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## An important message from Team Smartkeeda

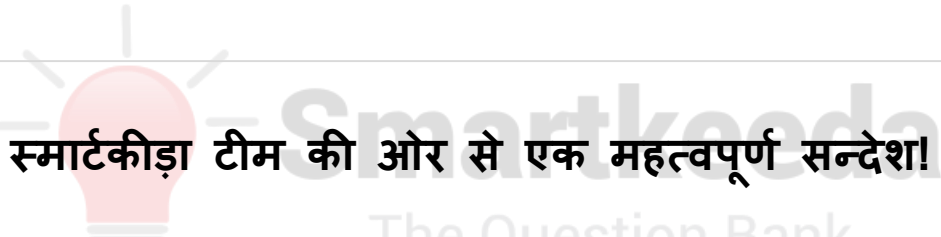
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of April 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial 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 कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF अप्रैल 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test 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 सम-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 पढना, 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



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## National & States Affairs

**401.** On April 15, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has inaugurated 3 path breaking initiatives for National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) - "IP Guru, NIXI Academy & NIXI-IP-Index" to adapt Internet Protocol v6 (IPv6). With this launch, NIXI has announced to play a supporting role for the IPv6 awareness and adoption in India along with DOT & MeitY. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- MeitY – inaugurated 3 initiatives for NIXI - IP Guru, NIXI Academy & NIXI-IP-Index – to adapt IPv6
- Address size of IPv6 – 128 bits
- Chairman of NIXI – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | Founded in – 2003
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Constituency – Patna Sahib, Bihar)

**402.** On April 15, The Common Services Center (CSC) and Tata Power have entered in to a tie-up to set up Solar-Powered Micro Grids and Water Pumps in rural areas across India. Tata Power plans to set up 10,000 micro grids which will be supported by CSC's village level entrepreneurs. Under the partnership, over 3.75 lakh CSCs will be involved in supplying solar water pumps to farmers. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- CSC + Tata Power = a tie-up to set up Solar-Powered Micro Grids & Water Pumps in rural areas across India
- HQs of CSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | MD – Dinesh Kumar Tyagi
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai | CEO – Praveer Sinha

**403.** On April 15, Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has launched the 'EatSmart Cities Challenge' and 'Transport 4 All Challenge' through video conferencing. EatSmart Cities Challenge is an opportunity for India to play a pioneering role in developing the concept of integrating food systems into city planning and development. The Transport 4 All Challenge aims to bring together cities, citizen groups, and start-ups to develop solutions that improve public transport. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri (MoHUA) – launched the 'EatSmart Cities Challenge' & 'Transport 4 All Challenge'

**404.** On April 13, Kabira Mobility, the Goa-based EV start-up has recently announced the launch of its first high-speed commercial delivery electric scooter, "Hermes 75". The scooter has been priced at ₹89,600. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Kabira Mobility (Goa) – launched its first high-speed commercial delivery electric scooter "Hermes 75"
- Cost of the scooter – ₹89,600



**405.** On April 16, Infosys has formed an Environmental Social and Governance Committee (ESG Committee) under the chairmanship of Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw. The past year saw Infosys turn carbon neutral 30 years ahead of 2050, the timeline set by the Paris Agreement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Infosys formed ESG Committee under the chairmanship of – Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh

**406.** On April 16, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW) has approved Rs 50.30 Cr for developing all-weather ROPAX (Roll-on/Roll-off Passenger) Jetty on river Dhamra in Odisha under the Sagarmala initiative. The total capital cost of the project is Rs 110.60 Cr in which another 50% cost is born by Odisha government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoPSW – approved Rs 50.30 Cr for developing all-weather “ROPAX Jetty” – on river Dhamra in Odisha
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways – Mansukh L. Mandaviya
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**407.** The SEBI has issued guidelines for Warehousing Norms for Agriculture & Non-Agriculture goods. The guidelines would come into effect from June 1, 2021. An accredited WSPs (Warehouse Service Providers) should have a minimum subscribed and paid-up share capital of Rs 10 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – issued guidelines for Warehousing Norms for Agriculture & Non-Agriculture goods
- Minimum paid-up capital needed to be accredited as a WSPs – Rs 10 Cr
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**408.** The Union Commerce and Industry Ministry has announced extension of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) of Government of India for 6 months till September 2021. The present Policy came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Commerce & Industry Ministry – extended the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) – for 6 months (till Sep 2021)
- The present Policy came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015

**409.** Italy has launched its first ever Mega Food Park Project in India involving food processing facilities. Ambassador of Italy to India, Vincenzo de Luca, and the Ambassador of India to Italy, Neena Malothra were part of the launch. A Letter of Intent was signed between the ICE Office in Mumbai and Fanidhar Mega Food Park, in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Italy – launched its first ever Mega Food Park Project in India
- Ambassador of India to Italy – Neena Malothra
- Fanidhar Mega Food Park – Gujarat
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi



**410.** April 8, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) and Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) have agreed to work together on implementing the Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM FME) Scheme to support Self Help Group (SHG) entrepreneurs in food processing. Centrally Sponsored Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM FME) Scheme will be implemented over a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs 10,000 Cr. The Scheme provides Rs 40,000 as working capital for each member of Self Help Groups (SHG). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoFPI + DAY-NRLM = to work together on implementing the PM-FME Scheme
- PM FME Scheme will be implemented over a period of 5 years | Outlay – Rs 10,000 Cr | Launched in – 2020
- PM FME Scheme provides Rs 40,000 as working capital for each member of SHG
- [Narendra Singh Tomar – Ministry of Food Processing Industries \(Morena, MP\)](#)

