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August
MockDrill100
PDF No.4

(PDF in English)



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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

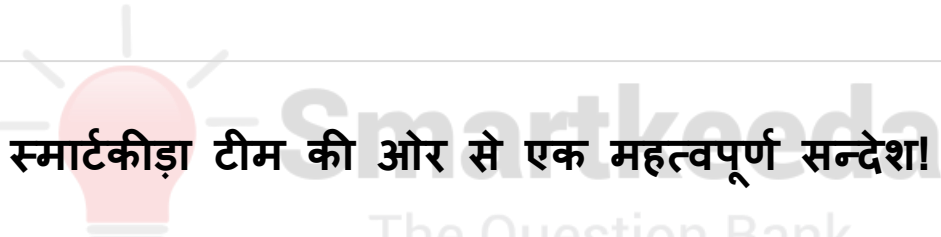
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of August 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

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

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF अगस्त 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

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

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

301. On August 11, The Kerala government is planning to institute Padma-style awards to honour individuals in recognition of their distinguished contribution in various spheres of activity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – plans to institute ‘Padma-style awards’
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

302. On August 12, India’s installed Renewable Energy capacity has crossed 100 GW. With this, India stands at 4th position in the world in terms of installed RE capacity, 5th in solar and 4th in wind in terms of installed capacity. India has also enhanced its ambition to install 450 GW of Renewable Energy capacity by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s installed Renewable Energy (RE) capacity crossed 100 GW
- India – 4th position in the world in terms of installed RE capacity (5th in solar & 4th in wind)
- India’s target to have 450 GW renewable energy capacity – by 2030

303. On August 12, NITI Aayog has released a handbook named “Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Implementation” to help state governments and local bodies in framing policies for setting up charging networks for e-vehicles. The book has been jointly developed by NITI Aayog, Ministry of Power (MoP), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), and World Resources Institute (WRI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – released a handbook named “Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Implementation”
- The book is developed by = NITI Aayog + MoP + DST + BEE + WRI
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

304. On August 10, Chhattisgarh has become the first state to recognise “Community Forest Resource Rights” in an urban area. Under Forest Rights Act, 2006, Community Forest Resource Right gives gram sabhas the right to protect, regenerate or conserve or manage any forest resources used by the entire community, or village. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel also unveiled an “Atlas” of tribal communities living in Chhattisgarh. Tribals account for more than 31% of Chhattisgarh’s population. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – became the first state to recognise “Community Forest Resource Rights” in an urban area
- Chhattisgarh – unveiled an “Atlas” of tribal communities living in the state
- Tribals’ population in Chhattisgarh – 31%
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey



305. On August 12, For the first time, 1 MT (metric tonne) of organic 'Black Rice' of Manipur, popularly known as 'Chakhao' or 'Chak-Hao', was exported to Europe from Imphal. Chakhao is known for its aroma. It is normally cooked for community feasts and is also used to make Chakhao kheer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1 MT of GI tagged organic 'Black Rice' or 'Chakhao' or 'Chak-Hao' – exported to Europe from Imphal, Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Ganga Prasad (addi. charge)

306. On August 13, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has virtually inaugurated a "Fulfilment Centre of Amazon India" in Coimbatore. It will create jobs for 2,000 people. Amazon India would also quadruple the storage capacity of an existing fulfilment centre in Chennai. With this, Amazon India will now have 6 fulfilment centres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. K. Stalin – inaugurated a "Fulfilment Centre of Amazon India" in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

307. On August 13, Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar has announced that the state's first civil airport in Hisar district would be named after Maharaja Agrasen. Noteworthy, on September 27, 2018, Hisar airport became the First DGCA-licensed public aerodrome of the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hisar airport – would be named after Maharaja Agrasen (located in Haryana)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

308. On August 13, The Kerala police has launched a first-of-its-kind "Drone Forensic Lab & Research Centre" in Thiruvananthapuram with an aim to address the rising concerns. Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated this unique initiative at a function held in the Special Armed Police (SAP) parade ground. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala police – launched a first-of-its-kind "Drone Forensic Lab & Research Centre" in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

309. On August 14, Union Environment Ministry has announced that 4 more Indian sites - two each from Haryana and Gujarat, have been recognised as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, taking the number of Ramsar sites in India to 46. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4 more Indian sites added to Ramsar Sites list as wetlands of International Importance: (Total – 46)
 - Sultanpur National Park (Gurgaon, Haryana)
 - Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary (Jhajjar, Haryana)



- Wadhvana Wetland (Baroda, Gujarat)
- Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary (Mahesana, Gujarat)
- Haryana – received its 1st Ramsar Site
- [Ramsar Convention or the Convention on Wetlands signed – at Ramsar, Iran \(in 1971\)](#)

310. On August 14, PM Narendra Modi has participated in “Atmanirbhar Narishakti Se Samvad” and interacted with women members of self-help groups (SHGs) and community resource persons promoted under the ‘Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)’. He also released financial support of ₹1625 Cr to over 4 lakh SHGs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – participated in “Atmanirbhar Narishakti Se Samvad” & interacted with women members of SHGs
- Narendra Modi – released financial support of ₹1625 Cr to over 4 lakh SHGs

311. On August 13, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has amended the “Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016” and notified the “Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021”. The new rule prohibits identified single use plastic items which have low utility and high littering potential by July 1, 2022. Thickness of plastic carry bags has been increased from 50 to 75 microns from September 30, 2021 and to 120 microns with effect from December 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoEFCC – amended the “Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016”
- The new rule bans identified single use plastic items – from July 1, 2022
- Thickness of plastic carry bags increased to 75 microns from Sep 30, 2021 & to 120 microns from Dec 31, 2022
- [Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey](#)

312. On August 13, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Ltd (HPMC) has exported their first consignment of 5 unique varieties of apples - Royal Delicious, Dark Baron Gala, Scarlet Spur, Red Velox and Golden Delicious to Bahrain. The apple promotion programme is also being organized for familiarizing consumers in Bahrain about varieties of apples in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APEDA + Himachal Pradesh = exported their first consignment of 5 unique varieties of apples – to Bahrain
- 5 varieties of apples: Royal Delicious, Dark Baron Gala, Scarlet Spur, Red Velox and Golden Delicious
- [HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – Paban K. Borthakur | Established in – 1986](#)
- [HP: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar](#)
- [Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa](#)



