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

December
MockDrill
PDF No. 2
(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 10th January 2022

[Attempt Test No. 2 Here!](#)



An important message from Team Smartkeeda

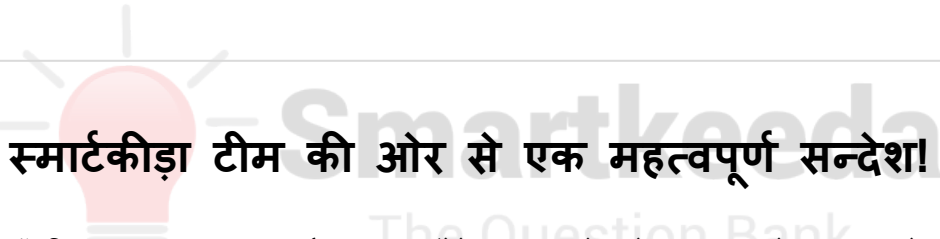
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of December 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

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

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

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

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

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

51. On December 2, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren launched “Hamar Apan Budget” web portal and a mobile application prepared by the state finance Department for budget suggestion. Through this portal, the general public of the state will be able to share their valuable suggestions for the 2022-23 budget. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jharkhand – launched “Hamar Apan Budget” web portal & a mobile app for budget suggestion
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais

52. On December 3, Kotak Mutual Fund launched India’s first ever Nifty Alpha 50 ETF called “Kotak Nifty Alpha 50 ETF”. It is an open-ended scheme that will track Nifty Alpha 50 index and gives investors an opportunity to invest in a well-diversified portfolio of stocks with high Alphas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak MF – launched India’s first ever ‘Nifty Alpha 50 ETF’
- HQs of Kotak Mutual Fund – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & President – Nilesh Shah

53. At COP 21, as part of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), India had committed to achieving 40% of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil energy sources by 2030. The country has achieved this target in November 2021 itself, announced by the Ministry of new & renewable energy. This brings the total non-fossil based installed energy capacity to 156.83 GW which is 40.1% of the total installed electricity capacity of 390.8 GW. PM Modi at COP26 Climate Conference in Glasgow, pledged India will achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India achieved 40% of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil energy in Nov 2021 (against the target of 2030)
- Total non-fossil based installed energy capacity at present – 156.83 GW

54. On December 2, Minister of State for Communications, Devusinh Chauhan released a commemorative postage stamp on the Mahindra group to mark 75 years of the company. He also urged the group to collaborate with the postal department to improve the delivery of social services in rural areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoS for Communications – released a commemorative postage stamp to mark 75 years of Mahindra Group
- Ministry of Communications: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Communications: Devusinh Chauhan



55. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) extended the deadline for completing the projects under the “Smart Cities Mission (SCM)” for all 100 participating cities to June 2023 due to the delays caused by COVID-19. The SCM was launched in 2015 and central government has released Rs 27,235 Cr to the select states & UTs for this mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA extended the deadline to complete the projects under the “Smart Cities Mission (SCM)” – to June 2023
- The SCM was launched in – 2015 | Amount allocated to state/UT for the SCM – Rs 27,235 Cr

56. On December 2, At the “Aadi Mahotsav” - mega National Tribal Festival held in Dilli Hat, New Delhi, Arunachal Pradesh launched India’s first certified organic kiwi from the farms of Ziro Valley. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh – launched India’s first certified organic kiwi from the farms of Ziro Valley
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

57. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced the implementation of a Police Commissionerate System in the two cities - Bhopal and Indore. Under the police commissionerate system, the powers of both policing and magistracy are concentrated with the commissioner, who is directly accountable to the state government and the state police chief. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – announced the implementation of a “Police Commissionerate System” in the two cities
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

58. On December 4, Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh launched the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) and Banadhikar app in Agartala, Tripura. It is a GPS-based mobile application for demarcation of forest ‘patta’ (land rights) for the landless indigenous people under the ‘Forest Rights Act, 2006’. Tripura became the first state in India to introduce the Banadhikar App. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Giriraj Singh – launched “National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS)” & “Banadhikar App” in Tripura
- Tripura – became the first state in India to introduce the “Banadhikar App”
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

59. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) conducted “India-ITU Joint Cyberdrill 2021” from 30 November to 3 December 2021. This Cyberdrill is intended for Indian entities especially Critical Network Infrastructure operators. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- DoT + ITU = conducted “India-ITU Joint Cyberdrill 2021” for India’s Critical Network Infrastructure operators
- HQs of ITU – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary General – Houlin Zhao

60. On December 4, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple development projects worth around ₹18,000 Cr in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of 11 development projects including the “Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor” (from Eastern Peripheral Expressway Junction to Dehradun) which will be built at a cost of around ₹8300 Cr. It will also have Asia's largest wildlife elevated corridor (12 km) for unrestricted wildlife movement. He also inaugurated the 120 MW Vyasi Hydroelectric Project, built over Yamuna river at the cost of over Rs 1,700 Cr, along with a Himalayan Culture Centre in Dehradun. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi – inaugurated & laid the foundation stone for projects worth around ₹18,000 Cr in Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- PM Modi – laid the foundation stone of “Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor” (Cost – ₹8,300 Cr)
- PM Modi – inaugurated the 120 MW Vyasi Hydroelectric Project (built over Yamuna river) (Cost – ₹1,700 Cr)
- PM Modi – inaugurated a Himalayan Culture Centre in Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

61. On December 4, President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated an event for centennial celebrations of Parliament’s Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on the completion of 100 years, in the presence of Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu and PM Narendra Modi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – inaugurated an event for centennial celebrations of Parliament’s Public Accounts Committee
- Present Chairperson of PAC – Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury | Founded in – 1921

International Affairs

62. On December 2, the world’s first floating city, which will be built off the coast of South Korea, is likely to be completed by 2025. It will be a ‘flood-proof infrastructure’ comprising several human-made islands that all rise with the sea to eliminate flood risks. It is being built at an estimated cost of \$200 million. The project is a joint effort by OCEANIX & the UN Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World’s first floating city will be built off the coast of – South Korea (by 2025)



- The project is a joint effort by = OCEANIX + UN-Habitat
- HQs of UN-Habitat – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Maimunah Mohd Sharif
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in

63. On December 2, South Sudan’s Government pledged to end child marriage by 2030 in line with the African Union’s campaign to end child marriages in the continent. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Sudan – pledged to end child marriage by 2030
- South Sudan – Juba – South Sudanese Pound | President – Salva Kiir Mayardit

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

64. On December 3, KreditBee partnered with Mswipe to offer fully digital ‘Cardless EMI’ at leading retail stores. Under ‘Cardless EMI’, KreditBee will provide ‘Pay later’ options for purchases of up to ₹1,00,000, which can be converted into EMI ranging from 3 to 12 months. Additionally, KreditBee aims to partner with over 5 lakh retail stores across India by the end of financial year 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KreditBee + Mswipe = to offer fully digital ‘Cardless EMI’ at leading retail stores
- Under Cardless EMI: KreditBee will provide ‘Pay later’ options for purchases of up to ₹1,00,000
- HQs of KreditBee – Bangalore, Karnataka | Co-Founder & CEO – Madhusudan Ekambaram
- HQs of Mswipe Technologies – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Manish Patel

65. On December 3, Paytm announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary Paytm Money launched Portfolio Management Services (PMS) Marketplace for its HNI (High Networth Individuals) investors. The marketplace was launched in partnership with PMS advisory startup PMS Bazaar. PMS is an investment service offered to HNIs with SEBI mandating a minimum investment of ₹50 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm Money + PMS Bazaar = launched **Portfolio Management Services (PMS) Marketplace** for its HNI investors
- PMS – an investment service offered to HNIs with SEBI mandating a minimum investment of – ₹50 lakh
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar | Founded in – 2009
- HQs of PMS Bazaar – Chennai, Tamil Nadu

66. On December 3, Kerala-based ESAF Small Finance Bank Ltd received an honorable mention in the “Global SME Finance Awards 2021” constituted by the US-based SME Finance Forum. ESAF Small Finance Bank received the mention in the ‘Best Bank for Women Entrepreneurs’ category. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ESAF SFB – received “Global SME Finance Award 2021” in ‘Best Bank for Women Entrepreneurs’ category
- HQs of ESAF SFB – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – K. Paul Thomas | Chairman – P. R. Ravi Mohan

