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

February
MockDrill
PDF No. 2
(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 2nd March 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 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।

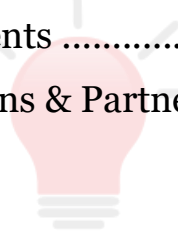
हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा

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National & States Affairs

51. Few social activists unveiled a temple for Mahatma Gandhi and freedom fighters' Smrithi Vanam at the Municipal Park on the eve of Gandhi's death anniversary in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh. Statues of freedom fighters and social activists were erected in the park with the help of donors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Social activists unveiled Mahatma Gandhi's Temple & freedom fighters' Smrithi Vanam – in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

52. National Green Tribunal (NGT) directed the Centre to set up a fly ash management and utilization Mission for monitoring scientific management and utilization of the remains of burnt coal. The Mission will be jointly headed by the secretaries of environment, coal and power ministries, keeping on board chief secretaries of respective states. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NGT – directed the Centre to set up a “Fly Ash Management & Utilization Mission”
- HQs of NGT – New Delhi | Chairman – Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel

53. On February 1, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her budget speech announced that Rs 6,000 Cr Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme for MSMEs will be rolled out in the coming 5 years. The programme would improve the competitiveness and productivity of MSMEs. In June 2021, World Bank had approved \$500 million for the programme to support the government to revitalize the MSMEs. RAMP is an initiative to revitalize the MSME sector that has been heavily impacted by the Covid pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rs 6,000 Cr “Raising & Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP)” program for MSMEs will be launched in next 5 years
- ‘RAMP’ program is an initiative to revitalize – MSME sector
- World Bank had approved \$500 million for ‘RAMP’ programme (in June 2021)

54. On February 1, ‘Red Sanders’ or ‘Red Sandalwood’, the most-smuggled wood in India, is back on International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of ‘Endangered’ species. It was declared ‘Near-threatened’ species in 2018 and has now been added back to the ‘Endangered’ species Red list of IUCN 2021. ‘Red Sanders’ is endemic to Rayalaseema in Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Red Sanders’ or ‘Red Sandalwood’ – the most-smuggled wood in India
- ‘Red Sanders’ – added to the IUCN Red list as an ‘Endangered’ species
- ‘Red Sanders’ is endemic to – Rayalaseema, Andhra Pradesh

55. The government invited stakeholder comments on a proposal that seeks to establish “Federated Digital Identities” to optimize the number of digital identities that a citizen needs to have. ‘Federated Digital Identities’ is an initiative of Ministry of Electronics & IT and part of the ministry's “India Enterprise Architecture 2.0 (IndEA 2.0)” framework that aims to enable the governments and the private sector enterprises to design IT architectures that can span beyond organisational boundaries for delivery of integrated services. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- MeitY's "InDEA 2.0" proposed "Federated Digital Identities" model that seeks to optimise the number of digital identities that a citizen needs to have
- [Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw](#) | [Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar](#)

56. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) Ltd opened two more Convenience Stores under its brand name "HaPpyShop" in Mumbai & Visakhapatnam. "HaPpyShop" is the non-fuel retail sector of HPCL. The first retail store under brand name 'HaPpyShop' was opened in Mumbai in September, 2021. HPCL has also started marketing branded packaged drinking water under the name "Paani@Club HP" at its retail outlets across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HPCL – opened 2 more Convenience Stores under its brand name "HaPpyShop" in Mumbai & Visakhapatnam
- [HQs of HPCL – Mumbai, MH](#) | [CEO & Chairperson – Mukesh Kumar Surana \(till April, 2022\)](#) | [Founded in – 1974](#)

57. On February 10, Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project will be India's first bullet train route. While Surat will be the first bullet train station built along the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route. Apart from Surat, work on 3 more stations - Vapi, Bilimora and Bharuch was accelerated and all 4 stations will be ready by December 2024. The National High-Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) has taken the responsibility for constructing the project. Moreover, Japan has an agreement with India to build the bullet train between Ahmedabad & Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project – India's first bullet train route (implementing agency – NHSRCL)
- Surat – the first bullet train station built along the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route (Other 3 – Vapi, Bilimora & Bharuch)

