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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 August 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 कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF अगस्तमाह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill 100 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 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



### 501. Important Days & Dates

On August 22, the UN has marked the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief. This day is designated by the UN for states to step up their efforts to combat intolerance, discrimination and violence against persons based on religion or belief. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- August 22 – UN’s “International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief”

### 502. International Affairs

World Health Organisation (WHO) has asked the countries wishing to be part of the global “COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX)” plan to submit expressions of interest until August 31, 2020. Currently, 172 countries are engaging with the COVAX facility designed to ensure equitable access to Covid-19 vaccines. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 172 countries are engaging with the “COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX)” Plan of WHO
- The countries wishing to be a part of COVAX have to submit expressions of interest – until August 31, 2020
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

### 503. Important Days & Dates

‘Akshay Urja diwas’ or ‘Renewable Energy Day’ is celebrated on August 20 every year to spread awareness about the developments of renewable energy in India. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- August 20 – ‘Akshay Urja diwas’ or ‘Renewable Energy Day’

### 504. Current GK

According to a new study, Greenland lost a record amount of ice during an extra warm 2019 with 586 billion tons (532 billion metric tons) of ice melting. That's more than 140 trillion gallons (532 trillion litres) of water. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Greenland lost – 586 billion tons ice during an extra warm 2019
- Green land – the largest island in the world (located in - North America)



### 505. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

In a bid to meet the growing workforce demand in the port and maritime sector, the Ministry of Shipping has partnered with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) for skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling of manpower. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Ministry of Shipping + MSDE = to meet the growing workforce demand in the port and maritime sector
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Shipping – Mansukh L. Mandaviya
- MSDE Minister – Mahendra Nath Pandey (Constituency – Chandauli, UP)

### 506. National & States Affairs

Karnataka government is working on developing and strengthening the Mysuru-Bidar industrial corridor and would soon announce an economic system policy to help enhance R&D of the electronics industry. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Karnataka – developing an industrial corridor between Mysuru and Bidar
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

### 507. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched an Online Home Carnival in partnership with e-platform AddaCorner to boost real estate deals in Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- SBI + AddaCorner = launched an 'Online Home Carnival' to boost real estate deals – in Bengaluru
- SBI Bank HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Rajnish Kumar | MD – Ashwani Bhatia
- HQs of AddaCorner – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Head – Sumit Srivastava
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

### 508. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Taking another step for women empowerment through the 'YSR Cheyutha scheme', the Andhra Pradesh government has signed MoUs with 2 major companies - Reliance and Allana to empower women and help women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the states. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:



- Andhra Pradesh + Reliance & Allana = MoUs to empower women and help women SHGs
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani
- HQs of Allana Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra

### 509. Acquisitions & Mergers

After picking up a stake in housing finance major HDFC, the Chinese central bank People's Bank of China has acquired a very small stake in ICICI Bank. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- People's Bank of China – acquired a very small stake – in ICICI Bank
- HQs of PBOC – Beijing, China | Governor – Yi Gang
- ICICI Bank: HQs – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”

### 510. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology's research article titled “Can sulphated polysaccharides from seaweed provide prophylactic and/or therapeutic solution to Covid-19 pandemic?” has been recognized by the World Health Organisation (WHO). The article was published in the Current Science Journal. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- ICAR-CIFT's research article – recognized by the WHO
- The article published in – ‘Current Science’ Journal
- HQs of ICAR-CIFT – Cochin, Kerala
- HQs of ICAR – New Delhi | DG – Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra | President – Narendra Singh Tomar

### 511. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Tourism Ministry has virtually signed an MoU with the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and the FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) to promote tourism as a sustainable livelihood model for the economic empowerment of women. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Tourism Ministry + TAAI + FLO = signed an MoU to promote economic empowerment of women
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture
- HQs of TAAI – Mumbai, MH | President – Jyoti Mayal
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangita Reddy

### 512. Important Days & Dates

Coronavirus pandemic has delayed “Earth Overshoot Day” by 3 weeks. This year, this day was observed on August 22. This is the date when humanity had used all the biological resources that Earth can renew annually. The first ever earth overshoot day campaign was launched in 2006. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- August 22 – “Earth Overshoot Day” – since 2006 (This year it is delayed by - 3 weeks)

### 513. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

RBL Bank has partnered with Accenture to enhance its IT systems and processes to support its objective of becoming a truly digital bank. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- RBL Bank + Accenture = partnership to enhance its IT systems & become fully digital bank
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja
- HQs of Accenture – Dublin, Ireland | CEO – Julie Sweet | MD (India) – Rekha Menon

