



Smartkeeda
The Question Bank

TESTZONE

बैंक परीक्षाओं के लिए
निश्चित रूप से
सर्वश्रेष्ठ टेस्ट सीरीज



Kriti Advani
IBPS PO 2020, Clerk, RRB Clerk



Rahul Jha
All IBPS 2020 Exams



Kola Murali Krishna Sai
SBI PO & IBPS PO 2020



Nimish Mishra
IBPS RRB PO & IBPS Clerk 2020



Abhishek Raj
IBPS PO & RRB PO 2020



Subha Saha
IBPS PO & IBPS CLERK 2020

**IT'S YOUR
TURN NOW
TAKE A FREE
MOCK TEST**

**“ Friends!
We used TESTZONE
And Cracked Bank Exams
”**

Warning: Smartkeeda possesses all copyrights on its content. This doesn't allow anyone to use its content for commercial purposes. If any infringement is found, legal action will be taken against the individual or entity. If you want to use the content for commercial purposes, kindly write to us at admin@smartkeeda.com.

Testzone presents
Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test
Series Month-wise

August
MockDrill100
PDF No. 8
(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 28th September 2021

[Attempt Test No 8 Now!](#)



An important message from Team Smartkeeda

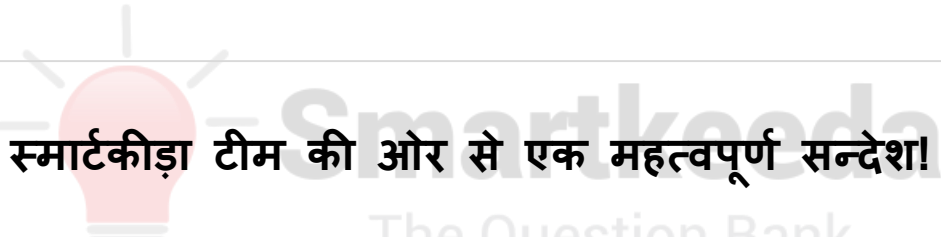
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of August 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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



INDEX

National & States Affairs.....	5
International Affairs.....	10
Banking & Economic Affairs.....	10
Defence Affairs.....	14
Schemes & Initiatives.....	16
Sports & Games.....	16
Important Days & Dates.....	17
Meetings, Conferences and Summits.....	19
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes.....	20
Appointments & Resignations.....	22
Ranks, Reports & Surveys.....	24
Acquisitions & Mergers.....	26
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships.....	26
Books & Authors.....	27
Obituaries.....	27
Persons in News.....	28
Science & Technology.....	28
Ordinance, Bills and Acts.....	30



National & States Affairs

701. On August 27, The Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh is planning to change the name of Sultanpur to Kush Bhawanpur. If approved, Sultanpur will become the third district in Uttar Pradesh to be renamed by the Yogi Adityanath government after Faizabad became Ayodhya, and Allahabad was named as Prayagraj. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – to rename “Sultanpur” as “Kush Bhawanpur”
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

702. On August 26, Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy has inaugurated a 3-Day mega-tourism event “Ladakh: New Start, New Goals” in Leh virtually from Delhi. Three-day event is organized to promote Ladakh as a tourist destination with focus on aspects of adventure, culture and responsible tourism. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G. Kishan Reddy – inaugurated a 3-Day mega-tourism event “Ladakh: New Start, New Goals” in Leh, Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt

703. On August 27, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was on a two-day visit to Tripura. She inaugurated 12 developmental projects in Tripura. She reviewed the progress of Externally Aided Projects (EAP) worth Rs 7,719 Cr. She inaugurated Rs 38.03 Cr World Bank aided 132 KV Electric Sub-Station, besides 3 Surface Water Treatment plants worth Rs 20 Cr and funded by Asian Development Bank. During her visit, she also launched the “My Pad My Right” (MPMR) project which is an initiative of NABARD & its subsidiary NABFOUNDATION to install low cost sanitary pad making machines in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated 12 developmental projects in Tripura
- She reviewed the progress of Externally Aided Projects (EAP) worth Rs 7,719 Cr
- She inaugurated 132 KV Electric Sub-Station worth Rs 38.03 Cr – funded by World Bank
- She inaugurated 3 Surface Water Treatment plants worth Rs 20 Cr – funded by ADB
- She launched “My Pad My Right” (MPMR) project – funded by NABARD
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

704. On August 25, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) notified the Eco-Sensitive Zone of the “Deepar Beel Wildlife Sanctuary” on the south-western edge of Guwahati. Deepar Beel is one of the largest freshwater lakes in Assam. No new commercial hotels and resorts shall be permitted within 1 km of the boundary of the protected area. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- MoEFCC notified “Deepar Beel Wildlife Sanctuary” as the Eco-Sensitive Zone (located in Assam)
- No new commercial hotels & resorts shall be permitted within 1 km
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

705. On August 31, The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) has introduced a new “BH” series (Bharat Series) number plate/registration mark for vehicles. This new BH series of vehicle registration will help remove the need to change the registration when the owner moves from one Indian state to another. The format of the registration number would be “21 BH 0000 AA” (for a vehicle registered in 2021). The new system will be in place from September 15, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoRTH introduced a new “BH” series (Bharat Series) number plate/registration mark for vehicles
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh

706. On August 27, The Central government has constituted a committee which will be headed by Ashish Shiradhonkar, to develop a technological platform streamlining the appeal filing process related to direct and indirect taxation matters. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is collaborating to integrate the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) with the e-office mechanism so that real time tracking of cases can be done. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government set up a committee to develop technological platform for streamlining Revenue Litigation
- The committee is headed by – Ashish Shiradhonkar
- HQs of NIC – New Delhi | Director General – Neeta Verma

707. On August 27, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal has announced the setting up of a “Skill Institute on Marine Studies” at Guwahati in Assam under Indian Maritime University, Chennai. Sonowal unveiled his strategies to boost inland waterways in Assam for a rejuvenated economy and trade resurgence for the Northeast India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways – to set up a “Skill Institute on Marine Studies” at Guwahati, Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur



708. On August 28, Ministry of Minority Affairs has organised “Mera Watan Mera Chaman” Mushaira in New Delhi as part of Amrit Mahotsav of 75th Year of India’s Independence. Renowned as well as emerging poets will give effective and patriotic message of “Ek Bharat- Shrestha Bharat”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Minority Affairs – organised “Mera Watan Mera Chaman” Mushaira in New Delhi
- Ministry of Minority Affairs: Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi | Constituency – Jharkhand
- MoS in Ministry of Minority Affairs: John Barla

