



### **Testzone presents**

## Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test Series Month-wise

# August MockDrill100 PDF No. 8

(PDF in English)



Test Launch Date: 10th Sep 2020

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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 पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्नPDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इसPDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test मेंबेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीडा



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

A descendant of Tipu Sultan, Indian-origin woman, Noor Inayat Khan has been honoured with memorial 'Blue Plaque' in London, UK. It was given for her work as a spy for Britain during World War II. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Noor Inayat Khan' an Indian-origin woman honoured with memorial 'Blue Plaque' in London, UK
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM of UK Boris Johnson

#### 702. International Affairs

The United States has announced restrictions against 24 Chinese companies over disputed South China Sea outposts. They pose a threat to the national security of the United States and therefore subjected to trade restrictions. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- USA announced restrictions against 24 Chinese companies over disputed South China Sea outposts
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

#### 703. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

India and Singapore have discussed a number of issues of bilateral defence engagements via video conference at the 14<sup>th</sup> India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue (DPD). It was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar and Permanent Secretary (Defence), Singapore Chan Heng Kee. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 14<sup>th</sup> edition of India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue (DPD) co-chaired by Dr Ajay Kumar (Defence Secretary)
- Singapore Singapore Dollar | PM Lee Hsien Loong | President Halimah Yacob

#### 704. Science & Technology

The Russian Nuclear Energy agency, "Rosatom" has released an over 40-minute video showing the detonation of the world's most powerful hydrogen bomb - Tsar Bomba or Tsar's bomb. The Tsar's Bomb was delivered to the testing site by a Soviet Tu-95 bomber. {Read more}

- "Tsar Bomba or Tsar's bomb" the world's most powerful hydrogen bomb developed by 'Rosatom' (Russia)
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin



#### 705. International Affairs

India and Bangladesh are set to operationalise a new riverine trade route on September 3, when a Bangladeshi vessel will transport a cargo of cement to Tripura as part of efforts to boost connectivity between the two countries. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India and Bangladesh set to operationalise a new riverine trade route on September 3
- A Bangladeshi vessel will transport a cargo of cement to Tripura
- Tripura: Capital Agartala | CM Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor Ramesh Bais
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid

#### 706. Science & Technology

Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) astronomers have discovered the mystery behind aberration in formation of stars in dwarf galaxies. ARIES undertook the study of several of such galaxies using 2 telescopes - the 1.3-metre Devasthal Fast Optical Telescope (DFOT) & Giant Meter wave Radio Telescope (GMRT). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ARIES astronomers discovered the mystery behind aberration in formation of stars in Dwarf Galaxies
- HQs of ARIES Beluwakhan, Nainital, Uttarakhand | Director Dr. Dipankar Banerjee

#### 707. International Affairs

Ukraine has frozen contact with Belarus and joined the European Union in condemning the recent elections in its northerly neighbour. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ukraine has frozen contact with Belarus
- Ukraine Kyiv Ukrainian hryvnia | President Volodymyr Zelensky
- Belarus Minsk Ruble | PM Siarhiej Rumas

#### 708. Acquisitions & Mergers

The Indian government has planned to sell as much as 15% stake in Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) through a public offering of shares. Apart from the LCA (Light Combat Aircraft) named Tejas, HAL makes the Su-30MKI under license from Russia's Sukhoi. {Read more}

- Indian government planned to sell 15% stake in Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL)
- HQs of HAL Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Amitabh Bhatt



Centre has approved 78 new additional routes to be awarded under the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - 'Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik' (UDAN) focusing on boosting connectivity in the North East, hilly states and islands. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• 78 new additional routes – to be awarded under the 4<sup>th</sup> round of 'Regional Connectivity Scheme-UDAN'

#### 710. Obituaries

Tamil Nadu Congress Committee working president and Congress MP from Kanyakumari "H. Vasanthakumar" has died of Covid-19. He was 70. He was also Co-founder and managing director of Vasanth TV (Tamil channel). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- H. Vasanthakumar Politician & Businessman passed away (Congress MP from Kanyakumari, TN)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

#### 711. Current GK

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has rescued a youth trapped for 24 hours in waters released from the "Machagora dam" in Belkheda village of the Chhindwara district. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NDRF rescued a youth from the "Machagora dam" built over Pench river in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Anandiben Patel

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

State Bank of India (SBI) has won three "Brandon Hall Excellence Awards", also known as the "Academy Awards of Learning & Development" - a global recognition for its HR initiative namely "Nayi Disha". {Read more}

- SBI won three "Brandon Hall Excellence Awards" for its HR initiative namely "Nayi Disha"
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Rajnish Kumar
- MD & CEO Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO Chalasani Venkat Nageswar



Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) will develop 3 'Bamboo Clusters' in Jammu, Katra and Samba areas for making of Bamboo basketry, Agarbatti and Bamboo Charcol. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DoNER will develop 3 'Bamboo Clusters' in Jammu, Katra & Samba (Jammu & Kashmir)
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha
- Jitendra Singh MoS of DoNER, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space

#### 714. Important Days & Dates

"The International Day against Nuclear Tests" has been commemorated annually on August 29 since 2010. The date 29 August marks the anniversary of the 1991 closure of the Semipalatinsk test site in Kazakhstan, the largest nuclear test site in the former Soviet Union. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- August 29 "The International Day against Nuclear Tests" by the UN since 2010
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres
- HQs of Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) Vienna, Austria

#### 715. National & States Affairs

The Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration has successfully implemented the "Project Barn Owls" with the support of the Kerala Forest Department to manage the menace of the rodents effectively. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Lakshadweep implemented "Project Barn Owls" with the support of the Kerala Forest Department
- Lakshadweep: Capital Kavaratti
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

#### 716. Sports & Games

The Bryan brothers - Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan, tennis's most successful doubles pair, have announced their retirement from Tennis recently in August. They first ascended to No. 1 in the ATP Doubles Rankings on 8 September 2003. {Read more}

- Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan (USA) announced their retirement from Tennis
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump



#### 717. Important Days & Dates

"National Sports Day" is celebrated on August 29 to commemorate the birth anniversary of India's hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand who was born on August 29, 1905. It is his 115<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. The magician with a hockey stick led India to three gold medals in 1928, 1932 and 1936. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• August 29 – "National Sports Day" – 115<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of – Major Dhyan Chand (3 Gold medals in Hockey)

#### 718. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme India launched the Sustainable Finance Collaborative on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Department of Economic Affairs + UNDP India = launched the Sustainable Finance Collaborative Consultation

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• HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner

#### 719. International Affairs

Typhoon Bavi has recently made landfall and caused minimal damage in North Korea. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Bavi" Typhoon made landfall and caused minimal damage in North Korea
- North Korea Pyongyang North Korean won | President Kim Jong-un

#### 720. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has virtually addressed the inaugural session of the 2 day 'World Urdu Conference' organised by 'National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language' (NCPUL) in New Delhi. {Read more}

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated 2 day 'World Urdu Conference' in New Delhi
- HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' | Constituency Haridwar, Uttarakhand
- HOs of NCPUL New Delhi



