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सर्वश्रेष्ठ टेस्ट सीरीज



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## An important message from Team Smartkeeda

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

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

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda

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### स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

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

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

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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# National & States Affairs

1. A consignment of GI certified “Fazil mango” variety sourced from Malda district of West Bengal was exported to Bahrain. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- GI certified “Fazil mango” from Malda, West Bengal – exported to Bahrain
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

2. “Krishikarna” project, a joint initiative of Kerala’s State Agri Horticultural Society (SAHS), Sustainable Foundation and Qore3 Innovations was launched in Pallikkal panchayat of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala to promote hi-tech farming. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- SAHS + Sustainable Foundation + Qore3 Innovations = launched “Krishikarna” project in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

3. Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya has headed the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Day celebrations of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) along with Dr. Bharati Pawar, MoS (HFW). At the event, the Union Health Minister virtually inaugurated the Whole Genome Sequencing National Reference Laboratory for Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and BSL 3 Laboratory along with a PG hostel and Guest House. He also launched the first newsletter under the “National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health” developed by Centre of Environmental and Occupational Health, Climate Change and Health. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Mansukh Mandaviya – headed the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Day celebrations of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)
- He inaugurated the Whole Genome Sequencing National Reference Laboratory for Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)
- He also launched the 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter under the “National Programme on Climate Change & Human Health”
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat

4. Union Home Affairs minister Amit Shah has laid the foundation of state’s “Forensic Sciences Institute” in Lucknow. The institute is proposed to be affiliated to Gujarat-based National Forensics Sciences University (NFSU). It is estimated to cost ₹200 Cr. The Central government has allocated ₹15 Cr for the DNA centre which would be India's most advanced research hub. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Amit Shah laid the foundation of UP’s “Forensic Sciences Institute” in Lucknow (estimated cost ₹200 Cr)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



5. On August 2, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated “Sahajeevanam”, the Social Justice Department’s project for opening support centres for the differently abled. These centres would get the support of Health, Education, Local Self-government, and Women and Child Development Department. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – inaugurated Social Justice Department’s project “Sahajeevanam” for the Differently Abled
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

6. On August 2, The SEBI has reduced the minimum application value of ‘REITs’ and ‘InvITs’, and revised trading lot to one unit for these emerging investment instruments to make them attractive for retail investors. The minimum application value has been reduced to the range of Rs 10,000-15,000 for both REITs and InvITs, compared to the earlier requirement of Rs 50,000 for REITs and Rs 1 lakh for InvITs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – reduced the minimum application value of ‘REITs’ & ‘InvITs’ to the range of Rs 10,000-15,000
- REITs – Real Estate Investment Trusts | InvITs – Infrastructure Investment Trusts
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Founded on – April 12, 1992

7. On August 1, One of the twin tunnels at Kuthiran on the Thrissur-Palakkad National Highway (NH) in Kerala was opened for traffic. This is the first road tunnel in the State and will drastically improve connectivity to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The 1.6 km is designed through the Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kuthiran tunnel opened for traffic – on the Thrissur-Palakkad National Highway (NH) in Kerala
- It will improve connectivity to Tamil Nadu & Karnataka
- “Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary” – located in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

8. On August 1, The Central government has asked the North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC) to map and demarcate State boundaries using satellite imaging to solve the border dispute between Assam and Mizoram. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central government asked the ‘NESAC’ to map State boundaries using satellite imaging to solve the border dispute between Assam & Mizoram
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – Hari Babu Kambhampati



**9.** On August 1, Ram Nath Kovind has addressed the commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Madras Legislative Council in Chennai and unveiled a portrait of the former chief minister Dr. Kalamangar M Karunanidhi. The president visited the Defence Services Staff College at Wellington on August 4 and addressed the Student Officers of the 77<sup>th</sup> Staff Course. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – addressed the commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Madras Legislative Council in Chennai

**10.** The Central government has given its nod for setting up of two underground facilities to store crude oil for commercial and strategic purpose, under the “Petroleum Reserve Programme Phase-II”. The facilities are proposed to be set up at Odisha’s Chandikhol and Karnataka’s Padur on Public-Private-Partnership mode. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central government approved to set up 2 more underground storage facilities for Strategic Oil Reserves
- The facilities will be set up at Chandikhol (Odisha) & Padur (Karnataka)

**11.** The Andhra Pradesh State Department of Fisheries designed a novel scheme under the brand name “Fish Andhra” by establishing Aqua Hubs in line with “Pradhana Mantri Mathsyasampadha Yojana” (PMMSY), a central government scheme. By signing an MoU with the state government, Bank of Baroda is supporting the state in setting up 100 Aqua Hubs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bank of Baroda + Andhra Pradesh = an MoU to set up 100 Aqua Hubs under the “Fish Andhra” scheme
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India’s International Bank”
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**12.** Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) has decided to set up “Garima Grihas” for Transgender persons with the help of community-based organizations. 12 pilot shelter homes have been initiated with the aim of providing safe and secure shelter to transgender persons. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoSJE – to set up “Garima Grihas” for Transgender persons with the help of community-based organizations
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh

**13.** Titagarh Wagons held a virtual ceremony to mark the flagging off of its first train for “Pune Metro” (Maharashtra Metro Cooperation) which was manufactured by its subsidiary Titagarh Firema S.p. in Italy. The first contract was signed for design, manufacture and supply of 34 trains of 3 coaches each to Maha Metro on 12 September 2019. Under this contract, the first 3 trains are to be built in Titagarh’s plant in Caserta, Italy and the balance 31 trains will be manufactured in Titagarh’s plant in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Titagarh Wagons – held a virtual ceremony to mark the flagging off of its first train for “Pune Metro”
- It was manufactured by its subsidiary in Caserta, Italy
- HQs of Titagarh Wagons – Kolkata, West Bengal | Chairman – J. P. Chowdhary
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi

**14.** The first goods train between Haldibari in West Bengal & Chilahati in Bangladesh was flagged off carrying stone chips (construction material) after 1965. The ‘Haldibari – Chilahati’ rail link was operational till 1965. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The 1<sup>st</sup> goods train carrying stone chips to Bangladesh through ‘Haldibari - Chilahati’ Rail Link – flagged off
- The ‘Haldibari – Chilahati’ rail link was operational till 1965 | Haldibari in West Bengal & Chilahati in Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**15.** On August 3, The government has launched “Sabki Yojna Sabka Vikas” campaign for inclusive and holistic preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). Under ‘Article 243 G’ of Constitution, Panchayats have been mandated for preparation and implementation of plans for Economic Development and Social Justice. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government launched “Sabki Yojna Sabka Vikas” campaign for inclusive and holistic preparation of ‘GPDP’
- Panchayats have been mandated for implementation of ‘GPDP’ under ‘Article 243 G’ of Constitution

**16.** On August 4, The Andhra Pradesh government is contemplating merger of the Department of Planning with the Department of Finance. The file in this regard has been prepared recently and it is under circulation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh – contemplating merger of the Department of Planning with the Department of Finance
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**17.** On August 5, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched a study called “Heath QUEST” to upgrade service quality and ensure zero defect in Indian hospitals. The project was launched by ISRO across 20 private hospitals countrywide. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO – launched a study called “Heath QUEST” to upgrade service quality of Indian hospitals
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969



**18.** On August 5, India Meteorological Department (IMD) has undertaken installation of agro-automatic weather stations (AWS) at 200 District Agromet Units (DAMUs) at Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) across India. These AWSs will be used for augmenting block level agromet advisory services under Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IMD – to install agro-automatic weather stations (AWS) at 200 District Agromet Units (DAMUs) at KVKs across India
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra | Founded in – 1875

**19.** On August 4, The Supreme Court has held that the Governor of a State can pardon prisoners, including death row ones, even before they have served a minimum 14 years of prison sentence, under 'Article 161' of the Indian Constitution. The Bench was considering the feasibility of remission policies in Haryana. The Governor's power to pardon overrides a provision in the Code of Criminal Procedure - 'Section 433A'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Governor of a State can pardon prisoners even before they have served a minimum 14 years of prison sentence
- The applicability of powers under: 'Article 161' of the Constitution vis-a-vis 'Section 433A' of Criminal Procedure Code

**20.** On August 4, Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed and black-topped the highest road in the world at Umlingla Pass in Eastern Ladakh situated at an altitude of 19,300 feet. The summit of Mount Everest is a little over 29,000 feet. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The BRO constructed the highest road in the world at 'Umlingla Pass' in Eastern Ladakh (at an altitude of 19,300 ft)
- Umlingla Pass – World's Highest Motorable pass
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded in – 1960

**21.** On August 4, The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of 1023 Fast Track Special Court (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive POCSO Courts as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) under 'Nirbhaya Fund' for 2 years till March 2023 with an outlay of Rs 1572.86 Cr. The cabinet also approved to increase the stipend under "Rani Laxmibai Atma Raksha Prashikshan" from Rs 3000 to Rs 5000 per month. Besides, the cabinet also approved the extension of the revised "Samagra Shiksha Scheme" for 5 years till 2026. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved the continuation of 1023 FTSCs for 2 years till March 2023 (Outlay of Rs 1572.86 Cr)
- It includes 389 exclusive POCSO Courts as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) under 'Nirbhaya Fund'
- Cabinet approved to increase the stipend under "Rani Laxmibai Atma Raksha Prashikshan" to Rs 5000/month
- Cabinet approved the extension of the revised "Samagra Shiksha Scheme" for 5 years (till 2026)



**22.** On August 4, The government of Telangana has launched more than 3,000 public Wi-Fi hotspots in Hyderabad as part of the 'Hy-Fi' project in collaboration with private internet service provider (ISP) ACT Fibernet. In 2020, the Union Cabinet approved the launch of "PM Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-Wani)" to proliferate public Wi-Fi networks across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana + ACT Fibernet = launched more than 3,000 public Wi-Fi hotspots in Hyderabad under 'Hy-Fi' project
- Cabinet approved the "PM Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI)" in 2020
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of ACT Fibernet – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Bala Malladi

**23.** On August 3, INS Khanjar has become the first Indian Navy ship to call at the heritage coastal port of Gopalpur in Odisha. The two-day visit was organised as part of 'Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' as well as 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' celebrations to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1971 War. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- INS Khanjar – became the first Indian Navy ship to call at the heritage coastal port of Gopalpur in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**24.** The Kerala government has launched the Covid-19 death portal called "Death Information Portal" in order to maintain a proper record of the number of deaths due to coronavirus. The portal would include details like names, age, and gender of the people who succumbed to Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – launched Covid-19 death portal called "Death Information Portal"
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**25.** On August 5, The Union Territory of Ladakh has launched a month-long campaign - "Pani Maah" (Water Month) to increase the pace of implementation of 'Jal Jeevan Mission' in the UT and to inform and engage village communities on the importance of clean water. Ladakh has also announced an award of Rs 5 lakh per village for the first 5 "Har Ghar Jal" villages of each district in UT and Rs 25 lakh to the first 'Har Ghar Jal' block in each district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ladakh – launched a month-long campaign - "Pani Maah" (Water Month)
- Ladakh announced an award of:
  - Rs 5 lakh per village for the first 5 "Har Ghar Jal" villages of each district
  - Rs 25 lakh to the first 'Har Ghar Jal' block in each district
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur



**26.** For the first time, the Lakshadweep administration has planned to construct Maldives style 'Water Villas' on 3 islands - Minicoy, Kadmat and Suheli of the Union Territory with its fragile coral ecosystem. The project is estimated to cost about ₹806 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lakshadweep – to construct Maldives style 'Water Villas' on its 3 islands - Minicoy, Kadmat & Suheli | Cost - ₹806 Cr
- [Administrator of Lakshadweep – Praful Khoda Patel](#)

**27.** After being inoperative for long, Tamil Nadu's Animal Birth Control (ABC) Centre at Konakkarai in Tiruchirapalli has become operational. The unit was opened in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Animal Birth Control (ABC) Centre in Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu – became operational again
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit](#)

**28.** The Arvind Kejriwal government has approved a hike of 66% in the salary and allowances of Delhi MLAs. Legislators in Delhi will now draw Rs 90,000 per month as salary and allowances. This hike is the first in the past 10 years in line with the Centre's suggestion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arvind Kejriwal government approved a hike of 66% in the salary & allowances of Delhi MLAs
- Delhi's MLAs will now get total Rs 90,000 per month (salary + allowances)
- [New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev](#)

**29.** On August 4, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India Prof. K. Vijay Raghavan has inaugurated a "Decentralized Biomedical Waste Incinerator" at Buxar in Bihar. The technology developed by Ganesh Engineering Works was selected through the 'Biomedical Waste Treatment Innovation Challenge' launched in June 2020 by the 'Waste to Wealth Mission'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K. Vijay Raghavan (PSA) – inaugurated a "Decentralized Biomedical Waste Incinerator" at Buxar in Bihar
- The technology is developed by – Ganesh Engineering Works
- [Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan](#)

**30.** On August 7, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in partnership with Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, UK (FCDO UK) has launched "Swavalamban Challenge Fund (SCF)" to lend a helping hand to the Entrepreneurs. Under this fund, applications are invited in two categories: Pilot Category and Scale-up Category. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SIDBI + FCDO (UK) = launched "Swavalamban Challenge Fund (SCF)" to promote entrepreneurship
- [HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990](#)

**31.** On August 6, The Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy R. K. Singh has launched “Reform and Regulatory Knowledge Base for Power Sector”, an e-certification programme to provide regulatory training to the practitioners from diverse backgrounds. He also launched a ‘Regulatory Data Dashboard’ which is an e-compendium of data containing state-wise details of tariff and power discoms performance, developed by IIT Kanpur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- R. K. Singh – launched an e-certification programme “Reform & Regulatory Knowledge Base for Power Sector”
- R. K. Singh – launched a “Regulatory Data Dashboard” – developed by IIT Kanpur
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal
- MoS in Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Bhagwanth Khuba

**32.** On August 7, Union Minister of Piyush Goyal has inaugurated “Design Resource Centre” at Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu and “Building of Weavers’ Service Centre” at Raigarh, Chhatisgarh. National level "My Handloom My Pride Expo" was organized at Dilli Haat, New Delhi from August 1 to 15, 2021 by National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – inaugurated “Design Resource Centre” – at Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu
- Piyush Goyal – also inaugurated “Building of Weavers’ Service Centre” – at Raigarh, Chhatisgarh
- Ministry of Textile and Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra

**33.** On August 4, India’s Nuclear Power Capacity is expected to reach 22,480 MegaWatts by 2031 from the current 6,780 MegaWatts, as stated in Lok Sabha by Atomic Energy and Space Minister Dr Jitendra Singh. The share of Nuclear Power in the total electricity generation in India is about 3.1% in 2020-21. There are presently 22 reactors with a total capacity of 6,780 MW in operation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Jitendra Singh: India’s Nuclear Power Capacity is expected to reach 22,480 MW by 2031 [{Flexible data}](#)
- Share of Nuclear Power in the total Electricity Generation in India in 2020-21 – 3.1%
- MoS (I/C) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K
- MoS in the Department of Atomic Energy and Space: Dr. Jitendra Singh

**34.** On August 5, The first Heart Failure Biobank in India was inaugurated at the National Centre for Advanced Research and Excellence in HF (CARE-HF) at the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST). It is set up at the cost of ₹85 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Heart Failure Biobank in India – inaugurated at CARE-HF at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute | Cost – ₹85 lakh
- HQs of SCTIMST – Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala | President – Vijay Kumar Saraswat



**35.** On August 5, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has secured Patent registration for its innovative 'Plastic-mixed Handmade Paper' which is developed to reduce plastic menace from nature. The patent certificate was issued to KVIC's Kumarappa National Handmade Paper Institute (KNHPI), Jaipur. The plastic-mixed handmade paper was developed under the first of its kind project in India named "Project REPLAN (REducing PLAstic from Nature)". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- KVIC – secured Patent registration for its innovative 'Plastic-mixed Handmade Paper'
- This paper was developed under KVIC's project "REPLAN (REducing PLAstic from Nature)"
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena | Founded in – 1956

**36.** On August 6, The government aims to increase fisheries exports to ₹1 trillion by FY25 by supporting development of fishing harbour and fish landing centres with modern infrastructure under the "Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)". The PMMSY is being implemented to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India with highest ever estimated investment of ₹20,050 Cr for a period of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government aims to increase Fisheries Exports to ₹1 trillion by FY 2025
- PMMSY is being implemented with an investment of ₹20,050 Cr for 5 years

**37.** On August 6, The Rajasthan government has constituted a 3-tier Women Grievance Redressal Committee (WGRC) to monitor women working in fields, farms and work sites. The WGRC would monitor all such cases being reported at existing government agencies i.e. 181 Women Helpline, Garima helpline, Sakhi: One-Stop Center, Rajasthan Sampark, etc. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan constituted 3-tier Women Grievance Redressal Committee (WGRC) to monitor women related complaints
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**38.** On August 7, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) Dr. Virendra Kumar launched "PM-DAKSH" portal and "PM-DAKSH" mobile app developed by the ministry in collaboration with National eGovernance Division (NeGD). Through 'PM-DAKSH' Portal, all information related to skill development is available at one place for Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes and Safai Karamcharis. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoSJE – launched "PM-DAKSH" portal & "PM-DAKSH" mobile app – developed by MoSJE + NeGD
- PM-DAKSH – Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale

**39.** On August 9, Karnataka has become the first state in India to issue the order with regard to the implementation of “National Education Policy-2020” with effect from the current academic year 2021-2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – 1<sup>st</sup> state in India to issue an order for the implementation of “NEP 2020” from 2021-2022
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

**40.** On August 9, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has launched “eNagar” mobile application and portal. The ‘eNagar’ covers 10 modules with 52 services. Total 170 locations including 162 municipalities and 8 Municipal Corporations are covered under the eNagar project. Gujarat Urban Development Mission has been appointed as a nodal agency for ‘eNagar’ project. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gujarat – launched “eNagar” mobile application & portal – covering 10 modules with 52 services
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**41.** On August 7, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India has released a Commemorative Postage Stamp on ‘Mananiya Chaman Lal’ at a public function in New Delhi. He was a renowned Social Worker and Sangh Pracharak. He was born on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1920 in Sialkot (now in Pakistan). The stamp was issued by the Department of Posts as a tribute to Unsung Heroes of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Venkaiah Naidu – released a Commemorative Postage Stamp on ‘Mananiya Chaman Lal’ - a Social Worker
- Vice President of India – Venkaiah Naidu | Constituency – Karnataka

**42.** Assam government has decided not to prosecute any Gurkha member under the “Citizenship Act, 1955” and withdraw all cases against members of the community in the Foreigners’ Tribunals (FTs). It will remove the illegal immigrants or foreigners tag called “D-voter tag” on Gurkhas. Besides, Gurkhas & four other indigenous communities - Ahoms, Morons, Motoks and Chutias have been included as ‘Protected Classes of Persons’ by the Assam government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam – not to prosecute any Gurkha member under the “Citizenship Act, 1955”
- FTs – Foreigners’ Tribunals | “D-voter tag” – associated with Gurkhas tribe (Doubtful Voters)
- “Ahoms, Morons, Motoks & Chutias” indigenous communities – included as ‘Protected Classes of Persons’ by Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



**43.** PM Narendra Modi has launched a ₹11,000 Cr “National Edible Oil Mission-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)” to make India self-reliant in edible oils. India currently depends on imports for nearly two-thirds of edible oil used in the country. And Palm oil accounts for nearly 55% of edible oil imported by India. The Prime Minister also released the 9<sup>th</sup> installment of “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)” worth ₹19,509 Cr to over 9.75 Cr farmers across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – launched ₹11,000 Cr “National Edible Oil Mission-Oil Palm” to make India self-reliant in Edible oils
- Narendra Modi – also released the 9<sup>th</sup> installment of “PM-KISAN” worth ₹19,509 Cr
- Palm Oil accounts for nearly 55% of edible oil imported by India

**44.** The Standing Committee on Water Resources has recommended renegotiating the “Indus Water Treaty” with Pakistan to address the impact of climate change on water availability in the river basin. As per the Indus Waters Treaty between India and Pakistan in 1960, all the waters of the eastern rivers - Sutlej, Beas and Ravi, are allocated to India for unrestricted use. The waters of western rivers - Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab have been assigned largely to Pakistan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Standing Committee on Water Resources recommended renegotiating the “Indus Water Treaty” with Pakistan
- As per the treaty: All water of Eastern rivers - Sutlej, Beas & Ravi are allocated to India
- “Indus Waters Treaty” signed between India & Pakistan – on September 19, 1960 | Brokered by – World Bank
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

**45.** On August 8, Rameswar Teli has launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> ONGC-supported Assam Handloom project “Ujjwal Abahan” under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The project will support and train 100 artisans of Bhatiapar of Sivasagar, Assam in Hathkharga handicraft. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rameswar Teli – launched Assam Handloom project “Ujjwal Abahan” (3<sup>rd</sup> ONGC-supported project)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Subhash Kumar (additional charge)
- Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas: Rameswar Teli

**46.** On August 7, In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has flagged off Cyclothon event “Pedal for Dal” from the shores of the Dal Lake in the run-up to the Independence Day celebrations. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Manoj Sinha flagged off a Cyclothon event “Pedal for Dal” from the shores of the Dal Lake in J & K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**47.** On August 9, Over 65% of tuberculosis (TB) cases in India are found in the age group 15-45, which is the most economically productive segment of population, as stated by Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya during an event chaired by Venkaiah Naidu. Indian government targets to eliminate TB by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Over 65% of TB cases in India are found in the age group 15-45
- Indian government’ target to eliminate TB – by 2025

**48.** On August 8, a meeting of a delegation of TRIFED led by Pravir Krishna was held with Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma in New Delhi. The objective of the meeting was to identify the possibilities of establishing a network of Van Dhan Vikas Kendra Clusters (VDVKCs) and 5 TRIFOOD Tribal Food Parks in Assam. Currently in Assam the total procurements achieved is Rs 34.79 lakhs under the MSP for MFP scheme. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- TRIFED + Assam = to establish a network of VDVKCs & 5 TRIFOOD Tribal Food Parks in Assam
- Assam received Rs 34.79 lakhs under the MSP for MFP scheme
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna | Chairman – Ramesh Chand Meena | Founded in – 1987

**49.** On August 10, Punjab has announced to introduce an online billing and revenue monitoring system (RMS) for water supply bills in all villages across the state in a phased manner. This system has been implemented in collaboration with HDFC bank. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Punjab – to introduce an online billing & revenue monitoring system (RMS) for water supply bills in all its villages
- Partner bank for this initiative – HDFC Bank
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

**50.** On August 9, Chief Justice of India N. V. Ramana has launched a mobile app created by the “National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)”, which is aimed to help poor and needy people in applying for legal aid and seek victim compensation. NALSA was established in November 1995 under the “Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987” to provide free legal services to the weaker sections of the society and to organise Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- N. V. Ramana – launched a mobile app created by “National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)” to help poor
- HQs of NALSA – New Delhi | Executive Chairman – Uday U. Lalit | Founded in – 1995
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48<sup>th</sup>)

**51.** On August 10, Government of India has accorded sanction to “Team CLAW” to lead a team of people with disabilities to scale World's highest battlefield Siachen Glacier and create a new world record as part of “Operation Blue Freedom”. C.L.A.W (Conquer. Land. Air. Water) is a global initiative by Indian Special Forces veterans led by Major Vivek Jacob. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India – accorded sanction to “Team CLAW” to lead a team of people with disabilities to scale ‘Siachen Glacier’
- It is done as part of “Operation Blue Freedom”
- C.L.A.W. – Conquer. Land. Air. Water (a global initiative by Indian Special Forces veterans led by Major Vivek Jacob)

**52.** On August 11, The Indian Air Force (IAF) has built one of the world’s highest Mobile Air Traffic Control (ATC) towers at the Advanced Landing Ground in the Nyoma area of Ladakh. India has been considering multiple options of developing airfields in eastern Ladakh including areas like Daulat Beg Oldi (DBO), Fukche and Nyoma. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IAF built one of the world’s highest Mobile Air Traffic Control towers – in Nyoma, Ladakh
- India plans to develop airfields in DBO, Fukche & Nyoma areas of Ladakh
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief – Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

**53.** In Kargil city of Ladakh, “Project Vijayak” of Border Roads Organization has restored the road communication between Kargil and remote Zaskar valley by launching a 100 feet Class 40R Bailey Bridge at Sangrah on ‘NH 301’. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- The BRO’s “Project Vijayak” – restored the road communication between Kargil & remote Zaskar valley in Ladakh
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960

**54.** On August 10, The world’s first Bio-Bank in Ayurveda will be established at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) located in New Delhi. Union Ayush Minister Sarbananda Sonowal visited the AIIA and all kind of help in establishing it. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- World's first Bio-Bank in Ayurveda – to be established at All India Institute of Ayurveda (New Delhi)
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

**Key Points:**

- 4 more Indian sites added to Ramsar Sites list as wetlands of International Importance: (Total – 46)
- Sultanpur National Park (Gurgaon, Haryana)
- Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary (Jhajjar, Haryana)
- Wadhvana Wetland (Baroda, Gujarat)
- Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary (Mahesana, Gujarat)
- Haryana – received its 1<sup>st</sup> Ramsar Site
- [Ramsar Convention or the Convention on Wetlands signed – at Ramsar, Iran \(in 1971\)](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

- MoSJE – launched an online portal “TAPAS” to provide massive open online courses (MOOC)
- TAPAS – Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Ramdas Athawale

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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





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

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – to appoint a High-Level Committee of experts to formulate a ‘distinct’ State Education Policy
- Tamil Nadu – to establish a “Learning Management System (LMS)” for all Higher Education institutions
- Tamil Nadu – launched “Ennum Ezhuthum Mission” to ensure foundational literacy in all students by 2025
- Tamil Nadu – allocated ₹32,600 Cr for School Education in the Budget
- Tamil Nadu – launched “Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam” scheme (Outlay - Rs 257.16 Cr)
- Maternity leave for women state government employees – increased to 12 months (from 9 months)
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- PM Narendra Modi recently made some announcements:
  - Launching of “Gati Shakti” - a National Infrastructure Master Plan for India (Outlay - Rs 100 lakh Cr)
  - ‘Fortified Rice’ to the poor through ‘Mid-Day Meals Scheme’ by 2024
  - Sainik Schools to open across India for admission of girl students
  - 75 ‘Vande Bharat Express’ trains to be rolled out in 75 weeks of Amrit Mahotsav of Independence
  - Target of making India an ‘Energy Independent’ nation by 2047

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

**80.** On August 18, SBI Life Insurance has launched a new-age protection solution, “SBI Life eShield Next” - an individual, non-linked, non-participating, life insurance pure risk premium product. It offers three plan options - level cover, increasing cover and level cover with future-proofing benefit. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI Life Insurance – launched a new-age protection solution - “eShield Next”
- HQs of SBI Life Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Mahesh Kumar Sharma

**81.** On August 11, Anurag Singh Thakur and Nisith Pramanik have launched the nationwide programme of “Fit India Freedom Run 2.0” as part of ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ which celebrates 75 years on India’s Independence. Fit India Freedom Runs will be organized in nearly 750 Districts, 75 villages in each of the Districts across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anurag Singh Thakur + Nisith Pramanik = launched the nationwide programme “Fit India Freedom Run 2.0”
- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Nisith Pramanik

**82.** On August 17, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the world’s 2<sup>nd</sup> largest refurbished state-of-the-art National Gene Bank at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) in New Delhi. The National Gene Bank established in the year 1996 to preserve the seeds of Plant Genetic Resources (PGR) for future generations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar – inaugurated world’s 2<sup>nd</sup> largest refurbished ‘National Gene Bank’ – in New Delhi
- National Gene Bank was established – in 1996
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary

**83.** On August 15, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has announced the creation of 4 new districts namely Mohla-Manpur, Sakti, Sarangarh-Bilaigarh and Manendragarh in the state as well as 18 new tehsils will also be formed. He also announced to develop parks exclusively for women in all districts of the state. Moreover, he also announced a medicine scheme named “Dhanvantari Yojana” and “Minimata Park” exclusively for women. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – announced to create 4 new districts - Mohla-Manpur, Sakti, Sarangarh-Bilaigarh & Manendragarh
- Now total No. of districts in Chhattisgarh – 32
- Chhattisgarh – also announced “Minimata Park” for women & “Dhanvantari Yojana”
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**84.** On August 18, Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched the “Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Challenge - 2021” to encourage technology solutions developed by Women Entrepreneurs that facilitate Women’s Safety and Empowerment. It was launched by MyGov, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) along with UN Women. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MyGov (under MeitY) + UN Women = launched the “Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Challenge - 2021”
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

**85.** On August 17, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) NITI Aayog in collaboration with Dassault Systemes Foundation in India has launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> series of the “Student Entrepreneurship Program (SEP 3.0)” for the young innovators of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL). The theme of ‘SEP 3.0’ is based on the “Made in 3D - Seed the Future Entrepreneurs Program”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIM + Dassault Systemes Foundation = launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> series of the “Student Entrepreneurship Program (SEP 3.0)”
- Theme – “Made in 3D - Seed the Future Entrepreneurs Program”
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav)

**86.** In August 2021, Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd has received a ‘Notice of Award’ (NoA) to build 50 MWp Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Plant along with 50 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project at Phyang village in Leh, Ladakh. The order value of the project is Rs 386 Cr. The commercial operation date for this project is set for March 2023. This will be India’s first co-located Large Scale BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) solution. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Power Solar Systems – received a ‘Notice of Award’ (NoA) to build 2 projects in Leh, Ladakh:
  - 50 MWp Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Plant
  - 50 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project
- Value of the project – Rs 386 Cr | Commercial operation date – March 2023
- HQs of Tata Power Solar Systems – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ashish Khanna



