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

February
MockDrill
PDF No. 11
(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 23rd March 2022

[Attempt Test No. 11 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 February 2022 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 फ़रवरी 2022 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

501. In February 2022, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) released a “National Strategy on Additive Manufacturing” to cater next-generation digital manufacturing and mitigate immediate disabilities of local industries. One of the objectives of the strategy is to enhance India’s position in the global 3D manufacturing landscape & to achieve 5% of Global Additive Manufacturing (AM) market share and thereto add nearly \$1 billion to the GDP by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY – released a “National Strategy on Additive Manufacturing” to build ecosystem necessary for 3-D printing
- The Strategy aspires to achieve 5% of Global AM market share & add nearly \$1 billion to the GDP by 2025
- [Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnav](#) | [Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar](#)

502. On February 23, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the DCI (Dredging Corporation of India) Dredging Museum at DCI campus in Visakhapatnam. It is named “Nikarshan Sadan”. Dredging Corporation of India is celebrating 45 years of rendering dedicated dredging services to the Nation’s ports coinciding with the “Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. He also inaugurated a skill development facility - Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Shipbuilding (CEMS) at a function in Visakhapatnam. CEMS equips students with employable engineering and technical skills. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – inaugurated the DCI Dredging Museum named “Nikarshan Sadan” in Visakhapatnam
- [HQs of DCI – Visakhapatnam](#) | [Chairman – K. Rama Mohana Rao](#) | [MD & CEO – George Yesu Vedha Victor](#)
- [Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Sarbananda Sonowal](#) | [Constituency – Majuli, Assam](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways: Shripad Yesso Naik & Shantanu Thakur](#)

503. On February 22, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) organised a crafts exhibition-cum-fair named “Coalescence: Craft-Culture-Community-Climate”, to popularise traditional Indian crafts among the diplomatic community. This 3 day fair was organised at Bikaner House, Delhi. ICCR functions under the Ministry of External Affairs. There was a seminar on ‘Indian Cinema and Soft Power’ in collaboration with FTII-Pune. ICCR also announced to launch a portal ‘India Alumni’ for around 4,000 foreign students who come to India every year on scholarship through ICCR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICCR – organised a crafts exhibition-cum-fair named “Coalescence: Craft-Culture-Community-Climate”
- ICCR functions under – Ministry of External Affairs
- [HQs of ICCR – New Delhi](#) | [DG – Kumar Tuhin](#) | [President – Vinay Sahasrabuddhe](#) | [Founded in – 1950](#)
- [Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar](#) | [Constituency – Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakashi Lekhi](#)

504. On February 25, Delhi government announced to build India’s 1st electronic waste eco-park which will include dismantling, segregating, refurbishing, storage, testing, plastic recycling and precious metal extraction facilities. The e-waste park is being planned in Narela Industrial Area and will be spread across 20 acres. The eco-park will provide infrastructure, training and tools to operators in the informal sector to groom them as formal recyclers. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Delhi – announced to build India's 1st 'Electronic Waste Eco-Park' in Narela Industrial Area
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

505. On February 25, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) approved development of 400 MW Solar Park by Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Limited at Kinnaur in Himachal Pradesh. An in-principle approval was accorded by the Ministry for development of this project under "Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks" of its solar park scheme. SJVN is the Solar Power Park Developer (SPPD) for all renewable energy projects in Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MNRE approved development of 400 MW Solar Park by SJVN Ltd at Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
- SJVN is the Solar Power Park Developer (SPPD) for all RE projects in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- HQs of SJVN Ltd – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | CMD – Nand Lal Sharma

506. The Central government constituted a high-level inter-ministerial task force of senior officials to look at possible implications on India of the fresh economic sanctions announced against Russia by the US, EU, UK, Japan, Canada, Taiwan and New Zealand. Russia is India's 26th largest trade partner, with exports in 2020-21 valued at \$ 2.6 billion and imports at \$ 5.4 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centre set up a high level inter-ministerial task force to study impact of sanctions against Russia – by US, UK, EU, etc.
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

