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The Question Bank

# TESTZONE

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निश्चित रूप से  
सर्वश्रेष्ठ टेस्ट सीरीज



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

**February**  
**MockDrill**  
**PDF No. 4**

**(PDF in English)**



**Smartkeeda**

**Test Launch Date: 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

[Attempt Test No. 4 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

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

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF 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 पढ़ना, 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

**151.** On February 7, Railway Protection Force launched “Operation AAHT” to curb human trafficking. Special teams will be deployed on all long-distance trains/routes with focus on rescuing victims, particularly women and children, from the clutches of traffickers. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Railway Protection Force – launched “Operation AAHT” to curb human trafficking
- HQs of RPF – New Delhi, India | Director General – Sanjay Chander
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

**152.** On February 5, India became the 1<sup>st</sup> country in the world to administer DNA vaccine (ZyCoV-D) against COVID-19. The Drugs Controller General of India has given its permission for the vaccination to be given to children aged 12 to 17. ZyCoV-D is administered in three doses with a gap of 28 and 56 days from the first dose respectively. The ZyCoV-D vaccine is produced by Ahmedabad-based vaccine manufacturer Zydus Cadila in partnership with the Department of Biotechnology. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> home-grown shot to get emergency authorisation in India after Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India – 1<sup>st</sup> country in the world to administer DNA vaccine (ZyCoV-D) against COVID-19
- DCGI – gave its permission for the vaccination to be given to children aged 12 to 17
- ZyCoV-D (given in 3 doses) – produced by Zydus Cadila (Ahmedabad, Gujarat)
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) – V G Somani
- HQs of Cadila Healthcare (Zydus Cadila) – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Pankaj Patel

**153.** On February 10, 9.02 km-long Atal Tunnel was certified as the longest highway tunnel above 10,000 feet by the World Book of Records UK. Atal Tunnel is constructed on the Manali-Leh highway by Border Roads Organisation at cost of Rs 3300 Cr. This tunnel is built in the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas at an altitude of 3,000 metres or 10,000 feet from the mean sea level. Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated this tunnel to the nation on October 3, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Atal Tunnel (9.02 km) – certified as the longest highway tunnel above 10,000 feet by the World Book of Records (UK)
- Atal Tunnel – built by BRO at an altitude of 10,000 feet from the mean sea level | Cost – Rs 3300 Cr
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960

**154.** On February 10, SEBI restructured its advisory committee on Investor Protection and Education Fund (IPEF). The eight-member committee will now be chaired by Gurumoorthy Mahalingam (G. Mahalingam), former Whole Time Member of SEBI. The panel was earlier headed by Abraham Koshy, former professor of IIM-Ahmedabad. In 2013, the regulator had set up a committee to find out ways and means to best utilise the investor protection and education fund. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SEBI restructured its advisory committee on Investor Protection & Education Fund – headed by G. Mahalingam
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**155.** India's 1<sup>st</sup> commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant will be set up in the Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh. The plant is being set up by a joint venture of Watomo Energies Ltd and Biezel Green Energy with an investment of ₹24 Cr. Biezel Green will own 50% in this joint venture. The other 50% will come from interested farmers. The plant will produce a tonne of hydrogen per day, from 30 tonnes of biomass feedstock. It will also produce biochar and methane. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's 1<sup>st</sup> commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant – will be set up in the Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh
- The plant will be set up by a JV of – Watomo Energies Ltd & Biezel Green Energy (Total investment – ₹24 Cr)
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

**156.** In Odisha, as many as 6,000 villages are out of mobile network due to lack of towers. Therefore, to provide net connectivity to all the villages in the State, centre decided to install 3,933 mobile towers in Odisha. An allocation of ₹9,734 Cr was made for Odisha for the 2022-23 fiscal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Govt decided to install 3,933 mobile towers in Odisha to provide net connectivity to all the villages
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar](#) | [CM – Naveen Patnaik](#) | [Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)