**87.** On August 14, The Union Minister of Women and Child Development, Smriti Zubin Irani has launched 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of “SAMVAD” (Support, Advocacy & Mental health interventions for children in Vulnerable circumstances And Distress) programme in Bengaluru. SAMVAD is a National Initiative and Integrated Resource that works in child protection, mental health and psychosocial care. For the first time in independent India, SAMVAD will engage with functionaries in Panchayats. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Smriti Zubin Irani – launched 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of “SAMVAD” programme in Bengaluru
- SAMVAD – Support, Advocacy & Mental health interventions for children in Vulnerable circumstances And Distress
- Ministry of Women and Child Development: Smriti Irani | Constituency – Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Women and Child Development: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

**88.** On August 13, Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd (TPREL) has commissioned a 100 megawatt (MW) solar power project at Raghnesda solar park in Gujarat. This project was awarded by Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd (GUVNL). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Power RE – commissioned a 100 MW solar power project at Raghnesda Solar Park in Gujarat
- HQs of Tata Power RE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ashwinikumar Patil
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**89.** On August 17, Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Rajeev Chandrashekhar has announced that 6 lakh villages in India will get internet connectivity under the “Bharat Net programme” by 2024. The Centre had taken up a ‘Digital Village Programme’ under which a village in each district would be provided with better internet connectivity so that people can access various services from home. Around 5,000 digital villages had been developed in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 6 lakh villages in India will get internet connectivity under the “Bharat Net programme” by 2024
- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

**90.** On August 14, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has launched door-to-door delivery of “High-Speed Diesel” to meet the growing demand. BPCL also dedicated 15 mobile bowsers and 9 jerry can facilities in different corners of the Eastern Region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BPCL – launched door-to-door delivery of “High-Speed Diesel” to meet the growing demand
- HQs of BPCL – Mumbai, MH | Chairman & MD – Arun Kumar Singh

**91.** On August 16, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and Ministry of Jal Shakti have unveiled the 2<sup>nd</sup> season of successful travelogue “Rag Rag Mein Ganga”. It was unveiled by Union Ministers Anurag Thakur, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat & Prahalad Singh Patel. Season-2 of Rag Rag Mein Ganga will be dedicated to Arth-Ganga. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of I&B + Ministry of Jal Shakti = unveiled the 2<sup>nd</sup> season of a travelogue program “Rag Rag Mein Ganga”
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry of Jal Shakti: Prahalad Singh Patel

**92.** On August 16, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi will become India’s first hospital to have its own fire station inside its premises. The Delhi Fire Service (DFS) has collaborated with AIIMS, Delhi for this purpose. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIIMS, Delhi – to become India’s first hospital to have its own Fire Station inside its premises
- HQs of AIIMS – New Delhi | Director – Randeep Guleria

**93.** On August 18, The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to set up a unit of the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) in Deoband, the town in Saharanpur known for its Islamic seminary Darul Uloom Deoband. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – decided to set up a unit of the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) in Deoband, Saharanpur, UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**94.** On August 19, Ministry of Coal has launched “Vriksharopan Abhiyan - 2021” as part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ Celebrations. Coal/lignite PSUs of the Ministry of Coal have set an ambitious target under the “Go Greening” drive to cover 2385 hectares of area under bio-reclamation/plantation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Coal – launched “Vriksharopan Abhiyan - 2021” as part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’
- Ministry of Coal & Ministry of Mines: Pralhad Joshi | Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Coal & Ministry of Mines: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao

**95.** On August 16, Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have granted conditional exemption from Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2021 to 10 organizations. These 10 organizations are - Government of Karnataka, National Health Mission, Gangtok Smart City Development, Steel Authority of India, Asia Pacific Flight Training Academy, Blue Ray Aviation, Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bayer Crop Science, and Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology. These exemptions are valid for a period of one year from the date of approval. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- MoCA + DGCA = granted Drone use permission to 10 organizations
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency – Guna, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Civil Aviation: V. K. Singh
- HQs of DGCA – New Delhi | Director General – Arun Kumar

**96.** On August 18, India has introduced a new category of emergency electronic visas called “e-Emergency X-Misc Visa” for Afghan nationals in view of the situation in Afghanistan following the Taliban takeover. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – introduced “e-Emergency X-Misc Visa” for Afghan nationals
- Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | Care taker President – Amrullah Saleh
- HQs of Taliban – Kandahar, Afghanistan | Present Supreme Leader – Hibatullah Akhundzada

**97.** On August 19, The Central government has approved India’s ratification of the UNEP’s Kigali Amendment to phase down climate-damaging refrigerant Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) under the Montreal Protocol. The Amendment to gradually reduce use of HFCs by the late 2040s was adopted by 197 countries in Rwanda in October 2016. Under its commitment to the Montreal Protocol, India will complete its phase down of HFCs in 4 steps from 2028 onwards with cumulative reduction of 10% in 2032, 20% in 2037, 30% in 2042 and 80% in 2047 over 2024-26 baseline. HFCs is used in air-conditioners, refrigerators and insulating foams. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to implement UNEP’s Kigali Amendment to phase down use of ‘HFCs’ under the Montreal Protocol
- ‘Montreal Protocol’ was adopted by 197 countries in Rwanda in October 2016
- HFCs is used in air-conditioners, refrigerators and insulating foams

**98.** On August 17, Indian Army has organised a 400 Km “JAZBAA - E - TIRANGA” Relay Marathon in Jammu & Kashmir. More than 300 troops took part, carrying the Indian Tricolour all along the Line of Control. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Army organised – 400 Km “JAZBAA - E - TIRANGA” Relay Marathon in Jammu & Kashmir
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty



**99.** On August 18, The Indian Army has renamed its goodwill school in Lolab of Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district after Shaurya Chakra awardee rifleman Abdul Hamid Chara, who was killed in a counter-militancy operation in 2000. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Army renamed its goodwill school in Kupwara, J&K – after Abdul Hamid Chara (Shaurya Chakra awardee)
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

**100.** On August 18, To honour Olympic silver medallist Ravi Dahiya, the Delhi government renamed “Rajkiya Bal Vidyalaya” situated in Adarsh Nagar as “Ravi Dahiya Bal Vidyalaya”. The Delhi government has made a push to nurture upcoming athletes by setting up the Delhi Sports University and appointing Karnam Malleswari as its Vice-Chancellor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi government renamed “Rajkiya Bal Vidyalaya” – after Ravi Kumar Dahiya (a Wrestler - Silver in 2020 Olympic)
- Vice-Chancellor of Delhi Sports University – Karnam Malleswari
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**101.** On August 19, Union Heavy Industries Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey has inaugurated an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station in Karnal, Haryana. With this, the Delhi-Chandigarh Highway has become the first EV-friendly stretch in India, with a network of solar-based electric vehicle chargers (SEVCs). The chargers have been set up by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) under the FAME-I [Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) and Electric Vehicles in India] scheme of the Ministry of Heavy Industries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mahendra Nath Pandey – inaugurated an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station in Karnal, Haryana
- This EV charging station is located between “Delhi-Chandigarh Highway”
- The chargers are set up by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) – under the ‘FAME-I’
- Ministry of Heavy Industries: Mahendra Nath Pandey | Constituency – Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Heavy Industries: Krishan Pal

**102.** On August 18, The Supreme Court has allowed female candidates to appear for the National Defence Academy (NDA) examination. The Supreme Court was hearing a petition filed by lawyer Kush Kalra which sought a direction to the concerned authorities to allow eligible female candidates to appear form examination and train at the NDA. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Supreme Court – allowed female candidates to appear for NDA exam
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48<sup>th</sup>)

**103.** The “Tri-Services all-women Mountaineering Expedition” was organised by the Army Adventure Wing to mark the celebrations of “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. The team was flagged off on August 1, 2021. An “All Women Tri-Services Mountaineering Team” successfully scaled Mt Manirang which is located in Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Army Adventure Wing – organised the “Tri-Services all-women Mountaineering Expedition”
- “All Women Tri-Services Mountaineering Team” successfully scaled “Mt Manirang” located in Himachal Pradesh
- HP: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

**104.** On August 20, The government has constituted a 8 member committee headed by Sunil Sethi (Chairman of FDCI - Fashion Design Council of India) to suggest a roadmap for doubling the production and quadrupling the exports of handlooms in a span of 3 years. Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal has set an ambitious target to raise handloom production from the present Rs 60,000 Cr to Rs 1,25,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government formed 8-member Committee for promotion of Handloom Sector (headed by - Sunil Sethi)
- HQs of FDCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sunil Sethi

**105.** On August 21, NTPC Ltd has commissioned India’s largest floating solar PV (Photovoltaic) Project of 25MW on the reservoir of its Simhadri Thermal Power Station in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This is also the first solar project to be set up under the government’s ‘Flexibilisation Scheme’ notified in 2018. With this project, total installed capacity of NTPC reaches 66,900 MW. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NTPC commissioned India’s largest floating solar PV Project of 25MW at Simhadri Thermal Power Station
- Simhadri Thermal Power Station – located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Total installed capacity of NTPC – 66,900 MW (as on August 2021)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**106.** On August 20, Indigenously developed Zydus Cadila Covid vaccine “ZyCoV-D” has received approval for Emergency Use Authorisation from the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI). It will be administered to people 12 years and above. This is the world's first DNA-based vaccine against coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DCGI approved “ZyCoV-D” - world’s first DNA-based vaccine against coronavirus
- Age criteria: For people of 12 years & above
- HQs of Cadila Healthcare (Zydus Cadila) – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Pankaj Patel

**107.** On August 20, The highest altitude Herbal Park or Herbal Garden of India, situated at a height of 11,000 feet, was inaugurated at Mana village close to the Indo-China border in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district. It has been developed in 3 years under central government's Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) scheme. The herbal park has around 40 species. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's highest altitude Herbal Park inaugurated in Chamoli, Uttarakhand (at a height of 11,000 feet & with 40 species)
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**108.** On August 19, Union minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has announced to set up a separate Civil Services Exam (CSE) centre for Ladakh. The centre will be located in Leh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – announced to set up a separate Civil Services Exam (CSE) centre for Ladakh – in Leh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

**109.** On August 20, The Tamil Nadu government has reconstituted the High-level Expert Committee on exploration and extraction of Hydrocarbon projects. The government has named Sultan Ahmed Ismail as Chairman of this 7-member committee. The committee has been directed to submit its report within 4 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – reconstituted 7-member High-level Expert Committee on exploration of Hydrocarbon projects
- The committee is headed by – Sultan Ahmed Ismail
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**110.** On August 17, The Zila panchayat of Aligarh has passed a resolution seeking to rename Aligarh as Harigarh. The newly elected District Panchayat passed the resolution in the first meeting of the panchayat without any opposition. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Zila panchayat of Aligarh passed a resolution to rename "Aligarh" as "Harigarh" – in Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**111.** On August 20, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated 1.6 km long Sitabardi-Zero Mile-Kasturchand Park corridor established by Mahametro in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The inauguration of the 40,000-square-foot Freedom Park also took place on the same day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1.6 km long Sitabardi-Zero Mile-Kasturchand Park corridor established by Mahametro in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**112.** On August 21, A stadium at the Pune-based Army Sports Institute (ASI) will be named after Tokyo Olympics gold medalist in Javelin throw, Subedar Neeraj Chopra. He was inducted into the Indian Army in the sports quota in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A stadium at the Pune-based Army Sports Institute (ASI) will be named after “Neeraj Chopra”
- Neeraj Chopra – won Gold medal in Javelin throw at the “2020 Tokyo Olympics”

**113.** On August 20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated several projects in Gujarat’s Somnath and laid the foundation stone for Parvati Temple, which is proposed to be constructed with a total outlay of ₹30 Cr. The temple was built by Indore’s Queen Ahilyabai after she found that the old temple was in ruins. The Old (Juna) Somnath is also referred to as ‘Ahilyabai Temple’. Somnath Promenade has been developed under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme at a cost of over ₹47 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Parvati Temple – in Somnath Temple premises, Gujarat (Outlay - ₹30 Cr)
- “PRASHAD” Scheme – launched in 2015 by the Ministry of Tourism
- Somnath Temple – located in Veraval, Gujarat | Chairman of Somnath Temple Trust – Narendra Modi
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**114.** On August 17, Faridabad Smart City has roped in comic book icon “Chacha Chaudhary”. Each social media post will depict Chacha Chaudhary and Sabu, his loyal sidekick, guiding and teaching people on effectively using the infrastructure put in place. The Centre has selected 100 cities to be developed as smart cities with each city getting Rs 100 Cr per year on an average over a 5-year period to complete the developments. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Faridabad Smart City – roped in comic book icon “Chacha Chaudhary” to guide people on effectively using Infrastructure
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

**115.** On August 20, The historic over 150-year-old Gartang Gali wooden bridge located at a height of 11,000 feet in Nelong Valley in Uttarakhand’s Uttarkashi district near the Indo-China border is reopened for tourists after 59 years. Gartang Gali bridge is believed to have been built by Peshawar Pathans. The bridge has been renovated by the public works department at a cost of ₹65 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 150-year-old ‘Gartang Gali Wooden Bridge’ located in Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand – reopened for tourists after 59 years
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**116.** On August 21, The Madhya Pradesh government will train budding sportspersons for the 2024 and 2028 Olympics under a “Talent-Search Programme”. The government has started looking for sportspersons so that they can be groomed in 18 sports academies in the State for the world's largest sporting event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – launched “Talent-Search Programme” in the field of Sports
- Aim: To train budding sportspersons for the 2024 & 2028 Olympics
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

**117.** On August 22, The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has extended a grant of ₹24.90 lakh for a project on Integrated Mangrove Fishery Farming System (IMFFS) in Cuddalore district. The project is being implemented by the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NABARD – granted ₹24.90 lakh for a project on Integrated Mangrove Fishery Farming System – in Cuddalore, TN
- Location of MSSRF – Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**118.** During “Joint Scientific IAGA-IASPEI Assembly 2021”, Union Minister of State Jitendra Singh has announced that India is going to have 35 more earthquake observatories by the end of this year and 100 more such observatories in the next 5 years by 2026. Currently, India has 115 Earthquake Observatories. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India will add 35 more earthquake observatories by 2021 & 100 more earthquake observatories by 2026
- Currently, India has 115 Earthquake Observatories
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Earth Sciences: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K

**119.** On August 24, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has inaugurated India’s first “Smog Tower” in Delhi. It is an experimental set up worth Rs 20 Cr to purify air in a 1-km radius around the structure. It was jointly developed by IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay. Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) is the nodal agency for the tower. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India’s first “Smog Tower” inaugurated in Delhi | Cost – Rs 20 Cr
- It was jointly developed by IIT Delhi & IIT Bombay | Nodal agency for the tower – Delhi Pollution Control Committee
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**120.** On August 22, Union Minister of State for Food Processing Industries and Jal Shakti Prahlad Singh Patel has launched 7 indigenous food products of Manipur in Imphal, as part of the 'Make in India' initiative. These products were developed under the Incubation Lab project of Manipur Food Industries Corporation Limited (MFICL) in collaboration with TQS Global, Ghaziabad with a budget provision of ₹10 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prahlad Singh Patel – launched 7 indigenous food products of “Manipur” as part of the 'Make in India' initiative
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan

**121.** On August 21, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has developed the first of its kind AI-enabled chatbot - “Urja” to provide its customers an interface for a seamless self-service experience and faster resolution of queries/issues. The chatbot is an intelligent virtual assistant with AI/NLP (Natural Language Processing) capabilities and trained on more than 600 use cases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BPCL – developed the first of its kind AI-enabled chatbot - “Urja” to enhance customer care service
- HQs of BPCL – Mumbai, MH | Chairman & MD – Arun Kumar Singh | Founded in – 1952

**122.** On August 20, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced a ₹6 lakh Cr “National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)” for a 4-year period from FY 2022 to FY 2025. NMP will unlock value in brownfield infrastructure assets across sectors ranging from Power to Road & Railways. In other terms, the government plans to sell the infrastructure assets worth Rs 6 lakh Cr in next 4 years. And this NMP report was developed by NITI Aayog. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman – announced a ₹6 lakh Cr “National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)” for 4-year period
- NMP report was developed by – NITI Aayog
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

**123.** On August 20, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has flagged off a fleet of 5 Trauma Care Ambulances donated to the Army by a non-profit group for deployment in Jammu and Kashmir. The ambulances have been donated by Borderless World Foundation to the Chinara Corps. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh flagged off a fleet of 5 Trauma Care Ambulances – in J & K
- The ambulances have been donated by Borderless World Foundation to the Chinara Corps
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt



**124.** On August 23, Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh has launched a new Geospatial planning portal, “Yuktdhara” to facilitate new MGNREGA assets using remote sensing and geographic information system-based data. It is a joint initiative by the ISRO and Ministry of Rural Development. This platform will serve as a repository of assets (geotags) created under various national rural development programmes i.e. MGNREGA, Integrated Watershed Management Programme, Per Drop More Crop programme and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Giriraj Singh – launched a new Geospatial planning portal “Yuktdhara” to facilitate new MGNREGA assets
- It is a joint initiative by = ISRO + Ministry of Rural Development
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

**125.** On August 21, To establish more facilities to regulate the testing of covid-19 vaccines for quick release of vaccine batches, the Central government has identified the National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad and National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune as Central Drug Laboratories (CDLs). The funding support for the same was provided under the ‘PM-Cares Funds’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NIAB (Hyderabad) & NCCS (Pune) – identified as Central Drug Laboratories for testing of Covid19 vaccines

**126.** On August 21, Indian government has launched a rescue mission named “Operation Devi Shakti” to evacuate stranded Indians from Afghanistan takeover by the Taliban. Jaishankar mentioned it while referring to the arrival of a fresh batch of 78 evacuees in Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian launched a rescue mission “Operation Devi Shakti” to evacuate stranded Indians from Afghanistan
- Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | Care taker President – Amrullah Saleh

**127.** On August 25, NITI Aayog, in collaboration with World Resources Institute (WRI), has launched the “Forum for Decarbonising Transport” in India as a part of the “Nationally Determined Contribution - Transport Initiative for Asia (NDC-TIA)” project. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog + WRI = launched the “Forum for Decarbonising Transport” in India
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of WRI – Washington, D.C., US | President & CEO – Ani Dasgupta



**128.** On August 24, The Union government has formally launched the Virtual School concept that will allow millions of eligible students outside the school system to complete their studies without physically attending schools. This will be implemented through the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). Students in Classes 9 to 12 will have options to join this Virtual School. Besides, the government's commitment to promote accessibility led to the development of the E-Comic cum Activity Book, titled - "Priya - The Accessibility Warrior". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- National Institute of Open Schooling – to implement Virtual School concept for the students of Classes 9 to 12
- Government also launched E-Comic cum Activity book titled - "Priya - The Accessibility Warrior" for Divyang
- Government's aim to attain foundational literacy for every child by the end of Grade 3 – by 2027
- HQs of NIOS – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Chairperson – Sridhar Srivastava

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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





**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- Anurag Singh Thakur – launched the “Fit India Mobile App” in New Delhi to mark 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Fit India Movement
- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Nisith Pramanik

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

# International Affairs

**1.** On August 1, India has assumed the presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the month of August. India joined the UNSC in January 2021 for a two year term as one of the 10 rotating Non-permanent members. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India – assumed the presidency of the UNSC for the month of August
- HQs of UNSC – New York, USA | Presidency in August 2021 – India (July - France | Sep - Ireland)
- Permanent members in the UNSC = 5 – China, France, Russia, U.K. & U.S.
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador – T. S. Tirumurti

**2.** The National Gallery of Australia (NGA) has announced to return 14 works of art from its Asian art collection to India. The Indian High Commissioner to Australia, Manpreet Vohra, welcomed the decision by the Australian Government and the NGA to return the art-works. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- National Gallery of Australia – to return 14 works of art from its Asian art collection to India
- Indian High Commissioner to Australia – Manpreet Vohra
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

**3.** On August 3, The UN General Assembly (UNGA) has approved a resolution establishing a “Permanent Forum of People of African Descent” to provide expert advice on addressing the challenges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance. The forum will consist of 10 members and its first session will take place in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- UNGA – approved a resolution to establish a “Permanent Forum of People of African Descent”
- Forum will consist of - 10 members | Forum's 1<sup>st</sup> session will take place - in 2022
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

**4.** On August 3, The Ministry of Education has announced new centers for the Gulf region in Dubai and Kuwait to conduct the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test smoothly. Now, these students will not have to travel abroad to take the exam. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Education announced new centers for the Gulf region in “Dubai & Kuwait” to conduct the NEET exam
- Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh



5. On August 4, Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi stated that India and 9 countries have been approved to join the Community of Portuguese Language Countries “CPLP” as Associate Observer during the 13<sup>th</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) 2021 which was held at Luanda, Angola. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 13<sup>th</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) 2021
- India + 9 countries = joined the Community of Portuguese Language Countries “CPLP” as Associate Observer
- CPLP is also known as – Lusophone Commonwealth
- [Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar](#) | [Constituency – Gujarat](#)

6. On August 4, Germany has become the 5<sup>th</sup> country to sign “International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement” after amendments to it entered into force on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Germany – became the 5<sup>th</sup> country to sign “ISA Framework Agreement”
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro](#) | [President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)

7. Canada and Bangladesh have joined the Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), an initiative that was launched by India in 2019. Now, CDRI has 25 countries and 7 international organisations as members. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Canada & Bangladesh – joined the Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)
- [CDRI – an initiative launched by India in 2019](#) | [HQs – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Sandeep Poundrik](#)
- [CDRI Members – 25 countries & 7 International Organisations](#)
- [Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar](#) | [PM – Justin Trudeau](#)
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka](#) | [PM – Sheikh Hasina](#) | [President – Abdul Hamid](#)

8. On August 6, India has gifted 30 ambulances to Bangladesh as a part of the shared effort to contain the COVID 19 pandemic in Bangladesh and help in enhancing health care facilities in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India gifted 30 ambulances to Bangladesh
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka](#) | [PM – Sheikh Hasina](#) | [President – Abdul Hamid](#)

9. On August 6, The government of Thailand recently banned the use of sunscreens containing chemicals that damage coral in all marine national parks in the country. India has four coral reef areas: The Gulf of Mannar, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and the Gulf of Kutch. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Thailand – banned the use of sunscreens containing chemicals that damage coral in all Marine National Parks
- Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht | PM – Prayut Chan-o-cha

**10.** On August 9, South Africa has become the 1<sup>st</sup> Country in the World to grant Patent relating to a food container based on fractal geometry. The inventor is not a human being, it is an artificial intelligence (AI) system called “DABUS” (Device for the Autonomous Bootstrapping of Unified Sentience). ‘DABUS’ is an AI system created by Stephen Thaler, a pioneer in the field of AI and programming. This patent was published in the South African Patent Journal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- South Africa – became the 1<sup>st</sup> Country in the World to grant Patent to an AI system called “DABUS” for inventing food container based on Fractal Geometry
- ‘DABUS’ an AI system – created by Stephen Thaler
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa

**11.** On August 11, China has set an ambitious goal of becoming Carbon-Neutral by 2060. China is the biggest emitter of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas driving climate change. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China – set an ambitious goal of becoming Carbon-Neutral by 2060
- China – the biggest emitter of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**12.** On August 10, The World Health Organization has announced that Guinea, a West African country, has confirmed that one patient has died of the Marburg virus disease. The case fatality ratio of the Marburg virus disease is up to 88%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The first case of Marburg virus disease – reported in Guinea (1<sup>st</sup> in a West African country)
- Guinea – Conakry – Guinean franc | President – Alpha Conde

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

**Key Points:**

- WHO – created a new advisory group called “SAGO” to make search for the origins of Covid-19
- SAGO – The International Scientific Advisory Group for Origins of Novel Pathogens
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948



**14.** On August 17, The BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa) have signed an agreement for cooperation in 'Remote Sensing Satellite Data Sharing', according to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). This will contribute in strengthening multilateral cooperation among BRICS space agencies in meeting the challenges faced by mankind, such as global climate change, major disasters and environmental protection. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BRICS countries – signed an agreement for cooperation in 'Remote Sensing Satellite Data Sharing'
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship (2021) – India

**15.** On August 19, A consortium of Doctors and Researchers from India, Brazil, Russia, and South Africa have partnered to conduct a study on the epidemiological impact and Intersection of the Covid-19 and Tuberculosis (TB) pandemics in these countries. The four countries currently rank 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> in the number of cases of Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A consortium of Doctors & Researchers from India, Brazil, Russia & South Africa – to study intersection of Covid & TB

**16.** On August 19, India, in collaboration with the UN, has launched "UNITE Aware" platform to ensure the safety and security of peacekeepers who are operating in such a risky environments across the world. India has contributed \$1.64 million for this project. India has developed the technology platform in partnership with the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Operational Support. Moreover, the UNSC has unanimously adopted a resolution on ensuring accountability for crimes against UN peacekeepers for the first time during a meeting held under the Indian presidency. The open debate with the theme "Protecting the protectors: Technology and Peacekeeping" was one of three signature events being hosted by India as part of its presidency of the UN Security Council. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Gov + UN = launched "UNITE Aware" platform to ensure the safety & security of peacekeepers
- India contributed \$1.64 million for this project
- UNSC – unanimously adopted a resolution on ensuring accountability for crimes against UN peacekeepers
- HQs of UNSC – New York, USA | Presidency in August 2021 – India (July - France | Sep - Ireland)

**17.** On August 20, World's first fossil-free 'Green Steel' has been manufactured in Sweden. The full-scale production of the material will begin from 2026. The steel industry is one of the major contributors to greenhouse emissions, accounting for up to 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World's first fossil-free 'Green Steel' is manufactured – in Sweden
- Full-scale production of the material will begin – from 2026
- Steel industry accounts for up to 8% of global Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona | PM – Kjell Stefan Lofven

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



# **Banking & Economic Affairs**

**1.** On August 2, Market regulator SEBI has ordered a forensic audit into the workings of the “Metropolitan Stock Exchange (MSEI)”, formally known as “MCX SX”, on allegations of mismanagement and financial irregularities. Sources say MSEI pressed for e-hearings but the other parties (NSE & CCI) opposed it. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SEBI – ordered a forensic audit into the workings of “Metropolitan Stock Exchange (MSEI)” or “MCX SX”
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Founded on – April 12, 1992
- HQs of MCX SX – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Latika S. Kundu

**2.** On August 2, PhonePe has become the first digital investment platform to introduce “UPI-based AutoPay” functionality for its Mutual Fund (MF) Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) offerings. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- PhonePe – introduced “UPI-based AutoPay” functionality for its Mutual Fund SIPs offerings
- HQs of PhonePE – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

**3.** The 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has recommended a performance-based challenge fund of Rs 8,000 Cr to 8 states for incubation of new cities. The amount available for each proposed new city is Rs 1,000 Cr and a state can have only one new city under the proposed scheme. On July 31, the total amount of unclaimed deposits of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) was Rs 24,356 Cr, as per the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommended Rs 8,000 Cr Challenge Fund to 8 states for incubation of new cities
- Amount available for each proposed new city is Rs 1,000 Cr & a state can have only 1 new city
- Total amount of unclaimed deposits of SCBs – Rs 24,356 Cr (on July 31)

**4.** On August 2, State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a “SIM Binding” feature in its digital banking platforms, YONO and YONO Lite, to protect customers from various frauds. YONO and YONO Lite will work with the basic rule of one mobile device, one user, one RMN. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SBI – launched a “SIM Binding” feature in its digital banking platforms - YONO & YONO Lite
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

5. On August 3, Indian Bank has signed an MoU with Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE), IIT Bombay for extending Exclusive Credit Facility to start-ups and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. This initiative is part of the bank's "Ind Spring Board for financing Start-ups" scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Bank + SINE (IIT Bombay) = an MoU to extend Exclusive Credit Facility to start-ups & MSMEs
- "Ind Spring Board for financing Start-ups" scheme – belongs to Indian Bank
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chundururu | Tagline – "Your Own Bank"

6. On August 2, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a new digital payment solution - "e-RUPI", a cashless and contactless instrument. The instrument acts as an e-voucher which is based on a QR code or SMS string. It has been developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on its UPI platform. The 'e-RUPI' service was boarded into 11 banks as an Issuing Entity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi launched a new digital payment solution - "e-RUPI" – developed by NPCI
- 'e-RUPI' is based on a QR code or SMS string
- 'e-RUPI' service was boarded into 11 banks as an Issuing Entity
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

7. On August 3, Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB) has launched a "Health and Wellness Savings Account" offering top-up health insurance of ₹25 lakhs. A resident individual (18 years to 65 years) can open the premium savings account with maintenance of average monthly balance of ₹3 lakh and if eligible as per the key health declaration form. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Suryoday SFB – launched a "Health and Wellness Savings Account" offering top-up health insurance of ₹25 lakh
- Criteria: Maintenance of average monthly balance of ₹3 lakh | Age – 18 to 65 years
- HQs of Suryoday SFB – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Baskar Babu

8. On August 4, IndusInd Bank has been empanelled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to act as an 'Agency Bank' to facilitate transactions related to government businesses. As an empanelled 'Agency Bank', IndusInd Bank can now be authorised to handle transactions pertaining to revenue receipts under CBDT, CCBIC and GST on behalf of the state/central government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IndusInd Bank – empanelled by the RBI to act as an 'Agency Bank'
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – "We Make You Feel Richer"
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935



**9.** On August 2, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), the flagship payments platform of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has processed a record 3.24 billion transactions in July up 15.7% from June when it processed 2.8 billion transactions. UPI was launched in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UPI processed a record 3.24 billion transactions in July, 2021 (15.7% higher than 2.8 billion transactions in June)
- UPI – a flagship payments platform of NPCI | Launched in – 2016
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