### 514. National & States Affairs

A unique campaign 'Ek Sankalp - Bujurgo ke naam' i.e. 'a commitment for elders' is launched by the Chhatarpur Police in Madhya Pradesh. This unique campaign is proving to be a boon for the elderly people living alone in homes during the global pandemic COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Chhatarpur Police (Madhya Pradesh) launched – a unique campaign 'Ek Sankalp - Bujurgo ke naam'
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel



### 515. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Private-sector General insurers ICICI Lombard and Bharti AXA general insurance have signed definitive agreements to combine their non-life insurance business. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- ICICI Lombard + Bharti AXA = signed agreements to combine their non-life insurance business
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of Bharti AXA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjeev Srinivasan

### 516. Current GK

Turkey's government has decided to convert the 6<sup>th</sup> century 'Chora Museum' into a Mosque. The Chora Church was built in 6<sup>th</sup> century Byzantine Empire. In 1511 it was converted into a mosque and in 1958 it was opened as a museum to the public. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Turkey – decided to convert the 6<sup>th</sup> century 'Chora Museum' or 'Chora Church' into a Mosque
- Turkey – Ankara – Lira | President – Recep Tayyip Erdogan

### 517. National & States Affairs

Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda has e-launched 2 tertiary processing centres under the "TRIFOOD" project in Jagdalpur (Chhattisgarh) and Raigad (Maharashtra) to enhance the income of tribal forest gatherers by adding value to non-timber forest products collected by them. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Arjun Munda launched – 2 tertiary processing centres in Chhattisgarh & Maharashtra – under 'TRIFOOD' project
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand)
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

### 518. Appointments & Resignations

Former Finance Secretary and presently the Chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB), Rajiv Kumar has been appointed as the new Election Commissioner. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:





- Rajiv Kumar – appointed as the new Election Commissioner
- Chief Election Commissioner – Sunil Arora (23<sup>rd</sup>)

### 519. National & States Affairs

Religare Health Insurance Company, subsidiary health insurance entity of Religare Enterprises, has changed its name to 'Care Health Insurance'. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Religare Health Insurance Company – renamed as – “Care Health Insurance Company”
- HQs of Care Health Insurance – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Anuj Gulati

### 520. Banking & Economic Affairs

“The National Strategy for Financial Education (NSFE): 2020-2025” document released by the RBI Deputy Governor Mahesh Kumar Jain, has recommended a ‘5C’ approach for dissemination of financial education in the country. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- “The National Strategy for Financial Education (NSFE): 2020-2025” – released by M K Jain
- It recommended – ‘5C’ approach for dissemination of financial education
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

### 521. Acquisitions & Mergers

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed 100% acquisition of C&S Electric Limited by Siemens Limited. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- CCI approved 100% acquisition of – C&S Electric Ltd – by Siemens Ltd
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta
- HQs of C&S Electric Ltd – New Delhi | Chairman – Ravinder Nath Khanna
- HQs of Siemens India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sunil Mathur



## 522. International Affairs

India, Japan and Australia have decided to launch a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) to reduce dependency on China after Beijing's aggressive political and military behaviour. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India + Japan + Australia = to launch a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Shinzo Abe
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

## 523. International Affairs

The USA has authorised the emergency use of a new saliva-based laboratory diagnostic test called "Saliva Direct" for faster detection of Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- USA authorised – "Saliva Direct" test for faster detection of Covid-19
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

## 524. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has announced "National Sports Awards 2020". The awards were recommended by Mukundakam Sharma-led Selection Committee. Indian national cricket team's star opener Rohit Sharma and 4 other athletes will get the highest sports award - "Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna-2020". Besides, 27 names were recommended for "Arjuna Award", 8 names for Dronacharya Award (Lifetime category), 5 names for Dronacharya Award (Regular category) & 18 names for Dhyan Chand Award. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy was conferred to Panjab University, Chandigarh. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- "National Sports Awards 2020" – announced by Sports Ministry & recommended by the Selection Committee (led by Mukundakam Sharma)
- "Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna-2020" conferred to total 5 sports persons: 1. Mariyappan Thangavelu (Para Athletics) 2. Manika Batra (Table Tennis) 3. Vinesh Phogat (Wrestling) 4. Rohit Sharma (Cricket) 5. Rani Rampal (Hockey)
- "Arjuna Award-2020" – to 27 sportspersons
- "Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy" – to 'Panjab University'



## 525. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has attended the 5<sup>th</sup> "World Conference of Speakers of Parliament" (WCSP). It was jointly organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Geneva and the Parliament of Austria. The 2-day conference on August 19 and 20, was held with the support of the United Nations. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 5<sup>th</sup> edition of "World Conference of Speakers of Parliament" – attended by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla
- The conference jointly organized by – Inter-Parliamentary Union + Geneva + the Parliament of Austria