**157.** On February 8, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) received royalty of ₹171.74 Cr till 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2022 from Bharat Biotech from sales of COVID vaccine 'Covaxin'. The Council spent around ₹35 Cr in research and development of Covaxin. Covaxin is India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine by Bharat Biotech developed in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-National Institute of Virology (NIV). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICMR – received royalty of ₹171.74 Cr from Bharat Biotech from sales of 'Covaxin' (till 31<sup>st</sup> Jan, 2022)
- [HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India](#) | [Director General – Balram Bhargava](#) | [Established in – 1911](#)
- [HQs of Bharat Biotech – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella](#)

**158.** On February 11, Amazon India launched dedicated storefront for Ayurveda products on Amazon. The Union Minister of Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal launched this platform. This initiative will enhance the visibility of Ayurveda products on Amazon.in and help thousands of sellers, especially emerging Indian brands to grow their business. The ministry is also promoting the Ayu-Raksha kit, Bala-Raksha kit and Swasthya Raksha kit developed by All India Institute of Ayurveda for protecting the people from Covid. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sarbananda Sonowal – launched a dedicated storefront for Ayurveda products on Amazon.in
- [HQs of Amazon – Seattle, US](#) | [CEO – Andy Jassy](#) | [Incorporated in – 1994](#)
- [HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana](#) | [Country Head – Amit Agarwal](#)
- [Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal](#) | [Constituency – Majuli, Assam](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai](#)



**159.** On February 11, Jammu and Kashmir lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha launched a QR code-based mechanism for certification and labelling of handmade carpets of the union territory. With the QR-based application, which is the first of its kind in India, customers can check and verify the authenticity and other requisite details of carpets produced in Jammu and Kashmir. This technology will be able to standardize uniqueness of handmade carpets and boost exports of Jammu and Kashmir's carpet industry in the international market. Also, government of J&K introduced Export Incentive Scheme under which incentive of 10% of the total volume of GI certified handicrafts and handloom products exported to any country, with maximum reimbursement up to Rs 5 Cr, shall be provided to eligible exporters registered with the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- J & K – launched India's first of its kind QR code-based mechanism for certification and labelling of Handmade Carpets
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

## **Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs**

**160.** On February 9, State Bank of India (SBI) partnered with NSE Academy to launch five online courses. These courses are curated by SBI as a good blend of theory and operational aspects which will enable learners to have a deeper understanding of fundamentals of banking, compliance, lending norms and a host of other topics. Learners can enroll for these five courses on the 'NSE Knowledge Hub' platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI + NSE Academy = launched 5 online courses for learners to have a deeper understanding of banking
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MDs – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi | MD & CEO – Vikram Limaye

**161.** On February 9, SEBI gave its approval to the BSE to launch trading in electronic gold receipts (EGR), paving the way for the BSE to launch spot bullion exchange. EGRs are similar to shares lying in demat accounts. The gold can be bought and stored in vaults until physical delivery is demanded. The Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) will be BSE's main rival in the space because trading in bullion futures, crude and metals are the core strength of MCX. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – gave its approval to the BSE to launch trading in **Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR)**
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**162.** On February 10, Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited (ABHICL) signed a bancassurance agreement with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank for distribution of health insurance products through the bank's network of branches across India. With this new partnership, Aditya Birla Health now has 12 bancassurance partners. Aditya Birla Health has 175 branches in India and has a diversified presence in 2,800 cities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Aditya Birla Health Insurance + Utkarsh SFB = bancassurance agreement
- HQs of ABHICL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Mayank Bathwal
- HQs of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank – Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Govind Singh



**163.** On February 9, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) launched an agroecology-based programme JIVA to promote natural farming under its existing watershed and wadi programmes in 11 states. NABARD will initially collaborate with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia, for simple soil water monitoring technology and ICAR for research support for scientific validation of natural farming practices. NABARD will invest Rs 50,000 per hectare under this programme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NABARD – launched an agroecology-based programme “JIVA” to promote natural farming
- NABARD – will collaborate with CSIRO, Australia & ICAR for this programme
- NABARD – will invest Rs 50,000 per hectare under this programme
- [HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala](#) | [Founded in – 1982](#)

