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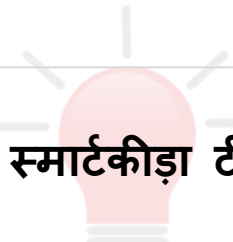
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of January 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

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

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

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

101. On January 6, DRDO will install its Eco-Friendly Bio-Digester units for the implementation of its advanced bio-digester Mk-II technology for the treatment of human waste (night soil) across the facilities operated by Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation (MAHA–METRO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – to deploy advanced bio-digester ‘Mk-II Technology’ across – Maha Metro Rail Network
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

102. On January 6, Uttar Pradesh government has launched its mega farmer outreach programme “Kisan Kalyan Mission” to provide the agrarian community a platform to swiftly address key problems and most importantly help them double their income with tech upgrade. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched “Kisan Kalyan Mission” mega farmer outreach programme
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

103. Dr Harsh Vardhan has virtually inaugurated one of seven labs globally designated as centralised network labs of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) established at Translational Health Science & Technology Institute (THSTI), Faridabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – inaugurated India’s 1st Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations – at THSTI (Faridabad)
- Union Health & Family Welfare Minister – Dr Harsh Vardhan (Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi)

104. Centre has given additional financial assistance of Rs 1,004 Cr to Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for capital expenditure after they completed 3 out of the 4 citizen-centric reforms - “One Nation, One Ration Card Reforms”, “Ease of Doing Business Reforms” and “Urban Local Bodies Reforms”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh & Andhra Pradesh – 1st group of states to complete 3 out of the 4 citizen-centric reforms
- Both of the states received an additional financial assistance of – Rs 1,004 Cr
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



105. The world's largest floating 600 MW Solar Energy project will be constructed at Omkareshwar dam on Narmada river in Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh which will begin power generation by year 2022-23. The estimated investment in this project stands at Rs 3,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The world's largest floating 600 MW Solar Energy project to be constructed – at ‘Omkareshwar dam’ in MP
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

106. On January 6, the IRDAI has asked general insurance companies to mandatorily offer 3 standard products covering risk of fire and allied perils from April 1. The Standard Fire and Special Perils (SFSP) Policy will be replaced by these 3 standard products - Bharat Griha Raksha, Bharat Sookshma Udyam Suraksha and Bharat Laghu Udyam Suraksha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – asked all insurers to offer 3 standard products for fire & allied peril from April 1
- 3 products – Bharat Griha Raksha, Bharat Sookshma Udyam Suraksha & Bharat Laghu Udyam Suraksha
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur

107. On January 5, the Delhi government has directed schools in the national capital to implement the new “school bag policy” to reduce the weight of school bags and the burden of students. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – ordered all the schools for the implementation of new “school bag policy”
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

108. Adani Green Energy’s subsidiary, Adani Solar Energy Kutchh Two has commissioned a solar power project at Khirsara in Gujarat of capacity 100 megawatts, taking the company’s total operational renewable capacity to 2,950 mw. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Solar Energy Kutchh Two – commissioned 100 MW Khirsara Solar Power project – in Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- HQs of Adani Green Energy – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | MD & CEO – Vneet S. Jaain



109. On January 6, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is ready to operationalise India's first government-sponsored Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) by March, 2021. Around 6 road assets worth Rs 5,000 crore have been given in-principle approval for transfer to the InvIT. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHAI is set to operationalise India's first government-sponsored "InvIT" by March, 2021
- InvIT – Infrastructure Investment Trust

110. On January 7, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 306-km long New "Rewari- Madar" section of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor and flagged off the world's first 1.5-km-long electrified double stack long haul container train. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – dedicated the 306-km long "Rewari-Madar" section of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor
- Narendra Modi – flagged off the world's first 1.5-km-long Electrified Double Stack long haul container Train
- It was flagged off between – Haryana & Rajasthan

