



**Bipin Nambiar**  
(SBI PO 2018)



**Shiraz Khan**  
(SBI Clerk 2018)



**Kuldeep Yadav**  
(SBI PO 2018)



**Rajat Saxena**  
(IBPS Clerk 2018)



**Anupam Tyagi**  
(IBPS PO 2018)

FRIENDS!  
WE USED **TESTZONE**  
AND CRACKED BANK EXAMS  
बैंक परीक्षाओ के लिए निश्चित  
रूप से सर्वश्रेष्ठ मॉक  
टेस्ट सीरीज

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



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



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

**August**  
**CA MockDrill**  
**Combo**

**(PDF in English)**



**Smartkeeda**

[Click Here to Attempt FREE Mock Tests](#)  
[based on this PDF](#)



# INDEX

National & States Affairs.....	4
International Affairs.....	44
Banking & Economic Affairs.....	54
Defence Affairs.....	61
Schemes & Initiatives.....	70
Sports & Games.....	76
Important Days & Dates.....	83
Meetings, Conferences and Summits.....	94
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes.....	100
Appointments & Resignations.....	107
Amount & Agreements.....	117
Ranks, Reports & Surveys.....	125
Acquisitions & Mergers.....	137
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships.....	141
Books & Authors.....	164
Obituaries.....	170
Persons in News.....	178
Science & Technology.....	183
Ordinance, Bills and Acts.....	197
Current GK.....	201



# National & States Affairs

1. 'Aarogya Setu' app has launched a new feature called 'Open API Service' that will enable organisations to get the health status of their employees or any other user without violating their data privacy. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Aarogya Setu' app launched a new feature – 'Open API Service'

2. According to Tribal Affairs Ministry, all 9 museums dedicated to Tribal Freedom Fighters are under development and will be completed by the end of 2022. The largest of these museums is being built in Rajpipla in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 9 museums dedicated to Tribal Freedom Fighters – to be completed – by 2022
- The largest museum of all is – in Rajpipla, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

3. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has decided to launch a Special Revival Campaign from August 10 till October 9 for its customers to revive their individual lapsed LIC policies. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- LIC – to launch a 'Special Revival Campaign' for lapsed LIC policies
- LIC HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – M R Kumar

4. Narendra Singh Tomar has launched a data recovery centre 'Krishi Megh' set up at National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad to protect the precious data of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). 'Krishi Megh' has been set up under the National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP), funded by both the government and World Bank. Tomar also launched the 'KVC ALUNET' (Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Chhatr Alumni Network) and Online Accreditation System for Higher Agricultural Educational Institutions. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 'Krishi Megh' - a data recovery centre of ICAR – set up at NAARM, located in Hyderabad
- 'Krishi Megh' – has been set up under NAHEP (Funded by = Indian Government + World Bank)
- Narendra Singh launched – 'KVC ALUNET' (Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Chhatr Alumni Network)
- HQs of ICAR – New Delhi | DG – Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra | President – Narendra Singh Tomar



5. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched 'Gandagi Mukh Bharat', a week-long campaign for Swachhata (cleanliness) in the run-up to Independence Day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi launched – 'Gandagi Mukh Bharat' campaign

6. SEBI has allowed listed companies to use digital signature certifications till December 31, 2020 for submissions made to the stock exchanges under the disclosure norms. Earlier, this was permitted till June 30. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI allowed listed companies – to use digital signature certifications – till December 31, 2020
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

7. Tamil Nadu is planning to set up India's first Electric Vehicle Park exclusively for the electric vehicle production Eco-system. The state is targeting around Rs 50,000 crore investment in the EV segment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – to set up India's first Electric Vehicle Park
- Target to invest in EV Segment – Rs 50,000 crore
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

8. The Reserve Bank of India has announced that it has brought in 'Startups' under the purview of Priority Sector Lending whilst limits for renewable energy including solar power and compressed bio-gas plants were being increased. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI brought in – 'Startups' under the purview of PSL (Priority Sector Lending)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

9. Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) has launched its own Virtual Office Network to spearhead Tribal Socio-Economic Development on its 33<sup>rd</sup> Foundation day on August 6, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- TRIFED launched – its Own Virtual Office Network
- August 6 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Foundation day of TRIFED
- TRIFED works under – Ministry of Tribal Affairs (Arjun Munda – Khunti, Jhrakhand)
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna

**10.** 9 cases of Covid-19 have been recorded among the Great Andamanese tribe. A Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) - the “Great Andamanese” now number only 59 in terms of population. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**11.** A Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU) has been set up in Karnataka under the aegis of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A Price Monitoring and Resource Unit – set up under the aegis of NPPA – in Karnataka
- NPPA functions under – Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (D. V. Sadananda Gowda – Bangalore, Karnataka)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

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

**Key Points:**

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

**13.** A unique COVID prevention kiosk named 'UV Baggage Bath' was inaugurated at Bengaluru Railway Station, South Western Railway Zone with an aim to fight the pandemic Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- 'UV Baggage Bath' – inaugurated at Bengaluru Railway Station (South Western Railway Zone)
- HQs of SWRZ – Hubli Junction, Karnataka
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

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

**Key Points:**

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

**15.** Aditya Birla Health Insurance (ABHICL) has introduced an array of new services and product solutions for COVID-19 that will enable customers to take care of their health in such difficult times. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Aditya Birla Health Insurance – introduced an array of new services and product solutions for COVID-19
- HQs of ABHICL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Mayank Bathwal

**16.** Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched the "Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel", a new initiative by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). The Minister has also launched guidance videos produced by NCDC on 'Formation and Registration of a Cooperative' in Hindi and regional language of 18 different states. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar launched – "Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel" – an initiative by NCDC
- NCDC works under – Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (Narendra Singh Tomar – Morena, MP)
- HQs of NCDC – New Delhi | MD – Sundeep Kumar Nayak

**17.** All serving and retired soldiers in Maharashtra will be exempted from the Gram Panchayat Property Tax. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – exempted all serving and retired soldiers – From 'Gram Panchayat Property Tax'
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



**18.** Amazon has launched a prescription medicine delivery service "Amazon Pharmacy" in Bengaluru. Amazon Pharmacy will allow customers to order prescription based medication. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amazon launched – an online service "Amazon Pharmacy" – in Bengaluru
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**19.** Amul Bhatt, the Chairman of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) Standing Committee, has announced that total 5 flyover bridges in Ahmedabad city of Gujarat will be named where two fly-overs were named after Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ahmedabad – named 5 Flyover bridges
- The railway over-bridge at Ranip – Atma Nirbhar Gujarat Railway Flyover
- The flyover at Income Tax – Arun Jaitley Bridge
- The flyover at Anjali Crossroads – Sushma Swaraj Bridge
- The bridge at Dinesh Chamber in Bapunagar – Maharana Pratap Flyover
- The Hatkeshwar flyover – Chhatrapati Shivaji Flyover
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**20.** Andhra Pradesh CM Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched 'E-RakshaBandhan' campaign aimed at creating public awareness on cyber crimes against women and children. It is jointly developed by Andhra Pradesh Police and Crime Investigation Department (CID). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh launched – 'E-RakshaBandhan' campaign
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

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

**Key Points:**





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

**22.** At least 80 years after it was established, the Labour Bureau, the data and survey wing of the union labour ministry, has finally launched a new logo. It encapsulates the essence of three core areas - rural, agriculture and industrial workers. [{Read more}](#)

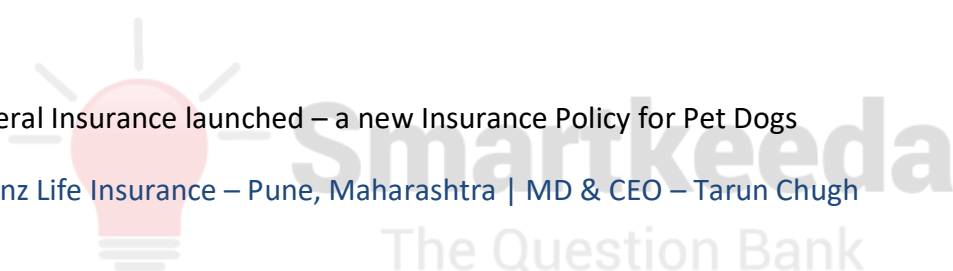
**Key Points:**

- Labour Bureau (of Labour Ministry) – launched its new logo – after 80 years
- MoS in Ministry of Labour and Employment – Santosh Gangwar

**23.** Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has launched a pet insurance product, called ‘Bajaj Allianz Pet Dog Insurance Policy’. It is India’s only retail comprehensive pet insurance offering for pet dogs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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



**24.** Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has announced the expansion of its Bharat Air Fiber Services to Maharashtra. The service was inaugurated by Union Minister of State for HRD, Electronics, Communication, and IT, Sanjay Dhotre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BSNL announced the expansion of – Bharat Air Fiber Services – to Maharashtra
- HQs of BSNL – New Delhi | CMD – Pravin Kumar Purwar
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

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

**Key Points:**

- BSNL – officially launched its Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services



- Currently available in 3 cities of “Kerala” circle on a trial basis
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- HQs of BSNL – New Delhi | CMD – Pravin Kumar Purwar

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

**Key Points:**

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

**27.** Chhattisgarh has become the first state to hand over Urban Forest Land Rights, under the ‘Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act 2006’, to tribals. The process has begun with Jagdalpur municipal corporation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jagdalpur municipal corporation (Chhattisgarh) – 1<sup>st</sup> MC in India to hand over Urban Forest Land Rights
- Under – “Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act 2006”
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**28.** Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma has launched Rs 14,515 Cr ‘Restart Meghalaya Mission’ to revive various developmental activities that have stalled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Conrad K Sangma launched – Rs 14,515 Cr ‘Restart Meghalaya Mission’
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**32.** Defence minister Rajnath Singh has launched the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah' (Self-reliant India week). He has also announced that India will stop the import of 101 weapons and military platforms till 2024. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Defence ministry launched – 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah' (Self-reliant India week)
- Import of 101 military weapons – to be stopped – till 2024
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

**35.** E-commerce platform Amazon India has rolled out its seller driven campaign 'Itna Aasan Hai' highlighting how sellers are thriving on the Amazon ecosystem with ease. The campaign is conceptualised by 'Ogilvy' advertising company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amazon India – rolled out its seller driven campaign – 'Itna Aasan Hai' (conceptualised by – 'Ogilvy')
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos

**36.** Facebook has launched the next phase of its consumer marketing campaign in India - 'More Together'. The campaign highlights the power of connections reinforcing that people can do more together than alone. The campaign has been conceptualised and executed by Taproot Dentsu, the creative agency from the house of Dentsu Aegis Network (DAN) India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Facebook launched = the next phase of 'More Together'
- The campaign is conceptualised & executed by – Taproot Dentsu
- Facebook: HQs – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

**37.** Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated the "National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) online dashboard" in New Delhi through video conferencing. The dashboard is being hosted on the website of India Investment Grid. In the budget speech of 2019-2020, FM announced an outlay of Rs 100 lakh Crore for infrastructure projects over the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated – "National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) online dashboard" – in New Delhi
- An outlay of Rs 100 lakh Crore – For infrastructure projects over the next 5 years (in budget)
- Nirmala Sitharaman – Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs | Constituency – Karnataka



**38.** Flipkart has launched "Flipkart Leap" - the company's first startup accelerator program with an aim to help new and upcoming startups grow, scale, navigate challenges. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Flipkart launched – 'Flipkart Leap' a startup accelerator program
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal

**39.** Goa's popular Moira banana and Harmal chilli were recently accorded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. The two agricultural products are the fourth and fifth items from Goa to get the GI tag after feni, the Khola chilli, and khajem. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Moira banana (4<sup>th</sup>) & Harmal chilli (5<sup>th</sup>) of Goa – are given GI tag
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Feni | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Khola Chilli | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Khajem – already given GI tag in Goa
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

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

**Key Points:**

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

**41.** Gujarat based and Asia's largest Banas dairy has come up with an innovative project to produce CNG from animal dung. The Chairman of Banas dairy Mr Shankar Chaudhary has claimed this as India's first such endeavour. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Banas Dairy (Gujarat) – to produce CNG from animal dung
- Chairman of Banas Dairy – Shankar Chaudhary

**42.** Gujarat has announced a new Industrial Policy 2020 that aims to provide an estimated Rs 40,000 crore as subsidies to industries in the next 5 years. Gujarat will become the first state to "delink incentives from SGST" (State Goods and Service Tax) under the new policy. MSMEs will also be eligible for capital subsidy of up to 25% of eligible loan amount up to Rs 35 lakh. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Gujarat announced – a new Industrial Policy 2020
- Aim: to provide Rs 40,000 crore as subsidies – in the next 5 years
- Gujarat – the first state to "delink incentives from SGST" | SGST – State Goods and Service Tax
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- MSMEs – eligible for capital subsidy of up to 25% of eligible loan amount – up to Rs 35 lakh

**43.** Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has launched a unique identity card called 'Parivar Pehchan Patra' (PPP). The 8-digit Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) is meant for each family across the state to enable smooth and automatic delivery of several citizen-centric services or schemes launched by the state government from time to time. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Haryana launched – 'Parivar Pehchan Patra' (PPP) – a unique identity card (consists of 8 digit)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**44.** Haryana has decided to develop a Biodiversity Park on around 100 acres in the Aravalli mountain range at Gurgaon's Kasan village. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Haryana decided to develop – a Biodiversity Park – on around 100 acres in the Aravalli mountain range
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya
- Guru Shikhar – the highest peak in Aravalli range

**45.** Haryana has launched the "anti-bullying campaign" of Faridabad police by unveiling its Instagram, Facebook and Twitter pages to flag the problem of bullying at home, in neighbourhood, schools, colleges and workplace. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Haryana launched – "anti-bullying campaign" of Faridabad police
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya



**46.** Haryana Urban Local Bodies and Home Minister Anil Vij has launched the web portal “Works Management System” for the management and monitoring of development works for all the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the State. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anil Vij (Haryana Home Minister) – launched “Works Management System” web portal
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**47.** Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched “Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan, 2020-21”. This initiative is a national programme for popularizing science among school students of Class 6th to 11th. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Harsh Vardhan launched – “Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan, 2020-21” – to popularize science among Class 6th to 11th
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)

**48.** In a boost to the railways' efforts to use technology to ease infrastructure work, for the first time in India, the entire track laying of the Dedicated Freight Corridor is being done through the New Track Construction (NTC) machine. It is implemented by Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways – to use New Track Construction (NTC) machine – to ease infrastructure work
- The Project is implemented by – DFCCIL (HQs – New Delhi)
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

**49.** In Gujarat, Ahmedabad Railway Division has successfully introduced a Baggage Sanitization and Wrapping machine at Ahmedabad Railway Station. It is a first of its kind across the Indian Railways. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ahmedabad Railway Station (Gujarat) introduced – ‘Baggage Sanitization and Wrapping machine’
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**50.** In the last week of September, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to inaugurate the 8.8-km-long 'Rohtang Tunnel' that is being built on the Leh-Manali highway in Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – will inaugurate the 8.8-km-long 'Rohtang Tunnel' – in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

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

### Key Points:

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

**52.** India's deepest underground rail ventilation shaft has been completed recently. It was completed jointly by Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC) and a private engineering firm, Afcons. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India's deepest underground rail ventilation shaft completed jointly by = Kolkata Metro + Afcons
- MD of KMRC – Manas Sarkar
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

**53.** Indian Railways has generated more than 6.4 lakh man-days of work under the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan' in Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Around 165 railway infrastructure projects are being executed in these states. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Indian Railways has generated more than 6.4 lakh man-days of work – under 'PM Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan'
- 165 Railway Infrastructure Projects are being executed
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra





**54.** Indian Railways has launched an application called “OHE Inspection” (Overhead Equipment) for real-time monitoring. With the help of this app, the national transporter will quickly find out the problem and it will get it fixed as soon as possible. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways launched – “OHE Inspection” (Overhead Equipment) application – for real-time monitoring
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

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

**Key Points:**

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

**56.** Jammu and Kashmir has launched ‘Iraada’ campaign with a view to cover the eligible left-out beneficiaries under various social welfare schemes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**57.** Jammu and Kashmir's agriculture department in collaboration with ‘NSE-IT’ has created an e-auction portal to promote trading of GI-tagged ‘Kashmir Saffron’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**58.** Jharkhand Governor Droupadi Murmu and chief minister Hemant Soren have unveiled state’s new emblem which represents the state’s progress, culture, flora and fauna. In the new emblem, the second ring depicts white elephants which symbolize the natural wealth and prosperity of the state. The elephant is also Jharkhand’s state animal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- Jharkhand – unveiled state’s new Emblem
- Second ring in emblem depicts – White Elephants | State animal of Jharkhand – Elephant
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

**64.** Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha have started a beginner-level course in French for the officials and staff of the Secretariat at the Parliament House. As many as 57 officials registered for the course. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha started a course – in French – for the officials and staff of the Secretariat
- Speaker of Lok Sabha – Om Prakash Birla

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

**Key Points:**

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

**66.** Madhya Pradesh will become the first state in India to offer government jobs on the basis marks obtained in the Common Eligibility Test (CET) conducted by the National Recruitment Agency (NRA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – the first state to offer government jobs on the basis of marks obtained in the CET
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**67.** Minister of state for railways Suresh Angadi has inaugurated 2 lifts at Shivamogga Railway station. He has also dedicated 'Malgudi Museum' that has been developed after restoring the old station building at Arasalu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 2 lifts were inaugurated at – Shivamogga Railway station, Karnataka
- 'Malgudi Museum' was inaugurated at – Arasalu Railway station, Karnataka



- Minister of Railways – Piyush Goyal (Maharashtra) | MoS for Railway Ministry – Suresh Angadi
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**70.** Ministry of Tourism has organised second Independence Day themed webinar titled “Cellular Jail: Letters, Memoirs & Memories” under DekhoApnaDesh webinar series on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Tourism organised a webinar – “Cellular Jail: Letters, Memoirs & Memories”
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture

**71.** MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari has launched an online farm-to-fork service “VedKrishi.com” promoted by farmers for selling non-toxic farm produce. The platform is set-up by VedKrishi Farmer Producer Company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari launched – “VedKrishi.com” an online farm-to-fork service
- HQs of VedKrishi Farmer Producer Company – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)



**72.** Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) has launched Futures trading on the country's first tradeable real-time bullion index, MCX iCOMDEX Bullion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MCX launched = MCX iCOMDEX Bullion or BULLDEX - India's first real-time Bullion Index
- HQs of MCX – Mumbai, MH | CEO – P. S. Reddy | Chairperson – Mr. Saurabh Chandra

**73.** Mumbai has become the first city in India to have women symbols on traffic signals and signage. Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has installed traffic signals that display female icons ensuring gender equality with a simple idea. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mumbai (BMC) – the first city in India to have women symbols on traffic signals and signage
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**74.** National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Vijapur is going to set up an Organic Waste Converter (OWC) Plant. This unit will produce Compost from Biodegradable waste. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Vijapur – will set up an Organic Waste Converter (OWC) Plant
- NFL-Vijapur – Madhya Pradesh
- HQs of NFL – Noida, UP | MD & Chairman – Virendra Nath Datt

**75.** National Film Development Corporation has organized a first of its kind, online 'Patriotic Film Festival'. The Festival is a part of Independence Day Celebrations by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- National Film Development Corporation organized – online 'Patriotic Film Festival'
- Independence Day Celebrations by – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Constituency – Maharashtra)

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



### Key Points:

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

**77.** Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for 45 highway projects in Madhya Pradesh. These projects carry a road length of 1,361 kilometers and involve a construction value of Rs 11,427 crore. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 45 highway projects – in Madhya Pradesh (Length: 1361 km & Worth: Rs 11427 Cr)
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**78.** Nobel peace prize winner Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation (KSCF) has launched 'Mukti Caravan' - a campaign against child trafficking in Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation launched – 'Mukti Caravan' – in Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**79.** Northern Railway has started the first-ever 'Vyapar Mala Express Train' from Kishanganj in Delhi bound for Jirania in Tripura. It will help small traders in moving their cargo through Railways, in a short time, cost effective, convenient and environment-friendly mode of transportation. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Northern Railway started – first-ever 'Vyapar Mala Express Train' – From Delhi to Tripura
- HQs of Northern Railway Zone – New Delhi | General Manager – Rajiv Chaudhry

**80.** NTPC Group has achieved over 100 Billion Units (BUs) of cumulative generation in the current financial year. NTPC Group has a total installed capacity of 62.9 GW. 2600 MW NTPC 'Korba Plant' in Chattisgarh has emerged as the top performing Thermal Power Plant. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NTPC achieved – over 100 Billion Units of cumulative generation | Total installed capacity – 62.9 GW



- NTPC Korba Super Thermal Power Station – Chhattisgarh – the Top performing Thermal Power Plant
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**81.** NTPC has begun bulk supply of fly ash using newly developed infrastructure at its ‘Rihand project’ in Uttar Pradesh to distant cement plants at a cheaper cost. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NTPC – began bulk supply of fly ash using newly developed infrastructure – at ‘Rihand project’ (Uttar Pradesh)
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**82.** Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched the “Agni-Shama Seva online portal” for issuance of fire safety certificates to different categories of buildings through online mode. As many as 8 services would be available to the public through online mode. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha launched – “Agni-Shama Seva online portal” – For issuance of fire safety certificates of buildings
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**83.** Odisha state cabinet has approved the tender for execution of the work of the “Gangadhar Meher Lift Irrigation Project” amounting to Rs 1138.63 Cr nearly 3 years after its announcement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha government approved the tender of – “Gangadhar Meher Lift Irrigation Project” – in Bargarh district
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**84.** On August 13, the government has extended the Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme (PCGS) 2.0 for 3 months. The Centre also allowed banks to invest up to 50% of total investments under the scheme in AA and AA- rated bonds and Commercial Papers to provide more flexibility to Public Sector Banks (PSBs). The PCGS was launched on May 20, 2020 as a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The government extended – Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme (PCGS) 2.0 – for 3 months
- The maximum limit for purchase of “AA/AA- bonds and Commercial Papers” increased to – 50% (from 25%)



**85.** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> death anniversary of the former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced that the 'Gwalior-Chambal Expressway' will be named after former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee and a statue grand of the saffron stalwart will be built in Bhopal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Gwalior-Chambal Expressway' – named after – Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- A statue grand of the saffron stalwart – to be built in 'Bhopal'
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

**86.** On this Independence Day, Nagaland has launched an e-commerce platform namely "Yellow Chain" which is developed by the Investment and Development Authority of Nagaland (IDAN). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nagaland launched – "Yellow Chain" an e-commerce platform
- [Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi](#)

**87.** Online restaurant guide and food ordering platform Zomato has introduced 'Period Leaves' of up to 10 days for all women employees to build a more inclusive work culture in the organisation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Zomato introduced – 'Period Leaves' of up to 10 days
- [HQs of Zomato – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder – Pankaj Chaddah](#)

**88.** Piyush Goyal & Narendra Singh Tomar have flagged off the first 'Kisan Rail' train for transportation of perishable goods with refrigerated coaches from Deolali in Maharashtra to Danapur in Bihar. It is expected to reduce transportation costs by Rs 1000 per tonne. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal & Narendra Singh Tomar flagged off – 1<sup>st</sup> 'Kisan Rail' train
- From Deolali (Maharashtra) to Danapur (Bihar)
- Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry – Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development – Narendra Singh Tomar (Morena, MP)





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

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal launched – “GIS-enabled Land Bank System” for investors – in 6 states
- [Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry – Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra](#)

**90.** PM Modi has inaugurated ‘Ram Temple’ construction in Ayodhya with 40 kg silver brick foundation stone. PM Modi also released a postage stamp on the Ram Janmabhoomi temple. The temple will be constructed in ‘Nagara’ style of architecture having 5 domes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi inaugurated ‘Ram Temple’ construction in Ayodhya – with 40 kg silver brick foundation stone
- Architecture style used for the construction – ‘Nagara’ style | with 5 domes
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**91.** PM Narendra Modi has launched the platform for 'Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest' aimed at easing compliance and expediting refunds, benefiting honest taxpayers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi launched – a platform for 'Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest'

**92.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced to launch “National Digital Health Mission” under which every Indian will be given a health ID. This health ID will work as each Indian's health account that will store the individual's medical records. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi announced to launch – “National Digital Health Mission” – to give a health ID to every Indian
- Nodal agency to implement NDHM – National Health Authority (NHA)

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

**Key Points:**

- College & Administration buildings of ‘Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University’ – inaugurated in Jhansi, UP



• UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**94.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 'Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra', an interactive experience centre on the Swachh Bharat Mission, in New Delhi. This cleanliness drive has been a big support in fight against coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

• Narendra Modi inaugurated – 'Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra' – on Swachh Bharat Mission – in New Delhi

**95.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connecting Chennai and Port Blair on August 10 via video conferencing. The submarine optical fibre cable link will deliver bandwidth of 2 x 200 Gigabits per second (Gbps) between Chennai and Port Blair. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

• PM Modi inaugurated submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) – connecting Chennai & Port Blair (Speed: 2x200 gbps)

• Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

• Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair | Lieut. Governor– Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi

**96.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address has mentioned about the mega plan of "One Sun, One World, One Grid" (OSOWOG). The ambitious OSOWOG will connect 140 countries through a common grid that will be used to transfer solar power. The idea was first floated by PM Modi in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

• "One Sun, One World, One Grid" (OSOWOG) Project – launched by India (it will connect 140 countries)

**97.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of the 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, has announced 10-year-long 'Project Dolphin' to give a stronger impetus for the conservation of 'Gangetic Dolphin' in the lines of 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant'. The project is led by Prakash Javadekar. Gangetic Dolphins were declared national aquatic animals in 2010. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

• Narendra Modi announced – 10-year-long 'Project Dolphin' – for the conservation of 'Gangetic Dolphin'

• Gangetic Dolphins were declared national aquatic animals – in 2010

• The project is led by – Prakash Javadekar (Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change – Maharashtra)



**98.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his Independence Day 2020 speech, has announced that 6 lakh villages of India will be connected through high-speed internet via Optical Fiber in the next 1,000 days. Besides, a high speed internet connectivity via submarine optical fibre cable will be extended to Lakshadweep in this period. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi announced – 6 lakh villages of India to be connected through Optical Fiber – in next 1,000 days
- A high speed internet connectivity via submarine Optical Fiber cable will be extended to – Lakshadweep