507. The Delhi headquarters of the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL) is declared a "prohibited place" under the British-era 'Official Secrets Act (OSA)' by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The SPMCIL is India's only currency and bank notes manufacturer that printed the new series of notes of denomination ₹2,000 and ₹500 in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi headquarters of 'SPMCIL' – is declared a "prohibited place" under the 'Official Secrets Act (OSA)' by the MHA
- HQs of SPMCIL – New Delhi | CMD – Tripti Patra Ghosh
- Currency Notes printing places – Nasik, Dewas, Mysore, Salboni
- Coins minting places – Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Noida

508. Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) separated the positions of Chairman of the board and the chief executive officer & managing director (CEO & MD), which will be effective from March 31. HUL announced the appointment of Nitin Paranjpe as the Non-Executive Chairman of the company. While Sanjiv Mehta will continue as CEO & MD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HUL separated the positions of Chairman (Nitin Paranjpe) and CEO&MD (Sanjiv Mehta)
- HQs of HUL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sanjiv Mehta | Chairman – Nitin Paranjpe



509. Administrators (Admins) of WhatsApp groups cannot be held liable if members post objectionable material, the Kerala high court in February 2022 ruled in response to a petition by a group administrator against a case registered under relevant sections of POCSO Act and IT Act. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala HC ordered: Administrators of WhatsApp groups cannot be held liable if members post objectionable material
- Chief Justice of Kerala High Court – Justice S. Manikumar
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

510. Union Minister for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Narayan Rane announced the establishment of “MSME-Technology Centre” with an outlay of Rs 200 Cr in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra. The MSME-Technology Centre will provide the best of technology, incubation as well as advisory support to the industry, especially MSMEs, to enhance their competitiveness and provide skilling services for the employed and unemployed youth of the area to enhance their employability. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MSME established “MSME-Technology Centre” in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra (Cost - Rs 200 Cr)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

511. In February 2022, the Government of India launched the “Operation Ganga” initiative to bring back stranded Indians from war-hit Ukraine. Twitter account “OpGanga” has been set up to assist ‘Operation Ganga’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Govt launched the “Operation Ganga” initiative to bring back stranded Indians from Ukraine
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky

512. On February 24, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia announced the setting up of India’s first e-waste Eco-Park in New Delhi to handle increasing e-waste and framing of "Delhi Film Policy 2022" with an aim to promote tourism in the national capital. The use of electronic gazettes is increasing and e-waste is also increasing. The park will be built in 20 acres of land where recycling and re-manufacturing work will be done. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s first ‘e-waste Eco-Park’ will be set up in New Delhi
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

513. On February 25, BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) commissioned India’s first ‘Smart Managed EV Charging Station’ at BYPL’s 11 kV Sub Station building in Mayur Vihar Extension Phase-1, in New Delhi. It can charge 5 EVs simultaneously. BYPL is a subsidiary of Reliance Infrastructure. Unlike conventional EV charging stations, this ‘smart managed EV charging station’ can be integrated with BYPL’s ‘SCADA system’ which acts as the nerve system of the discom and can be managed remotely. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BYPL – commissioned India’s first ‘Smart Managed EV Charging Station’ in New Delhi
- BYPL is a subsidiary of Reliance Infrastructure
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev
- HQs of Reliance Infrastructure – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Punit Garg



514. On February 23, International Business Machines Corp. (IBM) announced to launch a cybersecurity hub in Bengaluru to address the concerns of its clients across the Asia Pacific (APAC) region. The investment also includes a new Security Operation Centre (SOC). The security hub will be one of the only two centres globally. The other one is in the US. It will help businesses prepare for and manage the growing threat of cyberattacks to organizations across the APAC region. Asia is the most targeted region for cyberattacks, representing 26% of attacks analyzed in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IBM – to launch world’s 2nd cybersecurity hub in Bengaluru for its clients across the Asia Pacific (APAC) region
- Asia – most targeted region for cyber-attacks (26% of attacks analyzed in 2021)
- HQs of IBM – Armonk, New York, US | CEO – Arvind Krishna | Founded in – 1911
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