Defence Affairs

67. On December 2, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and Indian Army signed a contract worth ₹471.41 Cr for refurbishment of ‘IGLA - 1M’ missiles. After the refurbishment, a fresh lease of life will be given to the missile for 10 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BDL + Indian Army = signed a contract worth ₹471.41 Cr for refurbishment of ‘IGLA - 1M’ missiles
- Fresh lease of life for 10 years will be given to the missile after the refurbishment
- HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Siddharth Mishra | Founded in – 1970
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

68. In December 2021, Bangladesh Navy (BN) and the US military personnel kicked off the annual Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) maritime exercise in the Bay of Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bangladesh & US – conducted the “CARAT” Maritime Exercise in the Bay of Bengal
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

Schemes & Initiatives

69. On December 1, the Odisha government announced a “Social Security Scheme” for newspaper hawkers across the state. Newspaper hawkers registered with Odisha Unorganised Workers’ Social Security Board (OUWSSB) will be provided with identity cards & social security as well. Under the scheme, in the event of a hawker’s death due to an accident, an assistance of Rs 2 lakh will be provided to their next of kin and in the case of a natural death, an assistance of Rs 1 lakh will be provided. The state government will also provide a special assistance of Rs 3,000 each to all registered newspaper hawkers in two phases through the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – announced a “Social Security Scheme” for newspaper hawkers across the state
- Special assistance to newspaper hawker – Rs 3,000 | Accidental death – Rs 2 lakh | Natural death – Rs 1 lakh



Sports & Games

70. Squash star Saurav Ghosal made history as he became the first Indian to win the “Malaysian Open Squash Championships” after beating Colombia’s Miguel Rodriguez in the men's singles final. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saurav Ghosal (Squash) – became the first Indian to win the “Malaysian Open Squash Championships”

71. In December 2021, Ace shooter Shriyanka Sadangi from Odisha won Gold medal at the 64th National Shooting Championship held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. She clinched the Gold in the Women’s 50 metre Rifle 3 position event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shriyanka Sadangi (Odisha) – won Gold medal at the 64th National Shooting Championship – held in Bhopal, MP
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel



72. On December 3, International Day of Disabled Persons or International Day of Persons with Disabilities was observed. The day was proclaimed in 1992 by the United Nations General Assembly. In 2021, the theme is “Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 3 – International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- 2021’s Theme – “Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world”

73. In 2019, the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 74/245, which designated December 4 as the International Day of Banks in recognition of the significant potential of multilateral development banks and other international development banks in financing sustainable development. 2021 marked the 2nd edition of the International Day of Banks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 4 – 2nd edition of “International Day of Banks”

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

74. The 9th India-EU Energy Panel met on December 1, 2021. The Energy Panel was co-chaired by Smt. Reenat Sandhu, Secretary (West) of Ministry of External Affairs and Ms. Mechthild Worsdorfer, Deputy Director-General for Energy, European Commission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reenat Sandhu – co-chaired the 9th India-EU Energy Panel
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | Member Countries – 27
- President of European Parliament – David-Maria Sassoli
- President of European Council – Charles Michel
- President of European Commission – Ursula von der Leyen

75. Air Works joined FICCI and the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MCA) at the 3rd “Helicopter Summit 2021”, organized at Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The summit was organized with an objective to boost the helicopter industry in India with the theme “India@75: Expediting the Growth of Indian Helicopter Industry and Enhancing Air Connectivity”. During the summit, Union Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya M. Scindia announced a new “10-Point Helicopter Policy”.

Key Points:

- 3rd “Helicopter Summit 2021” – held at Dehradun, Uttarakhand (organised by = FICCI + MCA + Air Works)
- Theme – “India@75: Expediting the Growth of Indian Helicopter Industry and Enhancing Air Connectivity”
- Jyotiraditya M. Scindia – announced a new “10-Point Helicopter Policy” at the Summit

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

76. On December 2, the occasion of Asom Divas or Assam Day, the Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma conferred the most prestigious “Asom Baibhav” award to the industrialist Ratan Tata. Asom Baibhav award is the highest civilian award of Assam. Asom Divas or Assam Day is celebrated in Assam to commemorate the rule of Chalong Sukapha, the first Ahom king in medieval Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- December 2 – Asom Divas or Assam Day (to commemorate the rule of Chalong Sukapha)
- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma conferred “Asom Baibhav” award to – Ratan Tata
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