**99.** Railway Ministry has observed "Cleanliness Week" to mark the Independence Day. While focusing on cleanliness of tracks, special attention will be given to plastic waste collection along with other waste. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Railway Ministry observed – "Cleanliness Week" – to mark the Independence Day
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra

**100.** Rajasthan government will soon introduce a new Tourism Policy to help ensure the sector tides over the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. The Chief Minister also has asked the officers to find a permanent solution to solve the water problem in "Keoladeo National Park" in Bharatpur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan will introduce – a new Tourism Policy
- A permanent solution to water problem in – "Keoladeo National Park" – Bharatpur, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

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

**Key Points:**

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



**102.** Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has inaugurated Grand Finale of 4th edition of Smart India Hackathon (SIH), the world's biggest open online platform for innovators and entrepreneurs of tomorrow and it interacted with the participants through online video conference. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated – Grand Finale of 4th edition of Smart India Hackathon (SIH)
- Ministry of HRD – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**104.** SBI General Insurance, one of the leading general insurance companies in India, has announced the launch of first-of-its-kind offering, “Shagun - Gift an Insurance”, a unique gift of Personal Accident policy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI General Insurance launched – 1<sup>st</sup> “Shagun - Gift an Insurance” a unique gift of Personal Accident policy
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- Tagline – ‘Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono’

**105.** SEBI is planning to set up a 'Virtual Museum' of securities market to highlight achievements and milestones in the Indian capital market. In a notice, SEBI has invited Expression of Interest (EoI) from agencies to develop the virtual museum. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI to set up – a 'Virtual Museum' of securities market
- EoI – Expression of Interest
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

**106.** Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) amended the clause 4 (2) of SEBI international financial services centre (IFSC) guidelines-2015. As per the new guidelines, the shareholding limit should be at least 51% for the Clearing Corporation. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- SEBI – amended the clause 4 (2) of SEBI IFSC guidelines-2015
- Shareholding limit for the Clearing Corporation – at least 51%
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

**107.** Sembcorp Energy India Limited (SEIL) has become the first independent power producer to fully commission the first three wind auctions held by the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). This takes Sembcorp's total capacity across the country to 1,730 MW. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sembcorp Energy India Ltd – fully commission the first 3 wind auctions held by – SECI
- HQs of SEIL – Gurugram, Haryana | MD – Vipul Tuli
- HQs of Sembcorp – Singapore | CEO – Neil McGregor
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Praveen Kumar

**108.** Shri Arjun Munda has inaugurated a first of its kind e-portal on tribal health and nutrition named 'Swasthya' and e-newsletter on health and nutrition namely 'ALEKH'. This platform will be providing all health and nutrition related information of the tribal population of India in a single platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arjun Munda inaugurated – 'Swasthya' e-portal & 'ALEKH' e-newsletter – on tribal health and nutrition
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand)

**109.** Shri Piyush Goyal and Shri Pralhad Joshi has dedicated 'Railway Museum' at Hubballi through video conferencing. This Rail Museum is first of its kind in North Karnataka and second in South Western Railway after historic Mysuru Rail Museum at Mysuru. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal & Shri Pralhad Joshi dedicated 'Railway Museum' – at Hubballi, Karnataka
- Mysuru Rail Museum – Karnataka
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra
- Pralhad Joshi – Minister of Coal, Minister of Mines (Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala



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

**Key Points:**

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

**111.** Tata Group is planning to launch an all-in-one “Super app” by the end of this year or early next year. It will bring all the services on single platform. This Omni-channel Digital Platform is likely to be developed by the newly formed entity Tata Digital. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Group will launch – an all-in-one “Super app” – to bring all the services on single platform
- HQ of Tata Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran

**112.** Tech Mahindra has launched a new ‘Upskilling-as-a-Service’ (UaaS) platform to accelerate new-age skill development for over 60,000 employees globally to create a ‘fit for future’ workforce. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tech Mahindra launched – ‘Upskilling-as-a-Service’ (UaaS) platform
- HQs of Tech Mahindra – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Chander Prakash Gurnani

**113.** Telangana government has launched ‘iMASQ’ - mobile covid-19 testing centers in containment zones and low income group residential areas across the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – launched ‘iMASQ’ - mobile covid-19 testing centers in containment zones
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor - Tamilisai Soundararajan

**114.** Thaawarchand Gehlot has e-inaugurated the new building of ‘National Institute of Social Defence’ (NISD) in Dwarka, New Delhi. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has also launched ‘Nasha-Mukt Bharat’ campaign to implement in 272 districts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Thaawarchand Gehlot inaugurated – ‘National Institute of Social Defence’ – in Dwarka, New Delhi



- MoSJE – also launched ‘Nasha-Mukt Bharat’ campaign
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – Thawar Chand Gehlot (Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)

**115.** The ‘National Education Policy (NEP)-2020’ has removed "Mandarin", group of Sinitic Chinese languages, from the list of the examples of foreign languages that schools can offer to students. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NEP-2020 removed – "Mandarin" languages – From the list of the examples of foreign languages

**116.** The Centre has constituted India’s first ‘National Council for Transgender Persons’ under Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019. This council is headed by Union Social Justice Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The Centre constituted – India’s first ‘National Council for Transgender Persons’
- Formed under – Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019
- Chairperson – Union Social Justice Minister (Thawar Chand Gehlot – Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**118.** The Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN), which provides technological solutions for strengthening immunisation supply chain systems, has reached 32 states and Union territories. It aims to provide real-time information on vaccine stocks and flows, and storage temperatures across all cold chain points in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “eVIN” – Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network – reached 32 states and UTs

**119.** The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) have launched a Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) for Guwahati to alert local authorities about flash floods and/or heavy rainfall. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- TERI + NDMA = launched a Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) – For Guwahati, Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of TERI – New Delhi | DG – Dr. Ajay Mathur
- Parent Dept. of NDMA – Ministry of Home Affairs (Amit Shah – Gandhinagar, Gujarat)

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

### Key Points:

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

**121.** The first newspaper for kids namely ‘The Young Minds’ is launched in Assam. Two Guwahati-based women entrepreneurs - Neelam Sethia and Neha Bajaj have launched this newspaper specifically designed for kids to promote creative thinking among children. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

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

**122.** The foundation stone of ‘IIM - Sirmaur’ in Himachal Pradesh was laid down through video conferencing jointly by Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur, Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal, Union Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre and Union Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- The foundation stone of ‘IIM - Sirmaur’ laid down – in Himachal Pradesh – by Ramesh Pokhriyal
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)
- MoS for Ministry of Education – Sanjay Dhotre
- MoS for Ministry of Finance – Anurag Thakur | Finance Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Karnataka)





• Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

**123.** The Governing Board of National Health Authority (NHA) has approved a proposal to integrate existing health schemes of central ministries with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) for employees. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHA approved a proposal to integrate existing health schemes – with ‘AB-PMJAY’
- CEO of AB-PMJAY & NHA – Indu Bhushan

**124.** The government has notified changes in the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules-1957, in rule 19A, in sub-rule (1) providing more time to listed entities to meet criteria of minimum public shareholding of 25%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government made amendments – in Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules-1957 [rule 19A & sub-rule (1)]
- Criteria of minimum public shareholding of – 25%

**125.** The government has set targets of 10% bio-ethanol blending of petrol by 2022 and to raise it to 20% by 2030 under the ‘Ethanol Blending Programme’. It will help curb carbon emissions and reduce India’s dependence on imported crude oil. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The government set targets of bio-ethanol blending of petrol – under ‘Ethanol Blending Programme’
- 10% bio-ethanol blending of petrol – by 2022 | to raise it to 20% – by 2030

**126.** The government of India has held 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat Logo Design Contest' to have a distinct identity for 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' by developing a logo based on creative and innovative inputs from the citizens of the country. The winning Logo was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 25,000. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian government held – 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat Logo Design Contest' – For 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'
- Cash prize of – Rs. 25,000

**127.** The Haryana government has decided to open more ‘Sanskriti Model Schools’ in the state to further improve the quality of education. At present, 22 such schools are operational in the state. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Haryana – to open more ‘Sanskriti Model Schools’ – to improve the quality of education (at present – 22 schools)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**128.** The Indian government has imposed restrictions on colour TV imports and this was announced in an announcement made by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). It is now amended from ‘Free’ to ‘restricted’ category. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- DGFT imposed restrictions – on ‘Colour TV’ imports – from ‘Free’ to ‘restricted’ category
- DGFT comes under – “Ministry of Commerce & Industry” (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)
- DGFT HQs – New Delhi | Director General – Amit Yadav

**129.** The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is set to open the first-of-its kind training-cum-production centre of silk in tribal village of Chullyu in Arunachal Pradesh. It will soon be bustling with spinning and weaving activities. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- KVIC – to launch first silk training-cum-production centre – in Chullyu, Arunachal Pradesh
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena

**130.** The Maharashtra government has extended Rs 50 lakh insurance cover to private doctors who die of coronavirus infection during the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Maharashtra extended insurance cover to private doctors – of Rs 50 lakh
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

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

### Key Points:

- MPEDA opened – Quality Control Laboratory – for seafood exporters – in Porbandar, Gujarat



- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- HQs of MPEDA – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman – K S Srinivas

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

**Key Points:**

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

**133.** The Ministry of AYUSH has launched a 3-month campaign on "Ayush for Immunity" through webinar. More than 50 thousand people participated in the Webinar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**134.** The Ministry of Culture has announced 7 new circles of Archaeological Survey of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**135.** The Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the Uttar Pradesh government's request to change the name of "Manduadih Railway Station" to "Banaras Railway Station". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Manduadih Railway Station" renamed as "Banaras Railway Station" – in Uttar Pradesh
- Ministry of Home Affairs – Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**136.** The Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched a new version of the 'India Water Resources Information System' (India-WRIS) with new functionalities and features. The first version of India Water Resources Information System (India-WRIS) was launched in July, 2019 under the National Hydrology Project. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Ministry of Jal Shakti launched – a new version of ‘India Water Resources Information System’ (India-WRIS)
- First version of ‘India-WRIS’ launched – in 2019 – under ‘National Hydrology Project’
- Minister of Jal Shakti – Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan

**137.** The Mumbai Division of Central Railway has recently procured two Ninja drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) for better security and surveillance in railway areas like station premises, railway track sections, yards, workshops. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Mumbai Division of Central Railway Zone – procured 2 Ninja drones/UAVs
- HQ of Central Railway Zone – Mumbai, Maharashtra

**138.** The National Green Tribunal has directed Chief Secretaries of the northern states to periodically monitor the Ganga rejuvenation as the pollutants are continuously being discharged in the holy river even after constant monitoring by different courts. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NGT directed Chief Secretaries – to periodically monitor the ‘Ganga’ rejuvenation
- Chairperson of NGT – Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel | The National Green Tribunal Act – 2010

**139.** The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has developed a ‘Vendor Performance Evaluation System’ in order to establish a transparent and comprehensive ‘Performance Rating’ System for its Consultants, Contractors and Concessionaires. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NHAI developed – ‘Vendor Performance Evaluation System’
- HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

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

### Key Points:

- NPCI launched – ‘NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)’ – to take UPI & RuPay to other countries



- Ritesh Shukla – appointed as the CEO of – NIPL
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe

**141.** The Northeast Frontier Railway Construction Organisation is constructing the world’s tallest pier bridge with a pier height of 141 metres across ‘Ijai river’ in Manipur. The rail line project involves construction of a total 45 tunnels. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways – constructing the world’s tallest (141 metres) pier bridge across ‘Ijai river’ – in Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**142.** The Odisha state cabinet has approved the financial bid for implementation of the ‘Gangadhar Meher Lift Canal System’. It is an ambitious project that aims to provide assured irrigation to around 25,600 hectares of chronically drought-hit areas in Bijepur areas in Bargarh district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha approved the financial bid – for implementation of the ‘Gangadhar Meher Lift Canal System’
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**143.** The Punjab Cricket Association has decided to name its new stadium in Mullanpur after the last ruler of erstwhile Patiala state, late “Maharaja Yadavindra Singh”, who played a Test match for India in 1934. He was the father of Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab Cricket Association – decided to name its new stadium in Mullanpur – after ‘Maharaja Yadavindra Singh’
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**144.** The RBI’s Governor Shaktikanta Das has announced introduction of an Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) mechanism for digital payments. Payment System Operators (PSOs) will be required to establish an ODR system. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI introduced – an Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) mechanism – For Digital Payments
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)



**145.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will set up an “Innovation Hub” to encourage start-ups and companies address the challenges of financial inclusion and efficient banking transactions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI will set up – “Innovation Hub” to address the challenges of financial inclusion
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**146.** The South Western Railway has commissioned the Lachyan-Hotgi section of 670 m long bridge over River Bhima. It connects Karnataka with Maharashtra through Bijapur and Sholapur districts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- South Western Railway commissioned – ‘Lachyan-Hotgi section’ – over Bhima River
- It connects – Karnataka with Maharashtra
- HQs of SWRZ – Hubli Junction, Karnataka
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

**147.** The state government of Assam has inaugurated a 1.8 km ropeway across the river Brahmaputra and described it as the country’s longest river ropeway. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam inaugurated 1.8 km ropeway – acrosss ‘Brahmaputra river’ (country’s longest river ropeway)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**148.** The Telangana government has launched the Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Innovation (AI4AI) programme in collaboration with the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, India (C4IR) and World Economic Forum. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana + C4IR + WEF = launched ‘Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Innovation (AI4AI) programme’
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab

**149.** The Textiles Ministry has abolished the ‘Cotton Advisory Board’ and notified that all 8 Textiles Research Associations have ceased to be 'affiliated bodies' of the ministry. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- Textiles Ministry abolished – ‘Cotton Advisory Board’
- 8 Textiles Research Associations are ceased to be 'affiliated bodies'
- Smriti Zubin Irani – Minister of Women & Child Development, Minister of Textiles (Amethi, Uttar Pradesh)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**152.** The Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration has successfully implemented the “Project Barn Owls” with the support of the Kerala Forest Department to manage the menace of the rodents effectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**153.** The work has started on the first of its kind “Katra (J&K) to Delhi Express Road Corridor” which will be ready by 2023. The travel time from Katra to Delhi will get reduced to around six and half hours when it becomes functional. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Katra (J&K) to Delhi Express Road Corridor” – to be ready by 2023



**154.** To enhance the efficacy of the screening process at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in coordination with Asian Development Bank, has provided a “state-of-the-art Thermal Scanner” a Mass Fever Screening System. It is funded by the UNICEF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoHFW + ADB + UNICEF = “state-of-the-art Thermal Scanner” – at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
- Rajiv Gandhi International Airport – located in Hyderabad, Telangana
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | VP – Ashok Lavasa
- UNICEF HQs – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore

**155.** Total sowing area coverage under ‘kharif crops’ in India has registered an increase of more than 8.5% this year. Kharif crops have been sown in nearly 1 thousand 63 lakh hectare area of the country till now. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Total sowing area coverage under ‘kharif crops’ in India – registered an increase of more than 8.5% in 2020

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

**Key Points:**

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

**157.** Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan has launched a first-of-its-kind interactive video game 'Corona Fighters' to spread awareness about the coronavirus pandemic. He also launched 2 new promotional videos urging people to adhere to key COVID-19-appropriate behaviours. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched – first-of-its-kind interactive video game 'Corona Fighters'





- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Sci. & Tech., Ministry of Earth Science
- Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi

**158.** Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar has launched "Doordarshan Assam", a 24-hour dedicated channel for the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prakash Javadekar launched – a dedicated Doordarshan channel – For Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**159.** Union Minister for MSME, Nitin Gadkari has approved a unique employment generation program named as Khadi Agarbatti Aatmanirbhar Mission (KAAM) proposed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to make India Aatmanirbhar in Agarbatti production. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari approved – “Khadi Agarbatti Aatmanirbhar Mission” – proposed by KVIC
- KVIC works under – Ministry of MSME (Nitin Gadkari – Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena

**160.** Union minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari has laid the foundation stone for 13 highway projects worth Rs 3,000 crore in Manipur. The projects involve a road length of 316 kilometres. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari – laid the foundation stone for 13 highway projects (worth Rs 3,000 Cr) – in Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**161.** Union minister of state for culture and tourism (independent charge) Prahlad Singh Patel has virtually inaugurated the state-of-the-art Thenzawl Golf Resort project in Mizoram. The project is developed under Swadesh Darshan scheme’s ‘Integrated Development of New Eco-Tourism’ with a sanctioned amount of ₹92.25 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated – the state-of-the-art Thenzawl Golf Resort project – in Mizoram
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture (Constituency – Damoh, Madhya Pradesh)
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai



**162.** Union Minister of Youth and Sports Kiren Rijju has launched a nation-wide initiative of 'Fit India Youth Clubs' to promote fitness among every citizen. Ministry of Sports will organize one of the first initiatives - 'Fit India Freedom Run' from 15 August to 2 October. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Sports will organize – 'Fit India Freedom Run' – from 15 August to 2 October
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijju (Constituency – Arunachal West)

**163.** Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu has launched 'E-Gyan Mitra' mobile app for online education. The app launched by the Education Department of Daman Administration. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu – launched 'E-Gyan Mitra' mobile app for online education
- Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu: Capital – Daman | Administrator – Praful Patel

**164.** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched "One-Stop Portal for NRIs", especially for those from Uttar Pradesh. It will help not only in bringing in investment but also assist those seeking jobs abroad. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister launched – "One-Stop Portal for NRIs"
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

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

**Key Points:**

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



**166.** Uttarakhand state forest department will open India's first conversation centre for snow leopards in Uttarakashi district to conserve the precious species. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's first conversation centre for 'Snow Leopards' in – Uttarakashi, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**167.** Venkatraipur and Noliasahi, these two villages of Odisha have been designated as 'Tsunami Ready' for their preparedness by the UNESCO. The Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) implemented the 'Tsunami Ready Programme' in the two villages. Odisha has become the first State in India (and India - the first country) to implement this programme in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- OSDMA implemented 'Tsunami Ready Programme' – in 'Venkatraipur' & 'Noliasahi' villages
- These two villages of Odisha – designated as 'Tsunami Ready' – by UNESCO
- Odisha/India – became the 1<sup>st</sup> state/country – to implement 'Tsunami Ready Programme' in IOR
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

**168.** Walmart-owned Flipkart has supported over 6 lakh artisans, weavers and craftsmen across the country through its "Samarth programme" that was launched in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Flipkart started – "Samarth programme" – to support artisans, weavers and craftsmen
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal



# International Affairs

1. Russia has registered its first approved COVID-19 vaccine 'Sputnik V' in the foreign markets by becoming the first country to approve a COVID-19 vaccine. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Russia registered its first approved COVID-19 vaccine – 'Sputnik V'
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

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

## Key Points:

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

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

## Key Points:

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

4. A pair of Gold-plated spectacles believed to have been worn by Mahatma Gandhi and presented as a gift in the 1900s have broken all records for a UK auction house by selling for 260,000 pounds (approximately \$340,327 or Rs. 2.53 Cr). [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- A pair of Gold-plated spectacles worn by Mahatma Gandhi – sold for 260,000 pounds (Rs. 2.53 Cr) – in the UK
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

5. Apple has become the most valuable company in terms of market cap in the world by surpassing oil giant Saudi Aramco (\$1.76 trillion) with a market valuation of \$1.84 trillion. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Apple – the most valuable company in the world – with a market cap of \$1.84 trillion
- It surpassed – Saudi Aramco (\$1.76 trillion)
- Apple HQs – California, United States | CEO – Tim Cook
- HQs of Saudi Aramco – Dhahran, Saudi Arabia | CEO – Amin H. Nasser

**6.** At least 100 people are dead and 4,000 are injured after a massive explosion shook the capital city of Beirut of Lebanon. The explosion is under investigation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A massive explosion took place – in Beirut, Lebanon
- Lebanon – Beirut – Lebanese Pound

**7.** Australia will become the first country to require Facebook and Google to pay for news content provided by media companies under a royalty-style system that will become law this year to protect independent journalism. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Australia – the first country to force “Facebook and Google” – to pay for news content
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- Facebook: HQs – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai

**8.** Bangladesh has decided to construct a monument for the Indian soldiers who died in 1971 during the country’s struggle for independence from Pakistan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bangladesh – to construct a monument for the Indian soldiers – killed by Pakistan in 1971
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**9.** Britain (UK) is considering minting a coin to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi to mark 150th birth anniversary on October 2, amid growing interest in recognising the contributions of people from the Black, Asian and other minority ethnic communities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Britain (UK) – to mint a coin to honour – Mahatma Gandhi (to mark 150th birth anniversary)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

**10.** China has reported a new infectious disease caused by a 'Tick-borne' virus. The virus which can be transmitted through tick bites has been identified as 'Severe Fever with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome' or SFTS virus for short. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China reported a new infectious disease – caused by a 'Tick-borne' SFTS virus
- SFTS – Severe Fever with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**11.** Chinese President Xi Jinping has launched the 'Clean Plate Campaign' to reduce food waste. He urged his countrymen to stop wasting food as the coronavirus pandemic and floods have already led to a rise in food prices in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China launched – 'Clean Plate Campaign' – to reduce food waste
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**12.** European Union (EU) has launched 1-mn-Euro project called "Nirmanshree" in Maharashtra & Odisha for skilling women in housing sector. It aims at ending face discrimination and making them entrepreneurs and active stakeholders. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EU launched – "Nirmanshree" project – in Maharashtra & Odisha for skilling women in housing sector (1-mn Euro)
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | President – Ursula von der Leyen | Member Countries – 27

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

**Key Points:**

- India and Bangladesh – set to operationalise a new riverine trade route on September 3
- A Bangladeshi vessel will transport a cargo of cement to – Tripura



- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Ramesh Bais
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

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

**Key Points:**

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

**15.** India has handed over 58 metric tonnes of emergency humanitarian aid to Lebanon including crucial medical and food supplies, in the wake of the deadly explosion. It is sent through IAF C17 aircraft of IAF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India handed over “58 metric tonnes” of emergency humanitarian aid – to Lebanon
- Lebanon – Beirut – Lebanese Pound | President – Michel Aoun

**16.** India will launch a new cargo ferry service to the Maldives to further bolster bilateral trade relations. It will link Kochi and Tuticorin with Male. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India will launch a new cargo ferry service – to “Maldives” to bolster bilateral trade relations
- It will link ‘Kochi and Tuticorin’ with – Male (Maldives)
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

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

**Key Points:**

- India + Japan + Australia = to launch a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative



- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Shinzo Abe
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

**18.** Israel has shared its state-of-the-art Artificial Intelligence-based technologies and equipment with the AIIMS, Delhi to enhance its overall healthcare facilities to tackle COVID-19 more effectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Israel shared its AI-based technologies and equipment – with AIIMS Delhi
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu
- HQs of AIIMS – New Delhi | Director of AIIMS-Delhi – Dr Randeep Guleria

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

**Key Points:**

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

**20.** Mysuru Zoo in Karnataka has acquired one male and two female African hunting Cheetah from Ann Van Dyke Cheetah Centre at Johannesburg, South Africa as part of the Animal Exchange Programme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mysuru Zoo (Karnataka) acquired ‘African Cheetah’ From South Africa – under Animal Exchange Programme
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**21.** National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has selected Infosys Finacle to digitally transform its transaction banking business. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- National Bank of Bahrain – selected Infosys Finacle – to digitally transform its transaction banking business
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar





- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh

**22.** Nepal has called for a revision of the “1947 tripartite agreement” on Gurkha soldiers claiming it has become redundant and urged the United Kingdom and India to discuss the issue. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “1947 tripartite agreement” on Gurkha soldiers = India + Nepal + UK
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

**23.** NITI Aayog has selected Oracle to enhance the user experience, strengthen data processing and modernize vital IT infrastructure for better implementation of Aspirational Districts Programme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog selected Oracle – to strengthen data processing and modernize vital IT infrastructure
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of Oracle – California, USA | Chairman – Larry Ellison



**24.** Pakistan’s Prime Minister Imran Khan has unveiled a new political map of his country that claims over regions of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Junagadh and over Sir Creek in Gujarat as Pakistani territories. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pakistan unveiled a new political map – that includes J & K, Ladakh, Junagadh & Sir Creek (in Gujarat)
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

**25.** Russia and Brazil have agreed to cooperate in the production and marketing of the world’s first registered coronavirus vaccine “Sputnik V”. The Russian Health Ministry had registered the world's first Sputnik V vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Russia + Brazil = agreed to cooperate in the production and marketing of – “Sputnik V” vaccine
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- Brazil – Brasilia – Brazilian real | President – Jair Bolsonaro



**26.** Sri Lanka's PM, Mahinda Rajapaksa has staged a political comeback as his 'Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna Party' or 'Sri Lanka People's Party' (SLPP) has registered a landslide victory in the general elections. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna Party' (SLPP) headed by Mahinda Rajapaksa has won General Elections
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

**27.** The European Union has imposed its first-ever sanctions over 'cyber attacks' on alleged Russian military agents, Chinese cyber spies and organisations including a North Korean firm. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EU imposed its first-ever sanctions over 'cyber attacks' – on the organizations of Russia, China & North Korea
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | President – Ursula von der Leyen | Member Countries – 27
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- North Korea – Pyongyang – North Korean won | President – Kim Jong-un

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

**Key Points:**

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

**29.** The Indian Ocean island of Mauritius has declared a state of 'Environmental Emergency' after a Japanese-owned grounded ship began spilling tons of fuel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mauritius declared – a state of 'Environmental Emergency' – over Fuel spill from Japanese ship
- [Mauritius – Port Louis – Mauritian rupee | PM – Pravind Kumar Jugnauth](#)



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**33.** The US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has given Amazon approval to launch and operate a constellation of 3,236 internet-providing satellites as part of its 'Project Kuiper'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USFCC gave approval to Amazon – to launch and operate 3,236 internet-providing satellites
- For – ‘Project Kuiper’ of Amazon
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos
- HQs of FCC – Washington, DC, USA | Chairperson – Ajit Pai



**34.** The US President Donald Trump has issued executive orders banning U.S. transactions with Chinese tech firms Tencent owned 'WeChat' and ByteDance owned 'TikTok' in 45 days if they are not sold by their Chinese-owned parent companies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USA issued an order to ban – “WeChat” (owned by Tencent) & “TikTok” (owned by ByteDance) – within 45 days
- HQs of WeChat – Shenzhen, Guangdong, China | CEO – Ma Huateng
- HQs of TikTok – Beijing, China | CEO – Kevin Mayer

