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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill 100 of April 2020 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda

स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशलता से होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF अप्रैल माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill100 में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढ़ना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा

601. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

India is going ahead with a \$2.3 billion (about Rs 15,000 Cr) deal to manufacture fleet support vessels (FSVs) in collaboration with a Turkish shipyard following a review after questions were raised on Turkey's links with Pakistan. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- India + Turkey – \$2.3 billion (about Rs 15,000 Cr) deal + to manufacture Fleet Support Vessels
- FSV – Fleet Support Vehicle
- Turkey – Ankara – Turkish Lira

602. CURRENT GK

India has approved USD 1 million to Antigua as project outlay, with immediate assistance of USD 1,50,000 for medical equipment to combat coronavirus crisis. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- India – USD 1 million – to Antigua and Barbuda (a Country in the Caribbean)
- Antigua and Barbuda – Saint John's – Eastern Caribbean dollar

603. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

Federal Bank holds a 26 per cent stake in IDBI Federal Life Insurance Co. Private lender Federal Bank will buy additional 4 per cent stake in IDBI Federal Life Insurance Co Ltd (IFLIC) from the IDBI Bank, increasing the total shareholding in the life insurance joint venture to 30 per cent. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank – will buy additional 4 % stake in IDBI Federal Life Insurance Co Ltd
- HQs Federal Bank – Kerala | MD & CEO – ShyamSrinivasan
- HQs of IDBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – M R Kumar

604. CURRENT GK

Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan participated in a virtual interactive session with Health Ministers of member countries of World Health Organization (WHO) on the measures being taken for containment of COVID-19. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- A Virtual Interactive Session with the Health Ministers of WHO member countries
- Participated by Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | Director-General – TedrosAdhanom
- Member Countries in WHO – 194

605. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

The Karnataka government launched "Apthamitra" helpline with an exclusive toll free number and a mobile app, aimed at providing required medical advice and guidance for those in need. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka – launched "Apthamitra" Mobile App & toll free helpline number
- Karnataka Capital – Bangalore
- CM – BookanakereSiddalingappaYediyurappa | Governor – VajubhaiVala

606. BANKING & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

India-based payment solution provider Transcorp International has received Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to issue co-branded prepaid instruments (PPI) cards & wallets to facilitate cashless payments. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Transcorp International Ltd – received RBI's approval to issue co-branded prepaid instruments (PPI) cards
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor - ShaktikantaDas(25th)

607. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

State-run Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management - Kerala (IIITM-K) has developed an AI Semantic search engine "Vilokana" to enable researchers to get deeper insights into scientific studies. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- "Vilokana" a search engine – developed by IIITM-K

608. CURRENT GK

The festival of San Fermín, which for centuries has unleashed half-tonne fighting bulls into the narrow streets of Pamplona, has been suspended indefinitely as Spain battles one of the world's deadliest outbreaks of Covid-19. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The festival of "San Fermin" – Spain
- Spain – Madrid – Euro

609. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

World Book Day is celebrated by UNESCO on April 23 every year. April 23 is a symbolic date for world literature because on this date in 1616 that Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega all died. Hence, to pay tribute to the great literary figures the day was selected. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 23 – “World Book Day” – by UNESCO
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay
- World Book Capital for 2020 – Kuala Lumpur

610. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Scientists at the CSIR's Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology have come up with a low-cost coronavirus test named 'Feluda' that will not require any expensive machines for detection of the pathogen. The test has been developed by DebojyotiChakraborty and SouvikMaiti. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- CSIR's Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology – a low-cost coronavirus test - 'Feluda'
- CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research) HQs – New Delhi
- CSIR President – NarendraModi | Director General – Shekhar C. Mande

611. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund Bharat-22 ETF picked up shares worth nearly Rs 59 crore in National Aluminium Company (NALCO) through an open market transaction. The total deal value was Rs 58.9 crore. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund – picked up shares worth nearly Rs 59 Cr – in NALCO
- HQs of ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Nimesh Shah
- HQs of NALCO – Bhubaneswar, Odisha | Chairman – Sridhar Patra

612. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

A government hospital in Ernakulam, Kerala has deployed a robot named 'KARMI-Bot' to serve food and medicines to coronavirus patients with an aim to reduce risk of infections for doctors and health workers. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – deployed a robot named 'KARMI-Bot'
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram
- CM – Shri. PinarayiVijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