**411.** The Rajasthan government has approved a proposal to give relaxation in the maximum age limit to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) candidates like other reserved categories for appointment to state services. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan – approved a proposal to give relaxation in the maximum age limit to the EWS candidates
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

**412.** On April 12, In a bid to attain self-reliance in container production amid a global surge in demand, India has decided to develop Bhavnagar in Gujarat as a container hub and has set up pilot projects for its manufacturing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central government decided to develop Bhavnagar (Gujarat) as a Container Hub
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat](#)

**413.** On April 22, The Nagaland government has decided to form a Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) involving all traditional tribal bodies and, civil society organisations for taking an exercise to register the State's indigenous inhabitants. The JCC will be headed by Home Commissioner Abhijit Sinha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nagaland – decided to form a JCC for taking an exercise to register the State's indigenous inhabitants
- [Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi](#)

**414.** On April 17, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju have inaugurated a “Water Sports and Adventure Institute” on the bank of the Tehri lake. Built at a cost of Rs 20 Cr, the institute will be run by the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Water Sports and Adventure Institute” is inaugurated – on Tehri lake, in Uttarakhand
- It will be run by – ITBP | Cost of building it – Rs 20 Cr
- [Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivindra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya](#)



**415.** On April 15, India has an overall shortfall of 76.1% specialist doctors at the Community Health Centres (CHCs) in rural areas, according to the latest Union Health Ministry data. Moreover, as compared to the requirement for existing infrastructure, there is a shortfall of 78.9 per cent of surgeons, 69.7 per cent of obstetricians & gynecologists, 78.2 per cent of physicians, and 78.2 per cent of pediatricians. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India has an overall shortfall of 76.1% specialist doctors at the Community Health Centres (CHCs) in rural areas

**416.** Adani Group has crossed the \$100 billion Market Capital, making it the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian business house after Tata, HDFC and Reliance to cross this milestone. Tata Group and Reliance Mukesh Ambani group gained 99% and 65% in market cap in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adani Group – crossed the \$100 billion Market Capital (4<sup>th</sup> Indian company/organisation)
- HQs of Adani Group – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani

**417.** Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) has hired SBI Caps Ltd to act as Transaction Advisor for the privatisation of the container terminal run by the port authority itself. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI Caps Ltd – appointed as Transaction Advisor of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (Navi Mumbai, MH)
- HQs of SBI Caps Ltd – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Varsha Purandare

**418.** On April 18, The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has sanctioned 162 Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Oxygen Plants for installation in public health facilities in all states to increase oxygen capacity in India. These will augment medical oxygen capacity by 154.19 MT (metric tonne). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoHFW – sanctioned 162 “Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Oxygen Plants” for installation in public health facilities
- These will augment medical oxygen capacity – by 154.19 MT

**419.** Tourism and Culture Minister Prahlaad Singh Patel has inaugurated the first-ever online exhibition on Ramayana. He addressed a webinar “India's Heritage: Powering Tourism” on the occasion of World Heritage Day 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prahlaad Singh Patel – inaugurated the first-ever online exhibition on Ramayana
- Prahlaad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture (Constituency – Damoh, Madhya Pradesh)

**420.** BJP president Jagat Prakash Nadda has asked party functionaries to launch “Apna Booth Corona Mukta” (Our booth is free of corona) campaign amid a huge surge in the COVID-19 cases across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- JP Nadda (BJP President) – asked party functionaries to launch “Apna Booth Corona Mukta” campaign





# International Affairs

**421.** On April 22, Researchers from Purdue University in the U.S. have developed an 'Ultra-white' paint, which when painted onto buildings, can reflect 99% sunlight falling on them and lower the temperature indoors by 4.5 degrees Celsius than the surroundings. This is possible to achieve by adding Barium sulfate (BaSO<sub>4</sub>) to acrylic paint. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Researchers from Purdue University (US) – developed an 'Ultra-white' paint that reflects 99% sunlight
- This is possible to achieve by adding Barium sulfate (BaSO<sub>4</sub>) to acrylic paint

**422.** On April 17, Turkey's central bank has banned the use of cryptocurrencies and crypto assets to purchase goods and services, citing irreparable possible damages and significant risks in such transactions. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Turkey – banned the use of cryptocurrencies and crypto assets to purchase goods & services
- Turkey – Ankara – Lira | President – Recep Tayyip Erdogan

**423.** On April 10, Iran has launched advanced Uranium Enrichment centrifuges. It comes after U.S. offered 'very serious' ideas on resetting ties and was awaiting Tehran's reciprocation. President Hassan Rouhani inaugurated the 3 cascades of 164 IR-6 centrifuges, 30 IR-5 and another 30 IR-6 devices at Iran's Natanz uranium enrichment plant. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Iran – launched advanced "Uranium Enrichment centrifuges" – at Natanz Uranium Enrichment Plant (Iran)
- 3 cascades: 164 IR-6 + 30 IR-5 + 30 IR-6
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Hassan Rouhani

**424.** According to the World Meteorological Organisation, the Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from 'La Soufriere' volcano eruption in the Caribbean Sea reached India on April 16, 2021. Sulphur dioxide reacts with water to form sulphuric acid which can come down with rainfall. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from 'La Soufriere' volcano eruption in the Caribbean Sea reached India
- 'La Soufriere' volcano – located in Saint Vincent & the Grenadines
- Saint Vincent & the Grenadines – Kingstown – Eastern Caribbean dollar
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Petteri Taalas | Established in – 1950