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

**Key Points:**

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

**36.** Tropical storm “Isaias” has slashed Florida's east coast. It snapped trees and knocked out power as it blew through the Bahamas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tropical storm “Isaias” – hit ‘Bahamas’
- Bahamas – Nassau – Bahamian dollar

**37.** Typhoon Bavi has recently made landfall and caused minimal damage in North Korea. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**38.** Ukraine has frozen contact with Belarus and joined the European Union in condemning the recent elections in its northerly neighbour. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ukraine has frozen contact with – Belarus
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky



- Belarus – Minsk – Ruble | PM – Siarhiey Rumas

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

**Key Points:**

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



# **Banking & Economic Affairs**

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

## **Key Points:**

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

2. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has fixed the upper limit of a payment transaction in offline mode at Rs 200 and total limit for such transactions on an instrument at Rs 2,000 at any point of time for the pilot scheme. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- RBI – fixed the upper limit of an offline payment transaction – at Rs 200 (Total limit – Rs 2000)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

3. As per the RBI's circular, the Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) having total assets of over Rs 2,000 crore as on March 31, 2020, will be required to implement the system-based asset classification from June 30, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- UCBs with total assets of over Rs 2,000 Cr – will be required to implement the system-based asset classification
- From – June 30, 2021
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

4. Axis Bank has announced the launch of its ‘Liberty Savings Account’ to address the ever-changing lifestyle needs of the young and digitally-savvy Indian This unique proposition offers customers the flexibility to either maintain a minimum balance of Rs 25,000 per month or spend the same amount every month. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Axis Bank – to launch ‘Liberty Savings Account’ for the Indian Youth (minimum balance of Rs 25000/m)
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry



5. Axis Bank has planned to employ nearly 1,000 people under its new hiring initiative 'Gig-a-Opportunities', a model devised to attract skilled talent that can work with the bank remotely, from anywhere in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Axis Bank – will employ nearly 1,000 people – under 'Gig-a-Opportunities' initiative
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry

6. Fino Payments Bank has announced the launch of an Aadhaar authentication based digital savings account namely "Jan Bachat Khata" that would bring neo-banking experience to consumers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Fino Payments Bank – to launch Aadhaar Authentication based Digital Savings Account - "Jan Bachat Khata"
- HQs of FPBL – Maharashtra | MD and CEO – Rishi Gupta

7. Government of India has formed a search-cum-selection committee to name the new 3 government nominees on the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). The panel is headed by Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GoI formed a search-cum-selection committee – to name the new 3 government nominees on MPC
- The panel headed by – Rajiv Gauba (Cabinet Secretary)
- Total members in the RBI's MPC = 6 (3 of RBI + 3 of GoI)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

8. HDFC Bank has launched of a 1st-of-its-kind product for the armed forces called 'Shaurya KGC Card'. The product is based on the Kisan Credit Card guidelines by the government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank launched – 'Shaurya KGC Card' product for the Armed Forces
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your world"



**9.** HSBC India has recently introduced “Omni Collect” that will be a one-stop solution for businesses to provide multiple payment options through a single platform. It will help to support both in store as well as online purchases across multiple providers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HSBC India – introduced “Omni Collect” a one-stop solution for businesses
- HQs of HSBC India – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Surendra Rosh
- HQs of HSBC – London, UK | CEO – Noel Quinn

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

**Key Points:**

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

**11.** ICICI Bank has introduced the use of satellite data to assess credit worthiness of its customers employed in the farm sector. ICICI Bank has become the 1<sup>st</sup> bank in India to use such a technique. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Bank – 1<sup>st</sup> bank to introduce the use of satellite data to assess credit worthiness of farmers
- HQs of ICCI Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”

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

**Key Points:**

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

**13.** Punjab National Bank has launched a campaign 'DIGITAL APNAYEN' to encourage customers to use digital banking channels. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**





- PNB launched – 'DIGITAL APNAYEN' campaign
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao

**14.** Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released the draft framework for recognition to an industry association as a Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for Payment System Operators. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI released – Draft Framework for recognition of SRO – For PSO
- SRO – Self Regulatory Organisation | PSO – Payment System Operators
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**16.** State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced the KCC (Kisan Credit Card) review option on its digital agriculture solution platform, YONO Krish. It will enable farmers to use their KCC limit in four clicks. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI introduced – KCC (Kisan Credit Card) review option – on its 'YONO Krish' platform
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Rajnish Kumar
- MD & CEO – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO – Chalasani Venkat Nageswar

**17.** The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has introduced a dedicated debt and credit guarantee product to ensure a smooth flow of credit in rural areas hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. It has launched 'Credit Guarantee Programme' for NBFC-MFIs (Micro Finance Institutions). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- NABARD launched – ‘Credit Guarantee Programme’ for NBFC-MFIs
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu

**18.** The RBI has decided to dissolve the ‘Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI)’. BCSBI was set up by the RBI in February 2006 as an independent and autonomous body, assigned to formulate codes of conduct to be adopted by banks voluntarily for ensuring fair treatment of customers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – decided to dissolve the ‘Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI)
- BCSBI – set up by the RBI – in February 2006
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**19.** The RBI has enhanced the amount of loan that banks can give against the pledge of gold ornaments and jewellery for non-agricultural purposes from 75% of the value of gold pledged to 90%. This relaxation in loan to value is available till March 31, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI enhanced the limit for loans against gold – to 90% (From 75%) {available till March 31, 2021}
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**20.** The RBI has given an in-principle approval for setting up a wholly owned non-financial subsidiary to South Indian Bank (SIB). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI gave an approval – to South Indian Bank – For setting up a wholly owned Non-Financial Subsidiary
- HQs of SIB – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO– V. G. Mathew | Tagline – Experience Next Generation Banking
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

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

**Key Points:**

- RBI announced simultaneous purchase and sale of ‘G-Secs’ – under OMO
- An aggregate amount of Rs 20,000 Cr (in 2 tranches of Rs 10,000 Cr each)



- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**22.** The RBI has released a revised set of guidelines for Core Investment Companies (CICs). A CIC is a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC), which carries on the business of acquisition of shares and securities and holds not less than 90% of its net assets. All CICs with asset size of more than Rs 5,000 Cr shall appoint a chief risk officer (CRO) based on the recommendation of a working group under chairmanship of Tapan Ray. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI revised set of guidelines for – Core Investment Companies (CICs) - a Non-Banking Financial Company
- CICs with asset size of more than Rs 5,000 Cr – has to appoint a Chief Risk Officer (CRO)
- CRO is appointed based on the recommendation of a working group under chairmanship of – Tapan Ray
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**23.** The RBI has released the final framework for authorisation of a New Umbrella Entity (NUE) for retail payments. The guidelines demand that applicants have at least 3 years of experience in the payments space and a minimum paid-up capital of Rs 500 crore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – released the final framework for authorisation of a New Umbrella Entity (NUE) – For retail payments
- The Guidelines for NUE: at least 3 years of experience & a minimum paid-up capital of Rs 500 crore
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**24.** The RBI's 6-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) headed by Shaktikanta Das was unanimous in its decision to stand pat on interest rates in its 3-day meeting held from August 4-6, 2020. The RBI has kept the repo rate unchanged at 4%, reverse repo rate at 3.35% and so was the bank rate at 4.25%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) – headed by Shaktikanta Das
- Repo rate – 4% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35% | Bank Rate or MSF – 4.25% | CRR – 3% | SLR – 18%
- Total members in the RBI's MPC = 6 (3 of RBI + 3 of GoI)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)



**25.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its 2019-20 annual report released as on August 28, has stated that India's growth is projected at minus 4.5% for 2020-21. According to RBI, Global growth is projected at (-) 6.0% in the single hit scenario and (-) 7.6% in the double hit scenario. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI projected India's GDP for 2020-21 – at minus 4.5% [{Flexible News}](#)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**26.** Yes Bank has decided to sell its asset management company 'Yes Mutual Fund'. Yes Mutual Fund reported net loss around Rs 16 crore in FY19 as compared to Rs 4.5 crore in FY18. The AUM of Yes Mutual Fund is at Rs 57 crore as of June 2020 while it was Rs 2000 crore in March 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yes Bank decided to sell its asset management company – 'Yes Mutual Fund'
- AUM – Assets Under Management
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



# Defence Affairs

1. “BrahMos Aerospace”, a joint venture of India and Russia, is one of the platforms which can be exported to friendly nations. India will export BrahMos missiles to friendly nations. The India Pavilion at the “Army-2020 International Military and Technical Forum” was inaugurated in Russia. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- “BrahMos Aerospace” a joint venture of – India & Russia
- The India Pavilion at the “Army-2020 International Military and Technical Forum” inaugurated in – Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

2. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has approved the capital acquisition of 'Make in India' equipment worth Rs 8,722 crore. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- DAC – approved the capital acquisition of 'Make in India' equipment – worth Rs 8,722 crore
- Chairman of DAC – Rajnath Singh (Defence Minister – Lucknow, UP)

3. Two Light Combat Helicopters (LCH) produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have been deployed in Leh, Ladakh to support missions by the Indian Air Force. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 2 Light Combat Helicopters – produced by HAL – deployed in Leh, Ladakh
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

4. A Greek and a Turkish warship were involved in a mini-collision during a standoff in the eastern Mediterranean. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Greek & Turkish warship – involved in a mini-collision – during a standoff in the eastern Mediterranean
- Greece – Athens – Euro | Turkey – Ankara – Lira

5. Aiming to boost surveillance capabilities against enemy warships operating in the Indian Ocean region, the Indian Navy has moved a proposal to urgently acquire 10 ship-borne drones. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:



- Indian Navy – moved a proposal to urgently acquire – 10 ship-borne drones
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

6. Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria has launched a mobile application 'My IAF' to provide career related information and job details to candidates. The app will have details about the selection process, training syllabus, pay and other relevant details for both officer and airmen posts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria launched – 'My IAF' application – to provide career related information
- IAF Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

7. As part of Atma Nirbhar Week activities, the 4<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard offshore patrol vessel (OPV) "ICGS Sarthak" was launched recently. It is designed and built by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard OPV "ICGS Sarthak" – launched in August
- Designed and built by – Goa Shipyard Limited (MD & Chairman – Bharat Bhushan Nagpal)

8. As per 'Defence Production & Export Promotion Policy (DPEPP) 2020', the government is aiming a turnover of Rs 1.75 lakh Cr (USD 25 billion) in defence manufacturing by 2025 as it has identified the sector as a potential driver to boost the overall economy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government's Target in Defence manufacturing – turnover of Rs 1.75 lakh Cr (USD 25 billion) – by 2025
- Defence Minister – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

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

**Key Points:**

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



**10.** China has launched first of the four advanced naval warships "Type-054A class frigate" for Pakistan Army. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**12.** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched a mobile application called "DGNCC" to assist in online training of NCC (National Cadet Corps) in the country. This app aims at providing NCC cadets all training materials, including syllabus, training videos and frequently asked questions, on one platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Defence Minister launched – a mobile application called "DGNCC" – for NCC Cadets
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)
- NCC HQs – New Delhi | Director General – Lt. Gen. Rajeev Chopra

**13.** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) through an online webinar. A compendium of Indian Navy's Indigenisation perspective plans titled 'SWAVLAMBAN' was also released on the occasion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh launched – Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) – a 3 tier organization
- 'SWAVLAMBAN' – a compendium of Indian Navy
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)



**14.** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched 15 products as a part of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' week celebrations. The prototype of 'Nag Missile Carrier (NAMICA)' is developed by Ordnance Factory Medak in association with Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL). The other products of Ordnance Factory Board are '14.5 mm Anti Material Rifle', 'Commander's Thermal Imager Cum Day Sight' and the prototype of '8.6x70 mm Sniper' developed by Rifle Factory Ishapore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh launched – 15 products – as a part of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' week celebrations
- "Nag Missile Carrier (NAMICA)" – developed by = Ordnance Factory Medak + DRDL (both located in Telangana)
- "14.5 mm Anti Material Rifle" + "Commander's Thermal Imager Cum Day Sight" = by OFB (Kolkata, WB)
- "8.6x70 mm Sniper" – developed by – Rifle Factory Ishapore (located in Kolkata, West Bengal)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**17.** India will ban the import of 101 types of military weapons and ammunition over the next 5 years in a significant step towards achieving self-reliance in the defence sector. The import embargo will kick in between December 2020 and December 2025 for different categories of military hardware. [{Read more}](#)





**Key Points:**

- India – to ban the import of 101 types of military weapons – in next 5 years (From 2020 to 2025)
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

**18.** India will participate in the Russian “Kavkaz 2020” multilateral military exercise. China and Pakistan are also invited to participate in ‘KavKaz 2020’ as both countries are members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India (along with China & Pakistan) – to participate in “Kavkaz 2020” or “Caucasus-2020” multilateral military exercise – in Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- Military Exercise with Russia: (Indra, AVIA INDRA)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**21.** K Shanmugam, Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu has commissioned Indian Coast Guard Ship ‘C-449’ at Chennai. The ship is 49<sup>th</sup> amongst the 54 in their series being indigenously designed and built by Larsen & Toubro Limited (East Campus), Hazira (Surat). [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- ICGS 'C-449' commissioned at – Chennai, Tamil Nadu (49<sup>th</sup>/54)
- Designed and built by – Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Ltd (East Campus), Hazira (Surat)
- HQs of Larsen & Toubro– Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Dinanath Dubhashi
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**22.** Taiwan has formally signed an agreement to buy 66 of the latest model F-16 jets from the USA. These jets are built by Lockheed Martin Corporation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Taiwan – to buy 66 of the latest model F-16 jets – from the USA
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

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

**Key Points:**

- Acquisition Wing of MoD + BEML + TPCL + L&T = to supply 6 Pinaka Regiments – at a cost of ₹2,580 Cr
- Defence Minister – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – SK Saini
- HQs of BEML – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Deepak Kumar Hota
- HQ of TPCL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Dinanath Dubhashi

**24.** The Ammunition Factory at Khadki in Pune has manufactured & sent the first consignment of 40 mm under-barrel grenade launcher ammunition to the Border Security Force (BSF). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ammunition Factory – manufactured & sent the 40 mm Under Barrel Grenade Launcher (UBGL) – to BSF
- Location of Ammunition Factory – Khadki, Pune, Maharashtra



- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | Director General (DG) – Rakesh Asthana

**25.** The defence minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated a newly established 'Industrial Design Centre' of Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) at Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A new 'Industrial Design Centre' – of BEML – inaugurated at Bengaluru
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)
- HQs of BEML – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Deepak Kumar Hota

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



**29.** The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has sent a 10-member Specialist Pollution Response Team along with 30 tonnes of pollution response equipment to Mauritius for supplementing ongoing efforts to contain an oil spill from bulk carrier MV Wakashio on its South Eastern coastline. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICG sent 30 tonnes of specialised equipment and a 10-member Specialist Pollution Response Team – to Mauritius
- To contain an oil spill from bulk carrier – MV Wakashio
- Mauritius – Port Louis – Mauritian rupee | PM – Pravind Kumar Jugnauth

**30.** The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has become the first Central Armed Police Force to procure a variety of 'swadeshi' and 'khadi' goods for around 10 lakh personnel of the CAPF from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ITBP – the first CAPF to procure supplies of 'swadeshi' and 'khadi' goods – from KVIC
- ITBP + KVIC = an MoU to supply 'mustard oil'
- HQs – New Delhi | Director General – Surjeet Singh Deswal
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena

**31.** Union defence minister Rajnath Singh has laid down the foundation for a Warhead Production Facility (WPC) and a Missile-Seeker Facility Centre (SFC) as part of the week-long 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' celebrations at Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) in Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh laid down Foundation for – Warhead Production Facility & Missile-Seeker Facility Centre – at BDL
- HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Siddharth Mishra
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

**32.** Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched a "SRIJAN" portal for 'Opportunities for Make in India in Defence' as part of 'Atmanirbharta Saptah'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- Rajnath Singh (Defence Ministry) launched – "SRIJAN" portal – for 'Opportunities for Make in India in Defence'
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)



# Schemes & Initiatives

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

## Key Points:

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

2. 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme has been extended to 4 more states - UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland and Uttarakhand. With the addition of these four states, now 24 states across the country are connected with the One Nation One Ration Card Scheme. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme – extended to 4 more states – J & K, Manipur, Nagaland & Uttarakhand
- Total states covered under this scheme = 24

3. 'The Women Entrepreneurship and Empowerment' - an initiative of IIT Delhi, helps women ranging from college going students to middle-aged housewives to take up entrepreneurship as a viable, fulfilling career option. It is supported and sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 'The Women Entrepreneurship and Empowerment' – an initiative of IIT Delhi
- Sponsored by – Department of Science & Technology

4. A total of over 44 lakh tonnes food grains is lifted by States and Union Territories till date under "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana – 2". And a total of 201 lakh tonnes food grains will be distributed among 81 crore beneficiaries under the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 44 lakh tonnes food grains – lifted by States & UTs – under "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana – 2"
- 201 lakh tonnes food grains – to be distributed among 81 crore beneficiaries



5. Andhra Pradesh has approved 'YSR Asara' scheme aimed at women empowerment along with 2 other schemes 'YSR Sampurna Poshana' and 'Jagananna Vidya Kanuka'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

6. Assam council of ministers has approved the “Assam Non-Government Education Institutions (Regulation of Fees) Rules 2020”. The council of ministers meeting also approved the ‘Assam Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) scheme 2020’. The meeting also took decision for implementation of ‘Uberization’ scheme under which 668 new buses would operate for 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam approved – “Assam Non-Government Education Institutions (Regulation of Fees) Rules 2020”
- Assam approved – ‘Assam Street Vendors Scheme’
- ‘Uberization’ scheme – belongs to Assam (668 new buses to be operated)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

7. Assam government has formally launched "Orunodoi" (Arunodoi) flagship scheme to give Rs 830 per month to nearly 17 lakh families in the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam launched – "Orunodoi" (Arunodoi) flagship scheme (Rs 830/month to 17 lakh families)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

8. Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has announced the launch of “Indira Van Mitan Yojana” on the occasion of ‘World Tribal Day’ aiming to make the forest dwellers in Chhattisgarh self-reliant. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – to launch “Indira Van Mitan Yojana” – For forest dwellers
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey



9. Chhattisgarh has launched a social security scheme namely "Shaheed Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Sangraha Samajik Suraksha Yojana" for Tendu leaves collectors in the state. It is named after slain Congress leader Mahendra Karma. Tendu leaves are used for making bidis (leaf-wrapped cigarettes). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh launched – "Shaheed Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Sangraha Samajik Suraksha Yojana"
- The Scheme named after Congress leader – Mahendra Karma
- This social security scheme is launched for – Tendu leaves collectors
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

10. Chhattisgarh has launched the online education platform 'Padhai Tunhar Duar' scheme under which school students will be able to learn in their respective localities in view of the suspension of classes due to the coronavirus outbreak. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh launched – an online education platform 'Padhai Tunhar Duar' scheme
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

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

**Key Points:**

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

12. Gujarat chief minister Vijay Rupani has launched "Mukhyamantri Kisan Sahay Yojana" for crop failures worth Rs 1,800 crore. It will replace "Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)" for FY 2020-21 only. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gujarat launched – "Mukhyamantri Kisan Sahay Yojana" – worth Rs 1,800 Cr
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat





**13.** On the occasion of International Youth Day, the West Bengal government has launched 'Karma Sathi Prakalpa' scheme under which 1 lakh unemployed youth would be provided soft loans and subsidies to make them self-reliant. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- West Bengal launched – 'Karma Sathi Prakalpa' scheme
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

**14.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has transferred the 6<sup>th</sup> installment of Rs 17,000 crore directly into the bank accounts of 8.5 crore farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme. The Centre provides Rs 6,000 per year in 3 equal instalments under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme that was launched in December 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 6<sup>th</sup> installment of Rs 17,000 crore transferred to the bank a/c of 8.5 crore farmers – under PM-KISAN Scheme
- Rs 6,000 per year – in 3 equal installments | The PM-KISAN scheme was launched in – 2018

**15.** Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has announced to start the “Indira Rasoi Yojana” in urban areas of Rajasthan from August 20. The state government would spend Rs 100 Crore per year on it. The poor would get quality nutritious food for just Rs 8 per plate. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan – will provide quality nutritious food to the poor – For Rs 8 per plate – under “Indira Rasoi Yojana”
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

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

**Key Points:**

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

**17.** The Central Government has widened its Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the MSMEs. The turnover limits to avail the loan under the scheme was increased to annual turnover of Rs.250 Cr from



Rs.100 Cr, outstanding loans up to Rs.50 Cr from Rs.25 Cr & the maximum loan amount of Guaranteed Emergency Credit Line (GECL) funding under the scheme also increased to Rs.10 Cr from Rs.5 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Changes in Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for the MSMEs
- Turnover limit – Rs.250 Cr (from Rs.100 Cr)
- Outstanding loans limit – Rs.50 Cr (from Rs.25 Cr)
- Maximum loan amount under ECLGS – Rs.10 Cr (from Rs.5 Cr)

**18.** The Congress Government in Punjab has distributed smartphones to students for free in the statewide launch of its Rs 92 crore 'Punjab Smart Connect ' scheme for students. The smartphones have an engraving of CM Amarinder on the back with the words "Captain Smart Connect". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab – distributed smartphones to students for free – under 'Punjab Smart Connect ' scheme
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**19.** The Delhi government has launched a 15-day 'Nirman Mazdoor Registration Abhiyan'. Online registration Camps will be set up across all assembly constituencies to help construction workers get registered for a welfare fund. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi launched – 15-day 'Nirman Mazdoor Registration Abhiyan'
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**20.** The Haryana government has launched a scheme namely 'Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana' to give a packet of free sanitary napkins to about 22.50 lakh women and girls below the poverty line every month for a year. A scheme was also started to provide fortified flavoured skimmed milk powder under the 'Mukhya Mantri Doodh Uphar Yojana' for children aged 1-6 years in anganwadi centres. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana launched – 'Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana' – to give a packet of free sanitary napkins to women
- Haryana launched – 'Mukhya Mantri Doodh Uphar Yojana' – to provide fortified flavoured skimmed milk powder
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya



**21.** The Odisha government has launched a new scheme for promoting Intensive Aquaculture through 'Biofloc Technology' in fisheries and to provide employment to people during the pandemic period. Biofloc based farming system is a new technology for the promotion of intensive fish/ shrimp production in a limited area without significantly increasing the usage of the basic natural resources of water and land. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha launched – a new scheme for promoting Intensive Aquaculture through 'Biofloc Technology' in fisheries
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**22.** Under "Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana", the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has approved the relaxations in eligibility criteria and enhancement to ensure payment of unemployment benefits. 40 lakh unemployed workers will get 50% of 3 months wages as ESIC has relaxed the norms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Under "Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana" – 40 lakh unemployed workers will get 50% of 3 months wages
- HQs of ESIC – New Delhi | Director General – Ms. Anuradha Prasad

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

**Key Points:**

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



# Sports & Games

1. Bayern Munich Football club has overcome Paris Saint-Germain 1-0 to lift the "UEFA Champions League" 2019-20 trophy in Lisbon. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Bayern Munich FC (Germany) – won "UEFA Champions League" 2019-20 trophy in Lisbon
- Portugal – Lisbon – Euro

2. England's World Cup-winning spinner Laura Marsh has retired from all forms of Cricket recently. She was a key member of the England Women's team that won the 2017 World Cup and played in 103 one-day internationals during her career. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Laura Marsh (England) – retired – From Cricket
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

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

## Key Points:

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

4. Formula One Champion Mercedes Lewis Hamilton has won British Grand Prix-2020 in record time. Lewis Hamilton took his 7th victory at Silverstone Circuit in Silverstone, UK. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-UK) – won "British Grand Prix-2020" – 7th victory
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

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

## Key Points:

- India & Russia – joint Gold medal winners of the online "FIDE Chess Olympiad"



- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Arkady Dvorkovich

**6.** India's ace Table Tennis player and Arjuna Award winner, Poulomi Ghatak, has announced her retirement at the age of 37. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Poulomi Ghatak – took retirement – From Table Tennis

**7.** International Cricket Council (ICC) has confirmed that Men's T20 World Cup 2020 (8<sup>th</sup> edition) that was postponed due to COVID-19 will be held in Australia in 2022. India will host the Men's T20 World Cup (7<sup>th</sup> edition) in 2021 as planned. India would also host the Men's ODI World Cup in 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Men's T20 World Cup 2020' – to be hosted by Australia – in 2022 (postponed from 2020 to 2022)
- 7<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Men's T20 World Cup 2020' – to be hosted by India – in 2021
- ICC Men's ODI World Cup – to be hosted by India – in 2023
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Imran Khwaja | CEO – Manu Sawhney

**8.** James Anderson has become the first fast bowler in history to take 600 Test wickets. However, Anderson, playing his 156<sup>th</sup> Test, is the slowest to reach the 600-wicket milestone. The quickest was Muralitharan (101 matches). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- James Anderson (UK) – become the first fast bowler in history to take 600 Test wickets
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

**11.** Lewis Hamilton has become the driver with the most podiums in Formula One (F1) history after claiming his 156<sup>th</sup> victory at the Spanish Grand Prix. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lewis Hamilton – won 'Spanish Grand Prix' (his 156<sup>th</sup> victory) & claimed the most podiums in F1 history
- Lewis Hamilton (UK) – drives 'Mercedes'

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

**Key Points:**

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

**13.** Red Bull's Max Verstappen has won Emirates Formula One's (F1) "70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grand Prix-2020" at Silverstone, UK. He has become the first non-Mercedes driver to win a race in the 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Max Verstappen (Red Bull) – won Emirates F1 "70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grand Prix-2020" – at Silverstone, UK

**14.** Ronnie O'Sullivan has won the title of the "World Snooker Championship 2020". It is his sixth world title with a dominant 18-8 victory over Kyren Wilson at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ronnie O'Sullivan (Snooker - UK) – won 6<sup>th</sup> title at "World Snooker Championship 2020"

**15.** Spain's Football World Cup-winning captain and goalkeeper 'Iker Casillas' has announced his retirement from the professional game at the age of 39. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Iker Casillas (Spain) – retirement – From Football
- Spain – Madrid – Euro