613. AWARDS, REWARDS, RECOGNITION AND PRIZES

Jammu and Kashmir UT has bagged three national awards under separate categories for outstanding contribution by its Panchayati Raj Institutions towards socio-economic development of Gram Panchayats, adopting child-friendly practices and preparing Gram Panchayat Development Plans at the panchayat level. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Jammu and Kashmir – clinched 3 national awards on on occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day(24th April)
- Narendra Singh Tomar – Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Panchayati Raj
- Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh

614. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has launched a preventive healthcare platform in partnership with GOQii under the regulatory sandbox initiative. Under this partnership, existing health insurance policy holders can benefit from the add-on cover. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Bajaj Allianz General Ins. + GOQii – launched a Preventive Healthcare Platform
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz General Ins. – Pune, Maharashtra
- HQs of GOQii – California, United States

615. SPORTS AND GAMES

According to Indian weightlifting federation secretary SahdevYadav, both MirabaiChanu and Jeremy Lalrinnunga have already sealed their berths for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics which has been postponed to the summer of next year. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- MirabaiChanu and Jeremy Lalrinnunga – Weightlifting – qualified for Tokyo Olympic 2020
- IWF (Indian weightlifting federation) – New Delhi
- IWLF President – Birendra Prasad Baishya | Secretary – SahdevYadav

616. CURRENT GK

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) launched a liquidity support scheme for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak. SIDBI had received Rs 15,000 crore from the RBI for this purpose. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI launched – a liquidity support scheme for MSMEs
- Received 15,000 Cr. From RBI for this
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa

617. RANKS, REPORTS & SURVEYS

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur became the only Indian institute to feature in top 100 in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2020. The institute has been ranked 57th in THE global rankings for making progress in 'social impact' aligned with the UN's sustainable development goals. The list is topped by the University of Auckland, New Zealand. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur (57th) – topped in India in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2020
- University of Auckland (New Zealand) – topped in the world in THE Impact Rankings 2020

618. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The scientists from United States Geological Survey, Astrogeology Science Center, in collaboration with NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) and the Lunar Planetary Institute have virtually released the first ever digital, unified, global, geological map of the moon namely "Unified Geologic Map of the Moon". [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- US Geological Survey + Lunar Planetary Institute + NASA – released the 1st map of the moon
- Name – "Unified Geologic Map of the Moon".
- NASA HQs - Washington D.C., United States | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

619. APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Sanjay Kothari, the secretary to the President, was appointed as the Central Vigilance Commissioner, head of the country's anti-corruption watchdog CVC, according to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communique. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Kothari – appointed as the CVC

Full form of CVC: Central Vigilance Commission

620. PERSONS IN NEWS

Jharkhand Chief Minister HemantSoren launched "Jharkhand Bazar" mobile App which will help the people of the state get their essential commodities during the lockdown period to control the spread of COVID-19. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Jharkhand CM – launched "Jharkhand Bazar" mobile App
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – HemantSoren | Governor – DraupadiMurmu

621. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day is observed on 26 April. The day aims to raise awareness of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster and the risks of nuclear energy in general. The Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant was built in 1977. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 26 – International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day
- Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant was built in – 1977

622. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SpaceX successfully launched and deployed all 60 Starlink satellites into orbit. The Falcon 9 rocket also successfully touched down on the company's drone ship at sea. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- SpaceX – launched and deployed all 60 Starlink satellites into orbit
- HQs – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk

623. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

An application called "e-karyalay" (electronic office), that enables movement of files and documents without physical touch, has been launched for usage in the 1.62 lakh personnel-strong Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) to prevent coronavirus infection. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- "e-karyalay" application – launched by CISF
- CISF HQs – New Delhi | Director – Rajesh Ranjan

624. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) celebrated World Intellectual Property Day 2020 also known as World IP Day via virtual channels on April 26, 2020. The theme of World Intellectual Property Day 2020 is "Innovate for a Green Future". [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 26 – World Intellectual Property Day 2020 – by WIPO
- Theme – "Innovate for a Green Future"
- HQs of WIPO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Francis Gurry

625. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Brazilian Astronomers Fathi and his colleague astronomer Helena Morais have discovered 19 new asteroids between the Jupiter and the Neptune. It is believed by the astronomers that they joined the solar system 4.5 billion years ago. The research had been published in the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Fathi & Helena (Brazil) – retirement – discovered 19 new asteroids
- Between – the Jupiter and the Neptune
- Published in - “Royal Astronomical Society” Journal

626. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Facebook announced “Messenger Rooms” that will allow group video calls of up to 50 people. In Facebook Messenger Rooms, the users can post links in their news feed or in groups or event pages. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Facebook – announced “Messenger Rooms” – Group video call up to 50 people
- Facebook: HQs – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

627. CURRENT GK

The Indian experience of the deadly Spanish flu of 1918 shows how pandemics interact with social divide across communities. A ship carrying Indian troops along with H1N1 influenza virus reached the shores of Bombay on the 29th day of May in 1918. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 1918 H1N1 influenza virus – Spanish Flu

628. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi has developed a COVID-19 test kit, which has got the approval of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). This makes IIT-Delhi the first academic institute to have obtained ICMR approval for a real-time PCR-based diagnostic assay. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Delhi – 1st to get ICMR approval for a real-time PCR-based diagnostic assay
- ICMR HQs – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava

629. PERSONS IN NEWS

On the World Book Day, the Human Resource and Development (HRD) Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal has launched a campaign on Twitter- '#MyBookMyFriend'. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- '#MyBookMyFriend' twitter campaign – launched by Ramesh Pokhriyal
- Ministry of Human Resource Development – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'
- Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand

630. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

"World Day for Laboratory Animals", also known as World Lab Animal Day, is observed on April 24th, 2020. It has been observed annually on April 24th since 1979. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – "World Day for Laboratory Animals"

631. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NASA engineers have developed a new, easy-to-build high-pressure ventilator tailored specifically to treat COVID-19 patients. The device, called VITAL (Ventilator Intervention Technology Accessible Locally), passed a critical test. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- VITAL – easy-to-build high-pressure ventilator – developed by NASA
- NASA HQs - Washington D.C., United States
- Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

632. AMOUNT & AGREEMENTS

The World Bank has approved \$ 82 million (Rs 585 Cr) for the Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP) for upgradation of major roads and modernization of the Public Works Department in the state. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – \$ 82 million (Rs 585 Cr) – by World Bank
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala
- CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya
- WB HQs – Washington D.C., US | President – David Malpass

633. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Lebanon has become the first Arab country to legalise cannabis farming for medical and industrial purposes. A move that could generate lucrative exports and foreign currency as the country struggles to cope with a financial crisis. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Lebanon – 1st Arab country to legalise cannabis farming for “Medical and Industrial purposes”
- Lebanon – Beirut – Lebanese pound

634. SCHEMES & INITIATIVES

On the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day on 24th of April, the Prime Minister launched the Swamitva scheme which provides for an integrated property validation solution for rural India. Through this scheme, the surveying and demarcation of inhabited land in rural areas will be done by the use of latest surveying methods such as drone technology. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi launched – “Swamitva Scheme” on National Panchayati Raj Day(24th April)
- The use of latest surveying methods such as “drone technology.”

635. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Uttar Pradesh has now become the first such state with a software based in-house facility of virtual courts. Allahabad High Court and all district courts of Uttar Pradesh can now conduct multiple court proceedings through virtual courts within the court premises without any internet connectivity. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – 1st state with a software based in-house facility of virtual courts
- UP: Capital – Lucknow
- CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

636. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated on April 24 as it signifies the decentralisation of power to the grassroots by institutionalisation of the Panchayati Raj through the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992, which came into force on April 24, 1993. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – “National Panchayati Raj Day”
- The day marks the passing of – Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992

637. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Pulwama and Kishtwar in Jammu and Kashmir have become coronavirus-free as all four patients in the two districts have recovered from the infection, according to a bulletin issued by the Union Territory's administration. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Pulwama and Kishtwar (J & K) – became coronavirus-free
- J & K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

638. RANKS, REPORTS & SURVEYS

World Bank in its report titled “COVID-19 Crisis: Through a Migration Lens” projected 23% decline in Migrants Remittances to India in 2020 due to COVID-19. It has impacted nearly 40 million internal migrants in the country. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- “COVID-19 Crisis: Through a Migration Lens” report – by World Bank
- It projected “23% decline” in Migrants Remittances to India in 2020
- WB HQs – Washington D.C., US | President – David Malpass

639. ORDINANCE, BILLS AND ACTS

The Union Cabinet has approved promulgation of Ordinance to amend the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 in the light of COVID-19 pandemic situation making acts of violence against the healthcare workers as cognizable and non-bailable offences. The investigation into the cases of attack on healthcare workers will be completed within 30 days and judgment will be pronounced within one year. A person can be sentenced to terms between three months and five years, and fined between Rs 50,000 and Rs 2 lakh, for crimes under the new provision. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved promulgation of Ordinance to amend – “Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897”
- Investigation will be completed within – 30 days
- Penalty – Imprisonment of 3 months to 5 year or fine between Rs 50,000 and Rs 2 lakh
- In case of grievous injuries – Imprisonment of – 6 months to 7 years.

640. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

The Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Delhi has developed a mobile application called WashKaro. WashKaro app aims to provide the right information to people in the right format at the right time. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- “WashKaro” – IIIT Delhi

641. OBITUARIES

Eminent theatre personality UshaGanguly died at her residence in south Kolkata. She founded the Rangakarmee group in 1976, which is known for non-conformist productions like 'Mahabhoj', 'Rudali', 'Court Martial' and 'Antaryatra'. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- UshaGanguly – passed away – Director-Actor & Activist
- Founder of – Rangakarmee group

642. ORDINANCE, BILLS AND ACTS

In a major relief for corporate borrowers hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic, the government has decided to amend the insolvency law. Section 7, 9 and 10 of the IBC (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code), 2016 would be suspended for six months and the suspension time can be extended up to one year. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Gov. decided to suspend – Sections – 7, 9 and 10 of the IBC (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code), 2016
- For time period – 6 months

643. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Jammu and Kashmir State legal Services Authority (JKLSA) has launched a helpline under 'Serve-the-Seniors Initiative' under the guidance of Justice Gita Mittal, Patron-in-Chief and Justice Rajesh Bindal Executive Chairman of State Legal Services Authority. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – launched a helpline under “Serve-the-Seniors Initiative”
- Under the guidance of – Justice Gita Mittal & Justice Rajesh Bindal
- J & K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

644. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

China's space agency unveiled the name of its first Mars exploration mission, coinciding with China's annual Space Day and the 50th anniversary of the launch of its first satellite. The Mars mission has been named Tianwen-1. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- China's first Mars exploration mission – Tianwen-1
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President - Xi Jinping

645. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

A virtual workshop on the “The Contract Management during Emergency situations” was organized by the World Bank for the Project Management Unit of Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) which is executing the \$ US 250 Million Flood Recovery Project funded by the World Bank in the union territory of the Jammu and Kashmir. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank + All India Management Association (AIMA) – organized workshop on the “The Contract Management during Emergency situations”
- World Bank HQs - Washington D.C., United States
- World Bank President - David Malpass

646. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace is observed on 24th April. The day aims to disseminate the advantages of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace through educational and public awareness-raising activities. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace by UN
- 1st edition was observed in – 2019

647. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Kerala's Pathanamthitta launched "Tiranga" vehicle for rapid screening of symptoms. This is the newly-launched Tiranga initiative, by the Pathanamthitta district administration, to make it easier to screen people for COVID-19, without the risk of exposure. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- "Tiranga" vehicle – launched by Pathanamthitta, Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram
- CM – Shri. PinarayiVijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

648. BANKING & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Public sector lender Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has introduced special credit facilities for the agriculture sector as a relief measure to fight the coronavirus pandemic. The bank also added that only accounts that are 'standard' and 'performing' as of March 2020 are eligible to avail this loan facility. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IOB – introduced Special Credit Facilities for the “Agriculture Sector”
- HQs – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – ShriKarnamSekar

649. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

India's revised foreign direct investment (FDI) norms, which aim to prevent the predatory acquisition of domestic firms weakened by the Covid-19 lockdown, have been labelled as “discriminatory” by China. China said the new policy violates global trading norms under the World Trade Organisation (WTO). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Revising Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) norms – labelled as “discriminatory” by China
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President - Xi Jinping

650. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

The week from 24th to 30th April is observed globally as 'World Immunization Week.' The aim is to raise awareness about and increase immunization against vaccine-preventable diseases. This year, the theme is “Vaccines Work For All.” [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 24th to 30th April – World Immunization Week
- Theme – “Vaccines Work For All”

651. APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Huawei Telecommunications India has appointed David Li as its Chief Executive Officer. He replaces Jay Chen who has been promoted to handle Asia Pacific level business role. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- David Li – appointed as the CEO of Huawei Telecommunications India
- HQs of Huawei Telecommunications India Pvt Ltd – Gurugram, India
- HQs of Huawei – Shenzhen, China



652. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Shilpa Medicare has launched its generic version of cancer drug "Dasatinib" an anti-cancer drug with a brand name "Dasashil" at a monthly therapy cost of Rs 6,440. The drug substance patent on Dasatinib was owned by Bristol-Myers-Squibb. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Shilpa Medicare – launched cancer drug "Dasatinib" (brand name – Dasashil)

653. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

World Malaria Day or WMD is observed on April 25 every year. The day aimed at taking urgent action in the control of the deadly disease. The theme of World Malaria Day 2020 is "Zero malaria starts with me." [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 25 – The World Malaria Day
- Theme – “Zero Malaria Starts with Me”

654. SPORTS AND GAMES

Pakistan women's cricket team's former captain Sana Mir announced her decision to retire from international cricket, bringing down curtains on a 15-year-long successful career. During a successful career, Mir, 34, played 226 internationals, including 137 as captain from 2009 to 2017. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Sana Mir (Pakistan) – retirement – Cricket

655. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

In Manipur, remembering the people who valiantly fought in the Anglo-Manipuri War in 1891, state government commemorated 'Khongjom Day' at Khongjom War Memorial Complex on 23rd April 2020. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 23 – 'Khongjom Day' – commemorated by Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal
- CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – NajmaHeptulla

656. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

The 76th National Fire Service Day is observed on 14th April 2020 at every Fire Service Station in the city to remember the sacrifice of the 71 Firemen in the Rescue operation of the Freighter SS fort Stikine at the Victoria Dock in the Bombay port. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – 76th National Fire Service Day

657. PERSONS IN NEWS

RIL chairman MukeshAmbani has once again emerged as the richest Asian, pushing Alibaba founder Jack Ma to the second spot. Ambani's fortune rose about \$4.7 billion to \$49.2 billion after Reliance Industries Ltd. gained 10 per cent on the news of a deal with Facebook. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Bloomberg Billionaires Index – MukeshAmbani – topped in Asia
- 2nd – Jack Ma

658. SCHEMES & INITIATIVES

Assam government has launched a new scheme “Dhanwantari” under which locally unavailable medicines are provided to patients at home. The medicines below 200 rupees will be provided free of cost to patients. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- A new scheme “Dhanwantari” – launched by Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur
- CM – SarbanandaSonowal | Governor – JagdishMukhi

659. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Haryana launched a mobile application ‘HelpMe’ that aims to provide all the necessary services, including telemedicine, movement passes, assistance in procurement, delivery of dry ration and cooked food, education material, etc, in a single application amid the COVID-19 crisis. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- ‘HelpMe’ App – launched by Haryana
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh
- CM – ManoharLalKhattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

660. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

In order to raise awareness of the role of the representatives and delegates of the Member States to the United Nations, the UN General Assembly has proclaimed 25 April as International Delegate's Day. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 25 – 1st UN International Delegate's Day

661. MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND SUMMIT

India participated in a video conference of SAARC health ministers hosted by Pakistan to promote greater regional cooperation to deal with the coronavirus pandemic. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is a regional grouping comprising Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- A video conference of SAARC health ministers hosted by – Pakistan
- SAARC HQs – Kathmandu, Nepal | Secretary Generals - Amjad Hussain B Sial

662. SCHEMES & INITIATIVES

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan launched the Jeevan Shakti Yojana. Under this scheme, women in urban areas can earn by making masks at home. The government will pay them Rs 11 per mask. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – launched “Jeevan Shakti Yojana” (Rs 11/mask made by women)

663. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

Vodafone Idea and Paytm, a digital payments and financial services platform, have launched 'Recharge Saathi' programme which helps individuals and small businesses to earn an additional income. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Vodafone Idea + Paytm – launched 'Recharge Saathi' programme
- Paytm HQs – Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- Paytm CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- Paytm Payment Bank CEO – Satish Kumar Gupta

664. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

This year's International Girls in ICT Day, which falls on April 23, was celebrated virtually via webinars due to the discouragement of social gatherings brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. This year's theme was "Inspiring the Next Generation." [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 23 – International Girls in ICT Day
- Theme – "Inspiring the Next Generation"

665. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) has launched a 'Lockdown Learners' series of online dialogues with students and educators in India on COVID-19 and its impact on Sustainable Development Goals, peace and rule of law. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- UNODC – launched a 'Lockdown Learners' series
- HQs – Vienna, Austria | Executive Director – Yuri Fedotov

666. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Human Resources and Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched national program VidyaDaan 2.0 for inviting e-learning Content contributions in New Delhi. MoS for HRD Shri Sanjay Dhotre also participated in e-Launching through video conferencing. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- VidyaDaan 2.0 – launched by ministry of HRD
- Ministry of Human Resource Development – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'
- Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand

667. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Uttar Pradesh was the first state in the country to bring home its migrant labourers stranded in other states. UP CM Yogi Adityanath issued directives in this connection to his officials giving them 14 days to bring the labourers back home. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – 1st state to bring home its migrant labourers stranded in other states
- UP: Capital – Lucknow
- CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



668. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

UNCTAD released a report that calls for a global debt deal for the developing world. It underlines the vital need for decisive action to provide substantive debt relief of \$ 1 trillion to developing countries to free up sorely needed resources to respond to the raging pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- UNCTAD – provided debt relief of \$ 1 trillion to developing countries
- UNCTAD HQs - Geneva, Switzerland
- UNCTAD Secretary-General - MukhisaKituyi

669. CURRENT GK

India came down hard on the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) for its criticism of the country based on a "misguided" report that COVID-19 patients in a hospital in Ahmedabad were segregated on the basis of their religious identities. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- USCIRF – Washington DC, USA

670. IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

The UN English Language Day is celebrated on 23 April. The day observes both the birth and death anniversary of the famed English bard William Shakespeare. United Nations also celebrates Spanish Language day on 23 April. The day observes the death anniversary of the Spanish author Miguel de Cervantes, the creator of Don Quixote. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 23 – The UN Spanish Language Day + The UN English Language Day
- The UN English Language Day – William Shakespeare
- The UN Spanish Language Day – Miguel de Cervantes

671. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

India's largest software services firm Tata Consultancy Services will launch Israel's first fully digital bank in what is being seen as a trans-formative initiative that can impact the business model of other sectors as well. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- TCS – to launch first fully digital bank of – Israel
- Israel: Capital – Jerusalem | Currency – Israeli Shekel
- President – ReuvenRivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

672. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Oil prices slumped on Tuesday, extending the previous session's slide, on worries about limited capacity to store crude worldwide. U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures skidded by as much as 16% and were off 14.7%. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- West Texas Intermediate (WTI) – the term related to “Crude Oil”

673. PERSONS IN NEWS

The government has approved reconstitution of the National Shipping Board to be headed by former Director General of Shipping Malini Shankar. The National Shipping Board (NSB) is the highest advisory body on matters related to Indian shipping. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Reconstitution approved of – National Shipping Board – headed by Malini Shankar

674. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

Caladium Investment PTE Ltd, backed by Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC, has raised stake in Bandhan Bank by 1.1 per cent to 4.49 per cent. Caladium Investment PTE Ltd now holds 72 million shares in the Kolkata-based Bandhan Bank. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Caladium Investment PTE Ltd – raised stake in Bandhan Bank – by 1.1% to 4.49%
- Caladium Investment PTE Ltd is backed by – GIC (Singapore)
- HQs of Bandhan Bank – Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & CEO – Chandra Shekhar Ghosh
- Tagline – “AapkaBhala, SabkiBhalai”

675. OBITUARIES

Former ice hockey player Roger Chappot, who played more than 100 games for Switzerland's national team including at the 1964 Winter Olympics, has died due to COVID-19. He was 79. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Roger Chappot (Switzerland) – passed away – Former ice hockey player

676. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

IIFL Wealth Management has completed the acquisition of 100% equity shares of L&T Capital Markets (LTCM), a wholly-owned subsidiary of L&T Finance Holdings. The acquisition was for a total cash consideration of Rs 230 crore. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IIFL Wealth Management – acquisition of 100% equity shares of – L&T Capital Markets
- Larsen &Toubro(L&T) HQs – Mumbai | CMD – S N Subrahmanyam

677. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

South Korea decided to strap electronic wristbands on people ignoring home-quarantine orders. Vice Health Minister Kim Gang-lip said those who refuse to wear the bands after breaking quarantine will be sent to shelters where they will be asked to pay for accommodation. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- South Korea – decided to strap electronic wristbands
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won