**164.** On February 8, the RBI released its 6<sup>th</sup> Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy of FY2021-22. The RBI kept key policy rates, including repo rate (4%) & reverse repo rates (3.35%), unchanged in its monetary policy. These policy rates have remained unchanged since May 2020. Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate or Bank Rate is also kept unchanged to 4.25%. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) was headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy of FY2021-22 – released by the RBI
- Repo rate – 4% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35% | Bank Rate or MSF – 4.25% | CRR – 4% | SLR – 18%
- [Total members in the RBI's MPC = 6 \(3 of RBI + 3 of GoI\)](#)
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25<sup>th</sup>\)](#) | [Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935](#)

**165.** On February 10, the investment limit under the Voluntary Retention Route (VRR) for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) will be enhanced by Rs 1 lakh Cr from Rs 1.5 lakh Cr to Rs 2.50 lakh Cr, as announced by the RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das. The enhancement of VRR will be applicable from April 1, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- VRR cap for FPIs will be enhanced by Rs 1 lakh Cr – from Rs 1.5 lakh Cr to Rs 2.50 lakh Cr (from April 1, 2022)
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25<sup>th</sup>\)](#) | [Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935](#)

**166.** On February 10, the RBI proposed to increase the cap on e-RUPI vouchers from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1 lakh. The use of e-RUPI voucher multiple times has also been allowed. The e-RUPI prepaid digital voucher, developed by the NPCI and launched in August 2021, is a person-specific and purpose specific cashless voucher and can be used by individuals, corporates or governments. The RBI also enhanced the National Automated Clearing House (NACH) mandate limit from Rs 1 Cr to Rs 3 Cr to enhance the ease of financing in MSME through Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI proposed to increase the cap on e-RUPI vouchers from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1 lakh (e-RUPI vouchers developed by - NPCI)
- RBI enhanced the National Automated Clearing House (NACH) mandate limit from Rs 1 Cr to Rs 3 Cr
- [HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25<sup>th</sup>\)](#) | [Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935](#)



**167.** On February 10, the RBI proposed to extend the term-liquidity facility of Rs 50,000 Cr, which is offered to emergency health services, by 3 months till June 30, 2022 from March 31, 2022 as announced earlier. Under the scheme/facility, banks were expected to create a COVID-19 loan book. The central bank also extended the on-tap liquidity window for contact-intensive sectors up to June 30, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI proposed to extend Rs 50,000 Cr term-liquidity facility offered to emergency health services – till June 30, 2022
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**168.** On February 10, Paisabazaar.com, a digital platform for consumer credit, tied up with RBL Bank to offer “Paisha on Demand” (PoD), a credit card. The credit card will be exclusively available on the Paisabazaar platform. In September 2021, Paisabazaar had launched a credit card called ‘Step UP’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Paisabazaar + RBL Bank = partnership to offer “Paisha on Demand” credit card
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajeev Ahuja (interim) | Chairman – Prakash Chandra
- HQs of Paisabazaar – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO & Co-founder – Naveen Kukreja

## **Defence Affairs**

**169.** On February 7, NATO conducted the “Winter Camp” military exercise in northeast Estonia. The aim of this exercise is to prove the ability to work in the most demanding conditions soldiers can face. This exercise included British, Estonian and French troops. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NATO – conducted the “Winter Camp” military exercise in Estonia
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries – 30
- Estonia – Tallinn – Euro | President – Alar Karis | PM – Kaja Kallas

## **Sports & Games**

**170.** On February 6, Indian duo Rohan Bopanna and Ramkumar Ramanathan won men’s doubles and their second ATP World Tour title together after defeating the Australian pair in the final of the “Tata Open Maharashtra 2022”. Bopanna had won this event with compatriot Divij Sharan in 2019. Men’s single was won by Portugal’s Joao Sousa. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rohan Bopanna & Ramkumar Ramanathan – won men’s doubles at “Tata Open Maharashtra 2022”
- Joao Sousa (Portugal) – won Men’s Singles