515. On February 25, Tamil Nadu surpassed Karnataka and achieved the Number 1 position in overall installed renewable energy capacity in India. In 2018, Karnataka surpassed Tamil Nadu. As of January 31, 2022, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) informed that Tamil Nadu’s total installed renewable capacity stood at 15,914 MW as compared to Karnataka’s total clean energy capacity of 15,795 MW. Rajasthan and Gujarat added the highest renewable capacity (4.8 GW and 2.4 GW respectively) in the current fiscal year till January 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – surpassed Karnataka & achieved the top position in overall installed Renewable Energy capacity in India
- Rajasthan & Gujarat – added the highest renewable capacity in the current fiscal year till Jan 31, 2022
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

516. On February 23, the administrative council (AC) of Jammu and Kashmir met under the chairmanship of the lieutenant governor, Manoj Sinha and approved the policy for promotion of foreign investment in the industrial sector. The new policy is based on the guiding framework on FDI issued by the government of India, through the RBI and DPIIT, and will be valid for the next 10 years. It aims to facilitate large foreign investments greater than ₹100 Cr with a minimum of 51% foreign stakes. The land allotment process will be regulated by the J&K Industrial Land Allotment Policy, 2021-30. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – approved the ‘Policy for Promotion of Foreign Investment’ in the industrial sector for 10 years
- Policy facilitates large foreign investments greater than ₹100 Cr with a minimum of 51% foreign stakes
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

517. On February 21, Ministry of Culture hosted an event on ‘International Mother Language Day’ named “Ekam Bharatam” under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. In the event, the signature tune for “Vande Bharatam” song was released which is composed by Ricky Kej and Bickram Ghosh. The ‘Vande Bharatam’ song was produced for ‘Vande Bharatam’, a Nritya Utsav of Ministry of Culture for the ‘Republic Day Event 2022’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Culture – released signature tune for “Vande Bharatam” song at an event named “Ekam Bharatam”
- Song composed by – Ricky Kej & Bickram Ghosh
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakshi Lekhi



International Affairs

518. On February 25, to commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations between India and Belgium, a special logo was unveiled jointly by officials from both countries. The logo is a peacock with national flags of both the nations, symbolised, on either side of India's national bird. The decision to establish diplomatic relations between both nations was taken in January 1947 and a charge d'affaires was appointed in May 1947. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Belgium = launched a logo to commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations
- Logo – a peacock with national flags of both the countries
- Belgium – Brussels – Euro | PM – Alexander De Croo

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

519. On February 24, NHPC Ltd signed a pact with HDFC bank to securitise return on equity of its 540-MW Chamera-I Power Plant in Himachal Pradesh for 10 years. The amount of the securitisation facility has been arrived Rs 1,016.39 Cr or 5.24% per annum discounting rate linked with three-month T-bills. In December 2021, NHPC's board had approved the proposal for monetisation by securitisation through bidding process of return on equity (RoE) of Chamera-1 Power Station (3 X 180 MW), Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC + HDFC bank = to securitise return on equity of its 540-MW Chamera-I Power Plant in Himachal Pradesh for 10 yrs
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh

520. On February 24, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) extended the deadline for implementation of client level segregation of funds and monitoring of collateral at stock brokers to May 2, 2022. The previous deadline was February 28. According to the new SEBI norms, brokers will have to segregate client funds in different segments like cash, futures and options, currency, and commodities and upload the details to clearing corporations. Until now, reporting and calculation of margin at brokers were happening at an aggregated level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – extended deadline for implementation of client level segregation of funds & monitoring of collateral at stock brokers to May 2, 2022
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

521. On February 25, New Development Bank (NDB) became the 1st multilateral agency to open an office in the Gujarat International Finance Tech City (GIFT). The Indian office will help identify suitable projects and try to create a pipeline of potential financing for the bank. India is one of the largest loan portfolio of the bank with 19 approved projects worth of approximately \$7 billion which is roughly a quarter of the bank's total loan portfolio. NDB was set up by the BRICS countries in 2014. It became operational in 2015. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NDB – became the 1st multilateral agency to open an office in the GIFT city
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Prado Troyjo (established by BRICS Countries - in 2014)