## 526. Persons in News

Russian opposition Leader of Russia of Future party, Alexei Navalny is in coma after suffering from suspected poisoning. His team suspected that something was put in his tea at an airport cafe. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Alexei Navalny – Russian opposition Leader of 'Russia of Future' party – is in coma
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

## 527. Amount & Agreements

Bangladesh will receive a loan of nearly USD 1 billion from China for the water management of the Teesta River during the drought season. The Teesta River originates in Sikkim. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Bangladesh will receive a loan of nearly USD 1 billion – From China – For Teesta River project
- Teesta river originates – in Sikkim
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

## 528. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Uttar Pradesh government has signed an agreement with Israel to implement the latter's model for water management in the water-deficient region of Bundelkhand (UP + MP) through a joint project. The water reservoir of 'Pahuj dam' in Jhansi will be enabled with integrated drip irrigation. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:



- Uttar Pradesh + Israel = an agreement for water management in Bundelkhand (UP + MP)
- 'Pahuj dam' – in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

### 529. Current GK

The Chutka Nuclear Power Plant is a proposed nuclear power plant to be built on a 1,200 acres area, near Chutka Village of Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh.

#### Key Points:

- Chutka Nuclear Power Plant – in Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

### 530. National & States Affairs

Madhya Pradesh has announced to reserve all the government jobs for the people belonging to the state. Legal provisions are being made for this. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – announced to reserve all the government jobs for the people belonging to the state
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

### 531. National & States Affairs

According to Union Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar, 80% of CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) funds must be used for plantation drives and afforestation, while the rest is to be used for capacity building. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- According to Prakash Javadekar = 80% of CAMPA funds must be used for plantation drives & afforestation
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Environment (Constituency – Maharashtra)



### 532. Current GK

Nine people, including five engineers, were killed in a fire in one of the units of the State-run hydel station of the Srisailem project, which is on Telangana side of the inter-State border across the Krishna river. The left bank power house is on the Telangana side of the Srisailem reservoir. Half of the dam is on Andhra Pradesh's side. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 9 people died – at the site of 'Srisailem Hydroelectric Project' fire
- Srisailem Left Bank Power House – Telangana | Srisailem Right Bank Power House – Andhra Pradesh
- Srisailem dam – over Krishna river

### 533. Science & Technology

Tata Capital has announced the launch of 'Swift Insta Personal Loan' (SIPL) on Whatsapp where the existing customers can easily apply loans and receive sanctions for personal loans using the company's chatbot TIA on Whatsapp. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Tata Capital – will launch 'Swift Insta Personal Loan' (SIPL) – on Whatsapp
- Chatbot 'TIA' on Whatsapp – was launched by Tata Capital
- HQs of Tata Capital – Mumbai | CEO – Rajiv Sabharwal

### 534. Banking & Economic Affairs

HSBC India, in line with its global offerings, has launched a "Green Deposit Programme" in India for its corporate clients. It is the 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank to launch such a Programme in India. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- HSBC India – the 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank to launch "Green Deposit Programme" in India
- HQs of HCBC – London, United Kingdom | Chairman – Mark Edward Tucker
- HQs of HCBC Bank India – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Surendra Rosh

### 535. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank (KVGB) and SBI General Insurance Co Ltd have signed an MoU to sell general insurance products through the branches of KVGB. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:



- Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank + SBI General Insurance = an MoU to sell general insurance products
- HQs of KVGB – Dharwad, Karnataka | Chairman – P Gopi Krishna
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- Tagline – ‘Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono’

### 536. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The 6<sup>th</sup> round table of “ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks” was recently organised by Ministry of External Affairs in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand to strengthen the ASEAN-INDIA partnership in the post-COVID era. The theme of the round table was “ASEAN-India: Strengthening Partnership in the Post COVID Era”. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 6<sup>th</sup> round table of “ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks” organized by = Ministry of External Affairs + Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand
- Theme – “ASEAN-India: Strengthening Partnership in the Post COVID Era”
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 – Vietnam | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese Dong | PM – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

### 537. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM)-Kozhikode and Switzerland based HELP Logistics have signed an MoU to engage in a partnership and provide consulting services and logistics training. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- IIM-Kozhikode + HELP Logistics = partnership to provide consulting services and logistics training
- HQs of HELP Logistics – Switzerland

### 538. Current GK

The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the ‘Dwijing Festival’ with over 15 lakh tourists attending has emerged as the winner in 5 categories at the prestigious “WOW Awards Asia 2020”. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the ‘Dwijing Festival’ (Assam) – won “WOW Awards Asia 2020”
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