**171.** Debuting in the 15<sup>th</sup> season of the IPL, the Ahmedabad team of the Indian Premier League will be called the Gujarat Titans. The franchise is owned by private equity firm CVC Capital. Gujarat Titans will be led by India all-rounder Hardik Pandya, Ashish Nehra will be the head coach and Vikram Solanki the director of cricket. Moreover, world Cup-winning coach Gary Kirsten was appointed as the team mentor and batting coach. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ahmedabad team of IPL – named as Gujarat Titans, will debut in the 15<sup>th</sup> season of IPL
- [Gujarat Titans Captain – Hardik Pandya](#) | [Head Coach – Ashish Nehra](#) | [Owner – CVC Capital](#)

**172.** On February 10, India's dashing keeper-batter Rishabh Pant won top 'Test batting' prize for his series-winning knock of 89 against Australia in Brisbane in 2021. While New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson was adjudged 'Captain of the Year' at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual ESPNcricinfo awards. The 'Test Bowling' award went to Kyle Jamieson for his 5 for 31, which helped New Zealand become the first World Test champions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 15<sup>th</sup> "Annual ESPNcricinfo Awards 2021" – announced in Feb 2022
- 'Test batting' award – Rishabh Pant ([India](#))
- 'Captain of the Year' award – Kane Williamson ([New Zealand](#))
- 'Test Bowling' award – Kyle Jamieson ([New Zealand](#))

## **Science & Technology**

**173.** A team of researchers has identified a new gecko species from the hills of Attappady, in the Western Ghats, Kerala. The team was led by herpetologists Sandeep Das & Surya Narayanan. The new large species of gecko belongs to the genus "Hemidactylus goldfuss". This new species is named "Hemidactylus easai" after P. S. Easa, former director of the Kerala Forest and Reasearch Institute (KFRI) and wildlife conservationist. Kerala has over 30 species of gecko and with this new addition, there are 9 under the Hemidactylus genus. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Hemidactylus easai" – a new gecko species of genus "Hemidactylus goldfuss" – identified from Western Ghats, Kerala

**174.** On February 3, Astronomers confirmed the existence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earth Trojan named "2020 XL5". Earth Trojan is an asteroid that shares the same orbit as our planet, going around the Sun. This trojan was detected in 2020 by the Pan-STARRS S1 telescope and is a C-type or carbonaceous asteroid, the most common variety of asteroid, consisting of large amounts of carbon. It is a near-earth asteroid (NEO) that is expected to stay in orbit for the next 4,000 years. The first known Earth Trojan asteroid was '2010 TK7', discovered in 2010. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Astronomers confirmed the existence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earth Trojan named "2020 XL5" (C-type or carbonaceous asteroid)
- This trojan was detected in 2020 by 'Pan-STARRS S1' telescope | NEO – Near-Earth Asteroid
- '2010 TK7' – the first known Earth Trojan asteroid (discovered in 2010)

**175.** On February 3, the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Prof. Vijay Raghavan, launched India's first AI-triggered Job Platform 'Swarajability' (beta version) for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). IIT Hyderabad jointly developed this platform with Youth4Jobs and Visual Quest, with support from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. This job platform gives independence to PwDs using technology, skills, and job linkages. It includes technology that allows persons with disabilities from all walks of life to join and explore job opportunities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Hyderabad + Youth4Jobs + Visual Quest = developed 'Swarajability' - India's first AI-triggered Job Platform for PwDs
- Support from – Kotak Mahindra Bank
- Director of IIT Hyderabad – B. S. Murty
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let's make money simple”

**176.** Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar, developed a cost-effective and environment-friendly water desalination technique to make seawater potable by removing over 99% of salt ions and other impurities with natural processing. The finding was published in the international journal 'Nature Communications'. The research is inspired by trees' natural intake of water using capillary effect. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT-Gandhinagar – developed a water desalination technique to make seawater potable by removing over 99% impurities
- Director of IIT Gandhinagar – Amit Prashant

**177.** In February 2022, SpaceX launched Italy's Earth-observation satellite named “Cosmo-SkyMed Second Generation FM2 (CSG-2) satellite” from Florida's Cape Canaveral Space Force Station by using SpaceX's 'Falcon 9' rocket. The mission marked the first time that a Heavy side booster had been reconfigured and launched alone as a 'Falcon 9'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SpaceX – launched Italy's “Cosmo-SkyMed Second Generation FM2 (CSG-2)” Earth-observation satellite
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | Founder & CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi

**178.** On February 11, NASA selected two science missions - the Multi-slit Solar Explorer (MUSE) and HelioSwarm - to help improve understanding of the dynamics of the Sun, the Sun-Earth connection, and the constantly changing space environment. These missions will provide deeper insights into our universe and offer critical information to help protect astronauts, satellites, and communications signals such as GPS. The MUSE mission will help scientists understand the forces driving the heating of the Sun's corona and the eruptions in that outermost region that are at the foundation of space weather. The HelioSwarm mission is a constellation or “swarm” of 9 spacecraft that will capture the first multiscale in-space measurements of fluctuations in the magnetic field and motions of the solar wind known as 'solar wind turbulence'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA – selected two science missions 'MUSE' & 'HelioSwarm' to improve understanding of the Sun-Earth connection
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

# Appointments & Resignations

**179.** On February 1, Power System Operation Corporation Ltd (POSOCO) Director (System Operation) S. R. Narasimhan took additional charge of the post of chairman and managing director. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- S. R. Narasimhan – took additional charge of CMD of POSOCO
- [HQs of POSOCO – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – S. R. Narasimhan](#)

**180.** On February 8, Digital healthcare platform 'MediBuddy' roped in Amitabh Bachchan as its official brand ambassador to strengthen its brand positioning in tier 2 and 3 cities and amplify its reach. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MediBuddy – roped in Amitabh Bachchan as official brand ambassador
- [HQs of MediBuddy – Bangalore, Karnataka](#) | [CEO – Satish Kannan](#)

**181.** On February 7, Pfizer India appointed Pradip Shah as the Chairman of its board following the resignation of R. A. Shah. Pradip Shah is the ex-MD and a founding member of CRISIL. He also assisted in founding HDFC in 1977. He has also served as a consultant to USAID, the World Bank, and the ADB. He is currently the Chairman of IndAsia Fund Advisors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pradip Shah – appointed as the Chairman of Pfizer India (succeeding - R. A. Shah)
- [HQs of Pfizer India – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Pradip Shah](#) | [MD – S. Sridhar](#)

**182.** On February 12, Natarajan Chandrasekaran was reappointed as the Executive Chairman of Tata Sons for 5 years. Chandra took charge on February 21, 2017 for a period of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- N. Chandrasekaran – reappointed as the Executive Chairman of Tata Sons for 5 years
- [HQs of Tata Sons – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran](#)

**183.** On February 11, With a view to reaching out to farmers to its agritech platform, Krishi Network roped in film actor Pankaj Tripathi as a brand ambassador. The actor has also invested in the start-up. Krishi Network offers '15-minute answers' for questions on any issue related to agriculture. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pankaj Tripathi – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of 'Krishi Network' an agritech platform

**184.** On February 11, Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari was appointed Chief Justice of the Madras High Court. He had taken over as the Acting Chief Justice of the Madras High Court after the transfer of Justice Sanjib Banerjee to the Meghalaya High Court in November 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari – appointed Chief Justice of the Madras High Court
- [Ministry for Law & Justice: Kiren Rijiju](#) | [Constituency – Arunachal West](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Law & Justice – S. P. Singh Baghel](#)



**185.** On February 14, Ruchir Sharma joined Rockefeller Capital Management as the Managing Director and Chairman of Rockefeller International. He is also an author and 'The Rise and Fall of Nations' and 'Breakout Nations' are two of his award-winning bestsellers. He is also the a contributing editor at The Financial Times, where he writes a bi-weekly column. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ruchir Sharma – appointed as the MD & Chairman of Rockefeller International
- [HQs of Rockefeller International – New York, US](#) | [CMD – Ruchir Sharma](#)
- [Rockefeller Capital Management President & CEO – Gregory Fleming](#)