**16.** Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) has pulled out of the "Women's World Team Squash Championship" due to "lack of preparation time" and "uncertainties" about travelling amid the COVID-19 pandemic. It was scheduled to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from December 15 to 20. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India pulled out of – “Women's World Team Squash Championship” – to be held in ‘Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia’
- HQs of SRFI – Chennai, TN | President – Debendranath Sarangi
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit

**17.** Sri Lankan Cricketer, Nishad Tharanga Paranavitana has announced his retirement from international cricket. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**18.** Suresh Raina has announced his retirement from International Cricket marking the end of a near 15-year-long career. He belonged to Uttar Pradesh. He is the 1st Indian cricketer to score century in all the 3 formats (ie. Test, ODI, T20). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Suresh Raina (UP) – announced his retirement – from International Cricket
- Suresh Raina – the 1st Indian cricketer to score century in all the 3 formats of Cricket
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**19.** Tencent-backed "Dream11" has won the Title sponsorship for the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indian Premier league (IPL) with a winning bid of 222 crore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dream11 – won the Title sponsorship for the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of IPL (winning bid of Rs. 222 Cr)



- HQs of Dream11 – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Harsh Jain

**20.** The 27-year-old German Sophia Popov has won her maiden major title at the ‘Women's British Open’ and become the first female golfer from Germany to do so. She is world’s No. 304. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sophia Popov (Germany) – Golf – won ‘Women's British Open’
- Germany – Berlin – Euro

**21.** The All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Sports Authority of India (SAI) have joined hands to launch “E-Pathshala” - a web platform to recognise the creativity and develop interest in football. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIFF + SAI = to launch “E-Pathshala” - a web platform
- HQs of AIFF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel
- HQs of SAI – New Delhi | Director General – Sandip Pradhan

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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





**24.** The Indian Olympic Association has launched its 'Ek India Team India' digital campaign on the occasion of the country's 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day. The campaign is a part of IOA's recent adoption of its new identity, marking 100 years of Indian athletes' participation at the Olympic Games. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Olympic Association launched – 'Ek India Team India' digital campaign
- IOA completed 100 years of participation of Indian athletes – in the Olympic Games
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | President – Narinder Dhruv Batra | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta

**25.** Two-time World Cup-winning former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni has retired from international cricket. He has made 10 centuries in ODIs and 6 centuries in Test matches. He belongs to Ranchi. MS Dhoni is the only captain in the history of Cricket to win 3 ICC trophies – World T20 (2007), World Cup(2011) and ICC Champions Trophy(2013). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mahendra Singh Dhoni (Ranchi) – announced his retirement – from International Cricket
- 10 centuries – in ODIs | 6 centuries – in Test matches
- MS Dhoni – the only captain in the history of Cricket to win 3 ICC trophies

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**



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

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

**Key Points:**

- Dwayne Bravo (West Indies) – became the 1<sup>st</sup> bowler to take 500 T20 wickets



# Important Days & Dates

1. "International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition" is observed on 23 August. This year the theme is "Confronting Slavery's Legacy of Racism Together". [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- August 23 – "International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition"
- Theme – "Confronting Slavery's Legacy of Racism Together"

2. "International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples" or "World Tribal Day" was observed on August 9. The day is celebrated on August 9<sup>th</sup> every year from 1994, in accordance with the declaration by the United Nations. This year, the theme was "COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience". [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- August 9 – 'International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples' or 'World Tribal Day' (since – 1994)
- Theme – "COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience"
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

3. "International Elephant Day" was recently observed on August 12, 2020. The first International Elephant Day was celebrated in 2012. On the eve of 'World Elephant Day', Prakash Javadekar launched a beta version of the national portal on human-elephant conflict called 'Surakhsya'. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- August 12 – "International Elephant Day" or "World Elephant Day" – since 2012
- Prakash Javadekar launched – 'Surakhsya' portal on human-elephant conflict
- Prakash Javadekar also launched – a booklet on "Best practices of Human-Elephant Conflict Management in India"
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Environment (Constituency – Maharashtra)

4. "Muslim Women's Rights Day" was observed across India on August 1, 2020 to commemorate the first anniversary of the law against instant triple talaq. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- August 1 – 1st "Muslim Women's Rights Day"



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

8. "The International Plastic Bag Free Day" was observed on July 3. The day was created by Zero Waste Europe's Bag Free World with an aim to eliminate the use of single-use plastic bags of the world. The first International Plastic Bag Free Day was observed on 3rd July 2009. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- July 3 – "The International Plastic Bag Free Day" – since 2009

9. "World Biofuel Day" is observed every year on 10<sup>th</sup> August to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels. It has been celebrated by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas since 2015. On this day, a webinar was organized by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, with the theme "Biofuels towards Atmanirbhar Bharat". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 10 – "World Biofuel Day" – celebrated by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (since – 2015)



- Theme of a webinar organized on this day – “Biofuels towards Atmanirbhar Bharat”
- Dharmendra Pradhan – Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Minister of Steel (Madhya Pradesh)

**10.** “World Breastfeeding Week” is celebrated annually during the first week of August (1-7) in over 120 countries around the world. This global campaign was first organised by the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNICEF in 1992. This year, the theme was “Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 1 to 7 – “World Breastfeeding Week” – organised by WABA + WHO + UNICEF – in 1992
- Theme – “Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet”
- HQs of WABA – Penang, Malaysia | Chairperson – Felicity Savage
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- UNICEF HQs – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore

**11.** “World Lion Day” is annually observed on August 10 with an aim to raise awareness and gather support for lion conservation. The ‘Big Cat’ is listed as an endangered species in the IUCN Red List. Asiatic lion is one of the five big cats that are found in India. 'Asiatic Lion Conservation Project' was launched by Environment Ministry in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 10 – “World Lion Day”
- 'Asiatic Lion Conservation Project' launched by – MoEFCC – in 2017

**12.** “World Lung Cancer Day” was observed on August 1 to raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and to highlight the issues that a lack of sufficient research funding can create. On an average it accounts for approximately 2.09 million deaths annually, according to data collected by the World Health Organisation (WHO). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 1 – “World Lung Cancer Day”
- As per the WHO – 2.09 million deaths annually – due to Lung Cancer

**13.** “World Organ Donation Day” is observed every year on August 13. Maharashtra Government has asked all universities in the state to observe Organ Donation Week. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- August 13 – “World Organ Donation Day”
- Maharashtra – asked all universities to observe ‘Organ Donation Week’
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

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

### Key Points:

- August 21– “World Senior Citizen’s Day” – Founded by – Ronald Reagan – in 1988

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

### Key Points:

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

**16.** ‘International Lefthanders Day’ is observed every year on August 13 to celebrate the uniqueness of left-handed people. The day was first observed in 1976 by Dean R Campbell. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- August 13 – ‘International Lefthanders Day’ – since 1976

**17.** ‘Marmik’, a weekly magazine started by Shiv Sena has turned 60 on August 13. Bal Thackeray, along with his brother Shrikant (father of MNS chief Raj Thackeray), launched ‘Marmik’ in 1960. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ‘Marmik’ weekly magazine – started by Shiv Sena – turned 60 on August 13
- Shiv Sena Party – founded by Bal Thackeray – in 1966

**18.** “International Youth Day” was celebrated by the United Nations (UN) on August 12. The first IYD was observed in 2000. The theme for 2020 is ‘Youth Engagement for Global Action’. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- August 12 – International Youth Day – since 2000



- Theme – “Youth Engagement for Global Action”

**19.** 21 August is observed as the “International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism” by UN in order to honor and support the victims and survivors of terrorism and to promote and protect the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**20.** 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ‘Quit India Movement’ was recently observed on August 8, 2020. A function was organised at the Freedom Fighters Memorial at Subbarayana Kere, Mysore, Karnataka. August 8 is observed as ‘August Kranti Day’ too. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 8 – 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ‘Quit India Movement’ + ‘August Kranti Day’

**21.** August 13 is considered as a red-letter day in the history of Manipur and is annually observed as “Patriots’ Day”. It is observed to pay tributes to heroes of Manipur, who fought against the British during Anglo-Manipuri War. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 13 – “Patriots’ Day” – observed by Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**22.** August 19 is observed as “World Photography Day”, which aims to inspire photographers across the world to share a single photo with a simple purpose. World Photo Day originates from the invention of the Daguerreotype, a photographic process developed by Frenchmen Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicéphore Niépce in 1837. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 19 – “World Photography Day”
- Invention of the Daguerreotype – by Louis Daguerre & Joseph Nicéphore Niépce – in 1837

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



**Key Points:**

- August 20 – “World Mosquito Day”

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

**Key Points:**

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

**25.** August 6, 2020 has marked the 75th anniversary of Hiroshima Day. In 1945, on this day, the United States had dropped an atomic bomb in Hiroshima city of Japan. After three days, on August 9, the second bomb was dropped in Nagasaki. The nuclear bomb blasts took the lives of thousands, killing approximately 80,000 people directly. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome), Japan one of the few structures left standing in the city center after the bomb exploded on 6 August 1945. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 6 – 75th Hiroshima Day (USA dropped an atomic bomb in – 1945) | Code name of bomb – “Little Boy”
- August 9 – 75th Nagasaki Day (Code Name – “Fat Man”)
- Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome) – in Japan (UNESCO’s world heritage site)
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Shinzo Abe

**26.** Bangladesh has observed the 44<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of the national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam also known as ‘Bidrohi Kobi’ on August 27. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**



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

**28.** Dr Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated a public health conference as part of the "India Healthcare Week" which was organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) from August 17 – 21, 2020. The theme of the conference was “Redefining Healthcare Ecosystem”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated – a public health conference of “India Healthcare Week” – From August 17 - 21
- The conference organised by – CII
- Theme – “Redefining Healthcare Ecosystem”

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

**Key Points:**

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

**30.** Indians across the nation have commemorated India’s independence from British rule by celebrating its 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on August 15, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 15 – 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



### Key Points:

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

**33.** PM Narendra Modi in his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat', has announced that the month of September will be celebrated as “Poshan Abhiyaan” or “Nutrition Month” across the country. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- September – will be celebrated as “Poshan Abhiyaan” or “Nutrition Month”

**34.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended wishes to all Gujaratis on the occasion of “World Gujarati Day” that was observed on August 24 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the famous Gujarati poet Narmadashankar Dave. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- August 24 – “World Gujarati Day” (the birth anniversary of Gujarati poet – Narmadashankar Dave)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**35.** Puducherry has celebrated its 59<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “De-Jure” day on August 16. Puducherry became independent by virtue of a referendum on October 18, 1954. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Puducherry celebrated – 59<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “De-Jure” day – on August 16
- CM – Velu Narayanasamy | Governor – Dr. Kiran Bedi

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

### Key Points:

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

**37.** Sanskrit Diwas, also known as ‘Vishvasamskritadinam’ (World Sanskrit Day) was celebrated this year on August 3. According to the Hindu calendar, it is celebrated on the poornima (full moon) of the ‘Shravana’ month. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- August 3 – ‘Sanskrit Diwas’ or ‘Vishvasamskritadinam’ (World Sanskrit Day)

**38.** The “World Water Week” or “World Water Week at Home” was observed between August 24-28 this year. It is organized by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). In 2020, the theme will be “Water and Climate Change: Accelerating Action.” [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 24-28 – “World Water Week” or “World Water Week at Home” – organized by SIWI
- Theme – “Water and Climate Change: Accelerating Action”

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**41.** The 11<sup>th</sup> World Humanitarian Day was observed on August 19, to remember the real life heroes who chose humanitarian service in most difficult circumstances. The United Nations General Assembly formalized the day as World Humanitarian Day in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 19 – 11<sup>th</sup> edition of “World Humanitarian Day” – by UNGA – since 2009
- HQs of UNGA – NewYork, USA | President – Volkan Bozkir



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

**Key Points:**

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

**43.** The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has unveiled a new platform to help accelerate global reduction in food loss and waste. The platform will be officially launched on the first International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste on 29 September, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FAO unveiled a new platform – to help accelerate global reduction in food loss and waste
- 29 September 2020 – 1<sup>st</sup> edition of “International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste”
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu

**44.** The Government of India has celebrated the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of “National Handloom day” on August 7. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had declared 7<sup>th</sup> August as the first National Handloom Day in July 2015. It is celebrated to commemorate the Swadeshi Movement which took place in 1905. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 7 – 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of “National Handloom day” (since – 2015)
- Swadeshi Movement took place in – 1905

**45.** The Nagas tribe in Nagaland and parts of Manipur has celebrated the 74<sup>th</sup> “Naga Independence Day” on August 14, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 14 – 74<sup>th</sup> “Naga Independence Day” – celebrated by Nagas tribe in ‘Nagaland’ and parts of ‘Manipur’
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla



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

**Key Points:**

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

**47.** Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a 2-day international webinar on the theme of 'Lokmanya Tilak - Swaraj to Self-reliant India' organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations on the 100th death anniversary of the great freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 1 – 100th death anniversary of 'Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak'
- Amit Shah inaugurated – international webinar on the theme of 'Lokmanya Tilak - Swaraj to Self-reliant India'
- Theme – 'Lokmanya Tilak - Swaraj to Self-reliant India'
- Seminar organized by – Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) – in New Delhi
- HQs of ICCR – New Delhi | DG – Dineshk Patnaik



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



# Meetings, Conferences and Summits

1. "IC-IMPACTS" Annual Research Conference discussed ways of taking the cooperation between India-Canada to the next level by strengthening existing international connections. It will concentrate on STEM at schools. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "IC-IMPACTS" Annual Research Conference – held between India & Canada
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

2. "Naval Commanders Conference-2020" was recently held in New Delhi from August 19 to 21, 2020. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed the opening session of Naval Commanders' Conference-2020. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "Naval Commanders Conference-2020" – held in New Delhi
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

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

## Key Points:

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

4. India and Uzbekistan have held their first meeting of the National Coordination Committee for monitoring implementation of mutually agreed projects between two countries. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- India + Uzbekistan = held their first meeting of 'National Coordination Committee'
- Uzbekistan – Tashkent – So'm



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

**Key Points:**

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

6. Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has addressed a virtual “Indo-Japan Business Forum” from Bengaluru. This forum was organised by Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka CM addressed – a virtual “Indo-Japan Business Forum” – from Bengaluru, Karnataka
- The forum organized by – Indian Chamber of Commerce
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – B S Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal addressed – “ASEAN-India Business Council” (expected target of trade - \$300-billion)
- Piyush Goyal launched – Data Bank of India’s vast land resources – driven by GIS-based platform
- GIS – Geographic Information System



**9.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the inaugural address at the 'Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education' under National Education Policy. The conclave has been organized by Ministry of Education along with the University Grants Commission (UGC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi addressed – 'Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education'
- The conclave organized by = Ministry of Education + UGC
- HQs of UGC – New Delhi | Chairman – Prof D. P. Singh
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**11.** Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has inaugurated the global virtual conference on 'Reimagining and Transforming the University' hosted by OP Jindal Global University (JGU) and International Institute for Higher Education Research and Capacity Building (IIHed) on August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ramesh Pokhriyal inaugurated a global virtual conference on – 'Reimagining and Transforming the University'
- The conference hosted by = OP JGU (Haryana) + IIHed (Haryana)
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

**12.** The 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation was held virtually. India has invited further investments from UAE in key sectors of the economy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**





- 13<sup>th</sup> Session of Joint Commission Meeting on Trade, Economic & Technical Cooperation – between India & UAE
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

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

**Key Points:**

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

**14.** The 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the “India-Vietnam Joint Commission Meeting” on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was held recently via video-conference. India and Vietnam decided to expand their Indo-Pacific partnership. It was co-chaired by India’s External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Binh Minh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the “India-Vietnam Joint Commission Meeting” – participated by Subrahmanyam Jaishankar
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

**15.** The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the National Public Procurement Conclave (NPPC), organised by GeM (Government e-Marketplace), in association with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was inaugurated online by Piyush Goyal to coincide with the anniversary of GeM Establishment Day on August 9, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal inaugurated – the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the National Public Procurement Conclave
- It was organised by = GeM + CII
- August 9 – GeM Establishment Day
- CII HQs – New Delhi | President – Uday Kotak | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee



**16.** The 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the BRICS Anti-Drug Working Group comprising of Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa and India was held on August 12. The Indian delegation was led by Rakesh Asthana (Director General of Narcotics Control Bureau). The session was chaired by Russia this year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the BRICS Anti-Drug Working Group – chaired by Russia
- Indian delegation – Rakesh Asthana (Director General of Narcotics Control Bureau)
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**17.** The 51<sup>st</sup> edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will be held in Goa in the last week of November. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 51<sup>st</sup> International Film Festival of India – to be held in Goa – in the last week of November
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

**21.** Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari has addressed "India@75 Summit: Mission 2022" organised by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). He has emphasised upon improving MSME footprint in 115 aspirational districts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari addressed – "India@75 Summit : Mission 2022" – organized by CII
- To improve MSME footprint – in 115 aspirational districts
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- CII HQs – New Delhi | President – Uday Kotak | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee



# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

1. 5 officers of Gujarat Police are among the 121 from across India who were awarded with Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Union Home Minister's "Medal for Excellence in Investigation-2020" – awarded to total 121 police personnel
- Ministry of Home Affairs – Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

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

## Key Points:

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

3. A group of researchers from IIT Kharagpur has conferred the 'Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020' for developing a mechanism for generating electricity from wet clothes left under sunlight to dry. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur – conferred with the 'Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Awards 2020'

4. Chief Scientist of World Health Organisation (WHO), Soumya Swaminathan was conferred with the "Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Special Award" on the 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebration. It is given in recognition of her advisory role in combating the COVID-19 pandemic in the state. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Soumya Swaminathan (a WHO Scientist) – conferred with the "Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Special Award"
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

5. Legendary South African all-rounder Jaques Kallis, Pakistan batting great Zaheer Abbas and Pune-born former Australian captain Lisa Sthalekar have been inducted into the "International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame" in a virtual ceremony. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Jaques Kallis + Zaheer Abbas + Lisa Sthalekar = inducted into the "ICC's Hall of Fame"



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

**Key Points:**

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

7. National Award-winning documentary "Son Rise" and Geetu Mohandas-directed "Moothon" have won the awards at the 20<sup>th</sup> New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF). The award for the Best Documentary (Short) has been won by Saurav Vishnu-directed "Tailing Pond". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Son Rise" (documentary) + "Moothon" (film) – won 20<sup>th</sup> New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF)
- "Moothon" – a Malayalam film – directed by Geetu Mohandas
- "Tailing Pond" (directed by Saurav Vishnu) – won the award for 'Best Documentary (Short)'

8. Nitin Sethi has been declared winner of the "Asian College of Journalism's Award" for investigative journalism and Shiv Sahay Singh has been declared winner of the "K P Narayana Kumar Memorial Award" for social impact journalism. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Sethi – winner of the "Asian College of Journalism's Award"
- Shiv Sahay Singh – winner of the "K P Narayana Kumar Memorial Award"



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

**Key Points:**

- Satyendra Singh Lohia – 1<sup>st</sup> Divyanga Indian sportsperson awarded with 'Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award'
- 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Divyang swimmer to cross the 42-km Catalina Channel (USA) – in 11 hours 34 minutes
- Satyendra Singh Lohia – Para-swimmer – from Madhya Pradesh
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

**10.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the "AatmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge". The challenge had entries for 9 different categories. In the Social category, Chingari emerged as the top winner. In the Business category, the top 3 winners were Zoho Invoice, Books & Expense; Mall 91. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi launched – "AatmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge"
- 'Chingari' app – winner in 'Social category'
- Zoho Invoice + Books & Expense + Mall 91 = winners in Business category

**11.** Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) NLC India Ltd (NLCIL) has won the 'Swachhta Hi Seva' (cleanliness is service) 2019 award, for transforming Neyveli township into a plastic-free, clean and green campus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NLC India Ltd – won the 'Swachhta Hi Seva' (cleanliness is service) 2019 award
- [HQs of NLC India Ltd – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Chairman & MD – Sarat Kumar Acharya](#)

**12.** Pune-based Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) has won the first prize in the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2020, a national-level digital product building competition. DIAT's team of 6 members provided a solution titled "DRISHTI" to recognise face, expression and gesture using artificial intelligence (AI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DIAT won the first prize in – Smart India Hackathon (SIH)-2020
- DIAT's team of 6 members provided – "DRISHTI" to recognise face, expression and gesture using AI
- [HQs of DIAT – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairperson – C. P. Ramanarayanan](#)



**13.** Solapur based social activist Ganesh Vilas Lengare has been awarded the “Star 2020 Certificate” by the World Book of Records, London. The organisation, found in 2017, honours personalities for their outstanding contribution towards humanity and universal peace. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ganesh Vilas Lengare – awarded the “Star 2020 Certificate” by the World Book of Records (London)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**14.** Sports Minister Kiren Rijju has announced a massive hike in the prize money in 4 of the 7 categories of the National Sports and Adventure Awards. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**16.** The first-ever “Pallikkutam National Award for Innovation in Education” has been won by St Christopher School, Chessore Village, Nagaland. The award is instituted by ‘Rajagiri Media’ and sponsored under the ‘CSR initiative of Federal Bank’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- “Pallikkutam National Award for Innovation in Education” – won by St Christopher School – located in Nagaland
- The award instituted by – Rajagiri Media & sponsored by – CSR initiative of Federal Bank
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi

**17.** The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been awarded the 'Food System Vision Prize' for its 'Eat Right India' movement's vision for 2050. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FSSAI – received 'Food System Vision Prize' – For its 'Eat Right India' movement's vision – For 2050
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatonia

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**20.** The Indian Express journalist Dipankar Ghose has won the “Prem Bhatia Award” for political reporting for his work on issues related to the Covid-19 pandemic, including the migrant labour crisis. And People’s Archive of Rural India (PARI), a non-profit journalism website has won ‘Outstanding Environmental Reporting of the Year 2020’. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- Dipankar Ghose (The Indian Express journalist) – won “Prem Bhatia Award” – For Political reporting
- PARI – won “Prem Bhatia Award” – For Environmental reporting

**21.** The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has announced the winners of its 'Online Short Film Contest' where Abhijit Paul's short film “Am I?” has won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize. This contest was organised by I&B Ministry along with National Film Development Corporation (NFDC). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Abhijit Paul's “Am I?” short film – won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize – in 'Online Short Film Contest'
- The contest was organized by = I&B Ministry + NFDC
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Constituency – Maharashtra)

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

### Key Points:

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

**23.** Uttar Pradesh government will set up industrial parks for MSMEs in 6 of its most industrialised districts. The state government has also started work on a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed 601 km-long Ganga Expressway between Meerut and Prayagraj. It is north India’s longest expressway. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – will set up industrial parks for MSMEs – in 6 of its most industrialised districts
- Uttar Pradesh – started work on DPR for the ‘601 km-long Ganga Expressway’ – between Meerut & Prayagraj
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**24.** Water technology major “Va Tech Wabag” has won the prestigious “Global Water Award” for its 45 million litres a day Tertiary Treatment Reverse Osmosis (TTRO) plant at Koyambedu in Chennai. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Va Tech Wabag – won “Global Water Award” – For its 45 million Lt./day TTRO Plant at Chennai, TN



- HQs of Va Tech Wabag – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Rajiv Mittal



# Appointments & Resignations

1. A longtime authoritarian leader of Belarus, Alexander Grigoryevich Lukashenko has won his sixth consecutive Presidential Election. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Alexander Grigoryevich Lukashenko – won the Presidential Elections of – Belarus
- Belarus – Minsk – Ruble | PM – Siarhiey Rumas

2. Isher Judge Ahluwalia has stepped down as chairperson of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). Pramod Bhasin will now be the new chairman. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Isher Judge Ahluwalia – resigned as the Chairperson of – ICRIER
- Pramod Bhasin – appointed as the Chairperson of – ICRIER
- HQs of ICRIER – New Delhi | Chairman – Pramod Bhasin

3. Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari has taken charge as the commander-in-chief of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command (WAC). He has succeeded Air Marshal B Suresh. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Vivek Ram Chaudhari – took charge as the commander-in-chief of – Western Air Command of IAF
- IAF Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

4. Aligarh Municipal Corporation (AMC) has recently appointed Indian Idol Season 11 Finalist and Oscar Nominated Playback Singer 'Shahzan Mujeeb' as its First Ever National Brand Ambassador for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan Campaign at National and International level. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Shahzan Mujeeb – appointed as the 1<sup>st</sup> Ever National Brand Ambassador – of Aligarh Municipal Corporation
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

5. Ashish Bhatia, IPS officer of 1985 batch and current police commissioner of Ahmedabad city, has been appointed as the Gujarat Director General of Police (DGP). Bhatia replaced Shivanand Jha, who has retired from service. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Ashish Bhatia – appointed as the DGP of – Gujarat (by replacing – Shivanand Jha)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**6.** Capital India Finance Limited has announced the appointment of Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala as the Executive Chairman. He was the former Chairman of NABARD. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala – appointed as the Executive Chairman of – Capital India Finance Limited
- He is Former Chairman of – NABARD
- HQs of CIFL – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vineet Saxena | Executive Chairman – Harsh Kumar Bhanwala

**7.** DBS Bank India has announced the appointment of Prashant Joshi as Managing Director and Head of National Distribution. Earlier, Prashant Joshi was Chief Operating Officer at IndoStar Capital Finance. He will replace Surojit Shome. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prashant Joshi – to be appointed as the MD & Head of – DBS Bank India (by replacing - Surojit Shome)
- HQs of DBS Group – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta
- HQs of DBS bank India – Mumbai | CEO – Prashant Joshi

**8.** Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa has resigned recently in August to join the Philippines-based Asian Development Bank (ADB) as vice-president. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashok Lavasa – resigned from the post of Election Commissioner of India (He will now join ADB)
- Chief Election Commissioner – Sunil Arora (23<sup>rd</sup>)

**9.** Electric mobility startup 'eBikeGO' has appointed Indian cricketer Harbhajan Singh as its Brand Ambassador. eBikeGO provides electric bikes on rental to individual commuters. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Harbhajan Singh (Cricket) – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of – eBikeGO
- HQs of eBikeGO – Amritsar, Punjab | Founder & CEO – Irfan Khan



**10.** Five months after a general election, the opposition candidate Mohamed Irfaan Ali has been sworn in as Guyana's president. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mohamed Irfaan Ali – sworn in as the President of – Guyana
- Brigadier Mark Phillips – sworn in as the Prime Minister of – Guyana
- Guyana – Georgetown – Guyanese Dollar