313. On August 13, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched a brand & logo named “SonChiraiya” for marketing of urban Self-Help Group (SHG) products. Over 5.7 lakh SHGs have been formed across various States/UTs with almost 60 lakh members. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, this partnership has successfully onboarded on the e-Commerce Portal over 2,000 products of nearly 5,000 SHG members across 25 States/UTs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA – launched a brand & logo named “SonChiraiya” for marketing of urban Self-Help Group (SHG) products
- Over 5.7 lakh SHGs have been formed across various States/UTs with almost 60 lakh members
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore

314. On August 11, Kaziranga has become the first National Park in India to have been equipped with satellite phones, which are generally used by the law-enforcing agencies. The satellite phones will give an edge to the forest personnel over the poachers and also during emergencies like floods. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kaziranga National Park (Assam) – 1st in India to have been equipped with Satellite Phones
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

315. On August 9, Uttar Pradesh government has renamed the ‘Kakori Kand’ or ‘Kakori train robbery’ or ‘Kakori train conspiracy’ to “Kakori Train action” as the word ‘Kand’ denotes a sense of insult to this incident under India’s Independence struggle. Besides, the Uttar Pradesh government has celebrated the anniversary of the ‘Kakori Train action’ under the program ‘Chauri Chaura Mahotsav’ which is going to complete 100 years in 2022. This train robbery took place at Kakori, a village near Lucknow, on 9 August 1925 during the Indian Independence Movement against the British colonial rule. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UP government – renamed the ‘Kakori Kand’ or ‘Kakori train robbery’ to “Kakori Train action”
- UP government – celebrated the anniversary of the ‘Kakori Train action’ under ‘Chauri Chaura Mahotsav’
- ‘Kakori Train action’ – took place on August 9, 1925
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

316. On August 14, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), Virendra Kumar has launched an online portal “TAPAS” (Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services) to provide massive open online courses (MOOC) in the field of social defence for the capacity building of stakeholders. ‘TAPAS’ is developed by the National Institute of Social Defence. ‘TAPAS’ provides filmed lectures and e-study material. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoSJE – launched an online portal “TAPAS” to provide massive open online courses (MOOC)
- TAPAS – Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services



- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale

317. On August 14, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), G. Kishan Reddy has inaugurated two exhibitions as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. One is "Katha Kranthi Veeron Ki" - an exhibition of revolutionaries at Lalit Kala Akademi. Other exhibition "Monuments of Victory & Valour" will contain photos of resistance and valour across millennia and organised at National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities (NMMA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated two exhibitions as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav':
 - "Katha Kranthi Veeron Ki"
 - "Monuments of Victory & Valour"
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal

318. On August 14, NTPC Ltd has invited global 'Expression of Interest' to set up a pilot project on Hydrogen Blending with Natural Gas in in City Gas Distribution (CGD) Network in India. The Expression of Interest (Eoi) follows the recent tenders floated by NTPC REL for Green Hydrogen Fuelling Station at Leh and NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited (NVVN) for procurement of Fuel Cell Buses. A dedicated 1.25 MW Solar Plant is also being set up at Leh by NTPC REL to power Green Hydrogen Fuelling Station. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC – invited global 'Expression of Interest' to set up a pilot project on Hydrogen Blending with Natural Gas
- NTPC REL – setting up 1.25 MW Solar Plant to power Green Hydrogen Fuelling Station – at Leh, Ladakh
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

319. On August 13, Tamil Nadu Finance Minister PTR Palanivel Thiagarajan has presented the revised Budget Estimate for FY2021-22. The state launched "Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam" scheme with an outlay of Rs 257.16 Cr. Maternity leave increased from 9 months to 12 months for women government employees having children less than two. The Tamil Nadu has allocated ₹32,600 Cr for school education in the Budget. The state government has decided to appoint a High-Level Committee of educationists and experts to formulate a 'distinct' State Education Policy. The state government also launched "Ennum Ezhuthum Mission" to ensure foundational literacy and numeracy in all students by 2025. A provision of ₹66.70 Cr is made for this purpose. Besides, A Learning Management System (LMS) integrated with an Enterprise Resource Planning Software will be established for all higher education institutions in Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – to appoint a High-Level Committee of experts to formulate a 'distinct' State Education Policy
- Tamil Nadu – to establish a "Learning Management System (LMS)" for all Higher Education institutions
- Tamil Nadu – launched "Ennum Ezhuthum Mission" to ensure foundational literacy in all students by 2025



- Tamil Nadu – allocated ₹32,600 Cr for School Education in the Budget
- Tamil Nadu – launched “Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam” scheme (Outlay - Rs 257.16 Cr)
- Maternity leave for women state government employees – increased to 12 months (from 9 months)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

320. On August 13, In a bid to bring more transparency and accountability in the governance system, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched “PROOF” (Photographic Record of On-site Facility) app. The app will help in monitoring and timely completion of projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – launched “PROOF” (Photographic Record of On-site Facility) app to monitor timely completion of projects
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

321. On August 16, General Insurance Corporation of India Ltd (GIC Re) had to shut down its Dubai office as its licence was not renewed by the Dubai authority. Following this, the corporation has decided to carry out its operations from the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in India. GIC had set up its international operations in Dubai in 2007 and had been providing reinsurance to the African continent. GIC also has permanent offices in the UK, Malaysia and Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- General Insurance Corp. – shut down its Dubai office & decided to shift its operation to GIFT City (Ahmedabad, Guj)
- GIC also has permanent offices in the UK, Malaysia & Russia
- HQs of GIC Re – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Devesh Srivastava

322. On August 14, PM Narendra Modi has announced that “Gati Shakti” - a National Infrastructure Master Plan for India has been launched with an outlay of Rs 100 lakh Cr. It will lay the foundation of holistic Infrastructure and will lead to an integrated and holistic pathway to Indian Economy. Besides, Indian government will provide ‘Fortified Rice’ to the poor through ‘Mid-Day Meals Scheme’ by 2024 to fight malnutrition. PM Modi also announced that Sainik Schools across India will be open for admission of girl students. He also announced 75 ‘Vande Bharat Express’ trains to be rolled out in 75 weeks of ‘Amrit Mahotsav of Independence’. He also announced a new target of making India an ‘Energy Independent’ nation by 2047. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi recently made some announcements:
 - Launching of “Gati Shakti” - a National Infrastructure Master Plan for India (Outlay - Rs 100 lakh Cr)
 - ‘Fortified Rice’ to the poor through ‘Mid-Day Meals Scheme’ by 2024
 - Sainik Schools to open across India for admission of girl students
 - 75 ‘Vande Bharat Express’ trains to be rolled out in 75 weeks of Amrit Mahotsav of Independence
 - Target of making India an ‘Energy Independent’ nation by 2024