## **Important Days & Dates**

**186.** World Pulses Day is observed on February 10 to raise awareness about the importance of pulses. This year, the theme is "Pulses to empower Youth in achieving Sustainable Agrifood Systems". The day has been celebrated since 2019 by the United Nations (UN). The day also highlights the need for increased access to these crops among underprivileged sections of the global population. In 2013, the UN recognised the importance of the crops and declared 2016 to be the "International Year of Pulses". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- February 10 – World Pulses Day – by UN (since - 2019) | 'International Year of Pulses' – 2016
- 2022's theme – "Pulses to empower Youth in achieving Sustainable Agrifood Systems"
- [HQs of UN – New York, United States](#) | [Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres](#) | [Formed in – October 24, 1945](#)

**187.** February 10 & August 10 are observed as "National Deworming Day" to create awareness about the importance of deworming all preschool and school-age children between the ages of 1-19 years. The day aims at eradicating intestinal worms also referred to as Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH). NDD is a biannual initiative led by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The deworming is done through the platforms of schools and Anganwadi centres in February and August. According to World Health Organisation (WHO), around 24% of the world population is infected with soil-transmitted helminths (worms). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- February 10 & August 10 – National Deworming Day – by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- Aim: To eradicate intestinal worms (Soil-Transmitted Helminths) among children within the age of 1-19 years
- [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya](#) | [Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar](#)

**188.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) observed "Financial Literacy Week" during February 14-18 to propagate financial education messages among the public. The theme of this year's financial literacy and awareness programme was "Go Digital, Go Secure". This theme is one of the strategic objectives of the 'National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025'. The RBI has been conducting 'Financial Literacy Week' every year since 2016. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- February 14-18 – Financial Literacy Week – by RBI (since - 2016)
- 2022's theme – “Go Digital, Go Secure”
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1935

**189.** On February 11, the “World Unani Day” is celebrated every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of visionary scholar Hakim Ajmal Khan, who has contributed in the development of the Unani system of Medicine. This year marks the 5<sup>th</sup> World Unani Day. Every year, on this day, the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, ministry of AYUSH organises an International Conference on Unani Medicine. The theme for the International conference of 2022 is “Diet and Nutrition in Unani Medicine for good health and well-being”. The First World Unani day was celebrated in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- February 11 – 5<sup>th</sup> World Unani Day (since - 2017) | Birth anniversary of – Hakim Ajmal Khan
- Theme of Int. Conference on Unani Medicine – “Diet & Nutrition in Unani Medicine for good health & well-being”
- HQs of Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine – Hyderabad | DG – Asim Ali Khan
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

**190.** The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is observed by the United Nations (UN) on 11 February each year to promote the participation of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The UNGA declared this day on 11 February, 2015 and this year marked the 7<sup>th</sup> observance of this day. In 2022, the theme is “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Water Unites Us”. The day is implemented by the UNESCO and UN-Women, in coordination with Civil Society Institutions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- February 11 – 7<sup>th</sup> International Day of Women & Girls in Science – by UN (since - 2016)
- 2022's Theme – “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Water Unites Us”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945
- HQs of UN Women – New York, USA | Executive Director – Ms. Sima Bahous
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945

## **Books & Authors**

**191.** Rajiv Bhatia, a diplomat, authored his new book titled “India-Africa Relations, Changing Horizons”. He has devoted a large part of his book to the rationale, the details and the impact of India's Africa cooperation programme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “India-Africa Relations, Changing Horizons” book – authored by Rajiv Bhatia

## Obituaries

**192.** Professor R. Rajamohan passed away. He was an astronomer at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru. He is best known for his 'Kalki Project', which aimed to discover asteroids using the 48-cm Schmidt telescope. The project led to the first discoveries of asteroids in independent India. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Professor R. Rajamohan – an Astronomer at the IIA – passed away
- He worked in 'Kalki Project' that led to the first discoveries of asteroids in independent India

**193.** On February 12, French researcher and virologist Luc Montagnier, who won a Nobel Prize in 2008 for discovering the HIV virus passed away. He was 89. He became head of the Pasteur Institute's virology department in 1972. He also won France's highest decoration, the Legion of Honor. He recently spread false claims about the coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Luc Montagnier – French Researcher & Virologist – passed away (Nobel Prize in 2008 for discovering HIV virus)