709. Ministry of Women and Child Development will celebrate the “POSHAN Maah” across India throughout September month as part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’. The entire month has been subdivided into weekly themes for focused and assimilated approach towards improving Holistic Nutrition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Women and Child Development – to celebrate the “POSHAN Maah” across India throughout September
- Weekly themes:
 - Plantation Activity as “PoshanVatika” (1-7 September)
 - Yoga and AYUSH for Nutrition (8-15 September)
 - Distribution of ‘Regional Nutrition Kit’ to Anganwadi beneficiaries of High Burdened Districts (16-23 September)
 - Identification of SAM children and distribution of nutritious food (24-30 September)
- Ministry of Women and Child Development: Smriti Irani | Constituency – Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Women and Child Development: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

710. India’s first-ever alcohol museum called “All About Alcohol” has been opened in Goa. Nandan Kudchadkar is the founder of this museum. Spread across 13,000sqft in Goa’s Candolim, the museum houses bottles and glasses that date back to the 15th and 16th century. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s first-ever alcohol museum called “All About Alcohol” – opened in Goa
- Founder of the museum – Nandan Kudchadkar
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

711. On August 30, Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched the web version of e-GOPALA application and IMAP web portal developed by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). It provides real-time information to dairy farmers for better productivity of dairy animals. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Parshottam Rupala – launched web version of “e-GOPALA” application & “IMAP” web portal – developed by NDDB
- HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujarat | Chairman – Meenesh Shah | Established in – 1965
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Parshottam Rupala | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying: Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan & Dr. L. Murugan

712. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the renovated complex of the Jallianwala Bagh memorial in Punjab’s Amritsar to mark the “Partition Horrors Remembrance Day” that will be observed annually on August 14. PM Modi also inaugurated Museum Galleries developed at the memorial in Amritsar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated the renovated complex of the Jallianwala Bagh memorial in Amritsar, Punjab
- August 14 – “Partition Horrors Remembrance Day”
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit (addi. charge)

713. On August 27, Union minister of Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur along with Union minister of Tourism G. Kishan Reddy has inaugurated the e-Photo exhibition namely “Making of the Constitution” and Virtual Film Poster Exhibition “Chitranjali@75”. The programme was organised as part of the “Iconic Week” being celebrated by the Ministry of I&B as a part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Thakur + G. Kishan Reddy = inaugurated “Making of the Constitution” & “Chitranjali@75”
- “Iconic Week” is being celebrated by – Ministry of I&B

714. On August 27, The Uttar Pradesh government is building the state’s 1st Handicrafts Park in Sector 29 of Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) to give a boost to local craftsmen and introduce people to the traditional crafts of the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh is building the state’s 1st Handicrafts Park in ‘Sector 29’ of Yamuna Expressway
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

715. Sports Minister Shri Anurag Singh Thakur has launched the “Fit India Mobile App” at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi to celebrate 2nd anniversary of Fit India Movement and as part of ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Singh Thakur – launched the “Fit India Mobile App” in New Delhi to mark 2nd anniversary of Fit India Movement



- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Nisith Pramanik

716. On August 27, The Chandigarh Administration and Indian Air Force have signed an Agreed in Principle (AIP) for setting up of “Airforce Heritage Centre” at Government Press Building, Chandigarh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandigarh Administration + IAF = an Agreed in Principle (AIP) to set up “Airforce Heritage Centre” in Chandigarh
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief – Vivek Ram Chaudhari

717. On August 31, The departments of Information Technology and Forests under the Telangana government have partnered with Hyderabad-based startup Marut Drones to launch drone-based afforestation in the state under its “Hara Bahara” campaign. The programme aims to plant 50 lakh seeds on 12,000 hectares across all 33 districts of the state. The ‘Seedcopter’ developed by Marut Drones is an aerial seeding solution for rapid and scalable reforestation. The seedcopter drone was unveiled at the launch of ‘AgHub’ or ‘Agri Innovation Hub’ and ‘Hara Bahara’ initiative under the “Haritha Haram programme”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – launched “Hara Bahara” campaign to launch drone-based afforestation in the state
- ‘Seedcopter’ for this campaign is developed – by Marut Drones
- Telangana – also launched ‘AgHub’ or ‘Agri Innovation Hub’ under “Haritha Haram programme”
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

718. Northern Coalfield Limited (NCL) has become the first PSU in India which has got all its employees and their family members vaccinated for COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Northern Coalfield Ltd – became the first PSU in India to vaccinate its entire workforce & their family for COVID-19
- HQs of NCL – Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh | CMD – Bholu Singh

719. The Indian Railways plans to operate 102 Vande Bharat trains by March 2024. The “Train18”, later named “Vande Bharat Express”, was rolled out by the Integral Coach Factory, Chennai. On the occasion of the 75th Independence Day celebrations, Narendra Modi announced that 75 Vande Bharat trains would be operationalised to connect different parts of the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways plans to operate 102 Vande Bharat trains by March 2024
- “Vande Bharat Express” is also known as “Train18”



International Affairs

720. On August 28, China has submitted the “Kunming Declaration” to the United Nations to recognise the importance of biodiversity in human health. The “zero draft” of the declaration includes the key Chinese Communist Party concept of “ecological civilisation”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – submitted “Kunming Declaration” to the UN to recognise the importance of biodiversity in human health
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

721. On August 31, Nigeria’s Central Bank has partnered with Bitt Inc to launch its own cryptocurrency - “eNaira”. eNaira would operate as a wallet against which customers can hold existing funds in their bank account. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nigeria’s Central Bank + Bitt Inc = partnership to launch its own cryptocurrency - “eNaira”
- Nigeria – Abuja – Naira | President – Muhammadu Buhari
- HQs of Bitt Inc – Barbados

722. On August 31, Under India’s Presidency, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has adopted a strong resolution on Afghanistan. The resolution is sponsored by France, UK and the US with 13 members voting in favour, none against. This was the first resolution adopted by the powerful 15-nation Council on the situation in Afghanistan after the takeover of Kabul by the Taliban. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNSC adopted a strong resolution on Afghanistan – under India’s Presidency
- HQs of UNSC – New York, USA | Presidency in August 2021 – India (July - France | Sep - Ireland)
- Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | Care taker President – Amrullah Saleh