323. On August 15, HCL Foundation, the corporate social responsibility arm of HCL Technologies, has launched an online portal “My e-Haat” to empower artisans and strengthen the value chain of the handicraft sector in India. ‘My E-Haat’ initiative will be a unique model (A2C) where artisans will connect with the customer directly in the coming years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HCL Foundation (UP) – launched “My e-Haat” portal to empower artisans & strengthen handicraft sector
- HQs of HCL Technologies – Noida, UP | MD & CEO – C. Vijayakumar | Chairperson – Roshni Nadar Malhotra

324. The Textiles Ministry has announced to set up 10 more Handloom Design Resource Centres to help the handloom sector. The centres will be set up in a phased manner by the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 10 more Handloom Design Resource Centres will be set up by the NIFT
- HQs of NIFT – New Delhi | DG – Sarada Muraleedharan | Established in – 1986

325. On August 15, A team of people with disabilities on Independence Day has embarked upon a journey to trek the Siachen Glacier. Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Virendra Kumar flagged off the expedition, which is being executed by ‘Team CLAW’ and also flagged-off “Operation Blue Freedom - Land World Record at Siachen Glacier”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoSJE – flagged-off “Operation Blue Freedom - Land World Record at Siachen Glacier”
- ‘Team CLAW’ will lead a team of people with disabilities to scale ‘Siachen Glacier’
- C.L.A.W. – **C**onquer. **L**and. **A**ir. **W**ater
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale

International Affairs

326. On August 13, the World Health Organization (WHO) has created a new advisory group called “SAGO” (The International Scientific Advisory Group for Origins of Novel Pathogens) to make search for the origins of Covid-19 and to study pathogens with pandemic potential. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO – created a new advisory group called “SAGO” to make search for the origins of Covid-19
- SAGO – The International **S**cientific **A**dvisory **G**roup for **O**rigins of Novel Pathogens
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948



Banking & Economic Affairs

327. On August 11, Indian Bank has signed an MoU with Paralympic Committee of India to become one of the Banking Partners ahead of the “2020 Paralympic Games” in Tokyo, Japan. In a year-long association, the bank will provide financial assistance to Paralympic athletes to prepare for the coveted sporting events in domestic arena as well as global platforms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank + Paralympic Committee of India = Banking Partners for the “2020 Paralympic Games” in Tokyo, Japan
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru | Tagline – “Your Own Bank”
- HQs of Paralympic Committee of India – New Delhi | President – Rao Inderjit Singh

328. On August 12, IIFL Finance (**India Infoline**) has partnered with FinBox to offer innovative Digital Credit products to its merchants. IIFL Finance will offer digital credit avenues to its merchants, B2B e-commerce traders, using FinBox’s embedded ‘Buy-now-Pay-later’ (BNPL) and working capital credit products. IIFL and FinBox will digitally disburse ₹1,000 Cr in loans over the next 2 quarters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIFL Finance + FinBox = to offer innovative Digital Credit products to the merchants using ‘Buy-now-Pay-later’
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nirmal Jain | MD – Venkataraman Rajamani
- HQs of FinBox – Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-Founder & CEO – Rajat Deshpande

329. On August 12, AU Small Finance Bank has unveiled a mega Brand Campaign titled “BADLAAV Humse Hai”. This is the first integrated marketing communication campaign from AU Bank since its inception. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AU Small Finance Bank – unveiled a mega Brand Campaign titled “BADLAAV Humse Hai”
- HQs of AU SFB – Jaipur, Rajasthan | MD & CEO – Sanjay Agarwal | President – Sharad Goklani

330. On August 11, The SEBI has merged ‘ILDS’ (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities) rules and ‘NCRPS’ (Non-Convertible Redeemable Preference Shares) rules into a single regulation to be called - “Sebi (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations”. Under the new framework, issuers other than unlisted REITs (Real estate investment trusts) and InvITs (Infrastructure investment trusts) and who have an existing history of less than 3-years, have been facilitated to tap the bond market on certain conditions. Under these regulations, the issue should be made on the “Electronic Book Mechanism (EBP)” platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI merged ‘ILDS’ & ‘NCRPS’ rules into a single regulation called - “Sebi (Issue & Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations”
- Under the new framework:



- Issuers other than unlisted REITs & InvITs should have an existing history of less than 3-years
- Issue should be made on the “Electronic Book Mechanism (EBP)” platform
- REITs – Real Estate Investment Trusts | InvITs – Infrastructure Investment Trusts
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

331. On August 13, The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has announced that RuPay has launched a strategic campaign “#FollowPaymentDistancing” to promote and encourage contactless payments among customers amid these unpredictable times. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RuPay – launched a strategic campaign “#FollowPaymentDistancing” to promote contactless payments
- HQs of RuPay – New Delhi | Launched by NPCI in 2012 | Tagline – One Life. One RuPay.

332. On August 13, DBS Bank India has partnered with ODeX, one of India’s leading platforms to exchange shipping documents and facilitate payments, to introduce “ODeX Pay Later Solutions” powered by DBS. Businesses with a turnover of Rs 3 Cr to Rs 200 Cr that have completed over 5 years in the same industry can avail of an unsecured loan of up to Rs 50 lacs from DBS Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DBS Bank India + ODeX = to introduce “ODeX Pay Later Solutions” powered by DBS
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome
- HQs of DBS Bank – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta
- HQs of ODeX India Solutions Pvt Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Liji Nowal

333. On August 12, KreditBee has partnered with RuPay and RBL Bank to launch the “KreditBee Card” and entered into the card segment. With this card, a customer can avail credit limit of upto Rs 10,000 that can be repaid within a single billing cycle not going beyond 45 days. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KreditBee + RuPay + RBL Bank = to launch the “KreditBee Card” (credit limit of upto Rs 10,000)
- HQs of RuPay – New Delhi | Launched by NPCI in 2012 | Tagline – One Life. One RuPay.
- HQs of KreditBee – Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-Founder & CEO – Madhusudan Ekambaram
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja | Chairman – Prakash Chandra