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

**Key Points:**

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

**12.** Former Jammu & Kashmir Governor Girish Chandra Murmu (1985 batch IAS officer of Gujarat cadre) has been appointed as the 14<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Auditor General. He will succeed Rajiv Mehrishi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Girish Chandra Murmu – appointed as the 14<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Auditor General (CAG)
- He replaced – Rajiv Mehrishi

**13.** Former RBI deputy governor 'Subhash Sheoratan Mundra' has been appointed as the Non-Executive Chairman of Indiabulls Housing Finance (IBH) with immediate effect. He will replace Sameer Gehlaut. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S S Mundra – appointed as the Non-Executive Chairman of – Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd
- HQs of IBH – Gurugram, Haryana

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

**Key Points:**



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

**15.** GoAir has appointed Kaushik Khona as its new Chief Executive Officer. Khona will replace Vinay Dube. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kaushik Khona – appointed as the CEO of – GoAir (by replacing – Vinay Dube)
- HQs of GoAir – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Kaushik Khona

**16.** Gujarat government has announced a 6 months extension for the senior bureaucrat and state Chief Secretary Anil Mukim. The 1985 batch IAS officer who took over as CS in December 2019 was set to retire on August 30. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anil Mukim – got an extension of 6 months as the Chief Secretary of – Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**17.** Harmanpreet Kaur (the captain of the Indian squad at the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in 2020) and Suresh Raina, have been appointed as Global Brand Ambassadors of Win Trade Fantasy Sports (WTF). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Harmanpreet Kaur + Suresh Raina (both Cricketer) – appointed as Global Brand Ambassadors of – WTF Sports

**18.** India's K N Ananthapadmanabhan has been included in ICC's international panel of umpires after Nitin Menon's promotion to the elite panel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K N Ananthapadmanabhan (Kerala) – included in ICC's international panel of umpires
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**19.** Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) board has accepted resignation of MD & CEO Rajiv Srivastava. The company has given the additional charge of Managing Director and CEO to Satyanarayan Goel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajiv Srivastava – resigned from the post of MD & CEO – of IEX



- Satyanarayan Goel – given additional charge as the MD & CEO – of IEX
- HQs of IEX – New Delhi | Interim MD & CEO – Satyanarayan Goel

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

**Key Points:**

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

**21.** Lebanon's Prime Minister Hassan Diab has announced the resignation in the wake of Beirut port explosion that triggered protests and international outrage. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hassan Diab – resigned from the post of Prime Minister of – Lebanon
- Lebanon – Beirut – Lebanese Pound | President – Michel Aoun

**22.** Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari will hold additional charge as the Governor of Goa and succeed Satya Pal Malik. And President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Satya Pal Malik as the Governor of Meghalaya. Satya Pal Malik has replaced Tathagata Roy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhagat Singh Koshyari – additional charge as the Governor of Goa (by replacing – Satya Pal Malik)
- Satya Pal Malik – appointed as the Governor of Meghalaya (by replacing – Tathagata Roy)
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

**23.** Mali's President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has resigned from his post after detention by mutinous soldiers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ibrahim Boubacar – resigned from the post of President of – Mali
- Mali – Bamako – CFA franc



**24.** Mauritanian Prime Minister Ismail Ould Bedda Ould Cheikh Sidiya has recently resigned. Mohamed Ould Bilal has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Mauritania. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ould Bedda Ould Cheikh Sidiya – resigned as the PM of – Mauritania
- Mohamed Ould Bilal – appointed as the PM of – Mauritania
- Mauritania – Nouakchott – Ouguiya

**25.** Nigerian Economist Akinwumi Adesina is re-elected for his second 5-year term as President of African Development Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**26.** PNB Housing Finance has appointed Hardayal Prasad as its new MD and CEO. He is the former SBI Card head. Currently, Neeraj Vyas was serving as the interim chief of PNB Housing Finance. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hardayal Prasad (former SBI Card head) – appointed as the MD & CEO of – PNB Housing Finance
- HQs of PNBHF – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Hardayal Prasad | Tag Line – Ghar Ki Baat

**27.** Pradeep Kumar Joshi has been appointed as the chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) till April 4, 2022. He has replaced Arvind Saxena after his retirement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pradeep Kumar Joshi – appointed as the chairman of – UPSC (by replacing – Arvind Saxena)
- HQs of UPSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar Joshi

**28.** President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed former Union minister 'Manoj Sinha' as the next Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir. He will replace Girish Chandra Murmu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manoj Sinha – appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of – J & K (by replacing – G C Murmu)





- J &K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

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

**Key Points:**

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

**30.** Renowned scientist G Satheesh Reddy has been given 2-year extension as the Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). He was appointed to the post in August 2018 for 2 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- G Satheesh Reddy – given 2-year extension as the Chairman of – DRDO
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

**31.** Retired IAS officer Utpal Kumar Singh has been appointed as Secretary in Lok Sabha with effect from September 1. The appointment was approved by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Prakash Birla on August 28. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**33.** Senior IAS officer Rajesh Kumar was appointed as the new chief secretary of Manipur. He will replace J Suresh Babu. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Rajesh Kumar – appointed as the new chief secretary of – Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**34.** Senior IPS Officer P S Ranpise has been appointed as the Inspector General (IG) of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). He belongs to Odisha Cadre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- P S Ranpise – appointed as the IG – of CRPF
- HQs of CRPF – New Delhi | Director – Anand Prakash Maheshwari

**35.** Soma Mondal has been selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board as the next chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). The current chairman of SAIL Anil Chaudhary who will retire at the end of 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Soma Mondal – selected as the next chairman of – SAIL
- HQs of SAIL – New Delhi | CEO – Anil Kumar Chaudhary (till the end of 2020)

**36.** Sports eyewear brand 'Oakley' has appointed Indian cricketer Rohit Sharma as its Brand Ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rohit Sharma – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of – 'Oakley' a Sports eyewear brand
- HQs of Oakley – California, USA | CEO – James Jannard

**37.** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has extended the tenure of Shri Ajay Tyagi as Chairman of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) by a further period of 18 months up to 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ajay Tyagi – tenure extended as the Chairman of SEBI – by 18 months or upto Feb, 2022
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi



**38.** The Centre has appointed Gujarat cadre IPS officer - Rakesh Asthana as the new Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF). Currently, DG of ITBP S S Deswal was holding the additional charge of BSF since March this year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rakesh Asthana – appointed as the Director General of – BSF
- HQs of BSF – New Delhi | Director General (DG) – Rakesh Asthana

**39.** The Centre has appointed S. N. Rajeswari as the Chairman and Managing Director of Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. Earlier, Rajeswari was General Manager at New India Assurance Company Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. N. Rajeswari – appointed as the Chairman & MD of Oriental Insurance Company (HQs – New Delhi)
- Earlier She was GM of – New India Assurance Company (HQs – Mumbai)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**41.** The Haryana government has appointed international wrestler Babita Phogat and Kabaddi player Kavita Devi as deputy directors in its Sports and Youth Affairs Department. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana appointed – Babita Phogat (Wrestling) & Kavita Devi (Kabaddi) – as Deputy Directors (sports)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**42.** The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan as the next managing director of HDFC Bank with an immediate effect. He will succeed veteran Aditya Puri. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sashidhar Jagdishan – appointed as the next MD of HDFC Bank (by replacing - Aditya Puri)
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | New CEO & MD – Sashidhar Jagdishan



- Chairman of HDFC Ltd. – Deepak Parekh

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**46.** Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi has assumed charge as the Director General Naval Operations (DGNO). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dinesh K Tripathi – assumed charge as the Director General of – Director General Naval Operations (DGNO)

**47.** Walter Roger Martos Ruiz has sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Peru and replaced Pedro Cateriano. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Walter Roger Martos Ruiz – sworn in as the new Prime Minister of – Peru (by replacing - Pedro Cateriano)
- Peru – Lima – Sol | President – Martin Vizcarra



# Amount & Agreements

1. A Historic Peace Agreement namely 'Abraham Accord' has been signed between Israel and UAE. This first peace treaty between Israel and an Arab nation since 1994 has profound, perdurable implications for both countries and for the U.S. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- A Historic Peace Agreement namely 'Abraham Accord' has been signed between – Israel & UAE
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

2. Any entity with a net worth of at least Rs 250 crore is eligible for obtaining the liberalised licence to sell petrol and diesel to either bulk or retail consumers & a minimum net worth of Rs 500 crore for those seeking authorisation for both retail and bulk. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Net worth of at least Rs 250 Cr – for the licence to sell petrol, diesel to either retail OR bulk consumers
- Net worth of at least Rs 500 Cr – for the licence to sell petrol, diesel to both retail and bulk consumers

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

## Key Points:

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

4. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has launched the 'Delhi Electric Vehicle Policy' under which his government will waive registration fee and road tax, and provide incentive of up to ₹1.5 lakh for new electric cars in the national capital. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:



- Delhi launched 'Electric Vehicle Policy' – an incentive of up to ₹1.5 lakh for new Electric Car
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

5. Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has committed \$25 million to expand Unified Champion Schools (UCS) to six countries - India, Argentina, Egypt, Pakistan, Romania and Rwanda. It will help empower intellectually disabled children. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Abu Dhabi committed \$25 million – to expand 'Unified Champion Schools' (UCS) to 6 countries
- Crown Prince of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi – Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

6. Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended a USD 250-million (about Rs 1,870 crore) line of credit (LOC) to Mozambique for improving power supply quality in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Exim Bank – extended a USD 250-million (about Rs 1,870 Cr) – to Mozambique
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai | Chairman & MD – TC Venkat Subramanian
- Mozambique – Maputo – Mozambican metical

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

**Key Points:**

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

8. India and Maldives have signed a contract for development of 5 Eco-Tourism Zones in Addu atoll of the island nation. These eco tourism zones are part of grant projects being implemented under the High-Impact Community Development project (HICDP) scheme which involves a total grant assistance of \$5.5 million to the Maldives. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Maldives = to develop 5 Eco-Tourism Zones in Addu atoll



- Total grant assistance of \$5.5 million – to the Maldives – under HICDP Scheme
- [Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih](#)

**9.** India has announced \$500 million assistance for major connectivity project in Maldives. The 6.7 km Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP) will be the largest civilian infrastructure project in Maldives. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India announced \$500 million assistance – to Maldives – For 6.7 km Greater Male Connectivity Project
- [Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih](#)

**10.** India has extended an assistance of \$1 million to Antigua & Barbuda to combat & COVID-19 outbreak. This assistance is aimed at improving health infrastructure and capacities in Antigua and Barbuda. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India extended an assistance of \$1 million – to ‘Antigua & Barbuda’
- [Antigua & Barbuda – Saint John’s – Eastern Caribbean Dollar](#)

**11.** India has extended Line of Credit worth \$18 million to the Government of Maldives for the expansion of fishing facilities at Maldives Industrial Fisheries Company (MIFCO). It is part of the 800 million US dollars line of credit offered by India with repayment tenor of 20 years and a 5-year moratorium. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India extended Line of Credit – worth \$18 million – to Maldives – For the expansion of fishing facilities
- [Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih](#)

**12.** India has granted the 4<sup>th</sup> tranche of USD 5 million to Myanmar for three year of India-Myanmar Border Area Development. In 2012, then PM Manmohan Singh had signed an MoU on “India-Myanmar Border Area Development”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India granted the 4<sup>th</sup> tranche of USD 5 million to Myanmar – for ‘India-Myanmar Border Area Development’
- An MoU on “India-Myanmar Border Area Development” was signed in – 2012 – by Manmohan Singh
- [Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint](#)



**13.** India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador T S Tirumurti handed over a cheque of \$15.46 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund to support developing nations in their developmental priorities across all the Sustainable Development Goals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India contributed \$15.46 million – to the 'India-UN Development Partnership Fund'
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador – T S Tirumurti
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

**14.** International Finance Corporation (IFC) has committed to invest \$10 million (Rs 75 Cr) in Endiya Partners-II. Endiya Partners invests in intellectual property led Indian product startups that are globally relevant. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IFC – to invest \$10 million (Rs 75 Cr) – in Endiya Partners-II
- HQs of IFC – Washington, D.C., USA | Head of IFC India – Jun Zhang
- HQs of Endiya Partners – Hyderabad, Telangana | MD – Ramesh Byrapaneni & Sateesh Andra

**15.** Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) has signed an MoA (Memorandum of Association) with Uttar Pradesh for construction of 2 Modular Operation Theatre Rooms in the District Hospital, Siddharthnagar. PFC will provide financial assistance of Rs 94 lakh under its CSR initiative. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PFC + Uttar Pradesh = an MoU for construction of 2 Modular Operation Theatre Rooms in Siddharthnagar
- Financial assistance of – Rs 94 lakh by PFC
- HQs of PFC – New Delhi | CMD – Ravinder Singh Dhillon
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

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

**Key Points:**

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





**17.** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 1 billion (about Rs 7,485 crore) loan to support the construction of the modern & first of its kind High-speed Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB approved – \$1 billion (about Rs 7,485 Cr) – to support the construction of High-speed Delhi-Meerut RRTS
- RRTS – Regional Rapid Transit System
- ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

**18.** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a \$200 million financing deal with Reliance Power to build and operate a 718 megawatt combined-cycle gas-fired power plant in Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB + Reliance Power = \$200 million agreement – to build a 718 megawatt Power plant – in Bangladesh
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | VP – Ashok Lavasa
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

**19.** The Central Board of the RBI has approved the transfer of Rs 57,128 Cr as dividend to the Central Government for the accounting year 2019-20 and decided to maintain the Contingency Risk Buffer at 5.5%. This followed the recommendation by the panel headed by former RBI governor Bimal Jalan which was set up by RBI in 2018 to recommend a formula for the sharing of its profits with the government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI approved the transfer of Rs 57,128 crore as dividend – to the Central Government
- RBI decided to maintain – Contingency Risk Buffer – at 5.5%
- The panel constituted to transfer this surplus fund is headed by – Bimal Jalan
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

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

**Key Points:**

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



**21.** The European Union (EU) has decided to provide 1.65 million Euro in humanitarian aid in response to severe flooding that has affected South Asia most notably Bangladesh, India and Nepal. A further 500,000 euro will be used in India to provide food and livelihood assistance. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EU – to provide 1.65 million Euro – as a humanitarian aid in response to severe flooding in South Asia
- Further assistance of 5,00,000 Euro will be provided to – India
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | President – Ursula von der Leyen | Member Countries – 27

**22.** The Goa government has signed a tri-partite agreement to carry out world-class German dual vocational education and training in the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) of the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Goa – to carry out German dual Vocational Education & Training – in the ITIs
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

**23.** The Government of India, the Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) signed a loan agreement for a \$500 million Mumbai Urban Transport Project-III to improve network capacity of Mumbai Suburban Rail. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GoI + Maharashtra + AIIB = agreement for \$500 million – to improve network capacity of Mumbai Suburban Rail
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of AIIB – Beijing, China | President – Jin Lique

**24.** The government of the United Kingdom has announced a £3 million (\$3.9 million) “Innovation Challenge Fund 2020” in India for ideas from academicians, researchers and startups on COVID-19 and climate change. The fund has been divided into two parts – £1.5 million to Maharashtra & £1.5 million to Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UK announced – £3 million (\$3.9 million) “Innovation Challenge Fund 2020” – in India
- £1.5 million – to Maharashtra & £1.5 million – to Karnataka
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson



- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**25.** The RBI has decided to provide additional Special Liquidity Facility of Rs 10,000 crore (Rs 5000 Cr each) to National Housing Bank (NHB) and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI will provide additional Special Liquidity Facility of Rs 10,000 crore – to NHB + NABARD
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)
- HQs of NHB – New Delhi | Chairman – Sarada Kumar Hota
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu

**26.** The Union government has granted investment clearance to 6 irrigation, flood control and multipurpose projects worth ₹7,922.69 crore for Himachal Pradesh during the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Investment Clearance Committee (ICC) held in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Investment Clearance Committee – held in New Delhi
- An Investment Clearance of ₹ 7,922.69 Cr – to Himachal Pradesh – For 6 Flood control & multipurpose projects
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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



# Ranks, Reports & Surveys

1. "Dholes" play an important role as apex predators in forest ecosystems. The study reports that Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh ranked very high on the priority scale, and are adequately equipped to maintain endangered dhole's population in India by increasing prey densities and reducing pressures on forests. In India, the first conservation breeding center for dhole was built at the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Andhra Pradesh (IGZP) in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Karnataka + Maharashtra + MP = ranked very high in maintaining endangered Dhole's population in India
- The 1st conservation breeding center for dhole in India – built at the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park (in AP)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

2. According to Business Confidence Index (BCI) released by National Council of Applied Economic Research's (NCAER), Business sentiment across Indian industry fell to its lowest level in the Q1 of 2020 since 1991 with a massive 62% decline from the last year. The index fell 40.1% over the last quarter of FY20. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 'Business Confidence Index' – released by NCAER
- The Index fell 40.1% – over the last quarter of FY20 (62% decline from the last year)
- HQs of NCAER – New Delhi | DG – Shekhar Shah

3. As per Bloomberg Billionaire Index data as on August 8, 2020, Reliance Industries Chairman and MD Mukesh Ambani has become the world's 4<sup>th</sup> richest person. Ambani's net worth went up by \$326 million to \$80.2 billion (Rs 6.04 lakh crore). He has surpassed Bernard Arnault. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "World's Richest Persons List" – as per the Bloomberg Billionaires Index (on August 8, 2020)
- Mukesh Ambani – 4<sup>th</sup> – \$80.2 billion | Topped by – Jeff Bezos (USA)

4. According the report titled "Youth and COVID-19: Impacts on Jobs, Education, Rights and Mental Well-being" published by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the COVID-19 crisis is having a devastating effect on the education and training of young people with more than 70%. The survey found that 50% of young people are possibly subject to anxiety or depression, while a further 17% are probably affected by it. About 42% of



those who have continued to work have seen their incomes reduced. And 38% of young people are uncertain of their future career prospects. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

6. According to a recent RBI survey, the confidence of consumers in the Indian economy has dropped to a historic low of 53.8 in the latest survey round (July 2020) from the 63.7 recorded in May 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- As per Consumer Confidence Survey by RBI – Consumer Index in July – 53.8 (from 63.7 in May)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

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

**Key Points:**

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



**8.** According to a survey by the NCERT, at least 27% students do not have access to smartphones or laptops to attend online classes, while 28% students and parents believe intermittent or lack of electricity is one of the major concerns hindering teaching-learning. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According NCERT – at least 27% students do not have access to smartphones or laptops to attend online class
- 28% students and parents believe intermittent or lack of electricity
- [HQs of NCERT – New Delhi | Director – Hrushikesh Senapaty](#)

**9.** According to an annual rankings released by Forbes magazine, Dwayne Johnson has topped the list of the "World's Highest-paid Male Actors-2020" for a second straight year with earnings of \$87.5 million. Akshay Kumar has ranked the sixth place with earnings of \$48.5 million. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The list of "World's Highest-paid Male Actors-2020"
- Topped by – Dwayne Johnson (American-Canadian) – \$87.5 million | Akshay Kumar – 6<sup>th</sup> – \$48.5 million
- [HQs of FORBES – Jersey City, New Jersey](#)

**10.** According to the 3rd edition of the report "Elephants. Not commodities" released by World Animal Protection on the occasion of 'World Elephant Day' on August 12, India is home to the second highest number of elephants used in tourism in Asia and the report has also found that 45% (225 out of total 509) of the elephants were kept in 'severely inadequate conditions'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 3rd edition of the report "Elephants. Not commodities" – released by 'World Animal Protection'
- India – home to the 2nd highest number of elephants used in tourism in Asia
- According to report – 45% (225) Elephants are kept in "severely inadequate conditions"

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

**Key Points:**

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



**12.** According to the ranking of the states released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Odisha has secured first position by scoring 85.67% in implementation of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rankings of the states in 'AMRUT' Scheme – released by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Odisha | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Chandigarh | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Telangana
- AMRUT – Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation
- AMRUT – launched by PM Narendra Modi – in June 2015
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**15.** Africa has been declared free from Wild Polio by the independent body, the Africa Regional Certification Commission which is responsible to report to the WHO. The disease is now only found in Afghanistan and Pakistan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Africa has been declared – free from 'Wild Polio' – by the WHO





**16.** Around 23.8 million more children and youth (from pre-primary to tertiary) could drop out or not have access to school in 2021 due to the pandemic's economic impact alone, as per the UN's report titled "Policy Brief: Education during COVID-19 and beyond". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- As per UN: around 23.8 million more children & youth – could drop out or not have access to school – in 2021
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

**17.** As many as 41 lakh youth in India have lost jobs due to the Covid-19 pandemic according to a report titled "Tackling the Covid-19 youth employment crisis in Asia and the Pacific" jointly released by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Tackling the Covid-19 youth employment crisis in Asia and the Pacific" report – released by ADB + ILO
- According to report – "41 lakh youth" in India have lost their jobs due to Covid19
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder
- ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**



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

**20.** As per the annual report of RBI for the year 2019-20, Bank frauds of Rs 1 lakh and above have more than doubled in 2019-20 period to Rs 1.85 trillion from Rs 71,543 crore in 2018-19 period, up 159%. A total number of fraud cases have risen 28% to 8,707 in 2019-20 from 6,799 in 2018-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bank frauds of Rs 1 lakh and above – to Rs 1.85 trillion in 2019-20 | Rs 71,543 crore in 2018-19 (up 159%)
- Number of fraud cases risen – 28% (8,707 from 6,799)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**21.** As per the latest study by IIT Delhi, Antibiotic-resistant 'priority pathogens' were found in Yamuna water. These pathogens were listed as critical and multidrug-resistant bacteria by World Health Organisation (WHO) report that was red-flagged in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- As per the study by IIT Delhi – ‘Pathogens’ listed as critical by WHO – were found in Yamuna river
- Yamuna River originates from – Uttarakhand (the second-largest tributary river of the Ganga)
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

**22.** As per the report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), global remittances may fall by \$108.6 billion in 2020 if the economic impact of Covid-19 persists throughout the year. This is equivalent to an 18.3% decline from what would have been expected without the impact of Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- As per ADB’s report – global remittances may fall by - \$108.6 billion (18.3% decline) in 2020 {Assumption}
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | VP – Ashok Lavasa

**23.** As per the report of a high-level expert group (HLEG) set up by the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, India’s agricultural exports could grow from \$40 billion to \$70 billion within a few years, adding up to 10 million jobs in the process. Sanjiv Puri is the chairman of HLEG. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- As per the report of HLEG set up by 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission – India’s agricultural exports to grow to \$70 Bn
- Chairman of the HLEG – Sanjiv Puri
- Present Chairman of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission – Nand Kishore Singh (N K Singh)

**24.** As per the report released by the WHO & UNICEF, around 818 million children across the world are lacking basic hand-washing facilities in their schools, making them prone to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to WHO & UNICEF – 818 million children are lacking basic hand-washing facilities in their schools
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- UNICEF HQs – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore

**25.** Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries has jumped 10 places to come into the world's top 100 companies on the Fortune Global 500 list. It is ranked 96<sup>th</sup> in the 2020 ranking released by Fortune. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Reliance Industries (96<sup>th</sup>) – entered the list of world's top 100 companies on the “Fortune Global 500 List”
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

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

**Key Points:**

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

**27.** Haryana government will soon launch a 'Sero-Survey' in the state to gauge the penetration of COVID-19 in the population and monitor its transmission trend. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- Haryana to launch – 'Sero-Survey' to gauge the penetration of COVID-19
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**28.** Highlighting road safety measures taken by the country, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said that India aims to achieve Zero Road Fatalities by 2030. The minister stated that under Indian Road Safety Assessment Programme, 21,000 km roads have been assessed and about 3,000 km road length is under technological upgradation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to achieve Zero Road Fatalities – by 2030
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)

**29.** IIT Madras has emerged as the best institute under the institute of National Importance category in Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2020 released by vice president Venkaiah Naidu. For the first time, ARIIA 2020 has a special prize category for 'women' only higher educational institutions. And the winners of this category were "Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women" (Tamil Nadu) & "Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2020" – released by M. Venkaiah Naidu
- IIT Madras – the best institute under the institute of National Importance category

**30.** India has ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the number of organic farmers and 9<sup>th</sup> in terms of area under organic farming. Sikkim became the first state to become fully organic. The Government initiated Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCD-NER) and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India ranked – 1<sup>st</sup> in terms of 'number of organic farmers' & 9<sup>th</sup> in terms of 'area under organic farming'
- 'MOVCD-NER' & 'PKVY' initiated in – 2015
- Sikkim – the 1<sup>st</sup> state to become fully organic
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

**31.** Mukesh Ambani's oil-to-telecom conglomerate Reliance Industries (RIL) has been ranked second most valuable brand after Apple on the FutureBrand Index 2020. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- “FutureBrand Index 2020” list of most valuable brands
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Apple | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Reliance Industries | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Samsung

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

### Key Points:

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

**33.** Niti Aayog in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness released the 1<sup>st</sup> “Export Preparedness Index (EPI)-2020”. Gujarat has topped the list followed by Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu in the second and third place respectively. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Niti Aayog + Institute of Competitiveness = released the 1<sup>st</sup> “Export Preparedness Index (EPI)-2020”
- Rankings: 1<sup>st</sup> – Gujarat | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Maharashtra | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Tamil Nadu
- HQs of Institute of Competitiveness – Gurugram, Haryana
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**34.** Over 15 crore loans amounting to ₹4.78-lakh-crore have been disbursed to women borrowers under "Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana" (PMMY). Tamil Nadu has topped the list in availing the loan under this scheme followed by women in West Bengal and Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Over 15 Cr loans amounting to ₹4.78 lakh Cr disbursed to women – under "Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana"
- State-wise disbursing: 1<sup>st</sup> – Tamil Nadu | 2<sup>nd</sup> – West Bengal | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Karnataka
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit



**35.** Punjab has achieved 1<sup>st</sup> rank in operationalisation of Health & Wellness Centers (HWCs) as per the latest ranking of states released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. This scheme was launched in the state in the year 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab achieved – 1<sup>st</sup> rank in operationalisation of Health & Wellness Centers – released by MoHFW
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**38.** The report of Niti Aayog Task Force on “Sugarcane and Sugar Industry”, headed by Ramesh Chand, has recommended linking sugarcane prices to sugar rates to keep the industry in sound financial health. It has also pitched for a one-time increase in minimum sugar price to Rs 33 per kilo to help sugar mills cover the cost of production. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The report of Niti Aayog Task Force on “Sugarcane and Sugar Industry” – recommended linking sugarcane prices to sugar rates
- The Task Force is headed by – Ramesh Chand



- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**41.** Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has released 2 reports - 'Status of Sex Ratio at Birth in India' & 'Elderly Population in India: Status and Support Systems', brought out by the Indian Association of Parliamentarians for Population and Development (IAPPD). Prof. P. J. Kurien, the Chairman of IAPPD was also present in that occasion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- M Venkaiah Naidu released 2 reports – 'Status of Sex Ratio at Birth in India' & 'Elderly Population in India: Status and Support Systems'
- The reports are prepared by – IAPPD (HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – P. J. Kurien)
- Vice President of India – M Venkaiah Naidu (Constituency – Nellore, Andhra Pradesh)

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



**Key Points:**

- As per WHO – worsening state of poor air quality is responsible for more than 7.5 million fatalities worldwide
- India developed – Indigenous Air Unique-quality Monitoring (AUM) Photonic System
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194





# Acquisitions & Mergers

1. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved a combination proposal filed jointly by Keihin Corporation, Nissin Kogyo Co. Ltd., Showa Corporation and Hitachi Automotive Systems Ltd to form a joint venture between Honda Motor & Hitachi. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- CCI approved a combination proposal to form JV – between Honda Motor & Hitachi
- HQs of Honda Motor – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Takahiro Hachigo
- HQs of Hitachi – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Toshiaki Higashihara
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta

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

## Key Points:

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

3. Axis Bank will acquire 17.002% of the equity share capital of Max Life Insurance, resulting in total ownership of 18.0% post the transaction. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Axis Bank will acquire 17% stake – in Max Life Insurance
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry
- HQs of Max Life Ins. – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Prashant Tripathy

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

## Key Points:

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



5. LIC has acquired 4.23% stake in Yes bank by purchasing shares from the open market. Moody's Investors Service has also upgraded Yes Bank's long-term foreign currency issuer rating by a notch to "B3" from "Caa1". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- LIC acquired 4.23% stake – in Yes bank
- Moody's upgraded Yes Bank's rating – to “B3” (from ‘Caa1’)
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – M R Kumar
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”
- HQs of Moody’s – New York, USA | CEO – Raymond W. McDaniel

6. Oman India Joint Investment Fund II (OIJIF) has acquired 5.07 million shares or 1.63% stake in Mumbai based DCB Bank through a block trade on stock exchanges. The stake is valued at ₹42 crore. OIJIF is a private equity fund backed by SBI & State General Reserve Fund of Oman (SGRF). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “OIJIF - II” – acquired 1.63% stake (₹42 crore) – in DCB Bank
- OIJIF – a private equity fund backed by – SBI + SGRF
- HQs of OIJIF – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Srinath Srinivasan
- HQs of DCB bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Murali M Natrajan

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

**Key Points:**

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

8. Reliance Retail Ventures has acquired 60% stake in Vitalic Health Pvt Ltd and 100% stake in Netmeds for approximately Rs 620 crore (USD 83.08 million). Meanwhile, online medical store PharmEasy has agreed to merge with smaller rival Medlife. Medlife will sell 100% shares to PharmEasy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- Reliance Retail Ventures acquired 60% stake – in Vitalic Health Pvt (Chennai, Tamil Nadu)
- Reliance Retail Ventures acquired 100% stake – in Netmeds (Chennai, Tamil Nadu)
- PharmEasy (Mumbai, MH) – to acquire 100% shares of – Medlife (Bengaluru, Karnataka)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**



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



# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

1. Dell Technologies has virtually launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of 'Student Entrepreneurship Program 2.0', in association with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM). [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Dell Technologies + AIM = launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of 'Student Entrepreneurship Program 2.0'
- HQs of Dell Tech. – Texas, USA | CEO – Michael S. Dell
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant)
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

2. Google has announced a collaboration with Prasar Bharati and Virtual Bharat for AI-enabled Independence Day celebration of India and to create one master track with the voices of thousands. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Google + Prasar Bharati + Virtual Bharat = collaboration For AI-enabled Independence Day celebration
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai
- HQs of Prasar Bharati – New Delhi | CEO – Shashi Shekhar Vempati

3. Niti Aayog and the Department of Biotechnology have launched the Consortium for Affordable & Rapid Diagnostics (CARD) to scale up India's capacity to make coronavirus testing kits. Project CARD's first goal was to roll out at least 10 million rapid antibody tests for Covid-19 by July. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Niti Aayog + Department of Biotechnology = launched the Consortium for Affordable & Rapid Diagnostics (CARD)
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

4. Reliance Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Reliance Industries has partnered with US Agency for International Development (USAID) and W-GDP (Women's Global Development and Prosperity) to bridge the gender digital divide in India. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Reliance Foundation + USAID + W-GDP = to bridge the gender digital divide in India
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani



- HQs of USAID – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Mark Green

5. The Delhi government has signed an MoU with IIT-Bombay and Tata Projects Limited to construct a smog tower in Connaught Place, New Delhi. The project is expected to cost around ₹19 Crore. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi government + IIT-Bombay + Tata Projects = to construct a smog tower
- HQs of Tata Projects Ltd – Secunderabad, Telangana | MD – Mr. Vinayak K Deshpande
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

6. The Goa government has signed an MoU with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) for setting up an institute to provide advanced skills training. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Goa + NSDC = to set up an institute to provide advanced skills training
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Manish Kumar

7. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has signed MoUs with AFC India Limited and National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) to synergize the activities in the interest of agriculture and allied sectors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- APEDA + AFC India Ltd + NCUI = to synergize the activities in the interest of agriculture & allied sectors
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – Paban K. Borthakur
- HQs of AFC India Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- HQs of NCUI – New Delhi | President – Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav

8. Airtel Payments Bank has entered into a partnership with Bharti AXA General Insurance to offer shop insurance known as "Smart Plan Shop Package Policy" to the bank's retailers and merchants. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Airtel Payments Bank + Bharti AXA General Ins – to offer "Smart Plan Shop Package Policy"
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas



- HQs of Bharti AXA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjeev Srinivasan

9. An agreement was signed between CSIR and FSSAI for collaborative research and information dissemination in the area of food and nutrition. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CSIR + FSSAI = an MoU for collaborative research and information dissemination in the area of food and nutrition
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatonia
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | CSIR President – Narendra Modi | Director General – Shekhar C. Mande

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

**Key Points:**

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

11. An MoU was signed between the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and the Delhi Police for extending ayurvedic mode of preventive and promotive health services in the residential colonies of the force. These services will be provided by AIIA through a unit named “Dhanwantari Rath”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIIA + Delhi Police = For “Dhanwantari Rath”
- HQs of AIIA – New Delhi | Director – Tanuja Nesari

12. An online quiz competition on ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat – Swatantra Bharat’ was conducted by Ministry of Defence (MoD) in coordination with MyGov during July 29 – August 10, 2020 in order to create patriotic feeling among youth and masses. Indian citizens aged 14 years and above can participate in the quiz and win the exciting prizes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Defence Ministry+ MyGov = conducted an online quiz competition – on ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat - Swatantra Bharat’
- Minimum age to participate – 14 years



- Defence Minister – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

**13.** Andhra Pradesh government has signed MoUs with ITC Ltd, Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) and Proctor and Gamble (P&G), to lend a helping hand in empowering women of the State. The government has launched “YSR Cheyutha” on August 12 under which SC, ST, BC and minority women aged between 45 and 60 will be given financial assistance of Rs 75,000 over 4 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh signed MoUs – with ITC + HUL + P & G
- Andhra Pradesh – launched “YSR Cheyutha” (Financial assistance to women aged between 45 and 60 – Rs 75000)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**14.** Andhra Pradesh Government has tied-up with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Canara Bank to set-up UPI payment facilities for over 15,004 village secretariats and wards. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh + NPCI + Canara Bank = to set-up UPI payment facilities
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe

**15.** Andhra Pradesh is the first State in India to exchange a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hyderabad-based Indian School of Business (ISB). It will help resolve crucial issues in administration. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh – the first State to sign an MoU with – ISB
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- ISB located at – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Harish Manwani





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

**Key Points:**

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

**17.** Bengaluru startup Vernacular.ai & an AI-based SaaS voice automation platform, announced its partnership with Axis Bank to optimise voice AI solutions and help automate customer interactions through intelligent human-like dialogue. Vernacular.ai & Axis Bank will launch "AXAA" - an AI-Powered Multilingual Voice Bot to resolve customer queries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Axis Bank + Vernacular.ai + SaaS = partnership to optimise voice AI solutions
- They will launch - "AXAA" - an AI-Powered Multilingual Voice Bot
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry
- HQs of Vernacular.ai – Bangalore, Karnataka



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank

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

**Key Points:**

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

**19.** Bharti Airtel has announced a multi-year strategic collaboration agreement (SCA) with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to deliver cloud solutions to large enterprise and small and medium enterprise (SME) customers in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharti Airtel + Amazon Web Services = collaboration to deliver cloud solutions to large enterprises & SMEs



- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos

**20.** Bharti AXA Life Insurance has announced the bancassurance partnership with SBM Bank India to distribute life insurance products through the latter's network. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharti AXA Life Insurance + SBM Bank India = to distribute Life Insurance Products
- HQs of Bharti AXA Life Ins. – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Parag Raja
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath

**21.** BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL) has tied up with Innoviti Payment Solutions to offer EMIs on PoS Terminals. The Bank of Baroda credit cardholders pan India would be serviced at 70,000+ Innoviti PoS terminals across 1,000+ cities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BFSL + Innoviti Payment Solutions = partnership to offer EMIs on PoS Terminals
- HQs of of BFSL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Manish Banerjee
- HQs of Innoviti Payment Solutions – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Rajeev Agrawal

**22.** BSE Ebix Insurance Broking has entered into a partnership with Universal Sampo General Insurance to sell general insurance products through the former's distribution network in a fully digitized environment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BSE Ebix (USA) + Universal Sampo Gen. Ins. = partnership to sell general insurance products
- HQs of Universal Sampo Gen. Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sharad Mathur

**23.** BSE has signed an MoU with two bullion trade associations namely Akola Sarafa Association and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sangh for deepening the commodity derivatives market in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BSE + two bullion trade associations = an MoU for deepening the commodity derivatives market in India
- Both the Bullion Trade associations are based in – Maharashtra
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sethurathnam Ravi | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan



**24.** Canara Bank has tied-up with 3 insurance companies - New India Assurance Company Ltd, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co Ltd and HDFC ERGO Health Insurance to sell short-term Corona Kavach policy to cover COVID-19 related health expenses. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Canara Bank + New India Assurance + Bajaj Allianz + HDFC ERGO = to sell 'Corona Kavach policy'
- HQs of Canara Bank – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Lingam Venkat Prabhakar
- Tagline of Canara bank – “Together We Can”
- HQs of New India Assurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Atul Sahai
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Gen. Ins.– Pune, MH | CEO – Tapan Singhel
- HQs of HDFC ERGO Health Ins. – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Ritesh Kumar

**25.** Clean energy firm ReNew Power has partnered with UNEP's 'District Energy in Cities' initiative as an implementation partner for better Clean Energy access & renewable energy installations across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ReNew Power + UNEP = partnership for better Clean Energy access & renewable energy installations
- 'District Energy in Cities' initiative – belongs to UNEP
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen

**26.** Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance has partnered with Element AI to develop a strategic AI (Artificial Intelligence) roadmap for the new-age insurer and prioritise investments. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance + Element AI = to develop a strategic AI roadmap
- HQs of Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sumit Rai
- HQs of Element AI – Montreal, Canada | CEO & Founder – Jean-Francois Gagne

**27.** Energy solutions provider Greenko Energies has signed an agreement with NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam to explore energy storage and renewable energy power supply solutions. Greenko is also developing and building over 40 GWh of pumped hydro storage projects across 6 states in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- Greenko Energies + NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam = an MoU to explore energy storage and renewable energy
- HQs of – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO & MD – Anil Kumar Chalamalasetty
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh

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

**Key Points:**

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

**29.** Federal Bank has tied-up with Fiserv to enable the digitization of the bank’s end-to-end card issuance and processing cycle to support the launch of the Federal Bank credit card. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Federal Bank + Fiserv = to launch first independent credit card of Federal Bank
- HQs Federal Bank – Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan
- HQs of Fiserv – Brookfield, USA | Executive Chairman – Jeffery W. Yabuki

**30.** Flipkart has signed an MoU with IIT Patna to help create industry-focused applied research in the areas of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Flipkart + IIT Patna = an MoU to help create industry-focused applied research in AI, NLP & ML
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal

**31.** Flipkart has signed an MoU with the One District, One Product (ODOP) scheme of the Uttar Pradesh government to bring artisans, weavers and craftsmen into mainstream business. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Flipkart + Uttar Pradesh – to promote ‘One District, One Product (ODOP)’ scheme of UP



- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

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

**Key Points:**

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

**33.** Google in association with the Central Water Commission (CWC) has taken flood forecasting initiative and sent numerous public alerts to people in impacted regions across the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Google + CWC = collaboration for flood forecasting initiative
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai



**34.** HDFC Bank has announced a strategic partnership with Adobe to improve digital experience journey of its customers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- IBM + NSDC = to offer ‘Open P-TECH’ a free digital education platform



- IBM HQs – Armonk, New York, United States | CEO – [Arvind Krishna](#)
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | MD & CEO – [Manish Kumar](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**38.** India and Nigeria have signed an agreement on space cooperation. This MoU is another milestone in the relations of the two countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Nigeria = an agreement on Space Cooperation
- Nigeria – Abuja – Naira | President – [Muhammadu Buhari](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**42.** Maharashtra government has tied up with Google to start virtual classes and provide online education for over 22 million students in the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra + Google = to start virtual classes for over 22 million students
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Google HQs – California, USA | CEO – Sundar Pichai

**43.** Maharashtra school education department has announced its partnership with Google to provide learning programmes to over 2.3 crore students from 1 lakh government and private schools in the state. It is the 1<sup>st</sup> state to do so. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra (1<sup>st</sup> state) – to partner with Google – to provide learning programmes for Students
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



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

**Key Points:**

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

**45.** MasterCard and Goals101.ai have partnered to create targeted and personalised offers for bank cardholders. This alliance will help to improve the efficiency of customer interaction and will make the customer's banking experience more personalised. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “MasterCard” + “Goals101.ai” = partnership to create targeted and personalised offers for bank cardholders
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)
- HQs of Goals101.ai – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Visham Sikand

**46.** Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Rural Development have signed an MoU to take the convergence endeavor and support rural poor including tribal community. Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has released a book “Farm Livelihood Interventions under DAY-NRLM (Strategy, Convergence Framework, Models)”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs + Ministry of Rural Development = signed an MoU to support rural poor people
- Narendra Singh Tom released a book – “Farm Livelihood Interventions under DAY-NRLM”
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jhrakhand)
- Ministry of Rural Development – Narendra Singh Tomar (Morena, Madhya Pradesh)

**47.** Muthoot Finance has tied up with Kotak Mahindra General Insurance to offer COVID-19 insurance cover of up to Rs 1 lakh against gold loan. This cover however will be available only for the customers availing gold loan under the 'Super Loan scheme'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Muthoot Finance + Kotak Mahindra General Insurance = to offer COVID-19 insurance cover – up to Rs 1 lakh
- HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot





- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Gen Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Mahesh Balasubramanian

**48.** NITI Aayog in collaboration with NASSCOM have launched the 'ATL AI Step Up Module' for students on the eve of India's Independence Day. It will drive AI education and innovation to the next level in schools across the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog + NASSCOM = launched the 'ATL AI Step Up Module' for students
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of NASSCOM – New Delhi | President – Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman – UB Pravin Rao | Vice-Chairman – Rekha M Menon

**49.** Nokia has announced a collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) to establish the Nokia Centre of Excellence (CoE) for networked robotics. Nokia will set up a robotics lab at IISc Bengaluru for research on socially-relevant use cases based on 5G and emerging technologies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nokia + IISc = to establish the Nokia Centre of Excellence (CoE)
- Nokia will set up a robotics lab at – IISc (Bengaluru) – For research on socially-relevant use cases based on 5G
- HQs of Nokia – Espoo, Finland | President & CEO – Pekka Lundmark

**50.** Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) has signed an MoU with Advance Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Tata Memorial Centre (TMC) for construction of "PowerGrid OT Complex" in Navi Mumbai. TMC is a Cancer Research Institute under the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PGCIL + ACTREC = signed an MoU for construction of "PowerGrid OT Complex" – in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra
- HQs of PGCIL – Gurgaon, Haryana | CMD – Kandikuppa Sreekant
- HQs of ACTREC – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | Director – Dr. Sudeep Gupta

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



### Key Points:

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

**52.** Punjab in partnership with the Department of Youth Services and Sports and YuWaah - a joint initiative of UNICEF, has launched a collaborative 'Pride of Punjab' programme. It is aimed at enabling the best opportunities for Punjab's young people. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Punjab + Dept of Youth Services & Sports + YuWaah = launched 'Pride of Punjab' programme
- “YuWaah” – a joint initiative of UNICEF
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore
- UNICEF HQs – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore

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

### Key Points:

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

**54.** Researchers from the IIT Guwahati and Imperial College London, UK, have collaborated & developed a tailored 'meta-grid' of nanoparticle that could make light-emitting diodes (LEDs) brighter, energy-efficient and durable. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IIT Guwahati + Imperial College London(UK) = developed a tailored 'meta-grid' of nanoparticle for LEDs
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

**55.** SBM Bank India has partnered with InstaReM (the consumer and SME brand under global fintech platform 'Nium') to improve existing outbound remittance service offerings from India. The users of both SBM Bank and InstaReM will be able to remit money to more markets and send funds overseas in real-time. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- SBM Bank India + InstaReM = partnership to improve existing outbound remittance service offerings from India
- SBM Bank India – 1<sup>st</sup> bank to receive universal banking license from RBI
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- HQs of InstaReM – Singapore | CEO – Prajit Nanu

**56.** Serum Institute of India (SII) has entered into a new landmark partnership with ‘Gavi’ and ‘Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’, to accelerate the manufacture and delivery of up to 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines for India and low & middle-income countries in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SII + Gavi + BMGF = partnership to manufacture 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines for India
- HQs of SII – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Adar C. Poonawalla
- HQs of Gavi – Geneva, Switzerland | CEO – Dr Seth Berkley
- HQs of BMGF – Seattle, Washington, USA | Head of BMGF India – M. Hari Menon

**57.** Simplilearn, a global provider of digital skills training has announced its partnership with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to help empower professionals in digital skills and new-age technologies across the country. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Simplilearn + NSDC = partnership to help empower professionals in digital skills
- HQs of Simplilearn – San Francisco, USA | CEO – Krishna Kumar
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Manish Kumar

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

### Key Points:

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

**60.** Tech Mahindra has collaborated with the Niti Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) to support women entrepreneurs across the country. As part of the collaboration, Tech Mahindra has partnered with the winners of Women Transforming India (WTI) Awards, an initiative of the Niti Aayog, to recognise women leaders in entrepreneurship. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tech Mahindra + Niti Aayog's WEP = partnership to support women entrepreneurs
- HQs of Tech Mahindra – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Chander Prakash Gurnani
- Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) & Women Transforming India (WTI) Awards – belongs to NITI Aayog
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**61.** The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has signed a 2-year MoU with the International Professional Scouting Organisation (IPSO) to deliver a number of courses and webinars with regards to scouting in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIFF + IPSO = signed a 2-year MoU – to deliver a number of courses and webinars
- HQs of AIFF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel
- HQs of IPSO – Blackburn, England | Director – Colin Chambers



**62.** The Andhra government has signed an MoU with The Boston Group to set up a facility at Vishakhapatnam devoted to R&D in the Information Technology sector with focus on learning platforms and leveraging advanced technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) and cybersecurity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra government + Boston Group = an MoU to set up a AI & ML facility at Vishakhapatnam
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- HQs of Boston Group – Massachusetts, USA | CEO – Subu M. Kota

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

**Key Points:**

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

**64.** The Bihar State Pollution Control Board has signed an MoU with IIT Delhi for setting up of geographical information system (GIS) based platform for air quality management in the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bihar + IIT Delhi = an MoU to set up a AI & ML facility at Vishakha for setting up GIS based platform
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**65.** The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has officially decided to suspend its partnership with Vivo Mobile India Pvt Ltd for the Indian Premier League (IPL) in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BCCI – officially decided to suspend its partnership with – Vivo – For ‘IPL-2020’
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Ethics Officer – D K Jain
- HQs of Vivo – Dongguan, China | CEO – Shen Wei



**66.** The Chamber of Marathwada Industries and Agriculture (CMIA) has joined hands with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to set up a help desk which will provide support to MSMEs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CMIA + UNDP = partnership to set up a help desk to support MSMEs
- HQs of CMIA – Aurangabad, Maharashtra
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner

**67.** The Delhi government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bloomberg Philanthropies to enhance road safety in the national capital. 30 cities will participate in the Bloomberg Philanthropies Initiative for Global Road Safety. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi + Bloomberg Philanthropies = to enhance road safety in the national capital
- HQs of Bloomberg Philanthropies – New York, USA | CEO – Patricia E. Harris

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

**Key Points:**

- Department of Economic Affairs + UNDP India = launched the Sustainable Finance Collaborative Consultation
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner

**69.** The Department of Employment, Haryana has signed an MoU with the M3M Foundation to facilitate online preparation, training and mentoring to students for government jobs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana + M3M Foundation = signed an MoU to help students get into Government Jobs
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya
- HQs of M3M Foundation – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder – LAL Chand Bansal

**70.** The Himachal Pradesh has signed an MoU worth ₹110 Crore with Microtek New Technologies Private Ltd for setting up a manufacturing unit of thermometers, online/offline UPS, high capacity invertors, oxymeters and other electrical products in Solan district's Baddi area. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- Himachal Pradesh + Microtek New Technologies = an MoU to set up a manufacturing unit of thermometers
- HQs of Microtek New Technologies – New Delhi
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

**71.** The ICMR in collaboration with the Health Ministry and the AIIMS is planning to set up the ‘National Clinical Registry’ of hospitalised Covid-19 patients. It will help researchers and policy makers understand effectiveness of investigational therapies, adverse effects taking place and generate evidence for improving the treatment of COVID-19 patients. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICMR + Health Ministry + AIIMS – to set up the ‘National Clinical Registry’
- ICMR HQs – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)
- HQs of AIIMS – New Delhi | Director of AIIMS-Delhi – Dr Randeep Guleria

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



**74.** The Ministry of Defence, IIT Kanpur and the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) have signed an MoU for developing Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques to analyse public grievances. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Defence Ministry + IIT Kanpur + DARPG = signed an MoU for developing AI & ML
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)
- Jitendra Singh – MoS of DoNER, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space
- IIT Kanpur Director – Abhay Karandikar

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

**Key Points:**

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

**76.** The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and IIT-Delhi have collaborated to analyse various project management issues and their impact on projects using AI. It will help strengthen the NHAI's capabilities in data-driven decision making. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHAI + IIT Delhi = collaborated to strengthen the NHAI's capabilities in data-driven decision making
- HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

**77.** The NSE (National Stock Exchange of India) and IIM Bangalore have jointly developed & launched the Platform for investor education (PIE). It imparts investor education in simple easy-to-understand video, audio, and other digital media formats. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NSE + IIM Bangalore = jointly developed & launched – the Platform for investor education (PIE)
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi | MD & CEO – Vikram Limaye





**78.** The Sports Authority of India (SAI), in association with Education Boards CISCE and CBSE, will host an online program for training of Physical Education (PE) Teachers from CISCE Schools on "Khelo India Fitness Assessment of School Going Children". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SAI + CISCE + CBSE = will host an online program for training of Physical Education Teachers
- HQs of SAI – New Delhi | Director General – Sandip Pradhan
- HQs of CISCE – New Delhi | Chairman – Dr. G Emanuel
- HQs of CBSE – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shri Manoj Ahuja

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**81.** The Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) has become the first University in the country to set up a Space Innovation-cum-Incubation Centre in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- VSSUT + ISRO = signed an MoU to set up a Space Innovation-cum-Incubation Centre
- Location of VSSUT – Sambalpur, Odisha | Vice-Chancellor – Prof. Atal Chaudhury
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan

**82.** UTI Infrastructure Technology and Services Limited (UTIITSL) has signed an MoU with National Health Authority (NHA) for providing the printing services of 'e-cards' to the beneficiaries under 'Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)'. This scheme provides an annual health cover of Rs 5 lakh to 53 crore poor eligible citizens. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UTIITSL + NHA = an MoU for providing the printing services of 'e-cards' to the beneficiaries under 'AB PM-JAY'
- HQs of UTIITSL – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Vijay K Jain
- HQs of NHA – New Delhi | CEO – Indu Bhushan (CEO of AB-PMJAY too)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**84.** Walmart-owned Flipkart has entered into a strategic partnership with Nepal's Sastodeal. This move will help lakhs of Flipkart sellers get access to the neighbouring country's e-commerce market. Sastodeal will host over 5,000 products from Flipkart marketplace sellers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Flipkart + Sastodeal = strategic partnership
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal
- HQs of Sastodeal – Kathmandu, Nepal | CEO – Amun Thapa



**85.** YES Bank in partnership with KFin Technologies has launched a unique digital solution called 'Loan against Securities' under the bank's loan in seconds platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- YES Bank + KFin Technologies = launched a unique digital solution called 'Loan against Securities'
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”
- HQs of KFin Technologies – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Sreekanth Nadella



# Books & Authors

1. 'Corona Kavithakal', 'Republic Day 2020' and 'Thus Speaks the Governor' - these 3 of 13 books penned by Mizoram governor P S Sreedharan Pillai during lockdown have been released recently. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 'Corona Kavithakal', 'Republic Day 2020' & 'Thus Speaks the Governor' books – written by 'P S Sreedharan Pillai'
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

2. "Running Toward Mystery: The Adventure of an Unconventional Life" book was released on August 24. It is written by Tenzin Priyadarshi, the President & CEO of 'The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values' at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The book is co-written with Iranian American author Zara Houshmand. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "Running Toward Mystery: The Adventure of an Unconventional Life" book = Tenzin Priyadarshi + Zara Houshmand

