



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Statehood Day of Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya

Recently, on 21 January, the states of Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya observed their **51st statehood day**. The three states gained their statehood in 1972 under the [North-Eastern Areas \(Re-organisation\) Act, 1971](#).

A few days **before India's Independence**, the **Maharaja of Manipur, Bodhachandra Singh, signed the Instrument of Accession** with the Indian govt. on the assurance that the internal autonomy of Manipur would be maintained.

Tripura accepted **merger with the Indian Union on 15th November, 1949**. **Queen Kanchan Prabha**, the then regent of Tripura (after the demise of **King Bir Bikram**) was instrumental in this merger.

Meghalaya came into existence as an **autonomous state within the state of Assam** in April 1970 comprising the **United Khasi and Jaintia Hills** and the **Garo Hills districts**.

Read More - [Statehood Day of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura](#)

Additional Tier-1 Bonds

The Bombay HC recently **quashed the write-off of Additional Tier-1 (AT1) bonds** worth **Rs 8,400 crore** issued by **Yes Bank Ltd**, bringing relief to investors.

A **SEBI** probe found that Yes bank facilitated the selling of AT1 bonds from institutional investors to individual investors and during the process of selling the AT1 bonds, the **latter were not informed about all the risks involved** in the subscription of these bonds.

AT1 bonds are **unsecured bonds that have perpetual tenor; no maturity date**. These bonds are **typically used by banks to bolster their core or tier-1 capital**. AT1 bonds are **subordinate to all other debt** and only senior to common equity.

Read More - [Additional Tier 1 Bonds](#)

Leopard 2 Tank

Amid the ongoing talks among [NATO allies](#) regarding supplying defence equipment to Ukraine, **Germany is sceptical about allowing its Leopard 2 tanks** to be sent to Ukraine.

The **Leopard 2 is one of the world's leading battle tanks**, used by the German Army for decades and by the militaries of **Canada, Indonesia and many other European nations**. It has served in conflicts in Afghanistan, Kosovo and Syria. **Germany believes re-exporting German-made tanks without its permission would be illegal**.

Leopard 2, powered by a diesel engine, **features night-vision equipment and a laser range finder** enabling it to better aim at a moving target while travelling over rough terrain.

Until now, **both Ukraine and Russia have used Soviet-era tanks** in battle. Supplies of the **Leopard 2 would help Ukraine offset Russia's superiority** in artillery firepower.

Read More - [Russia-Ukraine Conflict](#)

PM-KISAN handout may rise to Rs. 8000

In a move to provide a modicum of consumption booster, **the Centre may enhance the income support to farmers** under the PM-KISAN scheme to **Rs. 8,000 from Rs. 6,000/year**, in the **upcoming Budget**.

Under PM-KISAN, an amount of Rs. 6000 is **annually transferred to each farmer's [direct benefit transfer \(DBT\)](#)-linked bank account in three equal instalments**, irrespective of their land holdings. The number of beneficiaries has crossed 110 million from 31 million at the beginning of the scheme (in 2019).

PM-KISAN is a **Central Sector (CS) Scheme**; however, the entire responsibility of **identification of beneficiary farmer families rests with the State / UT Govts**.

Read More - [Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi \(PM-KISAN\)](#)

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