### 539. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri has announced the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Annual Cleanliness Survey of the country. Indore is India's cleanest city in "Swachh Survekshan-2020". The city has bagged the spot fourth time in a row. Gujarat's Surat is on second spot and Maharashtra's Navi Mumbai is on third. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 5<sup>th</sup> edition of "Swachh Survekshan-2020" – announced by Hardeep Singh Puri
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Indore (MP) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Surat (Gujarat) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Navi Mumbai (Maharashtra)
- Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs – Hardeep Singh Puri

### 540. Science & Technology

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has announced the discovery of a large Natural Gas Reserves off the Black Sea coast. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Turkey discovered – a large Natural Gas Reserves off the Black Sea
- Turkey – Ankara – Lira | President – Recep Tayyip Erdogan

### 541. National & States Affairs

Ram Vilas Paswan has launched an online system for registration and renewal of licence of gold assaying and hallmarking centres. Currently, gold hallmarking is voluntary in nature. However, it will be made mandatory from June 2021. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Ram Vilas Paswan – launched an Online System for registration and renewal of gold hallmarking centres
- It will be made mandatory from – June, 2021

### 542. Appointments & Resignations

The government has appointed Ashwani Bhatia as the Managing Director (MD) of the State Bank of India (SBI). He will continue as the MD until his retirement on May 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Ashwani Bhatia – appointed as the new MD of – SBI (till May 31, 2022)
- Currently, He is deputy MD and CEO of – SBI Mutual Fund
- SBI Bank HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | SBI Bank Chairman – Rajnish Kumar



### 543. National & States Affairs

Dr. Harsh Vardhan has launched FSSAI's "Eat Right India" Handbook and the website "eatrightindia.gov.in" to help various stakeholders scale up "Eat Right India" initiatives across the country. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched – FSSAI's "Eat Right India" Handbook & "eatrightindia.gov.in" website
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teotia
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Sci. & Tech., Ministry of Earth Science
- Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi

### 544. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Business Sweden have collaborated to promote the disruptive potential of Indian entrepreneurs and boost the vibrant start-up ecosystem across India. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- AIM + Business Sweden = collaborated to boost the vibrant start-up ecosystem across India
- Atal Innovation Mission – under "NITI Aayog" (HQs – New Delhi)
- CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of Business Sweden – Stockholm, Sweden | CEO – Ylva Berg

### 545. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) will honour Mahindra group Chairman 'Anand Mahindra' and Adobe Chairman and CEO 'Shantanu Narayen' with its 2020 Leadership Awards in recognition of their exemplary vision towards promoting US-India bilateral ties. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 'Anand Mahindra' & 'Shantanu Narayen' = will be honoured by 2020 Leadership Awards from USISPF
- Chairman of Mahindra group – Anand Mahindra | Chairman & CEO of Adobe – Shantanu Narayen

### 546. Books & Authors

Union Minister, Jitendra Singh has released a book on cancer named "Gastric Cancer". The book is edited by Dr Ashok K. Vaid and published by Springer Healthcare Education. [{Read more}](#)





**Key Points:**

- Jitendra Singh released a book on cancer – named "Gastric Cancer"
- Edited by – Dr Ashok K. Vaid & published by – Springer Healthcare Education

**547. Ranks, Reports & Surveys**

According to the report titled "Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036" projected by the National Commission on Population under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India's population in 2036 is expected to be more feminine compared to the population as of 2011 in terms of sex ratio. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Population Projections for India and States 2011-2036" report – by National Commission on Population
- Indian population is expected to be more feminine in – 2036
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)

**548. Science & Technology**

Union minister Nitin Gadkari has launched a mobile app 'Harit Path' to monitor the plantation along the national highways. The app has been developed by NHAI to monitor location, growth, species details and more for each and every plant under all plantation projects along the national highways. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari launched – 'Harit Path' mobile app to monitor the plantation along the national highways
- The app is developed by – NHAI (HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sukhbir Singh Sandhu)
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)

**549. National & States Affairs**

Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has decided to boost the infrastructure in Gujarat. The chief minister has given approval for the construction of buildings of more than 70 floors, in the 5 mega cities of the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani – gave approval for the construction of buildings of more than 70 floors
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat



### 550. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

IBM has announced collaboration with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to offer 'Open P-TECH', a free digital education platform, focused on emerging technologies and professional development skills. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- IBM + NSDC = to offer 'Open P-TECH' a free digital education platform
- IBM HQs – Armonk, New York, United States | CEO – Arvind Krishna
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Manish Kumar