Defence Affairs

522. On February 26, India decided not to participate in the “Cobra Warriors Exercise 2022” in Britain amid the ongoing bloody war between Russia and Ukraine. The indigenous fighter jet, LCA Tejas was going to take part in the Cobra Warrior Exercise for the first time outside the country. This exercise was to be held from March 6 to March 27. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAF decided not to participate in the “Cobra Warriors Exercise 2022” – to be held in Waddington, UK (in March)
- Light Combat Aircraft “Tejas” was going to participate in the exercise
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

523. The 11th edition of biennial multilateral naval exercise “MILAN 22” was hosted by the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) at Vishakhapatnam for the 1st time. The harbour phase of the exercise culminated on 28 February, followed by the sea phase from 1 March to 4 March. The goals of MILAN are aligned with ‘SAGAR’ (Security and Growth for All in the Region). MILAN endeavours to promote “Camaraderie, Cohesion, Collaboration” between like-minded Navies. Also, a MILAN village was set up at the Tarang Naval Institute. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ENC hosted biennial multilateral naval exercise “MILAN 22” at Vishakhapatnam for the 1st time
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950
- HQs of Eastern Fleet – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | FOCEF – Sanjay Bhalla

524. Indian and Japanese armies participated in “Dharma Guardian” annual exercise in Belgaum, Karnataka from February 27 to March 10. The 15th battalion of the Maratha Light Infantry regiment participated for India, and for Japan, the 30th Infantry Regiment of Japanese Ground Self Defence Forces (JGSDF) participated. The exercise is being conducted annually since 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Japan = participated in “Dharma Guardian” annual exercise in Belgaum, Karnataka from Feb 27 to March 10
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

Sports & Games

525. The 2nd South Asian Athletic Federation (SAAF) Cross-Country championship and the 56th National Cross Country Athletics Championship is scheduled to be held at Indira Gandhi Stadium in Kohima on March 26. The tournament will be the 1st ever International Athletics Event in Nagaland. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Kohima – to host 2nd SAAF Cross-Country championship & 56th National Cross Country Athletics Championship (in March)
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi (addi. charge)

526. On February 25, Mirabai Chanu qualified for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in the 55kg weight category by clinching the gold in the Singapore Weightlifting International tournament. She has also qualified for the CWG in the 49kg weight category on the basis of her Commonwealth rankings. Australians Brenna Kean and Tori Gallegos won the silver and bronze medals respectively. The Singapore Weightlifting International was a qualifying event for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. The top eight lifters in each weight category in the tournament directly qualified for the 2022 CWG. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mirabai Chanu – won Gold in Singapore Weightlifting International tournament
- Mirabai Chanu – qualified for the “2022 CWG” in 55kg & 49kg category (2022 CWG – Birmingham, UK)
- HQs of IWLF – New Delhi | President – Sahdev Yadav | Secretary General – Anande Gowda
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

527. On February 25, Air Force Cycle Polo team emerged as the National Champions in the 42nd National Cycle Polo Championship held at Mysore, Karnataka. Air Force Cycle Polo team defeated Territorial Army in the finals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Air Force Cycle Polo team – won the 42nd National Cycle Polo Championship held at Mysore, Karnataka



Science & Technology

528. On February 26, Researchers of Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University (BKNMU), Junagadh, Gujarat discovered a new species of spider and named it ‘Narsinhmehtai’, in honour of Narsinh Mehta, a 15th century poet who was a devotee of Lord Krishna. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers of Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University (Gujarat) discovered a new species of spider ‘Narsinhmehtai’

Appointments & Resignations

529. On February 23, Coca-Cola India roped in Shah Rukh Khan as the new brand ambassador for Thums Up to present the #ThumsUpStrong platform and to tell the story of the #ThumsUpStrong spirit. Thums Up became a billion-dollar brand in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shah Rukh Khan – roped in as the new brand ambassador for Thums Up by Coca-Cola India