# **Banking & Economic Affairs**

**425.** On April 15, US-based Citibank has announced to close its consumer banking operations in India and 12 other countries. Citi's businesses in India include retail banking, wealth management, credit cards and mortgages. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Citibank (US) – announced to close its consumer banking operations in India & 12 other countries
- HQs of Citibank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ashu Khullar

**426.** On April 16, The RBI has set up the Regulations Review Authority 2.0. Deputy Governor M. Rajeshwar Rao has been appointed as the head of the Regulations Review Authority 2.0. The authority would have validity for a period of 1 year from May 1, 2021. The RBI had set up a similar authority for 1 year from April 1, in 1999. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- RBI – set up the “Regulations Review Authority 2.0” for 1 year – headed by M. Rajeshwar Rao
- RBI had set up a similar authority – in 1999
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**427.** In a major move in the online payments segments, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to allow Payment System Operators to take direct membership of Centralised Payment Systems (CPS), such as RTGS and NEFT. This facility is expected to minimise settlement risk in the financial system. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- RBI – to allow Payment System Operators to take direct membership of CPS – such as RTGS & NEFT
- CPS – Centralised Payment Systems | RTGS – Real-Time Gross Settlement | NEFT – National Electronic Funds Transfer
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**428.** On April 19, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has partnered with Habitat for Humanity International to help microfinance institutions (MFIs) deliver housing loans to 20,000 low-income families in rural and peri-urban areas of India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and the Philippines. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ADB + Habitat for Humanity International = partnership to help MFIs deliver housing loans to low-income families
- Loans to 20,000 low-income families in – India, Bangladesh, Indonesia & Philippines
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68
- HQs of Habitat for Humanity – Georgia, US | CEO – Jonathan Reckford



**429.** On April 11, The Finance Bill, 2021 proposed to replace two quasi-judicial bodies such as the 'Income-Tax Settlement Commission' (ITSC) and the 'Authority for Advance Rulings' (AAR) with administrative bodies, comprising of chief commissioners of income-tax. The finance ministry abruptly discontinued the ITSC from February 1, 2021, and replaced it with a new 'Dispute Resolution System' with Assessing Taxable income up to Rs 50 lakh and disputed income of up to Rs 10 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Income-Tax Settlement Commission' (ITSC) – replaced with 'Dispute Resolution System'
- Assessing Taxable income up to – Rs 50 lakh | Disputed income of up to – Rs 10 lakh

**430.** On April 20, The RBI has been decided not to activate Countercyclical Capital Buffer (CCyB) at present, based on the review and empirical testing of CCyB indicators. The RBI had in February 2005 put in place CCyB guidelines with the overall objective of strengthening the banking sector. Currently, RBI keeps the CCyB at 0%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – decided not to activate Countercyclical Capital Buffer (CCyB) at present
- The RBI had in February 2005 put in place CCyB guidelines | Current CCyB rate – 0%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**431.** On April 20, The RBI has formed a 6-member panel headed by Sudarshan Sen to carry out comprehensive review of the working of Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) in the financial sector ecosystem. The Committee will submit its report within 3 months from the date of its first meeting. ARCs have to maintain a capital adequacy ratio of 15% of its risk-weighted assets and their net owned funds should be Rs 100 Cr or more. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI has formed a 6-member panel to carry out comprehensive review of the working of ARCs
- The panel is headed by – Sudarshan Sen | ARCs – Asset Reconstruction Companies
- ARCs have to maintain a capital adequacy ratio of 15% of its Risk-Weighted Assets
- ARCs' net owned funds should be more or equal to – Rs 100 Cr
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

## **Defence Affairs**

**432.** On April 16, Russia is going to deliver the first regimental set of "S-400" Triumph 'SA-21 Growler' air defence systems. Both countries have inked a \$5.43 billion contract. This contract is for the S-400 Triumph 'SA-21Growler', which is long-range Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) systems. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Russia – to deliver the first regimental set of "S-400" Triumph 'SA-21 Growler' air defence systems
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin



**433.** Special forces of India and Kyrgyzstan have begun a two-week military exercise in Bishkek with a focus on counter-terror drills. The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of Special Forces exercise, “Khanjar” was initiated in 2011. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Kyrgyzstan = began 8<sup>th</sup> edition of Special Forces exercise “Khanjar”
- [Kyrgyzstan – Bishkek – Som | President – Sadyr Nurgojoevich Japarov](#)

**434.** On April 20, Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 323, the first unit of the indigenously built ‘ALH Mk III’ aircraft, was commissioned into the Indian Navy at INS Hansa, Goa on 19 Apr 21. It is manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). The Indian Navy had ordered 16 Mk-III from HAL to supplement its ageing and depleting fleet of Alouettes (Chetaks). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “INAS 323” - 1<sup>st</sup> unit of indigenously built ‘ALH Mk III’ aircraft – commissioned into Indian Navy at INS Hansa, Goa
- The ALHs are Indigenously designed & developed by – HAL
- [HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt](#)

## **Schemes & Initiatives**

**435.** On April 16, “Gender Samvaad” was launched in a joint initiative by the Ministry of Rural Development’s Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) and the Initiative for What Works to Advance Women and Girls in the Economy (IWWAGE) by LEAD. The event falls under the Azadi Amrut Mahotsav. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DAY-NRLM (MoRD) + IWWAGE (LEAD) = launched “Gender Samvaad”
- [Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj – Narendra Singh Tomar \(Morena, MP\)](#)

**436.** On April 20, Union Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the “Startup India Seed Fund” scheme (SISF) that will support India’s domestic entrepreneurs and their business ideas. It was set-up with a corpus of Rs 945 Cr for 4 years. Eligible Incubators selected by Experts Advisory Committee will receive Rs 5 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal has launched the “Startup India Seed Fund” scheme (SISF) – with a corpus of Rs 945 Cr for 4 years
- Eligible Incubators will receive – Rs 5 Cr