77. On December 3, Delhi's Nizamuddin Basti has received two awards at the "UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2021". The conservation initiative at Nizamuddin bagged the Award of Excellence and Special Recognition for Sustainable Development Award. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nizamuddin Basti ([Delhi](#)) – received 2 awards at "UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2021"
- Two awards: 'Award of Excellence' & 'Special Recognition for Sustainable Development Award'

78. On December 2, the Kurukshetra University has named 4 Young Scientists in India for the "Rajib Goyal Prize". Rajneesh Mishra, KM Sureshan, Rajeev Varshney & Suman Chakraborty were selected for the honour for outstanding work in their respective fields. Goyal Prize was instituted in 1992 by Ram S Goyal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kurukshetra University ([Haryana](#)) – announced names of 4 Young Scientists in India to award "Rajib Goyal Prize"
- "Rajib Goyal Prize" – instituted in 1992 by Ram S. Goyal

79. Eminent Indian-American mathematician Nikhil Srivastava, has been jointly selected for the first \$5,000 "Ciprian Foias Prize" for the 'highly original work' in Operator Theory by the American Mathematical Society (AMS). Along with Prof. Srivastava, who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley, the two other awardees are Adam Marcus and Daniel Spielman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nikhil Srivastava – selected for the first \$5,000 "Ciprian Foias Prize" by the American Mathematical Society
- Two other awardees – Adam Marcus & Daniel Spielman

80. On December 3, Denmark's Viktor Axelsen and Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu Ying were named Male and Female Player of the Year respectively by the Badminton World Federation (BWF). While 'Pair of the Year' went to Greysia Polii and Apriyani Rahayu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Viktor Axelsen ([Denmark](#)) – named 'Male Player of the Year' by BWF
- Tai Tzu Ying ([Taiwan](#)) – named 'Female Player of the Year' by BWF
- Greysia Polii & Apriyani Rahayu – named 'Pair of the Year' by BWF

81. On December 3, Kochi-based ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) was awarded a project named "Indee+" on 'Future Refrigeration India' for spearheading the fuel transition in seafood sector. This project is coordinated by Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). The CIFT will collaborate with Norway for fuel transition in seafood sector. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ICAR-CIFT (Kochi, Kerala) – was awarded a project named “Indee+” on ‘Future Refrigeration India’
- ICAR-CIFT + Norway = to collaborate for fuel transition in seafood sector
- HQs of ICAR – New Delhi | DG – Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra | Established in – 1929

Appointments & Resignations

82. On December 1, Ajay Banga, former CEO of Mastercard Inc., joined General Atlantic as Vice Chairman. He will advise General Atlantic’s top management on the firm’s strategy and work with its sector and geographic leaders on investment strategy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Banga – joined General Atlantic as Vice Chairman
- HQs of General Atlantic – New York, US | CEO – William E. Ford

83. Vice Admiral M. A. Hampiholi, currently Commandant of the Indian Naval Academy at Ezhimala, Kannur, took over as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Southern Naval Command, Kochi. The outgoing FOC-in-C, Vice Admiral Chawla handed over the charge to Vice Admiral Hampiholi. While Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta took over as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Naval Command. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. A. Hampiholi – took over as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Southern Naval Command
- Biswajit Dasgupta – took over as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Naval Command
- HQs of Southern Naval Command – Kochi, Kerala | FOC-in-Charge – Vice Admiral M. A. Hampiholi
- HQs of ENC – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | FOC-in-C – Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta

84. Indian tennis star Rohan Bopanna was presented with the “Rajyotsava Award” by Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. Rajyotsava award is conferred in 24 categories, and each winner secures a Gold medal and a purse of Rs 1 lakh. He was awarded the Ekalavya award in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohan Bopanna – presented with the “Rajyotsava Award” by Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