334. On August 12, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1 Cr on Cooperatieve Rabobank U.A. for contravention of certain provisions of the ‘Banking Regulation Act, 1949’ and directions related to “Transfer to Reserve Funds”. The RBI has also imposed a penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Village Financial Services Ltd, Kolkata, for non-compliance with certain provisions of the KYC Directions, 2016. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 1 Cr on “Cooperatieve Rabobank U.A.” for deficiencies in regulatory compliances
- RBI also imposed a penalty of Rs 5 lakh on “Village Financial Services Ltd” (Kolkata, West Bengal)
- Location of Cooperatieve Rabobank U.A. – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

335. On August 9, The RBI has issued draft guidelines to liberalise Overseas Direct Investment (ODI) with a view to promote ease of doing business. Two draft documents are “Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments - Overseas Investment) Rules, 2021” and “Foreign Exchange Management (Overseas Investment) Regulations, 2021”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI issued two draft guidelines to liberalise Overseas Direct Investment (ODI):
- “Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments - Overseas Investment) Rules, 2021”
- “Foreign Exchange Management (Overseas Investment) Regulations, 2021”
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

336. On August 14, The Reserve Bank of India has cancelled the licence of Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank, Panvel in Maharashtra for not having adequate capital and being unable to pay its present depositors in full. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the licence of Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank (Maharashtra)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

337. On August 11, Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has emerged as the top performer among public sector lenders in terms of loan and deposit growth during financial year 2020-21. BoM recorded a 13.45% increase in gross advances at ₹1.07 lakh Cr in 2020-21. It was followed by Punjab & Sind Bank. Current Account Savings Account (CASA) for BoM saw 24.47% rise, the highest among the public sector lenders, during the year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BoM – emerged as Top performer among PSU banks in terms of loan & deposit growth during FY 2020-21
- BoM – recorded a 13.45% increase in Gross advances at ₹1.07 lakh Cr during FY 2020-21
- CASA for BoM saw 24.47% rise during FY 2020-21 (the highest among PSU banks)
- HQs of BoM – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – A S Rajeev | Tagline – “One Family One Bank”

338. On August 14, India and the East African Community (EAC) trading group have signed a joint action plan to boost two-way trade by ensuring faster clearance of goods. The EAC is an intergovernmental organization of 6 countries - Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. Trade between the EAC and India over the past 5 years (2014 - 2018) cumulatively amounted to over \$30 billion. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India + EAC = a joint action plan to boost two-way trade by ensuring faster clearance of goods
- HQs of EAC – Arusha, Tanzania | Chairman – Uhuru Kenyatta | Member countries – 6

Defence Affairs

339. In pursuance of India's "Act East" Policy, Indian Naval Ships - INS Shivalik and INS Kadmatt arrived at Muara, Brunei to participate in various bilateral professional interactions and to conduct bilateral exercises with Royal Brunei Navy. INS Shivalik and INS Kadmatt are the latest indigenously designed and built, multi-role Guided Missile Stealth Frigate and Anti-Submarine Corvette respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Shivalik & INS Kadmatt – arrived at Muara, Brunei in pursuance of India's "Act East Policy"
- INS Shivalik – Multi-role Guided Missile Stealth Frigate | INS Kadmatt – Anti-Submarine Corvette
- Brunei – Bandar Seri Begawan – Brunei dollar (BND) | Prime Minister – Hassanal Bolkiah

340. On August 13, The Indian Navy has participated in the U.S. Navy-led "Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT)" military exercise in Singapore. The military exercise also included navies of 20 other partner nations. SEACAT began in 2002 as "Southeast Asia Cooperation Against Terrorism" and this is the 20th edition of the exercise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy – participated in the 20th edition of "Southeast Asia Cooperation & Training (SEACAT)" military exercise
- The exercise was led by - US & conducted in - Singapore
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

341. The 2nd edition of the joint naval exercise "Zair-Al-Bahr" between the Indian Navy and Qatar Emiri Naval Force (QENF) was conducted between August 9 and 14 in the Persian Gulf. The Indian Navy's Stealth Frigate INS Trikand participated in this exercise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd edition of a joint naval exercise "Zair-Al-Bahr" – held between "India & Qatar" in the Persian Gulf
- INS Trikand – participated in this exercise
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani



Schemes & Initiatives

342. On August 10, Rajasthan government has introduced “Indira Gandhi Urban Credit Card Scheme - 2021” to provide interest-free loan up to ₹50,000 to street vendors, people in the age group of 18-40 years working in the service sector and unemployed of urban areas hit by Covid-19-induced financial crisis. Those having monthly income of ₹15,000 or family income ₹50,000 per month will not be eligible for the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – introduced “Indira Gandhi Urban Credit Card Scheme - 2021” to provide interest-free loan up to ₹50,000
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

343. On August 13, The Delhi government has launched the transport department’s ambitious “Faceless” initiative by locking down 4 Regional Transport Offices (RTO). The two services for which a person will have to visit the RTO are the driving test for getting a licence and vehicle fitness certificates. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – launched the transport department’s ambitious “Faceless” initiative
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

344. On August 14, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has launched an “e-crop survey” initiative to reduce the hardships of the farmers by providing them crop-related information without hassles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – launched an “e-Crop Survey” initiative to reduce the hardships of the farmers
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

345. “Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)” has completed 7 years in August, 2021. The scheme was launched by PM Narendra Modi on August 28, 2014 with the slogan “Mera Khata, Bhagya Vidhata”. The latest government data reflected, PMJDY now has 42.89 Cr beneficiaries (basic bank account holders) with ₹1,43,834 Cr total balance. According to the ‘Global Findex database’ of the World Bank, ‘substantial’ increase in financial inclusion in the country can be observed after 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)” – completed 7 years in August, 2021
- PMJDY was launched by PM Narendra Modi on August 28, 2014 | Current number of beneficiaries – 42.89 Cr

346. In order to boost domestic defence and aerospace manufacturing, Ministry of Defence (MoD) has launched “Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS)” with an outlay of Rs 400 Cr for creating state-of-the-art testing infrastructure. The scheme would run for the duration of 5 years and envisages setting up of 6-8 Greenfield Defence Testing Infrastructure facilities. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of Defence – launched “Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS)”
- Duration of the scheme – 5 years | Outlay – Rs 400 Cr
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