530. On February 24, in a top level administrative realignment, the central government announced to elevate senior IAS officers and Digital India Corporation CEO, Abhishek Singh as new National e-Governance Division (NeGD) CEO. Moreover, the Appointments Committee named Ramesh Kumar Sudhanshu as MyGov, CEO for a tenure of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abhishek Singh – appointed as the CEO of National e-Governance Division (NeGD)
- Ramesh Kumar Sudhanshu – appointed as the CEO of MyGov (under MeitY)

531. On February 26, Odisha's first tribal chief minister as well as last Congress chief minister of the state, Hemananda Biswal passed away at the age of 82. Biswal, a Bhuyan tribal from Jharsuguda district, served as the chief minister twice from 1989 to 1990 and 1999 to 2000. He was elected to the Odisha assembly for the first time in 1974 from Laikera constituency.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hemananda Biswal – a Politician – passed away (Odisha's first tribal CM)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

532. On February 24, Swedish furniture retailer Ikea appointed Susanne Pulverer as its new and first woman Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) for its India business. She succeeds Peter Betzel. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Susanne Pulverer – appointed as the first woman CEO & Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) of IKEA India
- HQs of IKEA – Delft, Netherlands | CEO – Jesper Brodin

533. On February 24, Dish TV India Limited's DTH brand D2H, roped in Rishabh Pant as its new brand ambassador for two years. The company operates using multiple satellite platforms including SES-8, GSAT-15, and ST-2 and has a bandwidth capacity of 1134 MHz. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rishabh Pant – roped in as new brand ambassador of D2H (Dish TV India Ltd)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

534. On February 25, Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) received 3 awards at the 12th "Annual Aegis Graham Bell Awards" in a virtual ceremony on 25th Feb 2022 for its indigenously designed & developed innovative Telecom solutions in various categories. CDOT is declared TOP WINNER in three categories - 'Tech for Social Good', 'Innovative in Lockdown Management' & 'Preventive measures to combat Covid 19' category. C-DOT is a premier research centre under the Department of Telecommunications. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C-DOT – received 3 awards at the 12th "Annual Aegis Graham Bell Awards"
- CDOT is declared TOP WINNER in 3 categories:
 - 'Tech for Social Good'
 - 'Innovative in Lockdown Management'
 - 'Preventive measures to combat Covid 19'
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay



Schemes & Initiatives

535. On February 25, Indian government approved the continuation of the Immigration Visa Foreigners Registration Tracking (IVFRT) Scheme for 5 years from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026, with a financial outlay of Rs 1,364.88 Cr. One of the core objectives of IVFRT is to modernise and upgrade Immigration and Visa services. The average visa processing time of 15 to 30 days (during the pre-IVFRT period) is reduced to a maximum of 72 hours in e-visas, with 95% of e-visas issued within 24 hours. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Govt approved the continuation of the 'IVFRT Scheme' for 5 years from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026
- Outlay of the 'IVFRT Scheme' – Rs 1,364.88 Cr
- Under IVFRT, visa processing time is reduced to a maximum of 72 hours

536. On February 25, Ministry of Education launched a campaign “Bhasha Certificate Selfie” initiative to encourage Cultural Diversity and promote Multilingualism and to foster the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. This initiative aims to promote Bhasha Sangam mobile app, developed by Ministry of Education and MyGov India. Using the app, people can learn 100+ sentences of daily use in as many as 22 scheduled Indian languages. The 'Bhasha Certificate Selfie' initiative is encouraging people to upload their selfie with the certificate from their social media accounts using the hashtag '#BhashaCertificateSelfie'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Education – launched “Bhasha Certificate Selfie” initiative to encourage Cultural Diversity & Multilingualism
- Bhasha Sangam mobile app – developed by Ministry of Education & MyGov India
- [Ministry of Education: Dharmendra Pradhan](#) | [Constituency – Madhya Pradesh](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Education: Subhas Sarkar](#)