# Sports & Games

**437.** On April 13, The World Table Tennis Championships will be held as per schedule from November 23 to 29 in Houston, USA. The ITTF Executive Committee also approved the new ITTF Team and Youth rankings with the regulations and first ranking lists set to be published in soon. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- World Table Tennis Championships – to be held in Houston, USA
- HQs of ITTF – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Weikert | Founded in – 1926

**438.** On April 15, Sarita Mor has become the first Indian woman to win 2 consecutive Gold Medals in the 34<sup>th</sup> “Asian Wrestling Championships” as she secured her women’s 59kg title in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Seema (50kg) and Pooja (76kg) have claimed bronze medals in the same championships. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Sarita Mor – became 1<sup>st</sup> Indian woman to win 2 consecutive Gold Medals in the 34<sup>th</sup> “Asian wrestling championships”
- Sarita Mor + Seema Bisla + Pooja Dhanda = Wrestling

**439.** On April 18, Red Bull's Max Verstappen has won “Emilia Romagna Grand Prix-2021” to register his first race victory of the Formula One 2021 season. Max Verstappen finished 1st ahead of Lewis Hamilton and Lando Norris. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Max Verstappen – won “Emilia Romagna Grand Prix-2021”
- Max Verstappen (Netherlands) – Red Bull team

**440.** On April 16, Ravi Kumar Dahiya became the third Indian male wrestler to secure a second Asian championships Gold medal in 57kg freestyle title in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Dahiya defeated Iranian Alireza Nosratolah Sarlak. Karan Mor (70kg), Narsingh Yadav (79kg) and Satyawart Kadian (97kg) won Bronze medals. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ravi Kumar Dahiya (Indian Wrestler) – won Gold medal in the 34<sup>th</sup> “Asian Wrestling Championships” (men’s)
- Karan Mor + Narsingh Yadav + Satyawart Kadian = Indian Wrestlers

**441.** On April 17, Nine venues - Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Dharamsala, Ahmedabad and Lucknow - have reportedly been picked by the BCCI apex council for the T20 World Cup slated to be held in India later this year. The final of the T20 World Cup 2021 will be held at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 9 have reportedly been picked by the BCCI for the “T20 World Cup 2021”



- 9 Venues: Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Dharamsala, Ahmedabad & Lucknow
- Narendra Modi Stadium (Ahmedabad) – to host the final of the “T20 World Cup 2021”
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | President – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah

**442.** On April 17, Ace Indian swimmer Srihari Nataraj has created a National Record in 50m backstroke while winning his second Gold of the Uzbekistan Open Championship. Indian swimmers enjoyed a rich haul of 29 medals - 18 Gold, 7 Silver and 4 Bronze. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Srihari Nataraj (Swimmer) – created National Record in 50m – winning 2<sup>nd</sup> Gold in Uzbekistan Open Championship
- Uzbekistan – Tashkent – So’m | President – Shavkat Mirziyoyev

**443.** On April 13, Saikhom Mirabai Chanu has set a new world record in her last attempt to win bronze at the Asian Championship. She signed off with an incredible 119kg lift in clean and jerk, bettering the world record by 1kg. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mirabai Chanu (Manipur - Weightlifting) – set a new world record of 119kg lift at the Asian Championship
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**444.** On April 19, Former Sri Lanka cricketer Dilhara Lokuhettige was banned from all forms of Cricket for 8 years by the International Cricket Council (ICC) after being found guilty of breaching the ICC Anti-Corruption Code. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dilhara Lokuhettige (Sri Lanka) – banned from all forms of Cricket for 8 years – by ICC
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Manu Sawhney

## Important Days & Dates

**445.** Every year, April 17 is observed as World Hemophilia Day. Hemophilia is a rare disorder of the blood, in which it doesn’t clot normally because it lacks sufficient blood-clotting proteins. This day also marks the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel, the founder of the World Federation of Hemophilia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 17 – World Hemophilia Day (birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel)
- HQs of World Federation of Hemophilia – Montreal, Canada



**446.** Every year, the United Nations marks April 18 as the “International Day for Monuments and Sites”, in many countries also celebrated as “World Heritage Day”. The theme for this year is “Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures”. Globally, the day is promoted by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). India is home to 38 UNESCO World Heritage Sites out of the 1121 such spots. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 18 – “International Day for Monuments and Sites” or “World Heritage Day” – by ICOMOS
- Theme – “Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures”
- Number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India – 38
- [HQs of ICOMOS – Paris, France | President – Teresa Patriciao](#)

**447.** “World Liver Day” is observed on April 19 every year, to spread awareness about the liver-related disease. The liver is the second largest and the most complex organ in the body, except the brain. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 19 – “World Liver Day”

**448.** The UN Chinese Language Day is observed on April 20 every year since 2010, celebrating the language's contribution to the world while encouraging more people to learn it. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 20 – UN Chinese Language Day (since 2010)

**449.** The 1004<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Sri Ramanuja Acharya was observed on April 18, 2021. Sri Ramanuja Acharya was born in 1017 CE at Shriperumbudur village in Tamil Nadu. He was a great theologian philosopher and thinker of devotional Hinduism. He is the most respected Acharya in the philosophy of Sri Vaishnavism. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- April 18 – 1004<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Sri Ramanuja Acharya | Associated sect of Hinduism – Vaishnavism
- He was born in 1017 CE – at Shriperumbudur village (Tamil Nadu)