111. The Aurangabad bench of the Bombay High Court has declared that advertisement of any article using the name of any God and claiming that it has supernatural qualities, is "illegal" and falls under the Maharashtra Prevention and Eradication of Human Sacrifice and other Inhuman, Evil and Aghori Practices and Black Magic Act. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bombay HC declared – using God's name to sell articles is "illegal"
- [Present Chief Justice of Bombay HC – Dipankar Datta](#)

112. On January 6, the Angamaly-Sabarimala rail project has got a new lease of life as Kerala government has agreed to bear 50% of the cost of the estimate of ₹2,815.62 Cr along with the centre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – agreed to bear 50% of the cost of 'Angamaly-Sabarimala rail project'
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

113. On January 8, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has launched Mobile Application 'Satark Nagrik' and Departmental Vigilance Officers (DVO) Portal of J&K Anti Corruption Bureau. The Departmental Vigilance Officers (DVO) Portal has been designed to enable an online communication channel with the DVOs of various departments. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Manoj Sinha – launched Mobile Application ‘Satark Nagrik’ & DVO portal of J&K Anti Corruption Bureau
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

114. On January 5, the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife (SC-NBWL) in its 60th meeting held on 5th January has approved the advisory for management of Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) in the country. During the meeting, Caracal was included into the list of critically endangered species. It is a medium size wild cat found in some parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 60th meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife – held on 5th January
- Caracal (Rajasthan & Gujarat) – included into the list of critically endangered species

115. On January 4, Hyderabad International Airport Ltd and Dubai Airports have come together to build an exclusive Vaccine Air Freight Corridor Product ‘HYDXB-VAXCOR’ - a global vaccine corridor to pave the way for worldwide distribution of vaccines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hyderabad Int. Airport Ltd + Dubai Airports = to build an exclusive Vaccine Air Freight Corridor Product

116. On January 5, IDFC Mutual Fund has launched its latest pan-India investor awareness campaign #PaisoKoRokoMat, asking savers to become investors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IDFC Mutual Fund – launched its latest pan-India investor awareness campaign “#PaisoKoRokoMat”
- HQs of IDFC Mutual Fund – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Vikram Limaye

117. Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has launched “Krishi Sanjeevani” vans in Bengaluru. The 40 vans flagged off on January 7, will reach out to the agriculture fields to test soil, water and suggest remedies for pest control to improve yield. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka launched “Krishi Sanjeevani” vans in Bengaluru (40 vans flagged off)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala



118. On January 8, Manipur government has launched the website “COSFOM” (Community-based Sustainable Forest Management) for Water Resource Conservation at Sanjenthong in Imphal. COSFOM is a project of the Government of India supported by the Federal Government of Germany through KfW, a German development bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur – launched the website “COSFOM” for Water Resource Conservation
- COSFOM – Community-based Sustainable Forest Management
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla
- HQs of KfW IPEX-Bank – Frankfurt, Germany | HQs of SREI – Kolkata, West Bengal

119. On January 8, L&T Hydrocarbon Engineering (LTHE) has bagged an order worth over Rs 7,000 Cr from HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Ltd (HRRL) for setting up a dual feed cracker unit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LTHE – bagged an order worth over Rs 7,000 Cr from ‘HRRL’ for setting up a Dual Feed Cracker Unit
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

120. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) has initiated the process of commencing operations of the Seaplane services on the select routes, under a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) framework through prospective airline operators. The project execution and implementation would be through Sagarmala Development Company Ltd (SDCL). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sagarmala Development Co. – to implement the Seaplane Service Project – initiated by MoPSW
- HQs of Sagarmala Development Co. – New Delhi | MD – Dilip Kumar Gupta
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways – Mansukh L. Mandaviya

121. The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has holistically addressed all the aspects relating the Earth System Science for providing weather, climate, ocean, coastal state, hydrological and seismological services. The Flash Flood Guidance Services was launched by MoES in 2020, the first of its kind for South Asian countries namely India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Earth Sciences launched “Flash Flood Guidance Services”
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare & MoES – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Constituency – Chandni Chowk, Delhi)