### 551. Amount & Agreements

Unitus Ventures has secured an investment of Rs 75 crore (USD 10 million) from SIDBI bank under SIDBI's Fund of 'Funds for Startups Initiative'. Unitus has recently invested Rs 8.5 crore (USD 1.1 million) in Masai School, an ed-tech platform in Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Unitus Ventures – secured an investment of Rs 75 crore – From SIDBI bank
- Unitus Ventures invested Rs 8.5 crore – in Masai School (Karnataka)
- HQs of Unitus Ventures – Belgaluru (India) + Seattle (USA) | Co-founder – Dave Richards
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa

### 552. Important Days & Dates

Recently, the birth anniversary of Shankar Dayal Sharma was observed on 19<sup>th</sup> August. He was appointed as the 9<sup>th</sup> President of India. He served the nation from 1992 to 1997. Sharma was born on August 19 in Bhopal. He was a part of Indian National Congress (INC). [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- August 19 – Birth Anniversary of Shankar Dayal Sharma (9<sup>th</sup> President of India & born in Bhopal, MP)
- He was associated with – INC

### 553. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering (LTHE) has signed an MoU with NTPC to build a carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) to methanol demonstration plant in NTPC Power Station. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:



- LTHE + NTPC = an MoU to build a CO<sub>2</sub> to methanol demonstration plant
- HQs of LTHE – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Mr. Subramanian Sarma
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh

#### 554. Important Days & Dates

21 August is observed as the “International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism” by UN in order to honor and support the victims and survivors of terrorism and to promote and protect the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- August 21– “International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism” – by UN
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

#### 555. Schemes & Initiatives

Chhattisgarh will launch "Padhai Tuhar Para" scheme to teach children with the help of community in their localities and villages. Besides, a Bluetooth-based programme 'Bultu Ke Bol', 'Mukhyamantri Slum Swasthya Yojana' & 'Radhabai Diagnostic Centre' Scheme will also be introduced. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh will launch – "Padhai Tuhar Para" scheme to teach children
- 'Bultu Ke Bol' + 'Mukhyamantri Slum Swasthya Yojana' + 'Radhabai Diagnostic Centre' Scheme = Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

#### 556. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

As per the “Digital Quality of Life Index 2020” released by online privacy solutions provider SurfShark, India stood at the overall rank of 57 out of the 85 countries. The rank was topped by Denmark. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- “Digital Quality of Life Index 2020” – released by ‘SurfShark’ (Rank topped by – Denmark)
- India’s overall rank – 57<sup>th</sup> | Internet Affordability – 9<sup>th</sup> | Internet Quality – 78<sup>th</sup>
- E-infrastructure – 79<sup>th</sup> | Electronic Security – 57<sup>th</sup> | E-government – 15<sup>th</sup>



### 557. International Affairs

The Israeli and UAE foreign ministers have inaugurated Direct Phone Services between the two countries in their first announced call after an agreement to normalise relations. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Israeli & UAE – inaugurated 1<sup>st</sup> Direct Phone Services between two countries
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

### 558. Appointments & Resignations

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has appointed G P Garg as Executive Director (ED). Prior to his promotion as ED, G P Garg was Chief General Manager in SEBI. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- G P Garg – appointed as the Executive Director of – SEBI
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | ED – G P Garg

### 559. Science & Technology

NASA is all set to conduct a study on an asteroid called "16 Psyche" which will give us an idea on how our solar system was born. The mission will launch in 2022 and will arrive on the Psyche asteroid in 2026. The total observation period will be 21 months in orbit and will be studying Psyche's properties. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- NASA – to conduct a study/research on an asteroid called "16 Psyche" – in 2022
- The mission will arrive on the Psyche asteroid – in 2026
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

### 560. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

World Health Organisation (WHO)'s reports show that the worsening state of poor air quality is responsible for more than 7.5 million fatalities worldwide annually. India has developed Indigenous Air Unique-quality Monitoring (AUM) Photonic System for Real-Time Remote Monitoring of Air Quality. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- As per WHO – worsening state of poor air quality is responsible for more than 7.5 million fatalities worldwide



- India developed – Indigenous Air Unique-quality Monitoring (AUM) Photonic System
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

### 561. Current GK

NTPC Ltd would be able to reduce the transportation cost of coal to fuel to its NTPC Kudgi Super Thermal Power Station in Karnataka, to around Rs 200-500 per metric tonnes (MT) by using a newly constructed rail infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- NTPC Ltd will reduce the transportation cost of coal to fuel at its – “NTPC Kudgi Super Thermal Power Station”
- The Plant located in – Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh

### 562. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

An MoU was signed between Jute Corporation of India (JCI) and National Seeds Corporation (NSC) to provide 10,000 quintals of certified good quality seeds to jute farmers in the year 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Jute Corporation of India + National Seeds Corporation = to provide 10,000 quintals of certified jute seeds
- HQs of JCI – Kolkata, West Bengal | CMD – Ajay Kumar Jolly
- HQs of NSC – New Delhi | CMD – Vinod Kumar Gaur