#### 721. Current GK

Prolonged dry spell has triggered a massive fire in the forest areas surrounding Mahadev Peak at Dachigam National Park. Situated at an altitude of 10000 feet, Mahadev is the highest mountain peak in Srinagar. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Dachigam National Park' & 'Mahadev Peak' located in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

#### 722. Defence Affairs

China has launched first of the four advanced naval warships "Type-054A class frigate" for Pakistan Army. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- China launched first of the four advanced naval warships "Type-054A class frigate" for Pakistan Army
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping
- Pakistan Islamabad Pakistani Rupee | PM Imran Khan | President Arif Alvi

## 723. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The virtual meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS-EMM) was held recently in August. It was chaired by Vietnam's Minister of Industry and Trade 'Tran Tuan Anh' and attended by Economic Ministers from 10 ASEAN Member States. And from India, it was attended by Piyush Goyal. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 8th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS-EMM) chaired by Vietnam
- Attended by Piyush Goyal (Minister of Commerce and Industry Maharashtra
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 Vietnam | Secretariat of ASEAN Jakarta, Indonesia | Members 10

#### 724. Persons in News

Ravi Shankar Prasad launched "Chunauti" - the Next Generation Startup Challenge Contest to boost startups and software products with special focus on Tier-II towns of India. {Read more}

- Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the Next Generation Startup Challenge Contest "Chunauti"
- Ravi Shankar Prasad Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Constituency Patna Sahib, Bihar)



Citing the prevalence of mental health issues and the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 crisis, the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry has launched a toll-free "Kiran" helpline number - 1800-599-0019, to enable access to mental health resources. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry launched a toll-free "Kiran" helpline number
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Thawar Chand Gehlot (Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)

#### 726. International Affairs

A massive storm with 150 mile-per-hour (240 kph) winds namely Hurricane "Laura" has recently hit Louisiana and Texas states of the USA. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Hurricane "Laura" hit Louisiana and Texas states of the USA
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

#### 727. Obituaries

Veteran athletics coach Purushotham Rai has died due to a cardiac arrest. He was to be conferred with the prestigious Dronacharya Award just a day before he passed away. He was 79. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

Purushotham Rai – Athletics Coach – passed away

#### 728. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

Arunachal Assembly has unanimously passed a resolution for the entire state to be included in the 6<sup>th</sup> Schedule of the constitution. The 6<sup>th</sup> Schedule besides giving considerable autonomy to the tribal community empowers the council to enact laws for land protection. Even the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) exempts the 6<sup>th</sup> schedule areas and Inner Line permit areas. {Read more}

- Arunachal Pradesh Assembly passed a resolution to be included in the 6<sup>th</sup> Schedule of the constitution
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital Itanagar | CM Pema Khandu | Governor B D Mishra



#### 729. Sports & Games

Union Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Kiren Rijiju has addressed the meeting between the Sports Ministers of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa) nations met via video conference to assess the impact of COVID-19 on sports. India is planning to host BRICS Games in 2021 and may align it with Khelo India Games. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kiren Rijiju addressed the meeting between the Sports Ministers of BRICS
- India plans to host BRICS Games in 2021
- BRICS Member Countries 5 Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju (Constituency Arunachal West)

#### 730. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), in the month of August, India has received 25% more/surplus rainfall which is the highest rainfall in the last 44 years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- According to IMD India received 25% surplus rainfall in August (the highest rainfall in the last 44 years)
- HQs of IMD New Delhi | Director General Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

#### 731. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to a Global Ranking of Average Wages prepared by Picodi.com, India has been ranked 72<sup>nd</sup> among 106 countries in terms of the average wage per month which is Rs 32,800 (USD 437), while Switzerland has topped the chart with an average wage of Rs 4,49,000 (USD 5,989). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Global Ranking of Average Wages" prepared by Picodi.com
- India 72<sup>nd</sup> with Rs 32,800 (USD 437) | Topped by Switzerland with Rs 4,49,000 (USD 5,989)

#### 732. Books & Authors

Indian Cricket Coach Gurcharan Singh & veteran sports journalist MS Unnikrishnan have co-authored a book titled "Pitching It Straight". The book portrays the personal and professional life of Gurcharan Singh and it is published by Vitasta. {Read more}

- "Pitching It Straight" book co-authored by 'Gurcharan Singh & MS Unnikrishnan'
- Published by Vitasta



#### 733. Persons in News

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has established a new forum on Artificial Intelligence chaired by IBM's India/South Asia Managing Director Sandip Patel. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CII established a new Forum on Artificial Intelligence chaired by 'Sandip Patel'
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President Uday Kotak | Director General Chandrajit Banerjee

#### 734. Defence Affairs

Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has launched 'Pension Corner' app for its retired personnel. Through its in-house mobile app the CISF will be in touch with all its retired personnel to cater to their needs. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CISF launched 'Pension Corner' app for its retired personnel
- CISF HQs New Delhi | Director Rajesh Ranjan

#### 735. Important Days & Dates

The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has celebrated its Golden Jubilee Anniversary on August 28, 2020. The celebration was attended by MoS Home G Kishan Reddy and Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla among others. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- August 28 Golden Jubilee Anniversary celebrated by BPR&D
- HQs of BPR&D New Delhi | Director General V. S. K. Kaumudi

#### 736. National & States Affairs

Kerala will set up India's 1<sup>st</sup> International Women's Trade Centre (WTC), in consonance with the United Nations sustainable development goals (SDGs), at Angamaly. {Read more}

- Kerala will set up India's 1st International Women's Trade Centre at Angamaly
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan



#### 737. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The net worth of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos has eclipsed \$200 billion recently in August as shares of the e-commerce giant climbed to a record. With this, he becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> person in the world to cross the Net worth of \$200 billion. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Jeff Bezos becomes the 1st person in the world to cross the Net worth of \$200 billion
- HQs of Amazon Seattle, USA | Founder & CEO Jeff Bezos

#### 738. Obituaries

American Actor & 'Black Panther' Star Chadwick Boseman has passed away recently in August due to cancer. He was 43. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Chadwick Boseman (USA) An Actor passed away
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

#### 739. National & States Affairs

Jammu and Kashmir's agriculture department in collaboration with 'NSE-IT' has created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged 'Kashmir Saffron'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- J & K + NSE-IT = created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged 'Kashmir Saffron'
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

#### 740. National & States Affairs

Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has announced that house sites worth Rs 22,000 crore will be registered in the name of 30 lakh women belonging to weaker sections in the state. {Read more}

- Andhra Pradesh to register house sites worth Rs 22,000 Cr for 30 lakh women belonging to weaker sections
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan



#### 741. International Affairs

India has co-sponsored a UN Security Council Resolution presented by Indonesia in the United Nations seeking women's participation in peacekeeping missions. India is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest contributor of uniformed personnel to the UN Peacekeeping Forces with more than 5,400 military and police personnel. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India co-sponsored a UN Security Council resolution presented by Indonesia
- India the 5<sup>th</sup> largest contributor of uniformed personnel to the UN (with more than 5,400 military personnel)
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres

#### 742. Current GK

As part of efforts to boost infrastructure in the Ladakh region, the government has started work on a Rs 1,200 crore project to connect Nubra valley and Zanskar valley with the National Power Grid. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ladakh government to connect Nubra Valley & Zanskar Valley with National Power Grid
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R K Mathur

## 743. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has announced a massive hike in the prize money in 4 of the 7 categories of the National Sports and Adventure Awards. {Read more}

- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award Rs 25 lakh (from Rs 7.5 lakh)
- Arjuna Award Rs 15 lakh (from Rs 5 lakh)
- Dhronacharya (Lifetime) Award Rs 15 lakh (from Rs 5 lakh)
- Dhronacharya (Regular) Award Rs 10 lakh (from Rs 5 lakh)
- Dhyan Chand Award Rs 10 lakh (from Rs 5 lakh)
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju (Constituency Arunachal West)



#### 744. Current GK

Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS), which was closed for over 4 months due to Covid lockdown, was reopened for visitors from August 19. Meanwhile, forest department has also decided to reopen Silent Valley National Park as directed by Union Ministry of Forest & Environment. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary' & 'Silent Valley National Park' located in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

#### 745. Amount & Agreements

India has granted the 4<sup>th</sup> trance of USD 5 million to Myanmar for three year of India-Myanmar Border Area Development. In 2012, then PM Manmohan Singh had signed an MoU on "India-Myanmar Border Area Development". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India granted the 4<sup>th</sup> trance of USD 5 million to Myanmar for 'India-Myanmar Border Area Development'
- An MoU on "India-Myanmar Border Area Development" was signed in 2012 by Manmohan Singh
- Myanmar Naypyitaw Kyat | President Win Myint

#### 746. Schemes & Initiatives

Uttar Pradesh has launched the "Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana" under which 19 international players from the state will get road connectivity to their houses. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh launched "Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana" for 19 international players
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

#### 747. National & States Affairs

9 cases of Covid-19 have been recorded among the Great Andamanese tribe. A Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) - the "Great Andamanese" now number only 59 in terms of population. {Read more}

- 9 cases of Covid-19 among the 'Great Andamanese Tribe' at Strait Island in Andaman and Nicobar
- Current population of 'Great Andamanese Tribe' at this Island 59
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Capital Port Blair | Lieut. Governor Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi



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

Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh Lohia is the 1<sup>st</sup> Divyanga Indian sportsperson who has been awarded with the 'Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award'. He is also the 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Divyang swimmer to cross the 42-km Catalina Channel in the US in just 11 hours 34 minutes. He is from Madhya Pradesh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ullet Satyendra Singh Lohia  $oldsymbol{1}^{\text{st}}$  Divyanga Indian sportsperson awarded with 'Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award'
- 1st Asian Divyang swimmer to cross the 42-km Catalina Channel (USA) in 11 hours 34 minutes
- Satyendra Singh Lohia Para-swimmer from Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Anandiben Patel

#### 749. Sports & Games

Volkswagen Motorsport India has launched the "Virtual Racing Championship" (VW-VRC) which is open for all Indian aspirants to participate. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, Volkswagen India's racing division has decided to host the "2020 Polo cup championship" virtually. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Volkswagen Motorsport India launched "Virtual Racing Championship"
- Volkswagen India's racing division decided to host "2020 Polo cup championship" virtually
- HQs of Volkswagen Group Wolfsburg, Germany | CEO Herbert Diess

#### 750. National & States Affairs

The Ministry of Culture has announced 7 new circles of Archaeological Survey of India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Culture announced 7 new circles of Archaeological Survey of India
- Prahlad Singh Patel Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture (Constituency Damoh, Madhya Pradesh)

#### 751. Sports & Games

Leg-spinner Pravin Tambe has become the first Indian cricketer to play in the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) when he turned out for Trinbago Knight Riders' against St Lucia Zouks. {Read more}

- Pravin Tambe became the first Indian cricketer to play in the Caribbean Premier League (CPL)
- Location of CPL West Indies



Karnataka CM B S Yediyurappa has flaged off the 1<sup>st</sup> maiden 'Roll On Roll Off' (RORO) train between Bengaluru and Solapur in Maharashtra consisting of open flat wagon. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- B S Yediyurappa flaged off 1st maiden 'Roll On Roll Off' (RORO) train between Bengaluru and Solapur
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM B S Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala

#### 753. National & States Affairs

Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) has notified to integrate the electronic Pension Payment Order (e-PPO) with DigiLocker. This (e-PPO to DigiLocker) was a target set to be accomplished for civil ministries by 2021-22. This facility has been created with 'Bhavishya' software, which is a single window platform for pensioners. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DoPPW notified to integrate "e-PPO" with DigiLocker (created with 'Bhavishya' software)
- e-PPO electronic Pension Payment Order

#### 754. Science & Technology

The CSIR's Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) has developed the world's largest 'Solar Tree' which is installed at its residential complex in Durgapur in West Bengal. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

- CSIR-CMERI (Durgapur) developed world's largest 'Solar Tree' at Durgapur, West Bengal
- HQs of CSIR New Delhi | CSIR President Narendra Modi | Director General Shekhar C. Mande
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar

#### 755. Obituaries

Gail Sheehy, a journalist and author from America has passed away recently in August. She was 83 and suffering from pneumonia. {Read more}

- Gail Sheehy (USA) a Journalist & Author passed away
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump



#### 756. Current GK

Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) has decided to construct 4 more Nuclear Power Units, two units of 700 MW in Haryana & two units of 1000 MW in Tamil Nadu. Going upwards from 220 MW to 540 MW (2 units working at Tarapur Atomic Power Station) was considered too big a jump. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NPCIL decided to construct 4 more Nuclear Power Units (2 in Haryana & 2 in Tamil Nadu)
- Tarapur Atomic Power Station Maharashtra
- HQs of NPCIL Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & MD S K Sharma

#### 757. National & States Affairs

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated "Pratheeksha" - the first marine ambulance acquired by the state fisheries department. The floating out ceremony of two other ambulances "Prathyasa" and "Karunya" will he held on the occasion. The boats have facility to provide medical assistance to 10 people at a time. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kerala CM inaugurated "Pratheeksha"- the first marine ambulance
- Other two marine ambulances are "Prathyasa" and "Karunya"
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

#### 758. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Data Security Council of India (DSCI) and PayPal India have jointly released a study report on "Fraud & Risk Management in Digital Payments". Digital Payments have been growing in India at a much faster pace than global markets. The e-commerce market in India is expected to grow to \$200 billion by 2026 from \$50 billion in 2018. UPI transactions in India have crossed 1.49 billion in volume and \$41 billion in transaction value, in July 2020. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Fraud & Risk Management in Digital Payments" Report jointly released by 'DSCI & PayPal India'
- The e-commerce market in India is expected to grow to "\$200 billion" by 2026
- UPI transactions crossed 1.49 billion in volume & USD 41 billion in transaction value (in July 2020)

