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निश्चित रूप से  
सर्वश्रेष्ठ टेस्ट सीरीज



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**August**  
**MockDrill100**  
**PDF No.7**  
**(PDF in English)**



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**Test Launch Date: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

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## An important message from Team Smartkeeda

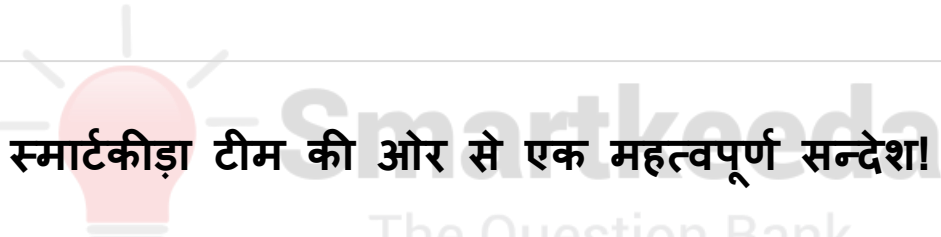
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of August 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial 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

**601.** On August 28, PictureTime Digiplex has installed the inflatable theatre in Leh situated at an altitude of 11,562 feet. It is the world's highest movie theatre and India's first roving cinema. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- PictureTime Digiplex – installed the inflatable theatre in Leh, Ladakh (at an altitude of 11,562 ft)
- It is the world's highest movie theatre & India's first roving cinema
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

**602.** On August 26, ReNew Power has become the first Indian renewable company to get listed on an American stock exchange “Nasdaq” with a market capitalisation of \$4.5 billion. Earlier in August, ReNew, which has so far focused on solar and wind energy, entered the hydropower sector by acquiring engineering major Larsen & Toubro's 99 MW run-of-the-river hydroelectric power plant in Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ReNew Power – become the first Indian renewable company to get listed on Nasdaq (with m-cap of \$4.5 billion)
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha
- Location of Nasdaq – New York City, U.S.

**603.** On August 28, President Ram Nath Kovind has laid the foundation stone of the “Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath AYUSH University”, state's first AYUSH University in Gorakhpur. The central government has established a dedicated AYUSH Ministry in 2014 to promote the traditional Indian medical practices. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – laid the foundation stone of “Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath AYUSH University” – in Gorakhpur, UP
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

**604.** On August 25, SBI General Insurance has been chosen by the Government of Punjab to service the “Ayushman Bharat Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana (AB-SSBY)”. As part of the scheme, the company will play a critical role in expanding the health insurance coverage in the state of Punjab especially to the less privileged sections. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SBI General Insurance – chosen by Punjab to service the “Ayushman Bharat Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana (AB-SSBY)”
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Prakash Chandra Kandpal | Tagline – “Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono”



**605.** On August 24, Flipkart Wholesale, the digital B2B marketplace of Flipkart Group, has launched Credit Programs which aim to help kiranas manage their working capital requirements and grow their business. Flipkart Wholesale's credit offerings include "Easy Credit" in partnership with IDFC FIRST Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Flipkart Wholesale – launched Credit Programs to help kiranas manage their working capital requirements
- Flipkart Wholesale + IDFC FIRST Bank = "Easy Credit"
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- HQs of IDFC First Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – V. Vaidyanathan | Established in – 2018
- IDFC Bank + Capital First = IDFC First Bank (merged in 2018)

**606.** On August 24, the year 2022 will mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-India relations and will be designated as the "ASEAN-India Friendship Year". The first joint programme entitled "ASEAN-India Development Partnership Programme (AIDPP)" was launched for scholars and practitioners of ASEAN countries and India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ASEAN & India – to celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the year 2022
- 2022 – designated as "ASEAN-India Friendship Year"
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2021 – Brunei | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia | Members – 10

**607.** On August 25, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched "Start-up Accelerators of MeitY for pProduct Innovation, Development and growth (SAMRIDH)" programme to boost start-up ecosystem in India. 300 startups will be provided with mentorship, funding and other necessary support, while investment of up to ₹40 lakh will be provided to the start-up. Besides, Meity Startup Hub (MSH) has partnered with MergerDomo to enhance startup ecosystem in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashwini Vaishnaw – launched "SAMRIDH" programme
- SAMRIDH – Start-up Accelerators of MeitY for pProduct Innovation, Development and growth
- Meity Startup Hub + MergerDomo = partnership to enhance startup ecosystem in India
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

**608.** On August 24, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a fine of Rs 200 Cr on India's biggest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) for anti-competitive practices related to how it forced dealers to discount cars. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCI imposed a fine of Rs 200 Cr on Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL)
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of Maruti Suzuki India – New Delhi | Chairman – R C Bhargava | MD & CEO – Kenichi Ayukawa



**609.** On August 24, The “Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat” campaign highlights the age-old ethos of unity in diversity. The campaign portrays the common thread of Indian cultural heritage lying in the principle of cultural harmony of the people. Mizoram is paired with Bihar on “Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat” campaign. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mizoram + Bihar = paired under “Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat” campaign
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**610.** On August 24, Minister for Labour and Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav has launched “e-Shram” portal to create a database of the workers of unorganised sector. For the first time in the History of India, a system is being made to register 38 crore Unorganised Workers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Labour & Employment – launched “e-Shram” portal to create a database of Unorganised Sector Workers
- Ministry of Labour & Employment: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Labour & Employment: Rameswar Teli

**611.** On August 24, US-based renewable energy company Ohmium International has started India’s first Green Hydrogen Electrolyser manufacturing unit at Bengaluru, Karnataka. Electrolysis is the process used to split water into oxygen and hydrogen. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ohmium International (US) – started India’s 1<sup>st</sup> Green Hydrogen Electrolyser manufacturing unit at Bengaluru
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