Banking & Economic Affairs

723. On August 26, ANSR Global Corporation has partnered with GIFT City to attract companies to set up Global In-house Centres (GICs) and Global Capability Centres (GCCs) at GIFT City. Besides, FinX Labs has opened its Start-up Accelerator and Co-Working Space in the International Financial Services Centre at GIFT City. FinX Labs has signed an MoU with National Stock Exchange (NSE) as a knowledge partner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ANSR + GIFT City = to attract companies to set up Global In-house Centres (GICs) & Global Capability Centres (GCCs)
- FinX Labs – opened its Start-up Accelerator and Co-Working Space in the IFSC at GIFT City
- HQs of ANSR Global Corporation – Bangalore, Karnataka | Founder & CEO – Lalit Ahuja



724. On August 26, The SEBI has banned Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company (Kotak Mutual Fund) from launching any Fixed Maturity Plan (FMP) for 6 months for arbitrarily entering into a 'standstill' agreement with the promoters of Subhash Chandra-backed Essel Group. SEBI also levied a penalty of ₹50 lakh on Kotak Mahindra AMC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – banned Kotak Mahindra AMC from launching any Fixed Maturity Plan (FMP) for 6 months
- SEBI – also levied a penalty of ₹50 lakh on Kotak Mahindra AMC
- HQs of Kotak Mutual Fund – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & President – Nilesh Shah

725. On August 25, The RBI has extended the scope of "Tokenisation" to several consumer devices, including laptops, desktops, wearables like wristwatches and bands, as well as Internet of Things (IoT) devices. The RBI had earlier permitted 'Tokenisation' services on mobile phones and tablets of cardholders. The RBI had issued guidelines on "Tokenisation - Card Transactions" in January, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI extended the scope of "Tokenisation" to several consumer devices – Laptops, Desktops, Wearables & IoT devices
- RBI had issued guidelines on "Tokenisation - Card Transactions" – in January, 2019
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

726. On August 27, The RBI has hiked the ceiling on remittances per transaction from India to Nepal to Rs 2 lakh from Rs 50,000. Besides, the central bank has removed the cap of 12 remittances in a year per remitter. The 'Indo-Nepal Remittance Facility Scheme' was launched by RBI in May 2008 as an option for cross-border remittances from India to Nepal. Moreover, the RBI also reviewed the 'Currency Distribution & Exchange Scheme' (CDES) and hiked the incentives being paid to the banks for distribution of coins to the General Public to Rs 65/bag from Rs 25/bag and additional incentive of Rs 10 per bag for coin distribution in rural and semi-urban areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI hiked the ceiling on remittances per transaction from India to Nepal – to Rs 2 lakh
- RBI removed the cap of 12 remittances in a year per remitter
- RBI hiked the incentives being paid to the banks for distribution of coins to the General Public to Rs 65/bag
- 'Indo-Nepal Remittance Facility Scheme' was launched by RBI in 2008
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

727. On August 27, The Reserve Bank of India has issued "Master Directions on Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) 2021" with fresh classification of the instruments. The master directions classify PPIs in two categories - Small PPIs and Full KYC PPIs. They were earlier classified as Closed Systems PPIs, Semi-Closed Systems PPIs and Open System PPIs. Small PPIs can have cash up to ₹10,000 loaded per month, not exceeding ₹1.2 lakh in a year. While the outstanding amount for Full-KYC PPIs should not be exceeding Rs 2 lakh at any point of time. Small PPIs should be converted into full-KYC PPIs within 24 months from the date of issue of the PPI. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- RBI issued “Master Directions on Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) 2021”
- Master Directions classify PPIs in 2 categories: Small PPIs & Full KYC PPIs
- Small PPIs: Cash up to ₹10,000 loaded per month (not exceeding ₹1.2 lakh in a year)
- Full-KYC PPIs: should not be exceeding Rs 2 lakh at any point of time
- Small PPIs should be converted into full-KYC PPIs within 24 months
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

728. Max Life Insurance in partnership with BillDesk, has enabled a safe and secure E-mandate process on premium payments for its customers. With this, Max Life becomes the first life insurer to extend the facility of E-mandate for recurring premium payment options to its customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Max Life Insurance + BillDesk = enabled a safe & secure E-mandate process on Premium Payments (1st insurer)
- HQs of Max Life Ins. – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Prashant Tripathy
- HQs of BillDesk – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Co-Founder – Srinivasu MN

729. On August 31, India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation (IMGCC) has entered into a partnership with Clix Housing Finance Limited (Clix HFL) to offer mortgage guarantee backed Home Loan products for salaried and non-salaried customers in the affordable housing segment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMGCC + Clix HFL = partnership to offer mortgage guarantee backed Home Loan products
- HQs of IMGCC – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Mahesh Misra
- HQs of Clix HFL – New Delhi | CEO – Sona Gaharwar

730. On August 31, IDBI Intech Ltd has successfully implemented its “iAML (Anti Money Laundering) Solution” at the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) for offering specialised solutions in the Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) verticals. iAML will provide an Enterprise-Wide Single View of Risk & Compliance at transactions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IDBI Intech Ltd – successfully implemented its “iAML (Anti Money Laundering) Solution” at the LIC
- HQs of IDBI Intech Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surajit Roy
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”



731. On August 31, Northern Arc Capital has signed a loan agreement and raised \$50 million from the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in external commercial borrowing for promoting women entrepreneurship and employment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Northern Arc Capital – raised \$50 million from Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- HQs of Northern Arc Capital – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Kshama Fernandes

732. On August 31, PhonePe Account Aggregator Pvt Ltd, a fully owned subsidiary of the PhonePe Group, has received in-principle approval from RBI to operate as an Account Aggregator (AA). The licence permits PhonePe to launch its account aggregator platform that will enable free and instant exchange of financial data between the financial information users (FIUs) and financial information providers (FIPs). Besides, PhonePe has also received insurance 'Broking Licence' from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PhonePe – received in-principle approval from RBI to operate as an Account Aggregator
- PhonePe – received insurance 'Broking Licence' from the IRDAI
- HQs of PhonePE – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

733. On August 31, Meghalaya government has signed an MoU with the Meghalaya Rural Bank aimed at easing banking services in rural areas. This will help the state achieve its objective of financial inclusion, and also in transferring the financial benefits directly into the bank accounts of the eligible beneficiaries in unbanked areas. The state government will support the Meghalaya Rural Bank in deploying 600 business correspondents across the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meghalaya + Meghalaya Rural Bank = an MoU to ease banking services in rural areas
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