International Affairs

122. China has completed the track-laying work for a railway line linking the cities of Lhasa and Nyingchi in Tibet. The Sichuan-Tibet Railway will be the second railway into Tibet after the Qinghai-Tibet Railway. Linzhi, also known as Nyingchi, is located close to Arunachal Pradesh border. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – completed the track-laying work for a railway line linking ‘Lhasa’ & ‘Nyingchi’ in Tibet
- ‘Nyingchi’ also known as ‘Linzhi’ – located near Arunachal Pradesh border

123. Australia has changed its national anthem in a bid to reflect its 60,000 years of Indigenous history. Olivia Fox sang Australia's national anthem in the Eora language during the Tri Nations rugby match in Sydney. “Advance Australia Fair” was declared the official national anthem in 1984. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – changed its national anthem in a bid to reflect its Indigenous history
- “Advance Australia Fair” was declared the official national anthem – in 1984
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

124. On January 6, India has provided a grant assistance of INR 19.21 Cr (Nepalese Rs. 30.66 Cr) to Nepal as part of its commitment towards reconstruction of educational institutions damaged during the 2015 earthquake. With this, India has reimbursed an amount of NRs 819.8 million (NRs 81.98 crore/INR 51.37 crore) to Nepal towards educational sector reconstruction projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nepal – received INR 19.21 Cr (NRs 30.66 Cr) from India – as part of post-quake aid to build educational institutions
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

125. On January 9, TS Tirumurti, India’s envoy to the UN has stated that India was asked to chair 3 important subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) - the Taliban sanctions committee, the Counter-terrorism committee and the Libya sanctions committee. The move follows India joining the Security Council as a non-permanent member for 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to chair 3 Key UNSC committees
- 3 committees: Taliban sanctions committee + Counter-terrorism committee + Libya sanctions committee
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador – T S Tirumurti
- Permanent members in the UNSC = 5 – China, France, Russia, U.K. & U.S.
- HQs of UNSC – New York, USA | Presidency in January 2021 – Tunisia (followed by UK & USA)
- India – UNSC President in August 2021



Banking & Economic Affairs

126. On January 5, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹2.50 Cr on Bajaj Finance Ltd (BFL) based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of ₹2.50 Cr on – Bajaj Finance
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- HQs of Bajaj Finance – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjiv Bajaj | CFO – S. Sreenivasan

127. On January 6, the RBI has announced the operationalisation of the Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme, which is intended to subsidise deployment of payment acceptance infrastructure in tier-3 to tier-6 centres. An advisory council (AC) under the chairmanship of RBI deputy governor BP Kanungo has been constituted for managing the PIDF scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI announced the operationalisation of PIDF scheme
- Management of PIDF scheme will be done under an advisory council headed by – BP Kanungo
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- Total Deputy Governors – 4 – Mukesh Kumar Jain | B P Kanungo | Michael D Patra | M Rajeshwar Rao

128. On January 7, Bandhan Bank has signed an MoU with the Indian Army for the Bandhan Bank “Shaurya Salary Account”, which comes with banking privileges meant for the brave hearts of the Indian Army. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bandhan Bank + Indian Army = an MoU for the “Shaurya Salary Account”
- HQs of Bandhan Bank – Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & CEO – Chandra Shekhar Ghosh
- Tagline – “Aapka Bhalai, Sabki Bhalai”
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandni Prasad Mohanty

129. On January 5, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to introduce the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) system for all payment transactions of value ₹50 crore and above undertaken by entities (non-individuals) using the Reserve Bank-run Centralised Payment Systems with effect from April 1. The “LEI” is a 20-digit number used to uniquely identify parties to financial transactions worldwide. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- RBI to introduce the “LEI” system for all payment transactions of value ₹50 crore and above – from April 1
- LEI – Legal Entity Identifier | LEI is a 20-digit number
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