Important Days & Dates

537. “Rare Disease Day” is observed annually on the last day of February. This year, the day falls on February 28 (otherwise on Feb 29 in leap year). Since being established in 2008, the Rare Disease Day marks its 15th anniversary this year. Any disease that affects a small percentage of the population is a 'rare disease'. In many parts of the world, they also go by the term “Orphan Disease”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 28 (in 2022) – “Rare Disease Day” | Rare Disease is also termed 'Orphan Disease'

Books & Authors

538. On February 25, the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai released six books published by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in New Delhi. Three of the six books were published by the Central Police Training Academy, Bhopal. BPR&D is an important organization of the Ministry of Home Affairs. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Nityanand Rai (Mos in MoHA) – released 6 books published by BPR&D
- BPR&D works under – Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik

539. “The Great Tech Game: Shaping Geopolitics and the Destiny of Nations” authored by Anirudh Suri, was released on 26 February. The book was published by HarperCollins India. The book provides insight on how nations need digital fair play to improve global governance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Great Tech Game: Shaping Geopolitics and the Destiny of Nations” – authored by Anirudh Suri
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

540. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India hosted the 28th edition of the “DST-CII Technology Summit” on 23-24 February 2022. Singapore is the Partner Country for Technology Summit in 2022. The summit was inaugurated by Dr Jitendra Singh. The summit was held on the theme “Building Economies for the Future” under the Chairmanship of Vipin Sondhi (Chairman of CII National Mission on Technology, Innovation & Research). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 28th edition of the “DST-CII Technology Summit 2022” – hosted by CII + DST (Partner Country - Singapore)
- Theme of the Summit – “Building Economies for the Future” | Chairman of the Summit – Vipin Sondhi

541. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) of Ministry of Culture organized a 2-day international conference “Devayatanam” - an odyssey of Indian temple architecture on February 25-26, 2022 at Hampi, Karnataka. The Union Minister for Culture, Tourism and DoNER, Shri G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the conference. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ASI organized a 2-day international conference “Devayatanam” on Indian temple architecture at Hampi, Karnataka
- The conference was inaugurated by – G. Kishan Reddy
- HQs of ASI – New Delhi | Director General – V. Vidyavathi

542. In February 2022, the 25th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) was held in Mumbai, under the Chairpersonship of Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman. The Council deliberated on the various mandates of the FSDC and major macro-financial challenges arising in view of global and domestic developments. The idea to create FSDC was first mooted by Raghuram Rajan Committee in 2008. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – chaired the 25th meeting of the Financial Stability & Development Council (FSDC)
- Idea to create FSDC was first mooted by – Raghuram Rajan Committee
- [HQs of FSDC – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman – Nirmala Sitharaman](#)

543. On February 26, Ministry of MSME held MSME Conclave for National SC/ST Hub (NSSH) as part of the 2-Day MSME Conclave at Sindhudurg in Maharashtra. Secretary, MSME B. B Swain Minister chaired the conclave and launched Union Bank MSME RuPay Credit Card. He also inaugurated Coir Board Regional Office at Kankavali in Sindhudurg. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of MSME – held “MSME Conclave for National SC/ST Hub (NSSH)” at Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
- Chaired by – B. B Swain Minister (Secretary, MSME)
- [Ministry of MSME: Narayan Rane](#) | [Constituency – Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg, Maharashtra](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma](#)

544. On February 25, Nepal and India held the 9th meetings of the Joint Working Group (JWG, Joint Secretary level) and the Joint Steering Committee (JSC, Secretary level) on bilateral power sector cooperation in Kathmandu. The JSC meeting was co-chaired by Alok Kumar, Power Secretary. Both countries agreed to form a Joint Hydro Development Committee to further explore the development of viable hydropower projects in Nepal with a focus on storage. Nepal became an energy surplus country in August 2021 when the 456 MW Upper Tamakoshi Hydropower Project came into full operation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nepal + India = held the 9th meetings of the JWG & JSC on bilateral power sector cooperation in Kathmandu
- Nepal + India = to form a Joint Hydro Development Committee to explore development of hydropower projects in Nepal
- JSC meeting was co-chaired by – Alok Kumar (Power Secretary)
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee](#) | [President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari](#) | [PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba](#)
- [Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh](#) | [Constituency – Arrah, Bihar](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal](#)