3. A book named 'Cricket Drona' on one of India's most respected cricket coaches, Vasoo Paranjape, was released on September 2. The book published by Penguin has been co-authored by Jatin Paranjpe along with Anand Vasu. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- A book titled 'Cricket Drona' – co-authored by "Jatin Paranjpe + Anand Vasu"
- The book is written on – Vasoo Paranjape (one of India's most respected cricket coaches)
- Released by – Penguin Random House

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

## Key Points:

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



5. A new book on the inspirational story of Vishesh Bhriguvanshi, India's youngest basketball team captain is titled "Vishesh: Code To Win". It is written by sportswoman-turned-author Nirupama Yadav. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Vishesh: Code To Win" book – written by 'Nirupama Yadav'
- Inspirational story of India's youngest basketball team captain – Vishesh Bhriguvanshi (Basketball)

6. Actor Sharon Stone's book 'The Beauty of Living Twice' will be released in March 2021. The book will be published by Alfred A Knopf. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "The Beauty of Living Twice" book – written by 'Sharon Stone'

7. After rejection from Bloomsbury, the book titled "Delhi Riots 2020: The Untold Story" has found another publisher 'Garuda Prakashan'. The book is authored by advocate Monika Arora and Delhi University teachers Sonali Chitalkar & Prerna Malhotra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Delhi Riots 2020: The Untold Story" book – authored by 'Monika Arora' + 'Sonali Chitalkar' + 'Prerna Malhotra'
- The book will be published by – 'Garuda Prakashan'

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

**Key Points:**

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

9. Author and MP Shashi Tharoor is known for his excellent language and diction. He is coming out with a new book titled "Tharoorosaurus". The book is published by Penguin Random House India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Tharoorosaurus" book – written by 'Shashi Tharoor'



**10.** Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has released a book titled "Siyasat Mein Sadasyata". It is a compilation of articles, views and life journey of Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Choudhary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitish Kumar released – "Siyasat Mein Sadasyata" book – authored by Vijay Kumar Choudhary
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**11.** Ex-Vice Marshal Arjun Subramaniam has authored a book on conflicts since 1972 namely "Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020". In his new book, Subramaniam covers every major operation that the armed forces have participated in, including the Kargil conflict of 1999. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020" book – written by 'Arjun Subramaniam'

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

**Key Points:**

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

**13.** Journalist and author Yatish Yadav's new book "RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations" is a window into the heroic covert operations carried by India's external spy agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "RAW: A History of India's Covert Operations" book – authored by 'Yatish Yadav'
- HQs of RAW – New Delhi | Secretary – Samant Goel

**14.** Michael Cohen's memoir about President Donald Trump will be released September, 2020. The book is titled "Disloyal: The True Story of the Former Personal Attorney to President Donald J. Trump". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Disloyal: The True Story of the Former Personal Attorney to President Donald J. Trump" – by 'Michael Cohen'



**15.** Neena Rai has authored a book titled “Amazing Ayodhya”. It promises to offer “authentic information” about the history of Ayodhya, which will not only help understand the life and times of ancient Hindus, but also the revered figures of Rama and Sita. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Amazing Ayodhya” book – authored by ‘Neena Rai’

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

**Key Points:**

- “Grandparents’ Bag of Stories” book – written by ‘Sudha Murthy’ (to mark her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday)

**17.** The 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama, is the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists. In 1989, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. His upcoming book is titled, 'Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World' and has been co-written with German environmental journalist Franz Alt. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World” book – written by ‘Dalai Lama’
- Co-written with – ‘Franz Alt’ (a German environmental journalist)

**18.** The book “The Swachh Bharat Revolution”, edited by Parameswaran Iyer has been translated into Hindi and published by as the Swachh Bharat Kranti. The book was officially launched by Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and Smriti Irani in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Swachh Bharat Revolution” book – edited by Parameswaran Iyer – translated into Hindi
- Officially launched by = Gajendra Singh Shekhawat + Smriti Irani – in New Delhi
- Minister of Jal Shakti – Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- Smriti Zubin Irani – Minister of Women & Child Development, Minister of Textiles (Amethi, Uttar Pradesh)
- Parameswaran Iyer – Secretary of Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation

**19.** The book “Who painted my lust red?” authored by Sree Iyer has recently been launched in August. This is the second book in this series of Sree Iyer's “Money Trilogy series”. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “Who painted my lust red?” book – authored by ‘Sree Iyer’

**20.** The book titled 'The Discomfort of Evening' authored by Marieke Lucas Rijneveld & translated by Michele Hutchison from Dutch, has won the “International Booker Prize 2020”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Marieke Lucas Rijneveld – won “International Booker Prize 2020” – for ‘The Discomfort of Evening’
- The book is translated from Dutch to English by – Michele Hutchison

**21.** The book titled "One Arranged Murder" was revealed by the author 'Chetan Bhagat' recently. It will be Bhagat’s 9<sup>th</sup> novel and 11<sup>th</sup> book overall. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "One Arranged Murder" book – written by 'Chetan Bhagat'

**22.** The book, titled “A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic”, is a collection of 12 engrossing stories and essays by children and young adults from across the country. It is written by award-winning children’s author Bijal Vachharajani. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the Covid-19 pandemic” book – authored by ‘Bijal Vachharajani’

**23.** Union minister for information and broadcasting, Prakash Javadekar has launched e-book ‘Connecting, Communicating, Changing’ written by the Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu, narrating his experiences during his past 3 year term in office. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prakash Javadekar launched – “Connecting, Communicating, Changing” e-book – written by M Venkaiah Naidu
- The book is narrating the experiences of ‘M Venkaiah Naidu’ during his past 3 year term in office

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

**Key Points:**



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

**25.** Yogendra Yadav deploys an analogy of the 'second republic' in the introduction of his new book – "Making Sense of Indian Democracy". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Making Sense of Indian Democracy" book – authored by 'Yogendra Yadav'



# Obituaries

1. 'Drishyam' and 'Madaari' movies director Nishikant Kamat has passed away recently in August at the age of 50. He was an actor too. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Nishikant Kamat – Actor & Director – passed away

2. The 70-year-old teacher turned Urdu Poet Rahat Indori has passed away recently in August due to Heart Attack. He was being treated for COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Rahat Indori (Madhya Pradesh) – Urdu Poet – passed away

3. Veteran Sports Journalist Gopal Krishna (G K) Menon has passed away recently in August. He worked with the Indian Express and The Times of India and ended his freelance career in the early 1990s. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- G K Menon – a Sports Journalist – passed away

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

## Key Points:

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

5. An Indian theatre Director, Ebrahim Alkazi has passed away recently due to cardiac failure. He was 95. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Ebrahim Alkazi – Indian theatre Director – passed away

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

## Key Points:



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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**8.** Congress leader and spokesperson Rajiv Tyagi has passed away after suffering a heart attack. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajiv Tyagi – a Congress Leader (Politician) – passed away

**9.** Congress party leader, Nandi Yellaiah has passed away on August 8 due to Covid-19. He was an eight-time member of Parliament including six-terms to Lok Sabha and twice to Rajya Sabha from Nagarkurnool constituency of Telangana state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nandi Yellaiah – a Politician – passed away (Party - Indian National Congress)

**10.** Eight-time MLA, YSRC (Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party) leader ‘P Sambasiva Raju’ has passed away recently in August in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. He was 87. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- P Sambasiva Raju (Andhra Pradesh) – a Politician – passed away (Party – YSRC | 8 time MLA)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**11.** Eminent scholar, philosopher, musicologist and cultural historian, Mukund Lath has passed away recently in August in Jaipur. He was 83. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mukund Lath – Scholar, Philosopher, Musicologist & “Cultural Historian” – passed away



**12.** Former British Tennis Player, 2-time Grand Slam doubles champion and equal rights pioneer 'Angela Buxton' has passed away recently in August. She was 85. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Angela Buxton (UK) – a Tennis Player – passed away (2-time Grand Slam doubles champion)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

**13.** Former Congolese president Pascal Lissouba has passed away recently. He won his country's first multi-party presidential elections in 1992. He was 88 and belonged to Pan-African Union for Social Democracy (UADS) Party. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pascal Lissouba – Former President of Congo – passed away
- Congo – Kinshasa – Franc

**14.** Former cricketer and UP cabinet minister Chetan Chauhan has passed away recently after succumbing to complications brought on by Covid-19. He was 73. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chetan Chauhan – Former Cricketer & a Politician – passed away (2-time Lok Sabha MP from – Amroha, UP)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**15.** Former India and Mohun Bagan Club footballer Laishram Manitombi Singh has passed away recently in August. He was only 39. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Laishram Manitombi Singh – a Football Player – passed away (Mohun Bagan Club)

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

**18.** Former Maharashtra chief minister Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar has passed away after a prolonged illness. He was 89. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar – Politician (Former CM of Maharashtra) – passed away
- [Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**20.** Gail Sheehy, a journalist and author from America has passed away recently in August. She was 83 and suffering from pneumonia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



**22.** Indian classical vocalist Pandit Jasraj has passed away recently in August. He was 90. With musical career spanning over 80 years, Pandit Jasraj was awarded with honours such as Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan. He belonged to Mewati Gharana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pandit Jasraj – Indian classical Vocalist – passed away (Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan & Padma Vibhushan)
- He belonged to – Mewati Gharana

**23.** John Hume, a visionary politician who won a Nobel Peace Prize for fashioning the agreement that ended violence in his native Northern Ireland, has passed away recently in August. He was 83. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- John Hume (UK + Northern Ireland) – a Politician – passed away (Nobel Peace Prize winner)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

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

**Key Points:**

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

**25.** Malayalam Poet and lyricist Chunakkara Ramankutty has passed away recently in August. He was 84. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chunakkara Ramankutty (Kerala) – passed away – Malayalam Poet & lyricist
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

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

**Key Points:**

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



**27.** Noted Delhi-based writer and activist Sadia Dehlvi has passed away after a prolonged cancer. She was 63. She edited 'Bano', an Urdu women's journal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sadia Dehlvi (New Delhi) – a Writer & an Activist – passed away (edited 'Bano' - an Urdu women's journal)

**28.** Rajya Sabha member Amar Singh has passed away recently. He was 64. He was associated with Samajwadi Party which was founded by Mulayam Singh Yadav. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amar Singh – passed away – Politician (Samajwadi Party)
- Founder of Samajwadi Party – Mulayam Singh Yadav

**29.** Ram D Pradhan has passed away recently. He was 92. He had served as the former chief secretary of Maharashtra and the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram D Pradhan – a Politician – passed away (Former CS of Maharashtra & Governor of Arunachal Pradesh)

**30.** Renowned Urdu writer and translator Nusrat Zaheer has passed away in Uttar Pradesh. He was 69. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nusrat Zaheer – passed away – Urdu Writer and Translator

**31.** Russell Kirsch, a Computer Scientist has passed away recently in August. He is credited with inventing the 'Pixel' and scanning the world's first digital photograph. He was 91. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Russell Kirsch (USA) – a Computer Scientist – passed away (Inventor of 'Pixel')
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

**32.** Senior BJP leader and former minister of Andhra Pradesh 'P Manikyala Rao' has passed away due to coronavirus. He was 59. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- 'P Manikyala Rao' – passed away – Politician (Former BJP leader of Andhra Pradesh)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**33.** Senior Communist Party of India - Marxist (CPI-M) leader 'Shyamal Chakraborty' has died of COVID-19 in Kolkata. He was 76. He was 3-time transport minister of West Bengal. He was also a two-time Rajya Sabha member and a veteran trade unionist. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shyamal Chakraborty – a Politician (CPI-M Party) – passed away (3-time transport minister of West Bengal)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

**34.** Shirley Ann Grau, a Pulitzer Prize-winner has passed away recently in August. She was 91. She had won the 1965 Pulitzer Prize for her fourth book, "The Keepers of the House." [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shirley Ann Grau (USA) – a Writer – passed away (1965 Pulitzer Prize winner for "The Keepers of the House")
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

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

**Key Points:**

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

**36.** The co-creator of the computer mouse, William English has passed away recently. He was 91. He built the first mouse in 1963. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- William English (USA) – an Engineer – passed away (The co-creator of the computer mouse)
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump





**37.** Uttar Pradesh's Technical Education Minister Kamal Rani Varun has passed away due to novel coronavirus. The 62-year-old, the only woman in the Yogi Adityanath Cabinet, is the first minister in Uttar Pradesh to succumb to Covid. She was also a member of the 11th and 12th Lok Sabha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kamal Rani Varun – passed away – Politician (Cabinet Minister in Uttar Pradesh)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

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

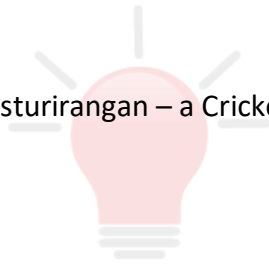
**Key Points:**

- Purushotham Rai – Athletics Coach – passed away

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

**Key Points:**

- Gopaldaswamy Kasturirangan – a Cricketer – passed away



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



# Persons in News

**1.** Corporate Affairs Ministry has released a report on Business Responsibility Reporting (BRR). In its report, the committee recommended a new reporting framework called as 'Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR)' to better reflect the intent and scope of reporting on non-financial parameters. The committee on BRR is headed by Gyaneshwar Kumar Singh. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Corporate Affairs Ministry released a report – 'Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR)'
- The committee on BRR is headed by – Gyaneshwar Kumar Singh

**2.** The 74-year-old Sri Lanka People's Party leader, Mahinda Rajapaksa has taken oath as Prime Minister of Sri Lanka for fourth time. He polled over 500,000 individual preference votes, the highest ever recorded by a candidate in the country's history of elections. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Mahinda Rajapaksa – took oath as Prime Minister of Sri Lanka – for the 4<sup>th</sup> time
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

**3.** The Central Government formulated "National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration" for COVID-19 on 12<sup>th</sup> August. The meeting was chaired by Dr V K Paul. It deliberates on strategy to ensure COVID-19 vaccines' availability and its delivery mechanism. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- "National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration" – chaired by Dr V K Paul

**4.** Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has launched the 'Swachh Bharat Mission Academy' as a part of the ongoing week-long campaign 'Gandagi Mukh Bharat'. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched – 'Swachh Bharat Mission Academy' – in Delhi
- Minister of Jal Shakti – Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan



5. 25-year-old Neelakanta Bhanu Prakash of Hyderabad has emerged as the fastest human calculator in the world after winning first-ever Gold for India in 'Mental Calculation World Championship' at Mind Sports Olympiad (MSO) held in London recently. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Neelakanta Bhanu Prakash (Hyderabad) – emerged as the fastest human calculator in the world
- He has won 1<sup>st</sup> ever Gold for India – in 'Mental Calculation World Championship' – in London
- [Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

7. Kamala Harris has been selected as the vice-presidential candidate of Joe Biden by the Democratic Party for the American Presidential Elections 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kamala Harris – selected as the vice-presidential candidate – for the American Presidential Elections 2020
- She belongs to – Democratic Party

8. Legendary England all-rounder Ian Botham has been made a member of the House of Lords of the British Parliament. He will sit as a crossbench independent peer. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ian Botham (Cricket) – has been made a member of the 'House of Lords of the British Parliament'
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson](#)

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

**Key Points:**

- Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the Next Generation Startup Challenge Contest - "Chunauti"



• Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Constituency – Patna Sahib, Bihar)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**11.** Spain’s former king Juan Carlos has decided to leave the country after corruption allegations about him surfaced recently. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Spain’s former king Juan Carlos – decided to leave the country
- Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez

**12.** The 53-year-old businessman, Luis Rodolfo Abinader has been sworn in as President of the Dominican Republic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Luis Rodolfo Abinader – sworn in as President of – Dominican Republic
- Dominican Republic – Santo Domingo – Peso | President – Luis Rodolfo Abinader

**13.** The Aircraft Accident Investigation Board (AAIB) has formed a 5-member panel to inquire into the circumstances of a plane crash in Kerala's Kozhikode airport. This panel will be headed by Captain S S Chahar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AAIB formed – 5-member panel for plane crash in Kerala's Kozhikode airport
- The panel headed by – Captain S S Chahar

**14.** The central government has set up a committee to reconsider the minimum age of marriage for women during his address to the nation on the 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day. The committee is headed by former Samata Party president Jaya Jaitely. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- A committee to reconsider the minimum age of marriage for women – headed by 'Jaya Jaitely'
- She was associated with – Samata Party
- Currently, minimum age of marriage: For men – 21 years & For women – 18 years

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

**Key Points:**

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

**16.** The government has formed a committee to determine ceiling rates under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme. The committee would be chaired by retired former secretary to the government GK Pillai with retired CBEC members YG Parande and Gautam Ray as other members. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A committee to determine ceiling rates under RoDTEP scheme – chaired by G K Pillai
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar

**17.** The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has set up a panel of industry experts chaired by Pradip Shah to formulate a plan to develop international retail business at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IFSCA – set up a panel of industry experts – chaired by Pradip Shah (Chairman at - Indasia Fund Advisors)
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

**18.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up an expert committee under the chairmanship of veteran banker K V Kamath to suggest financial parameters for resolution of coronavirus-related stressed assets. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI set up an expert committee – For resolution of coronavirus-related stressed assets



- The committee is headed by – K V Kamath
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**19.** Union Textiles Minister Smriti Zubin Irani has extended her greetings on the occasion of the 6<sup>th</sup> National Handloom Day and also launched the Mobile App & Backend Website for 'Handloom Mark Scheme' (HLM). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Smriti Zubin Irani launched – Mobile App & Backend Website for 'Handloom Mark Scheme'
- Smriti Zubin Irani – Minister of Women & Child Development, Minister of Textiles (Amethi, Uttar Pradesh)

**20.** Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has remembered Tanguturi Prakasam Pantulu, a great freedom fighter and statesman on his birth anniversary on August 23. He is also known as 'Andhra Kesari'- the lion of Andhra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- M Venkaiah Naidu remembered – Tanguturi Prakasam Pantulu – on his birth anniversary on August 23
- He is also known as – 'Andhra Kesari'- the lion of Andhra
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan



# Science & Technology

1. Hyderabad-based startup Skyroot Aerospace successfully tested an upper-stage rocket engine named "Raman" and became the first Indian private company to build a homegrown rocket engine. The engine Raman is named after Nobel laureate CV Raman. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Skyroot Aerospace – first Indian private company to test – an upper-stage rocket engine named "Raman"
- The engine named after – C V Raman
- HQs of Skyroot Aerospace – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Pawan Kumar Chandana

2. 77 new species of butterflies have been found in the ecologically sensitive forest of Matheran hill station near Mumbai in Maharashtra. With this, the total number of butterfly species in the Matheran forest has now gone up to 140. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 77 new species of butterflies found in – "Matheran" - an Eco-Sensitive Zone of Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

3. A baby galaxy called "SPT0418-47" was recently found by the Astronomers at the Max Planck Institute of Astrophysics. It was picked up by the powerful Alma radio telescope in Chile using a technique called gravitational lensing. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Astronomers at the Max Planck Institute of Astrophysics (Germany) – found a baby galaxy called "SPT0418-47"
- Germany – Berlin – Euro

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

## Key Points:

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



5. A team of international astronomers led by the scientists from the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) in Pune has discovered 'UV light' emanating from a galaxy called "AUDFs01" that is 9.3 billion light-years away from Earth. The light was seen using "AstroSat", India's first multi-wavelength satellite. The study has been published by 'Nature Astronomy'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's first multi-wavelength satellite "AstroSat" – discovered 'UV light' emanating from "AUDFs01" galaxy
- The study is published – by 'Nature Astronomy' journal
- HQs of IUCAA – Pune, Maharashtra | Director – Somak Raychaudhury

6. A team of researchers from the Department of Zoology, Andhra University has seen a rare fish called 'Mahseer' (scientific name Tor) and it was fished out from the upper part of Sileru river. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A rare fish called 'Mahseer' (Tor) – fished out – in Sileru river – in Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

7. A team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc)-Bengaluru and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a sustainable process for making brick-like structures named "Space Bricks" on the moon. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IISc-Bengaluru + ISRO = jointly developed a sustainable process for making "Space Bricks" on the moon
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed in – 1969

8. A unique UVGI based Room Disinfection Device "UVSAFE" has been developed by IIT Ropar Researchers in collaboration with Momentum India Pvt. Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Ropar + Momentum India = developed "UVSAFE" - a unique UVGI based Room Disinfection Device
- UVGI – Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation
- HQs of Momentum India Pvt. Ltd – Noida, UP | Founder and CEO – Rohan Oberoi





**9.** An International Team of researchers using data from Arecibo Observatory's Telescope and the NASA's Fermi Space Telescope have discovered "Gamma-ray heartbeat" coming from a cosmic gas cloud. It was published in the journal Nature Astronomy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arecibo Observatory's Telescope and the Fermi Space Telescope – discovered "Gamma-ray heartbeat"
- The discovery published in – "Nature Astronomy" Journal
- Fermi Space Telescope – operated by the NASA
- [NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**11.** As per the data collected by NASA's Dawn spacecraft, an ocean of 'salty water' is found at about 40 km beneath the surface of dwarf planet 'Ceres'. It is located between Mars and Jupiter. The scientists have given Ceres the status of an "ocean world" as it has a big reservoir of salty water. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Data of NASA's Dawn spacecraft – an ocean of 'salty water' is found 40 km beneath the surface of 'Ceres'
- [NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine](#)

**12.** Ashfaq Mehmood Choudhary, a 17-year-old boy from Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, has developed a file-sharing app 'Dodo Drop'. It would enable users to share audios, videos, images, and texts between two devices without Internet access. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashfaq Mehmood Choudhary (J & K) – developed 'Dodo Drop' – a file sharing app
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



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

**Key Points:**

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

**14.** China successfully launched a new Optical Remote-Sensing Satellite namely "Gaofen-9 05" by a Long March-2D carrier rocket from its Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China launched – an Optical Remote-Sensing Satellite namely "Gaofen-9 05" – by Long March-2D carrier rocket
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

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

**Key Points:**

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

**16.** Google has launched a new feature namely "Nearby Share" for Android users to share files seamlessly with other users in close range. Google's Nearby Share feature is similar to Apple's 'AirDrop' feature. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Google launched – "Nearby Share" to share files with other users in close range
- 'AirDrop' feature – belong to Apple
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai



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

**Key Points:**

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

**18.** ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has launched an AI-powered voice chatbot - "LiGo" on Google Assistant as part of its customer service initiative. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**19.** IIT Bombay students Kunal Deshmukh and Kritti Sharma, working on a research project, have discovered "2020 QG" - the closest-known asteroid to fly by Earth without impacting the planet. An SUV-sized asteroid soared just 2,950 km above the surface of Earth. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kunal Deshmukh & Kritti Sharma (IIT Bombay) – discovered "2020 QG" - the closest-known asteroid to fly by Earth

**20.** IIT Madras' Healthcare Technology Innovation Centre (HTIC) and Helyxon, a healthcare startup in IIT Madras Research Park have announced successful deployment of a first of its kind remote patient monitoring solutions for COVID-19 that they have jointly developed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HTIC + Helyxon (IIT Madras) = deployed a first of its kind remote patient monitoring solutions for COVID-19

**21.** In Uttar Pradesh, IIT Kanpur in collaboration with Agnys Waste Management Private Limited (start-up at IIT Kanpur) has developed indigenous seed balls named "BEEG" (Bio-compost Enriched Eco-friendly Globule). It will help people and farmers in plantation with safety in Corona times. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Kanpur + Agnys Waste Management = developed indigenous seed balls named "BEEG" – in Uttar Pradesh
- BEEG - Bio-compost Enriched Eco-friendly [Globule](#)



- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**22.** India's second lunar mission "Chandrayaan-2" completed 1 year in orbit around the moon. Chandrayaan-2 was launched on July 22, 2019 and inserted into the lunar orbit on August 20, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's second lunar mission "Chandrayaan-2" completed 1 year in orbit around the moon
- Launched on – July 22, 2019 | Inserted into the lunar orbit on – August 20, 2019

**23.** Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) is the single-window nodal agency that will enable and regulate space activities and the use of ISRO facilities by the private sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IN-SPACe – the single-window nodal agency – to enable and regulate space activities
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan

**24.** Indian Railways has developed Remote-Controlled Medical Trolley "MEDBOT" to deliver food, medicines to COVID-19 patients. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**25.** Israel has conducted a successful test of the country's advance ballistic missile interceptor named 'Arrow-2'. The test was conducted jointly with the U.S. Missile Defense Agency. Israel and the USA had jointly tested Arrow-3 successfully last year in Alaska. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Israel + USA = jointly conducted a successful test of – 'Arrow-2' an advance ballistic missile interceptor
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu
- USA: Capital – Washington, D.C. | President – Donald Trump

**26.** IT company Tech Mahindra has started a coronavirus screening service 'Mhealthy' to detect COVID-19 antibodies. The platform is clinically tested and compliant with all government-mandated regulations. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Tech Mahindra started – 'Mhealthy' - a coronavirus screening service – to detect COVID-19 antibodies
- HQs of Tech Mahindra – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Chander Prakash Gurnani

**27.** Karnataka's Medical Education Minister Dr. K Sudhakar has inaugurated the country's first-ever mobile RT-PCR (reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction) testing lab. This Mobile Infection Testing and Reporting (MITR) lab is developed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Karnataka inaugurated – India's first-ever mobile RT-PCR or Mobile Infection Testing and Reporting (MITR) lab
- It is approved by – ICMR & developed by – IISc
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

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

### Key Points:

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

**29.** Microsoft Research Lab has developed an Interactive Neural Machine Translation (INMT) tool, which translates sentences from Hindi to Gondi and vice-versa. Gondi is a tribal language. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Microsoft Research Lab developed – an INMT tool – to translate Gondi language
- INMT – Interactive Neural Machine Translation
- Microsoft: HQs – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella

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

### Key Points:

- NASA – to conduct a study/research on an asteroid called "16 Psyche" – in 2022
- The mission will arrive on the Psyche asteroid – in 2026



- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

**31.** NASA's TESS (Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite) has found 66 new exoplanets during its 2-year-long primary mission in the solar system. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA's Satellite - TESS (Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite) – found 66 new exoplanets
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

**32.** National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched “nth Rewards” - a business intelligence and analytics enabled omni-channel multi-branded loyalty platform. It will allow users to earn points through various bank transactions and redeem them on various products. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NPCI launched – “nth Rewards”
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe

**33.** Nitin Gadkari has unveiled a microwave device named ‘Atulya’ that can disinfect premises in just 30 seconds. The device has been 100% indigenously manufactured. It is developed by the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari unveiled – ‘Atulya’ a microwave device to disinfect premises in 30 seconds – developed by DIAT
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- HQs of DIAT – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairperson – C. P. Ramanarayanan

**34.** Paytm has introduced ‘Stock Trading services’ on its investment and wealth management platform - Paytm Money. The new service is currently available in Beta mode. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Paytm introduced – ‘Stock Trading services’ on its Paytm Money (currently available in - Beta mode)
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO of Paytm – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar
- CEO of Paytm Payment Bank – Satish Kumar Gupta | CEO of Paytm General Ins. Ltd. – Vineet Arora



**35.** Paytm has launched a pocket Android POS (Point Of Sale) device called "Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS" with an aim to reduce contact while ordering and making payments. The device is available at Rs 499. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Paytm launched – "Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS" – at Rs 499
- Paytm HQs – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Paytm CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- Paytm Payment Bank CEO – Satish Kumar Gupta | Paytm General Ins. CEO – Vineet Arora

**36.** Professor Samir K. Pal & his group at S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences (SNBNCBS), Kolkata, have developed a No-touch & Painless device called "AJO-Neo" for non-invasive screening of bilirubin level in newborns. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SNBNCBS developed – "AJO-Neo" a No-touch & Painless device
- HQs of SNBNCBS – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director – Samit Kumar Ray

**37.** Researchers at IIT Kharagpur have developed e-Classroom software namely 'Deekshak' for teachers. Deekshak is a single session platform where the teacher would concentrate on the screen with the teaching materials while being able to view queries on a live chat box. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Kharagpur developed – 'Deekshak' e-Classroom software for Teachers

**38.** Scientists at Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have studied stars of Omega Centauri globular cluster and discovered some Helium (He)-enhanced cool bright stars. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIA Scientists discovered – Helium (He)-enhanced cool bright stars
- HQs of IIA – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Annapurni Subramaniam

**39.** Scientists at the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI) have discovered the new species of the Genus Ardisia in the Akkamalai forest within the "Anamalai Tiger Reserve" in Tamil Nadu recently. It has been named "Ardisia ramaswamii" after M. S. Ramaswami. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- JNTBGRI discovered – "Ardisia ramoswamii" – a species of Genus Ardisia – in "Anamalai Tiger Reserve" (Tamil Nadu)
- The species is named after – M. S. Ramaswami
- HQs of JNTBGRI – Palode, Kerala | Director – Dr R Prakashkumar

**40.** Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad has launched "Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solutions for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat" to provide further impetus to the strong ecosystem of Start-up, innovation and research in the country. IIT Madras and Center for Development of Advance Computing (CDAC) have indigenously developed 2 microprocessors named SHAKTI (32 bit) and VEGA (64 bit) respectively using Open Source Architecture under the aegis of Microprocessor Development Programme of MeitY. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ravi Shankar Prasad launched – "Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge- Innovate Solutions for #Aatmanirbhar Bharat"
- IIT Madras + CDAC (Pune) = indigenously developed 2 microprocessors – SHAKTI (32 bit) & VEGA (64 bit)
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)

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

**Key Points:**

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

**42.** Tata Steel has launched "FerroHaat" - a first-of-its-kind mobile application, to source steel scrap from the traders. The FerroHaat App is a LIVE 24x7 market place to sell scrap. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Steel launched – "FerroHaat" - a first-of-its-kind mobile application – to source steel scrap from Traders
- HQs of Tata Steel Ltd – Mumbai | CEO – T. V. Narendran
- HQs of Indian Steel Association (ISA) – New Delhi | President – Dilip Oommen





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

**Key Points:**

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

**44.** The Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) has developed a biodegradable face mask namely "Pavitrapati". It is based on Nanofibres of Ayurvedic products which acts as a virus neutralizer and resists the bacteria. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DIAT developed – "Pavitrapati" - a biodegradable face mask
- HQs of DIAT – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairperson – C. P. Ramanarayanan

**45.** The Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport has developed an online portal named "Air Suvidha". It will allow international arriving passengers to fill a mandatory self-declaration form and eligible passengers to apply for exemption from compulsory institutional quarantine for coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport developed – an online portal - "Air Suvidha" – For all international arriving passengers

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

**Key Points:**

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

**47.** The new species of pygmy grasshopper, which was discovered after 116 years by a group of Croatian and German researchers in Sinharaja rainforests of Sri Lanka, hails from Cladonotus genus and has been named as



Cladonotus Bhaskari after Kerala researcher 'Dhaneesh Bhaskar'. It resembles tiny twigs hence it is also called Twighopper. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- New species of Pygmy grasshopper or Twighopper – discovered after 116 years by Croatian & German researchers
- It is named – 'Cladonotus bhaskari' – after Kerala researcher 'Dhaneesh Bhaskar'
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**48.** The researchers at University of Maryland and the Institute of Geophysics at ETH Zurich have found that Venus has 37 active volcanic structures. The study was published in Nature Geoscience Journal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 37 Active Volcanic Structures – found on 'Venus'
- The study published in – Nature Geoscience Journal

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

**Key Points:**

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

**50.** The Terrain Mapping Camera on board Chandrayaan-2's orbiter of ISRO has captured the image of Sarabhai crater, named after the father of the Indian space programme, on the moon. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The Terrain Mapping Camera on board Chandrayaan-2's orbiter captured the image of – Sarabhai crater
- The crater is named after – Vikram Sarabhai (The father of the Indian space programme)
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed in – 1969

**51.** The U.S. Air Force has conducted a scheduled test launch of an "LGM-30G Minuteman III" intercontinental ballistic missile with a very unusual load of three unarmed reentry vehicles. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- USA conducted test launch of – “LGM-30G Minuteman III” – Intercontinental ballistic missile
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

**52.** The US astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley, who were sent to the International Space Station in SpaceX's new Crew Dragon “Endeavor” spacecraft, have returned to the Earth in the capsule in the Gulf of Mexico after 2 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley (US Astronauts) – returned to the Earth in the Gulf of Mexico – after 2 months
- They were sent to the International Space Station in – SpaceX's new “Crew Dragon Endeavor” spacecraft
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk

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

**Key Points:**

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

**54.** Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has announced the completion of pan-India 1000 genome sequencing of SARS-CoV-2. The Department of Biotechnology has launched a “Pan-India 1000 SARS-CoV-2 RNA Genome Sequencing programme” in collaboration with national laboratories and clinical organisations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Department of Biotechnology launched – “Pan-India 1000 SARS-CoV-2 RNA Genome Sequencing programme”
- Dept. of Biotechnology works under – Ministry of Science and Technology | Secretary – Renu Swarup

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

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Gadkari launched – 'Harit Path' mobile app to monitor the plantation along the national highways
- The app is developed by – NHAI (HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sukhbir Singh Sandhu)



- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)

**56.** Municipal corporations and state pollution boards have been mandated to upload data pertaining to collection and disposal of Covid-19 biomedical from residences and quarantine centres on an app called 'COVID19BWM'. The app is created by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CPCB created – 'COVID19BWM' app – to upload data pertaining to collection and disposal of Covid-19 biomedical
- HQs of CPCB – New Delhi | Chairman – Shri Shiv Das Meena



# Ordinance, Bills and Acts

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

## **Key Points:**

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

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

## **Key Points:**

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

**3.** Maharashtra state government has discontinued pensions being given to those who had been jailed for opposing the Emergency between 1975 and 1977. Rs 10,000 was being paid to all those who had spent more than a month in jail. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Maharashtra discontinued Pension Scheme – for the people who were jailed during '1975-77 Emergency Period'
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**4.** Odisha Government has decided to bring an ordinance to enhance the penalty for non-compliance of COVID-19 guidelines. It was decided to enhance the punishment as provided in section 3 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Odisha decided to bring an ordinance – to enhance the penalty for non-compliance of COVID-19 guidelines
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

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

### Key Points:

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

6. The government has notified an "e-invoicing" system under the goods and services tax (GST) regime which makes it mandatory for large businesses with turnover of over Rs 500 Crore to submit sales invoices electronically. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Large businesses with turnover of over Rs 500 Crore – needs to submit sales "e-invoicing"

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

### Key Points:

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

8. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has amended the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016 by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Liquidation Process) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2020 under sub-section (1) of section 196 read with section 240. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IBBI amended – Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016
- Under – Section 240



- It was – 3rd amendment
- HQs of IBBI – New Delhi | Chairperson – M S Sahoo

**9.** The Meghalaya Government has brought the policy of reserving at least 50% seats for women in the grassroot village level community institutions or Village Employment Councils (VECs). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Meghalaya reserved – 50% seats for women – in Village Employment Councils (VECs)
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

**10.** The Ministry of Education was renamed as the HRD ministry in 1985. Now again, HRD Ministry is officially named "Ministry of Education" as it has received President's nod under clause (3) of Article 77 of the Constitution. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HRD Ministry – is now officially named "Ministry of Education" – under clause (3) of Article 77
- In 1985 – 'Ministry of Education' was renamed as the 'HRD ministry'
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

**11.** The Rajasthan government has amended the Rajasthan Judicial Service Rules-2010, through the state cabinet on the initiative by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot to provide 5% reservation in place of 1% in the state judicial service. The more backward classes include Gurjars, Raika-Rabari, Gadiya-Lohars, Banjara and Gadariya. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan amended – Rajasthan Judicial Service Rules-2010 – to provide 5% reservation in state judicial service
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**12.** The Supreme Court has cleared the legal cobwebs to declare that daughters will have inheritance rights equal to those of sons from properties of fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers right from the codification of the law in 1956. The judgment was passed by 3-judge Bench of Supreme Court headed by Justice Arun Mishra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Supreme Court gives Equal Inheritance Right to daughters – From the condition of the law in 1956



- This Right is given according to – Hindu Succession (amendment) Act 2005
- Judgment passed by 3-judge Bench of SC – headed by Justice Arun Mishra
- Supreme Court Chief of Justice – Sharad Arvind Bobde (47<sup>th</sup>)

**13.** The US Congressional committee has passed a bill, written by civil rights icon John Lewis, to promote the legacies of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USA passed a bill – to promote the legacies of Mahatma Gandhi & Martin Luther King Jr
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump





# Current GK

1. "Indravati National Park" is a national park located in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh state of India. It derives its name from the nearby Indravati River. It is home to one of the last populations of rare wild buffalo. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "Indravati National Park" – in Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

2. "Mount Sinabung" on Indonesia's Sumatra island has erupted recently in August sending volcanic materials as high as 5,000 meters (16,400 feet) into the sky. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "Mount Sinabung" – on 'Sumatra island' – Indonesia
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo

3. A 5-year-old male tiger was killed by another tiger in 'Panna National Park'. It was fifth in last seven months. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Panna National Park – Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

4. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has commenced civil works at 660-MW "Sagardighi Supercritical Thermal Power Project" in West Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- BHEL commenced civil works at – "Sagardighi Supercritical Thermal Power Project" – in West Bengal
- HQs of BHEL – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

5. India has proposed Sri Lanka to send the first international flight to the newly upgraded Kushinagar airport in Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:



- India proposed Sri Lanka – to send 1<sup>st</sup> International Flight – to “Kushinagar Airport” – located in Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

**6.** Senior military commanders from India and China has held talks on Ladakh’s “Depsang Plains” where the forward deployment of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army has disrupted the Indian Army’s patrolling patterns. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Depsang Plains” – Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

**7.** The Kozhikode tragedy has once again brought into focus the short size of the Gaya airport runway. The Gaya Airport runway is 2286 meters long, while the Kozhikode runway is 2,860 meters long and much longer than the Gaya airport runway and yet the tragedy occurred. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Gaya International Airport’ – Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**8.** The water level of Sharda Barrage in the Banbasa area of the Champawat district is constantly rising due to the rise in the level of Sharda river after incessant rainfall in Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Sharda river” – Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**9.** There was a major landslide inside the “Kudremukh National Park” at Alladakadu of Belthangady taluk in Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Kudremukh National Park” – Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala



**10.** This year the government has cancelled to organise 'Independence Day' Function at 'Chhatrasal Stadium'. During the Independence Day celebrations, Delhi government honoured Covid warriors of Delhi who have played a key role in helping the society fight the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Chhatrasal Stadium' – Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**11.** 19 districts of Assam were under water and 8.54 lakh people were hit by the flood recently in August. The Brahmaputra was flowing above the danger mark. There was an imminent threat to "Manas National Park". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Manas National Park" – located in Assam – is in a threat of flood
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**12.** A 12-year-old elephant, Roopa, at Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) gave birth to a male calf recently on the 1st August. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bannerghatta Biological Park – Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**13.** A male swamp deer, also known as Barasingha has died due to a prolonging illness at the "Nandankanan Zoological Park" located at Bhubaneswar in Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Nandankanan Zoological Park" – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**14.** A minor fire broke out on a coastal shipping boat anchored at the Visakhapatnam Port Trust West Q5 berth. The BD51 ship from Chennai reached the port at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Visakhapatnam Port Trust" – Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)



- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**15.** A thermometer at “Death Valley National Park” in the Southern California desert of the USA has registered a temperature of 54.4 degrees Celsius. It is the highest temperature in more than a century. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Death Valley National Park (in USA) – registered the highest temperature of 54.4 degrees Celsius
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

**16.** A woolly flying squirrel that was thought to be extinct almost 70 years back has been spotted at “Gangotri National Park” in Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Gangotri National Park” – Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**17.** Aadi Perukku, also known as the Aadi monsoon festival was recently celebrated in Tamil Nadu. The festival assumes added significance in the Cauvery Delta region, where farmers also pay homage to Mother nature in the form of the majestic Cauvery river. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Aadi Perukku or Aadi monsoon festival – Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

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

**Key Points:**

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

**19.** According to a recent study, a high rate of deforestation was noticed in Papum Reserve Forest (RF), a major hornbill habitat in Arunachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- A high rate of deforestation noticed in – Papum Reserve Forest – in Arunachal Pradesh
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

**20.** According to a study by the scientists of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG), the Himalayas host hundreds of Geothermal Springs and they release a huge amount of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Geothermal springs in Himalayas release large amount of – Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- HQs of WIHG – Dehradun, Uttarakhand | Chairman – Prof. Ashok Sahni

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

**Key Points:**

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

**22.** An Indian Air Force (IAF) chopper has airlifted a man stranded in the water at Khutaghat Dam near Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IAF chopper airlifted a man – at Khutaghat Dam – located in Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**23.** Around 17 people were killed and scores injured when an Air India Express flight from Dubai with 190 on board overshot the tabletop runway in Kozhikode airport in Kerala. The pilot-in-command Captain Deepak Sathe and his co-pilot Akhilesh Kumar also died. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tabletop runway plane crash – at Kozhikode airport – in Kerala
- Pilot-in-command – Captain Deepak Sathe
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan



**24.** As many as 124 incidents of domestic livestock being attacked by wild animals, particularly leopards, were reported in Morni Hills and Pinjore and in the areas near Kalesar National Park. 'Kalesar National Park' shares boundaries with Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Kalesar National Park' & 'Morni Hills' – located in Haryana
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

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

**Key Points:**

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

**26.** At least 18 persons were killed and 52 others are missing after a series of landslips at the Nayamakkad tea estate in Idukki district. The Nayamakkad estate is located about 30 km from Munnar, adjacent to the "Eravikulam National Park" (ENP). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Eravikulam National Park" – Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**27.** Authorities in Mauritius have arrested the Indian captain of the Japanese ship that ran aground near Mauritius and spilled 1,000 tons of oil into two parts near "Blue Bay Marine Park" in south-east Mauritius. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1000 tons of oil spilled by Indian captain of the Japanese ship – near 'Blue Bay Marine Park' area – in Mauritius
- Mauritius – Port Louis – Mauritian rupee | PM – Pravind Kumar Jugnauth

**28.** Bangladesh is planning to start the process of relocating Rohingya refugees from the crowded camps of Cox's Bazar to the newly built facility at 'Bhashan Char' island after the monsoon session. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Bhashan Char' island – located in Bangladesh



- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**29.** Central Water Commission (CWC) has issued inflow forecast for Idukki Dam on river Periyar of 500 cumec, during the period of August 4 and 5 this year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Idukki Dam – on Periyar River (Kerala) – likely to get an average inflow of 500 cumec
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

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

**Key Points:**

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

**31.** District collector K Rajamani has sounded flood alert along the Bhavani river banks after the quantity of water that was released from the Pillur Dam was increased to 22,000 cusecs (cubic feet per second) from 6,000 cusecs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pillur Dam – on Bhavani river – in Mettupalayam, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**32.** Ecuador was on alert as a flotilla of 260 mostly Chinese fishing vessels was sighted near the Galapagos archipelago, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, whose aquatic species such as manta rays and sharks have been endangered by commercial fishing. The Galapagos Islands, spread over almost 60,000 sq km, are a part of Ecuador, and are located in the Pacific Ocean. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Galapagos Islands – the world's 1st UNESCO world heritage site – located in Ecuador
- Ecuador – Quito – US Dollar



**33.** Flooding in the riverside villages of Odisha has given rise to fear of crocodiles entering human habitations from “Bhitarkanika National Park”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**34.** For the first time big cat count will be conducted in the agricultural belt of Pilibhit's Amaria tehsil, where a tigress and 3 cubs had moved into 8 years ago. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amaria Tehsil – in “Pilibhit Tiger Reserve” – Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**35.** In accordance with the Centre’s decision to plant 2,000 saplings in every airport across the country, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel has planted around 250 saplings at the Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport in Amritsar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CISF personnel planted 250 saplings at “Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport” – in Punjab
- CISF HQs – New Delhi | Director – Rajesh Ranjan
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**36.** Italy's Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte has inaugurated a 3,500-foot-long “Genova-San Giorgio Bridge” (Saint George Bridge) across the Polcevera River in the north-western city of Genoa. The bridge was collapsed on August 14, 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Genova-San Giorgio Bridge” (Saint George Bridge) – over Polcevera River – in Genoa, Italy
- Italy – Rome – Euro | PM – Giuseppe Conte

**37.** Modak Sagar, one of the seven reservoirs which supply water to the metropolis, had started overflowing on August 19, 2020 following heavy monsoon rainfall in Mumbai. Modak Sagar is on the Vaitarna river in Thane district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**





- Modak Sagar Dam – on the Vaitarna river – in Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**41.** Odisha state has set up Elephant Conservation Projects in “Similipal National Park” and in the Mahanadi and Sambalpur ranges. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Odisha set up 'Elephant Conservation Projects' – in 'Similipal National Park'
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

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

### Key Points:

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

**43.** Palamu Tiger Reserve which is a part of Betla National Park has announced a cash reward of Rs 5,000 for providing credible information about presence or movement of tigers inside the state's only home for tigers. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 'Palamu Tiger Reserve' or 'Betla National Park' – located in Jharkhand
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

**44.** Pin Valley National Park is a National park of India located within the Lahaul and Spiti district, in the state of Himachal Pradesh, in far northern India.

### Key Points:

- "Pin Valley National Park" – located in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

**45.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended his good wishes to the farmers on 'Nuakhai Juhar' and wished for their prosperity and good health. 'Nuakhai Juhar' also known as 'Nuakhai Parab', is one of the most ancient festivals celebrated in Odisha & Chhattisgarh. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 'Nuakhai Juhar' or 'Nuakhai Parab' festivals – celebrated in Odisha & Chhattisgarh
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey



**46.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently shared some beautiful visuals of the iconic 'Modhera Sun Temple' through video on Twitter. Set along the backdrop of River Pushpavati, this is one of the legacies of the Solanki rulers, according to the official website of Gujarat tourism. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Modhera Sun Temple' – in Gujarat | Legacies of – Solanki rulers
- It is set along the backdrop of – River Pushpavati
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**49.** Srijit Mukherji was shooting for his next project 'Feluda Ferot' at "Gorumara National Park" in Jalpaiguri and capturing some key shots using a drone was an essential part. Later, he was fined for breaking the law. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Gorumara National Park' – West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

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



**Key Points:**

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

**51.** The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has taken over the security of the “Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport”, Leh the country's highest-altitude commercial aerodrome in the newly created Union Territory of Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CISF – took over the security of – “Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport” – located in Leh, Ladakh
- CISF HQs – New Delhi | Director – Rajesh Ranjan
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

**52.** The Centre has shortlisted 3 firms for the construction of the long-pending strategic project of the construction of 'Zojila Tunnel' in the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The Centre shortlisted 3 firms for the construction – 'Zojila Tunnel' – located in “J & K + Ladakh”
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

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

**Key Points:**

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

**54.** The country's third tiger reintroduction programme at Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve (MHTR) has yielded results with tigress MT-2 giving birth to two cubs, the first such instance in the reserve. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve” – Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra



**55.** The Delhi government's forest department is planning to build over 70 small check dams in the catchment areas of the "Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary" to conserve rainwater and prevent soil erosion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi – to build over 70 small check dams in "Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary" – located in New Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**56.** The Highest Railway Bridge in India and the world is being constructed over River Chenab in Jammu and Kashmir. The main arch of this Chenab railway bridge has just been launched. It is above the Chenab River at 359 metres & 1.3 km-long. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The Highest Railway Bridge in the world is being constructed over "River Chenab" – in Reasi, J & K
- Height – 359 m | Length – 1.3 km
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**57.** The historic 'Sarkhej Roza' monument found a place in the 5-stamp set released by India Post on the occasion of 74th Independence Day. The set is themed 'Unesco World Heritage Sites in India-III'. The other four monuments are: Church of Bom Jesus (Goa), monuments at Pattadakal (Karnataka), Javeri temple at Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh) and Qutb Minar (Delhi). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Sarkhej Roza' monument (in Gujarat) – received world heritage site stamp – released by India Post
- Javeri temple at Khajuraho – in Madhya Pradesh
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**58.** The Locals in Handwara town of Jammu & Kashmir have celebrated the first year of abrogation of Article 370 by organising a two-day festival 'Bangas Awaam Mela'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Bangas Awaam Mela' – celebrated in Handwara, J & K (1 year of abrogation of Article 370)
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



**59.** The Minapur block of the Muzaffarpur district in Bihar continued to face flood fury after a rise in the water level of the Burhi Gandak river due to the rains. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Burhi Gandak river – Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**62.** The researchers team from the University of Zurich has discovered that New Guinea has the highest plant diversity of any island in the world. More than 13,000 species can be found on New Guinea. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- New Guinea – the world’s most plant rich island – with more than 13,000 species

**63.** The second 220 MW unit at the ‘Narora Atomic Power Station’ (NAPS) in Uttar Pradesh has completed 2 years of continuous safe operation. The second unit at NAPS has become the fourth Indian reactor to achieve this milestone after Kaiga Atomic Power Station. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Narora Atomic Power Station’ (Uttar Pradesh) – completed 2 years of continuous safe operation
- ‘Kaiga Atomic Power Station’ – located in Karnataka



**64.** The southern bench of the National Green Tribunal has granted an interim stay on felling of coconut trees in Agatti Island in Lakshadweep for the purpose of forming a beach road. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NGT granted an interim stay on felling of Coconut Tress – in ‘Agatti Island’ – Lakshadweep, India

**65.** The Union Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel has announced to combine ‘Mini Circle’ with ‘Delhi Circle’. It will also result in less budget allocation to Delhi. There were 110 ancient buildings including famous world heritage sites such as Qutub Minar, Lal Quila, Hauz Khas and Humayun’s Tomb with the Delhi circle. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prahlad Singh Patel announced to combine – ‘Mini Circle’ with ‘Delhi Circle’
- Qutub Minar, Lal Quila, Hauz Khas and Humayun’s Tomb – located in Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**66.** The Union environment ministry has not granted approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for 2 projects proposed by the Mollem National Park and Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Mollem National Park’ & ‘Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary’ – both located in Goa
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

**67.** The water level has risen in the Krishna river and other rivers in Raichur district after increased outflow from Narayanpur Dam (Basava Sagar Reservoir). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narayanpur Dam (Basava Sagar Reservoir) – located in Karnataka – built over Krishna river
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

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

**Key Points:**



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

**69.** Twenty four of the 64 sluice gates of “Hirakud Dam” were opened by authorities to discharge the floodwaters, following incessant rain that caused Mahanadi river water level to rise. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

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

**70.** Two farmers in South 24 Parganas district in West Bengal are betting on the 'Pokkali' variety of rice from Kerala to tide over a crisis-like situation created by severe seawater incursion into paddy fields. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Pokkali' is variety of – Rice – in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**71.** United Arab Emirates has announced the startup of its “Barakah Nuclear Power Plant” to deliver a new form of clean energy for the nation. UAE first nuclear reactor at the Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant has achieved first criticality and successfully started up. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UAE announced the startup of – “Barakah Nuclear Power Plant”
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

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

**Key Points:**

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

**73.** With a new high-tech cold storage facility for safekeeping of delicate tulip bulbs, Srinagar's world-famous “Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip garden” is ready for next season's bloom. The garden is Asia's largest tulip





garden situated on the foothills of the Zabarwan Range with an overview of Dal Lake. It was opened in 2007. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden” – Asia's largest tulip garden – in Srinagar, J & K
- Zabarwan Range – in J & K
- J &K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**74.** With an aim to increase the speed of cleaning of Dal Lake, the Jammu & Kashmir Lakes and Waterways Development Authority (LAWDA) has procured new high-tech machines through the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Srinagar's Dal Lake – will now be cleaned with High-Tech Machines – procured from DMRC
- J &K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**75.** WWF-India State unit has joined hands with the Society for Odonate Studies (SOS) and Thumbipuranam for the first-ever State Dragonfly Festival in Kerala christened - “Thumbimahotsavam 2020”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WWF-India + SOS = celebrated “Thumbimahotsavam 2020” - the first-ever State Dragonfly Festival – in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan





# SmartKeeda

The Question Bank

Presents

## TestZone

India's least priced Test Series platform



### ALL BANK EXAMS

2020-2021 Test Series

@ Just

# ₹ 599/-

300+ Full Length Tests

- Brilliant Test Analysis
- Excellent Content
- Unmatched Explanations

JOIN NOW

[www.smartkeeda.com](http://www.smartkeeda.com) | [testzone.smartkeeda.com](http://testzone.smartkeeda.com)

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



Join us