#### 759. Books & Authors

The book titled 'The Discomfort of Evening' authored by Marieke Lucas Rijneveld & translated by Michele Hutchison from Dutch, has won the "International Booker Prize 2020". {Read more}

- Marieke Lucas Rijneveld won "International Booker Prize 2020" for 'The Discomfort of Evening'
- The book is translated from Dutch to English by Michele Hutchison



#### 760. Important Days & Dates

PM Narendra Modi in his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat', has announced that the month of September will be celebrated as "Poshan Abhiyaan" or "Nutrition Month" across the country. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• September – will be celebrated as "Poshan Abhiyaan" or "Nutrition Month"

#### 761. National & States Affairs

Piyush Goyal has launched the national "GIS-enabled Land Bank System", which will help investors get real-time information about the availability of industrial land and resources. The project has been launched in 6 states and other states/UTs will be onboarded by December 2020. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal launched "GIS-enabled Land Bank System" for investors in 6 states
- Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal | Constituency Maharashtra

#### 762. Amount & Agreements

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has committed to the development of drought-prone Bundelkhand region and sanctioned around 500 water projects worth over Rs 10,000 Cr for improving water availability. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rs 10,000 Cr sanctioned for 500 water projects of drought-prone Bundelkhand region, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

#### 763. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Piyush Goyal has addressed the "ASEAN-India Business Council" Virtual Meet recently. In the meeting, he expected to achieve a target of \$300-billion trade through business with them. Piyush Goyal has also launched a long-awaited Data Bank of India's vast land resources driven by a highly accurate GIS-based platform. {Read more}

- Piyush Goyal addressed "ASEAN-India Business Council" (expected target of trade \$300-billion)
- Piyush Goyal launched Data Bank of India's vast land resources driven by GIS-based platform
- GIS Geographic Information System
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 Vietnam | Secretariat of ASEAN Jakarta, Indonesia | Members 10



#### 764. Important Days & Dates

"Telugu Language Day" (Telugu Bhasha Dinotsavam) is celebrated on the occasion of the birthday of Telugu linguists and social visionaries Gidugu Venkata Ramamurthy on August 29. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• August 29 – Telugu Language Day – birth anniversary of 'Gidugu Venkata Ramamurthy'

#### 765. Acquisitions & Mergers

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposal of Tau Investment to acquire 64.90% of share capital in J B Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Limited. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CCI approved the acquisition of up to 64.90% of share capital of J B Chemicals by Tau Investment
- CCI HQs New Delhi | Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta
- HQs of Tau Investment New York & Hong Kong | HQs of J B Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Mumbai, MH

#### 766. Important Days & Dates

Bangladesh has observed the 44<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of the national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam also known as 'Bidrohi Kobi' on August 27. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- August 27 44<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Kazi Nazrul Islam (Poet) observed by Bangladesh
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid

#### 767. National & States Affairs

NITI Aayog has virtually launched the "India Component of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)-Transport Initiative for Asia (TIA)" programme for 4 years. The event will inform the transport, energy, and climate stakeholders in India about planned project activities for the upcoming year. {Read more}

- NITI Aayog launched NDC-TIA program for the duration of 4 years
- NITI Aayog HQs New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar



#### 768. Amount & Agreements

The European Investment Bank (EIB) will invest €650 million in the construction of Kanpur's metro line. It is the construction of a 32.4 km urban rail line, with 18 elevated and 12 underground stations. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- European Investment Bank will invest €650 million in the construction of Kanpur's metro line (32.4 km)
- HQs of EIB Luxembourg | President Werner HOYER

#### 769. Banking & Economic Affairs

The RBI has recently announced simultaneous purchase and sale of Government Securities (G-Secs) under Open Market Operations (OMO) for an aggregate amount of Rs 20,000 crore in two tranches of Rs 10,000 crore each. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI announced simultaneous purchase and sale of 'G-Secs' under OMO
- An aggregate amount of Rs 20,000 Cr (in 2 tranches of Rs 10,000 Cr each)
- HQs of RBI Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

#### 770. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The 17<sup>th</sup> "ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations Meeting" was held virtually on August 29. It was co-chaired by Piyush Goyal from India and Minister of Industry and Trade of Vietnam Tran Tuan Anh. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 17th "ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations Meeting" held on August 29
- Co-chaired by Piyush Goyal (India) & Tran Tuan Anh (Vietnam)
- Piyush Goyal Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency Maharashtra
- Vietnam Hanoi Vietnamese Dong | PM Nguyen Xuan Phuc
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 Vietnam | Secretariat of ASEAN Jakarta, Indonesia

#### 771. Sports & Games

Sri Lankan Cricketer, Nishad Tharanga Paranavitana has announced his retirement from international cricket. {Read more}

- Tharanga Paranavitana (Sri Lanka) retirement from Cricket
- Sri Lanka Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte Sri Lankan rupee
- PM Mahinda Rajapaksa | President Gotabaya Rajapaksa



#### 772. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The World Bank has decided to pause the publication of its 'Doing Business report' following a number of irregularities regarding changes to data in previous reports of 2018 and 2019. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- World Bank decided to pause the publication of its 'Doing Business report'
- World Bank HQs Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant

#### 773. Appointments & Resignations

TikTok Chief Executive Officer Kevin Mayer has resigned from the company and general manager Vanessa Pappas will replace him on an interim basis. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kevin Mayer resigned from the post of CEO of TikTok
- Vanessa Pappas appointed as the Interim CEO of TikTok
- HQs of TikTok Beijing, China | CEO Vanessa Pappas

#### 774. Defence Affairs

Due to ongoing military confrontation with China along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh, India has decided to withdraw from Russia's KavKaz 2020 Military Exercise which is scheduled from Sept 15-26 in Russia's Orenburg region. {Read more}

Smartkeeda

#### **Key Points:**

- India decided to withdraw from Russia's "KavKaz 2020" or "Caucasus 2020" Military Exercise
- Other countries participated in it are China & Pakistan
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin

#### 775. Appointments & Resignations

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Japan's longest-serving Prime Minister has announced his resignation because of poor health. A new party leader has been elected to hold the post of Shinzo Abe for the remaining 1-year term. {Read more}

- Shinzo Abe announced his resignation from the post of Prime Minister of Japan
- Japan Tokyo Yen



#### 776. Obituaries

Former President and Bharat Ratna Pranab Mukherjee has passed away in August after prolonged illness. He was 84. He served as the 13<sup>th</sup> President of India from 2012-2017. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Pranab Mukherjee – 13<sup>th</sup> President of India – passed away (Bharat Ratna)

#### 777. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has signed an MoU with CSC e-Governance Services India to facilitate delivery of Umang app services through Common Service Centres (CSCs) in an assisted mode. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NeGD + CSC e-Governance Services India = signed an MoU to facilitate delivery of Umang app services
- HQs of NeGD New Delhi | President & CEO Abhishek Singh
- HQs of CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd New Delhi