85. On December 3, Pradip Shah, founder of IndAsia Fund Advisors, was appointed as Chairman of National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL). While Aditya Birla's MD, Sanjay Jain was appointed as the CEO of India Debt Resolution Company (IDRCL). Also, Diwakar Gupta, former MD of State Bank of India, was appointed as



the Chairman of IDRCL. In September, the Cabinet cleared a proposal to provide a government guarantee of ₹30,600 Cr to security receipts issued by NARCL. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pradip Shah – appointed as the Chairman of NARCL
- Sanjay Jain – appointed as the CEO of IDRCL
- Diwakar Gupta – appointed as the Chairman of IDRCL
- MD of NARCL – Padmakumar M. Nair | Chairman – Pradip Shah | Lead Sponsor – Canara Bank (12% equity)
- CEO of IDRCL – Sanjay Jain | Chairman – Diwakar Gupta

86. On December 3, Indian-American Gita Gopinath, the first female Chief Economist of International Monetary Fund, was promoted as IMF's First Deputy Managing Director serving under the IMF Chief Kristalina Georgieva. She replaced Geoffrey Okamoto. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gita Gopinath – promoted as IMF's 'First Deputy Managing Director' (succeeding - Geoffrey Okamoto)
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., US | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

87. Kinara Capital, an innovative fast-growing fintech serving India's MSMEs, signed the Indian cricketer Ravindra Jadeja, as its official brand ambassador on the occasion of the company's 10th anniversary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ravindra Jadeja – appointed as brand ambassador of Kinara Capital
- HQs of Kinara Capital – Bangalore, Karnataka | Founder & CEO – Hardika Shah

Amount & Agreements

88. On December 3, Asian Development Bank (ADB) received a grant of nearly \$2 million (nearly Rs 15 Cr) from Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR), which will be utilised to enhance urban primary healthcare usage across India. The grant is aligned with the ADB-supported \$300 million (Rs 2,249 Cr) to strengthen the Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) system in urban areas across India under the 'Pradhan Mantri Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana (PM-ASBY)', which is recently renamed to 'Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – received a grant of nearly \$2 million (nearly Rs 15 Cr) from Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR)
- The grant is aligned with the ADB-supported \$300 million (Rs 2,249 Cr) to strengthen the CPHC system



• HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

89. On December 2, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$500 million loan to the Government of India to help improve the quality of India’s school education and mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on students’ learning. The loan supports the Integrated Scheme for School Education (Samagra Shiksha) and the new Exemplar School Initiative of the Ministry of Education (MOE). About 1,800 government schools will be transformed into exemplar schools in Assam, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, and Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB approved a \$500 million loan to Gol to help improve the quality of India’s school education
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

90. The United States is the biggest contributor to global plastic waste in the world, according to the report titled “Reckoning with the U.S. Role in Global Ocean Plastic Waste”. On average, every American generates 130 kg (286 pounds) of plastic waste per year, with South Korea next on the list at 88 kg per year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US – the biggest contributor to global plastic waste in the world | 2nd – South Korea
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

91. As on December 1, Gujarat surpassed Maharashtra to emerge as the largest manufacturing hub in India, with its Gross Value Addition (GVA) in manufacturing growing 15.9% annually on average between FY12 and FY20 to reach Rs 5.11 lakh Cr, according to the data released by the RBI. India’s manufacturing GVA grew to Rs 16.9 lakh Cr in FY20 at an average growth rate of 9.7% per annum since FY12. However, Maharashtra retained its spot as the leading services provider in India, with the state’s services GVA growing at 12.6% per annum. Karnataka registered the fastest growth in services GVA at 15.1% per annum during the same period. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat – emerged as the largest Manufacturing Hub in India (2nd – Maharashtra)
- Gujarat’s manufacturing GVA growth – 15.9% annually to reach Rs 5.11 lakh Cr in FY20
- India’s manufacturing GVA growth – 9.7% annually to reach Rs 16.9 lakh Cr in FY20
- Maharashtra – emerged as the leading Services Provider in India
- Karnataka – registered the fastest growth in Services



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

92. On December 3, the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) signed an MoU with THDC India Ltd (THDCIL) to provide techno-financial expertise in developing renewable energy projects. The IRDEA signed a similar MoU with Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd (BVFCL) for the same purpose. These collaborations will contribute to reduce carbon emissions to 45% by 2030 in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IREDA + THDCIL = an MoU to provide techno-financial expertise in developing RE projects
- IREDA + BVFCL = an MoU to provide techno-financial expertise in developing RE projects
- THDCIL – a joint venture between NTPC + UP Government
- HQs of IREDA – New Delhi | CMD – Pradip Kumar Das
- HQs of THDCIL – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand | Chairman & MD – R. K. Vishnoi
- HQs of BVFCL – Namrup, Assam | CMD – Siba Prasad Mohanty