58. On February 1, Assam government launched "Project Sadbhawana" under which all pending files in the state secretariat since the 1990s will be cleared to make governance people-friendly by migrating to e-governance under this Project. Also, Assam government sanctioned the formation of a new administrative district which will be known as 'Tamulpur'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – launched "Project Sadbhawana" to make governance people-friendly by migrating to e-governance
- Assam – sanctioned the formation of a new administrative district to be known as 'Tamulpur'
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

59. On February 5, PM Narendra Modi kickstarted the 'Golden Jubilee' (50th anniversary) celebrations of the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in Patancheru in Hyderabad. The PM also launched a commemorative stamp. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – kickstarted the 'Golden Jubilee' (50th anniversary) celebrations of "ICRISAT" in Hyderabad

60. On February 4, Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu hoisted a 104 ft tall National Flag at Ngangpa Natme (Buddha Park) in Tawang. It the second highest national flag in India. Belagavi or Belgaum Fort in Kote Kere, Karnataka, has the tallest Indian flagpoles measuring 361 ft. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh – hoisted a 104 ft tall National Flag in Tawang (2nd highest national flag in India)
- India's tallest/highest national flag – located in Belagavi, Karnataka

61. Kerala government is facing protest in implementing the high-speed railway project named “SilverLine”. The SilverLine project will connect the state's northern and southern ends at a cost of over Rs 63,000 Cr. The proposed 529.45 km line will link Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod, covering as many as 11 districts through 11 stations. According to K-Rail SilverLine Viruddha Janakeeya Samiti & Green Activists, the SilverLine would cause great environmental harm as its route cuts through precious wetlands, paddy fields and hills. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala government is facing protest in implementing “SilverLine” Project - the high-speed railway project
- Length – 529.45 km | Cost – Rs 63,000 Cr | It will connect – Thiruvananthapuram & Kasaragod
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

62. On February 4, Union Minister of State (I/C) Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated “Innovations in Public Administration” program of Capacity Building Commission (CBC) of Mission Karmayogi to identify successful innovations in public service pioneered by civil servants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of S&T – inaugurated “Innovations in Public Administration” program of Capacity Building Commission
- MoS (I/C) in the Ministry of Science & Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K
- Chairman of Capacity Building Commission – Adil Zainulbhai

63. On February 2, Andhra Pradesh government withdrew a law to create three capital cities. Amaravati remains the capital city of the state. On April 23, 2015, the Andhra Pradesh government had declared Amaravati as its capital. However in July 2020, the state, through a law, notified three capital cities - Amaravati, Visakhapatnam and Kurnool. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – withdrew a law to create 3 capital cities & declared ‘Amaravati’ as its capital
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati | CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

International Affairs

64. On February 1, India abstained from a procedural vote taken in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) ahead of a meeting to discuss the situation on the Ukraine border. India, Gabon and Kenya abstained from the vote, while Russia and China voted against. All other Council members voted in favour of the meeting. Russia is demanding that NATO promise never to allow Ukraine to join the military alliance, and to stop the deployment of NATO weapons near Russian borders. The US and NATO rejected Russia's demands. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India, Gabon & Kenya – abstained from the procedural vote taken in the UNSC
- Russia & China – voted against to discuss
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky
- HQs of UNSC – New York, US | Presidency in February – Russia (Jan - Norway | Mar - UAE)
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries – 30

65. On February 1, US President Joe Biden designated Qatar a major non-NATO ally, a largely symbolic honour. Qatar is the 18th country to receive this designation, the last being Brazil in 2019. The designation provides benefits in defense trade and security cooperation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US President Joe Biden – designated Qatar a major non-NATO ally (a largely symbolic honour)
- Qatar – 18th country to receive this designation (Last – Brazil)
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

66. On February 3, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the license of Independence Co-operative Bank Ltd in Maharashtra's Nashik city with effect from the February 03, 2022. The RBI cancelled the license of the bank as the bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects & the bank failed to comply with the various Sections of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the license of Independence Co-operative Bank Ltd (Nashik, Maharashtra)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