Sports & Games

347. Shikhar Dhawan has become the fastest Indian opener to reach the 6000-run mark in in One Day Internationals (ODI) cricket Shikhar overtook former India captain Sourav Ganguly (160 innings) and Rohit Sharma (200 innings) to reach the landmark in 140 innings. Currently, the fastest opener to reach 6000 ODI runs in 126 innings is Hashim Amla from South Africa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shikhar Dhawan – became the fastest Indian batsman to reach 6000 runs in ODI (in 140 innings)
- Fastest opener to reach 6000 ODI runs in 126 innings – Hashim Amla ([South Africa](#))

348. The 130th edition of “Durand Cup 2021” is scheduled to be held at Kolkata, West Bengal from September 5 to October 3, 2021. Durand Cup is the world’s third oldest and Asia’s oldest football tournament. The prestigious tournament was first held in 1888, at Dagshai (Himachal Pradesh) and it is named after ‘Mortimer Durand’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 130th edition of “Durand Cup 2021” – scheduled to be held at Kolkata, West Bengal (from Sep 5 to Oct 3, 2021)
- Durand Cup Football Tournament – first held in 1888 (at Dagshai, HP)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

349. On August 11, The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) has temporarily suspended Vinesh Phogat following her return from “2020 Tokyo Olympics”. She did not wear the name of the official kit sponsors of Team India at the Olympics. Meanwhile, the WFI also issued notice to young wrestler, Sonam Malik for misconduct. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinesh Phogat – temporarily suspended by Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)
- Vinesh Phoga & Sonam Malik – Indian Wrestlers
- HQs of WFI – New Delhi | President – Brijbhushan Sharan Singh



350. On August 13, Unmukt Chand, who captained India to victory at the 'Under-19 World Cup' in 2012, has announced his decision to retire from Indian cricket. A memoir titled "The Sky is the Limit" is authored by him. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Unmukt Chand – retired from Indian Cricket (Indian Captain at 'Under-19 World Cup' in 2012)
- "The Sky is the Limit" memoir – authored by Unmukt Chand

351. On August 11, Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan and West Indies skipper Stafanie Taylor have been named the "ICC Player of the Month for July 2021" in men's and women's categories respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shakib Al Hasan ([Bangladesh](#)) – named the "ICC men's Player of the Month for July 2021"
- Stafanie Taylor ([Jamaica](#)) – named the "ICC women's Player of the Month for July 2021"
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | Acting CEO – Geoff Allardice

352. 15-year old Young Indian Grandmaster Raunak Sadhwani has emerged as winner in the 19th Spilimbergo Open Chess Tournament. He played out a draw in the 9th and final round against GM Adam Kozak of Hungary. Indian Grandmaster R. Vaishali finished 14th with 6 points and was the best among the women competitors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Raunak Sadhwani ([India - Chess](#)) – won the 19th "Spilimbergo Open Chess Tournament"
- Adam Kozak ([Hungary](#)) & R. Vaishali ([India](#)) – Chess Players

353. On August 12, Gold medallist Neeraj Chopra has accomplished 2nd rank in the "World Athletics Men's Javelin Throw Ranking 2021" with a score of 1315. German athlete Johannes Vetter has topped the list with a score of 1396. He threw the javelin to a distance of 87.58m to win the gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Neeraj Chopra ([India - Javelin Throw](#)) – ranked 2nd in the "World Athletics Men's Javelin Throw Ranking 2021"
- 1st – Johannes Vetter ([Germany - Javelin Throw](#))



Important Days & Dates

354. The “International Left-Handers Day” is celebrated every year on August 13 to celebrate the differences and uniqueness of the left-handers in the predominantly right-handed world. Lefthanders International Inc. founder Dean R Campbell first observed the day in 1976. The population of lefties across the globe is around 13%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 13 – “International Left-Handers Day” (since 1976)
- Population of lefties across the globe is around 13%

355. August 13 of every year is observed as “World Organ Donation Day” aimed at raising awareness about the importance of organ donation and encourage people to take a pledge for the same. The first-ever organ donation was done in 1954 when Ronald Lee Herrick donated a kidney to his identical twin brother. Doctor Joseph Murray conducted the procedure for which he has also won the ‘Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine’ in 1990 for advances in organ transplantation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 13 – “World Organ Donation Day”
- The first-ever organ donation was done by Ronald Lee Herrick in 1954
- November 27 – “Indian Organ Donation Day”

356. On the occasion of the “World Elephant Day” which was observed on August 12, Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav has released the “Elephant & Tiger Population Estimation Protocol” which will be held in 2022. Bhupender Yadav has also released the 4th edition of the quarterly newsletter “Trumpet”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 12 – “World Elephant Day” (since 2012)
- Bhupender Yadav – released the “Elephant & Tiger Population Estimation Protocol” to be conducted in 2022
- Bhupender Yadav – also released the 4th edition of the quarterly newsletter “Trumpet”
- [Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey](#)

357. August 12 has marked the annual celebration of International Youth Day as an awareness day, designated by the United Nations (UN). The first Youth Day was observed in 2000. In 2021, the theme is “Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 12 – International Youth Day (since 2000)
- Theme – “Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health”



358. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced that from now, August 14 will be observed as “Partition Horrors Remembrance Day” in India. He also acknowledges the difficulties faced by the Indians during the partition of India in 1947. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 14 – “Partition Horrors Remembrance Day” in India

359. To spread awareness about Prediabetes and flatten the curve of diabetes, renowned experts & doctors in the field of Endocrinology & Diabetology have come together to mark a first-time global event on August 14 as “World Prediabetes Day”. If these symptoms are ignored and not prevented with medical intervention, almost 75% of Prediabetes cases are likely to develop diabetes within the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 14 – 1st “World Prediabetes Day”

360. India has celebrated its 75th “Independence Day” on August 15, 2021, with the usual pride to mark its freedom from British rule. On August 15, 1947, India got its freedom, ending an almost 200-year British rule. In 2021, the theme of this day is “Nation First, Always First”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 15 – 75th “Independence Day”
- Theme – “Nation First, Always First”

361. On August 13, Manipur has observed “Patriots’ Day” in memory of heroes who laid down their lives during the “Anglo Manipur War 1891” for the protection of Manipur’s independence. The first rendition of Manipur’s state song ‘Sana Leibak Manipur’ was performed by the artists of Roop Raag. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 13 – “Patriots’ Day” observed by Manipur
- Manipur’s state song – ‘Sana Leibak Manipur’ (written by – B. Jyantakumar Sharma)
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Ganga Prasad (addi. charge)