130. Foreign direct investment (FDI) equity inflows into India has grown 21% to USD 35.33 billion (approx Rs 2.5 lakh Cr) during April-October period of the current financial year, as per the data of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FDI equity inflows into India grew 21% to USD 35.33 billion (approx Rs 2.5 lakh Cr) (during April-Oct)
- HQ of DPIIT – New Delhi | Secretary – Guruprasad Mohapatra
- DPIIT works under – Ministry of Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)

131. On January 6, Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank (SMCB) is the first urban co-operative bank (UCB) in India to transition to a Small Finance Bank (SFB) under the RBI’s voluntary transition scheme. Shivalik Small Finance Bank (SSFB) will start its banking operations from April 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank – 1st UCB in India to transition to a SFB under RBI’s voluntary transition scheme
- HQs of SSFB – Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Suveer Kumar Gupta

132. On January 6, Bank of Baroda (BoB) has signed an MoU with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to enable MSMEs (micro, small and medium enterprises) apply online for one-time restructuring (OTR). The public sector bank’s MSME customers can now access the web-based portal, ‘Asset Restructuring Module for MSMEs (ARM-MSME)’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BoB + SIDBI = an MoU to enable MSMEs apply online for one-time restructuring (OTR)
- BoB’s MSME customers can now access ‘Asset Restructuring Module for MSMEs (ARM-MSME)’ portal
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa



133. On January 8, State Bank of India (SBI) in partnership with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) has launched a co-branded contactless RuPay debit card for fuel purchase anywhere in India. It is a contactless card and transactions up to Rs 5,000 can be paid for with just a tap. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + IOC = launched a co-branded contactless RuPay debit card
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya

134. On January 8, Central Bank of India (CBoI) and NABFOUNDATION have signed MoU whereby working capital will be provided by the bank to all self-help groups (SHGs) which have an account with it and undertake the Nabard-sponsored 'My Pad My Right' project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBoI + NABFOUNDATION = an MoU to provide loans to SHGs to undertake 'My Pad My Right' project
- HQs of CBoI – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Pallav Mohapatra
- HQs of NABFOUNDATION – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – G R Chintala

135. On January 7, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has partnered with IIT Kanpur and FIRST (Foundation for Innovation & Research in Science & Technology) to jointly establish the "PNB - IIT Kanpur Innovation Centre" at the IIT campus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB + IIT Kanpur + FIRST = partnership to set up 'Fintech Innovation Centre' – at the IIT campus
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao

Defence Affairs

136. On January 5, BEML Ltd has bagged ₹758 Cr worth of orders from Ministry of Defence (MoD) to supply high-mobility vehicles to the Indian Army in a span of a year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BEML Ltd – bagged orders worth of ₹758 Cr from Ministry of Defence to supply high-mobility vehicles
- HQs of BEML – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Deepak Kumar Hota



Schemes & Initiatives

137. Launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 5th, 2015, the Government of India's zero subsidy Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) and LED Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP) have marked their 6th anniversary on January 5, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UJALA & SLNP – marked their 6th anniversary on January 5, 2021 (launched in 2015 – by PM Modi)
- UJALA – Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All | SLNP – LED Street Lighting National Programme

138. On January 7, Government of India has formulated New Industrial Development Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir (J&K IDS, 2021) as Central Sector Scheme for the development of Industries in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir. The scheme is approved with a total outlay of Rs 28,400 Cr up to the year 2037. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government formulated a New Industrial Development Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir (J&K IDS, 2021)
- Total outlay of the scheme – Rs 28,400 Cr up to the year 2037
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

139. On January 6, Lucknow University (LU) has launched the “Karmayogi Scheme” which offers students part-time jobs while continuing their studies on the campus. A student can earn up to maximum Rs 15,000 in a year through the ‘Karmayogi Scheme’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lucknow University (UP) – launched the “Karmayogi Scheme”
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