678. ORDINANCE, BILLS AND ACTS

The Finance Ministry notified changes in FDI rules, which made prior approval of the government mandatory for foreign investments from countries that share border with India, to prevent opportunistic takeover of domestic firms amid Covid-19 pandemic under the FEMA law. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Finance Ministry notified changes in FDI rules – under FEMA
- Foreign Exchange Management Act – 1999
- Nirmala Sitharaman - Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- Constituency - Karnataka

679. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Saudi Arabia has abolished “flogging” as a punishment, the Supreme Court announced, hailing the latest in a series of "human rights advances" made by the king and his powerful son. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Saudi Arab – abolished – “flogging” as a punishment
- Saudi Arab - Riyadh - Saudi Riyal

680. RANKS, REPORTS & SURVEYS

The sown area of summer crops has registered an increase of 36% on a year-on-year basis as per Central government reports. The statement was made by Alpana Sharma, Additional Director General (Media and Communication) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 36% increase – in the sown area of summer crops
- DG of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare – Alpana Sharma
- Minister of MAFW – Narendra Singh Tomar (Morena, MP)

681. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The premier SreeChitraTirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology has developed an innovative technology the "Chitra Magna" kit that uses mangenticnano particle to capture and concentrate the ribonucleic acid (RNA) from the patient's swab sample to enhance the chances of identifying COVID-19 positive cases. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- SreeChitraTirunal Institute – has developed an innovative technology the "Chitra Magna" kit based on RNA
- HQs of ChitraTirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology – Kerala
- CTIMST Director– Asha Kishore

682. PERSONS IN NEWS

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh dedicated the first COVID-19 sample collection mobile Lab of the country namely "Mobile BSL3 VRDL Lab" to the nation through video conference from New Delhi. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Mobile BSL3 VRDL Lab – dedicated by Rajnath Singh (Defence Minister)
- Constituency – Lucknow, UP
- Developed by – DRDO + ESIC medical college & hospital, Sanathnagar (Hyderabad)

683. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

Tech Mahindra has decided to set up innovation centres in collaboration with IBM. The centres will showcase IBM's digital transformation solutions built with Cloud Paks running on Red Hat OpenShift, which could come handy for solving complex business problems for various industries. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Tech Mahindra + IBM – to set up innovation centres
- HQs of Tech Mahindra – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – ChanderPrakashGurnani
- HQs of IBM – New York, USA | President – Jim Whitehurst

684. BANKING & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Government has declared banking industry as a public utility service for six months till October 21 under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act. It means, this sector would not see any strikes by employees or officers during the operation of the law starting from 21 April. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Banking Industry – declared as Public Utility Service for – 6 months

685. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Government has decided that additional installment of Dearness Allowance (DA) payable to central government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) to central government pensioners due from January 1, 2020, shall not be paid, by considering the crisis arising out of COVID-19. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Gov. decided froze – DA + DR allowance of 1.1 Cr employees and pensioners

686. ORDINANCE, BILLS AND ACTS

According to the “Article 164” of the Constitution, a non-legislator is allowed to occupy a post in the council of ministers, including the office of the chief minister for six months from the date of oath. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- According to the “Article 164” – a non-legislator is allowed to occupy a post – for 6 months

687. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed a permanent bridge length of 484 meter on The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed a permanent bridge length of 484 meter on river Ravi, which connects Kasowal enclave in Punjab to the rest of the country. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- A bridge on river “Ravi” – by BRO – connects Kasowal (Punjab) to the rest of Country

Length: 484 meter

688. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

Ashok Leyland acquires 3.36% share in subsidiary Hinduja Leyland Finance. Hinduja Group flagship Ashok Leyland Ltd has acquired 1.57 crore shares of Rs 10 each constituting 3.36 per cent of the equity of its subsidiary Hinduja Leyland Finance Ltd (HLFL). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Ashok Leyland acquires – 3.36% share in – Hinduja Leyland Finance
- HQs of Ashok Leyland – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – VipinSondhi
- HQs of Hinduja Leyland Finance – Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- HQs of Hinduja Group – London, UK

689. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

The Assam government has dispatched teams of veterinary doctors after reports of the death of around 1,300 pigs in the state's five districts. The deaths, attributed due to classical swine fever in Jorhat, Sibsagar, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji and Nagaon districts within a span of one week. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – reported the death of around 1,300 pigs – due to Classical Swine Fever
- Assam: Capital – Dispur
- CM – SarbanandaSonowal | Governor – JagdishMukhi

690. AMOUNT & AGREEMENTS

National Institute of Information Technology - NIIT (USA) Inc., USA, a wholly owned subsidiary of NIIT Limited, has signed a Managed Services agreement with a US based EdTech company to provide virtual services to education providers. The term of the agreement is 5 years. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- NIIT Inc. (USA) – signed a Managed Services agreement with - EdTechcompany (USA)
- HQs of NIIT Limited – Gurugram, Harayana | CEO – SapneshLalla

691. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

Coal India Limited (CIL)'s annual production and offtake target has been fixed at 710 million tonnes (mt) by the Ministry of Coal. The company's Over Burden (OB) removal target for FY 20-21 was also set at 1580 million cubic metres. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 710 million tonnes – Coal production target – set by CIL
- HQs of CIL – Kolkata, WB | Director – Anil Kumar Jha

692. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated a mobile virology research and diagnostics laboratory in Hyderabad, a testing facility developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation that can process over 1,000 samples in a day. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- A Mobile Virology Research And Diagnostics Laboratory – in Hyderabad, Telangana
- Developed by – DRDO | Capacity – 1000 Samples/day
- DRDO: HQs - New Delhi | Chairman - G. Satheesh Reddy



693. AMOUNT & AGREEMENTS

Sri Lanka is set to enter into an agreement with the Reserve Bank of India for a currency swap worth USD 400 million to boost the foreign reserves and ensure the financial stability of the country which is badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Sri Lanka – a currency swap worth – USD 400 million – with the RBI
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri JayawardenepuraKotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – MahindaRajapaksa | President – GotabayaRajapaksa

694. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

The Medical and Health Department of Andhra Pradesh launched 'CovidPharma', a mobile application to keep a track of people purchasing medicines over-the-counter (OTC) for cough, cold and fever from medical stores across the state. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – launched “CovidPharma” a mobile application
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – BiswabhusanHarichandan

695. OBITUARIES

Former Australian cricketer Graeme Watson has died aged 75 following a battle with cancer. Primarily a middle-order batsman and a medium-pace bowler, he featured in five Tests from 1966-67 to 1972 and two ODIs in 1972. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Graeme Watson (Australia) – passed away – Cricketer

696. OBITUARIES

Former RajyaSabha member from Odisha Basanta Das died following a prolonged illness. He was 80. Das was RajyaSabha member from 1990 to 1996 as Janata Dal nominee. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Basanta Das (Odisha) – passed away – Politician (Former RajyaSabha member)



697. NATIONAL AND STATES AFFAIRS

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, CCEA gave its approval for fixation of Nutrient Based Subsidy, NBS rates for Phosphatic and Potassic (P and K) Fertilizers for the year 2020-21. The CCEA also approved the inclusion of a complex fertilizer namely Ammonium Phosphate under the NBS Scheme. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- “Ammonium Phosphate” a fertilizer approved under – the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme
- Narendra Singh Tomar – Minister of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj
- Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh

698. ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

Mortgage lender HDFC has acquired 6.43 per cent stake in debt-trapped Reliance Capital by invoking pledged shares. The shares were acquired pursuant to invocation of pledge by security trustee on behalf of the corporation. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC – acquired 6.43% stake – in Reliance Capital
- HDFC HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – AdityaPuri
- HDFC Bank Tagline – "We understand your world"

699. SCHEMES & INITIATIVES

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the YSR Zero Interest Loan scheme, under which Rs 1,400 crore has been credited to the bank accounts of 8.78 lakh Self Help Groups (SHGs). Under the scheme, women SHG members can avail loans of Rs 20,000-40,000 a year. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Zero Interest Loan scheme – launched by Andhra Pradesh CM
- Maximum availability of loan by SHGs – Rs 40,000
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – BiswabhusanHarichandan

700. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

This year, the Hubble space telescope of NASA is celebrating its 30th anniversary in orbit. Launched on 24 April 1990 onboard the space shuttle Discovery, it was deployed into orbit a day later. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – 30th Anniversary of Hubble Space Telescope of NASA
- NASA HQs - Washington D.C., United States
- Administrator – Jim Bridenstine



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