**612.** On August 25, The Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched a 100 days campaign “SUJALAM” as part of the ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ celebrations to create more and more Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus villages by undertaking waste water management at village level. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Jal Shakti – launched a 100 days campaign “SUJALAM” to create more ODF Plus villages
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Jal Shakti: Prahlad Singh Patel

**613.** On August 24, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology has launched “Amrit Mahotsav App Innovation Challenge 2021” in New Delhi for Indian entrepreneurs and start-ups. The innovation challenge has been launched in 16 categories. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MeitY – launched “Amrit Mahotsav App Innovation Challenge 2021” in New Delhi (in 16 categories)
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnav | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar





**614.** On August 25, The Cabinet has approved the highest ever Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane at ₹290/quintal for season 2021-22, which will be based on 10% recovery. If recovery is less than 9.5%, then farmers will be given ₹275/quintal. Recently, the Cabinet had approved the implementation of “National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm” with a financial outlay of ₹11,040 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved the highest ever Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane at ₹290/quintal for season 2021-22
- It will be based on 10% recovery
- Cabinet approved the implementation of “National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm” | Outlay – ₹11,040 Cr

**615.** On August 25, The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved foreign direct investment (FDI) of up to Rs 15,000 Cr in Fairfax India’s investment vehicle Anchorage Infrastructure Investment Holding. The investment also includes transfer of shares of Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) to Anchorage. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved FDI of up to Rs 15,000 Cr in Anchorage Infrastructure Investment Holding
- HQs of Anchorage Infrastructure Investment Holding – Mumbai, Maharashtra

**616.** On August 25, The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has granted official status of Self-Regulatory Body to the News Broadcasters Federation’s (NBF) “Professional News Broadcasters Standards Authority (PNBSA)” under the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of I&B – granted official status of Self-Regulatory Body to the NBF’s “Professional News Broadcasters Standards Authority (PNBSA)”
- President of NBF – Arnab Goswami
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan

**617.** On August 27, Ministry of Textiles and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) launched “INDIAsize” survey to introduce a comprehensive standardised garments size chart for the Indian population. For data collection, three 3D whole body scanners - procured from abroad - will be set up at five locations in Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Textiles + NIFT = launched “INDIAsize” survey to introduce a standardised garments size chart for India
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh





**618.** On August 27, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has launched “Ananda” (Atma Nirbhar Agents New Business Digital Application) mobile app for its agents & intermediaries. A paperless KYC process can be done on app using Aadhaar based e-authentication of the life proposed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- LIC – launched “Ananda” (Atma Nirbhar Agents New Business Digital Application) mobile app for its Agents
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

**619.** On August 26, A dedicated Dolphin Reserve is being planned in the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary which is a protected area in the Gangetic plains of Uttar Pradesh. Gangetic dolphins fall under ‘Schedule I’ of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act and have been declared an ‘Endangered’ species by the IUCN red list. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A dedicated Dolphin Reserve is being planned in Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary – in Uttar Pradesh
- Gangetic dolphins – ‘Endangered’ species by the IUCN red list
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**620.** On August 26, Puducherry Chief Minister N. Rangasamy has presented the Budget for the fiscal 2021-22. The Budget size for the year 2021-22 has been fixed at Rs 9,924.41 Cr and the Union Territory’s own revenue receipts have been estimated at Rs 6,190 Cr. “Industrial Status” will be provided to the Tourism Sector and development of ‘Yacht Marina’ will take place in Puducherry. Historic ‘Calve College’, a symbol of French Culture, will be renovated at a cost of Rs 4.39 Cr. The government earmarked Rs 40 Cr under “Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Financial Assistance Scheme” in B.E. 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- N. Rangasamy presented Puducherry’s Budget for the fiscal 2021-22 with an outlay of Rs 9,924.41 Cr
- Puducherry government earmarked Rs 40 Cr under “Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Financial Assistance Scheme”
- Puducherry: CM – N. Rangasamy | Governor – Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge)

**621.** On August 26, Neeraj Sinha, Additional Director General of Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) and Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe, Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) jointly launched “MANTHAN-2021”, a first of its kind Hackathon focused on National Security. Manthan- 2021 was organized by Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in coordination with the Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Education and AICTE. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “MANTHAN-2021” organized by = BPR&D + Ministry of Education + AICTE
- HQs of BPR&D – New Delhi | DG – V. S. K. Kaumudi
- HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairman – Anil D. Sahasrabudhe (AICTE functions under Ministry of Education)



**622.** On August 26, NITI Aayog in partnership with US-based tech giant Cisco has launched the next phase of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) titled “WEP Nxt”. WEP, initially launched by the NITI Aayog in 2017, is a unified portal that brings together women from diverse backgrounds and offers them access to a multitude of resources, support, and learning. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog + Cisco = launched the next phase of WEP titled “WEP Nxt”
- WEP was launched by NITI Aayog – in 2017
- HQs of Cisco – California, US | CEO – Chuck Robbins
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

## **International Affairs**

**623.** On August 24, The UAE is set to unveil the world’s largest and tallest observation wheel called “Ain Dubai” on October 21 in Dubai. It will be located at Bluewaters Island. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UAE – to unveil the world’s largest and tallest observation wheel called “Ain Dubai”
- Bluewaters Island – an artificial island in Dubai, UAE
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

**624.** On August 25, The US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) and US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) have launched the “US-India Climate Technologies Action Group (CTAG)”, which aims to bring together major private and public sector stakeholders from both the countries on concrete initiatives that can contribute to advanced global action on climate. Government officials and business leaders from both countries engaged in a high-level dialogue on the “Accelerating the Adoption of Climate Technology in India”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USTDA + USISPF = launched the “US-India Climate Technologies Action Group (CTAG)”
- HQs of USTDA – Virginia, US | Acting Director – Enoch T. Ebong