140. On January 8, Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh has launched a set of welfare projects, including free sanitary pads for high school and college girl students in the state. He has dedicated January month to girl child through its “Dheeyan Di Lohri” scheme. He rolled out a Rs 75.64 crore smart metering project and an ‘e-Daakhil’ portal for e-filing of consumer complaints and ‘Basera’ scheme for slum dwellers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab CM dedicated – ‘January’ month to girl child through its “Dheeyan Di Lohri” scheme
- He also launched – an ‘e-Daakhil’ portal for consumers & ‘Basera’ scheme for slum dwellers
- Punjab – announced to provide Free sanitary pads for high school and college girl students
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore



Sports & Games

141. “Khelo India Ice Hockey Tournament” has begun at Chiktan in Kargil district of UT Ladakh. For the first time two Women Teams of Chiktan also participated in the Khelo India Games. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Khelo India Ice Hockey Tournament – begun at Chiktan, Kargil, Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

142. On January 4, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju has launched the Assam Rifles Public School (ARPS) in Shillong, Meghalaya as first Khelo India Sports School from North-East. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kiren Rijiju – launched the first Khelo India Sports School from North-East – in Shillong, Meghalaya
- Assam Rifles Public School – the first Khelo India Sports School from North-East – located in Shillong
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)



Important Days & Dates

143. “War Orphans Day” or “World Day of War Orphans” is observed annually on January 6 to educate and address people about the need to care for children living in traumatic conditions in war-torn areas around the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 6 – “War Orphans Day” or “World Day of War Orphans”

144. On January 6, “Marathi Journalism Day” is celebrated across Maharashtra. On 6th January 1832, Balshastri Jambhekar, known as the father of Marathi journalism started the first newspaper 'Darpan' and since then this day is being celebrated as the Marathi Journalism day in the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 6 – “Marathi Journalism Day” – celebrated across Maharashtra
- Father of Marathi journalism – Balshastri Jambhekar (He started the first newspaper 'Darpan')
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



145. The 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was organized on January 9. This one day virtual convention was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This year, the theme was “Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- January 9 – 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas | Theme – “Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat”

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

146. The first meeting of the High Level project monitoring committee to review the progress of projects funded by the Indian Line of Credit (LOC) in Bangladesh has decided to take steps to ease the tendering process to speed up the implementation of the projects. The virtual meeting was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 1st meeting of the High Level project monitoring committee – held in Dhaka, Bangladesh
- It was held to review the progress of projects funded by India in Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Seikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

147. On January 7, India and France have held their “Annual Strategic Dialogue-2021” in Delhi. National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval has led the Indian delegation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + France = held their “Annual Strategic Dialogue-2021” in Delhi
- Indian delegation led by – Ajit Doval (NSA)
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

148. Bangalore-based Centum Electronics Ltd is awarded the prestigious “Defence Technology Absorption Award” by DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organization) at a ceremony hosted at the DRDO HQ recently. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centum Electronics Ltd – awarded the “Defence Technology Absorption Award” by DRDO
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy
- HQs of Centum Electronics Ltd – Bangalore, Karnataka | CMD – Apparao V Mallavarapu



Appointments & Resignations

149. President Faustin-Archange Touadera has won Central African Republic's presidential election by securing more than 53% of votes in the first round. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Faustin-Archange Touadera – became the President of – Central African Republic
- Central African Republic – Bangui – CFA Franc | President – Faustin-Archange Touadera

150. On January 5, Former India striker Abhishek Yadav has been appointed as the first Deputy General Secretary of All India Football Federation (AIFF) after the sports body decided to create a new post in its hierarchy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abhishek Yadav – appointed as the 1st Deputy General Secretary of – All India Football Federation (AIFF)
- HQs of AIFF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel | Deputy Gen. Secretary – Abhishek Yadav

151. On January 4, The All India Gem & Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) has appointed Ashish Pethe as chairman and Saiyam Mehra as its vice chairman for a period of two years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashish Pethe – appointed as Chairman of All India Gem & Jewellery Domestic Council ([Mumbai](#))
- Saiyam Mehra – appointed as Vice Chairman of All India Gem & Jewellery Domestic Council ([Mumbai](#))