734. On August 31, PayNearby has associated with Retailers Association's Skill Council of India (RASCI) to launch "PayNearby NeoDukaan" to digitally upgrade its retail partners and gear them towards a better livelihood. The company has set an ambitious target of on-boarding 100 million retailers by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PayNearby + RASCI = to launch "PayNearby NeoDukaan" to digitally upgrade its retail partners
- HQs of PayNearby – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Anand Kumar Bajaj
- HQs of RASCI – Mumbai, Maharashtra



Defence Affairs

735. On August 28, L&T-built Offshore Patrol Vessel ICGS Vighraha was commissioned into the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at Chennai. ICGS Vighraha is the last vessel in the series of seven OPVs built by L&T under a Ministry of Defence contract signed in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh commissioned 7th OPVs “ICGS Vighraha” into the Indian Coast Guard at Chennai (built by - L&T)
- List of 7 Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) of ICGS:
 1. ICGS Vikram
 2. ICGS Vijaya
 3. ICGS Veera
 4. ICGS Varaha
 5. ICGS Varad
 6. ICGS Vajra
 7. ICGS Vighraha
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | Director General – Krishnaswamy Natarajan | Founded in – 1977
- HQs L&T – Mumbai, MH | CEO – S. N. Subrahmanyam

736. On August 28, The militaries of China, Pakistan, Mongolia and Thailand will take part in the first multinational peacekeeping live exercise “Shared Destiny-2021” at the combined-arms tactical training base of the People’s Liberation Army in Henan's Queshan county from September 6 to 15. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1st multinational peacekeeping exercise “Shared Destiny-2021” – between China, Pakistan, Mongolia & Thailand
- The exercise took place in – Henan province, China

737. On August 27, Mahindra Defence Systems Limited (MDS) has received a contract worth Rs 1,349.95 Cr for manufacturing of 14 Integrated Anti-Submarine Warfare Defence Suite (IADS) for modern warships of Indian Navy from the Indian government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mahindra Defence Systems – received a contract worth Rs 1,349.95 Cr for manufacturing of 14 Integrated Anti-Submarine Warfare Defence Suite for Indian Navy
- HQs of MDS – New Delhi | CEO – Devendra Bhatnagar
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950



738. On August 27, Navies of India and Germany have carried out a joint exercise in Gulf of Aden near Yemen. The Indian Navy's frigate 'Triakand' exercised with German frigate 'Bayern' in the Gulf of Aden. The exercise between Triakand and Bayern on the latter's Indian Ocean leg of "Indo-Pacific Deployment 2021" enhanced interoperability and facilitated exchange of best practices between partner navies in maritime domain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Germany = carried out a Joint Naval Exercise in Gulf of Aden near Yemen
- INS Triakand participated in the exercise
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

739. In a major boost to 'Make in India' in the defence sector, the Indian Army has sent proposals worth around Rs 14,000 Cr to acquire two regiments of the 'Akash-S' Air Defence Missile System and 25 Advanced Light Helicopters (ALHs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army sent proposals of Rs 14,000 Cr to acquire 2 regiments of 'Akash-S' Air Defence Missile System & 25 ALHs
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

740. On August 31, India has recently conducted Bilateral Naval Exercises with Morocco and Algerian navies. INS Tabar participated in a Maritime Partnership Exercise with Algerian Navy ship and Moroccan Navy ship. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Morocco = Maritime Partnership Exercise in the Mediterranean Sea (INS Tabar participated)
- India + Algeria = Maritime Partnership Exercise in the Mediterranean Sea (INS Tabar participated)
- Morocco – Rabat – Dirham | PM – Saad-Eddine El Othmani
- Algeria – Algiers – Dinar | Prime minister – Abdelaziz Djerad | President – Abdelmadjid Tebboune

741. On August 31, The Indian Navy has signed a contract with defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for the supply of the first indigenously developed Naval Anti Drone System (NADS). The NADS, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and manufactured by BEL. The NADS can instantly detect micro drones and uses a laser-based "kill mechanism" to terminate the targets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy + BEL = a contract for the supply of the first indigenously developed Naval Anti Drone System (NADS)
- NADS – developed by DRDO & manufactured by BEL
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Venkateswara Gowtama Mannava



Schemes & Initiatives

742. On August 30, Amazon India has launched “Karigar Mela” in partnership with Tribes India. The long-term partnership of TRIFED and Amazon is helping increase visibility for local products by bringing the offerings to the forefront. As part of the Karigar Mela initiative, Karigar sellers will also benefit from a 100% Selling on Amazon (SoA) fee waiver for two weeks from August 30-September 12. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon + Tribes India = launched “Karigar Mela” initiative for traditional tribal & local Indian handicrafts
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

743. On August 31, The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has recently revised the guidelines for senior citizens joining the National Pension Scheme (NPS) after the age of 65 years. With the revised guidelines, elderly people can now open an NPS account till the age of 70. PFRDA has also eased the exit norms. With this, the entry age for NPS has been revised to 18-70 years from 18-65 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PFRDA – increased the maximum age for joining the ‘NPS’ to 70 years (from 65 years)
- With this, the revised entry age for the ‘NPS’ is – 18-70 years
- HQs of PFRDA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Supratim Bandyopadhyay | Founded in – 2003



Smartkeeda
The Question Bank

Sports & Games

744. Stuart Binny, India all-rounder who owns the record of the best bowling figures in ODI format, announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket. He began his career with his state Karnataka and represented India in 6 Tests, 14 ODIs and 3 T20 Internationals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Stuart Binny (Karnataka) – retired from all forms of Cricket

745. On August 29, Red Bull driver Max Verstappen has won Formula One (F1) Belgian Grand Prix 2021. This was Verstappen’s 6th win of the season and the 16th win of his career. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Max Verstappen – won “F1 Belgian Grand Prix 2021”
- Max Verstappen (Belgium) – Red Bull



746. On August 30, Avani Lekhara has won India's first medal in shooting at the Tokyo Paralympics in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 event. She won the Gold medal with a total score of 249.6 in the final, equaling the world record. While Sumit Antil from Haryana has won the Gold Medal in men's Javelin Throw F-64 event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Avani Lekhara ([Rajasthan - Para Shooter](#)) – won Gold medal in women's 10m air rifle at 'Tokyo Paralympics'
- Avani Lekhara has won India's first medal in Shooting
- Sumit Antil ([Haryana - Para Shooter](#)) – won Gold medal in men's Javelin Throw F-64 event at 'Tokyo Paralympics'