#### 778. Sports & Games

Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton has won the "Belgian Grand Prix" to take his 5<sup>th</sup> victory in 7 races this year and the 89<sup>th</sup> of his career. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Lewis Hamilton (UK) won "Belgian Grand Prix" Mercedes driver
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM of UK Boris Johnson

#### 779. National & States Affairs

Karnataka would become the first state in the country to implement the new 'National Education Policy-2020'. The workshop is being organised by the Bangalore University. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka the first state in India to implement the new 'National Education Policy-2020'
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM B S Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala

#### 780. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Bengaluru-based Edu-tech firm 'Unacademy' has been roped in as the official partner for the Indian Premier League for 3 seasons - 2020 to 2022. The 13<sup>th</sup> IPL is scheduled to be held in UAE from September 19 to November 10. {Read more}

- Unacademy roped in as the official partner for IPL 2020 to 2022 (for 3 years)
- 13th IPL is scheduled to be held in UAE
- HQs of Unacademy Bengaluru, Karnataka | Co-Founder and CEO Gaurav Munjal



#### 781. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Ericsson has entered into a global partnership with UNICEF to map internet connectivity in schools across 35 countries by the end of 2023. This is part of the Giga initiative, led by the UNICEF and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), which was launched in 2019. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ericsson + UNICEF = partnership to map internet connectivity in schools across 35 countries by 2023
- "Giga initiative" is led by = UNICEF + ITU
- UNICEF HQs New York, United States | Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore
- HQs of ITU Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General Houlin Zhao

#### 782. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Vedanta Ltd has tied up with State Bank of India (SBI) for a long-term Syndicated Loan Facility worth Rs 10,000 crore for the tenure of 7 years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Vedanta Ltd + SBI = for a long-term Syndicated Loan Facility worth Rs 10,000 crore
- HQs of Vedanta Ltd Mumbai, MH | CEO Sunil Duggal
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Rajnish Kumar
- MD & CEO Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO Chalasani Venkat Nageswar
- Tagline "The banker to every Indian"

#### 783. Science & Technology

Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has launched a new technology service called 'Smart Assist' that provides real-time assistance to customers. Besides, Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance has also entered into partnership with Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank (APGB) for selling insurance products to the bank's customers. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance launched 'Smart Assist' a new technology service
- Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce + Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank = partnership for selling insurance
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Tarun Chugh

#### 784. Acquisitions & Mergers



The government's Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has approved the Rs 25,215 Cr deal between a subsidiary of Reliance Industries and Canadian firm Brookfield Infrastructure Partners LP, involving sale of over 1.35 lakh mobile towers. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RIL will sell over 1.35 lakh mobile towers (Rs 25,215 Cr) to Brookfield Infrastructure Partners LP
- HQs of Reliance Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Mukesh Ambani
- HQs of Brookfield Infrastructure Partners LP Toronto, Canada | CEO Sam Pollock

#### 785. Sports & Games

Japan's Olympic champion Ayaka Takahashi has announced her retirement from badminton. Takahashi and Matsutomo defeated Denmark's Christinna Pedersen and Kamilla Rytter Juhl in the Rio Olympics in 2016. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ayaka Takahashi (Japan) announced her retirement From Badminton
- Japan Tokyo Yen | PM Shinzo Abe

#### 786. Appointments & Resignations

Nigerian Economist Akinwumi Adesina is re-elected for his second 5-year term as President of African Development Bank. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Akinwumi Adesina re-elected as President of African Development Bank (2<sup>nd</sup> term)
- HQs of African Development Bank Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire | President Akinwumi Adesina

#### 787. Banking & Economic Affairs

SBI has integrated YONO Krishi platform with government's first online horticulture seed portal namely "ICAR IIHR seed portal" to facilitate delivery of high quality seeds at farmers' doorsteps. The integration was launched by Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar in presence of SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar. {Read more}

- SBI integrated YONO Krishi platform with government's first online "ICAR IIHR seed portal"
- The integration was launched by Narendra Singh Tomar (Agriculture Minister Morena, Madhya Pradesh)
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Rajnish Kumar
- MD & CEO Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO Chalasani Venkat Nageswar



#### 788. Appointments & Resignations

Retired IAS officer Utpal Kumar Singh has been appointed as Secretary in Lok Sabha with effect from Septemeber 1. The appointment was approved by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Prakash Birla on August 28. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Utpal Kumar Singh appointed as Secretary in Lok Sabha
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Prakash Birla

#### 789. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Mahindra and Mahindra and Israel-based REE Automotive group have signed an MoU to manufacture commercial electric vehicles for the world. REE's architecture will enhance Mahindra's capabilities in the electric vehicle sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Mahindra and Mahindra + REE Automotive group = to manufacture Commercial Electric Vehicles for the world
- HQs of Mahindra and Mahindra Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Dr Pawan Goenka
- HQs of REE Tel Aviv, Israel | Co-founder & CEO Daniel Barel

#### 790. Obituaries

India's first female cardiologist 'Dr. S. Padmavati' popularly known as 'God Mother of Cardiology' has passed away recently in August due to COVID-19. She was 103. She was the recipient of both Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Dr. S. Padmavati' India's first female Cardiologist passed away (Padma Bhushan & Padma Vibhushan)
- She was popularly known as 'God Mother of Cardiology'

#### 791. Obituaries

Arnold Spielberg, father of filmmaker Steven Spielberg and an innovating Engineer or Computer Designer has passed away recently. He was 103. Spielberg and Charles Propster designed the GE-225 mainframe computer in the late 1950s. {Read more}

- Arnold Spielberg (USA) an Engineer or Computer Designer passed away
- He designed 'GE-225 mainframe computer'
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump



Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has launched a pet insurance product, called 'Bajaj Allianz Pet Dog Insurance Policy'. It is India's only retail comprehensive pet insurance offering for pet dogs. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance launched a new Insurance Policy for Pet Dogs
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Tarun Chugh

#### 793. Current GK

Pulikkali is an inevitable part of Onam Celebrations in Thrissur. The street pageant of Thrissur will be an online-only affair this year due to COVID-19. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Pulikkali folk art Thrissur, Kerala
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

#### 794. National & States Affairs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated college and administration buildings of the Rani Lakshmi Bai (RLB) Central Agricultural University in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- College & Administration buildings of 'Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University' inaugurated in Jhansi, UP
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

#### 795. Current GK

On the occasion of Arun Jaitley's first death anniversary, cricketers Gautam Gambhir and Shikhar Dhawan have remembered his impact on cricket as the Feroz Shah Kotla stadium at Delhi was renamed as the Arun Jaitley Stadium after his demise. {Read more}

- "Arun Jaitley Stadium" located in Delhi
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev



#### 796. Current GK

Flooding in the riverside villages of Odisha has given rise to fear of crocodiles entering human habitations from "Bhitarkanika National Park". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bhitarkanika National Park Odisha
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

#### 797. Obituaries

Noted Assamese and popular Singer Archana Mahanta has passed away recently in August. She was the mother of Angaraag 'Papon' Mahanta and the wife of late Khagen Mahanta (known as 'Bihu King'). She was 72. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Archana Mahanta Assamese Singer passed away
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