93. On December 3, RailTel and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited signed an MoU to leverage each other's strength for increasing broadband penetration in rural and semi-urban areas. The CSC e-Governance Services India Limited is a special purpose vehicle under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. RailTel has already set up about 200 'RailWire Saathi' kiosks at rural/semi urban railway stations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RailTel + CSC = an MoU to increase broadband penetration in Rural & Semi-Urban areas
- HQs of RailTel – New Delhi | CMD of RailTel – Puneet Chawla
- HQs of CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd – New Delhi | CEO – Sanjay Kumar Rakesh | MD – Dinesh Tyagi
- CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd – set up by MeitY under the “Companies Act, 1956”

94. On December 3, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd (ONGC) signed an MoU with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to collaborate and cooperate for undertaking renewable energy projects including solar, wind, solar parks, EV value chain, green hydrogen, storage, etc. The ONGC has set a target of producing a minimum of 10 GW of renewable power by 2040. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ONGC + SECI = an MoU to strengthen its footprint in RE, especially in Solar
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Alka Mittal (additional charge)
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Jatindra Nath Swain | MD – Suman Sharma | Founded on – Sep 9, 2011



95. On December 2, the Rajasthan government signed 145 MoUs attracting proposed investments worth around Rs 69,000 Cr. Besides, various investors submitted letters of intent (LoIs) for investments totaling worth Rs 10,099 Cr at the “Invest Rajasthan Roadshow-Exploring Investment Opportunities in Rajasthan” organised by the Rajasthan government in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Invest Rajasthan Roadshow-Exploring Investment Opportunities in Rajasthan” – organised by Rajasthan + CII
- Rajasthan – signed 145 MoUs & LoIs worth total Rs 79,099 Cr to attract proposed investments in the state
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur](#) | [CM – Ashok Gehlot](#) | [Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

Books & Authors

96. A book titled “Seven Heroes of 1971: Stories of Courage and Sacrifice”, authored by Man Aman Singh Chinna, an assistant editor with The Indian Express, was released in December, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Seven Heroes of 1971: Stories of Courage and Sacrifice” book – authored by Man Aman Singh Chinna

97. A new book titled “1971: Charge of the Gorkhas and Other Stories”, written by author Rachna Bisht Rawat, unearths true stories of the ‘1971 Indo-Pak War’ showcasing the exemplary courage and fortitude of Indian soldiers at the warfront. The book was published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI) in December 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “1971: Charge of the Gorkhas and Other Stories” – authored by Rachna Bisht Rawat
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India

Obituaries

98. Martin J. Sherwin, a leading scholar of Atomic Weapons, passed away at the age of 84. He was best known for “American Prometheus” published in 2005 and winner of the 2006 Pulitzer Prize in Biography.

Key Points:

- Martin J. Sherwin ([USA](#)) – a Historian & Scholar of Atomic Weapons – passed away
- Awards: “2006 Pulitzer Prize in Biography” for his “American Prometheus” book



99. Former Chief Minister of Undivided Andhra Pradesh, Konijeti Rosaiah passed away at the age of 88 in Hyderabad. He had also served as the Governor of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Konijeti Rosaiah – a Politician – passed away
- He served as: CM of Andhra Pradesh and Governor of Tamil Nadu & Karnataka

Science & Technology

100. On December 3 Minister of State for Electronics & IT, Rajeev Chandrasekhar launched the first indigenous server called “Rudra”, developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) under the “National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)”. The minister also released the “National Strategy on Blockchain”. Besides, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) felicitated the top 10 winners of the “Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge”. First prize winner - Team VEGA FCS FT (AI drone) won Rs 35 lakh cheque for their drone application. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajeev Chandrasekhar – launched the first indigenous server called “Rudra” (developed by – C-DAC)
- Rajeev Chandrasekhar – released the “National Strategy on Blockchain”
- MeitY – felicitated the top 10 winners of the “Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge”
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) – being implemented by C-DAC | Launched in – 2015





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