362. On August 16, Puducherry has celebrated its “De Jure Transfer Day”. Speaker of the Puducherry Assembly, R. Selvam, paid floral tributes at the memorial erected in Kizhur where the ‘transfer of power’ took place on the same day in 1962. This is the day when Puducherry really got independence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 16 – “De Jure Transfer Day” celebrated by Puducherry
- Puducherry: CM – N. Rangasamy | Governor – Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge)



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

363. On August 13, Invest India has become a co-organizer of the “International Climate Summit 2021 (ICS 2021)” - an initiative by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry’s Environment Committee. This global summit that will be held on September 3, will build a dialogue for India’s transition to clean energy with a special focus on “Powering India’s Hydrogen Ecosystem”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Invest India – became a co-organizer of the “International Climate Summit 2021 (ICS 2021)”
- Focus: “Powering India’s Hydrogen Ecosystem”
- HQs of Invest India – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Deepak Bagla | Established in – 2009 (under ministry of C&I)

364. On August 13, The Minister of State for External Affairs, Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh has inaugurated the 7th IBSA Academic Forum which is being held virtually on 11-12 August 2021. The two-day event is being hosted by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), an autonomous think-tank of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. India is the incumbent Chair of IBSA. IBSA is a unique Forum which brings together India, Brazil and South Africa. Besides, India also organized the “IBSA Tourism Ministers Meeting 2021”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajkumar Ranjan Singh – inaugurated the 7th “IBSA Academic Forum 2021” – hosted by RIS or India
- “IBSA Tourism Ministers Meeting 2021” – hosted by India
- HQs of RIS – New Delhi | RIS functions under – Ministry of External Affairs
- Current Chair of IBSA (India, Brazil, South Africa) – India
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh

365. On August 13, PM Narendra Modi has addressed the “Investor Summit 2021” in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The Summit was organized by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Gujarat government to invite investment for setting up vehicle scrapping infrastructure under the “Voluntary Vehicle-Fleet Modernization Program” or the “Vehicle Scrapping Policy”. Tata Motors signed an MoU with Gujarat to set a Scrapping Centre in Ahmedabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – virtually addressed the “Investor Summit 2021” held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- PM Narendra Modi – launched “Vehicle Scrapping Policy” or “Voluntary Vehicle-Fleet Modernization Program”
- Tata Motors + Gujarat = to set up a Scrapping Centre in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- HQs of Tata Motors – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Guenter Butschek



366. On August 14, India has chaired “BRICS Working Group on Agriculture 2021” under the theme “BRICS Partnership for Strengthening Agro Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Security”. The ‘BRICS Agriculture Research platform’ has been developed by India to promote cooperation in areas of agricultural research, extension, technology transfer, training and capacity building. This BRICS Working Group meeting will endorse the Action Plan of 2021-24. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – chaired “BRICS Working Group on Agriculture 2021”
- Theme – “BRICS Partnership for Strengthening Agro Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Security”
- India – developed ‘BRICS Agriculture Research platform’
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 – India

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

367. On August 12, As many as 152 police officers in India have been conferred with the “Union Home Minister’s Medal for Excellence in Investigation” for 2021 for their high professional standards of investigation of crime. The awardees include 28 women police officials from across the country. This medal was constituted in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 152 Indian Police Officers – conferred with “Union Home Minister’s Medal for Excellence in Investigation” for 2021
- Women awardees – 28 | This medal was constituted in – 2018

368. On August 15, President Shri Ram Nath Kovind has approved 144 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces, police and paramilitary personnel on the eve of “Independence Day 2021”. These include 1 Ashok Chakra, 1 Kirti Chakra, 15 Shaurya Chakras, 4 Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 116 Sena Medals (Gallantry), 5 Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) and 2 Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry). The President has also approved 28 Mention-in-Despatches to the Army personnel. Babu Ram from J&K Police was awarded ‘Ashoka Chakra’ posthumously. Altaf Hussain Bhat also from J&K Police was awarded ‘Kirti Chakra’ posthumously. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – approved 144 Gallantry awards on the eve of “Independence Day 2021”
- ‘Ashoka Chakra’ (posthumous) – Babu Ram | ‘Kirti Chakra’ (posthumous) – Altaf Hussain Bhat
- ‘Vayu Sena’ medals – Uttar Kumar & Deepak Mohanan



369. On August 12, The Government of India has announced the “Prime Minister’s Shram Awards (PMSA)” for the year 2018. These awards are to be awarded to 69 workers of private, central and state employees. This year, these awards are given in 3 categories - Shram Bhushan Awards, Shram Vir/Shram Veerangana Awards & Shram Shree/Shram Devi Awards and each will have 4 nominations, 12 nominations & 17 nominations respectively. The awardees include 8 women workers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Prime Minister’s Shram Awards (PMSA)” for 2018 have been given to 69 workers
- This year, these awards are given in 3 categories:

Category	Nominees	Prize
Shram Bhushan Awards	4	Rs 1 Lakh
Shram Vir/Shram Veerangana Awards	12	Rs 60,000
Shram Shree/Shram Devi Awards	17	Rs 40,000

Appointments & Resignations

370. On August 9, Iran’s new President Ebrahim Raisi has appointed Mohammad Mokhber as the first Vice-President of Iran. Mokhber headed the foundation known as Setad which was originally founded in the late 1980s. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mohammad Mokhber – appointed as the first Vice-President of Iran
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Ebrahim Raisi | Vice-President – Mohammad Mokhber

371. On August 13, Vinod K. Dasari, the CEO of Royal Enfield has resigned from the company. The company has given charge to B. Govindarajan as Executive Director of Royal Enfield with effect from August 18, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinod Dasari – resigned from his post as the CEO of Royal Enfield
- B. Govindarajan – appointed as Executive Director of Royal Enfield
- Royal Enfield – a subsidiary of Eicher Motors Ltd
- HQs of Royal Enfield – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Executive Director – B. Govindarajan

