Headlines at a Glance - 25th November 2021

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13th ASEM Summit to be virtually on Nov 25-26

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu will lead the Indian delegation at the two-day ASEM summit to be held virtually from Thursday. The ASEM or Asia-Europe Meeting is a platform for the countries in Asia and Europe to exchange views on regional and global issues and strengthen cooperation in a wide range of areas. The grouping comprises 51 member countries and two regional organisations — the European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The countries in the grouping represent 65% of the global GDP, 60% of the global population, 75% of global tourism and 55% of global trade.

SOURCE: The Hindu

Govt approves continuation of National Apprenticeship Training Scheme

The Union Cabinet has approved continuation of the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme for next five years. The cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi today accorded its approval for stipendiary support of three thousand 54 crore rupees to apprentices who undergo apprenticeship training under National Apprenticeship Training Scheme for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. Approximately nine lakhs apprentices will be trained by industry and commercial organisations. The scheme is a well-established scheme of Government of India which has demonstrated to enhance the employability of students who have successfully completed the apprenticeship training.

India, ADB sign loan to improve access to healthcare in urban areas

India's federal government and Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a loan agreement of 300 million U.S. dollars to improve primary health care in the country, officials said Wednesday. The agreement was signed in New Delhi by Rajat Kumar Mishra, a senior official of the department of economic affairs representing the government of India, and Takeo Konishi, country director of ADB in India.

Officials said the loan amount would be used for the program to strengthen comprehensive primary health care and pandemic preparedness in the urban areas. According to officials, the program will be implemented in urban areas across 13 states including Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Chhattisgarh.

SOURCE: The Indian Express

Cabinet approves continuation of the umbrella scheme 'ACROSS'

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday approved the continuation of the umbrella scheme "Atmosphere & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)" along with its eight sub-schemes to the next finance cycle of five years (2021-2026) at an estimated cost of Rs 2,135 crore. The scheme will provide improved weather, climate and ocean forecast services thereby ensuring transfer of commensurate benefits to the end -user through various services like Public weather service, Agrometeorological Services, Aviation services, Environmental monitoring services, Hydrometeorological services, climate services, tourism, pilgrimage, power generation, water management, sports and adventure etc.

SOURCE: The Hindu

Deal with Russia for manufacture of assault rifles in India approved

The long awaited AK-203 production is all set to start soon. Officials have confirmed that on Tuesday evening at the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) meeting under the chairmanship of defence minister Rajnath Singh, approval was given to the long-pending deal of manufacture of the assault rifles at a facility set up in UP. The approval of DAC comes ahead of the India-Russia Annual Summit early next month. Though the dates have not been formally announced, according to reports, the Russian President Vladimir Putin will be in New Delhi on a working visit on December 6, 2021 and several issues related to military trade as well as regional and global issues are on the agenda of the summit.

SOURCE: Financial Express