## Meetings, Conferences & Summits

**194.** The Ministry of Culture organised a first of its kind, Global Summit in Hyderabad on 'Reimagining Museums in India', on 15-16 February 2022. It was organised under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Summit was inaugurated by G. Kishan Reddy, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Development of Northeastern Region (DoNER). The online summit had 4 broad themes: Architecture and Functional Needs, Management, Collections, and Education & Audience Engagement. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- First of its kind Global Summit on 'Reimagining Museums in India' – organised in Hyderabad by Ministry of Culture
- Summit was inaugurated by – G. Kishan Reddy
- Minister of Culture: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Minister of Culture: Arjun Ram Meghwal & Meenakshi Lekhi

## Ranks, Report & Surveys

**195.** Malkangiri district of Odisha topped the NITI Aayog's Delta Ranking of 'Most Improved Aspirational Districts in Agriculture and Water Resources Sector' for the month of December, 2021. Malkangiri is followed by Chhatarpur in Madhya Pradesh, Baramulla in J&K, Ramgarh in Jharkhand and Begusarai in Bihar. The Aspirational District programme aims to effectively transform 112 most under-developed districts across the country. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- Malkangiri (Odisha) – topped NITI Aayog's Delta Ranking of 'Most Improved Aspirational Districts in Agriculture and Water Resources Sector' for December 2021
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**196.** On February 9, India ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world on the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) 9<sup>th</sup> annual list of the top 10 countries and regions outside of the US for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in 2021. With the increase of 10% compared to 2020, now India has a total of 146 LEED certified buildings and spaces, representing nearly 2.8 million gross area square meters (GSM) of space. India ranked third on the list behind China that topped the list with more than 14 million GSM & 1,077 LEED projects certified in 2021, and Canada which certified more than 3.2 million GSM & 205 LEED projects. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 9<sup>th</sup> annual list of the top 10 countries & regions outside of the US for "LEED" in 2021 – released by USGBC
- 1<sup>st</sup> – China (1,077 LEED projects) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Canada (205 LEED projects) | 3<sup>rd</sup> – India (146 LEED projects)

## Acquisitions & Mergers

**197.** On February 10, Reliance New Energy Ltd (RNEL) acquired an additional 10.37% stake in Sterling & Wilson Renewable Energy (SWREL) for ₹738 Cr. After the acquisition, RNEL holds 40% of the total paid-up equity share capital of SWREL. In Reliance has committed to invest \$10 billion in Sustainable Energy Initiatives over 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Reliance New Energy – acquired an additional 10.37% stake in SWREL for ₹738 Cr
- RNEL – now holds 40% of the total paid-up equity share capital of SWREL
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani | Founded in – 1973

## MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**198.** On February 10, the Jammu and Kashmir government signed a pact with New Zealand for the transformation of the sheep farming sector. The objective of this pact is to improve farmers' remuneration, transfer of technology in research and development as well as marketing and value addition of sheep products of Jammu and Kashmir. Also, 2022 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commencement of bilateral relations between India & New Zealand. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- J&K + New Zealand = pact for the transformation of the sheep farming sector
- 2022 – marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commencement of bilateral relations between India & New Zealand
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | PM – Jacinda Ardern

**199.** On February 9, the Government of Telangana and the British Council signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to expand higher education globally, enhance mobility, and share information and skills. between the Research and Innovation Centre of Hyderabad (RICH) and the British Council to engineer new partnerships between universities, research institutions and centres of excellence. It will also facilitate further research in the fields of aerospace, defence, life sciences and pharmaceuticals, food and agriculture, and sustainability. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RICH + British Council = a 3-year MoU to expand higher education globally, enhance mobility and share info. & skills
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

**200.** On February 8, United States approved a \$100 million support contract with Taiwan to boost its missile defense systems as it faces increasing pressure from China. The agreement is meant to help Taiwan maintain its existing air-defense missiles and advanced U.S. made ‘Patriot’ missiles that Taiwan is acquiring. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- US – approved \$100 million support contract with Taiwan for ‘Patriot’ missiles
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen





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