152. The RBI's College of Supervisors (CoS), which was functioning in a limited way in virtual mode since May 2020, is now being fully operationalised with full-time director supported by an Academic Advisory Council (AAC). The 6-member Academic Advisory Council (AAC), chaired by RBI former Deputy Governor N S Viswanathan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- N S Viswanathan – appointed as the 1st full-time Director of RBI's the College of Supervisors (CoS)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- Total Deputy Governors – 4 – Mukesh Kumar Jain | B P Kanungo | Michael D Patra | M Rajeshwar Rao



153. On January 7, Maharishi Ayurveda has roped in 'Ironman' of India and 'Unstoppable' - Milind Soman as brand ambassador for its product Maharishi Amrit Kalash. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Milind Soman – appointed as Brand Ambassador of – Maharishi Ayurveda (for Maharishi Amrit Kalash)

154. On January 5, Alex Ellis, a British strategic expert, will take charge as the new UK high commissioner to India. He will succeed Sir Philip Barton. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alex Ellis – appointed as the new British High Commissioner to India

155. On January 7, Virander Kumar Paul has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Somalia, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Currently, he was serving as High Commissioner of India to Kenya. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virander Kumar Paul – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Somalia
- Somalia – Mogadishu – Dollar/Shilling | New PM – Mohamed Hussein Roble | President – Md Abdullahi

156. On January 5, Google Cloud has announced the elevation of Karan Bajwa as its new leader for Asia Pacific. He currently leads Google Cloud in India. Bajwa is currently based in Gurgaon, but will relocate to Singapore in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karan Bajwa – became the head of the Google Cloud for Asia Pacific region

157. On January 7, Australia's Claire Polosak has become the first woman to officiate at a men's Test match. She was the fourth umpire in the third Test between India and Australia in Sydney. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Claire Polosak (Australia) – became the first woman to officiate at a men's Test match
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

158. On January 7, Joe Biden has formally selected Merrick Garland as his Attorney General. Garland's 2016 supreme court nomination was blocked by Senate Republicans. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Joe Biden – formally selected "Merrick Garland" as his Attorney General
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden



Amount & Agreements

159. On January 6, West Bengal and the World Bank have signed a \$105 million project to improve the inland water transport infrastructure in Kolkata, West Bengal. The project will cover the 5 most populous districts of southern West Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal + World Bank = \$105 million project to improve the inland water transport infrastructure in Kolkata
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 190
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

160. On January 6, the Government of India, Andhra Pradesh government and the New Development Bank (NDB) have signed a loan agreement for 2 road projects of up to \$323 million each. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh + NDB = signed a loan agreement for 2 road projects of up to \$323 million each
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Troyjo
- NDB established by – BRICS Countries – In 2014
- BRICS Countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

161. On January 7, the Centre has approved Rs 8,528 Cr for National Highway projects in Maharashtra. Besides, projects worth Rs 5,801 Cr of Surat-Bangalore highway are in the pipeline. It will help decongest the traffic and reduce pollution levels between Mumbai and Pune. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centre approved Rs 8,528 Cr for National Highway projects in – Maharashtra
- Projects worth Rs 5,801 Cr of Surat-Bangalore highway are in the pipeline



162. On January 5, the Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) Fund Trust has allocated Rs 201.58 Cr for installation of additional 162 dedicated Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Medical Oxygen Generation Plants inside public health facilities in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM CARES Fund Trust allocated Rs 201.58 Cr for installation of 162 PSA Medical Oxygen Generation Plants

163. On January 6, the Government of Japan has committed Official Development Assistance loan of an amount of JPY 30 billion (approx. Rs. 2,113 Cr) for a programme loan to support India's efforts at providing social assistance to the poor and vulnerable households, severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – committed Official Development Assistance loan of JPY 30 billion (approx. Rs. 2,113 Cr) – to India
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