**10.** “GyanDhan”, India’s first education financing platform has received an NBFC license from the Reserve Bank of India and it aims to disburse Rs 650 Cr worth of Education Loans in FY22. According to the RBI’s guidelines, an NBFC should have minimum Net owned funds of Rs 2 Cr to receive the license. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “GyanDhan” – received an NBFC license from the RBI
- It aims to disburse Rs 650 Cr worth of Education Loans in FY22
- RBI’s guidelines: an NBFC should have minimum Net owned funds of Rs 2 Cr to receive the license
- HQs of GyanDhan – New Delhi | Co-founder and CEO – Ankit Mehra

**11.** On August 4, The SEBI has allowed Payments Banks to carry out the activities of investment bankers. Non-scheduled Payments Banks, which have prior approval from the RBI, will be eligible to act as a Banker to an Issue (BTI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – allowed Payments Banks to carry out the activities of investment bankers
- Non-scheduled Payments Banks having RBI’s prior approval will be eligible to act as a ‘Banker to an Issue’
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**12.** On August 3, The RBI has announced the framework for Outsourcing Payment & Settlement-related activities by Payment System Operators (PSO). The central bank has set a deadline of March 31, 2022 for PSOs to ensure that all their outsourcing arrangements, including the existing ones, are in compliance with the framework. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI announced the framework for Outsourcing Payment & Settlement-related activities by PSO
- Deadline for PSOs to ensure all their outsourcing arrangements in compliance with framework – March 31, 2022
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**13.** On August 4, The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹6 lakh on Bengaluru-based Hewlett-Packard Financial Services (India) Private Ltd for non-compliance with the statutory directions on submitting credit information to Central Repository of Information on Large Credits. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of ₹6 lakh on Hewlett-Packard Financial Services (India) Private Ltd (Bengaluru)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**14.** On August 5, The Central Board for Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) has launched the “Indian Customs Compliance Information Portal (CIP)”. The portal provides free access to information on all Customs procedures and regulatory compliance for nearly 12,000 Customs Tariff Items. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CBIC – launched the “Indian Customs Compliance Information Portal (CIP)”
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar | Founded in – 1964

**15.** On August 5, SBI Payments has partnered with Hitachi Payment Services to develop the capability to acquire “e-RUPI” transactions on the Yono SBI Merchant app. The merchants can now use the ‘UPI Voucher’ feature on the Yono SBI Merchant App to accept prepaid UPI e-vouchers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI Payments + Hitachi Payment Services = to develop the capability to acquire “e-RUPI” transactions
- HQs of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & CEO – Rama Mohan Rao Amara
- HQs of Hitachi Payment Services – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rustom Irani

**16.** On August 5, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given banks time till October 31, 2021 to comply with its guidelines on current account and overdraft facilities. This extended timeline shall be utilised by banks to engage with their borrowers to arrive at mutually satisfactory resolutions within the ambit of the circular. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI gave banks time to comply with its guidelines on current account and overdraft facilities – till October 31, 2021
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**17.** The RBI has conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bi-monthly Monetary Policy of FY22. The Policy rates were kept unchanged. Currently, the repo rate is 4% and reverse repo rate is 3.35%. CPI inflation is projected at 5.7% during FY22. The projection for India’s real GDP is maintained at 9.5% for FY22. The RBI extended the Targeted Long Term Repo Operations (TLTRO) on Tap Scheme till December 31, 2021. The RBI also decided to conduct 2 auctions of Rs 25,000 Cr each in August 2021 under “G-SAP 2.0”. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- RBI's 3<sup>rd</sup> Bi-monthly Monetary Policy of FY22: All policy rates were kept unchanged
- Projections for FY22: Indian's GDP – 9.5% | CPI inflation – 5.7% {Flexible news}
- “TLTRO” on Tap Scheme – extended till December 31, 2021 | TLTRO – Targeted Long Term Repo Operations
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**18.** National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has signed an MoU with Punjab National Bank to extend financial assistance. Punjab National Bank has launched “PNB@Ease Outlet” (EASE Banking Outlet) near Ameerpet Metro Station in Hyderabad. PNB's Zonal Office in Hyderabad will be the nodal office for all the technically approved proposals received by NFDB across India. {Read more}

### Key Points:

- NFDB + PNB = an MoU to extend financial assistance
- PNB – launched “PNB@Ease Outlet” (EASE Banking Outlet) in Hyderabad, Telangana
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”
- Location of NFDB – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chief Executive – Suvarna Chandrappagari

**19.** On August 7, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has empanelled Mangaluru-headquartered private lender Karnataka Bank to act as an “Agency Bank” to facilitate transactions related to government businesses. {Read more}

### Key Points:

- Karnataka Bank – empanelled by the RBI to act as an ‘Agency Bank’
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S

**20.** On August 7, Indian Bank has signed an MoU with the NSRCEL - an incubation arm of IIM Bangalore for extending exclusive credits to start-ups. The bank will extend loans of up to Rs 50 Cr to these start-ups under its “Ind Spring Board” scheme. The Indian Bank also has a business mentoring programme, MSME Prerana, to empower such entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity building workshops in local languages. {Read more}

### Key Points:

- Indian Bank + NSRCEL (IIM Bangalore) = an MoU to disburse exclusive loans to start-ups
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru | Tagline – “Your Own Bank”

**21.** On August 6, The SEBI has amended the “SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996” and directed Asset Management Companies (AMCs) to make an investment of 1% of the amount raised in a New Fund Offer (NFO) or an amount of Rs 50 lakh, whichever is less. Besides, the lock-in period for promoters' shareholding of minimum promoters' contribution was reduced to 18 months from 3 years. {Read more}

### Key Points:

- SEBI amended the “SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996”
- SEBI directed AMC's to invest 1% of the amount raised in a New Fund Offer (NFO) or Rs 50 lakh (whichever is less)
- Minimum lock-in period for promoters' investment post an IPO reduced to 18 months (from 3 years)
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**22.** On August 6, The SEBI has introduced the concept of “Accredited Investors” in the Indian securities market, a move expected to open up a new channel for raising funds. An individual, HUF, family trust or sole proprietorship, can be an Accredited Investor (AI) if their annual income is at least ₹2 Cr or net worth is at least ₹7.50 Cr. Accreditation Agencies need to have a minimum 20 years of presence in the Indian securities market in at least 20 cities and a minimum net worth of Rs 200 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SEBI introduced the concept of “Accredited Investors” in the Indian securities market
- Criteria for individual, HUF, Family Trust or Sole Proprietorship: Annual income - ₹2 Cr or Net worth - ₹7.50 Cr
- Criteria for Accreditation Agencies: 20 years of presence in the Indian securities market & Net worth - ₹200 Cr
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**23.** On August 8, Central Bank of India (CBoI) has entered into a strategic co-lending partnership with Dhanvarsha Finvest Ltd (DFL) to offer loans against Gold ornaments under priority sector lending (PSL) to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) borrowers at competitive rates. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- CBoI + Dhanvarsha Finvest = partnership to offer loans against Gold ornaments to MSME borrowers
- HQs of CBoI – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Matam Venkata Rao | Tagline – “Central to You Since 1911”

**24.** On August 9, RBL Bank has selected Amazon Web Services (AWS) as its preferred Cloud Provider to strengthen its AI powered banking solutions and drive digital transformation at the Bank. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBL Bank – selected Amazon Web Services (AWS) as its preferred Cloud Provider
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja | Chairman – Prakash Chandra
- HQs of AWS – Seattle, Washington, US | CEO – Adam N. Selipsky

**25.** On August 10, NSE International Exchange (NSE IFSC) Ltd has appointed Business Services Organisation (BSO) as its first official international approved Connectivity Partner. The partnership will provide Asian, European and American trading firms with added infrastructure solutions. BSO is headquartered in Ireland, but has 11 offices around the world. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- NSE IFSC Ltd – appointed “BSO” as its first official international approved Connectivity Partner
- HQs of BSO – Ireland

**26.** On August 12, IDFC FIRST Bank has announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Navy to offer “Honour FIRST”, a premium banking solution, to serving personnel and veterans of the Indian Navy. Account-holders are also eligible for a ‘Free for Life Credit Card’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IDFC FIRST Bank + Indian Navy = an MoU to offer “Honour FIRST” a special defence savings account
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950
- HQs of IDFC First Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – V. Vaidyanathan | Established in – 2018
- IDFC Bank + Capital First = IDFC First Bank (merged in 2018)

**27.** On August 12, Asian Development Bank has signed an MoU with IIFL Home Finance for Technical Assistance (TA) to support Green Housing initiative in India aiming to reduce carbon emissions and conserve water and energy. The cost of the activities to be exercised under this TA agreement is approximately \$1 million (over Rs 7.4 Cr). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB + IIFL Home Finance = to support Green Housing initiative in India to reduce carbon emissions
- The cost of the activities to be exercised under this TA agreement – approx \$1 million (over Rs 7.4 Cr)
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nirmal Jain | MD – Venkataraman Rajamani

**28.** On August 12, India Insurtech Association (IIA) has signed an MoU with International Financial Services Centre at GIFT City, (GIFT-IFSC) to collaborate on building thought leadership in the field of insurance and promoting GIFT City for Indian and foreign insurance companies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIA + GIFT-IFSC = an MoU to promote GIFT City for Indian & foreign insurance companies
- HQs of IIA – New Delhi
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

**29.** On August 12, Equitas Small Finance Bank has launched “Equitech” - a Fintech Accelerator aimed at the start-up ecosystem. It is a unique program designed to scale -up and help Fintechs curate their products and define a go-to-market strategy. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Equitas SFB – launched “Equitech” - a Fintech Accelerator
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan

**30.** The RBI has notified the enhancement of collateral free loans to self-help groups (SHGs) from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh under “Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)”. The National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) was launched by Ministry of Rural Development in April 2011. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI enhanced collateral free loans to SHGs under “DAY-NRLM” to Rs 20 lakh (from Rs 10 lakh)
- NRLM was launched by Ministry of Rural Development – in April, 2011
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti

**31.** Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched “Digital Prayaas”, an App based end to end digital lending platform to sanction loans to aspiring Entrepreneurs. SIDBI tied up with BigBasket to provide loans at an affordable interest rate for purchase of environment friendly ‘e-Bikes’ and ‘e-Vans’. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SIDBI – launched an app “Digital Prayaas” to sanction loans to aspiring Entrepreneurs
- SIDBI + BigBasket = to provide loans at an affordable interest rate for purchase of e-vehicles
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990

**32.** On August 10, To finance 1000 Joint Liability Groups as well as to enhance the flow of credit to tenant farmers, NABARD has signed an MoU with State Bank of India (SBI) and Jammu & Kashmir Gramin Bank (JKGB) in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NABARD + SBI + J&K Gramin Bank = an MoU to finance 1000 Joint Liability Groups in J&K and Ladakh
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982
- HQs of JKGB – Jammu, J&K | Chairman – Sudhir Gupta
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

**33.** On August 11, Union Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Kisanrao Karad has stated that nearly 72% of financial transactions of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are now done through digital channels, with customers active on digital channels having doubled from 3.4 Cr in FY2019-20 to 7.6 Cr in FY2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 72% of financial transactions of PSBs are now done through digital channels
- Customers active on Digital Channels doubled to – 7.6 Cr in FY2020-21 (from 3.4 Cr in FY2019-20)
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

**34.** On August 10, The RBI has launched a “Scheme of Penalty for non-replenishment of ATMs” under which a penalty of ₹10,000 per ATM will be levied in the event of a cash-out situation for more than 10 hours in a month, starting on 1 October, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – launched a “Scheme of Penalty for non-replenishment of ATMs”
- Penalty of ₹10,000 per ATM in case of a cash-out situation for more than 10 hours in a month – starting Oct 1, 2021
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**35.** On August 10, The RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on Gadhinglaj Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd, Maharashtra, for contravention of certain norms. Besides, the RBI has also imposed a penalty of Rs 2 lakh each on Malkapur Urban Cooperative Bank Ltd and Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd for contravention of certain norms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI imposed a penalty of:
  - Rs 10 lakh on – Gadhinglaj Urban Co-operative Bank (Maharashtra)
  - Rs 2 lakh on – Malkapur Urban Cooperative Bank (Maharashtra)
  - Rs 2 lakh on – Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Urban Co-operative Bank (Maharashtra)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**36.** On August 12, 10 major banks, including SBI, ICICI Bank, Canara Bank and Standard Chartered Bank, have joined hands for the first time to set up an online platform called the “Secondary Loan Market Association (SLMA)”. It has been formed on the recommendation of the RBI’s Task Force on the Development of Secondary Market for Corporate Loans . Sanjay Srivastava is the Chairman of SLMA. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 10 major banks collaborated to set up “Secondary Loan Market Association (SLMA)”
- Chairman of the SLMA – Sanjay Srivastava



**37.** On August 12, Arya Collateral Warehousing Services, India's largest post-harvest Agritech player forays into a strategic partnership with State Bank of Mauritius (SBM), India to reinforce its competencies in financing solutions. This partnership will help financing agri-traders and agri-entrepreneurs across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arya + SBM Bank India = partnership to finance agri-traders & agri-entrepreneurs across India
- HQs of Arya Collateral Warehousing Services – Noida, UP | Co-Founder & CEO – Prasanna Rao
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- SBM Bank India – the 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

- SEBI merged 'ILDS' & 'NCRPS' rules into a single regulation called - "Sebi (Issue & Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations"
- Under the new framework:
  - Issuers other than unlisted REITs & InvITs should have an existing history of less than 3-years
  - Issue should be made on the "Electronic Book Mechanism (EBP)" platform
- REITs – Real Estate Investment Trusts | InvITs – Infrastructure Investment Trusts
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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





### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**50.** On August 16, Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), in association with the Karnataka government, has launched India's first of its kind “FRUITS” (Farmer Registration and Unified Beneficiary Information System) portal to store land related details of all the farmers. All the farmers will be registered and given a “FRUITS ID (FID)” number. Canara Bank is the sponsor bank of KVGB. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- KVGB + Karnataka = launched India's first of its kind “FRUITS” portal to store land related details of all the farmers
- FRUITS – Farmer Registration & Unified beneficiary Information System | FID number – FRUITS ID number
- HQs of KVGB – Dharwad, Karnataka | Chairman – P. Gopi Krishna
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

**51.** On August 16, PayNearby has partnered with Visa and RBL Bank to launch ‘SoftPoS’ and ‘mPoS’ for its over 1.5 million retail network. PayNearby is the first company to launch an all-inclusive digital package for retailers. SoftPoS allows merchants to accept contactless payments of up to ₹5,000 through a simple tap. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PayNearby + Visa + RBL Bank = partnership to launch ‘SoftPoS’ & ‘mPoS’ for its retail network
- SoftPoS allows merchants to accept contactless payments of up to ₹5,000
- HQs of PayNearby – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Anand Kumar Bajaj
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in – 1958
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja | Chairman – Prakash Chandra

**52.** On August 13, The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has setup a panel of Experts who will look into the concerns that could hinder the process of shifting India's trade settlement to T+1 (Trade plus 1 day) from the current T+2. India moved to the T+2 settlement cycle from the T+3 cycle in April 2003. Currently, most of the global markets operate on T+2 but some large markets including the US have resolved to shorten the settlement cycle to T+1 by 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – setup a panel of Experts to analyze the process of shifting India's Trade Settlement Cycle to T+1 (from T+2)
- India moved to the T+2 settlement cycle from T+3 cycle – in April, 2003
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**53.** On August 16, Tata Motors has joined hands with Bank of Maharashtra to offer “Maha Super Car Loan scheme” for its ‘New Forever’ range of passenger vehicles. The scheme will offer a maximum of 90 per cent financing on the total cost of the vehicle (on-road pricing). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Motors + Bank of Maharashtra = to offer “Maha Super Car Loan scheme” for passenger vehicles
- HQs of BoM – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – A S Rajeev | Tagline – “One Family One Bank”
- HQs of Tata Motors – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Guenter Butschek

**54.** On August 16, HDFC bank has launched “Green and Sustainable Deposits” with an aim to safeguard the environment from Climate Change. These deposits will carry interest rates up to 6.55% while maturity period would vary from 3 to 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC bank – launched “Green & Sustainable Deposits” to safeguard the environment from Climate Change
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

**55.** On August 18, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed HDFC Bank to issue new Credit Cards after a 9-month hiatus. However, the restrictions on the bank's Digital business generating activities and new launches under ‘Digital 2.0’ will continue until further review by the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – allowed HDFC Bank to issue new Credit Cards after a 9-month hiatus
- However, restrictions on the new launches under ‘Digital 2.0’ will continue until further review by the RBI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”



**56.** On August 18, Kotak Mahindra Bank has deployed a secure “Do It Yourself (DIY)” - Digital Repayment Platform for missed loan repayments, in a tie-up with Creditas Solutions. The ‘Neo Collections’ platform enables repayment of outstanding dues through a variety of payment modes. [{Read more}](#)

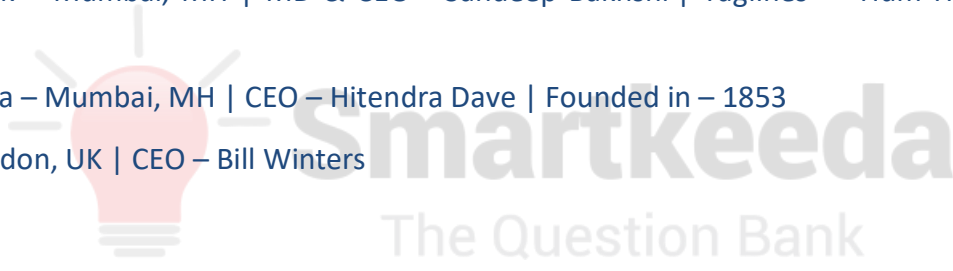
**Key Points:**

- Kotak Mahindra Bank + Creditas Solutions = introduced “Do It Yourself (DIY)” - Digital Repayment Platform
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”
- HQs of Creditas Solutions – Gurugram, Haryana

**57.** On August 18, ICICI Bank, HSBC and Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) have executed India’s 1<sup>st</sup> set of ‘swaption’ deals, giving new risk management tools to borrowers in rapidly changing interest rate scenarios. ICICI Bank and the two overseas lenders transacted ‘swaptions’ on Overnight Index Swap (OIS) for a total notional sum. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Bank + HSBC + SCB = executed India’s 1<sup>st</sup> set of ‘swaption’ deals
- OIS – Overnight Index Swap | IRS – Interest Rate Swap
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”
- HQs of HSBC India – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Hitendra Dave | Founded in – 1853
- HQs of SCB – London, UK | CEO – Bill Winters



**58.** On August 14, German banking major Deutsche Bank has got approval to set up an IFSC-Banking Unit (IBU) at India’s first International Financial Services Centre at GIFT City (GIFT IFSC). It became the 17<sup>th</sup> IBU to be operational at GIFT City. Deutsche Bank has global network spread across 59 countries, is among the largest international banks operating in India for over 40 years. The Banking transactions at the GIFT IFSC have crossed \$100 billion in value by the end of July 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Deutsche Bank – got approval to set up an IFSC-Banking Unit (IBU) at India’s first IFSC at GIFT City (17<sup>th</sup> IBU)
- HQs of Deutsche Bank – Frankfurt, Germany | CEO – Christian Sewing | President – Karl von Rohr
- HQs of Deutsche Bank AG, India – Mumbai, Maharashtra

**59.** On August 16, The World Bank has announced the launch of a new “Cybersecurity Multi-Donor Trust Fund” under the broader Digital Development Partnership (DDP) umbrella program. The new fund aims to better define and systematically launch the cybersecurity development agenda. The launch of the Trust Fund is made possible with donor contributions from Estonia, Germany, Japan, and the Netherlands. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- World Bank – to launch a new “Cybersecurity Multi-Donor Trust Fund” under the Digital Development Partnership
- Donors for the Fund – Estonia, Germany, Japan & the Netherlands
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**60.** On August 18, the RBI has revised guidelines for both new and existing “Safe Deposit Locker” and “Safe Custody Article Facility” in the banks effective from January 1, 2022. In case of incidents such as fire, theft, burglary, or fraud, a compensation of 100 times of the existing annual rent of the safe deposit locker will be given. As per the revised guidelines, the bank can transfer the content to the customer’s nominee or legal heir if the locker remains inoperative for 7 years. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI – revised guidelines for both new and existing “Safe Deposit Locker” & “Safe Custody Article Facility”
- The revised guidelines will be effective – from January 1, 2022
- In case of incidents such as fire, theft, burglary, or fraud: Compensation of 100 times of the annual rent of locker
- If the locker remains inoperative for 7 years – the content can be transferred to the customer’s nominee
- CDD criteria – Customer Due Diligence criteria
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**61.** On August 18, Following the announcement by Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman in Union Budget 2020-21, Injeti Srinivas, Chairperson of the IFSCA, launched the pilot run of “International Bullion Exchange” at the IFSC in GIFT City, Gujarat. The International Bullion Exchange shall be the “Gateway for Bullion Imports into India” where buyers and sellers will be able to trade gold and silver. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Injeti Srinivas – launched “International Bullion Exchange” at the IFSC in GIFT City, Gujarat
- International Bullion Exchange – will be the “Gateway for Bullion Imports into India”
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

**62.** On August 17, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a “Platform for Regulated Entities for Integrated Supervision and Monitoring (PRISM)”, a web-based end-to-end workflow automation system, to strengthen compliance by supervised entities (SEs). This is aimed at helping supervised entities to strengthen their internal defences and resilience and bringing focus on Root Cause Analysis (RCA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – launched a “Platform for Regulated Entities for Integrated Supervision and Monitoring (PRISM)”
- RCA – Root Cause Analysis
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**63.** On August 16, ASK Investment Managers Ltd has launched the first of its kind flexicap Alternate Investment Fund (AIF) namely “ASK Emerging Opportunities Fund” with digital onboarding. The fund is targeting to raise Rs 1,000 Cr. The term of the scheme is 7 years with 2 years of lock-in period. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ASK Investment Managers Ltd – launched India’s 1<sup>st</sup> flexicap AIF namely “ASK Emerging Opportunities Fund”
- Fund’s target to raise Rs 1,000 Cr | Term of the scheme – 7 years | Lock-in period – 2 years
- HQs of ASK Investment Managers Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sunil Rohokale

**64.** On August 21, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched the “Ubharte Sitaare Fund” of Corpus Rs 250 Cr with an aim to identify Indian enterprises with potential advantages by way of technology, products or processes along with export potential. The 'Ubharte Sitaare Fund' has been set up by Exim Bank and SIDBI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman – launched the “Ubharte Sitaare Fund” – set up by Exim Bank & SIDBI | Corpus – Rs 250 Cr
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Harsha Bangari | Founded in – 1982
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990

**65.** On August 21, Facebook India has launched a new programme called the “Small Business Loans Initiative”, in partnership with online lending platform - Indifi, to help small and medium businesses (SMBs). Through this programme, small businesses can get loans between Rs 5 lakh and 50 lakh. Small businesses that are wholly or partly women-owned can get a special 0.2 per cent reduction per annum on the applied loan interest rate from Indifi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Facebook India + Indifi = launched a new programme called the “Small Business Loans Initiative”
- Small businesses can get loans between “Rs 5 lakh to 50 lakh” through this programme
- HQs of Facebook – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004
- HQs of Indifi – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & CEO – Alok Mittal

**66.** On August 20, The US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) have partnered with Kotak Mahindra Bank for \$50 million loan portfolio guarantee to support increased financial access to women borrowers and MSMEs in India. The program will be supported by the Chennai-based NBFC, Vivriti Capital, which will provide a \$1 million first loss guarantee. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USAID + DFC + Kotak Mahindra Bank = \$50 million loan guarantee to support Women Entrepreneurs & MSMEs
- HQs of USAID – Washington D.C., US | Administrator – Samantha Power | Founded in – 1961
- HQs of DFC – Washington D.C., US | CEO – Dev Jagadesan | Founded in – 2020
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”

**67.** On August 19, Fintech startup Capital Float has partnered with Razorpay to extend its ‘buy now, pay later’ solution - “Walnut 369” to all Razorpay-enabled online merchants. The partnership provides customers seamless and instant access to credit while shopping at leading direct-to-consumer brands. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Capital Float + Razorpay = to extend its ‘buy now, pay later’ solution - “Walnut 369” for online merchants
- HQs of Capital Float – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD – Sashank Rishyasringa
- HQs of Razorpay – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Harshil Mathur

**68.** On August 19, NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) has partnered with Mashreq to offer acceptance of its mobile-based real-time payment system, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), in the UAE. In July, Bhutan had become the first country to adopt India’s BHIM UPI QR-based payments. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NIPL + Mashreq = to offer India’s BHIM UPI QR-based payments in the UAE
- HQs of NIPL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Ritesh Shukla
- HQs of Mashreq – Dubai, UAE | CEO – Ahmed Abdelaal

**69.** On August 17, US-headquartered Citibank NA has received the regulatory approval to open a banking unit at India’s only International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at Gandhinagar. This is the first US bank to set up a branch at the Gujarat Finance Tec-City (GIFT City). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Citibank – received the regulatory approval to open a banking unit – at GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- HQs of Citibank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ashu Khullar
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat



**70.** On August 17, ICICI Bank Germany has launched a digital and instant Blocked Account named “ICICI Bank Germany Student Blocked Account” for students aspiring to study in Germany. This account enables students to deposit the required amount with the Bank and get the Balance Confirmation Certificate (BCC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Bank Germany – launched “ICICI Bank Germany Student Blocked Account”
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

**71.** On August 22, The total Loans & Advances extended by NABARD during 2020-21 have registered a growth of 25.2% year-on-year to reach Rs 6 lakh Cr. NABARD earned Rs 34,671.2 Cr income during 2020-21 and registered 6.1% growth in the income. Its profit before tax in 2020-21 was Rs 6,081.4 Cr and after tax was Rs 4,320 Cr. Agricultural credit outstanding grew at 12.3% in 2020-21, the highest across all sectors. During 2020-21, the NABARD has formed about 6.8 lakh self-help groups (SHGs). A Credit Guarantee Fund of Rs 1,000 Cr with equal share from the central government and NABARD was set up under NABSAnrakshan, a NABARD subsidiary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NABARD’s Loans & Advances registered a growth of – 25.2% to reach Rs 6 lakh Cr (during 2020-21)
- NABARD’s income registered a growth of – 6.1% to reach Rs 34,671.2 Cr (during 2020-21)
- Agricultural credit outstanding grew – at 12.3% (highest across all sectors)
- Central Govt + NABARD = set up a Credit Guarantee Fund of Rs 1,000 Cr under NABSAnrakshan
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982

**72.** On August 23, Paytm and HDFC Bank have announced a strategic partnership to build comprehensive solutions across payment gateway, point of sale machines and credit products including Paytm Postpaid which is Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL) solution, Eazy EMI and Flexi Pay. The partnership will aim to empower new businesses which have recently ventured online, and enable them to scale up. They jointly launched a co-branded point of sale (POS) product in the retail segment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Paytm + HDFC Bank = a strategic partnership to develop payment products for new Online Ventures
- They jointly launched a co-branded point of sale (POS) product in the retail segment
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

**73.** On August 24, The State Bank of India (SBI) has opened a floating ATM on Dal Lake in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar for the convenience of locals and tourists. According to the bank's website, there are over 60,000 SBI ATMs in India, the largest network in India. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- SBI – opened a “floating ATM” on Dal Lake in Srinagar, J & K
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

**74.** On August 23, The RBI has imposed penalties of ₹27.5 lakh and ₹20 lakh, respectively, on Thrissur-headquartered Dhanlaxmi Bank and Gorakhpur-based NE & EC Railway Employees’ Multi-State Primary Cooperative Bank. Dhanlaxmi Bank was penalised for violation of norms related to the “Depositor Education and Awareness Scheme” while the action against NE & EC Cooperative Bank was due to deficiencies in its regulatory compliance. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI imposed penalty of ₹27.5 lakh on Dhanlaxmi Bank
- RBI imposed penalty of ₹20 lakh on NE & EC Railway Employees’ Multi-State Primary Cooperative Bank
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- HQs of Dhanlaxmi Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – J. K. Shivan

**75.** On August 25, Bajaj Finserv will enter Rs 35-trillion mutual fund (MF) industry after the company received in-principle approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The company would be setting up an asset management company (AMC) and the trustee company, directly or indirectly. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Bajaj Finserv – received in-principle approval from the SEBI to start Mutual Fund business
- HQs of Bajaj Finserv – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman and MD (CMD) – Sanjiv Bajaj

**76.** On August 23, RBI-appointed Expert Committee on Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs) has recommended a 4-tier structure for the urban cooperative banks (UCBs) depending upon the deposits and prescribed different capital adequacy and regulatory norms for them based on their sizes. The UCBs can be split into 4 categories as given below. The minimum Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) for them could vary from 9% to 15%. Besides, the RBI is also planning to include General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR) regulations for Round Tripping. An Umbrella Organisation is proposed to be set-up with minimum capital of Rs 300 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI-appointed committee has recommended a 4-tier structure for the UCBs:
  - Tier-1 with deposits up to Rs 100 Cr
  - Tier-2 with deposits between Rs 100 Cr to Rs 1,000 Cr
  - Tier-3 with deposits between Rs 1,000 Cr to Rs 10,000
  - Tier-4 with deposits of over Rs 10,000 Cr
- RBI is also planning to include **General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR)** regulations for Round Tripping

- An Umbrella Organisation is proposed to be set-up with minimum capital of – Rs 300 Cr
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

- LoanTap + SBM Bank + Rupay = launched a range of “LIMITLESS Credit line backed Prepaid Cards”
- Credit limit of this Prepaid Card – Rs 3 lakh
- HQs of LoanTap – Pune, Maharashtra | Co-founder & CEO – Satyam
- HQs of RuPay – New Delhi | Launched by NPCI in 2012 | Tagline – One Life. One RuPay.
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- SBM Bank India – the 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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





### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

# Defence Affairs

1. Gujarat will host its first “Defence Expo”, the flagship event of the Ministry of Defence for the domestic and global industry interested in the Indian arms market. The event will be held in Gandhinagar in March 2022, with the theme of “India as a Defence Manufacturing Hub”. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Gujarat – to host its 1<sup>st</sup> “Defence Expo” in Gandhinagar in March 2022 (overall 12<sup>th</sup> edition)
- Theme – “India as a Defence Manufacturing Hub”

2. On August 3, The US has approved the sale of “Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS)” and related equipment to India for an estimated cost of \$82 million. The Harpoon, first deployed in 1977, is an all-weather, over-the-horizon, anti-ship missile system. The principal contractor will be The Boeing Company. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- US – approved the sale of “Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS)” to India (Cost - \$82 million)
- “Harpoon” an Anti-Ship Missile System – being manufactured by Boeing
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris
- HQs of Boeing – Chicago, USA | CEO – Dave Calhoun | Founded in – 1916

3. On August 1, A hotline was established between the Indian Army in ‘Kongra La’ pass, north Sikkim, and the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) at Khamba Dzong in the Tibet Autonomous Region to boost the spirit of trust and cordial relations along the border. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- A hotline was established between Indian Army in ‘Kongra La’ pass (Sikkim) & China’s People’s Liberation Army (Tibet)
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

4. For the 1<sup>st</sup> time, a “Table-Top (TT) War-Gaming Exercise” was conducted between India’s 3 Armed Forces - Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Indian Navy in which all scenarios including a collusive threat of a two-front war from China and Pakistan were war-gamed. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- “Table-Top (TT) War-Gaming Exercise” – held between Indian Army, Indian Air Force & Indian Navy
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief – Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- HQs of Indian Navy – New Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – S. N. Ghormade



**5.** On August 4, The sea trials of India's maiden indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC-1) "INS Vikrant" has been launched. This 40,000-tonne carrier is built by the public sector Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL). It is the biggest warship made indigenously. Like Vikramaditya, IAC-1 has a 'STOBAR' (Short Take Off But Arrested Recovery) system of aircraft launch and recovery on the flight deck. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The sea trials of India's maiden indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC-1) "INS Vikrant" is launched
- It is built by Cochin Shipyard Ltd
- [HQs of Cochin Shipyard – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman & MD – Shri Madhu S Nair](#)

**6.** On August 6, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) have signed an MoU for setting up a unit in the UP Defence Corridor. BDL is Hyderabad-based state-owned, mini-ratna Category-1 company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BDL + UPEIDA = an MoU for setting up a unit in the UP Defence Corridor
- [HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Siddharth Mishra | Founded in – 1970](#)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**7.** On August 6, Vice Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral Satish Namdeo Ghormade has laid the keels of the first warship of the "Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASWSWC)" project and the third warship of Survey Vessel Large (SVL) project for the Indian Navy. The ships are being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) at L&T Shipyard, Kattupalli as part of the 'Indigenous Shipbuilding Program' for construction of 8 ASWSWC and 4 SVL for the Indian Navy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. N. Ghormade laid the keels of:
- 1<sup>st</sup> warship of "Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASWSWC)" project
- 3<sup>rd</sup> warship of "Survey Vessel Large (SVL)" project
- The ships are being built by GRSE at L&T Shipyard ([Kattupalli, Tamil Nadu](#))
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950

**8.** On August 8, India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) carried out a bilateral naval exercise called "Zayed Talwar" off the Abu Dhabi coast to increase bilateral military cooperation. The Indian Navy deployed warship INS Kochi and two 'Sea King MK 42B' helicopters during the exercise. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + UAE = carried out a bilateral naval exercise "Zayed Talwar" off the coast of Abu Dhabi, UAE
- INS Kochi participated in this naval exercise
- [UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan](#)

**9.** On August 12, India is conducting its first-ever naval exercise with Saudi Arabia called “Al-Mohed Al-Hind”. Indian Navy’s guided-missile destroyer INS Kochi reached Saudi Arabia to participate in this exercise. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Al-Mohed Al-Hind” first-ever naval exercise – between India & Saudi Arabia
- INS Kochi participated in this naval exercise
- Saudi Arab – Riyadh – Saudi Riyal | Saudi Crown Prince – Mohammed bin Salman

**10.** In August 2021, India, United States, Japan and Australia participated in the 25th edition of “Malabar 2021” exercise which was held in Guam - a U.S. island territory in the western Pacific. This exercise is aimed at keeping China in check amid the Asian power's increasing assertiveness in regional waters. INS Shivalik, INS Kadmatt and P8I patrol aircraft participated in the exercise. ‘Malabar Exercise’ was started in 1992 between India & the US. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Malabar 2021” exercise = India + US + Japan + Australia – held in Western Pacific Ocean (hosted by the US)
- INS Shivalik, INS Kadmatt & P8I patrol aircraft participated in the exercise
- ‘Malabar Exercise’ was started in 1992 between India & the US
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**14.** In August 2021, India-Russia joint military exercise “INDRA 2021” was conducted at Prudboy Ranges, Volgograd in Russia to enhance interoperability between the two armies. This military exercise was started in 2003 between India and Russia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A joint military exercise “INDRA 2021” – conducted between India & Russia (initially started in 2003)
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**15.** A bilateral Naval Exercise “Exercise Konkan-2021” was conducted in the English Channel between Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of UK. INS Tabar participated in this exercise. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Exercise Konkan-2021” – conducted between India & UK
- INS Tabar participated in this exercise
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**16.** On August 17, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has signed a \$716 million deal with the US-based GE Aviation for 99 ‘F404’ aircraft engines and support services that will power the indigenous “Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk-1A”. In February, the Defence Ministry had signed a ₹48,000 Cr deal with HAL to supply 83 ‘LCA-Mk1A’ to the Indian Air Force. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- HAL + GE Aviation (US) = \$716 million deal for 99 'F404' aircraft engines & to support services related to 'LCA-Mk1A'
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

**17.** On August 19, A bilateral Maritime Exercise was held between Indian Navy and Royal Bahrain Naval Force at Manama, Bahrain. INS Kochi participated in the exercise. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bilateral Maritime Exercise was held between – “Indian Navy & Royal Bahrain Naval Force” at Manama, Bahrain
- INS Kochi participated in the exercise
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

**18.** On August 17, Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL) and MBDA, a European missile maker, have signed a license agreement to establish a manufacturing facility for the Final assembly, integration and test (FAIT) of Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missile (ASRAAM) at Bhanur, Telangana. The facility is expected to commence operations by the year 2022-23. ASRAAM is one of the 'Within Visual Range' missiles available and BDL will be manufacturing these at its Bhanur unit. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BDL + MBDA = to establish a manufacturing facility for the “ASRAAM” missile – at Bhanur, Telangana
- ASRAAM – **Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missile**
- HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Siddharth Mishra | Founded in – 1970
- HQs of MBDA – Le Plessis-Robinson, France | CEO – Eric Beranger

**19.** On August 18, The Indian Navy has carried out Bilateral Maritime Exercise with the Vietnamese Navy in the South China Sea as part of maritime cooperation between the two countries. INS Ranvijay and INS Kora undertook bilateral maritime exercises with Vietnam People's Navy (VPN) frigate VPNS Ly Thai To (HQ-012). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy + Vietnamese Navy = conducted 'Bilateral Maritime Exercise' in the South China Sea
- INS Ranvijay & INS Kora – participated in this exercise
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Pham Minh Chinh | President – Nguyen Xuan Phuc



**20.** On August 19, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the 5th edition of the “Defence India Start-up Challenge (DISC)” in New Delhi under Innovations for Defence Excellence - Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX-DIO). It is meant to achieve self-reliance and foster innovation and technology development in the defence and aerospace sectors. 35 problem statements - 13 from the Services and 22 from Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) were unveiled under ‘DISC 5.0’. iDEX-DIO was launched in 2018 by the Department of Defense Production. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh – launched 5th edition of the “Defence India Start-up Challenge (DISC)” in New Delhi under ‘iDEX-DIO’
- “iDEX-DIO” was launched – in 2018
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

**21.** On August 20, India has finalised a deal with Russia to buy a sizeable number of ‘AK-103’ series of Assault Rifles for the Indian Army under the ‘Mega Infantry Modernisation Programme’ to replace Army's ageing and obsolete weapons. It will be manufactured by the Indo-Russia Rifles Pvt. Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to buy ‘AK-103’ series of Assault Rifles for the Indian Army – from Russia
- It will be done under the ‘Mega Infantry Modernisation Programme’ | Manufacturer – Indo-Russia Rifles Pvt. Ltd
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

**22.** On August 24, Indian Navy has carried out a “Maritime Partnership Exercise” with the Philippine Navy. Two Indian warships, INS Ranvijay, Guided Missile Destroyer, D55 and INS Kora, Guided Missile Corvette, P61 participated in the exercise in the West Philippine Sea. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy + Philippine Navy = carried out a “Maritime Partnership Exercise” in the West Philippine Sea
- INS Ranvijay & INS Kora – participated in this exercise
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Rodrigo Duterte

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



# Schemes & Initiatives

1. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme, namely “Information-Monitoring, Evaluation and Social Audit (I-MESA)” in FY 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Ministry of SJE – formulated “Information-Monitoring, Evaluation and Social Audit (I-MESA)” scheme
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment: Virendra Kumar | Constituency – Sagar, Madhya Pradesh

2. On August 3, Haryana chief minister (CM) Manohar Lal Khattar has launched the “Har Hith store” scheme in Panchkula in order to make Haryana “Berojgar Mukht, Rozgar Yukt” by 2024. A monthly income of at least ₹15,000 will be ensured for those verified under the “Mukhyamantri Parivar Uthan Yojana” and operating these stores. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Haryana – launched the “Har Hith store” scheme in Panchkula
- Target to make Haryana “Berojgar Mukht, Rozgar Yukt” – by 2024
- Haryana will ensure monthly income of at least ₹15,000 under the “Mukhyamantri Parivar Uthan Yojana”
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

3. On August 4, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal has launched an initiative named “Delhi@2047” to increase Delhi’s per-capita income to match that of Singapore. The initiative aims to support partnerships of the government with corporates and citizen groups to work towards policies and strategies for the city’s development. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Delhi launched an initiative named “Delhi@2047” to increase Delhi’s per-capita income equivalent to Singapore
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

4. On August 2, The government has set the Loans Disbursement Target under the “PM Mudra Yojana (PMMY)” at Rs 3 trillion for the current financial year (FY22) as compared to Rs 3.21 trillion sanctioned in FY21. Rs 3.12 trillion were disbursed to Entrepreneurs out of Rs 3.21 trillion sanctioned in FY21. Under PMMY, credit up to Rs 10 lakh is provided by banks and non-banking financial companies for entrepreneurial activities to small business units. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Government set the Loans Disbursement Target under the “PM Mudra Yojana (PMMY)” at Rs 3 trillion for FY22
- Government sanctioned Rs 3.21 trillion in FY21 (of which Rs 3.12 trillion were disbursed to Entrepreneurs)
- Under PMMY: Credit up to Rs 10 lakh is provided by banks & NBFCs

5. On August 5, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister (CM) M K Stalin has launched “Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam” scheme to deliver essential healthcare at the doorstep of the people. Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam will screen those above 45 years of age and others with infirmities through routine door-to-door check-ups. Rs 250 Cr has been allocated for the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – launched “Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam” scheme (Outlay - Rs 250 Cr)
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit](#)

6. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) implements a scheme titled “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)” under Digital India programme to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 Cr rural households by March, 2022. As on August 2, approximately 5.01 Cr beneficiaries have been enrolled and 4.21 Cr have been trained under the PMGDISHA Scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MeitY – implements a scheme titled “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)”
- As on August 2, 2021: approx 5.01 Cr beneficiaries have been enrolled under the PMGDISHA scheme
- [Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeew Chandrasekhar](#)

7. On August 9, Kerala Financial Corporation (KFC) has announced a comprehensive funding scheme titled “KFC Startup Kerala” for startups worth nearly Rs 10 Cr. The assistance will be Rs 25 lakh for productization, Rs 50 lakh for commercialization and Rs 100 lakh for scaling up. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala Financial Corp – launched a comprehensive funding scheme titled “KFC Startup Kerala”
- The scheme provides with Loans up to Rs 10 Cr for startups
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

8. On August 10, PM Narendra Modi has launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of “Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)” or “Ujjwala 2.0” at Mahoba in Uttar Pradesh. The scheme provides free cooking gas connections to poor families by handling over domestic LPG cylinder connections. In the Union budget for FY 21-22, provision for an additional 1 Cr LPG connection under the PMUY (Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana) scheme was announced. The scheme was launched on 1 May 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of “Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)” or “Ujjwala 2.0” – at Mahoba, UP
- In Union budget for FY 21-22: Provision for an additional 1 Cr LPG connection under the ‘PMUY’ scheme
- The scheme was launched – on 1 May, 2016 | Tagline of the scheme – “Swachh Indhan, Behtar Jeevan”



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

**9.** On August 10, The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has launched a “Loan Interest Subvention Scheme” in association with United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) to provide financial assistance for innovative waste to energy biomethanation projects. A GIS (Geographic Information System)-based Waste Mapping Tool of organic waste streams was also unveiled. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MNRE + UNIDO + GEF = launched a “Loan Interest Subvention Scheme” for Energy Biomethanation projects
- HQs of UNIDO – Vienna, Austria | Director General – Li Yong | Founded in – 1966
- Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Bhagwanth Khuba

**10.** “Seekho Aur Kamao” is a skill development scheme for youth of 14-35 years age group and aiming at providing employment opportunities. In the last 7 years approx 3.92 lakh persons have been benefitted under this employment oriented scheme. Under this scheme, AISECT recently announced to train 950 minority community candidates across 7 states. It is a flagship scheme under the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The scheme ensures 75% placement, out of which 50% should be in organized sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AISECT – to train 950 minority community candidates across 7 states – under “Seekho Aur Kamao” scheme
- “Seekho Aur Kamao” scheme – for youth of age group 14-35 years | Scheme under – Ministry of Minority Affairs
- Ministry of Minority Affairs: Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi | Constituency – Jharkhand
- MoS in Ministry of Minority Affairs: John Barla

**11.** Under the “Scheme for Self-Employment and Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers”, 58,098 persons have been paid one-time cash assistance of Rs 40,000 for facilitating switch to alternative occupations. Further, 16,057 of them were given skill training; and 1,387 persons were given Capital subsidy for self-employment projects and sanitation related projects. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 58,098 persons have been paid one-time cash assistance of Rs 40,000 – under the “Scheme for Self-Employment and Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers”

**12.** On August 10, UNICEF India and Facebook have launched a 1-year joint initiative to end violence against children with a special focus on online safety. The partnership will include a nationwide social media campaign and capacity building for 1,00,000 school-children on online safety, digital literacy and psychosocial support. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- UNICEF India + Facebook = launched a 1-year joint initiative to end violence against children in India
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, USA | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore | Established in – 1946
- HQs of Facebook – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

**18.** On August 17, In a significant development, the Jammu & Kashmir government has issued orders for giving a fresh impetus to the training in handicraft sector in the UT by unveiling the ‘KARKHANDAR’ scheme which is a unique concept for the upliftment of artisans and weavers through training. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- J & K – unveiled the ‘KARKHANDAR’ scheme to provide training in the field of handicrafts sector
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

**19.** On August 20, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched a Health Insurance scheme called “Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana Smart Card scheme” in tribal-dominated Malkangiri district. Around 9.6 million families in the state will receive these smart cards. Each family can get treatment cost up to ₹5 lakh per year and women will get benefits up to ₹10 lakh per year under BSKY. The BSKY smart card scheme is a new version of the ‘Biju Swasthya Kalyan Scheme’ that was first launched in August 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – launched a Health Insurance scheme called “Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana Smart Card scheme”
- ‘Biju Swasthya Kalyan Scheme’ was initially launched – in August 2018
- Each family can get treatment cost up to ₹5 lakh/year | women will get benefits up to ₹10 lakh/year
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**20.** On August 18, The Chhattisgarh government has launched the “Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Bhumihin Majdur Nyay Yojana”, with the provision of ₹200 Cr benefiting 12 lakh landless families. The families of the beneficiaries will each be ensured the amount of ₹6,000 annually. The scheme is focused on covering MGNREGA and contract worker. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – launched the “Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Bhumihin Majdur Nyay Yojana”
- Outlay of the scheme – ₹200 Cr | ₹6,000 annually to each beneficiary
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey



**21.** On August 17, The government has announced rates of Tax Refunds under the export promotion scheme “Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)” for 8,555 products. ₹19,400 Cr would be available for 2021-22 for both the “RoDTEP” and the “Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL)”. The ‘RoSCTL’ scheme was announced for the export of garments and apparels. For the ‘RoDTEP’ scheme, the amount is ₹12,454 Cr and the remaining ₹6,946 Cr for ‘RoSCTL’. However, 3 sectors of steel, chemicals and pharmaceuticals would not get the benefit of ‘RoDTEP’ as they have done well without incentives. The tax refund rates range from 0.5% to 4.3% for various sectors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government announced rates of Tax Refunds under ‘RoDTEP’ scheme for exporters to cover 8,555 items
- ₹12,454 Cr – allocated to ‘RoDTEP’ | ₹6,946 Cr allocated to ‘RoSCTL’
- RoDTEP – Remission of Duties & Taxes on Exported Products | RoSCTL – Rebate of State & Central Taxes & Levies
- 3 sectors excluded from ‘RoDTEP’ scheme: Steel, Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals
- Tax Refunds rates range – from 0.5% to 4.3%

**22.** On August 19, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya has virtually inaugurated “Arogya Dhara 2.0”, which commemorated the completion of 2 Cr treatments under “Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)”. Treatments worth approximately Rs 25,000 Cr have been provided till date across 33 States/UTs in India since the launch of the scheme on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mansukh Mandaviya – inaugurated “Arogya Dhara 2.0” to mark the completion of 2 Cr treatments under ‘AB-PMJAY’
- ‘AB-PMJAY’ was launched in – 2018
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

**23.** On August 18, To undertake prospecting operations of minerals, the Ministry of Mines has adopted a ‘Scheme for accreditation of Private Exploration Agencies’ developed by the National Accreditation Board for Education and Training of the Quality Council of India (QCI-NABET). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Mines – adopted a ‘Scheme for accreditation of Private Exploration Agencies’ developed by QCI-NABET
- HQs of NABET – New Delhi | NABET – functions under QCI
- HQs of QCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Adil Zainulbhai | Secretary General – Dr. Ravi P Singh

**24.** On August 24, West Bengal government has launched the second phase of “Duare Sarkar” - an outreach drive to help people get benefits of state-run schemes at their doorstep. According to sources in the government, ‘Lakshmir Bhandar’ scheme has emerged as the most popular scheme. As part of the scheme, a woman member of a general caste family would get Rs 500 a month (Rs 6,000 a year) and one from an SC or ST family would get Rs 1,000 monthly, which is Rs 12,000 annually. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- West Bengal – launched the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of “Duare Sarkar”
- WB’s ‘Lakshmir Bhandar’ scheme: Rs 6,000/year to a woman from Gen | Rs 12,000/year to a woman from SC/ST
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

**25.** On August 20, In a bid to boost the state’s economy through agriculture and horticulture, the Arunachal Pradesh cabinet has approved two credit-linked schemes, which will facilitate Rs 300 Cr investment in the agro-based sectors. The state government has earmarked Rs 60 Cr of subsidy each for “Atma Nirbhar Krishi Yojana” for agriculture and “Atma Nirbhar Bagwani Yojana” for horticulture during the 2021-22 fiscal. The schemes will be available for cultivators, self-help groups and farmer producer organisations (FPOs). Under the programmes, a farmer can get up to Rs 1.6 lakh with no collateral or bank guarantee, while self-help groups can avail of up to Rs 10 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arunachal Pradesh approved 2 credit-linked schemes to facilitate Rs 300 Cr investment in Agro-based sectors:
  - “Atma Nirbhar Krishi Yojana” for agriculture
  - “Atma Nirbhar Bagwani Yojana” for horticulture
- Subsidy for each scheme – Rs 60 Cr | Rs 1.6 lakh to a farmer | Rs 10 lakh to SHGs
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

**26.** On August 17, Telangana CM K. Chandrasekhar Rao has launched “Dalit Bandhu” to benefit government staff in the state. Each Dalit beneficiary family will be provided Rs 10 lakh under this scheme. Rythu Bandhu scheme was launched by the CM in Huzurabad three years ago. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – launched “Dalit Bandhu” to benefit government staff | Rs 10 lakh – to each Dalit beneficiary
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**27.** On August 22, The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has launched a novel initiative to get rid of diseases like Malaria and Dengue, implementing a 10-week long “Every Sunday at 10 AM for 10 mnts” campaign. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- GHMC – implemented “Every Sunday at 10 AM for 10 mnts” campaign to get rid of diseases like Malaria & Dengue
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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





# Sports & Games

1. Sri Lanka left-arm seam bowling all-rounder Isuru Udana has announced his retirement from International Cricket with immediate effect. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Isuru Udana (Sri Lanka) – retired from International Cricket
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

2. French racing driver Esteban Ocon has won the Formula One (F1) “Hungarian Grand Prix 2021” in Budapest, Hungary. He marked a maiden win in his 78<sup>th</sup> Grand Prix and a first victory for Alpine-Renault team. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Esteban Ocon (France - Alpine-Renault team) – won the “Hungarian Grand Prix 2021”
- Hungary – Budapest – Forint | President – Janos Ader

3. On August 1, Vandana Katariya has become the first Indian woman to score a hat-trick at the Olympics. She scored a goal against South Africa during a women's field hockey match at the 2020 Summer Olympics. The Specific Motto of the Tokyo Olympics is “United by Emotion”. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Vandana Katariya (Hockey Player) – became the first Indian woman to score a hat-trick at the “2020 Olympics”
- Specific Motto of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics – “United by Emotion”

4. On August 3, Nepal’s former cricket team captain Paras Khadka has announced his retirement from International Cricket. He is the first Nepalese batsman to score a century in both ODI and T20 formats. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Paras Khadka (Nepal) – retired from International Cricket (1<sup>st</sup> Nepalese batsman to score a century)
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba

5. On August 1, P. V. Sindhu has clinched a Bronze medal for India after defeating China’s He Bing Jiao. With this, Sindhu becomes the first Indian woman to win two individual medals at Olympics. Wrestler Sushil Kumar is the first and only other Indian to win two Olympic medals. Moreover, Swimmer Emma McKeon from Australia has become the first Female Swimmer and second woman in any sport to win 7 medals (4 Gold, 3 Bronze) at the Olympics. While Marcell Jacobs from Italy has won Gold in the Men’s 100m event with 9.8 seconds. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- P. V. Sindhu (India - Badminton) – won Bronze medal at “2020 Tokyo Olympics”
- P. V. Sindhu – became the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian woman to win two individual medals at Olympics (2<sup>nd</sup> Indian)
- Emma McKeon (Australia - Swimmer) – won 7 medals (4 Gold, 3 Bronze) at the 2020 Olympics (1<sup>st</sup> Female Swimmer)
- Marcell Jacobs (Italy - Athlete) – won Gold in the Men’s 100m event at the 2020 Olympics

6. Pakistan’s Mohammad Rizwan scored 46 runs off 36 balls against West Indies in the second T20 to set a world record for most runs in a calendar year in T20 International cricket. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mohammad Rizwan (Pakistan) – set a world record for most runs in a calendar year in T20 International Cricket
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

7. On August 2, The USA has beaten Mexico with 1-0 to win its 7<sup>th</sup> “CONCACAF Gold Cup”. The U.S. lineup included 9 players from Major League Soccer. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USA – won its 7<sup>th</sup> “CONCACAF Gold Cup”
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

8. On August 2, Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Thakur has launched the theme song “Kar De Kamaal Tu” for the Indian Paralympic contingent in New Delhi. The song is composed and sung by a Divyang cricket player Sanjeev Singh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anurag Thakur – launched the theme song “Kar De Kamaal Tu” for the Indian Paralympic contingent
- The song is composed & sung by – Sanjeev Singh (a Divyang Cricket Player)

9. On August 1, World No. 5 Alexander Zverev has won the biggest title of his career when he beat Russian Karen Khachanov to win the men’s singles Gold medal at the “2020 Tokyo Olympics”. In women’s singles, Belinda Bencic has won gold medal in Tennis at the Tokyo Olympics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Alexander Zverev (Germany - Tennis) – won the men’s singles Gold medal at the “2020 Tokyo Olympics”
- Belinda Bencic (Switzerland - Tennis) – won the women’s singles Gold medal at the “2020 Tokyo Olympics”



**10.** On August 5, Indian Men's Hockey Team has defeated Germany to win their first-ever Olympic medal in 41 years. Indian Men's Hockey Team won the Bronze medal beating Germany with 5-4. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Men's Hockey Team – won Bronze medal at “2020 Tokyo Olympics” (after defeating - Germany)
- It is team's first-ever Olympic medal in 41 years
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)

**11.** On August 4, Indian wrestler Ravi Kumar Dahiya has won the silver medal in the final of men's 57kg freestyle category after losing to Russian Olympic Committee's (ROC) Zaur Uguev. This is India's 5<sup>th</sup> medal at “2020 Tokyo Olympics” and the second Silver of the campaign. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ravi Kumar Dahiya – won silver medal in men's 57kg freestyle category at “2020 Tokyo Olympics”
- This is India's 5<sup>th</sup> medal at “2020 Tokyo Olympics” (2<sup>nd</sup> silver)

**12.** On August 6, Jan-Krzysztof Duda of Poland has won the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of “FIDE World Cup 2021”, beating GM Sergey Karjakin of Russia. It was held at Sochi, Russia. While Russia's Alexandra Kosteniuk has won the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of “FIDE Women's World Cup 2021”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jan-Krzysztof Duda ([Poland](#)) – won the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of “FIDE World Cup 2021”
- Alexandra Kosteniuk ([Russia](#)) – won the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of “FIDE Women's World Cup 2021”

**13.** On August 4, Lovlina Borgohain has won India's third medal - a Bronze - at the Tokyo Olympics after losing to Turkish world champion Busenaz Surmeneli in their 69kg semifinal. She becomes only the second Indian woman boxer and third overall, after Vijender Singh (bronze in 2008) and Mary Kom (bronze in 2012). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lovlina Borgohain – 3<sup>rd</sup> Indian boxer to win a medal at Olympics (Bronze at 2020 Tokyo Olympics in 69kg)
- Lovlina Borgohain + Vijender Singh + Mary Kom = Indian Boxers

**14.** On August 7, 23-year-old from Haryana, Neeraj Chopra has won India's 1<sup>st</sup> Gold medal at the “2020 Tokyo Olympics” with a throw of 87.58m. With this, he became the first Indian javelin thrower in the history of India to qualify for the final. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Neeraj Chopra ([Haryana - Javelin throw](#)) – won India's 1<sup>st</sup> Gold medal at the “2020 Tokyo Olympics” (87.58m)

**15.** On August 6, James Anderson has become the third highest wicket taker in Test cricket to equal Anil Kumble's tally of 619 wickets. Spin legends Muttiah Muralitharan (800 wickets) and Shane Warne (708) are the only bowlers ahead of Anderson in the record books. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UK's James Anderson (619) – become the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest wicket taker in Test cricket (equal to India's Anil Kumble)
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Muttiah Muralitharan (800 wickets) | 2<sup>nd</sup> - Shane Warne (708)

**16.** On August 8, India has finished with 7 Medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver, 4 Bronze) at the 48<sup>th</sup> Position in the "2020 Summer Olympic Games" which took place in Tokyo, Japan. It was in London Olympics, in 2012, that India won 6 medals, the country's highest tally for 9 years. The USA (113), which won 39 gold, 41 silver and 33 bronze medals, finished at the top spot in Tokyo Olympics. The USA was followed by China (88 medals) & Japan (58 medals). 13 years old Momiji Nishiya from Japan has become the Youngest Gold Medalist in the history of Olympics. She is the winner of Women's Street Skateboarding event at the '2020 Tokyo Olympics'. Besides, Karate has made its debut in the Olympic Games this year in the 32<sup>nd</sup> edition. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India ranked 48<sup>th</sup> in the "2020 Summer Olympic Games" at Tokyo – with 7 Medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver, 4 Bronze)
- 1<sup>st</sup> - USA (113 medals) | 2<sup>nd</sup> - China (88 medals) | 3<sup>rd</sup> - Japan (58 medals)
- List of 7 Medals won at "2020 Summer Olympic Games" held in Tokyo, Japan in 2021: (32<sup>nd</sup> edition)

Winner	Game	Medal
Neeraj Chopra	Javelin Throw	Gold
Mirabai Chanu	Weightlifting	Silver
Ravi Dahiya	Wrestling	Silver
P. V. Sindhu	Badminton	Bronze
Lovlina Borgohain	Boxing	Bronze
Bajrang Punia	Wrestling	Bronze
Indian Team	Men's Hockey	Bronze

- Momiji Nishiya ([Japanese Skateboarder](#)) – the Youngest Gold Medalist in the history of Olympics (13 years old)
- Karate – made its debut in the Olympic Games this year

**17.** A 101-member contingent of Indian Army has participated in the "International Army Games 2021" organised by Russia from August 22 to September 4. In the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the games in 2021, more than 280 teams from 42 countries would participate and the competition was being held in 11 countries. India had stood first amongst the 8 countries that participated in the Army Scouts Master Competition 2019 in Jaisalmer. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 101-member contingent of Indian Army – participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> "International Army Games 2021" organised by Russia
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)
- [HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi](#) | [Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane](#) | [Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty](#)



**18.** On August 6, 20-year-old from Pune, Harshit Raja has become India's 69th Chess Grandmaster after he drew his game against Dennis Wagner at the "Biel Masters Open 2021". He won silver in U-13 National Chess Championship in Jamshedpur in 2014 and gold in the SGFI Nationals held in Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Harshit Raja ([Chess](#)) – became India's 69<sup>th</sup> Chess Grandmaster
- He drew his game against Dennis Wagner (Germany) at the "Biel Masters Open 2021"