67. On February 4, Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Patanjali Ayurved Limited (PAL) launched co-branded contactless credit cards in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The cards are offered on NPCI's RuPay Platform and are available in two variants - PNB RuPay Platinum and PNB RuPay Select. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB + Patanjali Ayurved Limited = launched co-branded contactless credit cards on NPCI's RuPay Platform
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Atul Kumar Goel | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”

68. On February 5, Karnataka Bank was awarded the Digital Transformation Award called “DX 2021 Awards”, in recognition of its transformation project ‘KBL VIKAAAS’, by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for Best Practice in Digital Transformation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka Bank – awarded the Digital Transformation Award called “DX 2021 Awards” – by CII
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S. | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar Panja



69. On February 4, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to explore innovation and use of emerging technologies in the areas of Cyber Security, AI/ML, block chain, etc. and related training and capacity building aspects in the Banking Sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI + C-DAC = an MoU to explore innovation & use of emerging technologies in Cyber Security & Allied sectors
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni (functions under MeitY)

70. On February 4, According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, the overseas borrowings of Indian companies or India's External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) increased by 19% and reached \$23.28 billion in the first 3 quarters of the current fiscal FY2021-22. ECBs for the purpose of 'on-lending/sub-lending' in the first 9 months of FY22 stood at \$6.72 billion. Moreover, total credit growth (Banks and NBFCs) is likely to improve by 9-11% in fiscal 2023. Besides, minimum average maturity period for External Commercial Borrowing is 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's ECBs increased by 19% to reach \$23.28 billion in the first 3 quarters of FY2021-22
- ECBs for the purpose of 'on-lending/sub-lending' in the first 9 months of FY2021-22 – \$6.72 billion
- Minimum Average Maturity Period for ECBs – 3 years
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

71. According to the Economic Survey 2021-22, Delhi replaced Bengaluru as the startup capital of India. Over 5,000 recognised start-ups were added in Delhi while 4,514 start-ups were added in Bengaluru between April 2019 & December 2021. With a total of 11,308 start-ups, Maharashtra has the highest number of recognised startups. Also, India had a record number of start-ups (44) reach unicorn status. India overtook the UK to emerge as the 3rd highest country in number of unicorns after the US and China in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi (5,000 start-ups) – replaced Bengaluru (4,514 start-ups) as the Startup Capital of India
- Maharashtra – highest number of recognised startups (11,308)
- India – overtook the UK to emerge as the 3rd highest country in number of unicorns in 2021 (after US & China)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

72. On February 3, ICICI Bank bought additional stake in India International Clearing Corporation (IICC) for Rs 4.43 Cr. After investment, ICICI Bank's shareholding increased from 7.61% to 9.90% of the equity share capital of IICC. IICC was incorporated at GIFT City, IFSC in Gandhinagar in Gujarat in September 2016. IICC is the 1st international clearing corporation set up at GIFT IFSC (International Financial Services Centre). It provides clearing and settlement risk management services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank – bought additional stake in IICC for Rs 4.43 Cr to increase shareholding from 7.61% to 9.90%
- IICC – 1st international clearing corporation set up at IFSC GIFT City
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – “Hum Hain Na!” & “Khayal Apka”
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas



73. On February 8, Airtel Payments Bank partnered with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company to offer a cyber-insurance which can be purchased from the Airtel Thanks app. The insurance from ICICI Lombard provides financial protection to customers against potential financial cyber frauds related to banking, credit or debit card. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Airtel Payments Bank + ICICI Lombard General Insurance = partnership to offer a cyber-insurance
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas | Founded in – 2017
- Airtel Payments Bank – first to receive a Payments Bank license from the RBI

Sports & Games

74. On February 3, Sri Lankan fast bowler Suranga Lakmal announced to retire from international cricket after the team's tour of India to join the English county club Derbyshire. The Club signed him on a two-year contract, where he will join former Sri Lanka head coach Mickey Arthur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suranga Lakmal (Sri Lanka) – retired from International Cricket (to join Derbyshire County Cricket Club)
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