## **Meetings, Conferences and Summits**

**450.** On April 15, Union Minister Piyush Goyal has chaired the first meeting of National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC) set up to advise the government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in India. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in January had constituted the Council to drive sustainable economic growth. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – chaired the first meeting of National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC)
- [Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra](#)



**451.** The United Nations Secretary General has called for the first ever “UN Food Systems Summit” to be held in September 2021, in New York, USA to strategize the actions for positive change in Agri-food systems in the World to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The first ever “UN Food Systems Summit” to be held in September 2021 – in New York, USA
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres

**452.** The Energy Forum (TEF) and the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry (FIPI) are organising a Hydrogen Roundtable titled “Hydrogen Economy-the Indian Dialogue-2021” in a virtual mode on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. This high-level roundtable conference will be led by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel. India & US agreed to set-up a Hydrogen Task Force. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TEF + FIPI = organised a Hydrogen Roundtable titled “Hydrogen Economy-the Indian Dialogue-2021”
- Dharmendra Pradhan – led the high-level roundtable conference
- India & US – agreed to set-up a “Hydrogen Task Force”
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**453.** On April 11, Indian Army chief Gen M. M. Naravane has attended the “Army Chiefs' Conclave” held on the sidelines of a multinational military exercise - “Shantir Ogroshena (Frontrunners of Peace) 2021”. He delivered a keynote address on “Changing Nature of Global Conflicts: Role of UN Peacekeepers”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gen M. M. Naravane attended the “Army Chiefs' Conclave” – held in Bangladesh
- M. M. Naravane delivered a keynote address on “Changing Nature of Global Conflicts: Role of UN Peacekeepers”
- India + Bhutan + Sri Lanka = participated in the “Shantir Ogroshena 2021” organised by Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**454.** “Indian Air Force Commanders' Conference 2021” was concluded on April 16. The theme of the conference was “Reorienting for the Future”. The three day conference saw detailed deliberations on ways and means to enhance the operational capabilities of the IAF. The conference was addressed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Indian Air Force Commanders' Conference 2021” – held in New Delhi
- Theme – “Reorienting for the Future” | The conference was addressed by – Rajnath Singh
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Founded in – 1932





## Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**455.** On April 12, Marathi film Puglya has won the best foreign language feature at the Moscow International Film Festival 2021. The film is directed by Vinod Sam Peter. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- “Puglya” a Marathi film – won the best Foreign Language Feature at the “Moscow International Film Festival 2021”
- Director – Vinod Sam Peter

## Appointments & Resignations

**456.** On April 17, DCB Bank has received the approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the re-appointment of Murali M. Natrajan as the Managing Director & CEO, for further period of 1 year from April 29, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Murali M. Natrajan – to be re-appointed as MD & CEO of DCB Bank
- HQs of DCB bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Murali M Natrajan
- DCB bank – the 1<sup>st</sup> bank to start Aadhaar-based ATM service (in 2016)

**457.** On April 17, K. Madhavan has been appointed as the President of The Walt Disney Company India and Star India, with immediate effect. He will be driving the strategy and growth of Disney, Star and Hotstar businesses and operations. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- K. Madhavan – appointed as the President of – The Walt Disney Company India and Star India
- HQs of The Walt Disney Company India – Mumbai, MH | President – K. Madhavan

**458.** On April 10, In exercise of the powers conferred by Article 223 of the Constitution of India, President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Senior Justice Sanjay Yadav as acting Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court. He will take charge from April 14 after Chief Justice Govind Mathur retirement. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- President Ram Nath Kovind – appointed Justice Sanjay Yadav as acting Chief Justice of “Allahabad High Court”
- The President of India appoints a Chief Justice of State High Court – under Article 223 of Constitution of India

**459.** On April 19, The ruling Movement for Democracy (MpD) party under Ulisses Correia e Silva has won the Parliamentary Election, a second 5-year term as Prime Minister. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- The ruling party under PM Ulisses Correia e Silva – won the Parliamentary Election of Cape Verde
- Cape Verde – Praia – Cape Verdean Escudo | President – Jorge Carlos Fonseca | PM – Ulisses Correia e Silva



**460.** On April 19, South Korean President Moon Jae-in has nominated interior minister Kim Boo-kyum as the new Prime Minister of the country. Apart from the Prime Minister, the president also nominated new land, labor, industry, science and oceans ministers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kim Boo-kyum – appointed as the Prime Minister of South Korea
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in | PM – Kim Boo-kyum

**461.** On April 20, Global sports brand, Puma has signed a long-term partnership deal with cricketers Washington Sundar and Devdutt Padikkal as brand ambassadors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Washington Sundar + Devdutt Padikkal (**Cricketers**) = appointed as Brand Ambassadors of “Puma India”
- HQs of Puma India – Bangalore, Karnataka | Executive Director – Abhishek
- HQs of Puma – Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO – Bjorn Gulden

## Amount & Agreements

**462.** India has extended NRs 42.95 million (Rs 26.98 million) grant assistance to Nepal for a new building of a secondary school in Udayapur district of Nepal. The project will be taken up as a High Impact Community Development Project (HICDPs) at an estimated cost of NRs 42.95 million under the Nepal-Bharat Maitri Development Partnership programme. Nepal also inaugurated 10 Roads which were built with Indian grant assistance. The roads, Postal Highway are also called ‘Hulaki Rajmarg’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – extended NRs 42.95 million (Rs 26.98 million) grant to Nepal for new school building – in Udayapur, Nepal
- Nepal – also inaugurated 10 Roads built with Indian grant assistance
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