### 563. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The First World Solar Technology Summit will be organized by International Solar Alliance will be inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi on September 8. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi will inaugurate – The First World Solar Technology Summit – organized by ISA
- HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana | DG – Upendra Tripathy | Member Countries – 121



### 564. Obituaries

Veteran cricketer Gopalaswamy Kasturirangan has recently passed away due to heart attack. He was 89. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Gopalaswamy Kasturirangan – a Cricketer – passed away

### 565. National & States Affairs

Ministry of Minority Affairs has launched "Nai Udaan" Scheme. The 'Nai Udaan' scheme of the Centre will help youths from minority communities to prepare for the civil services examination. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Ministry of Minority Affairs launched – "Nai Udaan" Scheme – to help youths prepare for the CSE
- [Ministry of Minority Affairs – Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi \(Constituency – Jharkhand\)](#)

### 566. Defence Affairs

Iran has unveiled locally made ballistic and cruise missiles. The surface-to-surface missile, called "Martyr Qassem Soleimani", has a range of 1,400 km and the cruise missile, called "Martyr Abu Mahdi", has a range of over 1,000 km. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Iran unveiled – "Martyr Qassem Soleimani" a surface-to-surface missile (range: 1,400 km)
- Iran also unveiled – "Martyr Abu Mahdi" a cruise missile (range: 1,000 km)
- [Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Ali Khamenei](#)

### 567. Books & Authors

A book titled "India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders" includes interviews of politicians below 50 years only and offers insight into minds of India's young politicians. It is written by academicians Pradeep Chhibber and Harsh Shah. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- "India Tomorrow: Conversations with the Next Generation of Political Leaders" = Pradeep Chhibber + Harsh Shah



### 568. National & States Affairs

The Union Cabinet has approved the plan to set up a National Recruitment Agency (NRA). NRA will conduct a Common Eligibility Test (CET) for all non-gazetted posts, including Group B and C (non-technical) jobs. The NRA will be registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved the plan to set up – National Recruitment Agency (NRA) – to conduct CET Exam
- The NRA will be registered under – Societies Registration Act, 1860

### 569. Current GK

China has increased its troop deployment near Lipulekh, the place that became a trigger for strained relations between New Delhi and Kathmandu. Lipulekh is tri-junction between India, Nepal and China situated atop the Kalapani Valley in Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- China increased its troop deployment – near Lipulekh pass (a tri-junction between - India, Nepal and China)
- Lipulekh pass – located in Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

### 570. Important Days & Dates

August 20 every year is celebrated as a “World Mosquito Day” around the globe to spread awareness about vector-borne diseases. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- August 20 – “World Mosquito Day”

### 571. International Affairs

The first-ever flight from Antananarivo to Mumbai, Air Madagascar will be evacuating 61 Indians stranded due to COVID-19 pandemic and to bring back about 160 Malagasy citizens from India. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- First-ever flight from Antananarivo to Mumbai – will evacuate 61 stranded Indians & 160 Malagasy citizens back
- Madagascar – Antananarivo – Malagasy Ariary



### 572. Appointments & Resignations

Francisco Asue has been reappointed as Prime Minister of Equatorial Guinea. On 14<sup>th</sup> August, Francisco Asue's government tendered the resignation to President Teodoro Obiang, following the criticism of the president. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Francisco Asue – reappointed as Prime Minister of – Equatorial Guinea
- Equatorial Guinea – Malabo – CFA franc | PM – Francisco Asue

### 573. Science & Technology

The National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) and the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) will jointly establish an Innovation-Cum-Incubation Centre with external private funding to promote startups in the emerging area of aerospace technologies. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- NRDC + NAL = will jointly establish an Innovation-Cum-Incubation Centre
- NRDC works under – Ministry of Science and Technology (HQs – New Delhi | CMD – Dr. H. Purushotham)
- HQs of CSIR-NAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Dr. Jitendra J. Jadhav

### 574. National & States Affairs

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for leasing out 3 airports at Jaipur, Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) to Adani Enterprises for a period of 50 years. Adani Enterprises had won the rights to run 6 airports through PPP model after a competitive bidding process in February 2019. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved the proposal – to lease out 3 airports to Adani Enterprises – for a period of 50 years
- 3 Airports – Jaipur, Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram (first 3 out of total 6 airports)

### 575. Important Days & Dates

The 'National Mourning Day' was observed on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 across Bangladesh, marking the 45<sup>th</sup> martyrdom anniversary of Father of Bangladesh 'Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman' and his family members. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:





- August 15 – National Mourning Day – observed by Bangladesh
- 45<sup>th</sup> martyrdom anniversary of – Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

### 576. Defence Affairs

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal to expand the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in 173 border and coastal districts from where 1 lakh new cadets will be inducted. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh approved a proposal to expand NCC – in 173 border & coastal districts – to induct 1 lakh new cadets
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

### 577. Sports & Games

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and Inox Group have announced a new partnership. INOX Group will sponsor Team India at the 'Tokyo Olympic Games-2020'. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- IOA + Inox Group = a new partnership
- Inox Group will sponsor – 'Team India' at 'Tokyo Olympic Games-2020'
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | President – Narinder Dhruv Batra | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta

### 578. Science & Technology

Malaysia has detected a new strain of the coronavirus called "D614G" which has been found to be 10 times more infectious. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- A new strain of the novel coronavirus called 'D614G' – detected in Malaysia
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit

### 579. Defence Affairs

The first ever indigenously manufactured rockets namely "Pinaka rockets" were recently tested at a firing range in Pokharan, Rajasthan. The rockets have been manufactured by Economic Explosives Ltd (EEL) and are the first munitions of its kind made by the private sector in India. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- The first ever indigenously manufactured "Pinaka rockets" – tested at – Pokharan, Rajasthan
- Manufactured by – Economic Explosives Ltd (HQs of EEL – Nagpur, Maharashtra)

**580. Defence Affairs**

Interceptor Boat 'ICGS C-454' designed & built by L & T (Larsen & Toubro Ltd) was launched at Surat, Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Interceptor Boat 'ICGS C-454' – inducted at Surat, Gujarat | It is designed & built by – L & T
- HQs L&T – Mumbai | CMD – SN Subrahmanyam
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**581. Appointments & Resignations**

Keith Rowley will serve the second term as Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago as his People's National Movement (PNM) has won 22 of the 41 seats in the recent general election. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Keith Rowley – appointed as Prime Minister of – Trinidad and Tobago (2<sup>nd</sup> term)
- His party – People's National Movement
- Trinidad and Tobago – Port of Spain – Dollar | PM – Keith Rowley

**582. Ranks, Reports & Surveys**

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has reported a splitting dent in Earth's magnetic field over the southern Atlantic Ocean. This unusual weak spot in Earth's magnetic is called the South Atlantic Anomaly (SAA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA reported – 'South Atlantic Anomaly' - a splitting dent in Earth's magnetic field – over Southern Atlantic Ocean
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine



### 583. Current GK

The Odisha government has announced to give a facelift to the 11<sup>th</sup> century Lingaraj Temple, akin to its pre-350-year structural status. A high-level committee chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has also approved the redevelopment plan of peripheral area of the 55-metre-tall temple, known as 'Ekamravan Kshetra', in Bhubaneswar. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 11<sup>th</sup> century Lingaraj Temple & Ekamravan Kshetra – situated in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

### 584. Important Days & Dates

Every year, the Congress party observes former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's birth anniversary as "Sadbhavna Diwas" or "Harmony Day" on August 20. This year, it has marked the 76<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the former Prime Minister. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- August 20 – "Sadbhavna Diwas" or "Harmony Day" (76<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the former PM – Rajiv Gandhi)

### 585. Science & Technology

Google has launched a new initiative called "The Anywhere School" with over 50 new features across Meet, Classroom, G Suite and other products to hundreds of thousands of viewers in more than 250 countries around the world. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Google launched – a new initiative called "The Anywhere School" – with over 50 new features
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai

### 586. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According the report titled "Youth and COVID-19: Impacts on Jobs, Education, Rights and Mental Well-being" published by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the COVID-19 crisis is having a devastating effect on the education and training of young people with more than 70%. The survey found that 50% of young people are possibly subject to anxiety or depression, while a further 17% are probably affected by it. About 42% of those who have continued to work have seen their incomes reduced. And 38% of young people are uncertain of their future career prospects. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:



- "Youth and COVID-19: Impacts on Jobs, Education, Rights and Mental Well-being" – published by ILO
- The education of more than 70% students & young people is affected
- 50% of young people – possibly subject to anxiety or depression
- 42% working people have seen their incomes reduced
- 38% youth – uncertain of their future career prospects
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder

### 587. National & States Affairs

The Ministry of AYUSH has launched a 3-month campaign namely "Ayush for Immunity" aimed at increasing awareness about affordable and easy practices that can be adopted for enhancing immunity and preventing any disease. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Ministry of AYUSH launched – 3-month campaign namely "Ayush for Immunity"
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa

### 588. Important Days & Dates

"World Senior Citizen's Day" is annually observed on August 21. It aims to ensure the well-being of older adults and to raise awareness about the issues that affect their lives. This day was officially founded by Ronald Reagan, former president of the USA, in 1988. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- August 21– "World Senior Citizen's Day" – Founded by – Ronald Reagan – in 1988

### 589. Current GK

An alert was issued by the 'Salal Power Station' ahead of the opening of dam gates, asking people to stay away from Chenab river banks as water levels were likely to rise and affect Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 'Salal Dam' also known as 'Salal Hydroelectric Power Station' – built over Chenab river – in Reasi, J & K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



## 590. National & States Affairs

Uttar Pradesh government has launched a new “Electronics Manufacturing Policy-2020”. In a bid to attract investors, the new policy has made the investors eligible for capital subsidy of 15% and additional capital subsidy of 10% on investment more than Rs 1,000 Crore. It has a goal of inviting investment of ₹40,000 crore in 5 years and 4 lakh direct employment. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh launched – a new “Electronics Manufacturing Policy-2020”
- As per new policy: Capital subsidy for the investors – 15%
- Goal: Investment of ₹40,000 crore in 5 years & 4 lakh Direct Employment
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

## 591. National & States Affairs

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched its international subsidiary NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) recently to take UPI & RuPay to other countries. NPCI has appointed Ritesh Shukla as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NIPL. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NPCI launched – ‘NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)’ – to take UPI & RuPay to other countries
- Ritesh Shukla – appointed as the CEO of – NIPL
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe

## 592. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The number of Cancer cases in India is estimated to be 13.9 lakh in 2020 and may increase to 15.7 lakh by 2025, with its prevalence being marginally higher among women, according to a report titled "National Cancer Registry Programme Report-2020" released by ICMR and National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research (NCDIR). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- A report titled "National Cancer Registry Programme Report-2020" – released by ICMR + NCDIR
- The number of Cancer cases in India is estimated to be – 13.9 lakh in 2020 & 15.7 lakh by 2025
- ICMR HQs – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava
- HQs of NCDIR – Bengaluru, Karnataka



### 593. Obituaries

Former India Goalkeeper Bhaskar Maity has passed away recently in August. He was part of the 1978 Bangkok Asian Games squad. He was 67. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Goalkeeper Bhaskar Maity – a Football Player – passed away (1978 Bangkok Asian Games squad)

### 594. National & States Affairs

Chinese smartphone major Xiaomi's arm MI India will distribute 2,500 handsets worth Rs 2 crore to support online education of children who are worst affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in India. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Xiaomi's arm 'MI India' – will distribute 2,500 handsets worth Rs 2 crore – to support online education of children
- HQs of Xiaomi – Beijing, China | CEO – Lei Ju

### 595. Amount & Agreements

India and Israel have signed a cultural agreement that outlines a 3-year programme of cooperation to further strengthen their strategic bilateral relations by promoting greater people-to-people exchanges. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- India + Israel = signed a cultural agreement – 3 year programme to strengthen their Strategic Bilateral Relations
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

### 596. Banking & Economic Affairs

Lakshmi Vilas Bank has launched “LVB DigiGo”, a digital initiative to enable opening of savings account instantly. This new initiative will help people to avail the most required banking services instantly through the website. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Lakshmi Vilas Bank launched – “LVB DigiGo” a digital initiative to enable opening of savings a/c instantly
- HQs – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Subramanian Sundar



## 597. Science & Technology

Google has launched 'Kormo Jobs' Android app in India to help job seekers find and apply for positions across India. Last year, Google also made available a similar offering in India under the brand 'Jobs as a Spot' on Google Pay app. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Google launched – 'Kormo Jobs' Android app – to help job seekers find job and apply
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai

## 598. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

IIT Roorkee has signed an MoU with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for collaboration in the areas of standardisation and conformity assessment based on equality and reciprocity. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IIT Roorkee + BIS = collaboration in the areas of standardisation and conformity assessment
- HQs of BIS – Manek Bhawan, Old Delhi | Director General – Pramod Kumar Tiwari

## 599. Books & Authors

Penguin Random House has announced a new children's book titled "Grandparents' Bag of Stories" written by author and philanthropist 'Sudha Murthy' to mark her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- "Grandparents' Bag of Stories" book – written by 'Sudha Murthy' (to mark her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday)

## 600. National & States Affairs

The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has opened a Quality Control Laboratory in Porbandar to facilitate tests for seafood processors and exporters to confirm to product safety as per international regulatory requirements. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- MPEDA opened – Quality Control Laboratory – for seafood exporters – in Porbandar, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- HQs of MPEDA – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman – K S Srinivas





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