747. The Netherlands' pacer Frederique Overdijk has become the first pacer ever to take 7 wickets in a T20I match. She helped to restrict France to 33 runs in 17.5 overs in the women's T20 World Cup Europe qualifiers at the La Manga Club Ground in Cartagena, Spain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Frederique Overdijk ([Netherlands - Cricket](#))– became the first pacer ever to take 7 wickets in a T20I match

748. On August 31, Indian Grandmaster P. Iniyar has won "Noisiel International Open Chess Tournament 2021", scoring 8 points from 9 rounds in the Classical event after securing the top prize in the Blitz section. Iniyar finished half a point ahead of higher rated GM Yuri Solodovnichenko of Ukraine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- P. Iniyar ([Indian Chess Player](#)) – won "Noisiel International Open Chess Tournament 2021"
- Yuri Solodovnichenko ([Ukraine](#)) – Chess Player

749. On August 31, South African pacer Dale Steyn has announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket. Since making his international debut in 2004, he played 93 Tests, 125 ODIs and 47 T20Is. He is fondly known as 'Steyn Gun'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dale Steyn ([South Africa](#)) – retired from all forms of Cricket (fondly known as 'Steyn Gun')

Important Days & Dates

750. Vikram Sarabhai's birth anniversary was recently observed on August 12. Known as the "Father of the Indian Space Program" Vikram Sarabhai is known for the establishment of the ISRO. Sarabhai's birth anniversary is also celebrated as "National Remote Sensing Day" in India. He was born on August 12, 1919. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- August 12 – “National Remote Sensing Day” in India – to mark the birth anniversary of Vikram Sarabhai
- Vikram Sarabhai – known as the “Father of the Indian Space Program”

751. On August 29, India is remembering legendary Olympian and the greatest Hockey player of all time, Major Dhyan Chand, on his 116th birth anniversary. As a tribute to Dhyan Chand, his birthday is commemorated as “National Sports Day”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 29 – “National Sports Day” (116th birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand)

752. “International Day against Nuclear Tests” is observed every year on August 29. 2010 marked the inaugural commemoration of the International Day against Nuclear Tests. An international treaty called Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) came into being in 1996 to put an end to all sorts of nuclear weapons testing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 29 – “International Day against Nuclear Tests” (since 2010)

753. India observes “National Small Industry Day” on August 30, every year to commemorate the contribution of small-scale industry to the country’s growth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 30 – “National Small Industry Day”

754. On August 30, the United States marks the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, as established by the UN General Assembly in 2010. The day is observed to create awareness about enforced disappearances in various regions globally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 30 – International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances (since 2010)

755. The United States joins others around the world in commemorating the first “International Day for People of African Descent” on August 31. This day was created to promote the extraordinary contributions of Africans and members of the African diaspora around the world. Costa Rica had led the efforts to establish this day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- August 31 – 1st “International Day for People of African Descent”
- Costa Rica – led the efforts to establish this day
- Costa Rica – San Jose – Costa Rican colon | President – Carlos Alvarado Quesada



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

756. On August 24, The Election Commission of India (ECI) has organized a 2-day “Systematic Voters’ Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Consultation Workshop”. The agenda of the workshop was to review State SVEEP Plans and conduct extensive deliberations on the important aspects of SVEEP for a comprehensive strategy for the forthcoming elections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ECI – organized a 2-day “SVEEP” Consultation Workshop
- HQs of ECI – New Delhi | Chief Election Commissioner – Sushil Chandra (24th) | Formed on – 25th Jan, 1950

757. On August 27, Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar has chaired the 11th Meeting of BRICS Agriculture Ministers on the theme of “BRICS Partnership for Strengthening Agro Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Security”. During the meeting, BRICS countries adopted “Agriculture Action Plan 2021-2024”. Besides, Bhupender Yadav chaired the 7th BRICS Environment Ministers Meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – chaired the 11th “BRICS Agriculture Ministers Meeting”
- BRICS countries adopted “Agriculture Action Plan 2021-2024”
- 2023 – as the “International Year of Millet” by UN
- Bhupender Yadav – chaired the 7th “BRICS Environment Ministers Meeting”
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 – India

758. Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Ms. Anupriya Patel has inaugurated the 4-day long “India-ASEAN Engineering Partnership Summit” organised by Engineering Exports Promotion Council (EEPC). India’s exports to ASEAN are estimated at \$46 billion in FY22. ASEAN as a region is the third largest export destination of Indian engineering products after EU and North America. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ms. Anupriya Patel inaugurated “India-ASEAN Engineering Partnership Summit” – organised by EEPC
- India’s exports to ASEAN are estimated at \$46 billion in FY22
- Largest Export Destination of Indian engineering products: 1st - EU, 2nd - North America, 3rd - ASEAN
- HQs of EEPC – Kolkata, West Bengal | Chairman – Mahesh Desai

759. On August 30, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has inaugurated the Startup Conclave Entrepreneurship Summit “Anth Prerana” at a function organized by the Startup Promotion Cell in Collaboration with Goa Institute of Management at Panaji. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – inaugurated the Startup Conclave Entrepreneurship Summit “Anth Prerana” – at Panaji
- The summit was organised by = Startup Promotion Cell + Goa Institute of Management
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai



760. On August 31, India has hosted the 8th Meeting of Agriculture Experts of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Countries. Director General of ICAR, Trilochan Mohapatra chaired this meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – hosted the 8th Meeting of Agriculture Experts of Bay of Bengal Initiative for BIMSTEC Countries
- The meeting was chaired by – Trilochan Mohapatra
- HQs of BIMSTEC – Dhaka, Bangladesh | Secretary General – H. E. Mr. Tenzin Lekphell | Established in – 1997
- BIMSTEC member countries: 7 – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar & Thailand
- Current Chair of BIMSTEC – Sri Lanka

761. On August 31, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri has virtually chaired the 40th meeting of the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB). During the meeting, he launched Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement (CRCTA) signed by all NCR States for seamless movement of passenger vehicles. He also launched an online web Geo-Portal “Pariman” developed by NIC for NCR Planning Board. Draft Regional Plan-2041 for NCR was discussed by the NCR Planning Board and States. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri – chaired the 40th meeting of the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB)
- Hardeep Singh Puri – launched “Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement (CRCTA)”
- Hardeep Singh Puri – launched a web Geo-Portal “Pariman” developed by NIC for NCR Planning Board
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