**19.** On August 11, The 34-year-old Argentine footballer Lionel Messi has joined French Football club Paris Saint-Germain on a two-year deal after ending his association with FC Barcelona. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lionel Messi ([Argentina](#)) – joined "Paris Saint-Germain FC" (leaving Barcelona FC)
- [HQs of PSG FC – Paris, France | President – Nasser al-Khelaifi](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**25.** 15-year old Young Indian Grandmaster Raunak Sadhwani has emerged as winner in the 19<sup>th</sup> Spilimbergo Open Chess Tournament. He played out a draw in the 9<sup>th</sup> and final round against GM Adam Kozak of Hungary. Indian Grandmaster R. Vaishali finished 14<sup>th</sup> with 6 points and was the best among the women competitors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Raunak Sadhwani ([India - Chess](#)) – won the 19<sup>th</sup> “Spilimbergo Open Chess Tournament”
- Adam Kozak ([Hungary](#)) & R. Vaishali ([India](#)) – Chess Players

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

**Key Points:**

- Neeraj Chopra ([India - Javelin Throw](#)) – ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the “World Athletics Men’s Javelin Throw Ranking 2021”
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Johannes Vetter ([Germany - Javelin Throw](#))

**27.** India has topped the medals tally with 15 medals (8 Gold, 2 Silver and 5 Bronze medals) at the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the “Youth World Archery Championship 2021” held in Wroclaw (Poland) from August 9 to 15, 2021. The championship was organised by World Archery Federation (WAF). Komalika Bari became the second Indian after Deepika Kumari to win both the Cadet and Junior Recurve Women World Champions’ titles. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Archery Federation – organised the 16<sup>th</sup> “Youth World Archery Championship 2021” in Wroclaw, Poland
- India – topped the medals tally with 15 medals (8 Gold, 2 Silver & 5 Bronze)



- Komalika Bari – 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian to win both the Cadet & Junior Recurve Women World Champions' titles
- Komalika Bari, Deepika Kumari, Priya Gurjar, Bishal Changmai, Sakshi Chaudhary – Indian Archers
- HQs of WAF – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Ugur Erdener

**28.** On August 16, The Odisha government has decided to extend the sponsorship of Indian National Hockey Teams for another 10 years. The current sponsorship ends in 2023. Each player was awarded ₹10 lakh and each support staff member was awarded ₹5 lakh by the Chief Minister. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – to extend the sponsorship of Indian National Hockey Teams for another 10 years
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**29.** On August 15, S. L. Narayanan has finished runner-up after a draw with Israel's Ilia Smirin in the 9th and final round of the "RTU Open Chess Tournament" in Riga, Latvia. Germany's Alexander Donchenko has won with 7.5 points from 9 rounds. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. L. Narayanan (India - Chess) – stood at 2<sup>nd</sup> in the "RTU Open Chess Tournament" in Riga, Latvia
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Alexander Donchenko (Germany - Chess)

**30.** In August 2021, Brazil has won Gold medal in the men's football event at "2020 Tokyo Olympics" defeating Spain in the final match. It's a third straight Olympic soccer medal for Brazil. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Brazil – won Gold medal in the men's football event at "2020 Tokyo Olympics" (defeating - Spain)
- Brazil – Brasilia – Brazilian real | President – Jair Bolsonaro

**31.** India's Amit Khatri won the silver medal in men's 10,000m race walk at the "World Athletics U20 Championships" as he finished with a time of 42 minutes 17.94 seconds. Amit finished behind gold medal winner Heristone Wanyonyi of Kenya who clocked a time of 42:10.84. The 2021 edition of the "World Athletics U20 Championships" was held in Nairobi, Kenya. Javelin Thrower Kunwar Ajai Raj Singh Rana and Long Jumper Shaili Singh led the Indian challenge in the "World Athletics U20 Championships". Long jumper from Uttar Pradesh, Shaili Singh has won the silver medal at the Championships. Overall, India finished at the 21st position with 3 Medals (2-Silver & 1-Bronze). While the list was topped by Kenya with 16 medals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "World Athletics U20 Championships 2021" – held in Nairobi, Kenya | India's position – 21st | Top – Kenya
- Kunwer Ajai Raj Singh Rana + Shaili Singh = led the Indian challenge in this Championships
- Amit Khatri (Racewalker) – won silver medal in men's 10,000m race walk at "World Athletics U20 Championships"





- Shaili Singh ([Long Jumper](#)) – won the silver medal in women’s long jump at “World Athletics U20 Championships”
- [Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | President – Uhuru Kenyatta](#)

**32.** On August 20, Giant symbol of the Paralympic Games, the “Three Agitos”, has been installed on a floating platform in Odaiba Marine Park ahead of Tokyo 2020 which started on August 24. The Agitos symbol consists of three crescent lines of red, blue and green. While, “Someity” is the mascot of the ‘Tokyo 2020 Paralympics’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Symbol of the ‘2020 Paralympic Games’ – “Three Agitos”
- Mascot of the ‘2020 Paralympics Games’ – “Someity”
- Agitos symbol consists of 3 colours: Red, Blue & Green

**33.** On August 20, G. Sathyan and Manika Batra have won the “World Table Tennis Contender 2021” held in Budapest, Hungary. They defeated Nandor Ecseki and Dora Madarasz of Hungary. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- G. Sathyan & Manika Batra ([Table Tennis](#)) – won “World Table Tennis Contender 2021” in Budapest, Hungary
- [Hungary – Budapest – Forint | President – Janos Ader](#)
- [HQs of ITTF – Lausanne, Switzerland | CEO – Steve Dainton | President – Thomas Weikert | Founded in – 1926](#)



**34.** On August 21, The recently elected president of AICF, Sanjay Kapoor has announced that the All-India Chess Federation (AICF) and the Chess Association of India have merged into one entity to run the sport. They have now come together under the umbrella of the AICF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- All-India Chess Federation + Chess Association of India = merged into One entity under the umbrella of the ‘AICF’
- [HQs of AICF – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | President – Sanjay Kapoor | Secretary – Bharat Singh Chauhan](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- Max Verstappen – won "F1 Belgian Grand Prix 2021"
- Max Verstappen ([Belgium](#)) – [Red Bull](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



# Important Days & Dates

**1.** International Friendship Day is celebrated annually on July 30. However, countries like India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates and United States mark Friendship Day on the first Sunday of August every year. In 2021, the theme is “Sharing the human spirit through friendship”. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- July 30 – “International Friendship Day”
- Theme – “Sharing the human spirit through friendship”
- India celebrated “Friendship Day” on the first Sunday of August

**2.** August 1 is celebrated as “World Lung Cancer Day” across the world. Smoking is one of the leading causes of lung cancer. November is observed as “Lung Cancer Awareness Month”. While the colour of the Lung Cancer Awareness ribbon is Pearl or white. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- August 1 – “World Lung Cancer Day”
- November – “Lung Cancer Awareness Month”
- Colour of Lung Cancer Awareness ribbon – Pearl or White

**3.** “Muslim Women Rights Day” was observed on August 1 by different organisations across India. Ministry of Minority Affairs decided to this day to celebrate the enactment of the law against triple talaq. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- August 1 – “Muslim Women Rights Day” – by Ministry of Minority Affairs

**4.** Every year the world celebrates “World Breastfeeding Week” from August 1 to August 7 to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of mothers and babies around the world. It is organised by the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA). This year, the theme is “Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility”. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- August 1 to 7 – “World Breastfeeding Week” - organised by WABA
- Theme – “Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility”
- HQs of WABA – Penang, Malaysia

**5.** On August 3, The government of India has declared January 23 as “Parakram Diwas” to commemorate 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. High Level Committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister has been constituted for the commemoration. Commemorative coin and stamps on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose were released on the occasion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- January 23 – “Parakram Diwas” – to commemorate 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

**6.** The Indian Orthopaedic Association (IOA) has been organising week-long awareness camps every year from 2012 to coincide with the National Bone and Joint Day celebrated on August 4. This year, the theme is “Save Self and Save One”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 4 – “National Bone and Joint Day”
- Theme – “Save Self and Save One”

**7.** Hiroshima Day is observed every year on August 6 to promote peace politics and raise awareness of the effects of the bomb attack on Hiroshima. Hiroshima city was attacked by an atomic weapon that killed thousands of lives instantly on August 6, 1945. This year, it is the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic bombing of the Japanese city. The US had created 2 atomic bombs named “Little Boy” dropped in the city of Hiroshima and “Fat Man” in the city of Nagasaki on August 6 and 9 respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 6 – 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “Hiroshima Day”
- An atomic bomb named “Little Boy” dropped by the US on Hiroshima city of Japan – on August 6, 1945
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

**8.** TRIFED was founded on August 6, 1987 and has celebrated its 34<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on August 6, 2021. The proposed event also recognized the achievements and contributions that the tribes and people working for them have made in this regard. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 6 – 34<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of TRIFED
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna | Chairman – Ramesh Chand Meena | Founded in – 1987

**9.** On August 7, the Ministry of Textiles celebrated 7<sup>th</sup> National Handloom Day. On this occasion, Flipkart and Himachal Pradesh State Handicrafts and Handloom Corporation Ltd (HPSHHCL) signed an MoU to bring local artisans, weavers, handicrafts and handloom makers into the e-commerce. The partnership will provide them with market access training and support under the ‘Flipkart Samarth’ programme. Besides, Flipkart has also signed an MoU with IIM Sambalpur for the same purpose. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 7 – 7<sup>th</sup> “National Handloom Day” by Ministry of Textiles
- Flipkart + Himachal Pradesh = an MoU to bring local artisans & handloom makers into the e-commerce
- Flipkart + IIM Sambalpur = an MoU to support & promote small businesses, artisans & weavers
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- HP: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

**10.** On August 9, Japan's Nagasaki has marked the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the US atomic bombing. The US dropped 2 atomic bombs named "Little Boy" in the city of Hiroshima and "Fat Man" in the city of Nagasaki on August 6 & 9 respectively in the year 1945. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 9 – 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Nagasaki Day"
- An atomic bomb named "Fat Man" dropped by the US on Nagasaki city of Japan – on August 9, 1945
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

**11.** The "International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples" is celebrated every year on August 9. The United Nations (UN) estimates that there are more than 476 million indigenous people in the world who make 6.2% of the global population. The day was marked for the first time by UN General Assembly in December 1994. In 2021, the theme is "Leaving no one behind: Indigenous peoples and the call for a new social contract". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 9 – "International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples" (since December 1994)
- Theme – "Leaving no one behind: Indigenous peoples and the call for a new social contract"

**12.** August 8 has a landmark significance in Indian history and is celebrated every year as the Quit India Movement Day. The Quit India Movement was launched on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1942. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 8 – "Quit India Movement Day"
- The Quit India Movement was launched on – 8<sup>th</sup> August 1942

**13.** "World Lion Day" is celebrated on August 10 of every year to raise awareness about lions and to mobilise support for their protection and conservation. According to the World Wide Fund for animals (WWF), even though a lion is often referred to as the "King of the Jungle," it actually only lives in grasslands and plains. India is home to the majestic Asiatic Lion, who inhabit the protected territory of Sasan-Gir National Park. The day first celebrated in 2013. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 10 – "World Lion Day" (since - 2013)
- India is home to – Asiatic Lion | Sasan-Gir National Park – located in Gujarat

**14.** The "World Biofuel Day" is observed on August 10 to raise awareness of the importance of non-fossil fuels as a substitute for conventional fossil fuels. World Biofuel Day was first observed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Gas in 2015. This day is observed in honour of Sir Rudolf Diesel - the inventor of the diesel engine. This year, the 'World Biofuel Day' is celebrated with the theme of "The promotion of Biofuels for a Better Environment". While, Indian Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) celebrated this day with the theme of "Biofuels for Sustainability and Rural Income". [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- August 10 – World Biofuel Day (since - 2015)
- Theme for 2021 – “The promotion of Biofuels for a Better Environment”
- Theme celebrated by MoPNG – “Biofuels for Sustainability and Rural Income”
- This day is observed in honour of “Sir Rudolf Diesel” - the inventor of the Diesel Engine

**15.** The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has decided to name August 7 as “Javelin Throw Day” in India to honour Neeraj Chopra’s first historic Olympic gold. He bagged the 1<sup>st</sup> Gold medal in men’s javelin throw at the “2020 Tokyo Olympics” on August 7. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 7 – “Javelin Throw Day” in India to honour Neeraj Chopra’s first historic Olympic Gold
- HQs of AFI – New Delhi | President – Adille J. Sumariwalla

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- August 14 – 1<sup>st</sup> “World Prediabetes Day”

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

**Key Points:**

- August 15 – 75<sup>th</sup> “Independence Day”
- Theme – “Nation First, Always First”



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**25.** August 19 is observed as World Photography Day, which aims to inspire photographers across the world. World Photo Day originates from the invention of the ‘Daguerreotype’, a photographic process developed by Frenchmen Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicephore Niepce in 1837. The first selfie was clicked by American Robert Cornelius in 1839. On August 19, 2010 World Photo Day hosted its first global online gallery. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 19 – World Photography Day
- ‘Daguerreotype’ - a photographic process – developed by Louis Daguerre & Joseph Nicephore Niepce in 1837

**26.** August 19 is observed as “World Humanitarian Day” every year in honour of all humanitarians going to extraordinary lengths to support various causes. This day was observed for the first time in 2009. This year, the theme is “The Human Race”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 19 – “World Humanitarian Day” (since 2009)
- Theme – “The Human Race”

**27.** World Mosquito Day is observed annually on August 20 to commemorate British doctor Sir Ronald Ross’ landmark discovery in 1897 that female mosquitoes (Anopheles mosquitoes) transmit malaria between humans. This year’s theme is “Reaching the Zero Malaria Target”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 20 – World Mosquito Day
- Theme – “Reaching the Zero Malaria Target”



**28.** To mark the 77th birth Anniversary of late Prime Minister of India Shri Rajiv Gandhi, “Sadbhavana Diwas” or “Harmony Day” was observed on August 20. India’s highest civilian award “Bharat Ratna” was (posthumously) awarded to Rajiv Gandhi in 1991. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 20 – “Sadbhavana Diwas” or “Harmony Day”
- Rajiv Gandhi – awarded with “Bharat Ratna” in 1991 (posthumously)

**29.** On August 22, World Sanskrit Day (Sanskrit Diwas or Vishva-Sanskrita-dinam) is celebrated on Shravana Poornima every year, and this year it falls on August 22. While Sanskrit Week observed in India between August 19-25. World Sanskrit Day was celebrated for the first time in the year 1969. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 22 – “World Sanskrit Day” (Sanskrit Diwas) – observed on Shravana Poornima (since 1969)
- August 19 to 25 – “Sanskrit Week”
- [The first state to declare Sanskrit as an official language – Uttarakhand](#)

**30.** “International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism” was observed on August 21. In 2021, the theme is “Connections”. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attacks on September 11, 2001. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 21 – International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism
- Theme – “Connections”

**31.** World Senior Citizen Day is observed every year on August 21 to raise awareness around issues that impact older adults including mental well-being. The day also recognises and acknowledges the contribution of the elders to society. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 21 – World Senior Citizen Day

**32.** On August 20, Every year, India celebrates “Akshay Urja Diwas” or “National Renewable Energy Day” to make people aware of the use of natural sources of energy like biogas, solar energy, wind energy and hydroelectrical power. The day also marks the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The first-ever memorial stamp commemorating this day was issued in 2004 by former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 20 – “Akshay Urja Diwas” or “National Renewable Energy Day” (since 2004)
- The day also marks the birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi



**33.** Every year, the World Entrepreneurs' Day is observed on August 21 to create awareness for entrepreneurship, innovation and leadership throughout the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 21 – World Entrepreneurs' Day

**34.** Every year on 23 August, the world observes the “International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition”. The day is marked to inscribe the tragedy of the slave trade in the memory of all peoples. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 23 – “International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition”

**35.** This year, the “World Water Week” took place in Stockholm, Sweden where speakers from all across the world came together to address some of the biggest water challenges impacting the globe, including water scarcity, climate crisis and biodiversity loss. It was observed from August 23 to 27. The conversation all through the week was based on this year's theme of “Building Resilience Faster”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- August 23 to 27 – “World Water Week 2021” – took place in Stockholm, Sweden
- Theme – “Building Resilience Faster”

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

**Key Points:**

- August 26 – International Dog Day (since 2004)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- August 30 – “National Small Industry Day”

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

# Meetings, Conferences and Summits

1. The 12<sup>th</sup> round of “Corps Commander-level Talks” between India and China took place in Moldo on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control. It is aimed at discussing disengagement from the remaining friction points in the Eastern Ladakh sector. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- 12<sup>th</sup> round of “Corps Commander-level Talks” took place – between India & China
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

2. Meenakshi Lekhi (Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture) has participated in the first “G20 Culture Ministers Meeting” hosted by Italy during their ongoing Presidency of G20 in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Meenakshi Lekhi – participated in the first “G20 Culture Ministers Meeting” hosted by Italy
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi
- Presidency of G20 Summit: 2021 – Italy | 2022 – Indonesia | 2023 – India | 2024 – Brazil

3. On August 1, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has addressed the “2<sup>nd</sup> Indo-US Services Summit”, organised by Indo American Chamber of Commerce (IACC). India and the US are working towards peace and stability across the world. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – addressed the “2<sup>nd</sup> Indo-US Services Summit” – organised by Indo American Chamber of Commerce
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra

4. The G20 ministers adopted a declaration for “Leveraging Digitalization for a Resilient, Strong, Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery” at the “G20 Digital Ministers’ Meeting” hosted by Italy on August 5, 2020. Minister of Electronics & Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw led the Indian delegation virtually. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Ashwini Vaishnaw – represented India at the “G20 Digital Ministers’ Meeting” hosted by Italy
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

5. On August 6, The 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy National Security Adviser (NSA) level meeting of ‘Colombo Security Conclave’ was recently hosted virtually by Sri Lanka. India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives have agreed to work on “Four Pillars” of security cooperation, covering areas of marine security, human trafficking, counter-terrorism, and cyber security. [{Read more}](#)





**Key Points:**

- Sri Lanka – hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy National Security Adviser (NSA) level meeting of ‘Colombo Security Conclave’
- The meeting was held among India, Sri Lanka & Maldives | India was represented by – Ajit Doval (NSA)
- They agreed to work on 4 Pillars:
  - Cyber Security
  - Marine Security
  - Human Trafficking
  - Counter-Terrorism
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

**6.** On August 6, Minister for Law and Justice, Kiren Rijiju has represented India in the 8<sup>th</sup> “Justice Ministers Meeting 2021” of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The meeting was hosted by Tajikistan. During the meeting, Kiren Rijiju also informed launching of “E-Lok Adalat”, an effective tool to settle disputes, combining technology and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kiren Rijiju – represented India in the 8<sup>th</sup> “Justice Ministers Meeting 2021” of the SCO – hosted by Tajikistan
- India proposed to launch “E-Lok Adalat” - an effective tool to settle disputes
- Ministry for Law & Justice: Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West
- MoS in Ministry of Law & Justice – S. P. Singh Baghel

**7.** The Minister of State for External Affairs Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh led India’s delegation to the 28<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Foreign Ministers Meeting held virtually on August 6, 2021 under the Chairmanship of Brunei Darussalam. Besides, the 11<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers Meeting was also chaired by Brunei Darussalam and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar participated in it. In the EAS, S. Jaishankar proposed to celebrate 2022 as the “ASEAN-India Friendship Year”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajkumar Ranjan Singh – represented India in the 28<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Foreign Ministers Meeting
- S. Jaishankar – represented India in the 11<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers Meeting
- Both of the above meetings were held under the Chairmanship of Brunei
- S. Jaishankar proposed to celebrate 2022 as the “ASEAN-India Friendship Year”
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2021 – Brunei | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia | Members – 10
- Brunei – Bandar Seri Begawan – Brunei dollar (BND) | Prime Minister – Hassanal Bolkiah



**8.** On August 6, DRDO chairman Dr G. Satheesh Reddy has inaugurated the 2<sup>nd</sup> Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) International Conference on Range Technology (ICORT-2021). The conference was organized by DRDO's lab Integrated Test Range, Chandipur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Institute of IEEE “International Conference on Range Technology (ICORT-2021)” – organized by DRDO-Integrated Test Range ([Chandipur](#))
- [HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958](#)

**9.** Minister of State for Education Subhas Sarkar has participated in the “G20 Research Ministers’ Meeting” which was hosted in hybrid mode by Italy. G20 Education Ministers exchanged views on enhancing research collaborations and sharing digital space among G20 Countries for a strong, sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Subhas Sarkar – participated in the “G20 Research Ministers’ Meeting” – hosted by Italy
- [Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan | Constituency – Madhya Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar](#)

**10.** India is set to host the 1<sup>st</sup> “Internet Governance Forum” in the country from October 20-22, 2021. The forum will be organised by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). The theme of forum is “Inclusive Internet for Digital India”. Anil Kumar Jain, the Chairman of Coordination Committee, India ‘Internet Governance Forum 2021’ (IGF), stated that India is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest broadband subscription country in the world and also has the highest data consumption per user per month. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to host the 1<sup>st</sup> “Internet Governance Forum” from October 20-22, 2021
- Theme – “Inclusive Internet for Digital India”
- India – the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest broadband subscription country in the world
- [Chairman of Coordination Committee of the IGF – Anil Kumar Jain](#)

**11.** On August 9, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has chaired a high-level open debate on “Enhancing Maritime Security - A Case for International Cooperation”. This was for the first time that an Indian Prime Minister presided over a meeting of the UN Security Council. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi – chaired a high-level open debate on “Enhancing Maritime Security - A Case for International Cooperation”
- Narendra Modi – 1<sup>st</sup> Indian PM presided over a meeting of the UNSC
- [HQs of UNSC – New York, USA | Presidency in August 2021 – India \(July - France | Sep - Ireland\)](#)
- [Permanent members in the UNSC: 5 – China, France, Russia, U.K. & U.S.](#)
- [India’s Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador – T. S. Tirumurti](#)



**12.** On August 12, Election Commission of India (ECI), Sushil Chandra has handed over the “Forum of the Election Management Bodies of South Asia (FEMBoSA)” role to the Election Commission of Bhutan for 2021-22. He inaugurated the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the Forum for the year 2021 hosted by Election Commission of Bhutan. The theme of the meeting was “Use of Technology in Elections”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sushil Chandra – inaugurated the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the “Forum of the Election Management Bodies of South Asia (FEMBoSA)” – hosted Bhutan
- Theme – “Use of Technology in Elections”
- Member countries in FEMBoSA: 8 – India, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Sri Lanka & Pakistan
- HQs of ECI – New Delhi | Chief Election Commissioner – Sushil Chandra (24<sup>th</sup>) | Formed on – 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950
- Chief Election Commissioner of Bhutan – Dasho Sonam Topgay
- Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM – Lotay Tshering

**13.** The 15<sup>th</sup> India-Singapore Foreign Office Consultations were held virtually on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. The Indian delegation was led by Ms. Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs. Both sides discussed ways to strengthen economic engagement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 15<sup>th</sup> India-Singapore Foreign Office Consultations – held virtually on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2021
- Indian delegation was led by – Ms. Riva Ganguly Das
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

**14.** On August 11, The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the National Public Procurement Conclave (NPPC) was organized by Government e-Marketplace (GeM) in association with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on August 9 & 10, 2021 on the theme “Technology enabled Government Procurement - Towards Efficiency, Transparency, and Inclusiveness”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the “National Public Procurement Conclave (NPPC)” organized by = GeM + CII
- Theme – “Technology enabled Government Procurement - Towards Efficiency, Transparency, and Inclusiveness”
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

**19.** On August 13, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar has addressed the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of Agriculture Ministers of the member countries of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) which was organized virtually in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The Government of India has been taking several steps to develop innovative technologies and their dissemination from Lab to Land to empower rural youth, farmers and farm women. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar – addressed the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of Agriculture Ministers of SCO – held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | SG – Vladimir Norov | Member Countries – 8 | 2021 Presidency – Tajikistan
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary

**20.** On August 19, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has chaired the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of “BRICS Industry Ministers” through video conferencing. The Industry Ministers of BRICS Countries Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa attended the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – chaired the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of “BRICS Industry Ministers”
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship (2021) – India

**21.** The United Nation Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) organizes the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) every 4 years. The first UNWGIC was organized by China in October 2018. Indian will organise the 2<sup>nd</sup> United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) in Hyderabad in October, 2022. The theme of 2<sup>nd</sup> UNWGIC will be “Geo-enabling the Global Village”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian will organise the 2<sup>nd</sup> UNWGIC in Hyderabad, Telangana – in October, 2022
- Theme of 2<sup>nd</sup> UNWGIC – “Geo-enabling the Global Village”
- 1<sup>st</sup> UNWGIC was organized by China – in October, 2018 | UN-GGIM organizes the UNWGIC every 4 years

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**1.** Mumbai-based visual artist and illustrator Anand Radhakrishnan has won the prestigious “Will Eisner Comic Industry Award 2021” also known as “Oscars of the comic world”. Radhakrishnan won the Best Painter/Multimedia Artist (interior art) award for his work in UK-based author Ram V’s graphic novel called ‘Blue In Green’, published in October 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Anand Radhakrishnan ([Mumbai](#)) – won the “Will Eisner Comic Industry Award 2021” or “Oscars of the comic world”
- Radhakrishnan won the ‘Best Painter/Multimedia Artist (interior art) award’ for his work

**2.** Dr. Cyrus S. Poonawalla, chairman of the city-based vaccine maker Serum Institute of India (SII), will be honoured with the prestigious “Lokmanya Tilak National Award for 2021” for his work during the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Cyrus Poonawalla – honoured with the prestigious “Lokmanya Tilak National Award for 2021”
- HQs of SII – Pune, MH | Chairman – Cyrus S. Poonawalla | CEO – Adar C. Poonawalla | Founded in – 1966

**3.** On August 2, DBS Bank has been honoured as the global winner for ‘Most Innovative in Digital Banking’ by Financial Times publication - The Banker, in its “Innovation in Digital Banking Awards 2021”. The bank was also recognised as the Asia-Pacific winner, and won in the ‘Cyber Security’ category for its Secure Access and Remote Working Solution. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “Innovation in Digital Banking Awards 2021” – by The Banker
- DBS Bank – global winner for ‘Most Innovative in Digital Banking’
- DBS Bank – recognised as the ‘Asia-Pacific winner’ in the ‘Cyber Security’ category
- HQs of DBS Bank – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome

**4.** On August 5, Leading Indian-origin entrepreneur Ajay Dilwari has been honoured with Canada’s prestigious “Order of British Columbia” award. He is among 16 ‘exceptional people’ to be appointed for this award. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ajay Dilwari (Indian-origin Entrepreneur) – honoured with Canada’s prestigious “Order of British Columbia” award
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau



5. On August 2, Renowned Economist Jagdish Bhagwati and C. Rangarajan have been conferred with the “Prof CR Rao Centenary Gold Medal (CGM)” instituted by the Indian Econometric Society (TIES) Trust. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jagdish Bhagwati + C. Rangarajan = conferred with the “Prof CR Rao Centenary Gold Medal (CGM)” by TIES

6. Sai Life Sciences Ltd has been honoured with the “Golden Peacock National Training Award 2021” in the pharmaceutical category. This also received Golden Peacock National Quality Award in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sai Life Sciences Ltd – honoured with the “Golden Peacock National Training Award 2021”
- Award category – ‘Pharmaceutical’
- HQs of Sai Life Sciences Ltd – Hyderabad, Telangana | MD & CEO – Krishna Kanumuri

7. Chitkara University, Patiala, has been recognised as the “District Green Champion” for the academic year 2020-21 by the Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE), under the Ministry of Education (MoE). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chitkara University (Patiala) – recognised as the “District Green Champion” for 2020-21 – by MGNCRE, MoE
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced that the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award has been renamed as the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award. The Khel Ratna award is the highest sporting honour in the nation. The Khel Ratna award was instituted in 1991-1992 and the first recipient was Chess legend Viswanathan Anand. The award carries a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award” – renamed as the “Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award”
- ‘Khel Ratna’ award was instituted in 1991-1992 | 1<sup>st</sup> recipient of Khel Ratna award – Viswanathan Anand (Chess)

9. On August 7, The Telangana government has won the “AI Gamechanger Award” in the ‘Xperience-AI Summit’ organised by NASSCOM. The Telangana government’s ‘Crowd Monitoring using AI’ scheme was selected out of over 300 applications from multiple stakeholders. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – won the “AI Gamechanger Award” for ‘Crowd Monitoring using AI’ scheme – from NASSCOM
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan



**10.** On August 5, Bhutan's India assisted Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project was conferred with the "Brunel Medal" awarded by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), London. The award is given as a mark of excellence in civil engineering within the industry and was handed over by the Indian envoy to Bhutan Ruchira Kamboj. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project ([Bhutan](#)) – awarded the "Brunel Medal" by Institution of Civil Engineers ([London](#))
- [Indian Ambassador to Bhutan – Ruchira Kamboj](#)
- [Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM – Lotay Tshering](#)

**11.** Nagaland has been conferred with 7 National Awards on the first "Van Dhan Annual Awards 2020-21", during the celebration of 34<sup>th</sup> foundation day of Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED). The awards were presented by Union tribal minister, Arjun Munda. Nagaland has received awards in 3 categories - Best Survey State, Best Training State and the most number of Van Dhan Vikas Clusters (VDVKCs). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nagaland – conferred with 7 National Awards on the first "Van Dhan Annual Awards 2020-21"
- Nagaland received awards in 3 categories: Best Survey State, Best Training State & most number of VDVKCs
- [Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi](#)