**463.** On April 15, Amazon India has launched \$250 million “Amazon Smbhav Venture Fund” to invest in startups and entrepreneurs. It focuses on technology innovations in SMB (small and medium business) digitization, agriculture and healthcare. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amazon India – launched \$250 million “Amazon Smbhav Venture Fund”
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Present CEO – Jeff Bezos (Andy Jassy from October 2021)
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal



**464.** On April 20, As India and Australia increase engagement under Indo-Pacific vision, Canberra has announced AUD 1.4 million (Rs 81.2 million) grant under the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI). IPOI was proposed by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the East Asia Summit in November 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Australia announced a grant assistance of AUD 1.4 million (Rs 81.2 million) under Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative
- IPOI was launched in 2019
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison](#)

## **Ranks, Reports & Surveys**

**465.** On April 16, According to the recently released “Global Food Policy Report 2021” by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), the impacts of rising poverty and reduced livelihoods are reflected clearly in rising levels of food insecurity and decreasing diet quality. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Global Food Policy Report 2021” report – released by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- [HQs of IFPRI – Washington, D.C., USA | Director General – Johan F. M. Swinnen](#)

**466.** According to the “Henley Passport Index” released by Henley and Partners, Japan and Singapore have the strongest passports in the global ranking. Afghanistan and Iraq hold the bottom spots. India and Bangladesh stand at the 84<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> ranks, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Henley Passport Index” – released by Henley & Partners
- [India – 84<sup>th</sup> | Top three – Japan, Singapore, Germany/South Korea | Bottom – Afghanistan](#)

**467.** On April 15, India has ranked at 49<sup>th</sup> spot globally when it comes to Internet Inclusion and Gender Equality in accessing the world wide web, according to the “Inclusive Internet Index” released by a Facebook-Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). India is tied with Thailand in 49<sup>th</sup> place this year. India is set to reach one billion internet users by 2025. There were over 687.6 million internet users in India in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Inclusive Internet Index” – released by Facebook + EIU
- [India – 49<sup>th</sup> | 1<sup>st</sup> – Sweden, 2<sup>nd</sup> – US, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Spain](#)

**468.** On April 15, 45% of the women from 57 developing countries do not have the right to make decisions regarding their bodies, including using contraception, seeking healthcare or even on their sexuality, according to the United Nations Population Fund’s (UNFPA) flagship State of World Population Report 2021 titled “My Body is My Own”. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- State of World Population Report 2021 titled “My Body is My Own” – released by UNFPA
- Only 55% of women are fully empowered to make choices
- HQs of UNFPA – New York, US | Executive Director – Natalia Kanem

**469.** According to the National Housing Bank’s latest “Trend and Progress of Housing in India” report, the pace of growth of banks remained higher than that of HFCs. The market share of banks in individual housing loans has gone up to 67% in 2019-20, while market share of housing finance companies (HFCs) has come down to 33%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Trend and Progress of Housing in India” report – released by the National Housing Bank (NHB)
- The market share of banks in individual housing loans increased to 67% in 2019-20 (from 62% in 2017-18)
- The market share of HFCs decreased to 33% in 2019-20 (from 38% in 2017-18)
- HQs of NHB – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Sriram Kalyanaraman

**470.** On April 17, Department of Science & Technology (DST) Secretary Professor Ashutosh Sharma has released a report titled “Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India Using a Common Framework”, which identifies the most vulnerable states and districts in India with respect to current climate risk and key drivers of vulnerability. National climate vulnerability assessment has identified 8 Eastern States as highly vulnerable. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India Using a Common Framework” – by Dept of S&T
- The assessment identified 8 Eastern States as ‘Highly Vulnerable’

**471.** On April 20, Global energy-related Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions are on course to surge by 1.5 billion tonnes in 2021, the second-largest increase in history, according to “Global Energy Review 2021” released by International Energy Agency (IEA). The report estimates that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will increase by almost 5% this year to 33 billion tonnes. The key driver is coal demand, which is set to grow by 4.5%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Global Energy Review 2021” – released by International Energy Agency (IEA)
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will increase by almost 5% (1.5 billion tonnes) this year to 33 billion tonnes
- HQs of IEA – Paris, France | Executive Director – Dr. Fatih Birol | Member countries – 30

**472.** On April 20, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has released its annual “State of the Global Climate for 2020”. 2020 was one of the three warmest years on record, despite a cooling La Niña event. The global average temperature was about 1.2° Celsius above the pre-industrial (1850-1900) level. As per the report, the ‘Cyclone Amphan’ of 2020 has resulted in economic losses of \$14 billion in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “State of the Global Climate for 2020” report – released by World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- As per the report: Economic losses due to ‘Cyclone Amphan’ in India – \$14 billion
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Petteri Taalas | Established in – 1950



## Acquisitions & Mergers

**473.** On April 21, Qess Corp, a business services platform has acquired the remaining 30% equity stake in Conneqt Business Solutions from Tata Sons for ₹208 Cr. Qess had acquired 51% of Conneqt in November 2017 and further increased its stake in Conneqt from 51% to 70% in May 2019 via infusion of primary capital. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Qess Corp – acquired the remaining 30% equity stake (₹208 Cr) in Conneqt Business Solutions – from Tata Sons
- HQs of Qess Corp – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Suraj Moraje
- HQs of Tata Sons – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran

**474.** On April 13, Microsoft has acquired Nuance Communications, a cloud and artificial intelligence (AI) software firm, in an all-cash transaction valued at \$19.7 billion, including debt. This would be Microsoft's second-largest purchase after its 2016 acquisition of LinkedIn for \$26.2 billion. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Microsoft – acquired an AI software firm 'Nuance Communications' for \$19.7 billion
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975
- HQs of Nuance Communications – Massachusetts, US | CEO – Mark D. Benjamin