#### 798. Appointments & Resignations

Usha Padhee has been given additional charge as Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). She is the 1<sup>st</sup> woman and 3<sup>rd</sup> IAS officer to have been appointed to the post. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Usha Padhee – 1<sup>st</sup> woman to become Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (New Delhi)

#### 799. Sports & Games

Former Australia all-rounder 'Cameron White' has announced his retirement from professional Cricket. The 37-year-old Cameron will focus on coaching now. He played four Tests, 91 ODIs and 47 T20Is. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Cameron White' (Australia) announced his retirement from Cricket
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison

#### 800. Science & Technology

A scientist at Tripura University has designed a robot namely "Covid-19 WARBOT" which can prevent the doctors, nurses and health staff from getting infected while they come in contact with patients infected with the virus. {Read more}

- Tripura University designed a robot namely "Covid-19 WARBOT"
- Tripura: Capital Agartala | CM Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor Ramesh Bais



Indian Railways has solarised more than 960 stations till date and has set a target to produce solar energy for meeting all its energy consumption needs of more than 33 billion units by 2030. Indian Railways is expected to become "net zero carbon emitter" before 2030. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Indian Railways solarised more than 960 stations till date
- Targets: to produce Solar Energy of more than 33 billion units & become "Net Zero Carbon Emitter" by 2030
- Chairman of Indian Railways Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs New Delhi

#### 802. International Affairs

A Bronze statue of Indian doctor Dwarkanath Kotnis will be unveiled outside a medical school in China. Dwarkanath Kotnis hailed from Sholapur in Maharashtra came to China in 1938 as part of a five-member team of doctors sent by the Indian National Congress to help the Chinese during World War II. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- A Bronze statue of Indian doctor Dwarkanath Kotnis will be unveiled in China
- Dwarkanath Kotnis belongs to Sholapur, Maharashtra & went to China in 1938
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping

#### 803. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

HDFC Bank has announced a strategic partnership with Adobe to improve digital experience journey of its customers. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank + Adobe = a strategic partnership to improve digital journey of customers
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline "We understand your world"
- HQs of Adobe California, USA | Chairman & CEO Shantanu Narayen

#### 804. Acquisitions & Mergers

Reliance Industries' unit Reliance Retail Ventures will acquire the retail & wholesale business and the logistics & warehousing business from 'Future Group' for a lumpsum amount of Rs 24,713 crore. {Read more}

- Reliance Retail Ventures will acquire Future Group For Rs 24,713 crore
- HQs of Reliance Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Mukesh Ambani
- HQs of Future Group Business Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Kishore Biyani



#### 805. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Indian Institute of Technology's Alumni Council has signed an agreement with Lomonosov Moscow State University and Russoft to access and transfer key technologies from Russia to build the world's largest and fastest hybrid quantum computer in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IIT Alumni Council + Moscow State University + Russoft = to build the world's largest and fastest hybrid quantum computer in India or (IIT Alumni Council + Russia = singed an MoU)
- HQs of IIT Alumni Council New Delhi | President Ravi Sharma
- HQs of Russoft St. Petersburg, Russia | President Valentin Makarov
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin

#### 806. Defence Affairs

India and Russia had inked a \$5.43 billion contract for the S-400 Triumf 'SA-21 Growler' which is long-range surface-to-air missile (SAM) systems for the Indian Air Force (IAF). The first regimental set of S-400 Triumf 'SA-21 Growler' air defence systems will be delivered by Russia to India in 2021. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India + Russia \$5.43 billion contract for the S-400 Triumf 'SA-21 Growler' Surface-to-Air Missile Systems
- 1st regimental set of S-400 Triumf 'SA-21 Growler' will be delivered by Russia to India in 2021
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- IAF Chief Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

#### 807. National & States Affairs

The Delhi government has launched "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind" campaign for students confined to their homes as schools remain closed in view of coronavirus pandemic. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Delhi launched = "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind" campaign for students
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

#### 808. Defence Affairs

The India Pavilion at the International Military and Technical Forum "Army-2020" was inaugurated by Secretary (Defence Production) Raj Kumar and Indian Ambassador DB Venkatesh Verma in Moscow, Russia. {Read more}

- International Military and Technical Forum "Army-2020" held in Moscow, Russa
- India Pavilion inaugurated by = Raj Kumar (Secretary) & DB Venkatesh Verma (Indian Ambassador to Russia)
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin



The Finance Ministry has announced that businesses with an annual turnover of up to Rs 40 lakh are exempted from Goods and Services Tax (GST). Initially, this limit was Rs 20 lakh. Additionally, those with a turnover up to Rs 1.5 crore can opt for the Composition Scheme and pay only 1% tax. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Businesses with an annual turnover of up to "Rs 40 lakh" are exempted from GST (Old limit: Rs 20 lakh)
- Businesses with an annual turnover of up to "Rs 1.5 Cr" can opt for 'Composition Scheme' & pay only 1% tax
- GST Council constituted in 2016 under Article 279A of the Constitution
- Nirmala Sitharaman Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs | Constituency Karnataka

#### 810. Schemes & Initiatives

Rajnath Singh has launched the "Chhavni COVID: Yodha Sanrakshan Yojana", a group life insurance scheme through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC). It will cover more than 10,000 employees in 62 Cantonment Boards with an insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh each in the event of any unfortunate fatal calamity. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh launched "Chhavni COVID: Yodha Sanrakshan Yojana" through LIC
- It will cover over 10,000 employees in 62 Cantonment Boards with an insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh each
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh (Constituency Lucknow, UP)

#### 811. Current GK

Twenty four of the 64 sluice gates of "Hirakud Dam" were opened by authorities to discharge the floodwaters, following incessant rain that caused Mahanadi river water level to rise. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Hirakud Dam located in Odisha built over Mahanadi river
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

#### 812. Amount & Agreements

Union minister Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated 3 key bridges and 2 road improvement projects in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli and also laid foundation stone for 4 other major bridge projects across the rivers - Wainganga, Bandiya, Perikota and Perimili with the collective cost of Rs 777 Cr. {Read more}

- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 7 bridges and 2 road improvement projects in Maharashtra (Total Cost: Rs 777 Cr)
- Nitin Gadkari Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari



#### 813. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to a report released by the UNICEF, at least a third of children or around 463 million children couldn't access remote learning when the COVID-19 pandemic closed schools and created a global education emergency. Nearly 1.5 billion children were affected by school closures. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- During school closures due to Covid-19 around 463 million children couldn't access remote learning
- Nearly 1.5 billion children were affected by school closures As per the report of UNICEF
- UNICEF HQs New York, United States | Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore

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

The Hyderabad International Airport (Rajiv Gandhi International Airport) has won 'National Energy Leader' and 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit' Awards at the 21<sup>st</sup> National Awards for "Excellence in Energy Management" organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) & Godrej Green Business Centre (GBC). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajiv Gandhi International Airport won 'National Energy Leader' & 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit'
- 21st National Awards for 'Excellence in Energy Management" organised by = CII + GBC
- Rajiv Gandhi International Airport located in Hyderabad, Telangana