75. On February 6, India defeated West Indies by six wickets in the first ODI to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. With this, India became the first team to achieve the milestone of playing 1000 ODIs in the history of cricket. The Indian side started featuring in the ODI format in 1974 for the first time. India has won 519 of 1000 ODI matches. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – defeated West Indies in the first ODI at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad
- India – became the first team to achieve the milestone of playing 1000 ODIs in the history of Cricket

76. On February 6, International Cricket Council (ICC) released the list of 'Most Valuable Team' of the "ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2022". Among 12 players, 3 were from India - Yash Dhull (Captain), Raj Bawa, Vicky Ostwal. Moreover, Raj Bawa also won the 'Player of the Match' award in the tournament. The tournament was held at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua & Barbuda. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- List of 'Most Valuable Team' of the "ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2022" – released by the ICC
- 3 Indian players out of 12 Players: Yash Dhull (Captain), Raj Bawa, Vicky Ostwal
- Raj Bawa – won the 'Player of the Match' award



Science & Technology

77. The International Space Station (ISS) will continue its operations until 2030 and will plunge into the most remote point in the Pacific Ocean in 2031, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). As per the NASA's budget estimates, the ISS, launched in 1998, will be "de-orbited" in January 2031. Once out of orbit the space station will make a dramatic descent before splash-landing in 'Point Nemo', also known as the "Oceanic Pole of Inaccessibility" or "South Pacific Ocean Uninhabited Area". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA: ISS will be 'de-orbited' in January 2031 (launched in 1998)
- ISS will make a splash-landing in "Point Nemo" or "Oceanic Pole of Inaccessibility"
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

78. On February 4, Tech giant Google introduced a new lineup of secure and sustainable 'Chromebook devices' built entirely for Education. Chromebooks will play an important role in the classroom, helping 50 million students and teachers learn and collaborate from wherever they are. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google – introduced a new lineup of secure & sustainable 'Chromebook devices' built entirely for Education
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998

79. On February 3, the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) identified a new carangid (Vatta) species from the Indian coast. It belongs to the 'queen fish' group and is named 'scomberoides pelagicus'. This fish is locally known as pola vatta. This is the 5th queen fish from the Indian seas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Scomberoides pelagicus" - a fish (Vatta) species from 'queen fish' group – identified by CMFRI from Indian coast
- This fish is locally known as – 'Pola Vatta'
- HQs of CMFRI – Kochi, Kerala | Director – A. Gopalakrishnan

Appointments & Resignations

80. Lieutenant General GAV Reddy has been appointed as the new head of the Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA). General Reddy succeeded Lt Gen KJS Dhillon. The post of the director general is held on a rotation basis between the three Armed services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lt Gen GAV Reddy – appointed as DG of the Defence Intelligence Agency (succeeding - Lt Gen KJS Dhillon)
- HQs of DIA – New Delhi | DG – Lt Gen GAV Reddy

81. On February 5, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Vice-Chancellor Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar was appointed as Chairperson of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for a period of 5 years. He succeeded D P Singh. His appointment comes at a time when the government is trying to launch the Higher Education Commission of India, envisaged in the National Education Policy 2020. The Higher Education Commission is expected to subsume existing regulatory bodies such as the UGC and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar – appointed as the Chairperson of UGC (succeeding - D P Singh)
- HQs of UGC – New Delhi | Chairman – Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar | Founded in – 1956

82. On February 5, IndiGo appointed its co-founder and promoter, Rahul Bhatia as its first Managing Director to focus on expanding the airlines presence in India and international markets. IndiGo's fleet as of December 31, 2021 comprised 283 aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rahul Bhatia – appointed as the first MD of IndiGo (InterGlobe Aviation Ltd)
- HQs of IndiGo – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Ronojoy Dutta | Chairman – Meleveetil Damodaran

83. On February 4, Captain Binesh Kumar Tyagi was selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) to be the next Chairman and Managing Director of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd (SCI). The selection of Captain Tyagi will have to be approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). If appointed, he will replace H. K. Joshi who will step down from the company on May 31 on superannuation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Captain Binesh Kumar Tyagi – selected by PESB as the next CMD of Shipping Corporation of India
- HQs of SCI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CMD – H.K. Joshi (till May 31, 2022)
- HQs of PESB – New Delhi | Chairperson – Mallika Srinivasan

84. NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg will take over as Norway's Central Bank Governor at the end of 2022. The appointment comes amid escalating tensions between the West and Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jens Stoltenberg (NATO Chief) – will take over as the Governor of Norges Bank (Norway's Central Bank)
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Jonas Gahr Store

85. On February 7, Bollywood star Akshay Kumar was appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand after his meeting with CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, ahead of Assembly Elections 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akshay Kumar – appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

86. On February 5, Footwear maker Bata India Limited appointed Bollywood actor Disha Patani as the new brand ambassador. The move comes as Bata aims to appeal younger shoppers and position itself as a 'fashion forward' brand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Disha Patani – appointed as the brand ambassador of Bata India
- HQs of Bata – Lausanne, Switzerland | CEO – Sandeep Kataria
- HQs of Bata – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Gunjan Shah



87. On February 3, the central government gave the charge of the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance to Sonali Singh, Additional Controller General of Accounts, after superannuation of Dipak Dash. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sonali Singh – appointed as the Controller General of Accounts (succeeding - Dipak Dash)
- CAG – G. C. Murmu | CGA – Sonali Singh

88. On February 1, G. A. Srinivasa Murthy was appointed director of Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) after superannuation of Dr Dashrath Ram. DRDL is a premier laboratory of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex in Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G. A. Srinivasa Murthy – appointed as Director of DRDO-DRDL ([Hyderabad](#)) | Succeeding – Dr. Dashrath Ram
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

89. On February 2, Neeraj Chopra was nominated for the “2022 Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award”. At the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, he clinched the Gold medal with a throw of 87.58m in his 2nd attempt. He is only the 3rd Indian athlete to be nominated for a Laureus Award, after wrestler Vinesh Phogat and cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar. Besides him, five others have been nominated for the award - Emma Raducanu, Daniil Medvedev, Pedri, Yulimar Rojas, Ariarne Titmus. “Golden Boy Neeraj Chopra” is considered to be a short biography of Indian athlete, Neeraj Chopra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Neeraj Chopra – nominated for the “2022 Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award”
- Other players who are nominated – Emma Raducanu, Daniil Medvedev, Pedri, Yulimar Rojas, Ariarne Titmus
- HQs of Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) – Geneva, Switzerland

Important Days & Dates

90. In 2012, the UN General Assembly designated February 6 as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, with the aim to amplify and direct the efforts on the elimination of this practice. In 2022, the theme is “Accelerating Investment to End Female Genital Mutilation”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- February 6 – International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation
- 2022’s Theme – “Accelerating Investment to End Female Genital Mutilation”



Books & Authors

91. Ananth Krishnan and Stanly Johny jointly wrote a book titled “The Comrades and The Mullahs” published by HarperCollins. This is possibly the first book to look at China’s growing role in India’s neighbourhood via its engagement with the Taliban in Afghanistan, and what it means for India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Comrades & The Mullahs” book – authored by Ananth Krishnan & Stanly Johny
- Publisher – HarperCollins

Obituaries

92. On February 5, Padma Shri awardee and social worker Ibrahim Sutar passed away. He was 82. He was referred to as the “Kabir of Karnataka”. He was known for his work towards spreading social and communal harmony. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ibrahim Sutar – Social Worker & Padma Shri awardee (2018) – passed away
- Ibrahim Sutar – also known as the “Kabir of Karnataka”

93. On February 2, actor-filmmaker Amitabh Dayal passed away. He was 51. He worked in films like Kagaar: Life on the Edge (2003) with Om Puri, Bhojpuri film Rangdari (2012) and Raj Babbar’s Dhuaan (2013), Amitabh Bachchan’s Virrudh (2005). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amitabh Dayal – Actor-filmmaker – passed away