**12.** The West Bengal government has won "5 Skoch Awards 2021" (1 Platinum, 1 Gold and 3 silver awards) for various schemes in 4 categories of governance. GoWB schemes including Silpasathi, e-Nathikaran, Online system for auto-renewal of certificate of enlistment (urban) & Online system for issuance of trade licence (rural) have won the esteemed SKOCH Awards. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- West Bengal – won "5 Skoch Awards 2021" for various schemes in 4 categories of governance
- Silpasathi scheme & e-Nathikaran scheme – belong to West Bengal
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar](#)

**13.** On August 11, Maharashtra government has announced the Rajiv Gandhi award for the Information and Technology (IT) sector. This will be a lasting tribute to Rajiv ji for his pioneering work in the technology sector of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – announced the Rajiv Gandhi award for the IT sector
- [Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**17.** On August 17, Piyush Goyal has conferred the “National Intellectual Property Awards 2020” to the winners at an event. India has recorded 572% growth in grant of Patents in last 7 years. 28,391 patents granted in 2020-21 as compared to 4,227 grants during 2013-14. Besides, 14.2 lakh trademark registrations have been done in 4 years (2016-2020). He announced 80% fee concession for Start-ups & Small Entities. Moreover, India’s ranking in “Global Innovation Index” jumped to 48<sup>th</sup> in 2020. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – conferred the “National Intellectual Property (IP) Awards 2020” to the winners
- India recorded 572% growth in grant of Patents in last 7 years (28,391 patents granted in 2020-21)
- Piyush Goyal – announced 80% fee concession for Start-ups & Small Entities
- India – 48<sup>th</sup> in the “Global Innovation Index 2020”

**18.** On August 14, An influential US lawmaker from New York has reintroduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives to posthumously award the prestigious “Congressional Gold Medal” to Mahatma Gandhi in recognition of his promotion of peace and nonviolence. The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian award in the United States. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- An influential US lawmaker reintroduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives to posthumously award the prestigious “Congressional Gold Medal” – to Mahatma Gandhi
- “Congressional Gold Medal” – the highest civilian award in the US
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**19.** On August 20, The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) has announced the names of winners for its 12<sup>th</sup> edition, which was held virtually. Pankaj Tripathi, Manoj Bajpayee and Samantha Akkineni were some of the other winners at the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the festival. All the winners are given below category-wise. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- The full list of winners at Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2021:

Category	Winner
Best Feature Film	Soorai Pottru
Best Performance Male (Feature)	Suriya Sivakumar (Soorai Pottru)
Best Performance Female (Feature)	Vidya Balan (Sherni) & Honourable mention to Nimisha Sajayan (The Great Indian Kitchen)
Best Director	Anurag Basu (Ludo) & Honorary Mention Prithvi Konanur (Pinki Elli?)
Best Series	Mirzapur Season 2
Best Actor in a Series	Manoj Bajpayee (The Family Man 2)
Best Actress in a Series	Samantha Akkineni (The Family Man 2)
Diversity in Cinema Award	Pankaj Tripathi
Best Documentary Film	Shut Up Sona

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

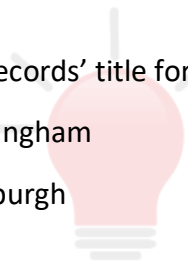
**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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





**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



# Appointments & Resignations

1. Indian-American Rashad Hussain has been nominated by the Joe Biden-led administration as the US Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom. Hussain will be the first Muslim to hold the post. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Rashad Hussain – Indian-American & 1<sup>st</sup> Muslim to be nominated as US' Religious Rights Ambassador
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

2. Vice Admiral S. N. Ghormade has assumed charge as the Vice Chief of Naval Staff from Vice Admiral G. Ashok Kumar who retired after 39 years of service. Vice Admiral Ghormade was commissioned in the Navy on January 1, 1984. He was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) in 2017 and Nausena Medal in 2007 by the President. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- S. N. Ghormade – assumed charge as the Vice Chief of Naval Staff (replacing - G. Ashok Kumar)
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – S. N. Ghormade

3. On August 1, After the retirement of Soma Roy Burman, a 1986-batch Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) officer Deepak Das has taken charge as the 25<sup>th</sup> Controller General of Accounts (CGA) under Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Deepak Das – took charge as the 25<sup>th</sup> CGA (replacing - Soma Roy Burman)

4. On August 2, The State Administration Council of Myanmar has been reformed as 'Caretaker government of Myanmar' headed by the Chief of the Myanmar military Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as the Prime Minister. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Min Aung Hlaing – became the Prime Minister of Myanmar
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Myint Swe | PM – Min Aung Hlaing

5. On August 2, Home interiors company HomeLane has entered into a 3-year strategic partnership with ace cricketer, Mahendra Singh Dhoni, as an Equity Partner and Brand Ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- HomeLane – appointed Mahendra Singh Dhoni as an Equity Partner & Brand Ambassador – for 3 years
- HQs of HomeLane – Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-Founder & CEO – Srikanth Iyer



**6.** On August 3, Bvlgari has appointed Priyanka Chopra Jonas as one of its brand ambassadors. The actress-producer will support the Roman high jewellery house in the amplification of its brand around the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Priyanka Chopra Jonas – appointed as brand ambassadors of a Jewellery brand 'Bvlgari'
- HQs of Bvlgari – Rome, Italy | CEO – Jean-Christophe Babin

**7.** On August 1, Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Chawla, AVSM has assumed the appointment of the Director General of Artillery. He replaced Lt Gen K Ravi Prasad who superannuated on 31 July 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Chawla – appointed as the Director General of Artillery (replacing - Lt Gen K. Ravi Prasad)

**8.** On August 5, Mini Ipe has taken charge as a Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). Prior to this, she was executive director in the Legal Department. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mini Ipe – took charge as the MD of the LIC
- Now, total 4 MDs are there in LIC: Mukesh Kumar Gupta, Raj Kumar, Siddhartha Mohanty & Mini Ipe
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

**9.** On August 4, The Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Prakash Chandra as Non-Executive (Part Time) Chairman of RBL Bank with effect from for a 3-year period. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prakash Chandra – appointed as Non-Executive (Part Time) Chairman of RBL Bank – for 3 years
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwvir Ahuja | Chairman – Prakash Chandra

**10.** Dhriti Banerjee has taken over as the first woman Director of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), one of the premier organisations involved in taxonomic studies of fauna. She is the 18<sup>th</sup> Director of the ZSI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dhriti Banerjee – took over as the first woman Director of the ZSI (overall 18<sup>th</sup> Director)
- HQs of ZSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director – Dhriti Banerjee | Founded on – July 1, 1916

**11.** Akhilesh Mishra, presently Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Ireland. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Akhilesh Mishra – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Ireland
- Ireland – Dublin – Euro | PM – Micheal Martin



**12.** Chandel district in Manipur has topped the list of Aspirational Districts ranked by government think tank NITI Aayog for the month of June. Sahibganj (Jharkhand) and Firozpur (Punjab) have been ranked at the second and third positions, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chandel ([Manipur](#)) – topped the list of “Aspirational Districts for June 2021” ranked by NITI Aayog
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Sahibganj ([Jharkhand](#)) | 3<sup>rd</sup> - Firozpur ([Punjab](#))
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**13.** On August 6, The Himachal Pradesh government has appointed senior IAS officer Ram Subhag Singh as the Chief Secretary replacing Anil Kumar Khachi who was made the state election commissioner. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Subhag Singh – appointed as Chief Secretary of Himachal Pradesh
- HP: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

**14.** On August 5, Eurosport India, the sports channel from broadcast network Discovery, has appointed Bollywood actor John Abraham as the brand ambassador for their flagship motorsport property - “MotoGP”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- John Abraham – appointed as brand ambassador of ‘Eurosport India’ – for “MotoGP”

**15.** On August 2, Armenia's acting Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has been officially appointed to the post by Armenia's President Armen Sarkissian. Mr. Nikol is associated with Civil Contract party. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nikol Pashinyan – officially appointed as the PM of Armenia
- Armenia – Yerevan – Dram | President – Armen Sarkissian | PM – Nikol Pashinyan

**16.** Anthony Heredia has been announced as the Chief Executive Officer of “BOI AXA Investment Managers Private Limited” (BOI AXA Mutual Fund) with effect from August 5, 2021. He will succeed Sandeep Dasgupta. Anthony has also served as a Director on the Board of the Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI). BOI AXA Mutual Fund is formed by a joint venture between Bank of India and AXA Investment Managers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anthony Heredia – appointed as the CEO of BOI AXA Mutual Fund (replacing - Sandeep Dasgupta)
- HQs of BOI AXA Mutual Fund – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Anthony Heredia



**17.** On August 7, In pursuance of 'Section 3' of the 'National Commission for Women Act 1990', Central Government has nominated Rekha Sharma as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW) for another term of 3 years or till the age of 65 years or until further orders, whichever is the earliest. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rekha Sharma – nominated as the Chairperson of the NCW for another term of 3 years
- HQs of NCW – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rekha Sharma | Founded in – 1992

**18.** On August 9, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has appointed Team India's hockey player Vandana Katariya as the brand ambassador of the state's Department of Women Empowerment and Child Development. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vandana Katariya – appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand's Department of WECD
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**19.** On August 8, Union Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba has been given 1 year extension in service till August 30, 2022 by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). A Cabinet Secretary can serve the post for a maximum period of 4 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajiv Gauba – given 1 year extension to serve as the Cabinet Secretary – till August 30, 2022
- Cabinet Secretary can serve for a maximum period of 4 years

**20.** On August 10, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has roped in Neeraj Chopra, an Olympic Gold medalist, for its public awareness campaign to warn people against digital banking frauds. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Neeraj Chopra ([Javelin throw](#)) – roped in by the RBI for its 'Public Awareness Campaign' against digital banking frauds
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**21.** On August 10, Cashify has roped in National Award winner Bollywood actor Raj Kumar Rao as its first Brand Ambassador to represent the brand in all their campaigns and in a multi-year engagement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Raj Kumar Rao – roped in as the first Brand Ambassador of Cashify

**22.** On August 7, R. K. Vishnoi has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of THDC India Ltd (THDCIL) - a joint venture between NTPC and Uttar Pradesh government. He has succeeded Vijay Goel. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- R. K. Vishnoi – appointed as the Chairman & MD of THDC India Ltd (THDCIL) (succeeding - Vijay Goel)
- THDCIL – a joint venture between NTPC + UP Government
- HQs of THDCIL – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand | Chairman & MD – R. K. Vishnoi

**23.** On August 5, The Board of Directors of Vodafone Idea Ltd have accepted the request of Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla to step down as Non-Executive Director and Non-Executive Chairman of the Board. Birla is being replaced by a telecom veteran Himanshu Kapania. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Himanshu Kapania – appointed as Non-Executive Chairman of Board of Directors of Vodafone Idea
- He replaced – Kumar Mangalam Birla
- HQs of Vi Ltd – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Ravinder Takkar | Non-Executive Chairman – Himanshu Kapania

**24.** On August 10, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd has assigned Padma Shri Awardee and India's first Formula One driver Narain Karthikeyan as its Brand Ambassador. Narain Karthikeyan is the first racing driver to make his debut in Formula 1 from India in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narain Karthikeyan (India's 1<sup>st</sup> F1 Racing Driver) – appointed as Brand Ambassador of JK Tyre & Industries Ltd
- HQs of JK Tyre & Industries Ltd – New Delhi | MD & Chairman – Raghupati Singhania

**25.** On August 10, Arunachal Pradesh Governor Brigadier B. D. Mishra (retd) has been given additional charge of Mizoram. Sikkim Governor Ganga Prasad has been given the additional charge of Manipur. They will discharge the functions of the Governor of Mizoram & Manipur - Hari Babu Kambhampati & Najma A. Heptulla respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- B. D. Mishra – given additional charge as Governor of Mizoram (discharging - Hari Babu Kambhampati)
- Ganga Prasad – given additional charge as Governor of Manipur (discharging - Najma A. Heptulla)
- The Governor of a State is appointed by the President under 'Article 155' of the IC
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Ganga Prasad (addi. charge)

**26.** On August 10, A 1993-batch Indian Foreign Services officer, B. Nagabhushana Reddy has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Malaysia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- B. Nagabhushana Reddy – appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Malaysia
- Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit | PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob



**27.** On August 10, The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Gajendra Singh and Anjani Kumar Tiwari as members in the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB). According to the order, they have been appointed to the post for 5 years from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or till attaining the age of 65 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gajendra Singh & Anjani Kumar Tiwari –appointed as members in the Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board
- Location of PNGRB – New Delhi

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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





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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**34.** On August 14, Olympian P. R. Sreejesh is appointed as Brand Ambassador of Adventure Tourism in Kerala. Parattu Raveendran Sreejesh was a goalkeeper and the former captain of the Indian National Hockey team. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- P. R. Sreejesh ([Hockey Player](#)) – appointed as Brand Ambassador of Adventure Tourism in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**35.** On August 16, Direct selling FMCG firm Amway India has announced appointed Olympian Saikhom Mirabai Chanu as the brand ambassador for Amway and its Nutrilite range of products. Chanu, a weightlifter, won the silver medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics in the women's 49kg category. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Saikhom Mirabai Chanu ([Weightlifter](#)) – appointed as brand ambassador of Amway India for its 'Nutralite' range
- HQs of Amway India – New Delhi | CEO – Anshu Budhraj



**36.** On August 21, Malaysia's King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah has appointed Former Deputy Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob as the new Prime Minister of Malaysia. He has succeeded Muhyiddin Yassin who resigned after losing majority support in the lower house of parliament. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Muhyiddin Yassin – resigned from the post of Prime Minister of Malaysia
- Ismail Sabri Yaakob – appointed as new Prime Minister of Malaysia
- [Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur – Ringgit | PM – Ismail Sabri Yaakob | King – Al-Sultan Abdullah](#)

**37.** In August 2021, Nine new judges, including three women, have been appointed to the Supreme Court. 3 out of these 9 new judges - Justice Vikram Nath and Justice B. V. Nagarathna and Justice P. S. Narasimha are in line to become the chief justice of India. Justice B. V. Nagarathna can become the first woman Chief Justice of India (CJI) in September 2027 if the government clears her name. The sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court is 34. The high court judges retire at the age of 62, while the retirement age of Supreme Court judges is 65. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 9 new judges (3 women) – appointed to the Supreme Court
- B. V. Nagarathna can become the first woman Chief Justice of India (CJI) in September 2027
- Sanctioned strength of judges in the SC – 34
- Retirement age of HC judge – 62 | Retirement age of SC judge – 65
- [Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana \(48<sup>th</sup>\)](#)

**38.** On August 18, Actor-producer Priyanka Chopra Jonas has been announced as the Chairperson of “Jio MAMI Film Festival”. The Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI) board also welcomed 2 new members - filmmaker Anjali Menon and renowned filmmaker-archivist Shivendra Singh Dungarpur. Actress Deepika Padukone was the former chairperson of the trust and she stepped down almost 4 months ago. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Priyanka Chopra Jonas – appointed as the Chairperson of “Jio MAMI Film Festival” (succeeding - Deepika Padukone)
- MAMI – **M**umbai **A**cademy of **M**oving **I**mage | Founded in – 1997

**39.** On August 17, Afghanistan's first vice president Amrullah Saleh has declared himself as the caretaker President of Afghanistan following the resignation of Ashraf Ghani. Citing the provisions of the Constitution of Afghanistan, Saleh stated that the first vice president automatically becomes the caretaker president in the event of the president's absence, escape or resignation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amrullah Saleh – declared himself as the caretaker President of Afghanistan
- [Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | Care taker President – Amrullah Saleh](#)

**40.** On August 17, Neuberg Diagnostics, India's 4<sup>th</sup> largest diagnostics lab chain has roped in ace cricketer, MS Dhoni, as a brand ambassador for the next 2 years. He will advocate for Neuberg's health and wellness campaign and convey its efforts towards empowering every citizen with better and affordable healthcare. Besides, Kauvery Group of Hospitals had also roped in MS Dhoni as their Brand Ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MS Dhoni – appointed as a Brand Ambassador of Neuberg Diagnostics – for 2 years
- MS Dhoni – appointed as a Brand Ambassador of Kauvery Group of Hospitals ([Chennai](#))
- [HQs of Neuberg Diagnostics – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & Chairman – G. S. K. Velu](#)

**41.** On August 20, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, Nitin Chugh has resigned from the bank with effect from September 30. He was appointed as the bank's MD & CEO on December 1, 2019, for a tenure of 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Chugh – resigned from his post as MD & CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- [HQs of Ujjivan SFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Founded in – 2004](#)

**42.** On August 20, The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has re-appointed Tejendra Mohan Bhasin as Chairman of the Advisory Board for Banking and Financial Frauds (ABBFF) for a further period of 2 years. The ABBFF is a panel constituted to examine bank frauds of over Rs 50 Cr and recommend action. It is headed by T. M. Bhasin. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- T. M. Bhasin – re-appointed as Chairman of the Advisory Board for Banking and Financial Frauds – for 2 years
- [Present Central Vigilance Commissioner – Suresh N. Patel | CVC is appointed by – The President of India](#)

**43.** On August 19, The Appointment Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Shanti Lal Jain as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Indian Bank for a period of 3 years. Jain is presently the Executive Director of Bank of Baroda. He will replace Padmaja Chundur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shanti Lal Jain – appointed as MD & CEO of Indian Bank for 3 years (replacing - Padmaja Chundur)
- [HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Shanti Lal Jain | Tagline – “Your Own Bank”](#)

**44.** Nand Kishore Singh, the chairman of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, has been elected as the President of the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) Society. He succeeds Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Prime Minister of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- N. K. Singh – elected as the President of the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) Society
- He succeeds Dr. Manmohan Singh



**45.** On August 20, Apurva Chandra, a 1988-batch IAS officer of Maharashtra cadre, has been appointed as the Secretary of ministry of Information & Broadcasting. He will succeed Amit Khare. Prior to this he was serving as Special Director General, Defence Acquisition, Ministry of Defence. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Apurva Chandra – appointed as the Secretary of ministry of I & B (succeeding - Amit Khare)
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan

**46.** On August 20, Senior BJP leader from Tamil Nadu, La. Ganesan has been appointed as the new Governor of Manipur. Ganga Prasad was given additional charge as Governor of Manipur after the retirement of Najma Heptulla. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- La. Ganesan – appointed as new Governor of Manipur (replacing - Ganga Prasad)
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan

**47.** On August 20, Television monitoring agency Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) has announced the appointment of Nakul Chopra as its chief executive officer (CEO) effective 25 August 2021. Former CEO Sunil Lulla has resigned to pursue his ambition as an entrepreneur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nakul Chopra – appointed as the CEO of Broadcast Audience Research Council (replacing - Sunil Lulla has)
- HQs of BARC – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Nakul Chopra | Founded in – 2010

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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

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

### Key Points:

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

## **Amount & Agreements**

**1.** On August 4, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned an over Rs 831 Cr (\$112 million) loan to finance water supply infrastructure projects in 4 cities (Ranchi, Hussainabad, Jhumri Telaiya and Medininagar) of Jharkhand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB – sanctioned an over Rs 831 Cr (\$112 mn) loan to finance water supply infrastructure projects – in Jharkhand
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

**2.** On August 2, The International Monetary Fund has approved a \$650 billion allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) to boost global liquidity. IMF member countries will receive SDRs in proportion with their existing quota shareholdings in the fund. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IMF approved a \$650 billion allocation of **Special Drawing Rights (SDR)** to boost global liquidity
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., US | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

**3.** On August 5, The World Bank has signed a \$250million loan project called the “Second Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP-2)” with the central government, the Central Water Commission (CWC), and 10 States, to support schemes to improve the safety and performance of existing dams across these States. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- World Bank + India = a \$250 million loan project called “DRIP-2”
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

4. On August 7, Asian Development Bank has approved a \$300 million loan as additional financing for the ongoing Maharashtra Rural Connectivity Improvement Project that is upgrading rural roads and connecting remote areas with markets. The Maharashtra government is aiming to increase the average growth rate of agriculture and allied activities to more than 5% per year by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ADB – approved \$300 million additional loan for rural roads in Maharashtra
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

5. On August 10, NABARD has sanctioned loans worth ₹ 188.81 Cr to Goa for Construction of Super Speciality Block, Bambolim and Enhancement of Solid Waste Treatment Plant, Saligao under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), taking the cumulative sanctions to ₹ 217.72 Cr during 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NABARD sanctioned loans worth ₹ 188.81 Cr to Goa for various Social infrastructure Projects in the State:
  - Construction of Super Speciality Block ([Bambolim, Goa](#))
  - Enhancement of Solid Waste Treatment Plant ([Saligao, Goa](#))
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

6. On August 10, Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNE SL) along with Paulson and Co. Inc. and Bill Gates, has announced an investment of \$144 million in Ambri Inc, an energy storage company based in Massachusetts, USA. Besides, Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani has announced to build a Giga Factory in Jamnagar for the storage of intermittent energy. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- RNE SL + Paulson & Co. Inc. + Bill Gates = to invest \$144 million in Ambri Inc ([Massachusetts, USA](#))
- HQs of RNE SL – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani | Founded in – 1973



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**9.** On August 17, The World Bank Group member International Finance Corporation (IFC) has extended \$75 million or over Rs 557 Cr debt support to IndoSpace Logistics Fund to develop logistics and industrial parks with an objective to enhance warehousing and supply chain infrastructure in India. The IFC is extending the loan, a \$580-million vintage fund to IndoSpace Logistics Parks III LP. Logistics costs are estimated to be around 13-14% of GDP in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IFC – extended \$75 million (Rs 557 Cr) loan support to IndoSpace Logistics Fund develop logistics & industrial parks
- IFC – is extending a \$580-million vintage fund to “IndoSpace Logistics Parks III LP”
- HQs of IFC – Washington D.C., US | MD – Makhtar Diop | Established in – 1956 (an arm of World Bank)

**10.** On August 20, Exim Bank has extended line of credit (LoC) worth \$210.73 million on behalf of the Indian government to Guinea to support various projects in the African country. \$170 million LoC has been extended to finance the drinking water supply project, \$20.51 million for financing a project for construction and upgradation of regional hospitals and \$20.22 million LOC for financing two solar projects. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Exim Bank extended a line of credit (LoC) worth \$210.73 million to Guinea
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Harsha Bangari | Founded in – 1982
- Guinea – Conakry – Guinean Franc | President – Alpha Conde



**11.** On August 16, The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a \$500 million loan to expand the Metro Rail Network in Bengaluru with construction of two new metro lines totaling 56 km in length. The project supports urban transformation of Bengaluru City into a more livable and sustainable city with the concepts of transit-oriented development (TOD) and multi-modal integration (MMI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Gov + ADB = \$500 million loan agreement to expand the Metro Rail Network in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

**12.** On August 22, The Uttar Pradesh government has received the sanction letter of ₹5100 Cr loan for the 594-kilometre-long Ganga Expressway project from the Punjab National Bank (PNB). This expressway will be the longest in north India and the second longest in India. The project's estimated cost is ₹36,230 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UP received a sanction letter of ₹5100 Cr loan for 594 km long “Ganga Expressway” project – from PNB
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

# Ranks, Reports & Surveys

1. The central government's fiscal deficit stood at Rs 2.74 lakh Cr or 18.2% of the full year's Budget estimate at the end of June, according to data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). India's debt burden as a percentage of GDP jumped to 60.5% for the financial year 2021. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Government's fiscal deficit stood at Rs 2.74 lakh Cr or 18.2% of the full year's Budget estimate – on June, 2021
- India's debt burden as a percentage of GDP increased – to 60.5% for FY2021-22

2. Haryana Police has secured 1<sup>st</sup> position in Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS) system with 100% marks in India. Gujarat & Himachal Pradesh Police ranked at second & third positions respectively. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Haryana Police – secured 1<sup>st</sup> position in Crime & Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS) system
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gujarat Police | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Himachal Pradesh Police

3. On August 2, Reliance Industries Ltd has slipped 59 places to rank 155<sup>th</sup> on the “2021 Fortune Global 500 List”. Reliance's revenue fell 25.3% to \$63 billion. This is its lowest ranking since 2017. Walmart continues to top the Fortune list with a revenue of \$524 billion, followed by China's State Grid and Amazon respectively. ONGC was ranked 243<sup>rd</sup>. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- “2021 Fortune Global 500 List”: 1<sup>st</sup> - Walmart (\$524 billion) | 2<sup>nd</sup> - State Grid | 3<sup>rd</sup> - Amazon
- Reliance Industries Ltd - 155<sup>th</sup> | ONGC - 243<sup>rd</sup>

4. On August 2, Funds released under the National SC/ST Hub (NSSH) has increased by 50% in FY21. According to the government data, Rs 120 Cr was released in FY21 under the NSSH in comparison to Rs 79.65 Cr in FY20. The NSSH is operated by MSME Ministry's National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) for financial support to SC/ST entrepreneurs. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Rs 120 Cr – released under the “National SC/ST Hub” (50% increase in FY21 compared to FY20)
- NSSH is operated by – National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) – under the MSME Ministry

5. On August 3, NITI Aayog has released a report titled “Turning around the Power Distribution Sector” which is co-authored by NITI Aayog, RMI and RMI India. Most power distribution companies (discoms) in India incur losses every year. Total losses by Power Distribution Companies are estimated to be as high as Rs 90,000 Cr in FY 2021. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- “Turning around the Power Distribution Sector” – released by NITI Aayog (prepared by NITI Aayog, RMI & RMI India)
- Power Distribution Companies incurred a total loss of Rs 90,000 Cr in FY 2021
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**6.** On August 2, According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, suicide cases registered due to Unemployment have increased by 24% from 2016 to 2019. The NCRB records state that 2,851 people died by suicide due to unemployment in Indian in 2019. Karnataka registered the most number of suicides due to unemployment (553) in 2019, followed by Maharashtra (452) and Tamil Nadu (251). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NCRB’s Data: Suicide cases registered due to Unemployment increased by 24% from 2016 to 2019
- Most number of suicides due to unemployment: 1<sup>st</sup> - Karnataka (553), 2<sup>nd</sup> - Maharashtra (452), 3<sup>rd</sup> - TN (251)
- HQs of NCRB – New Delhi | Director – Ram Phal Pawar | Established in – 1986

**7.** On August 1, Odisha’s Bhubaneswar has become the first city in India to achieve 100% vaccination coverage against Covid-19. Additionally, about one lakh migrant workers have also been administered the first dose of Covid vaccines in the capital city of Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhubaneswar (Odisha) – became the 1<sup>st</sup> city in India to achieve 100% vaccination coverage against Covid-19
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**8.** On August 5, Merchandise Exports from India has hit a record high of \$35.2 billion in July 2021 - the highest-ever monthly figure in India’s history. It is an increase of 47.91% over the \$23.78 billion in July 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Merchandise Exports from India increased by 47.91% – to reach \$35.2billion in July 2021(compared to July 2020)

**9.** On August 6, India fell 6 spots to the 32<sup>nd</sup> place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of “Global Coronavirus Innovation Rankings” for countries, as per a report prepared by StartupBlink in association with Health Innovation Exchange, UNAIDS. The report features the top-ranked 40 countries and 100 cities in the world. India has two cities featured - Bengaluru at 49<sup>th</sup> rank & New Delhi at 55<sup>th</sup> rank, among the top 100 and has 15 Covid-related innovations mapped this year. The US topped the rankings, followed by Israel & Canada. In cities, top three were San Francisco Bay (US), New York (US) & Moscow (Russia). [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of “Global Coronavirus Innovation Rankings” – released by StartupBlink + UNAIDS
- Among top 40 countries: 1<sup>st</sup> - US, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Israel, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Canada | India – 32<sup>nd</sup>
- Among top 100 cities: 1<sup>st</sup> - San Francisco Bay, 2<sup>nd</sup> - New York, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Moscow | Bengaluru - 49<sup>th</sup> & New Delhi - 55<sup>th</sup>

**10.** On August 12, a report titled “Climate Change 2021: the Physical Science Basis”, the 6<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report (AR 6) was released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The report projects an increase in average temperatures and hot extremes across the continent. The Global average temperature will cross the target of 2°C above pre-industrial levels by 2060 while 1.5° C by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “Climate Change 2021: the Physical Science Basis” – the 6<sup>th</sup> assessment report released by IPCC
- Global Average Temperature: to cross above pre-industrial levels 1.5° C by 2030 & 2°C by 2060
- HQs of IPCC – Geneva, Switzerland | Chair – Hoesung Lee

**11.** HCL Technologies Ltd has overtaken Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp to become the 4<sup>th</sup> most valuable India-centric information technology (IT) services company with market cap of \$39 billion. Tata Consultancy Services Ltd leads the list with a market cap of \$164 billion, followed by Infosys Ltd and Wipro Ltd, which have a market cap of \$96 billion and \$46.5 billion respectively. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- HCL Technologies Ltd – became the 4<sup>th</sup> most valuable India-centric IT Services Company (m-cap – \$38 billion)
- 1<sup>st</sup> - TCS (\$164 billion) | 2<sup>nd</sup> - Infosys (\$96 billion) | 3<sup>rd</sup> - Wipro (\$46.5 billion)
- HQs of HCL Technologies – Noida, UP | MD & CEO – C. Vijayakumar | Chairperson – Roshni Nadar Malhotra

**12.** On August 10, India is ranked 122<sup>nd</sup> in the “2020 Global Youth Development Index” released by the Commonwealth Secretariat. The Index measures the progress of youth development in 181 countries around the world. Singapore ranked top for the first time followed by Slovenia, Norway, Malta and Denmark. The index ranks countries between 0.00 (lowest) and 1.00 (highest). Somalia recorded the largest gains in peace and security of young people, followed by Colombia, Sri Lanka. Globally, Sweden leads on education, Luxembourg on equality and inclusion, Indonesia on political and civic participation, while Singapore topped the employment, health and peace and security domains. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “2020 Global Youth Development Index” – released by the Commonwealth Secretariat | India – 122<sup>nd</sup>
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Singapore | 2<sup>nd</sup> - Slovenia | 3<sup>rd</sup> - Norway
- HQs of Commonwealth Secretariat – London, UK | Secretary-General – Patricia Scotland