**475.** On April 19, The government of Ghana has signed an agreement to take over the 100% shares of 'AirtelTigo' from Bharti Airtel & Millicom International Cellular. Bharti Airtel is a global telecommunications company with operations in 18 countries across South Asia and Africa. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ghana – to acquire 100% stake in AirtelTigo – from Bharti Airtel & Millicom International Cellular
- Ghana – Accra – Cedi | President – Nana Akufo-Addo

## MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**476.** Ministry of Tourism signed an MoU with Cleartrip and Ease My Trip to strengthen the Hospitality & Tourism Industry especially in the times of the pandemic. The pact is aimed at providing extensive visibility to accommodation units which have self-certified themselves on "SAATHI" (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for the Hospitality Industry) & "NIDHI" (National Integrated Database of Hospital Industry) Portal. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism + Cleartrip + Ease My Trip = an MoU to strengthen the Hospitality & Tourism Industry
- The companies need to self-certify themselves on – "SAATHI" & "NIDHI" portals

**477.** The Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd has partnered with Gramcover, to collectively enhance rural insurance penetration. Under this MoU, Gramcover will focus on market analysis and identification of widely grown crops, as well as need-based rural insurance products. This collaboration aims to reach 25 million farmers in aspirational districts, through Gramcover's products. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Agriculture Insurance Company of India + Gramcover = partnership to enhance rural insurance penetration
- HQs of AICI – New Delhi | MD & Chairman – Malay Kumar Poddar
- HQs of Gramcover – Noida, UP | CEO – Dhyanesh Bhatt

**478.** Paytm has partnered with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) for facilitating digital payment services to the customers of LIC. The new agreement requires an easy payment process, a broader range of payment options, and more players (wallets, banks, etc) in payment channels. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- LIC appointed Paytm to facilitate its Digital Payments
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | MD – Siddhartha Mohanty | Founded in – 1956
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar | Founded in – 2009

**479.** On April 11, The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH India signed an agreement on Technical Cooperation titled 'Cities Combating Plastic Entering the Marine Environment' at a virtual ceremony in New Delhi. 2021 marked 63 years of fruitful development cooperation between our two countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoHUA + Germany = signed an agreement titled "Cities Combating Plastic Entering the Marine Environment"
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

## **Books & Authors**

**480.** J. K. Rowling's new children book, "The Christmas Pig" will be released worldwide on October 12, 2021. Rowling is best known for her "Harry Potter" fantasy series. "The Christmas Pig" is Rowling's second published work and first children's book. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "The Christmas Pig" – authored by J. K. Rowling

**481.** On April 19, Sutapa Basu has authored a new mystery novel titled "The Cursed Inheritance". She is the winner of JK Papers AuthER Awards 2020 for her book "The Curse of Nader Shah". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "The Cursed Inheritance" novel & "The Curse of Nader Shah" book – authored by Sutapa Basu



**482.** On April 19, A new book titled “Wanderers, Kings, Merchants: The Story of India through its Languages” reveals how migration, both external and internal, has shaped both, Indians and Indian languages from ancient times. The book is published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI) and is written by noted linguist Peggy Mohan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Wanderers, Kings, Merchants: The Story of India through its Languages” book – authored by Peggy Mohan
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India

## **Obituaries**

**483.** On April 17, Veteran Tamil actor Vivekh has passed away in Chennai due to a massive heart attack. The actor was 59. He was a Padma Shri recipient. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vivekh (Tamil Nadu) – a Tamil actor – passed away (Padma Shri recipient)

**484.** On April 17, Renowned Radiologist and the first director of Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), Dr. Kakarla Subba Rao has passed away. He was conferred the civilian honour of Padma Shri by the Government of India for his contributions to the field of medicine. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Kakarla Subba Rao – a Renowned Radiologist – passed away (1<sup>st</sup> Director of NIMS)
- Padma Shri in the field of ‘Medicine’

**485.** On April 16, Former Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) chief Ranjit Sinha has passed away. He was 68. Mr. Sinha was a 1974-batch IPS officer of Bihar cadre. He earlier headed the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and the Railway Protection Force and was appointed as the CBI chief in December 2012. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ranjit Sinha – Former Chief of CBI/ITBP/RPF – passed away (IPS officer of Bihar cadre)

**486.** On April 14, Football Olympian Ahmed Hussain Lala has passed away in Bengaluru at the age of 89. Ahmed represented India in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. He was the coach of the Indian team for the President Cup in Seoul. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ahmed Hussain Lala – a Football Player & Coach – passed away (1956 Melbourne Olympics)

**487.** On April 16, Vinay Agrawal, Chief Executive Officer and Whole-Time Director of brokerage firm Angel Broking has passed away. Angel Broking Limited (ABL) is one of the largest retail broking houses in India in terms of active clients on NSE. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vinay Agrawal – CEO of Angel Broking brokerage firm – passed away

**488.** On April 16, Former Union minister and senior BJP leader Bachi Singh Rawat has passed away. He was 71. He was a Union Minister of State for Science and Technology in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bachi Singh Rawat – a Politician – passed away (Party – BJP | Position – MoS for Science & Technology)