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

94. In the ‘Economic Survey 2021-22’, Insolvency Law Committee (ILC) recommended the adoption of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) with certain modifications to make it suitable to the Indian context. The UNCITRAL, on Cross-Border Insolvency-1997, has emerged as the most widely accepted legal framework to deal with cross-border insolvency issues. It has been adopted by 49 countries until now. The Insolvency Law Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- In the ‘Economic Survey 2021-22’: Insolvency Law Committee (ILC) recommended the adoption of the “UNCITRAL”
- UNCITRAL – **United Nations Commission on International Trade Law**
- ILC was constituted by – Ministry of Corporate Affairs



95. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India is the strongest and the largest brand in India with a valuation of \$8.656 billion (Rs 64,722 Cr, according to a Brand Finance report. The LIC's valuation grew by 6.8% in 2021 from \$8.11 billion in 2020, when the value of top 100 insurers declined by 6% globally. LIC is the 10th most valued insurance brand globally. In terms of brand value, LIC's brand value also climbed in overall global brand rankings, becoming the world's 206th most valuable brand in 2021, from 238th position in 2020. The LIC ranks first in brand strength amongst the Indian competitors and it ranks 3rd in brand strength globally after Poste Italiane of Italy and Mapfre of Spain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC's ranking in various categories globally – released by Brand Finance (London, UK)
- LIC's ranks: In Valuation – 10th | In Brand Value – 206th | In Brand Strength – 3rd
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”

96. On February 4, According to the “Global Digital Skills Index 2022” released by Salesforce, among 19 countries, India topped the index with the score of 63 out of 100. The Index is based on a survey of over 23,500 workers in 19 countries, with an average global readiness score of 33 out of 100. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Digital Skills Index 2022” – released by Salesforce (US)
- India – topped the index with the score of 63 out of 100

97. On February 2, Jammu & Kashmir (25), Uttar Pradesh (23), Madhya Pradesh (16), Tripura (15) & Delhi (8) topped the list of States and Union Territories where journalists and media houses were targeted in 2021, according to the “India Press Freedom Report 2021” released by New Delhi-based Rights & Risks Analysis Group (RRAG). While J&K recorded the maximum attacks by State actors, Tripura had the most cases of attacks by non-State actors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India Press Freedom Report 2021” – released by Rights & Risks Analysis Group (New Delhi)
- J&K (25) – recorded the maximum attacks on journalists & media houses in 2021 | 2nd – UP (23), 3rd – MP (16)

Amount & Agreements

98. On February 1, Sony Interactive Entertainment (SIE), the Japanese video game firm, acquired ‘Bungie’, a video game developer for \$3.6 billion. Bungie has created some of the video game industry's most highly-acclaimed franchises, including Marathon, Myth, Halo, and Destiny. Also, Microsoft announced to buy Activision Blizzard for nearly \$70 billion. This deal, when closed, would make it the world's third-largest gaming firm by revenue, behind Tencent and Sony. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sony Interactive Entertainment – acquired ‘Bungie’ for \$3.6 billion
- Microsoft – announced to buy Activision Blizzard for nearly \$70 billion



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

99. On February 5, Amazon India signed an MoU with Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (KSRLPS) to support the growth of Women Entrepreneurs. Amazon India would launch “Sanjeevini-KSRLPS” in its marketplace and extend benefits of the “Saheli” programme to train and empower thousands of Women Entrepreneurs to come online and access a wider market for their products. The association with the Karnataka government is aligned with Amazon India's commitment to digitally enable 10 million MSMEs by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon India + Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society = an MoU to support Women Entrepreneurs
- Amazon India – to launch “Sanjeevini-KSRLPS” in its marketplace | “Saheli” programme – belongs to Amazon India
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

100. On February 5, Kerala government signed an MoU with Social Alpha, a joint initiative of Tata Trust and the Indian government, through its Clean Energy International Incubation Centre (CEIIC) to support Innovative and Clean Energy Technology Programmes in Kerala. The Energy Management Centre (EMC) and Kerala Development and Innovation Strategy Council (KDISC) are part of the project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala + Social Alpha = an MoU to support Innovative & Clean Energy Technology Programmes in Kerala
- Social Alpha (Foundation in Bengaluru, Karnataka) – a joint initiative of Tata Trust & Indian Govt
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan





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