Ranks, Report & Surveys

545. On February 24, Union Health minister Mansukh Mandaviya released 2 reports from the Institute for Competitiveness documenting “India’s Covid-19 Vaccine Development Story” and “India’s Covid-19 Vaccine Administration Journey”. The report appreciated the hybrid training approach adopted for skilling the healthcare workers, the CoWIN platform for registration of beneficiaries parallel to disseminating Covid-19 vaccines on a real-time basis & a communication strategy to tackle fake news. The adoption of mobile apps like Co-WIN & Aarogya Setu drove the innovation environment in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh Mandaviya – released 2 reports “Vaccine Development Story” & “Vaccine Administration Journey”
- Reports were published by – Institute for Competitiveness
- [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya](#) | [Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar](#)



Amount & Agreements

546. On February 19, India and UAE signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) for boosting the merchandise trade to US\$ 100 billion over next 5 years. The deal was signed during the virtual summit meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi. During the summit, they also agreed to establish India's 1st IIT abroad in UAE. The Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) are governed by the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961 and as of now there are 23 IITs in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + UAE = signed the CEPA for boosting the merchandise trade to \$100 billion over next 5 years
- India's 1st IIT abroad will be established in UAE
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

547. In February 2022, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) approved the tendering process for a Rs 1,000 Cr project for cleaning up Pune's rivers, Mula, Mutha and Mula-Mutha (confluence of both rivers). The pollution abatement of river Mula-Mutha had been delayed with issues of land acquisition, re-tendering and objection to the project. The project was aimed at improving the water quality by augmenting sewage collection systems and sewage treatment facilities in Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) area. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- JICA approved Rs 1,000 Cr river clean-up project – for cleaning up Pune's rivers - Mula, Mutha & Mula-Mutha
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



Acquisitions & Mergers

548. On February 25, Bharti Airtel signed an agreement with British telecom giant Vodafone Plc to buy 4.7% equity in Indus Towers Ltd. Currently, Vodafone holds about 28% in Indus Towers while that of Bharti Airtel is close to 42%. Indus Tower merged with Bharti Infratel in November 2020. Indus Towers, formerly Bharti Infratel Ltd, is a leading provider of passive telecom infrastructure. It deploys, owns and manages telecom towers and communication structures for various mobile operators. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel signed an agreement with Vodafone Plc to buy 4.7% equity in Indus Towers Ltd
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

549. On February 24, World Economic Forum (WEF) & the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) signed an MoU to collaborate on a jointly designed 'Sustainable Cities India program'. The program will enable cities to decarbonize in a systematic and sustainable way that will reduce emissions and deliver resilient and equitable urban ecosystems. The Forum and NIUA will adapt the Forum's City Sprint process and Toolbox of Solutions for decarbonization in the context of 5 to 7 Indian cities in 2 years. India committed to become Net Zero by 2070 during the COP26 summit in Glasgow. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- WEF + NIUA = an MoU to collaborate on a jointly designed “Sustainable Cities India” program
- HQs of WEF – Cologne, Switzerland | Exe Chairman – Klaus Schwab | President – Borge Brende | Founded in – 1971

550. On February 27, Chhattisgarh is set to get its first food irradiation plant which will help in keeping food grains, vegetables and minor forest produce safe, fresh and quality for a long period of time. Two MoUs were signed to strengthen the agriculture and rural economy in the state. The first MoU was signed between Chhattisgarh Biofuel Development Authority (CBDA) and Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC) for the transfer of ‘Nisarguna’ (a modern technology of power generation from cow dung). The second MoU was signed between Chhattisgarh Seed Corporation and the Board of Radiation & Isotope Technology (BRIT) for the establishment of Food Irradiation Center in Chhattisgarh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh signed two MoUs to strengthen the Agriculture & Rural Economy:
 - CBDA + BARC = an MoU for the transfer of ‘Nisarguna’
 - Chhattisgarh Seed Corporation + BRIT = an MoU to establish Food Irradiation Center
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey





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