# Banking & Economic Affairs

**625.** On August 26, LIC, BNP Paribas Arbitrage, Societe Generale and Indian Bank are among the qualified institutional buyers (QIBs) allotted more than 5% equity shares in Canara Bank's Qualified Institutions Placement (QIP) issue aggregating ₹2,500 Cr. As per the latest shareholding pattern, Rakesh Jhunjhunwala has picked up 1.59% stake in Canara Bank. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Canara Bank – raises ₹2,500 Cr through QIP issue
- Rakesh Jhunjhunwala – picked up 1.59% stake in Canara Bank
- Rakesh Jhunjhunwala – known as 'Warren Buffett of India'
- HQs of Canara Bank – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Lingam Venkat Prabhakar | Tagline – "Together We Can"

**626.** On August 25, HDFC Bank has divested 2.21% stake for Rs 223 Cr in Central Depository Services (India) Ltd (CDSL) in tranches during a period from June 22 to August 24, 2021. Besides, Eldeco group has partnered with HDFC Capital Advisors Ltd to set up a Rs 150 Cr platform to build housing projects. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank – divested 2.21% stake for Rs 223 Cr in Central Depository Services (India) Ltd
- Eldeco group + HDFC Capital Advisors Ltd = to set up a Rs 150 Cr platform to build Housing Projects
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your world"

**627.** On August 24, South Indian Bank has been empanelled as an 'Agency Bank' by Reserve Bank of India to undertake general banking businesses of Central and State government on behalf of the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- South Indian Bank – empanelled as an 'Agency Bank' by the RBI
- HQs of South Indian Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | CEO – Murali Ramakrishnan

**628.** On August 26, Freo, India's first of its kind, credit-led neobank has collaborated with Equitas Small Finance Bank to launch its Zero-balance Savings Account, called "Freo Save". [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Freo + Equitas SFB = to launch a Zero-balance Savings Account called "Freo Save"
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan

**629.** On August 24, Fintech firm BharatPe has launched "12% Club" app that will allow consumers to invest and earn up to 12% annual interest or borrow at similar rate. BharatPe aims to achieve an investment AUM (assets under management) of \$100 million (about ₹741.8 Cr) and a lending AUM of \$50 million (about ₹371 Cr) from 12% Club by the end of the current fiscal year. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- BharatPe – launched “12% Club” app
- Aim: To achieve an investment AUM of \$100 million & a lending AUM of \$50 million
- HQs of BharatPe – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Ashneer Grover

**630.** On August 25, The RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 15 lakh on Baghat Urban Co-operative Bank Limited, Solan, for violation of certain norms, including, those related to NPA classification. The RBI has also imposed a penalty of Rs 1 lakh on Delhi Nagrik Sehkari Bank Limited, New Delhi, for non-compliance with certain directions issued by the central bank. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 15 lakh on Baghat Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd (Solan, Himachal Pradesh)
- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 1 lakh on Delhi Nagrik Sehkari Bank Ltd (New Delhi)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**631.** On August 26, IIM Ahmedabad has partnered with Bank of America (BoFA) to launch a Centre for Digital Transformation (CDT). The Centre aspires to become a knowledge hub for academia, policymaking, and the private sector by facilitating cutting-edge research on digital transformation and innovation. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IIM Ahmedabad + Bank of America = partnership to launch a Centre for Digital Transformation (CDT)
- HQs of BoFA – North Carolina, US | CEO – Brian Moynihan

**632.** On August 26, The MeitY Startup Hub (MSH), an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has signed an MoU with Paytm to scale deep-tech startups. The partnership will help India’s startups by providing them access to mentorship, networking, and business opportunities. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- MeitY Startup Hub + Paytm = an MoU to scale deep-tech startups
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

**633.** On August 25, LoanTap has launched a range of “LIMITLESS Credit line backed Prepaid Cards” in association with SBM Bank (State Bank of Mauritius) and Rupay network. With a credit limit of up to Rs 3 lakh and limitless rewards, offers, and discounts, LoanTap aims to tap into 2 lakh+ customers by December 2021. It also offers Accidental Insurance up to a limit of Rs 10 Lakhs. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- LoanTap + SBM Bank + Rupay = launched a range of “LIMITLESS Credit line backed Prepaid Cards”
- Credit limit of this Prepaid Card – Rs 3 lakh



- HQs of LoanTap – Pune, Maharashtra | Co-founder & CEO – Satyam
- HQs of RuPay – New Delhi | Launched by NPCI in 2012 | Tagline – One Life. One RuPay.
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- SBM Bank India – the 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI

**634.** Fintech firm Decimal Technologies and Ujjivan Small Finance Bank have entered into a partnership through which Ujjivan SFB and its channel partners will use Decimal’s digital lending platform - “Saarathi” to digitize loan sourcing. Launched in 2020, Saarathi is an AI-based, ready-to-use digital lending platform specialising in digitisation of loan origination journeys. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Decimal Technologies + Ujjivan SFB = partnership to digitise loan origination with Decimal’s “Saarathi” platform
- HQs of Decimal Technologies – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Lalit Mehta
- HQs of Ujjivan SFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Interim CEO – Carol Furtado | Founded in – 2004

**635.** On August 28, Google has recently partnered with fintech startup Setu to let users open fixed deposits (FDs) through the digital wallet platform Google Pay. Google Pay will initially offer its users FDs of Equitas Small Finance Bank for up to one year. Small Finance Banks are entitled to lend at least 75% of its Adjusted Net Bank Credit to priority sectors, as per the RBI's regulations. While, scheduled commercial banks have to lend 40%. Besides, Google has also launched “Be Internet Awesome” - a kids safety programme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Google + Setu = partnership to allow users open FDs through Google Pay
- Google – launched “Be Internet Awesome” - a kids safety programme
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

**636.** On August 25, Karnataka Bank has launched its “KBL FASTag”, a pre-loaded payment instrument to facilitate seamless movement of vehicles at the toll plazas across India, in association with NPCI (National Payment Corporation of India) and M/s Worldline, the FASTag processor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka Bank + NPCI + M/s Worldline = launched “KBL FASTag”
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