**489.** On April 16, Former Assam chief minister Bhumidhar Barman has passed away. He was 89. The Congress veteran was Chief Minister for 23 days from April 22, 1996. He had held key portfolios such as Education, Health and Revenue. He was first elected to the Assembly in 1967 from the Barkhetry constituency in western Assam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhumidhar Barman – a Politician (Former Assam CM) – passed away (Party – INS | Constituency – Barkhetry, Assam)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**490.** On April 13, Charles “Chuck” Geschke has passed away at age 81. He is the co-founder of the major software company Adobe Inc. who helped develop Portable Document Format (PDF) technology. In 2009, President Barack Obama awarded Geschke and Warnock the National Medal of Technology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Charles Geschke – Co-founder of Adobe Inc – passed away
- HQs of Adobe Inc – California, US | CEO – Shantanu Narayen | Co-Founders – Charles Geschke, John Warnock

**491.** On April 19, Prominent Marathi film director and National Film Awards winner ‘Sumitra Bhave’ passed away. She was awarded the prestigious “President Golden Lotus National Award” for her film “Kaasav”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sumitra Bhave – a Marathi Film Director – passed away
- She – received the prestigious “President Golden Lotus National Award” for her film “Kaasav”

**492.** On April 19, Professor G. Venkatasubbaiah has passed away. He was 107. He is popularly known in Kannada literary field, was a lexicographer, grammarian and literary critic. He has compiled 12 dictionaries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- G. Venkatasubbaiah – a Kannada Lexicographer – passed away





# Science & Technology

**493.** On April 15, The ISRO and CNES (France) have signed an agreement for cooperation for the country's first human space mission "Gaganyaan". The agreement was announced during French Foreign Affairs minister Jean-Yves Le Drian visit to the ISRO. France agreed to provide technical support for the construction of an "Astronaut Training Centre" in Bangalore, Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ISRO (India) + CNES (France) = an agreement for cooperation for India's 1<sup>st</sup> human space mission "Gaganyaan"
- French Foreign Affairs minister – Jean-Yves Le Drian
- France agreed to provide technical support to construct an "Astronaut Training Centre" – in Bangalore
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

**494.** Under the "Artemis" programme, sponsored by the Biden-Harris administration, NASA has planned to land a woman and a person of colour, both for the first time, on the Moon's surface by 2024 and create sustainable missions to the earth's natural satellite by 2028. The group includes nine women and several people of colour. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- NASA aims to land first woman & person of colour on Moon by 2024 – under "Artemis" mission
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958

**495.** Researchers at IIT Delhi have developed a handheld Surface Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy (SERS)-based platform for early diagnosis of dengue and also gives dengue test results within one hour (rapid diagnosis). It has been successfully tested on the clinical blood samples in collaboration with ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), New Delhi, and also helps in rapid detection of HIV. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- IIT Delhi – developed a "SERS-based platform" – for early diagnosis of dengue & provides result within an hour
- SERS – Surface Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy
- It has been successfully tested on the clinical blood samples – in collaboration with ICMR-NIMR

**496.** On April 16, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has launched World's 1<sup>st</sup> affordable and long-lasting hygiene product "DuroKea Series", developed by IIT Hyderabad researchers. This next generation DuroKea antimicrobial technology starts at Rs 189, kills 99.99% of germs instantly and leaves behind the long-lasting protective nanoscale coating up to 35 days till next wash. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' – launched World's 1<sup>st</sup> affordable and long-lasting hygiene product "DuroKea Series"
- It is developed by – IIT Hyderabad
- Price range starts at – Rs 189 | It kills 99.99% of germs instantly | Long-lasting coating up to 35 days



**497.** On April 22, US space agency NASA is set to launch “SpaceX Crew Dragon Second” flight to the International Space Station. The Crew-2 flight will carry 4 astronauts. The mission is the second of the six certified crew missions of NASA. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA – launched “SpaceX Crew Dragon II” flight to the International Space Station - carrying 4 astronauts
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958

**498.** Russia will launch the “Luna 25” mission by October 2021. The lander that will launch in October is designed to study ice permanently frozen below the moon's surface. [{Read more}](#)

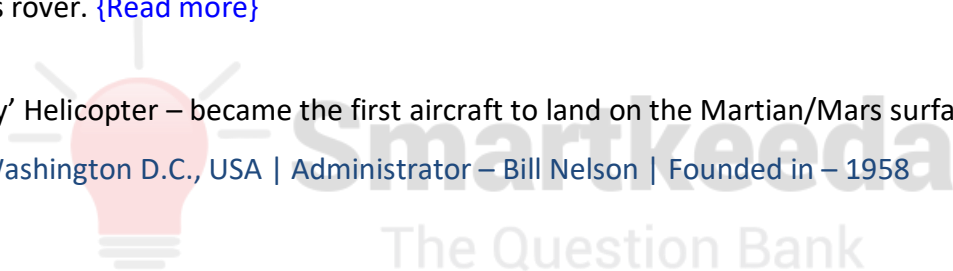
**Key Points:**

- Russia will launch the “Luna 25” mission by October 2021
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**499.** On April 19, NASA’s ‘Ingenuity’ Mars Helicopter became the first aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight on Martian/Mars surface. The Ingenuity team at the agency’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California confirmed the flight succeeded after receiving data from the helicopter via NASA’s Perseverance Mars rover. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA’s ‘Ingenuity’ Helicopter – became the first aircraft to land on the Martian/Mars surface
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958



## **Ordinance, Bills and Acts**

**500.** The Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021, issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice, was notified on April 4. The bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha by Minister of State for Finance Anurag Singh Thakur. The Government of India began the process of rationalisation of tribunals in 2015. The Tenure of Chairperson of a Tribunal has been fixed for a term of 4 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Law & Justice – issued “Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation & Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021”
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Constituency – Patna Sahib, Bihar)
- President of India can promulgate ordinance – under Article 123





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