**13.** On August 10, Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare has presided over the release of “National Fact Sheet Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS-4), India, 2019”. The fourth round of Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS-4) was conducted in 2019 by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). The average current tobacco usage among students aged 13-15 in India was 8.5%. Between the last two surveys, the current use declined by 42% (2009-2019). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mansukh Mandaviya – released “National Fact Sheet Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS-4), India, 2019”
- This 4<sup>th</sup> round of survey was conducted in 2019 – by International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS)
- Average current tobacco usage among students aged 13-15 in India – 8.5%
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

**14.** On August 10, Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai has informed that India’s 16<sup>th</sup> Census (Census 2021) will be the first-ever Digital Census in the country. For this digital census, Ministry of Finance has allocated ₹3,768 Cr for Financial Year 2021. The ‘Census 2021’ will be conducted in 18 languages out of the 22 scheduled languages (under 8th schedule) and English. Besides, the information of household which is headed by Transgender community will be collected under ‘Third Gender’ as a new category for the first time. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India’s 16<sup>th</sup> Census (Census 2021) will be conducted digitally for the first time
- Ministry of Finance has allocated ₹3,768 Cr for the digital census
- ‘Census 2021’ will be conducted in = 18 languages + English | India’s 1<sup>st</sup> Census was held – in 1881
- Info. of household headed by Transgender will be collected under a new category called – ‘Third Gender’
- Ministry of Finance: Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Finance: Pankaj Chaowdhary & Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad

**15.** On August 11, CoinDCX, an exchange platform of private cryptocurrencies, has announced a \$90 million fundraise which raised company’s valuation to \$1.1 billion (around Rs 8,150 Cr), making it the first Indian cryptocurrency exchange to reach the ‘Unicorn’ status (companies with over USD 1 billion valuation). The company was founded in 2018, claims 35 lakh users at present and aims to make 5 crore Indians as investors in crypto. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CoinDCX – 1<sup>st</sup> Indian Cryptocurrency Exchange to grab ‘Unicorn’ status with valuation of \$1.1 billion (Rs 8,150 Cr)
- ‘Unicorn’ status is given to the companies with over USD 1 billion valuation
- HQs of CoinDCX – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Sumit Gupta

**16.** On August 12, Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) has been declared the Best Airport in India and Central Asia for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, by Skytrax World Airport Awards. The Delhi airport has also received the "COVID 19 Airport Excellence Award". Its ranking has also improved, moving up to 45 in the "World's TOP 50 Airport in the year 2021". The Best International Airport award was given to Hamad International Airport, Doha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "World's TOP 50 Airport in the year 2021" – by Skytrax World Airport Awards
- Indira Gandhi Int. Airport – Best Airport in India & Central Asia for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year | 45<sup>th</sup> globally
- Best International Airport in the world – Hamad International Airport (Doha, Qatar)
- Indira Gandhi Int. Airport (Delhi) – also received the "COVID 19 Airport Excellence Award"

**17.** On August 11, "Quality of Life for Elderly Index 2021" was released by Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). The Index has been created by the Institute for Competitiveness (IFC) at the request of EAC-PM. The Index framework includes 4 pillars: Financial Well-being, Social Well-being, Health System and Income Security. Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh are top-scoring regions in Aged and Relatively Aged States, respectively. Chandigarh and Mizoram are top-scoring regions in Union Territory and North-East States category. The Aged States refer to States with an elderly population of more than 5 million. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Quality of Life for Elderly Index 2021" – released by Bibek Debroy (Chairman of the EAC-PM)
- The Index is created by Institute for Competitiveness (IFC)
- Index framework includes 4 pillars: Financial Well-being + Social Well-being + Health System + Income Security
- Category-wise Rankings are as given below:

Category	Top	Lowest
Aged States	Rajasthan	Telangana
Relatively Aged States	Himachal Pradesh	Gujarat
North-Eastern States	Mizoram	Arunachal Pradesh
Union Territories	Chandigarh	Jammu & Kashmir

**18.** On August 12, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has declared Indore as India's first 'Water Plus' city under the "Swachh Survekshan 2021". Swachh Survekshan which was launched as part of the "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan", is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in cities and towns in India. The first survey was undertaken in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoHUA declared "Indore" as India's first 'Water Plus' city under the "Swachh Survekshan 2021"
- The first Swachh Survekshan was undertaken – in 2016
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs: Kaushal Kishore



**19.** On August 11, The number of billionaires in India has come down to 136 in 2020-21 from 141 in 2019-20, based on the gross total income declared in the income tax return, as announced by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Number of billionaires in India came down to 136 in 2020-21 (from 141 in 2019-20)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**23.** On August 18, The RBI has launched “Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index)” to capture the extent of financial inclusion across India. The FI-Index is a comprehensive index which incorporates details of banking, investments, insurance, postal as well as the pension sector. This Index primarily comprises 3 parameters - Access, Usage & Quality in the extent of 35%, 45% & 20% respectively. This Index records information and data on several aspects of financial inclusion on a scale of 0-100. The annual ‘FI-Index’ for the FY21 is 53.9 across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – launched “Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index)” | India’s ‘FI-Index’ for FY21 – 53.9
- 3 parameters of FI-Index: Access (35%), Usage (45%) & Quality (20%)
- ‘FI-Index’ incorporates details of these sectors: Banking, Investments, Insurance, Postal & Pension
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**24.** On August 11, Bangladesh was the most polluted country across the world in 2020, followed by Pakistan and India, according to a report titled “The World’s Best and Worst Towns and Cities for Clean Air” prepared by British company HouseFresh. Chinese city of Hotan in Xinjiang province has been named the most polluted city followed by Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh and Bangladesh’s Manikganj respectively in the list of 50 ‘Most Polluted Cities’ in the world. Of the 50 most polluted cities worldwide, 49 are in Bangladesh, China, Pakistan, and India. Tasmanian city of Judbury in Australia topped the list of cities with the cleanest air with a PM2.5 level of 2.4µg/m<sup>3</sup>. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Most Polluted Countries in the world”: 1<sup>st</sup> - Bangladesh, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Pakistan, 3<sup>rd</sup> - India
- “50 Most Polluted Cities in the world”: 1<sup>st</sup> - Hotan (China), 2<sup>nd</sup> - Ghaziabad, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Manikganj (Bangladesh)
- “Cleanest Cities in the world”: 1<sup>st</sup> - Judbury (Australia), 2<sup>nd</sup> - Kailua-Kona (Hawaii, US), 3<sup>rd</sup> - Muonio (Finland)

**25.** On August 18, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has become the 1<sup>st</sup> Information Technology (IT) company and 2<sup>nd</sup> overall after Reliance Industries, to cross the Rs 13 lakh Cr m-cap. TCS had reported a 28.5% year-on-year growth in its consolidated net profit to Rs 9,008 Cr for the quarter ended June, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TCS – became the 1<sup>st</sup> IT company & overall 2<sup>nd</sup> company to cross the Rs 13 lakh Cr m-cap
- TCS – reported 28.5% year-on-year growth for the quarter ended June, 2021
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan

**26.** In August 2021, The Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), under Ministry of Finance, Government of India has released the 60<sup>th</sup> edition of the Public Sector Enterprises Survey 2019-20. As per the PE Survey 2019-20 as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020 there are 256 operational Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and their net profit in FY20 decreased by 20% mostly due to fall in profits of the Petroleum sector. Loss of 84 loss making CPSEs was Rs 44,817 Cr in Financial Year 2019-20. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- 60<sup>th</sup> edition of “Public Sector Enterprises Survey 2019-20” – released by Department of Public Enterprises
- As per the PE Survey 2019-20: There are 256 operational CPSEs as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020
- Net profit of CPSEs in FY20 decreased by 20% (mostly due to fall in profits of Petroleum sector)

**27.** On August 19, Indian billionaire investor, businessman and DMart founder Radhakishan Damani has entered the elite club of world’s top 100 billionaires. His net worth currently stands at \$19.3 billion, securing the 97<sup>th</sup> rank in the “World’s 100 Richest List”, as per the “Bloomberg Billionaires’ Index”. Elon Musk has topped the list, followed by Jeff Bezos, Bernard Arnault. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Radhakishan Damani – entered world’s top 100 rich list as per “Bloomberg Billionaires’ Index” (August 2021)
- Present Net worth of Radhakishan Damani – \$19.3 billion | His present rank – 97<sup>th</sup>
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Elon Musk | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jeff Bezos | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bernard Arnault
- HQs of DMart – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Founder – Radhakishan Damani | CEO – Navil Noronha

**28.** On August 18, India has ranked second in the list of 20 countries with the highest cryptocurrency adoption rate, according to Chainalysis’s “Global Crypto Adoption Index 2021”. Vietnam secured the first spot, and Pakistan came third. Global adoption of cryptocurrency grew over 800% in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “Global Crypto Adoption Index 2021” – released by Chainalysis ([New York, US](#))
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Vietnam | 2<sup>nd</sup> – India | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Pakistan

**29.** On August 20, Twelve Indian companies appeared in the “Hurun Global 500 List 2021”. Wipro (ranked 457<sup>th</sup>), Asian Paints (477<sup>th</sup>) and HCL Technologies (498<sup>th</sup>) made it to the coveted list for the first time this year. The Indian companies were led by oil-to-telecom giant Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL), with a valuation at \$188 billion and the ranking of 57 globally. Globally, Apple is the most valuable company with a valuation of \$2.4 trillion, followed by Microsoft and Amazon. India is 9<sup>th</sup> by the number of companies featured on the list, which is led by the US (243) and followed by China (47), Japan (30) and the UK (24). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 12 Indian companies appeared in the “Hurun Global 500 List 2021”
- In India: 1<sup>st</sup> – RIL (57<sup>th</sup> - \$188 billion) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wipro (457<sup>th</sup>) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Asian Paints (477<sup>th</sup>)
- Globally: 1<sup>st</sup> – Apple (\$2.4 trillion) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Microsoft (\$2.1 trillion) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Amazon (\$1.8 trillion)
- India – 9<sup>th</sup> by the number of companies featured on the list | 1<sup>st</sup> – US (243), 2<sup>nd</sup> – China (47), 3<sup>rd</sup> – Japan (30)

**30.** On August 23, HDFC Life has developed the “Life Freedom Index 2021” that analysed the consumers’ financial freedom. The index dropped 4.8 points in 2021, indicating that the financial security of Indians has been hit. Life Freedom Index is made up of four indices. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Life Insurance – developed the “Life Freedom Index 2021” made up of 4 indices
- The index dropped 4.8 points in 2021
- [HQs of HDFC Life – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Vibha Padalkar](#)

**31.** On August 19, Calcutta University has secured the 2<sup>nd</sup> rank among the Best Universities across India in the “Academic Ranking of World Universities 2021” released by the Shanghai Ranking Consultancy. The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore was selected as the Best University in India. Harvard University has topped the ranking globally. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Academic Ranking of World Universities 2021” – released by Shanghai Ranking Consultancy
- IISc Bangalore – Best University in India | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Calcutta University
- Harvard University – globally Best University

**32.** On August 20, 14 million people out of 39 million are facing severe hunger in Afghanistan, according to the World Food Programme (WFP). According to WFP estimates, some 2 million children are malnourished in Afghanistan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WFP’s estimates: 14 million people are facing severe hunger in Afghanistan (out of 39 million)
- WFP’s estimates: 2 million children are malnourished in Afghanistan
- [Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | Care taker President – Amrullah Saleh](#)
- [HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36](#)

**33.** The UNICEF’s report titled “The Climate Crisis Is a Child Rights Crisis” is the first climate report to combine high-resolution geographic maps detailing global environmental and climate impacts with maps that show regions where children are vulnerable due to poverty, lack of access to education, health care or clean water. India is among the 33 extremely high-risk countries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Climate Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis” – released by UNICEF
- India is among the 33 extremely high-risk countries
- [HQs of UNICEF – New York, USA | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore | Established in – 1946](#)





**34.** On August 25, A report titled “Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021” released by Asian Development Bank, has demonstrated that the region made substantial progress in the last two decades with respect to several development targets. Asia-Pacific Region’s Economy registered a growth to 35% of Global GDP in 2019 from 27% in 2000. Besides, the population of the extremely poor has reduced from 1.2 Billion in 1999 to 202.9 Million in 2017 in Asia-Pacific region. The pandemic pushed 75-80 million people in developing Asia-Pacific region into extreme poverty in 2020. The Asia-Pacific region lost an estimated 8% of working hours in 2020 due to Covid19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021” – released by ADB
- Asia-Pacific Region’s Economy grew to 35% of Global GDP in 2019 (from 27% in 2000)
- Asia-Pacific Region’s extremely poor population reduced to 202.9 Million in 2017 (from 1.2 Billion in 1999)
- Asia-Pacific Region’s 75-80 million people fall into extreme poverty in 2020
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

**35.** On August 24, India has effectively surpassed the United States to become the world’s second most desired manufacturing destination after China, as per the report titled “Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2021” released by Cushman & Wakefield. The index ranks 47 countries across Europe, the Americas, and the Asia Pacific. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2021” released by Cushman & Wakefield (US)
- 1<sup>st</sup> – China | 2<sup>nd</sup> – India | 3<sup>rd</sup> – US

**36.** As much as 32% of India’s coastline underwent Sea Erosion and 27% of it expanded between 1990 and 2018, according to a recent technical report by the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) under the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences. West Bengal coastline has been affected the most as 60% of the coastline underwent erosion during this period of 28 years. Odisha coast has expanded the most which is 51%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 32% of India’s coastline underwent Sea Erosion between 1990 & 2018 | Most affected state – West Bengal (60%)
- 27% of India’s coastline expanded between 1990 & 2018 | Most affected state – Odisha (51%)
- HQs of NCCR – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Director – M.V. Ramana Murthy

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- Nirmala Sitharaman – unveiled the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the PSB Reforms Agenda - “EASE 4.0” for 2021-22 in Mumbai
- SBI – Best performing bank in the “EASE 3.0 Banking Reforms Index 2021” | 2<sup>nd</sup> – BoB | 3<sup>rd</sup> – UBI
- PSBs reported a profit of Rs 31,817 Cr in FY21 after 5 years of losses



- “Credit@click” – a flagship initiative under “EASE 3.0”
- Family pension for the family of PSB employees increased to 30% of the last salary

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

# Acquisitions & Mergers

**1.** Google's YouTube has signed a definitive agreement to acquire video shopping app "Simsim". Started in July 2019 by Amit Bagaria, Kunal Suri and Saurabh Vashishtha, simsim helps small businesses transition to e-commerce through influencer-based videos in three Indian languages - Hindi, Tamil and Bangla. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- YouTube – acquired a video shopping app "Simsim"
- HQs of Simsim – New Delhi | Founded in – 2019 – by Amit Bagaria, Kunal Suri & Saurabh Vashishtha

**2.** On August 4, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of PNB Housing Finance Ltd by Carlyle Group and other investors. The transaction has been approved by the CCI under the 'Green Channel'. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- CCI approved the acquisition of PNB Housing Finance Ltd – by Carlyle Group
- HQs of PNBHF – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Hardayal Prasad | Tagline – "Ghar Ki Baat"
- HQs of Carlyle Group – Washington, D.C., USA | Co-Chief Executive Officers – Kewsong Lee, Glenn Youngkin

**3.** On August 4, US private equity fund CA Emerald Investments has decided to sell its entire 1.9% stake in SBI Life Insurance Company. In 2019, Carlyle had bought total 9% stake in SBI Life from BNP Paribas for about Rs 5,500 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- CA Emerald Investments (US) – to sell its entire 1.9% stake in SBI Life Insurance
- HQs of SBI Life Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Mahesh Kumar Sharma

**4.** On August 10, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of additional 2.727% stake in Bikaji Foods International Ltd by Lighthouse India Fund III, Ltd (Fund III) and Lighthouse India III Employee Trust. Lighthouse Funds currently has 7.472% equity shareholding in Bikaji through one of its funds. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- CCI – approved acquisition of 2.727% stake in Bikaji Foods Int. Ltd – by Lighthouse India Fund III, Ltd (Fund III) and Lighthouse India III Employee Trust
- HQs of Bikaji Foods Int. Ltd – Bikaner, Rajasthan | MD & Chairman – Shivratn Agarwal
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003



5. On August 12, ReNew Power has signed two separate binding agreements for the acquisition of a 99 MW Singoli Bhatwari Hydroelectric Project in Uttarakhand and a 260 MW Solar Project in Telangana. The combined enterprise value of the acquisitions is around Rs 2,850 Cr. 99 MW Singoli Bhatwari HP will be acquired from Larsen and Toubro (L&T), while 260 MW Solar Project will be acquired from Acme Solar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ReNew Power signed two separate binding agreements for the acquisition of:
  - 99 MW Singoli Bhatwari Hydroelectric Project in Uttarakhand (from L&T)
  - 260 MW Solar Project in Telangana (from Acme Solar)
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

8. On August 16, Adani Road Transport Ltd (ARTL) has announced to acquire 49% stake for ₹1,680 Cr in Maharashtra Border Check Post Network Ltd (MBCPNL), a subsidiary of Sadbhav Infrastructure Project Limited. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adani Road Transport – acquires 49% stake in Maharashtra Border Check Post Network Ltd (MBCPNL)
- HQs of ARTL – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Krishna Prakash Maheshwari
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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





# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

1. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has entered into an agreement with Serum Institute of India (SII) to accelerate Vaccination Drive in small towns & rural areas in partnership with industry, including healthcare providers. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- CII + SII = an agreement to accelerate Vaccination Drive in small towns & rural areas
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895
- HQs of SII – Pune, MH | Chairman – Cyrus S. Poonawalla | CEO – Adar C. Poonawalla | Founded in – 1966

2. The government of Jammu and Kashmir and the JSW Foundation have signed an MoU for conservation, restoration and maintenance of the Mughal Gardens of Kashmir located at Shalimar Bagh and Nishat Bagh. Six imperial gardens of Kashmir are proposed to be nominated to UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- J & K + JSW Foundation = an MoU for restoration of Mughal Gardens of Kashmir at Shalimar Bagh & Nishat Bagh
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- Location of JSW Foundation – Mumbai, Maharashtra

3. On August 2, SBI General Insurance has announced a partnership with Manipal Business Solutions, the promoter of SahiPay to expand non-life insurance penetration in rural areas. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- SBI General Ins. + Manipal Business Solutions or SahiPay = to expand non-life insurance penetration in rural areas
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Prakash Chandra Kandpal | Tagline – “Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono”
- SahiPay – developed by Manipal Business Solutions (MBS is located in - Gurgaon, Haryana)

4. The Ministry of Ayush has collaborated with the U.K.’s London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) to conduct a study on ‘Ashwagandha’ for promoting recovery from COVID-19. ‘Ashwagandha’ (Withania somnifera), commonly known as ‘Indian winter cherry’, is a traditional Indian herb. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Ministry of Ayush + LSHTM (UK) = collaboration to conduct a study on ‘Ashwagandha’ for recovery from COVID-19
- ‘Ashwagandha’ – known as ‘Indian Winter Cherry’
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam



5. On August 4, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has tied up with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to provide a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) Autopay facility to its customers. This tie up will provide customers with a hassle-free and seamless experience across the policy lifecycle. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance + NPCI = to provide “UPI Autopay Facility” to its customers
- HQs of ICICI Prudential Life Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – N. S. Kannan
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

6. ReNew Power has signed an MoU with RackBank Datacenters Ltd to power India’s first Hyper-Scale Data Centre with 100% Renewable Energy (RE). RackBank would purchase green power generated from this facility directly from ReNew, through the ‘Open Access’ mechanism. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ReNew Power + RackBank Datacenters Ltd = an MoU to power India’s 1<sup>st</sup> Hyper-Scale Data Centre with 100% RE
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha
- HQs of RackBank Datacenters Ltd – Indore, Madhya Pradesh | Founder & Director – Narendra Sen

7. On August 3, The IFFCO’s research & development unit - Nano Biotechnology Research Centre (NBRC) has signed an MoU with IIT Delhi for research consultancy, knowledge transfer and collaborative projects. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NBRC + IIT Delhi = an MoU for research consultancy, knowledge transfer and collaborative projects
- Location of NBRC – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- HQs of IFFCO – New Delhi | Chairman – Balvinder Singh Nakai
- Director of IIT Delhi – V. Ramgopal Rao

8. On August 4, The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has signed an MoU with University of Agricultural Science (UAS) Bangalore to give boost agricultural and processed food products exports from Karnataka. APEDA functions under Ministry of Commerce. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- APEDA + UAS (Bangalore) = an MoU to boost agricultural & processed food products exports – from Karnataka
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot



**9.** On August 4, Walmart-owned Flipkart and Haqdarshak have signed an MoU with the government of Haryana to support MSMEs under Walmart's supplier development programme called "Walmart Vriddhi". The first Walmart Vriddhi e-Institute was launched in Haryana in October, 2021. Walmart aims to triple its exports from India to \$10 billion annually by 2027. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Flipkart + Haqdarshak + Haryana = an MoU to support MSMEs under "Walmart Vriddhi" programme
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- HQs of Haqdarshak – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Founder & CEO – Aniket Doegar
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

**10.** On August 5, Government of Assam, NABARD and AIFA (Assam Infrastructure Financing Authority) have signed an MoU to give a boost to execute development projects in the state. The MoU involves Rs 13,200 Cr which will essentially be used for infrastructural development for NABARD Infrastructure Development Assistance (NIDA) and Rural Infrastructure Assistance to State Government (RIAS) in rural and semi urban areas across the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam + NABARD + AIFA = to execute development projects in Assam
- Rs 13,200 Cr – to be used for "NIDA" & "RIAS" in rural and semi urban areas across Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982

**11.** On August 5, The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has partnered with the State-owned Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) to provide better storage facilities for the Farmers Producer Organisation (FPOs) for next 5 years. The scheme will be launched as a pilot in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NABARD + CWC (New Delhi) = to provide better storage facilities for FPOs for 5 years
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982

**12.** On August 4, The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU between the Indian Institute of Space science & Technology (IIST) and The Delft University of Technology (TU Delft), Netherlands for carrying out the Academic programmes and Research activities in Science and Technology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved an MoU between the IIST & Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)
- Location of IIST – Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro | PM – Mark Rutte

**13.** On August 7, MeitY Startup Hub (MSH) has partnered with India Accelerator to support deep-tech startups under its flagship program 'SOMA'. The MSH is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) aimed to promote technology innovation, start-ups, and creation of intellectual properties. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MeitY Startup Hub + India Accelerator = to support deep-tech startups under the flagship program 'SOMA'
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha

**14.** On August 6, National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has partnered with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) for research collaboration. The objective of the collaboration is to create a research ecosystem in the area of insolvency and bankruptcy in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NSE + IBBI = for joint research collaboration
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi | MD & CEO – Vikram Limaye
- HQs of IBBI – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. S. Sahoo | Established in – 2016

**15.** On August 5, Food delivery platform Swiggy in partnership with Hero Lectro Cargo (HLC) is launching a pilot project in Hyderabad under which Hero Lectro WINN cargo e-cycles are to be used for food deliveries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Swiggy + Hero Lectro Cargo = launching a pilot project in Hyderabad to use E-cycles for food delivery
- HQs of Swiggy – Bangalore, Karnataka | Founder & CEO – Sriharsha Majety | Founded in – 2014

**16.** On August 9, North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd (NEDFi) has signed an MoU with Federation of Industries of North-Eastern Region (FINER) for promoting and nurturing Entrepreneurship, generating employment and creating empowerment of weaker sections. NEDFi celebrated its 26<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on August 9, 2021. A 'Clearance Sale of Artisanal Products of NER' was also inaugurated at NEDFi House. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NEDFi + FINER (Guwahati) = an MoU for promoting & nurturing Entrepreneurship in the North East
- August 9 – 26<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of NEDFi (located in - Guwahati, Assam)

**17.** On August 10, India's National Institute of Ocean Technology and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the US have signed an agreement on monsoon data analysis and cooperation to improve weather forecasts in the region. The MoU was signed by India's Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + US = an MoU on Monsoon Data Analysis & Cooperation to improve weather forecasts
- India's Ambassador to the US – Taranjit Singh Sandhu
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**22.** On August 17, Arunachal Pradesh has signed an MoA (Memorandum of Agreement) with NEEPCO (North East Electrical Power Corporation Ltd) for the development of two Hydro-Power Projects in the State. The MoA is for construction of the 90-MW New Melling project in Tawang and the 120 MW Nafra project in West Kameng district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arunachal Pradesh + NEEPCO = an MoA for the development of two Hydro-Power Projects in the State
- 90-MW New Melling project – in Tawang, AP | 120 MW Nafra project – in West Kameng, AP
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra
- HQs of NEEPCO – Shillong, Meghalaya | MD & Chairman – Vinod Kumar Singh

**23.** On August 18, The Union Cabinet has approved a pact between India and the United States on cooperation in the field of Geology. For the same purpose, an MoU was signed between the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and the Florida International University (FIU). Besides, the cabinet also approved signing of an MoU between the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of India and the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) of Bangladesh on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Management, Resilience and Mitigation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GSI (India) + FIU (US) = an MoU in the field of Geology
- NDMA (India) + MoDMR (Bangladesh) = an MoU in the field of Disaster Management, Resilience and Mitigation
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**24.** On August 19, The Ministry of Tourism has signed an MoU with MakeMyTrip (India) Private Ltd and Ibibo Group Private Ltd in a bid to strengthen the hospitality and tourism industry especially in the times of the pandemic. The ministry has already signed MoUs with Cleartrip and Yatra.com and Ease my Trip. The primary objective of this MoU is to provide an extensive visibility to accommodation units, which have self-certified themselves on “SAATHI” (System for Assessment, Awareness and Training for the Hospitality Industry) on the OTA platform. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism + MakeMyTrip + Ibibo = to strengthen the hospitality & tourism industry
- SAATHI – System for Assessment, Awareness and Training for the Hospitality Industry
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt

**25.** On August 19, For Naval cooperation, Indian Navy and Australian Navy have signed a “Joint Guidance for Navy to Navy Relationship” document. The document is aligned to the “2020 Comprehensive Strategic Partnership” agreed by the Prime Ministers and aims to ensure shared approached to regional and global security challenges. Australia has also deployed a Liaison Officer at the Indian Navy’s Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India + Australia = “Joint Guidance for Navy to Navy Relationship” document
- The document is aligned to the “2020 Comprehensive Strategic Partnership”
- Australia – deployed a Liaison Officer at Indian Navy’s Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

**26.** On August 18, For making available high quality and high speed internet access to the States of North Eastern Region of the country, Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has signed an agreement with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for hiring of 10 Gbps International Bandwidth for Internet Connectivity to Agartala from Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited (BSCCL), Bangladesh via Cox Bazar/Kuakata. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- USOF + BSNL = to hire 10 Gbps International Bandwidth for Internet Connectivity to Agartala from Bangladesh
- HQs of BSNL – New Delhi | CMD – Pravin Kumar Purwar
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**27.** On August 18, The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND), Switzerland to strengthen relations within the framework of the international scientific and technological collaboration and to promote cooperation in fields of mutual interest. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ICMR + FIND (Switzerland) = an MoU to promote cooperation in fields of mutual interest
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Guy Parmelin





**28.** On August 19, Intel India in collaboration with Society for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (SINE)-IIT Bombay, has launched “Plugin Alliance”, a first-of-its-kind industry-technology grouping with a focus on accelerating Industry 4.0 transformation in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Intel India + SINE (IIT Bombay) = launched a first-of-its-kind industry-technology grouping called “Plugin Alliance”
- HQs of Intel India – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Country Head of Intel India – Nivruti Rai
- SINE – an umbrella organisation at IIT Bombay (Director of IIT Bombay – Subhasis Chaudhuri)

**29.** On August 17, Assam Electronics Development Corporation Ltd (AMTRON) has signed a tripartite MoU with an Israel based company, Corsight AI for establishing a strong Face Recognition Technology Development and Services portfolio along with setting up a Facial Recognition Center of Excellence (FR-COE) at Tech City, Guwahati. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AMTRON + Corsight AI (Israel) = an MoU to set up AI Centre of Excellence at Guwahati, Assam
- HQs of AMTRON – Guwahati, Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**30.** On August 21, The Odisha government has signed an MoU with an Ahmedabad-based Urban Management Centre (UMC) for technical support to launch a training programme for the “Mission Shakti” self-help groups (SHGs) engaged in solid waste management. Over the past two decades, nearly 6 lakh “Mission Shakti” SHGs have been formed in Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha + Urban Management Centre = an MoU to enhance capacity of “Mission Shakti” SHGs for waste management
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- Location of UMC – Ahmedabad, Gujarat

**31.** On August 24, Microsoft has teamed up with Invest India to support tech startups in India. Under this collaboration, Microsoft for Startups program will work with the Government’s “Accelerating Growth for New India’s Innovations (AGNII) Mission”. Selected startups can utilise Microsoft technology like Azure, GitHub and M365 and personalised technical sessions, content and mentorship for running their businesses. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Microsoft + Invest India + AGNII Mission = partnership to support tech startups in India
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, USA | Chairman – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975
- HQs of Invest India – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Deepak Bagla | Established in – 2009 (under ministry of C&I)



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



# Books & Authors

1. Ramesh Narayan chronicles his professional journey in his new book titled “A Different Route to Success: It Could Be Yours”. Narayan is the founder of Canco Advertising. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “A Different Route to Success: It Could Be Yours” book – authored by Ramesh Narayan