762. On August 26, A worldwide COVID-19 study led by UK experts and conducted at Indian hospitals has been awarded the ‘Guinness World Records’ title for the world’s largest scientific collaboration, involving over 1,40,000 patients in 116 countries. The record for ‘Most authors on a Single Peer-reviewed Academic Paper’ was awarded to researchers from the University of Birmingham and University of Edinburgh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Guinness World Records’ title for ‘Most authors on a Single Peer-reviewed Academic Paper’ awarded to:
 - University of Birmingham
 - University of Edinburgh



763. The Union Ministry of Education, Department of School Education and Literacy, has published a list of 44 Selected Teachers from across India for the “National Awards to Teachers, 2021”. The award is given every year to provide public recognition to meritorious teachers working in primary, middle, and secondary schools. President Ram Nath Kovind will honour them on Teacher's Day on September 5 this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Education – published a list of 44 Selected Teachers for the “National Awards to Teachers 2021”
- They will be honoured by – President Ram Nath Kovind
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar

764. On August 29, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Ramagundam, has bagged the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Energy Leader Award-2021 for the third consecutive year. The award was present during the virtual ‘CII Energy Summit’, held between August 24 and 27. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC (Ramagundam, Telangana) – won the “CII Energy Leader Award-2021” (for 3rd consecutive year)
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895

765. On August 30, Indian hockey defender Amit Rohidas has been conferred the prestigious Biju Patnaik Sports Award for outstanding performance in sports and games. Similarly, veteran hockey coach Kalu Charan Choudhury has received Biju Patnaik Sports Award for lifetime achievement in promotion of sports and games. Besides, badminton coach for para players Shiba Prasad Das has received Biju Patnaik Sports Award for excellence in coaching. ASI of Police from Cuttack Trailokyanath Parida received the Biju Patnaik Bravery Award. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Rohidas (Hockey) – received “Biju Patnaik Sports Award” for outstanding performance in Sports & Games
- Kalu Charan Choudhury (Hockey) – received “Biju Patnaik Sports Award” for Lifetime Achievement
- Shiba Prasad Das (Badminton) – received “Biju Patnaik Sports Award” for Excellence in Coaching
- Trailokyanath Parida (ASI) – received “Biju Patnaik Bravery Award”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



Appointments & Resignations

766. On August 26, Justice MS Ramachandra Rao has been appointed as the acting Chief Justice of Telangana High Court, following the appointment of incumbent CJ Hima Kohli as a Supreme Court judge. Besides, the President of India has also appointed Justice Vineet Kothari as the acting Chief Justice (CJ) of the Gujarat High Court, Satish Chandra Sharma for Karnataka High Court and Meenakshi Madan Rai as acting Chief Justice of Sikkim High Court. While Justice AM Khanwilkar is appointed as the Chairman of Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MS Ramachandra Rao – appointed as Chief Justice of Telangana HC
- Vineet Kothari – appointed as Chief Justice of Gujarat HC
- Satish Chandra Sharma – appointed as Chief Justice of Karnataka HC
- Meenakshi Madan Rai – appointed as Chief Justice of Sikkim HC
- Hima Kohli – appointed as a Supreme Court Judge
- AM Khanwilkar – appointed as Chairman of Supreme Court Legal Services Committee
- [The President of India appoints a Chief Justice of State High Court – under ‘Article 223’ of Indian Constitution](#)

767. On August 24, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Hitendra Dave as the CEO of HSBC India for 3 years. Dave is a General Manager within the HSBC Group and a member of the Asia Pacific Executive Committee of HSBC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI approved the appointment of Hitendra Dave as the CEO of HSBC India for 3 years
- [HQs of HSBC India – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Hitendra Dave | Founded in – 1853](#)
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25th\) | Established in – 1st April 1935](#)

768. On August 27, President Ram Nath Kovind has given additional charge of Punjab to the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Banwarilal Purohit. He has also been appointed as the Administrator of Union Territory of Chandigarh. Banwarilal Purohit will replace V P Singh Badnore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Banwarilal Purohit – given additional charge of Punjab & UT of Chandigarh (replacing - V P Singh Badnore)
- [Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit \(addi. charge\)](#)

769. On August 27, Amit Banerjee took over as Chairman and Managing Director of BEML Ltd (Bharat Earth Movers Limited), a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Defence. Prior to assuming the charge as CMD, Banerjee was Director (Rail & Metro) BEML. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Banerjee – took over as Chairman & Managing Director of BEML Ltd
- [HQs of BEML – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Amit Banerjee](#)



770. On August 30, Pankaj Kumar Singh, a 1988-batch IPS officer, has taken over as the new Director General (DG) of the Border Security Force while his batch-mate Sanjay Arora has assumed charge of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP). Moreover, Balaji Srivastav was appointed as the Director General (DG) of Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pankaj Kumar Singh – took over as the new Director General of BSF
- Sanjay Arora – took over as the new Director General of ITBP
- Balaji Srivastav – appointed as the Director General of BPR&D
- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | Director General (DG) – Pankaj Kumar Singh
- HQs of ITBP – New Delhi | DG – Sanjay Arora | ADG – Manoj Singh Rawat

771. On August 26, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Sanjeeb Chaudhuri as the part-time Chairman of the IDFC FIRST Bank Limited. He was listed among the Top 25 Media Visionaries in Asia Pacific in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjeeb Chaudhuri – appointed as a part-time Chairman of IDFC FIRST Bank
- HQs of IDFC First Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – V. Vaidyanathan | Established in – 2018
- IDFC Bank + Capital First = IDFC First Bank (merged in 2018)

772. On August 26, India's fastest growing sports edtech startup Sporjo has appointed Indian tennis player Leander Paes as its Strategic Advisor and Ambassador. The company aims to create an ecosystem of half a million professionals to support the Indian sports industry by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Leander Paes ([Tennis Player](#)) – appointed as Strategic Advisor & Ambassador of "Sporjo" - a sports Edtech Startup

773. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Pramod Kumar Meherda as Managing Director (MD) of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) which comes under the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare department. He is appointed for 5 year tenure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pramod Kumar Meherda – appointed as MD of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) – for 5 years



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

774. On August 26, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada & Tirupati - these 3 cities from Andhra Pradesh were awarded “Water Plus” certification out of a total of 9 cities across India, by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Andhra Pradesh is the only State in India to have more than one Water Plus city. The certification was awarded under the Swachh Bharat Mission and Swachh Survekshan assessment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada & Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) – awarded “Water Plus” certification by MoHUA
- Andhra Pradesh – the only State in India to have more than one “Water Plus” City
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