372. On August 11, The Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet appointed Kamlesh Kumar Pant as the new Chairman of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). He is a 1993-batch IAS officer of Himachal Pradesh cadre. He has succeeded Shubhra Singh. Similarly, Suman Sharma will be Managing Director of Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Kamlesh Kumar Pant – appointed as the new Chairman of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)
- Suman Sharma – appointed as MD of Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)
- HQs of NPPA – New Delhi | Chairman – Kamlesh Kumar Pant | Founded on – Aug 29, 1997
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain | MD – Suman Sharma | Founded on – Sep 9, 2011

373. On August 12, According to an official order from the Personnel Ministry, Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla has been given a one year extension. Mr. Bhalla, a 1984 batch IAS officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre, was appointed as the Home Secretary in August 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Kumar Bhalla – given 1 year extension as Union Home Secretary
- He was initially appointed in August 2019

374. On August 13, Godrej Industries Ltd (GIL) has announced that Adi Godrej will step down as Chairman of the board and Nadir Godrej, who is currently MD will take over as new Chairman effective from October, 2021. Adi Godrej will continue to serve as Chairman of the Godrej Group and Chairman Emeritus of GIL. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nadir Godrej – appointed as Chairman of Godrej Industries Ltd (GIL)
- Adi Godrej – to serve as Chairman of the Godrej Group & Chairman Emeritus of GIL
- HQs of GIL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nadir Godrej
- HQs of Godrej Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Adi Godrej

375. On August 16, Opposition leader Hakainde Hichilema has secured a stunning victory over incumbent Edgar Lungu in Zambia's Presidential Election. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hakainde Hichilema – appointed as new President of Zambia (replacing - Edgar Lungu)
- Zambia – Lusaka – Zambian Kwacha | President – Hakainde Hichilema

Amount & Agreements

376. On August 13, The Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has entered into an agreement for \$100 million line of credit (LoC) to Mauritius for procurement of defence items from India. Till date, EXIM bank has extended \$764.80 million to Mauritius. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Exim Bank – to provide an LoC of \$100 million to Mauritius for procurement of defence items from India
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai | MD&CEO – David Rasquinha | Founded in – 1982
- Mauritius – Port Louis – Mauritian rupee | PM – Pravind Kumar Jugnauth

377. On August 12, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has announced Rs 1,000 Cr for new National Highways in Uttarakhand and an additional Rs 300 Cr for the Central Road Infrastructure Fund. Chief Minister Dhama also requested the approval of the construction of a two-lane tunnel for Tehri Lake in Dehradun. The estimated cost of the construction of the tunnel amounts to Rs 8750 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari – sanctioned Rs 1,000 Cr for new National Highways in Uttarakhand
- Nitin Gadkari – also sanctioned additional Rs 300 Cr for the Central Road Infrastructure Fund
- Tehri Lake – in Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhama | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

378. On August 13, The first of its kind “2021 Indiaspora Philanthropy leaders list” was released by Indiaspora, a US-based diaspora body. Indian business tycoons Gautam Adani, Nita Ambani and Kumar Mangalam are among 100 Indian philanthropists in the list. The list includes philanthropists from India and from geographies with significant diaspora migration, including the US, UK, Canada, UAE, Singapore and Australia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 Indiaspora Philanthropy leaders list” – released by Indiaspora (US)
- Gautam Adani, Nita Ambani & Kumar Mangalam are among 100 Indian philanthropists in the list

379. On August 12, A report titled “Transparency Index: Rating of Pollution Control Boards on Public Disclosure”, released by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), has assessed the data disclosure performance of 29 state pollution control boards and 6 pollution control committees from across India. State Pollution Control Boards of Odisha and Telangana have ranked the first in the list. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board & Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board have ranked at the second & third position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Transparency Index: Rating of Pollution Control Boards on Public Disclosure” – released by CSE
- 1st position – Odisha & Telangana | 2nd – Tamil Nadu | 3rd – Madhya Pradesh
- HQs of CSE – New Delhi | Director General – Sunita Narain



380. On August 12, After Conducting a nationwide assessment of minority schools, the National Commission of Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has recommended to the government to bring all such schools, including madarasas, under the purview of 'Right to Education (RTE)' and 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' campaign. According to the NCPCR survey report titled "Impact of Exemption under 'Article 15 (5)' with regards to 'Article 21A' of the Constitution of India on Education of Minority Communities", overall 62.50% of students in such schools belonged to non-minority communities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCPCR recommended the government to bring all minority schools under the purview of 'Right to Education (RTE)' and 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' campaign
- Overall 62.50% of students in such schools belonged to Non-minority Communities
- HQs of NCPCR – New Delhi | Chairman – Priyank Kanongoo

Acquisitions & Mergers

381. On August 12, The government has decided to sell up to 25% stake in National Seeds Corporation (NSC) through an initial public offering (IPO), and has invited bids from advisors to assist it in the process. The NSC comes under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, and produces certified seeds of nearly 600 varieties of 60 crops. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government decided to sell up to 25% stake in National Seeds Corporation (NSC)
- HQs of NSC – New Delhi | CMD – V. K. Gaur

382. On August 13, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of 9.3% stake in each of Grofers India Private Ltd (Grofers India) and Hands on Trades Private Ltd (HoT) by Zomato. Meanwhile, the CCI has approved the acquisition of shares in ANI Technologies by Plum Wood. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the acquisition of 9.3% stake in each of "Grofers" & "Hands on Trades" – by Zomato
- HQs of Zomato – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Deepinder Goyal | Founded in – 2008
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

383. On August 12, The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) have extended their collaboration to facilitate International Trade, particularly e-commerce. The extended partnership includes the successful integration of air cargo messaging standards (Cargo-XML) into UNCTAD's automated customs management system "ASYCUDAWorld". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IATA + UNCTAD = collaboration to facilitate e-commerce globally
- Partnership includes the successful integration of "Cargo-XML" into UNCTAD's "ASYCUDAWorld" system
- HQs of IATA – Montreal, Canada | DG & CEO – Alexandre de Juniac
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Rebecca Grynspan

384. On August 12, National Health Authority (NHA) has signed an MoU with IIT Delhi to strengthen India's response to the COVID-19 crisis and preparedness for emerging healthcare needs. Through this partnership, NHA will be a technical collaborator on the USAID-supported "SAMRIDH Healthcare Blended Financing Facility". IIT Delhi serves as the hosting entity for "SAMRIDH". Through this partnership, NHA and IIT Delhi are supporting innovative solutions which will cater to the needs and priorities of the "Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya (AB PM-JAY) Ecosystem". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHA + IIT Delhi = an MoU to strengthen India's response to the COVID-19 crisis
- NHA – will be a technical collaborator on the USAID-supported "SAMRIDH"
- IIT Delhi – serves as the hosting entity for "SAMRIDH"
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Indu Bhushan | Founded in – 2018