#### 815. Acquisitions & Mergers

Edelweiss Financial Services has approved the sale of 51% stake in its wealth management business to Pacific Alliance Group (PAG) for an investment of \$300 million (approximately Rs 2,200 Cr). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- PAG acquired 51% stake (worth \$300 million or Rs 2,200 Cr) in Edelweiss Wealth Management
- HQs of Edelweiss Group Mumbai, MH | Chairman & CEO Rashesh Shah
- HQs of Pacific Alliance Group Hong Kong | Chairman & CEO Weijian Shan

#### 816. Important Days & Dates

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched 2 citizen-centric mobile phone applications - AMA SAHAR and SWACHHA SAHAR ODISHA on the occasion of "Local Self Government Day" that was observed by Odisha on August 31, 20. {Read more}

- August 31– "Local Self Government Day" observed by Odisha
- Odisha CM launched "Ama Sahar" & "Swachha Sahar Odisha" mobile phone applications
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal



#### 817. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Association of Indian Football Coaches (AIFC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Football Coaches Australia (FCA) to assist each other in development of football in the two countries. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Association of Indian Football Coaches + Football Coaches Australia = signed an MoU
- HQs of AIFC Mumbai, Maharashtra | General Secretary Mr. Kushal Das
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison

#### 818. Sports & Games

India & Russia were declared joint Gold medal winners of the online "FIDE Chess Olympiad" after a dramatic and controversial finish. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India & Russia joint Gold medal winners of the online "FIDE Chess Olympiad"
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- HQs of FIDE Lausanne, Switzerland | President Arkady Dvorkovich

#### 819. Schemes & Initiatives

"Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana" (PMJDY) that was launched in 2014 by PM Modi has completed 6 years on August 28, 2020. More than 40.35 crore people benefited from this scheme as on August 19, 2020. Out of total 40.35 Cr PMJDY accounts, 34.81 crore or 86.35% are operative. In 2014, the government launched "PMJDY 2.0" with enhanced features and benefits. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- August 28 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana" completed 6 years (launched in 2014)
- Total PMJDY accounts = 40.35 Cr | Operative/active accounts out of it = 34.81 Cr or 86.35%
- "PMJDY 2.0" was launched in 2014
- PMJDY is operated by Department of Financial Services (Finance ministry)

#### 820. Science & Technology

Indian Railways has developed Remote-Controlled Medical Trolley "MEDBOT" to deliver food, medicines to COVID-19 patients. {Read more}

- Indian Railways developed Remote-Controlled Medical Trolley "MEDBOT" to deliver food
- Chairman of Indian Railways Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs New Delhi



#### 821. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Department of Food and Public Distribution under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution has sent letters to Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories to ensure that all eligible disabled persons are included under 'National Food Security Act-2013'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Department of Food and Public Distribution sent letters to States Governments/UTs to include all eligible disabled persons under 'National Food Security Act-2013'
- Ram Vilas Paswan Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Constituency Hajipur, Bihar)

#### 822. Obituaries

Animator and the Co-creator of 'Scooby Doo' cartoon series, 'Joe Ruby' has recently passed away in August due to natural causes. He was 87. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Joe Ruby (USA) – Animator – passed away (Co-creator of 'Scooby Doo' cartoon series)

## 823. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Industry Ministers of BRICS countries has attended a video-conference to discuss ways to boost cooperation in areas including 5G and Artificial Intelligence. Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Som Prakash has represented India in that meeting. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting represented by Som Prakash (MoS for Commerce and Industry)
- BRICS Member Countries 5 Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021
- Piyush Goyal Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency Maharashtra

#### 824. Important Days & Dates

The United Nations has been observing "International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances" on August 30 since 2011 to create and raise awareness that enforced disappearance is a crime. {Read more}

- August 30 UN's "International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances"
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres



Jammu and Kashmir has launched 'Iraada' campaign with a view to cover the eligible left-out beneficiaries under various social welfare schemes. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Jammu and Kashmir launched 'Iraada' campaign
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

#### 826. National & States Affairs

India aims for 100 million tonnes (MT) coal gasification by 2030 with investments worth over Rs. 4 lakh Cr. According to Pralhad Joshi, government has provided for a concession of 20% on revenue share of coal used for gasification. A Steering Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. V. K. Saraswat for green initiatives in the coal sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India aims for 100 million tonnes coal gasification by 2030 with investments over Rs. 4 lakh Cr
- Government provided concession of 20% on revenue share of coal used for gasification
- A Steering Committee is constituted for green initiatives headed by Dr. V. K. Saraswat

#### 827. Books & Authors

Army Chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane has released a book titled "National Security Challenges: Young Scholars' Perspective" on August 17. It is penned by university students and published by Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Manoj Mukund Naravane released "National Security Challenges: Young Scholars' Perspective" book
- Authored by University Students | published by CLAWS
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief SK Saini

#### 828. National & States Affairs

Government has extended and allowed the authorised Public Sector Units (PSUs) to pay deferred customs duty within 14 days of imports. The scheme of deferred payment of customs duties was first introduced in November, 2016. {Read more}

- Government allowed authorised PSUs to pay deferred customs duty within 14 days of imports
- Scheme of deferred payment of customs duties was first introduced in November, 2016



#### 829. International Affairs

Maldives has launched India backed infrastructure projects like ceremony for development of the 'Hulhumale Central Park' and renovation of the 'Arrival Jetty' in Maldives. The project is being executed by the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) through an approximate 10 million Maldivian Rupee grant assistance from India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Maldives launched ceremony for development of 'Hulhumale Central Park' & renovation of 'Arrival Jetty'
- Maldives Male Maldivian rufiyaa | President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

#### 830. Science & Technology

ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has launched an Al-powered voice chatbot - "LiGo" on Google Assistant as part of its customer service initiative. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance launched an Al-powered voice chatbot "LiGo" on Google Assistant
- HQs of ICICI Prudential Life Ins. Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO N. S. Kannan

#### 831. Important Days & Dates

The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Women's Equality Day" was observed in the USA on August 26 to commemorate American women getting the constitutional right to vote. The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution was adopted in 1920. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- August 26 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Women's Equality Day" observed in the USA
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

#### 832. National & States Affairs

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has officially launched its Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services. The services are currently available in Kerala circle. 3 cities in the state will have the company's IPTV services on a trial basis. {Read more}

- BSNL officially launched its Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services
- Currently available in 3 cities of "Kerala" circle on a trial basis
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- HQs of BSNL New Delhi | CMD Pravin Kumar Purwar



#### 833. Sports & Games

West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo has become the first bowler to take 500 T20 wickets. Dwayne Bravo has played for over 20 teams in his career. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Dwayne Bravo (West Indies) – became the 1st bowler to take 500 T20 wickets

#### 834. Schemes & Initiatives

Andhra Pradesh has approved 'YSR Asara' scheme aimed at women empowerment along with 2 other schemes 'YSR Sampoorna Poshana' and 'Jagananna Vidya Kanuka'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Asara + Sampoorna Poshana + Vidya Kanuka Schemes = approved by Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan

#### 835. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Innoviti Payment Solutions has entered a partnership with Visa to develop an installments platform that will enable issuers to extend credit to their cardholders at face-to-face point-of-sale (In India). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Innoviti Payment Solutions + Visa = to develop an installments platform
- HQs of Innoviti Payment Solutions Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Rajeev Agrawal
- HQs of Visa Foster City, California | CEO Alfred F. Kelly

#### 836. International Affairs

The UAE has launched "Agriota", a new technology-driven agri-commodity trading and sourcing e-market platform that will bridge the gap between millions of rural farmers in India and the Gulf nation's food industry. {Read more}

- "Agriota" e-market platform launched by UAE to bridge agricultural gap between India & Gulf nations
- UAE Abu Dhabi Dirham | President Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan



Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has expected to have the largest ecosystem of incubating new technologies in the country by setting up 21 Centres of Excellence. The PHD Chamber of Commerce has organised an Online Seminar on the usage of blockchain technology in the agriculture sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Software Technology Parks of India to set up 21 Centres of Excellence
- HQs of STPI New Delhi | Director General Dr. Omkar Rai

#### 838. Important Days & Dates

August 26, 2020 has marked the 110<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the Great Saint "Mother Teresa" also known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta. She was born in Skopje (now the capital of North Macedonia). Mother Teresa, whose actual name was Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, had moved to India in the late 1920s. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- August 26 110<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the Great Saint "Mother Teresa" (Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu)
- She was born in Skopje (North Macedonia Skopje Denar)

#### 839. Obituaries

Former judge of the Supreme Court Justice 'A R Lakshmanan' has passed away recently in August. He was 78. Post-retirement, he was appointed Chairman of the 18<sup>th</sup> Law Commission of India. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

- A R Lakshmanan a Judge of the Supreme Court passed away (Chairman of the 18<sup>th</sup> Law Commission of India)
- Supreme Court Chief of Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde (47<sup>th</sup>)

#### 840. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to UN's chief Antonio Guterres, the Global Tourism Industry has been devastated by the coronavirus pandemic with \$320 billion lost in exports in the first 5 months from Corona virus and more than 120 million jobs are at risk. {Read more}

- According to UN's chief Global Tourism Industry lost \$320 billion & 120 million jobs are at risk
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres



#### 841. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Gujarat government has approved the draft of the "Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Bill-2020". This proposed legislation aims at enacting a law to sternly deal with land mafia illegally grabbing land owned by government, local self-government, public and religious trusts, farmers and private citizens. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Gujarat approved the draft of "Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Bill-2020"
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat

#### 842. National & States Affairs

The first newspaper for kids namely 'The Young Minds' is launched in Assam. Two Guwahati-based women entrepreneurs - Neelam Sethia and Neha Bajaj have launched this newspaper specifically designed for kids to promote creative thinking among children. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 1st newspaper for kids namely 'The Young Minds' is launched in Assam
- Designed & created by Neelam Sethia and Neha Bajaj
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

## 843. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

For funding the construction of the 296-kilometres long 'Bundelkhand Expressway', the Uttar Pradesh Expressway Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) has recently inked a deal with a consortium of 6 banks. The consortium of 6 banks is being led by Bank of Baroda. The project will link the Bundelkhand area to New Delhi. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- UPEIDA inked a deal with a consortium of 6 banks led by BOB (for 'Bundelkhand Expressway')
- The project will link "Bundelkhand to New Delhi"
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

#### 844. Defence Affairs

The Acquisition Wing of the Ministry of Defence has signed contracts with Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), Tata Power Company Limited (TPCL) and Larsen & Toubro (L&T) for the supply of 6 Pinaka Regiments. These supplies will be to the Artillery Regiment of the Indian Army at an approximate cost of ₹2,580 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

Acquisition Wing of MoD + BEML + TPCL + L&T = to supply 6 Pinaka Regiments – at a cost of ₹2,580 Cr



- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh (Constituency Lucknow, UP)
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief SK Saini
- HQs of BEML Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD Deepak Kumar Hota
- HQ of TPCL Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman N. Chandrasekaran
- HQs of L&T Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Dinanath Dubhashi

#### 845. Appointments & Resignations

SBI Mutual Funds has appointed Vinay M Tonse as MD & CEO, replacing Ashwani Bhatia who returned to parent State Bank of India (SBI) as its Managing Director recently. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Vinay M Tonse appointed as MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds (by replacing Ashwani Bhatia)
- HQs of SBI Mutual Funds Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Vinay M Tonse

#### 846. Defence Affairs

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will formally induct first 5 Rafale fighter jets at the Air Force Station, in Ambala on September 10. The aircraft will be a part of 17 Squadron, the "Golden Arrows". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IAF will formally induct first 5 Rafale fighter jets at Ambala Air Force Station (Haryana)
- It will be induced into No. 17 Squadron of IAF "Golden Arrows"
- IAF Chief Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

#### 847. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

Assam cabinet has approved 'Assam Skill Development University Bill' to set up Skill University at Mangaldoi town of Darrang district with an investment of Rs 900 crore. Assam Government has tied up ITE Education Service, Singapore for setting up of a Skill University. It would be set up with a financial assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB). The meeting decided to take Rs. 116 crore from NABARD for completion of 'Dhansiri irrigation project' launched in 1975. {Read more}

- 'Assam Skill Development University Bill' to set up Skill University at Mangaldoi, Darrang, Assam
- An investment of Rs 900 Cr | Financial assistance from ADB
- 'Dhansiri Irrigation Project' Assam (to take Rs. 116 Cr from NABARD)
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi
- ADB: HQs Mandaluyong, Philippines | President Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries 68



#### 848. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

As per provisional estimates has released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the April-June quarter (Q1) slipped by sharp 23.9% due to COVID-19. As per the government data, the Gross Value Added (GVA) at basic price at 'constant terms' during the June quarter shrunk 22.8%. The GVA at basic price at 'Current Prices' slipped 20.6% in Q1 of 2020-21. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- As per the MoSPI India's GDP in Q1 declined by 23.9%
- GVA at basic price at 'Current Prices' shrunk 20.6%
- GVA at basic price at 'Constant terms' shrunk 22.8%
- MoS I/C for Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation Rao Inderjit Singh

#### 849. Persons in News

The DRDO has constituted a 5-member committee to overhaul its 52 laboratories for current and future defence and battlefield needs. It is headed by the IIT-Delhi director, Valipe Ramagopal Rao. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- The DRDO has constituted a 5-member committee to overhaul its 52 laboratories
- Committee headed by Valipe Ramagopal Rao (IIT-Delhi director)
- HQs of DRDO New Delhi | Chairman G. Satheesh Reddy

#### 850. Obituaries

Katyayani Shankar Bajpai, former Ambassador to China, US and Pakistan, and secretary in Ministry of External Affairs, has passed away recently due to Covid-19. He was 92. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Katyayani Shankar Bajpai – a former Diplomat / Ambassador – passed away (Ambassador to China, US & Pakistan)





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