775. On August 27, India has ranked 6th in terms of DeFi (Decentralised Finance) adoption, according to the 1st edition of “2021 Global DeFi Adoption Index” by blockchain data platform Chainalysis. US showed the highest DeFi adoption, followed by Vietnam, Thailand, China and the UK. The DeFi Adoption Index is made up of three component metrics: On-chain cryptocurrency value received by DeFi platforms weighted by PPP per capital; total retail value received by DeFi platforms; and individual deposits to DeFi platforms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1st edition of “2021 Global DeFi Adoption Index” – released by Chainalysis (New York, US)
- 1st – US | 2nd – Vietnam | 3rd – Thailand | India – 6th

776. On August 27, According to Forbes India report, Delhi is on top of a list of cities across the world on the number of CCTVs installed per square mile. Delhi has 1,826 CCTVs installed per square mile, which is three times higher than Chennai, 11 times higher than Mumbai and has surpassed cities like London, Shanghai, New York and Singapore to rank number one across the globe in this respect. 3 Indian cities feature in the top 20 - Delhi at rank 1, Chennai at rank 3 and Mumbai at rank 18. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “List of Most Surveilled Cities in the World on the number of CCTVs installed per square mile” – by Forbes India
- 1st – Delhi | 2nd – London (Chennai – 3rd | Mumbai – 18)

777. Some 97.85 million hectares (mha) of India’s total geographical area (TGA) of 328.72 mha underwent land degradation during 2018-19, according to the “Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India” released by the Space Application Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad. This means that 29.7% of India’s land in that year became degraded. Rajasthan is followed by Maharashtra and Gujarat among the most degraded states. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India” – released by the Space Application Centre, ISRO (Ahmedabad)
- Most degraded states: Rajasthan, Maharashtra & Gujarat
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969



778. The report, titled, “India’s turning point: How Climate Action can drive our Economic Future” released by Deloitte Economics Institute, reveals how India could gain \$11 trillion economic gain over the next 50 years, by limiting rising global temperatures and realising its potential to export decarbonisation to the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India’s turning point: How Climate Action can drive our Economic Future” – released by Deloitte Economics Institute
- India could gain \$11 trillion economic gain over the next 50 years by taking Prompt Climate Action

779. With rising export share, CARE Ratings has projected India’s pharma industry to grow at about 11% in next 2 years to reach a size of over \$60 billion. Currently, with market size of around \$45 billion in FY21, Indian pharmaceutical industry globally ranks 3rd in terms of volume and 13th in terms of value. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CARE Ratings: India’s pharma industry to grow at about 11% in next 2 years to reach over \$60 billion
- Indian pharma industry’s rank globally: 3rd in terms of volume & 13th in terms of value
- [HQs of CARE Ratings – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ajay Mahajan](#)

780. On August 25, Infosys has crossed the \$100 billion mark in terms of market capitalisation, becoming the 4th Indian company and the 2nd Indian software company after Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to reach the coveted milestone. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Infosys – became 4th Indian company & 2nd Indian software company to cross \$100 billion m-cap
- 1st Indian software company – TCS

781. According to a report titled “Uncertain Pathways: How gender shapes the experiences of children on the move” released by the UNICEF, number of persons living outside their country of birth or citizenship reached a record high of 281 million in 2020 - representing 3.6% of the global population. The report notes that in 2020, 10 million child refugees were displaced across borders, largely due to conflict and war. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Uncertain Pathways: How gender shapes the experiences of children on the move” – released by the UNICEF
- Number of persons living outside their country of birth or citizenship reached – 281 million in 2020 (3.6% globally)
- [HQs of UNICEF – New York, US | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore | Established in – 1946](#)



Acquisitions & Mergers

782. On August 27, The board of Directors of IDBI Bank has approved a proposal to divest its entire stake of 19.18% in Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd (ARCIL). Incorporated in 2002, ARCIL is owned by SBI, IDBI, ICICI and PNB. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Board of Directors of IDBI Bank approved to divest its entire stake of 19.18% in ARCIL
- ARCIL is owned by SBI, IDBI, ICICI & PNB
- HQs of ARCIL – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Pallav Mohapatra

783. On August 31, Kotak Mahindra Bank has announced to sell its 8.6% holding (20 Cr equity shares) in Airtel Payments Bank to Bharti Enterprises for Rs 294.8 Cr. Kotak Mahindra Bank had acquired these shares in 2016 and 2017 for a consideration of Rs 200 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank – to sell its 8.6% holding (20 Cr equity shares) in Airtel Payments Bank to Bharti Enterprises
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas | Founded in – 2017

784. On August 31, PayU has signed an agreement to acquire 100% stake of Indian payment gateway service provider BillDesk for \$4.7 billion. With the acquisition and integration of BillDesk, PayU will be handling total payment volumes (TPV) of \$147 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PayU – to acquire 100% of BillDesk for \$4.7 billion
- HQs of PayU – Netherlands | CEO – Laurent le Moal
- HQs of BillDesk – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Co-Founder – Srinivasu MN

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

785. The Association of Renewable Energy of States (AREAS) celebrated its 7th Foundation Day on August 27. On this occasion, MoUs were signed between AREAS and the three institutions - National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) and Sardar Swaran Singh National Institute of Bio Energy (SSS-NIBE) for promotion of Renewable Energy technologies in India. On this occasion, AREAS Telephone Directory 2021 was also launched in the digital form. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- August 27 – 7th Foundation Day of Association of Renewable Energy of States (AREAS)
- AREAS signed MoU with NISE + NIWE + SSS-NIBE – for promotion of Renewable Energy technologies in India
- AREAS – an initiative of Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

786. On August 31, IIT Bangalore and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in collaboration with Simplilearn will offer an Advanced Executive Program in cybersecurity. The programme has been designed for mid-level management professionals working in banking, cybersecurity, and finance domains. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Bangalore + NPCI + Simplilearn = partnership to offer an Advanced Executive Program in cybersecurity
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008
- HQs of Simplilearn – California, US | CEO – Krishna Kumar

Books & Authors

787. Union Minister of I & B, Anurag Thakur has presented the first copy of a book titled “Reflecting, Recollecting, Reconnecting” to the Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu. The book was released by Publications Division (India), a division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The book chronicles the Vice President’s fourth year in office. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Thakur presented – “Reflecting, Recollecting, Reconnecting” book – to M. Venkaiah Naidu
- The book was released by Publications Division (India), Ministry of I&B
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan

Obituaries

788. On August 31, Noted Bengali writer Buddhadeb Guha, who authored several popular books including Madhukari (Honey Gatherer), died of post-Covid complications. He was 85 and was born on June 29, 1936 in Kolkata. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Buddhadeb Guha – Bengali Writer – passed away



789. On August 30, US television actor Ed Asner, winner of a 7 Emmy awards, has died at age of 91. Edward Asner was born on November 15, 1929 in Kansas City, Missouri. His animated movie “Up” was nominated for the Oscar for best picture in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ed Asner – US television Actor – passed away (winner of a 7 Emmy awards)
- His animated movie “Up” was nominated for the Oscar for ‘Best Picture’ in 2009

790. On August 31, A former First Class cricketer and a Renowned coach, Vasudev Paranjape passed away. He was 82. He was the coach of India Under-19 for the inaugural Youth World Cup in 1988. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vasudev Paranjape – a Cricket Coach – passed away

Person in News

791. On August 28, Tourism Minister V. Srinivas Goud, laid the foundation stone for the Museum being set up in former Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao’s ancestral village of Vangara in Telangana’s Karimnagar district. The personal computer sent by his son P.V. Prabhakara Rao in 1986 will find a place in the museum. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Former PM P.V. Narasimha Rao’s ancestral home – being developed as a Museum in Vangara, Karimnagar, Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

Science & Technology

792. On August 28, The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched India’s first “Quantum Computer Simulator (QSim) Toolkit”. QSim is indigenously developed by IISc Bangalore, IIT Roorkee and C-DAC to address the common challenge of advancing the Quantum Computing research frontiers in India. QSim is available in 2 models - ‘Param Shavak QSim’ & ‘Param QSim Cloud’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY launched India’s first “Quantum Computer Simulator (QSim) Toolkit”
- QSim is indigenously developed by = IISc Bangalore + IIT Roorkee + C-DAC
- QSim is available in 2 models – ‘Param Shavak QSim’ & ‘Param QSim Cloud’



793. On August 30, The ISRO successfully conducted the first hot test of the System Demonstration Model (SDM) of the Gaganyaan Service Module Propulsion System for a duration of 450s at the facility of ISRO Propulsion Complex at Mahendragiri in Tirunelveli. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO successfully conducted the first hot test of the System Demonstration Model (SDM) of “Gaganyaan Service Module Propulsion System” for a duration of 450s – at Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969

794. The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) has developed a technology called the ‘Advanced Oxidation Technology’ or ‘TADOX’ which can reduce less dependence and load on biological and tertiary treatment systems and help achieve zero liquid discharge (ZLD). The DST-Water Technology Initiative (WTI) has supported TERI to develop this technology at bench scale collaboration in tie-up with the ONGC Energy Centre (OEC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TERI developed a technology called “Advanced Oxidation Technology” or “TADOX” to enhance waste water reuse
- HQs of TERI – New Delhi | DG – Dr. Ajay Mathur | Established in – 1974

795. IIT Madras and IBM are collaborating to augment select courses on data science, AI and quantum computing on the National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) platform. The collaboration will also support IIT-Madras’s online BSc degree programme. The International Labour Organization estimates that India’s skill deficit will reach 29 million by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras + IBM = to augment select courses on Data Science, AI & Quantum Computing on NPTEL platform
- ILO estimates India’s skill deficit to reach 29 million by 2030
- HQs of IBM – Armonk, New York, US | CEO – Arvind Krishna | Founded in – 1911
- Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi

796. On August 29, SpaceX has launched a shipment of ants, avocados and a human-sized robotic arm to the International Space Station (ISS). It was launched through a recycled Falcon 9 rocket from NASA’s Kennedy Space Center. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpaceX – launched a shipment of ants, avocados & a human-sized robotic arm to International Space Station
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2012



797. On August 31, Odisha's Kendrapara has become the only district in India to have all three species of crocodilians - Salt-water, Gharial and Mugger found in India. This was after forest officials found a 'Baby Gharial' (*Gavialis gangeticus*) in a river system of the district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kendrapara (Odisha) – became the only district in India to have all 3 species of crocodilians found in India
- 3 species found in India: Salt-water, Gharial & Mugger
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

798. On August 31, IIT Madras is developing an online platform to tackle e-waste called "e-Source" which aims to connect buyers and sellers of used and waste electronic equipment. The Indo-German Centre for Sustainability (IGCS) is spearheading the initiative. The initiative aims to make waste electrical electronic equipment (WEEE) by establishing traceability and recovery of post-consumer e-waste in the market. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras – is developing an online platform to tackle e-waste called "e-Source"
- "Indo-German Centre for Sustainability (IGCS)" is spearheading this initiative
- Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi

799. On August 31, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and IIT Roorkee have built an app that can predict natural disasters. The app will alert about the probable natural calamities beforehand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NDMA + IIT Roorkee = built an app that can predict Natural Disasters
- Director of IIT Roorkee – Ajit K. Chaturvedi
- HQs of NDMA – New Delhi

Ordinance, Bills and Acts

800. On August 26, The Centre has announced "Drone Rules-2021" which reduced the Yellow Zone from 45 km to 12 km from the airport perimeter. As per the rules, the coverage of drones has been increased from 300 to 500 kilograms to include heavy payload-carrying drones and drone taxis. The number of permissions has been reduced from 25 to 5. The maximum penalty has also been reduced to Rs 1 lakh. Moreover, "Digital Sky Platform" will be developed as a single-window platform for the required clearances. Green, Yellow & Red zones shall be displayed on the Digital Sky Platform. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Centre has announced “Drone Rules-2021”:
- It reduced the Yellow Zone from 45 km to 12 km from the airport perimeter
- Coverage of drones is increased from 300 kg to 500 kg
- The number of permissions is reduced from 25 to 5
- Maximum penalty is reduced to Rs 1 lakh
- Green, Yellow & Red zones – to be displayed on “Digital Sky Platform”





Smartkeeda
The Question Bank

Presents

TESTZONE

India's least priced Test Series Platform

JOIN

All Bank Exams

2020-2021 Test Series

@ Just

₹ 599/-

900+ Mock Tests

- ✓ Brilliant Test Analysis
- ✓ Excellent Content
- ✓ Unmatched Explanations

JOIN NOW

www.smartkeeda.com | testzone.smartkeeda.com

SBI | RBI | IBPS | RRB | SSC | NIACL | EPFO | UGC NET | LIC | Railways | CLAT | RJS



Join us