2. Avtar Singh Bhasin’s latest book titled “Nehru, Tibet and China” shows the bumbling and naivete that accompanied Indian policymaking on Tibet and China in the run-up to 1962. The book analysed various incidents that took place from the Independence of India to the 1962 Indo-China war. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “Nehru, Tibet and China” book – authored by Avtar Singh Bhasin

3. A famous British hunter - Jim Corbett authored a book titled “Man-Eaters of Kumaon”. He also wrote “Jungle Lore” and other books. He had killed ‘Champawat Tiger’ which was responsible for an estimated 436 human deaths. Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand was named after him. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “Man-Eaters of Kumaon” & “Jungle Lore” books – authored by Jim Corbett (a famous British hunter)
- Jim Corbett had killed ‘Champawat Tiger’ which was responsible for an estimated 436 human deaths
- Jim Corbett National Park – located in Uttarakhand

4. Renowned writer Kunal Basu’s new novel titled “In An Ideal World” is expected to release in early 2022, as announced by publisher Penguin Random House India. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “In An Ideal World” book – authored by Kunal Basu
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India

5. On August 5, Rudrangshu Mukherjee has authored a latest Non-fiction book “A Begum & A Rani - Hazrat Mahal and Lakshmibai in 1857”. This is his 6<sup>th</sup> book on the subject. This book is published by Penguin. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “A Begum & A Rani - Hazrat Mahal and Lakshmibai in 1857” book – authored by Rudrangshu Mukherjee

6. On August 3, “Balakot Air Strike: How India Avenged Pulwama”, published by Garuda Prakashan, is written by Navy veteran Manan Bhatt. The book revisits the chain of real-life events surrounding February 2019 Pulwama suicide bombing attack, and India's strong hit-back in the form of Balakot airstrikes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Balakot Air Strike: How India Avenged Pulwama” book – authored by Manan Bhatt
- Publisher – Garuda Prakashan

**7.** On August 5, Former Indian cricketer Virender Sehwag has made announcement of a new book called “The Biography of a Failed Venture: Decoding success secrets from the Black box of a Dead Start-up”, written by Prashant Desai, a senior director at Everstone Group. The book is published by HarperCollins India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Biography of a Failed Venture: Decoding success secrets from the Black box of a Dead Start-up” – authored by Prashant Desai
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

**8.** On August 8, Rijula Das’s debut novel - a murder mystery, titled “A Death in Shonagachhi” is a hard-hitting portrayal of life and death in red light district of Calcutta. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “A Death in Shonagachhi” novel – authored by Rijula Das

**9.** On August 8, Veteran actor Shabana Azmi has launched a book titled “The Year That Wasn’t - The Diary of a 14-Year-Old” written by a 14-year-old girl from Kolkata - Brisha Jain. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Year That Wasn’t - The Diary of a 14-Year-Old” – authored by Brisha Jain (14-year-old girl from Kolkata)
- The book was launched by – Shabana Azmi

**10.** Popular children’s author Sudha Murty has come out with a beginners guide on the extraordinary stories about earth. Murty’s book titled “How the Earth Got its Beauty” has illustrations by Priyanka Pachpande and it is published by Penguin Random House imprint Puffin. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “How the Earth Got its Beauty” book – authored by Sudha Murty
- The book has illustrations by – Priyanka Pachpande | Publisher – Penguin Random House

**11.** On August 9, The Vice President, M. Venkaiah Naidu has lauded the government for setting an ambitious target of providing tapped water connections to nearly 20 Cr households by 2024. He released a book titled “Accelerating India: 7 Years of Modi Government” at Upa-Rashtrapati Nivas in New Delhi. He also commended the editor of the book - K. J. Alphons. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – released “Accelerating India: 7 Years of Modi Government” book | Editor – K. J. Alphons
- Target of providing tapped water connections to nearly 20 Cr households – by 2024
- Vice President of India – Venkaiah Naidu | Constituency – Karnataka

**12.** Award-winning novelist Anuradha Roy has authored a new book titled “The Earthspinner”. This is a story about the changed ways of loving and living in the modern world which will be released on September 3. It will be published by Hachette India. Her last book “All the Lives We Never Lived” had won the Tata Literature Live! “Book of the Year Award 2018”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Earthspinner” book – authored by Anuradha Roy
- Her other books: “All the Lives We Never Lived”

**13.** On August 7, Padma Shri Ritu Menon has authored a new book titled “Zohra! A Biography in Four Acts”. In this biography, Ritu Menon shared a compelling account of Zohra’s life and work that situates her as a pathbreaking figure in the history of Indian dance, theatre, TV, and cinema. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Zohra! A Biography in Four Acts” book – authored by Ritu Menon
- Her other books: “Out of Line” & “Borders and Boundaries: Women in India’s Partition”

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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





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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**18.** On August 15, Former Supreme Court Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman has launched his 3<sup>rd</sup> book “Discordant Notes - The Voice of Dissent in a Court of Last Resort”. During the launch of this book, he emphasised that Constitution is our holy book. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Discordant Notes - The Voice of Dissent in a Court of Last Resort” book – authored by Rohinton Fali Nariman

**19.** On August 16, HarperCollins has announced a new book titled “Lahore: Book 1 of the Partition Trilogy” authored by Manreet Sodhi Someshwar. Manreet Sodhi Someshwar is a bestselling writer of 6 books, including the award-winning “The Radiance of a Thousand Suns” and the critically acclaimed “The Long Walk Home”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Lahore: Book 1 of the Partition Trilogy” book – authored by Manreet Sodhi Someshwar
- Publisher – HarperCollins
- Her other books: “The Radiance of a Thousand Suns” & “The Long Walk Home”

**20.** In August 2021, A new biography titled “The Dream of Revolution: A Biography of Jayaprakash Narayan” was released on August 23 by Penguin Random House India. The book is written by historian Bimal Prasad and author Sujata Prasad. Jayaprakash Narayan is a revolutionary leader and independence activist. Jayaprakash Narayan had posthumously received ‘Bharat Ratna’ in 1999. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Dream of Revolution: A Biography of Jayaprakash Narayan” book – authored by Bimal Prasad & Sujata Prasad



- Publisher – Penguin Random House India
- Jayaprakash Narayan – posthumously received 'Bharat Ratna' in 1999

**21.** On August 18, A new novel inspired by real events titled "Operation Trojan Horse" is authored by D. P. Sinha and Abhishek Sharan. It is published by HarperCollins India. The novel includes the 26/11 Mumbai attacks and talks of India's fight against terror. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Operation Trojan Horse" novel – authored by D. P. Sinha & Abhishek Sharan
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

**22.** A new book titled "Mission Domination: An Unfinished Quest" authored by Sports historian Boria Majumdar and Sports journalist Kushan Sarkar has been published by Simon & Schuster India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Mission Domination: An Unfinished Quest" book – authored by Boria Majumdar & Kushan Sarkar
- Publisher – Simon & Schuster India

**23.** A latest book titled "Let's Go Time Travelling Again: Indians Through the Ages" has been published posthumously. It was written by Subhadra Sen Gupta. Subhadra Sen Gupta is a famous Children's book writer and was awarded Sahitya Akademi's "Bal Sahitya Puraskar" in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Let's Go Time Travelling Again: Indians Through the Ages" book – authored by Subhadra Sen Gupta
- Subhadra Sen Gupta – "Bal Sahitya Puraskar" (2015)

**24.** On August 23, Ajitabha Bose has written a biography on the life journey of Kapil Sharma titled "The Kapil Sharma Story". The foreword of the book is written by the superstar Dharmendra. The book is published by his own venture (Ajitabha Publishers). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "The Kapil Sharma Story" – written by Ajitabha Bose
- Publisher – Ajitabha Publishers

**25.** On August 20, A book titled "Battlefield" written by Vishram Bedekar translated from Marathi by Jerry Pinto is the author's first and only novel. The book is based on Bedekar's own personal experiences. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Battlefield" book – written by Vishram Bedekar
- The book is translated from Marathi – by Jerry Pinto



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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



# Obituaries

**1.** On August 1, Multiple World Masters Championship gold medallist and multiple Asian Masters Championship medallist athlete 105-year-old Man Kaur passed away. She won her first medal in Chandigarh Masters Athletics meet in 2007 and the gold in 100 m as well 200 m race in the National Masters Athletics meet in 2011. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Man Kaur – an Indian track & field Athlete – passed away
- Gold medals: Chandigarh Masters Athletics meet (2007) & National Masters Athletics meet (2011)

**2.** Noted author and Padma Shri awardee Padma Sachdev passed away. She was the first modern woman poet of Dogri language. She authored many books in Dogri and Hindi, and her poetry collections, including Meri Kavita Mere Geet, won her the “Sahitya Akademi Award” in 1971. She received the “Padma Shri” in 2001 and was awarded the “Kabir Samman” for poetry for 2007-08 by the Madhya Pradesh government. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Padma Sachdev – an Author & Poet – passed away (first modern woman poet of Dogri language)
- Awards: Sahitya Akademi Award (1971) | Padma Shri (2001) | Kabir Samman (2007-08) by MP

**3.** On August 5, India’s goalkeeper during the 1956 and 1960 Olympic, Shankar Subramaniam Narayan also known as S. S. ‘Babu’ Narayan passed away. He was 86. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Shankar Subramaniam Narayan (S. S. ‘Babu’ Narayan) – an Olympian Footballer – passed away

**4.** On August 6, Cartoonist, sculptor and folk singer P. S. Banarji passed away. He was 41. He was a recipient of the Lalithakala Akademi Fellowship. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- P. S. Banarji – Cartoonist, Sculptor & Folk Singer – passed away
- Awards: “Lalithakala Akademi Fellowship”

**5.** On August 9, Veteran actor Anupam Shyam died due to multiple organ failure. The 63-year-old actor was best known for his work on the TV show ‘Mann Kee Awaaz: Pratigya’. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Anupam Shyam – an Actor – passed away



**6.** Veteran Space Scientist Ramabhadran Aravamudan passed away recently in August, 2021. He was 84. He was among the first to join the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in 1962 when it was still named Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR). He retired from ISRO in 1997. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ramabhadran Aravamudan – a Space Scientist – passed away
- He was among the first to join the ISRO & retired from ISRO in 1997
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969

**7.** On August 10, Former International Hockey player Gopal Bhengra passed away. He had represented India at the 1978 World Cup in Argentina. He was 75 years old. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gopal Bhengra – Former International Hockey player – passed away (1978 World Cup in Argentina)

**8.** On August 10, Popular Malayalam film and television actor Saranya Sasi has died in Thiruvananthapuram due to Covid-19 complications. She was 35. Saranya had been diagnosed with a form of brain tumour in 2012. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Saranya Sasi – a Malayalam Actress – passed away

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**13.** In August 2021, Maki Kaji, also known as the “Godfather of Sudoku”, passed away. He was 69. He was the creator of the popular numbers puzzle Sudoku. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maki Kaji (Godfather of Sudoku) – a Japanese Businessman – passed away

**14.** On August 16, Tamil Actor and popular TV host Anandha Kannan passed away at the age of 48. He was reportedly suffering from a rare bile-duct cancer. Anandha Kannan started his career with Vasantham TV in Singapore before moving to Chennai where he worked with Sun Music as a video-jockey. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anandha Kannan – Tamil Actor & popular TV host – passed away

**15.** One of India's most famous athletics coaches, O. M. Nambiar, the man who transformed a village girl P. T. Usha into Asia's Golden Girl, passed away at Payyoli in Kozhikode. He was 89. He was honoured with the 'Padma Shri Award' in 2021 and the 'Dronacharya Award' in 1985. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- O. M. Nambiar – an Athletics Coach – passed away (The Coach of P. T. Usha)
- Awards: 'Padma Shri Award' (2021) & 'Dronacharya Award' (1985)

**16.** Japanese actor Sonny Chiba has died. He was 82. He wowed the world with his martial arts skills in more than 100 films. He was known in Japan as Shinichi Chiba. Chiba set up Japan Action Club in 1980. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sonny Chiba – a Japanese Actor – passed away
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

**17.** On August 17, BJP veteran Kalyan Singh passed away at the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGI) in Lucknow. He was 89. He was the former Uttar Pradesh chief minister and former Rajasthan Governor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kalyan Singh – a Politician – passed away (Party - BJP | Former CM of UP & Former Governor of Rajasthan)



**18.** Olympic footballer and former National coach Syed Shahid Hakim passed away in Gulbarga, Karnataka. He was 82. He was part of the 1960 Olympics team. Hakim became the second footballer, after Shabbir Ali, to win the “Dhyan Chand Award” for lifetime achievement in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Syed Shahid Hakim – a Football Player & Coach – passed away (1960 Olympics Team)
- Awards: “Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement” (2017)

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

- Buddhadeb Guha – Bengali Writer – passed away

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

- Vasudev Paranjape – a Cricket Coach – passed away



# Person in News

**1.** On August 16, Google has honoured the famous Hindi poet Subhadra Kumari Chauhan with a doodle on her 117<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary. She is known to be India's first woman protester during the freedom movement of India. She was jailed twice for her involvement in the protests against the British in 1923 and 1942. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Google doodle – honoured the famous Hindi poet “Subhadra Kumari Chauhan” on her 117<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

**2.** On August 19, The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, has paid homage to Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, former President of India, on his birth anniversary at Rashtrapati Bhavan. He was the 9<sup>th</sup> President of India. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – paid homage to Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma (9<sup>th</sup> President of India) on his birth anniversary

**3.** On August 19, Amazon has announced the availability of India’s first celebrity voice feature on Alexa with legendary Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan. Indian customers can choose to add the veteran actor's voice to their Alexa experience on Echo devices. The feature is currently only available on Android for an introductory price of ₹149 for one year. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Amitabh Bachchan – became first Indian voice of Amazon’s Alexa in India (feature’s charge - ₹149/yea at present)
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

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

## **Key Points:**

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



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

**Key Points:**

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



# Science & Technology

1. Astronomers have uncovered the first evidence of water vapour in the atmosphere of Jupiter's moon "Ganymede" by using NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. The study was published in the journal Nature Astronomy. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- NASA's Hubble Space Telescope – found the 1<sup>st</sup> evidence of water vapour on Jupiter's Moon "Ganymede"
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958

2. The ISRO-NASA joint mission "NISAR" (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellite is proposed to be launched in early 2023. NISAR is a joint Earth-Observation mission between ISRO and NASA for global observations over all land masses including the Polar cryosphere and the Indian Ocean region. US And India had signed this agreement on 30 September 2014. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "NISAR" a joint Earth-Observation mission between ISRO & NASA – to be launched in 2023
- The agreement upon this was signed in 2014
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

3. A team of Delhi University researchers has discovered a new frog species in the Western Ghats and named it "Minervarya Pentali" after former DU Vice-Chancellor and plant geneticist Deepak Pental. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- "Minervarya Pentali" a new species of frog – discovered in the Western Ghats by Delhi University researchers
- It is named after former DU Vice-Chancellor and plant geneticist "Deepak Pental"

4. The CSIR-Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIO), Chandigarh has developed "Divya Nayan" - a personal reading machine for visually impaired. It is easily available to the needy across India through online registration. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- CSIR-CSIO (Chandigarh) – developed "Divya Nayan" - a personal reading machine for visually impaired
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | Director General – Shekhar C. Mande

5. The European Space Agency (ESA) has launched the world's first commercial fully reprogrammable satellite called "Eutelsat Quantum". The re-programmable satellite allows the user to change the communications as per need, in real time. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ESA – launched the world’s first commercial fully reprogrammable satellite called “Eutelsat Quantum”
- HQs of ESA – Paris, France | CEO – Johann-Dietrich Worner | Administrator – Josef Aschbacher

6. On August 2, IIT Roorkee has launched 7 new Academic Programmes to cater to the rising demand for new-age technologies. The seven new programmes are in select areas of engineering, architecture, economics and management along with specialisation in data science and artificial intelligence. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Roorkee – launched 7 new Academic Programmes to cater to the rising demand for new-age technologies

7. On August 2, IIT Madras has launched India’s first consortium for Virtual Reality called “Consortium for VR/AR/MR Engineering Mission in India” (CAVE). This consortium, including a group of academic institutions, industries, start-ups and government bodies, is coordinated by IIT Madras. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Madras launched India’s first consortium for Virtual Reality called “Consortium for VR/AR/MR Engineering Mission in India” (CAVE)
- Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi

8. On August 4, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has launched India’s first earthquake early warning mobile application “Uttarakhand Bhookamp Alert”. The app is developed by IIT Roorkee. The programme was initially launched as a pilot project by the Ministry of Earth Sciences for the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand – launched India’s first earthquake early warning mobile application “Bhookamp Alert”
- The app is developed by – IIT Roorkee
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhama | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

9. The world’s largest star sapphire cluster has recently been found in a backyard in Sri Lanka. The sapphire cluster weighs around 510 kilograms or 2.5 million carats. The rock has been named “Serendipity Sapphire”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World’s largest star sapphire cluster named “Serendipity Sapphire” found in Sri Lanka (weight - 510 kg)
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

**10.** On August 8, Researchers at IIT Jodhpur have developed a low-cost water purification and treatment unit for schools in rural areas of Jodhpur, Sirohi and Jhunjhunu districts of Rajasthan. The water purification unit uses membrane-assisted sorption-based Ultrafiltration (UF) technology. [{Read more}](#)

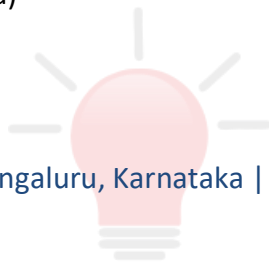
**Key Points:**

- IIT Jodhpur – developed a low-cost ‘Water Purification & Treatment Unit’ for schools in rural areas of Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**11.** The ISRO has drafted the “Indian Satellite Navigation Policy - 2021” (SATNAV Policy - 2021) in order to achieve self-reliance in satellite based navigation. Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) are space based navigation systems that provide navigation signals across the globe. Currently, there are 4 GNSS - GPS from the USA, GLONASS from Russia, Galileo from European Union & BeiDou from China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO – drafted the “SATNAV Policy - 2021” to achieve self-reliance in satellite based navigation
- Currently, there are 4 GNSS:
  - GPS (USA)
  - GLONASS (Russia)
  - Galileo (EU)
  - BeiDou (China)
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969



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The Question Bank

**12.** India has launched its most advanced Geo-imaging satellite (Gisat-1) on August 12 from Sriharikota by using ISRO’s ‘GSLV-F10’ rocket. The 2,268-kg Gisat-1 is codenamed “EOS-3”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India launched its most advanced “Gisat-1” by using ‘GSLV-F10’ rocket – from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- 2,268-kg Gisat-1 is codenamed “EOS-3”
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969

**13.** On August 11, Researchers at IIT Delhi and AIIMS have developed a “Telerobotic Ultrasound System” that allows remote ultrasound access through a robotic arm. The need for this innovation arose during the first nationwide lockdown in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Delhi + AIIMS = developed a “Telerobotic Ultrasound System”
- HQs of AIIMS – New Delhi | Director – Randeep Guleria



**14.** On August 11, India has test-launched “Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM)” with a new Made-in-India Turbofan Engine from a defence facility off the Odisha coast. ITCM is an advanced version of subsonic cruise missile “Nirbhay”. It can strike targets at a distance of up to 1,000 km. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – test-launched “Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM)” with a new Turbofan Engine from Odisha
- ITCM is an advanced version of subsonic cruise missile “Nirbhay” | Strike range of the missile – 1000 Km
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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



**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

**20.** On August 15, Researchers have identified 3 new species of ‘Wild Balsam’ in Kerala, of which two have been named after V. S. Achuthanandan (Communist veteran and former CM of Kerala) and K. K. Shailaja (Former Health Minister of Kerala). The species, belonging to the genus ‘Impatiens’ (family Balsaminaceae), were spotted in the Western Ghats region of southern Kerala and the Idukki district. Three species are named - Impatiens achudanandanii, Impatiens shailajae & Impatiens danii. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 3 new species of ‘Wild Balsam’ - a flower – discovered in Kerala (names: Achudanandanii, Shailajae & Danii)
- The species belong to the genus ‘Impatiens’ (family Balsaminaceae)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**21.** On August 16, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has successfully carried out the Ground Run and Low Speed Taxi Trials (LSTT) of the “Hindustan-228 (VT-KNR)” aircraft for Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) ‘Type Certification’. This is a major milestone for the first fixed wing Made-in-India civil aircraft in India. It was launched as a part of Regional Connectivity Scheme - “UDAN” (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) which was launched in 2016 by the Ministry of Civil Aviation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HAL – successfully carried out the Ground Run & Low Speed Taxi Trials of “Hindustan-228 (VT-KNR)” aircraft
- “UDAN” (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) was launched in 2016 – by Ministry of Civil Aviation
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan

**22.** On August 17, Department of Science & Technology (DST) launched 3 Online Applications - GEO Spatial Data Dissemination Portal & Sarathi Web GIS app (developed by Survey of India) and Manchitran Enterprise Geoportal (developed by the National Atlas & Thematic Mapping Organisation). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Department of S&T launched 3 online apps/portals:
  - GEO Spatial Data Dissemination Portal (developed by Survey of India)
  - Sarathi Web GIS app (developed by Survey of India)
  - Manchitran Enterprise Geoportal (developed by the National Atlas & Thematic Mapping Organisation)

**23.** On August 17, IIT Madras has collaborated with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) for research in areas of Pavement Engineering & Intelligent Transportation Systems. A MoRTH chair is being created at IIT Madras, to focus on research and development (R&D), teaching and training in traffic and highway engineering. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Madras + MoRTH = for research in areas of Pavement Engineering & Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: Nitin Gadkari | Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Road Transport & Highways: V. K. Singh

**24.** On August 17, Smart devices maker Oppo has announced the set-up of a specialised lab for camera innovation at its Hyderabad R&D centre. The lab has been designed to develop localised features, camera solutions using AI and focus on developing imaging software for a better user experience. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Oppo – announced to set-up a Specialised Lab for camera innovation – in Hyderabad, Telangana
- HQs of Oppo – Dongguan, China | CEO – Tony Chen
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**25.** On August 16, A rare orchid species - “Cephalanthera Erecta var. Oblanceolata”, has been found for the first time in India in Uttarakhand’s Chamoli district at an altitude of 1870 metres. The discovery has been published in Nelumbo, the six-monthly journal of BSI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Cephalanthera Erecta var. Oblanceolata” a rare orchid species – discovered in Chamoli, Uttarakhand (1<sup>st</sup> time)
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**26.** On August 20, A team of researchers from Delhi University (DU), along with biologists from the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, USA, have discovered a new species of frog named “Adi Cascade Frog” (Amolops Adicola) on the Adi hills in Arunachal Pradesh. The findings were published in the Journal of Natural History, London. Besides, in Karnataka, a new plant called ‘Brachystelma Tumakurens’ was also found. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- “Adi Cascade Frog” (Amolops Adicola) – discovered on the Adi hills in Arunachal Pradesh
- Discovery made by = Delhi University + Wildlife Institute of India + North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences (US)
- Discovery published in – Journal of Natural History
- ‘Brachystelma Tumakurens’ a plant – found in Karnataka
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

**27.** On August 19, The DRDO’s Defence Laboratory, Jodhpur in collaboration with DRDO’s High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune has developed an advanced Chaff material and chaff cartridge-118/I to safeguard the fighter aircraft of the Air Force against hostile radar threats. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Defence Laboratory + HEMRL = developed an advanced Chaff technology to safeguard fighter jets against radar threats
- Location of DRDO’s Defence Laboratory – Jodhpur, Rajasthan | Location of DRDO’s HEMRL – Pune, Maharashtra
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Vice Chief – Vivek Ram Chaudhari

**28.** On August 18, A team of marine biologists from the Central University of Punjab has discovered a new marine algae species in the Andaman archipelago, which has been named “Acetabularia jalakanyakae” after the Sanskrit word ‘Jalakanyaka’ meaning the ‘Goddess of Oceans’ or ‘Mermaid’. The species is also the first of the genus Acetabularia to be discovered in India. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “Acetabularia jalakanyakae” a marine algae species – discovered in Andaman & Nicobar Island
- Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair | Lieu. Governor– Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi

**29.** On August 19, Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS) has launched “Google Cloud Garages” to help enterprise customers evaluate cloud solutions. These new cloud garages or centres will be launched at its co-innovation and advanced research centres in Amsterdam, New York, and Tokyo. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- TCS – launched “Google Cloud Garages” in Amsterdam, New York & Tokyo
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in – 1968



**30.** On August 23, IIT Madras has developed India's first indigenous motorised wheelchair vehicle, "NeoBolt" that can be used even on uneven terrains. NeoBolt has a maximum speed of 25 kmph and travels up to 25 km per charge. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Madras – developed India's first indigenous motorised wheelchair vehicle "NeoBolt"
- Director of IIT Madras – Bhaskar Ramamurthi

**31.** On August 23, OneWeb, a low earth orbit (LEO) satellite Communications Company, has launched 34 satellites by Arianespace from the Baikonur Cosmodrome. This launch brings OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation to 288 satellites. The launch follows the successful completion of OneWeb's 'Five to 50' mission. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- OneWeb – launched 34 satellites by Arianespace – from Baikonur Cosmodrome, in Kazakhstan
- OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation – 288 satellites | 'Five to 50' mission – belongs to OneWeb
- HQs of OneWeb – London, UK | CEO – Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- OneWeb – co-owned by Bharti Global & the UK

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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

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

**Key Points:**

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





# Ordinance, Bills and Acts

**1.** The Rajya Sabha has passed the “Coconut Development Board (Amendment) Bill, 2021”, making the post of the Chairman as Non-executive. The amendment also seeks to raise the number of members of the Board to 6 from the current 4. Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat will also be able to nominate their representatives to the Board. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Rajya Sabha passed the “Coconut Development Board (Amendment) Bill, 2021”
- The bill makes the post of the Chairman as Non-executive
- The bill seeks to raise the number of members of the Board to 6 (from 4)

**2.** On August 5, The Rajya Sabha has passed the “Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2021” allowing inclusion of Mishmi-Kaman (Miju Mishmi), Idu (Mishmi), Taraon (Digaru Mishmi) & Monpa, Memba, Sartang and Sajolang (Miji) in the list of identified Scheduled Tribes in Arunachal Pradesh. The bill provides for the deletion of Abor tribe from Serial No. 1 as it is the same as Adi in serial no. 16. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Rajya Sabha – passed the “Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2021” related to AP’s Tribes
- Inclusion of tribes: Mishmi-Kaman, Idu, Taraon & Monpa, Memba, Sartang & Sajolang
- Deletion of tribes: Abor
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

**3.** The Union Cabinet has approved the “Constitution (127<sup>th</sup>) Amendment Bill” to restore powers to states and Union Territories to make their own OBC lists. This power was removed in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment in 2018 and was bestowed to the President of India. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved “127<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Bill” to restore powers to states/UTs to make their own OBC lists
- It was removed in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment in 2018

**4.** On August 9, The Parliament has passed the “Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2021” which seeks to establish a Central university named “Sindhu Central University” in Ladakh. It aims to facilitate and promote avenues of higher education and research for the people of the Union Territory. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Parliament passed a bill to set up “Sindhu Central University” in Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur



5. On August 8, The SEBI has amended the “SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (LODR)) Regulations, 2015” pertaining to the appointment, removal and remuneration of Independent Directors to ensure their independence and effectiveness. The new rules will be applicable from January 1, 2022. A cooling-off period of 1 year has been introduced for an ‘Independent Director’ transitioning to a ‘Whole-Time Director’ (WTD). The composition of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC) is modified to include 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Independent Directors instead of 50% as per the current requirement. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – amended the “SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (LODR)) Regulations, 2015”
- The rules pertain to the appointment, removal & remuneration of ‘Independent Directors’ (IDs)
- Cooling-off period for an ‘Independent Director’ transitioning to a ‘Whole-Time Director’ – 1 year
- Composition of the Nomination & Remuneration Committee (NRC) is modified to include – 2/3<sup>rd</sup> IDs
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

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

**Key Points:**

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

7. On August 13, The “Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021” has received the assent of the President Ram Nath Kovind. The “Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act 2021” has amended ‘Income Tax Act 1961’ and ‘Finance Act 2012’. Meanwhile, Bills for amending “Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Act”, “Limited Liability Partnership Act” and Bill for “Tribunal Reforms” have also become Acts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- President Ram Nath Kovind – gave assent to the “Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021”
- “Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act 2021” – amended ‘Income Tax Act 1961’ & ‘Finance Act 2012’

8. On August 20, The President of India Ram Nath Kovind has approved the Constitution (127<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Bill and granted assent to the Constitution (105<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Act, 2021, which empowers states to identify and specify the Socially and Educationally Backward Class (SEBC). In ‘Article 366’ of the Constitution, for ‘Clause (26C)’, the following clause shall be substituted, namely - “(26C) Socially and Educationally Backward Classes”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – approved the “Constitution (127<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Bill”
- Ram Nath Kovind – granted assent to the “Constitution (105<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Act, 2021”

- It empowers states to identify and specify the **Socially & Educationally Backward Class (SEBC)**
- **National Commission For Backward Classes (NCBC)** – functions under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

**9.** On August 20, President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to a bill to amend the “General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act”. This will facilitate bringing down government’s equity below 51% in a public sector General Insurance Company. Titled, the ‘General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Amendment Act, 2021’, the new law has brought in total 3 amendments. The bill removed the provision to ‘Section 10B’ of the act. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – gave assent to “General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Amendment 2021”
- It brings down government’s equity below 51% in a public sector General Insurance Company
- The bill removed the provision to ‘Section 10B’ of the act

**10.** On August 24, The Haryana government has introduced a Bill titled “Haryana Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2021” in the Assembly, proposing jail term ranging from 7 to 10 years and a fine not less than ₹10 lakh for offences related to paper leak. The Bill was tabled by Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana – introduced a Bill in the Assembly for offences related to paper leak
- Punishments: Jail term – from 7 to 10 years | Fine – minimum ₹10 lakh
- **Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya**

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

**Key Points:**

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





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