

**IRDAI Founded:** 1999

**IRDAI Headquarters:** Hyderabad

**IRDAI Chairperson:** Subhash Chandra Khuntia

## 3. LIC inaugurates Digi Zone to sell policies online

- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has inaugurated “Digi Zone”, at Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, as part of its effort to enhance its digital footprint.

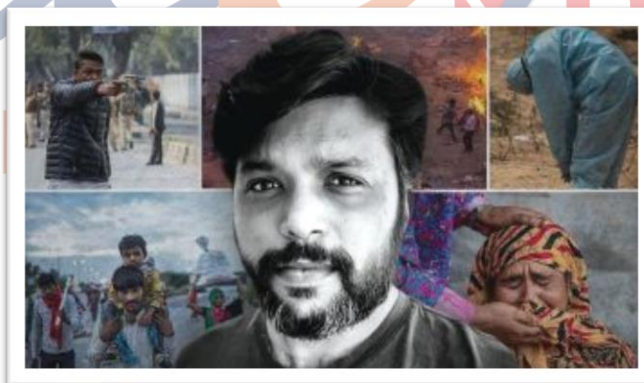
- LIC's Digi Zone can be used by the customers to purchase policies online, pay the premium and avail of other services. As a part of its efforts to become a tech-driven life insurer, LIC will offer information related to its products and services through kiosks installed on the Digi Zone premises.
- Customers can use LIC's Digi Zone to buy policies online, pay the premium and avail of other services. LIC plans to undertake the next wave of digital transformation to unlock several benefits of accelerating growth, driving customer satisfaction and improving intermediary productivity and loyalty.

**LIC Chairperson:** M R Kumar

**LIC Headquarters:** Mumbai

**LIC Founded:** 1 September 1956

**4. Danish Siddiqui gets posthumously Mumbai Press Club's RedInk Award 2020**



- Photojournalist Danish Siddiqui, who died during an assignment in Afghanistan, has been posthumously awarded as the 'Journalist of the Year' for 2020 by the Mumbai Press Club. CJI N V Ramana presented the annual 'RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism'.

- He presented the prestigious award to Siddiqui “for his spectrum of investigative and impactful news photography”. Danish Siddiqui’s wife Frederike Siddiqui received the award.
- Senior journalist Prem Shankar Jha, 83, was bestowed with the lifetime achievement award “for his long and distinguished career of incisive and analytical writing”. The Mumbai Press Club instituted The RedInk Awards a decade ago to recognise good investigative and feature writing and raise the bar of journalism in the country.

#### 5. [Nirmala Sitharaman chairs 46th GST council meet in Delhi](#)



- The GST Council’s 46th meeting was held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman.
- The GST Council has recommended deferring the decision to change the rates in textiles recommended in the 45th GST Council meeting. Consequently, the existing GST rates of 5 % instead of 12% in textile sector would continue.
- This convention attains special significance as it comes days ahead of Sitharaman presenting the much-anticipated Union Budget 2022-23 on February 1, for which she has been holding a series of pre-budget consultations with stakeholders.

## 6. India defeat Sri Lanka in U-19 Asia Cup 2021 finals



- India has lifted the under-19 Asia cricket Cup by defeating Sri Lanka by nine wickets in a rain-interrupted One-Day International final in Dubai through the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method.
- In the match, Sri Lanka opted to bat first and scored 106 for nine in the stipulated 38 overs. India, who have won a record seven Asia Cup titles, looked a far superior team.

## 7. New Zealand's Ross Taylor announces retirement from international cricket

- Veteran New Zealand batter, Ross Taylor has announced retirement from international cricket at the end of the ongoing domestic season.
- Taylor hence will play his final appearance in the second Test against Bangladesh, where will equal Daniel Vettori's record of 112 tests for New Zealand.
- He will be part of the one-day international series in Australia. He is the first cricketer to play more than 100 matches for New Zealand in all 3 formats.

## 8. DRDO Celebrates 64th Foundation Day on 1st January 2022



- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has observed the 64th Foundation Day of its establishment on January 01, 2022. DRDO was established in 1958 with just 10 laboratories to enhance the research work in the Defence sector.
- At that time, it was tasked with designing and developing cutting edge defence technologies for the Indian Armed Forces.
- As of now, DRDO is working in multiple cutting edge military technology areas, which include aeronautics, armaments, combat vehicles, electronics, instrumentation, engineering systems, missiles, materials, naval systems, advanced computing, simulation, cyber, life sciences and other technologies for defence.

**Chairman DRDO:** Dr G Satheesh Reddy

**DRDO Headquarters:** New Delhi

**DRDO Established:** 1958

## 9. 1st electric boat built for Kochi Water Metro Project

- In Kerala, the first battery-powered electric boat built for the Kochi Water Metro Project was handed over to the Kochi Metro Rail Limited. The fully air-conditioned boat is among the 23 boats being built by the Cochin Shipyard for the 747-crore rupee Kochi Water Metro project.
- Kochi Water Metro system will have 78 ferries, linking 38 terminals spread over 76 route kilometres. The battery-powered water metro boat can carry 100 passengers. KMRL said it was for the first time in the world a centrally controlled integrated water transport system with a large fleet is powered by the battery.

## 10. Jawaharlal Nehru Road renamed as 'Narendra Modi Marg'



- Governor of Sikkim, Ganga Prasad, has named a new road Narendra Modi Marg. The Governor viewed the road under Kabi Lungchok from Kyongsala, 4th mile. This is an alternative to Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg.
- The National Monument at National Highway 310 was built by Border Roads Organization. It will be easier for Indian tourists to reach Nathula Border. The stretch, constructed by Border Roads Organisation, has reduced the distance between Gangtok and Tsomgo lake by 15 km.

## 11. Quinton de Kock announces retirement from Test cricket



- South Africa's wicketkeeper-batter Quinton de Kock has announced his retirement from Test cricket with immediate effect late. His announcement came just hours after South Africa's 113-run defeat to India in the first Test of the three-match series.
- De Kock cited his intentions to spend more time with his growing family for the timing.
- In a statement, the 29-year-old de Kock said he made his decision in order to have more time to spend with his family. De Kock and his wife Sasha are expecting their first child in the coming days.