385. On August 12, BSE E-Agricultural Markets Ltd (BEAM) has signed an MoU with Foundation for Development of Rural value Chain (FDRVC) in a bid to strengthen the Price Discovery Mechanism of the commodities traded by Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BEAM + FDRVC = an MoU to strengthen the Price Discovery Mechanism of the commodities traded by FPOs
- HQs of BEAM – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Rajesh Sinha
- HQs of FDRVC – New Delhi | CEO – Alok De

386. On August 12, The Tamil Nadu Government is in consultation with Germany to sign an MoU to procure 2,500 buses for public transport. At least 9 lakh women in the state have been benefited in the free travel scheme. An additional allocation of Rs 150 Cr was allocated for the State Transport Department. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu is in consultation with Germany to sign an MoU to procure 2,500 buses for public transport
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Books & Authors

387. On August 12, The book, “Art Cinema And India’s Forgotten Futures: Film And History in the PostColony”, written by film historian Rochona Majumdar, will be out in late September, as announced by publishing house Columbia University Press. The book analyses films by the legendary filmmaker triumvirate - Satyajit Ray, Mrinal Sen and Ritwik Ghatak. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Art Cinema And India’s Forgotten Futures: Film And History in the PostColony” book – authored by Rochona Majumdar
- Publisher – Columbia University Press

388. Tanvi Madan, senior fellow at Brookings Institution and has authored a book titled “Fateful Triangle: How China Shaped US-India Relations During the Cold War”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Fateful Triangle: How China Shaped US-India Relations During the Cold War” book – authored by Tanvi Madan

389. Nagpur-based rural journalist Jaideep Hardikar has authored a new book “Ramrao: The Story of India’s Farm Crisis” which aims to contextualise India’s ongoing farmers’ agitation and farm suicides by centring it around the experience of an individual. The book has been published by HarperCollins India on August 20, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Ramrao: The Story of India’s Farm Crisis” book – authored by Jaideep Hardikar
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

390. A new book titled “The Great Hindu Civilisation: Achievement, Neglect, Bias and the Way Forward” is written by author-former diplomat Pavan K. Varma and published by Westland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Great Hindu Civilisation: Achievement, Neglect, Bias and the Way Forward” – authored by Pavan K. Varma
- Publisher – Westland



Obituaries

391. On August 11, Balaji Tambe, a well-known Spiritual Leader who was also an Ayurveda doctor and proponent of Yoga passed away. He was 81. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Balaji Tambe – Spiritual Leader & Ayurveda Doctor – passed away

392. Veteran Gujjar leader and Padma Bhushan awardee from Jammu and Kashmir, Mian Bashir Ahmed passed away. He was 98. He was a minister in Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah's cabinet. In 2008, he was honoured with the Padma Bhushan award. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mian Bashir Ahmed – Veteran Gujjar leader (a Politician) – passed away (Padma Bhushan in 2008)

393. Germany footballer Gerd Muller passed away at the age of 75. He was widely regarded as one of the game's greatest goalscorers and nicknamed "Der Bomber". Gerd Muller scored an incredible 566 goals in 607 appearances for Bayern Munich and still holds the record for the most goals scored in the Bundesliga with 365. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gerd Muller (Germany) – a Footballer – passed away

394. On August 13, Former India defender Chinmoy Chatterjee passed away due to cardiac arrest. He was 68. He was a member of the Arun Ghosh-coached Indian team at the '1978 Bangkok Asian Games'. He also played a key role in Mohammedan Sporting's CFL triumph in 1981. Chatterjee also represented Bengal in the Santosh Trophy 4 times. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chinmoy Chatterjee – an Indian Football player – passed away (1978 Bangkok Asian Games)

Science & Technology

395. India's attempt to launch Geo-imaging Satellite (GISAT-1) or Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-03) into the Geo-synchronous orbit with its 'GSLV-F10' vehicle has failed due to a technical anomaly. The launch took place at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's attempt to launch "GISAT-1" or "EOS-03" into orbit with its 'GSLV-F10' vehicle failed
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969



396. On August 12, The Imaging Infrared Spectrometer (IIRS) instrument onboard the “Chandrayaan-2” lunar orbiter has detected the presence of both Hydroxyl Ions (OH) and Water Molecules (H₂O) on the surface of the moon. The findings were published in the journal “Current Science” and were authored by Former ISRO Chairman AS Kiran Kumar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Chandrayaan-2” detected the presence of both ‘Hydroxyl Ions’ & ‘Water Molecules’ on the moon
- The discover was published in – “Current Science” journal
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969

397. On August 12, Pakistan has successfully test-fired a Nuclear-Capable Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile “Ghaznavi” which can strike targets up to 290 km. The successful training launch was aimed at ensuring operational readiness of Army Strategic Forces Command. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pakistan – test-fired a Nuclear-Capable Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile “Ghaznavi”
- Strike range of “Ghaznavi” – 290 km
- Other missiles of Pakistan: Ghauri & Shaheen
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

398. On August 13, Jitendra Singh has released “IndiGau”, India’s first Cattle Genomic Chip for the conservation of pure varieties of indigenous cattle breeds like, Gir, Kankrej, Sahiwal, Ongole etc. This indigenous chip was developed by National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NAIB), Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh – released India’s first Cattle Genomic Chip - “IndiGau”
- MoS (I/C) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K

399. On August 16, A team of researchers from the IIT Bombay and Kasturba Hospital, Mumbai, have developed an algorithmic model using infra-red technology to detect if a patient is more at risk of becoming severely ill from Covid-19. The team was led by Sanjeeva Srivastava. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Bombay + Kasturba Hospital = developed an algorithmic model using infra-red technology to predict high-risk severe Covid patients
- The team was led by – Sanjeeva Srivastava



Ordinance, Bills and Acts

400. On August 9, The Rajya Sabha has passed the “General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2021” to replace “General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972” to push greater private participation in the public sector insurers. The bill seeks to remove the requirement that the Centre should hold not less than 51% of the equity capital in such insurers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajya Sabha passed a bill to amend “General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972”
- Bill seeks to remove the requirement that the Centre should hold not less than 51% stake in Public Sector Insurers





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