**637.** On August 26, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has provided the first approval under “SIDBI Cluster Development Fund (SCDF)” to the Government of Tamil Nadu in a special event held at the State Assembly. The expert committee on MSMEs headed by UK Sinha has recommended a more focused engagement of SIDBI with State governments for MSME development. Besides, SIDBI set up Project Management Units (PMUs) in 11 States. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- SIDBI provided the first approval under “SIDBI Cluster Development Fund (SCDF)” to Tamil Nadu
- Expert committee on MSMEs – headed by U. K. Sinha
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990

**638.** On August 26, Jana Small Finance Bank (Jana SFB) has signed an MoU with HCBL Co-operative Bank and Mysore Merchants Co-operative Bank to provide its digital infrastructure and payments services under the ‘Bank Sponsorship Programme’ of the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jana SFB + HCBL Co-operative Bank + Mysore Merchants Co-operative Bank = an MoU under the ‘Bank Sponsorship Programme’ of the RBI
- HQs JSFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Ajay Kanwal
- HQs of HCBL Co-operative Bank – Lucknow, UP | HQs of Mysore Merchants Co-operative Bank – Mysore, Karnataka

**639.** On August 26, Street Vendors identified as part of the PM Street Vendor’s AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi Scheme) in tier-1 and tier-2 centres will now be included as beneficiaries under the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI included ‘Street Vendors’ as beneficiaries under “PIDF Scheme”
- ‘Street Vendors’ were previously identified as part of ‘PM SVANidhi Scheme’
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**640.** On August 27, The RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 3 lakh on Jijamata Mahila Sahakari Bank, Pune, Maharashtra for non-compliance with the directions on exposure norms and statutory. A penalty of Rs 2 lakh has been imposed on The Muslim Co-operative Bank Limited, Pune, for contravention of/non-compliance with the directions issued by the RBI on KYC. The RBI also imposed a penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Seyad Shariat Finance Limited, Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu), an NBFC, for non-compliance with certain provisions of the KYC Directions, 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI imposed penalties on two co-operative banks & one NBFC:
  - Rs 3 lakh on Jijamata Mahila Sahakari Bank (Pune, Maharashtra)
  - Rs 2 lakh on The Muslim Co-operative Bank (Pune, Maharashtra)
  - Rs 5 lakh on Seyad Shariat Finance Limited (Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935



# Defence Affairs

**641.** On August 24, Lockheed Martin has been awarded a 5-year contract worth \$328.8 million from the Indian Air Force (IAF), to provide dedicated and comprehensive support for the IAF's fleet of 12 "C-130J-30 Super Hercules Aircraft". [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Lockheed Martin – received 5-year contract worth \$328.8 million from the IAF to support "C-130J" aircraft fleet
- HQs of Lockheed Martin – Maryland, USA | CEO – Jim Taiclet | Founded in – 1995
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief – Vivek Ram Chaudhari

**642.** In August, The 7<sup>th</sup> International Military-Technical Forum "Army-2021" has concluded recently in Moscow in which new warfare equipment were displayed. Over 1500 Russian and foreign companies presented their inventions in the defence field at the week-long Forum. This forum is being organised by Russia since 2015. The India Pavilion at the International Military Technical Forum "Army-2021" was inaugurated jointly by Mr. Raj Kumar and Mr. Bala Venkatesh Varma. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 7<sup>th</sup> International Military-Technical Forum "Army-2021" – organised in Moscow, Russia
- This forum is being organised by Russia since 2015
- Ambassador of India to Russia – Bala Venkatesh Varma
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

**643.** On August 25, The Indian Army has received the first batch of 1 lakh Multi-Mode Hand Grenades (MMHG) manufactured by Nagpur-based Economic Explosives Ltd (EEL) and designed by Chandigarh based DRDO's lab, Terminal Ballistic Research Laboratories (TBRL). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Indian Army – received the first batch of 1 lakh Multi-Mode Hand Grenades (MMHG) manufactured by EEL
- HQs of EEL – Nagpur, Maharashtra | HQs of TBRL-DRDO – Chandigarh
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

**644.** The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the week-long annual exercise called "Gandiv" was conducted at multiple cities in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and the National Capital Region by the National Security Guard (NSG) from August 22 to 28, 2021. This National Mock Exercise was carried out by the counter-terrorist force NSG to check its response time and reaction to hostage and hijack-like situations. [{Read more}](#)





**Key Points:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the week-long annual exercise called “Gandiv” – conducted by the NSG
- The exercise was conducted across – Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat & NCR
- HQs of NSG – New Delhi | DG – M. A. Ganapathy | Founded in – 1950

**645.** India and Kazakhstan has conducted a 13-day military exercise called “KAZIND-21” in Kazakhstan from August 30 to September 11 with a focus on counter-terror operations in mountainous terrain. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 13-day military exercise called “KAZIND-21” – conducted between India & Kazakhstan
- Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge | President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

## **Schemes & Initiatives**

**646.** Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has launched “COVID-19 Affected Livelihood Support Scheme” to provide assistance to those who had been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in the State. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manipur – launched “COVID-19 Affected Livelihood Support Scheme”
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan

**647.** On August 26, The Maharashtra government’s Women and Child Development Department has launched “Mission Vatsalya” to extend help to women who lost their husbands due to pandemic. 18 benefits and services will be brought under one roof. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – launched “Mission Vatsalya” to extend help to women who lost their husbands due to pandemic
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**648.** On August 26, The Punjab Cabinet led by Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh has approved a new scheme “Mera Kaam Mera Maan” (MKMM), to facilitate the unemployed youth, enhancing their skills and employability in their chosen field. The scheme provides an employment assistance allowance of Rs 2500 per month for a period of 12 months from the start of the training course. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab – approved a new scheme “Mera Kaam Mera Maan” to facilitate the unemployed youth
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore



# Sports & Games

**649.** On August 24, Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi has emerged as the winner of the “II Terras de Tras-os-Montes Chess Open 2021” that was held in Braganca, Portugal while his compatriot D. Gukesh finished second. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Arjun Erigaisi ([Chess - Telangana](#)) – won the “II Terras de Tras-os-Montes Chess Open 2021” held in Braganca, Portugal
- D. Gukesh ([Chess - Tamil Nadu](#)) – finished second

**650.** Tek Chand was India’s flag-bearer at the “Tokyo Paralympics” opening ceremony after Thangavelu Mariyappan was quarantined following close contact with a COVID-19 positive person on their flight to Tokyo. The Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games took place between August 24 and September 5 and featured 539 medal events across 22 sports. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Tek Chand ([Javelin thrower](#)) – India’s flag-bearer at the “Tokyo Paralympics” opening ceremony
- Mascot of the ‘2020 Paralympics Games’ – “Someity”

**651.** On August 26, India’s top paddler Sathiyam Gnanasekaran (G. Sathiyam) beat Yevhen Ryshepa of Ukraine in the final of the Czech International table tennis tournament at Olomouc in Czech Republic. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- G. Sathiyam ([Table Tennis Player](#)) – won the “ITTF Czech International Open 2021”
- HQs of ITTF – Lausanne, Switzerland | CEO – Steve Dainton | President – Thomas Weikert | Founded in – 1926

**652.** In August 2021, Princepal Singh Bajwa has become the first Indian basketballer to win an ‘NBA Title’ when his team Sacramento Kings defeated Boston Celtics 100-67 to bag the Summer League in Las Vegas. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Princepal Singh Bajwa – became the first Indian basketball Player to win an ‘NBA Title’
- HQs of NBA (National Basketball Association) – New York, US | Commissioner – Adam Silver

**653.** On August 27, The Uttar Pradesh government has adopted Indian wrestling and is expected to pump in an investment of Rs 170 crore in infrastructure and support to the wrestlers till the 2032 Olympics. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – adopted Indian wrestling till ‘2032 Olympics’
- Uttar Pradesh – expected to invest Rs 170 Cr in infrastructure & support to the Wrestlers
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



**654.** On August 25, Indian Grandmaster SP Sethuraman has won the 26<sup>th</sup> “Barcelona Open Chess Tournament Title” while compatriot Karthikeyan Murali finished third. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SP Sethuraman ([Chess](#)) – won the 26<sup>th</sup> “Barcelona Open Chess Tournament Title”

## Important Days & Dates

**655.** Every year, International Dog Day is celebrated on August 26 across the globe to encourage people to adopt more dogs instead of buying them from pet shops. The day was first observed in 2004 and was founded by Collen Paige, an animal welfare advocate and pet lifestyle expert. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 26 – International Dog Day (since 2004)

**656.** On August 26, The Women’s Equality Day is celebrated every year on August 26 in the United States to mark the American women’s advancements towards equality with men. The US Congress officially acknowledged the Women’s Equality Day in 1971. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 26 – “Women’s Equality Day” across the US
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

## Meetings, Conferences and Summits

**657.** On August 24, National Security Adviser (NSA), Shri Ajit Doval, has chaired the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS High Representatives Responsible for National Security through video conferencing. India holds the Chairship of BRICS this year which coincides with the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BRICS grouping. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ajit Doval (NSA) – chaired the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS High Representatives Responsible for National Security
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 – India

**658.** On August 25, National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval has hosted the first meeting of the National Security Advisers of the India-Brazil-South Africa Trilateral Cooperative Forum (IBSA) grouping. India is the current Chair of IBSA and will host the 6<sup>th</sup> IBSA Summit under the theme of “Democracy for Demography and Development”. Moreover, India has invited Brazil and South Africa to take part in the “2022 MILAN” naval exercise. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Ajit Doval – hosted the first meeting of the National Security Advisers of the “IBSA Trilateral Cooperative Forum”
- India – to host the 6<sup>th</sup> IBSA Summit | Theme – “Democracy for Demography and Development”
- India – invited Brazil & South Africa to take part in the “2022 MILAN” naval exercise
- [Current Chair of IBSA \(India, Brazil, South Africa\) – India](#)

**659.** On August 27, Union Minister Smriti Irani has addressed the first-ever “G20 Ministerial Conference on Women’s Empowerment” hosted by Italy in Santa Margherita Ligure in a hybrid format. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Smriti Irani – addressed the first-ever “G20 Ministerial Conference on Women’s Empowerment” hosted by Italy
- [Presidency of G20 Summit: 2021 – Italy | 2022 – Indonesia | 2023 – India | 2024 – Brazil](#)
- [Ministry of Women and Child Development: Smriti Irani | Constituency – Amethi, Uttar Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Women and Child Development: Munjapara Mahendrabhai](#)

**660.** On August 27, India has been elected to the Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC) at 27<sup>th</sup> Universal Postal Union (UPU) Congress in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. India was also elected with 106 votes out of 156 countries to the Postal Operations Council (POC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- [27<sup>th</sup> Universal Postal Union \(UPU\) Congress – held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire](#)
- [India – newly elected to the Council of Administration \(CA\) and Postal Operations Council \(POC\)](#)
- [HQs of UPU – Bern, Switzerland | Director General – Bishar Hussein](#)

**661.** On August 26, Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has virtually chaired the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) with RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das under Indian BRICS Chairship. Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa were also present. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman + Shaktikanta Das = chaired the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors
- [BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 – India](#)



## Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**662.** On August 24, The Sahitya Akademi has named authors Yashodhara Mishra and Omcherry N. N. Pillai as the winners of the “2020 Sahitya Akademi Awards” for their works in Odia and Malayalam, respectively. Ms. Mishra had been awarded for her work ‘Samudrakula Ghara’, and Mr. Pillai was awarded for his work ‘Akasmikam Omcheriyute Ormmakkurippukal’. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Yashodhara Mishra (Odia) & Omcherry N. N. Pillai (Malayalam) – winners of the “2020 Sahitya Akademi Awards”
- Ms. Mishra – for ‘Samudrakula Ghara’ | Mr. Pillai – for ‘Akasmikam Omcheriyute Ormmakkurippukal’

**663.** Karnataka government has selected Sri Basavaliga Pattaddevaru for the prestigious “Sri Basava International Award”. Minister for Kannada and Culture V. Sunil Kumar has presented the award at Ravindra Kalakshetra in Bengaluru on August 18. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka – selected Sri Basavaliga Pattaddevaru for the “Sri Basava International Award”
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot



## Appointments & Resignations

**664.** On August 24, Shri Harish Parvathaneni, presently Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Federal Republic of Germany. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Harish Parvathaneni – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Germany
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

**665.** On August 24, The RBI has approved the re-appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of ICICI Bank with effect from 15 October 2021 till 3 October 2023. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Sandeep Bakhshi – reappointed as the MD & CEO of “ICICI Bank” till 3 October 2023
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”



**666.** Samsung India has signed Bollywood actor Alia Bhatt as Brand Ambassador for its premium “Galaxy Z” Series foldable smartphones. While, actor Sonu Sood has been appointed as Brand Ambassador an edible cooking oil brand “Sunpure”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Alia Bhatt – appointed as Brand Ambassador of Samsung India for its premium “Galaxy Z” Series
- Sonu Sood – appointed as Brand Ambassador of “Sunpure” - an edible cooking oil brand
- Country Head of Samsung India – Sunil Dutt
- Location of Sunpure – Karnataka

**667.** On August 23, The RBI has promoted 3 ‘Grade F’ officers to the post of Executive Directors (ED) for the year 2021-2022. The new officials are Ajay Kumar, A. K. Choudhary and Deepak Kumar. Currently, RBI has 12 executive directors and 30 chief general managers, who come under 4 deputy governors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI promoted 3 ‘Grade F’ officers to the post of ED – Ajay Kumar, A. K. Choudhary & Deepak Kumar
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**668.** On August 27, The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has accepted the proposal of the Department of Financial Services (DFS) to extend the tenure of 3 MDs & CEOs and 10 Executive Directors (EDs) of public sector banks (PSBs). The ACC has approved the extension of tenure of S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao as MD & CEO of PNB until January 31, 2022. The appointments panel also approved a 2-year extension for Atul Kumar Goel, as MD & CEO of UCO Bank as well as A. S. Rajeev, as MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Appointments Committee of the Cabinet extended the tenure of 3 MDs & CEOs and 10 Executive Directors of PSBs
  - S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao – MD & CEO of PNB – until January 31, 2022
  - Atul Kumar Goel – MD & CEO of UCO Bank – for 2 years
  - A. S. Rajeev – MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra – for 2 years

**669.** On August 25, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has announced ‘Indian Idol 2021’ winner Pawandeep Rajan as the state’s Art, Tourism, and Culture brand ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pawandeep Rajan – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Uttarakhand’s Art, Tourism & Culture
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**670.** On August 28, Bollywood actor Sonu Sood has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador for Delhi government’s “Desh ke Mentor” programme. The citizens can adopt up to 10 children studying in government schools as part of the initiative. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Sonu Sood – appointed as the Brand Ambassador for Delhi government’s “Desh ke Mentor” programme
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**671.** On August 28, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mansukh L. Mandaviya has taken over charge as the Chairperson of “Stop TB Partnership Board” with immediate effect until 2024. He reiterated PM Narendra Modi’s commitment to end TB in India by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya – took charge as Chairperson of “Stop TB Partnership Board” – until 2024
- PM Narendra Modi’s commitment to end TB in India by 2025

**672.** On August 26, Carol Furtado has been appointed as the interim CEO of the Ujjivan Small Finance Bank after the surprise resignation of the Nitin Chugh. Furtado is currently serving as the CEO of Ujjivan Financial Services. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Carol Furtado – appointed as the interim CEO of the Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- HQs of Ujjivan SFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Interim CEO – Carol Furtado | Founded in – 2004



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## Amount & Agreements

**673.** On August 26, The Government of India has contributed \$1 million to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Zimbabwe to help affected populations tackle climate shocks. The contribution was provided through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund. Moreover, India played a key role in promoting the adoption of 2023 as the “International Year of Millet” by the United Nations. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India contributed \$1 million to Zimbabwe under the UN World Food Programme
- 2023 as the “International Year of Millet” – by UN
- HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36
- Zimbabwe – Harare – Dollar | President – Emmerson Mnangagwa

**674.** On August 26, Shapoorji Pallonji Group’s infrastructure arm Afcons Infrastructure Ltd has signed an agreement with Maldives to construct the Male to Thilafushi Link project, popularly called “Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP)”. The total contract value of the project is \$530 million with a construction duration of 32 months. This is the largest-ever infrastructure project in the Maldives, funded by the Exim Bank of India. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- Afcons Infrastructure Ltd + Maldives = an agreement for a \$530 million “Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP)”
- HQs of Afcons Infrastructure Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Shapoor Pallonji Mistry
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**675.** In August, Uttar Pradesh has topped in milk production in India with 318.630 lakh metric tonnes in 2019-20, accounting for 17% of India's total milk production. The UP Government is constructing Cow Protection Centres and a ‘Govansh Vanya Vihar’ to enhance milk production in the state. Apart from this, more than 66,000 cows have been handed over to willing cattle owners under the “Chief Minister’s Destitute Govansh Sahayog Yojana”. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – topped in milk production in India (318.630 lakh metric tonnes in 2019-20)
- Uttar Pradesh – accounts for 17% of India's total milk production
- Uttar Pradesh – constructing Cow Protection Centres & Govansh Vanya Vihar
- “Chief Minister’s Destitute Govansh Sahayog Yojana” – belongs to Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**676.** On August 27, According to the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the “Safe Cities Index 2021” released by the Economist Intelligence Unit, Mumbai and Delhi ranked 50 and 48, respectively, among 60 cities of the world. Denmark’s capital Copenhagen was the first overall and Toronto was the second. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 4<sup>th</sup> edition of “Safe Cities Index 2021” – released by Economist Intelligence Unit
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Copenhagen (Denmark) | Delhi – 48<sup>th</sup> | Mumbai – 50<sup>th</sup>
- HQs of EIU – London, UK | MD & CEO – Robin Bew

**677.** On August 25, India’s emissions have reduced 28% from levels seen in 2005, against the target of 35% reduction by 2030, according to union power and new and renewable energy minister Raj Kumar Singh in his keynote address at the “INDIA-ISA Energy Transition Dialogue 2021”. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Raj Kumar Singh – addressed the “INDIA-ISA Energy Transition Dialogue 2021”
- India’s emissions reduced 28% from levels seen in 2005 against the target of 35% reduction by 2030
- Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Bhagwanth Khuba



**678.** On August 25, Nirmala Sitharaman has unveiled the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Public Sector Bank (PSB) Reforms Agenda “EASE 4.0” for 2021-22 in Mumbai. She unveiled the annual report for the PSB Reforms Agenda ‘EASE 3.0’ for 2020-21 and participated in the awards ceremony. State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India have won the awards for best performing banks in the “EASE 3.0 Banking Reforms Index 2021”. PSBs reported a profit of Rs 31,817 Cr in FY21 as compared to a loss of Rs 26,016 Cr in FY20. This is the first year when PSBs have reported profit after 5 years of losses. Nearly 4.4 lakh customers were benefited through “Credit@click” which was a flagship initiative under “EASE 3.0”. Besides, Indian Banks’ Association’s proposal to increase the family pension for the family of PSB employees to 30% of the last salary, was approved. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman – unveiled the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the PSB Reforms Agenda - “EASE 4.0” for 2021-22 in Mumbai
- SBI – Best performing bank in the “EASE 3.0 Banking Reforms Index 2021” | 2<sup>nd</sup> – BoB | 3<sup>rd</sup> – UBI
- PSBs reported a profit of Rs 31,817 Cr in FY21 after 5 years of losses
- “Credit@click” – a flagship initiative under “EASE 3.0”
- Family pension for the family of PSB employees increased to 30% of the last salary

**679.** On August 26, East Sikkim has topped in terms of meeting sustainable development goals in the Niti Aayog’s first edition of “North Eastern Region (NER) District SDG Index Report 2021-22” and Nagaland's Kiphire featured at the bottom. East Sikkim, with a score of 75.87, ranks first in the region followed by districts Gomati and North Tripura (score 75.73) at the second position. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- East Sikkim – topped in terms of meeting SDGs in the “NER District SDG Index Report 2021-22” of NITI Aayog
- 1<sup>st</sup> – East Sikkim (75.87) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gomati & North Tripura (75.73)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**680.** On August 26, According to a report titled “Shifting Global Value Chains: The India Opportunity” released by Kearney in partnership with the World Economic Forum, India has the potential to contribute \$500 billion in annual economic impact to the global economy by 2030. There has been a colossal shift within the manufacturing and supply chain across sectors paving the way for India to become a potential manufacturing hub. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Shifting Global Value Chains: The India Opportunity” report – released by Kearney & WEF
- India has the potential to contribute \$500 billion in Annual Economic Impact to the global economy by 2030
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab | Founded in – 1971
- HQs of Kearney – Chicago, US



# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**681.** On August 24, Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited (TSECL) has renewed an agreement with Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) for power export that expired in March 2021. The TSECL had initially signed the deal with Bangladesh in 2016 for the supply of 160 megawatts of power. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- TSECL + BPDB = renewed an agreement for Power Export (initially signed in 2016)
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**682.** On August 24, Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) has announced that 38 microlenders and the Assam government have signed an MoU for joint implementation of the “Assam Microfinance Incentive and Relief Scheme (AMFIRS), 2021”. AMFIRS is aimed at providing financial relief from the government to the microfinance borrowers in Assam. It is expected to benefit more than 20 lakh women borrowers in the state. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 38 microlenders + Assam = an MoU for joint implementation of the “AMFIRS, 2021”
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**683.** ReNew Power has signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) for Round-The-Clock (RTC) electricity supply with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). ReNew Power will set up this capacity through wind and solar farms across Karnataka, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, and the total project cost is estimated to be around \$1.2 billion. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ReNew Power + SECI = a power purchase agreement (PPA) for Round-The-Clock (RTC) Electricity supply
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain | MD – Suman Sharma | Founded on – Sep 9, 2011

**684.** On August 24, State-owned Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) has signed a pact with NHPC Ltd to lend funds for the development of Hydro Projects. PFC will also provide financial assistance for the acquisition of stressed projects. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- PFC + NHPC Ltd = to lend funds for the development of Hydro Projects
- HQs of PFC Ltd – New Delhi | CMD – Ravinder Singh Dhillon
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh



**685.** On August 25, The Civil Aviation Ministry has signed an MoU with the Adani group for providing services, including customs, immigration and security, at the Jaipur, Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram airports. In February 2019, the Centre had privatised six major airports of India and the Adani group won the rights to run all of them for 50 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Civil Aviation Ministry + Adani Group = an MoU to provide services at Jaipur, Guwahati & Thiruvananthapuram airports
- In February 2019: Adani group won the rights to run 6 major airports for 50 years
- HQs of Adani Group – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani

**686.** On August 25, Union Cabinet has given approval to the signing of an MoU between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and Institute of Professional Accountants of Russia (IPAR) for mutual cooperation in the areas of professional accountancy training, professional ethics, technical research etc. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICAI + IPAR = an MoU for mutual cooperation in the areas of training & research
- HQs of ICAI – New Delhi | President – Nihar N. Jambusaria | Established in – 1949
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**687.** On August 26, A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) and Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for Transportation of Over-Dimensional Cargo and Project Cargo of Numaligarh Refinery Using Inland Water Transport. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Numaligarh Refinery (Assam) + IWAI = an MoU for Transportation of Over-Dimensional Cargo & Project Cargo
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of IWAI – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairperson – Jalaj Shrivastava

**688.** On August 26, Indian government on behalf of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has signed an agreement the UAE to establish a Visiting Professorship in Social Science at New York University Abu Dhabi. Faculty members from Indian universities will spend 6 to 10 months every year for undertaking research and teaching social sciences in Abu Dhabi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICCR (India) + New York Uni. Abu Dhabi (UAE) = an agreement to establish a Visiting Professorship in Social Science
- HQs of ICCR – New Delhi | DG – Dineshk Patnaik | Founded in – 1950
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan



## Books & Authors

**689.** Ritu Menon has authored a new book titled “Address Book: A Publishing Memoir in the time of COVID”. Menon, who co-founded Kali for Women, India’s first feminist press in 1983, is founder-director of Women Unlimited, an associate of KfW. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- “Address Book: A Publishing Memoir in the time of COVID” book – authored by Ritu Menon

**690.** On August 25, HarperCollins has released the publication of Tanushree Podder’s upcoming book “An Invitation to Die: A Colonel Acharya Mystery”. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- “An Invitation to Die: A Colonel Acharya Mystery” book – authored by Tanushree Podder
- Publisher – HarperCollins

## Obituaries

**691.** On August 24, O. Chandrasekharan, a defender in one of India’s finest football teams, passed away. He was 86. Chandrasekharan was a member of the Indian team at the ‘1960 Rome Olympics’. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- O. Chandrasekharan – a Football Player – passed away (part of ‘1960 Rome Olympics’)

**692.** On August 24, A Renowned British comedian Sean Lock has died of cancer. He was 58 years old. Sean Lock was born in Woking, Surrey. He was named best live comic at the British Comedy Award in 2000. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Sean Lock ([Britain](#)) – a Comedian & Actor – passed away
- Awards: Best live comic at ‘British Comedy Award 2000’

**693.** On August 26, Former England captain Ted Dexter has died at Wolverhampton after a bout of illness, according to the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC). He was 86. He was inducted into the “ICC Cricket Hall of Fame” in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Ted Dexter ([England](#)) – a Cricketer – passed away (“ICC Cricket Hall of Fame” in 2021)



**694.** On August 25, Noted Agricultural Scientist and recipient of Padma Shri award, Bonbehari Vishnu Nimbkar (B. V. Nimbkar), died at Phaltan in Maharashtra's Satara district due to his age-related ailments. He was 90. He was awarded with Padma Shri Award in 2006 for his contribution in the field of Agriculture. He was also the recipient of prestigious Jamnalal Bajaj award. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- B. V. Nimbkar – an Agricultural Scientist – passed away
- Awards: 'Padma Shri Award (2006) in the field of Agriculture'

**695.** On August 26, Renowned percussionist Pt Subhankar Banerjee died after battling COVID-19 for two months. He was 54. He was a recipient of Sangeet Samman and Sangeet Maha Samman by the West Bengal government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pt Subhankar Banerjee – a Renowned Percussionist – passed away
- He used to play 'Tabla'

## Person in News

**696.** On August 22, The Finance Ministry has summoned Chief Executive Officer of Infosys, Salil Parekh, to explain why the glitches in the new income tax portal ([www.incometax.gov.in](http://www.incometax.gov.in)), developed by Infosys, is yet to be resolved. In 2019, Infosys had received a ₹4,242-Cr contract to develop the new 'Income-Tax e-filing portal'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Finance Ministry – summoned Infosys's CEO "Salil Parekh" over glitches in 'Income-Tax e-filing portal'
- Infosys – received a ₹4,242-Cr contract in 2019 to develop the new 'Income-Tax e-filing portal'
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh | Founded in – 1981
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

## Science & Technology

**697.** On August 25, Facebook has introduced "Horizon Workrooms", an app that will enable users to collaborate with colleagues using virtual reality (VR) with the Oculus Quest 2 headset. The mixed reality experience will allow users to connect their physical desk and compatible keyboard with the virtual room. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Facebook – introduced “Horizon Workrooms” app - a virtual reality-powered workspace feature
- HQs of Facebook – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004

**698.** On August 24, Pakistan has successfully test launched an indigenously developed guided multi-launch rocket system, “Fatah-1”. The weapon system will give Pakistan Army the capability of precision target engagement deep in enemy territory. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pakistan – test launched an indigenously developed guided multi-launch rocket system, “Fatah-1”
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

**699.** Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has virtually inaugurated the Centre for Research and Innovation in Artificial Intelligence set up at IIT Hyderabad in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Honeywell Technology Solutions. He also inaugurated the first Academic Building of the Department of Materials Science & Metallurgical Engineering, High-Performance Computing Centre and High-Resolution Electron Microscopy Facility. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan – inaugurated the Centre for Research & Innovation in Artificial Intelligence – at IIT Hyderabad
- The centre was set up in collaboration with = JICA + Honeywell Technology Solutions
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

**700.** On August 23, The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, in collaboration with BRICS countries is implementing the “SARS-CoV-2 NGS (Next Generation Sequencing)-BRICS Consortium” and Multi-Centric Programme to study the impact of severe COVID-19 conditions on TB patients. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dept of Biotechnology + BRICS countries = implementing the “SARS-CoV-2 NGS-BRICS Consortium”
- Aim of collaboration: To study the impact of severe COVID-19 conditions on TB patients
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship (2021) – India







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