164. On January 5, the two-day "Asian Waterbird Census-2020" has been commenced in Andhra Pradesh under the aegis of experts from the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS). At least 2 dozen sites are covered, including Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, Kolleru Lake and Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2-day "Asian Waterbird Census-2020" – commenced in Andhra Pradesh
- Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary + Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary + Kolleru Lake = located in Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

165. According to the "Statement on Climate of India during 2020" issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the year 2020 was the 8th warmest year on record since nation-wide records commenced in 1901. The previous highest warming recorded in 2016. Bihar and Uttar Pradesh recorded the maximum number of deaths due to adverse weather conditions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to IMD – the year 2020 was the 8th warmest year since nation-wide records commenced in – 1901
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra



166. Unemployment in urban areas rose to 9.1% in January-March 2020 from 7.9% in October-December 2019, according to the data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in the quarterly bulletin of the “Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)”. Urban unemployment in the age group 15-29 years was 21.1%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)” – by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- Unemployment in urban areas rose to 9.1% in January-March 2020
- MoS I/C for Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation – Rao Inderjit Singh

167. On January 7, there will be over 319 million elderly by 2050, threefold the number identified by the Census in 2011, according to the Longitudinal Ageing Study of India (LASI) Wave-1 report. Elderly population is currently growing at around 3% annually. The report was commissioned by the Health Ministry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to “LASI Wave-1 report” – 319 million elderly by 2050 | Current annual growth rate – 3%

168. On January 6, India has suffered the biggest economic impact in the world in 2020 due to Internet shutdowns, adding up to 8,927 hours and \$2.8 billion losses, as per a report by the UK-based privacy and security research firm ‘Top10VPN’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Top10VPN’ : India suffered the biggest economic impact in the world in 2020 due to Internet shutdowns

169. On January 8, Elon Musk has overtaken Amazon's CEO, Jeff Bezos, to become the wealthiest person in the world, according to the valuation by Bloomberg's Billionaire Index - a list of the top 500 richest people in the world. His total net worth is \$188 billion. Jeff Bezos now currently sits second at a net value of \$187 billion. Elon Musk currently holds 20% stake in Tesla. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “List of the top 500 richest people in the world” – by Bloomberg's Billionaire Index
- 1st – Elon Musk (\$188 billion) | 2nd – Jeff Bezos (\$187 billion)
- Elon Musk – the CEO of Tesla & SpaceX (Currently he holds 20% stake in Tesla)

170. On January 6, India’s 7th Trade Policy Review (TPR) has begun at the World Trade Organization (WTO). India’s last TPR took place in 2015. A comprehensive report issued by the WTO Secretariat stated that India’s strong economic growth remained at 7.4% during the period of 2015-20. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India's 7th Trade Policy Review (TPR) began at the WTO – on January 6 (Last TPR took place in 2015)
- As per the WTO's report – India's GDP during 2015-20 remained at 7.4%
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Roberto Azevedo | Member Countries – 164 & Observer – 25

Acquisitions & Mergers

171. SBI Mutual Fund has increased its stake in the CSB bank to over 5.01% from 4.96%. The acquisition was done through open market purchase on January 1, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI Mutual Fund – increased its stake in the CSB bank to over 5.01%
- HQs of SBI Mutual Fund – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Vinay M. Tonse
- HQs of CSB bank – Thrissur, Kerala | CEO – C. V. Rajendran

172. On January 8, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the 100% acquisition of Columbia Asia Hospitals by Manipal Health Enterprises. The acquisition will be for Rs 2,100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the 100% acquisition (Rs 2,100 Cr) of Columbia Asia Hospitals – by Manipal Health Enterprises
- HQs of Manipal Health Enterprises – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Dilip Jose

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

173. On January 6, the Union Cabinet has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and Japan on a basic framework for partnership for proper operation of the system pertaining to “specified skilled worker”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Japan = an MoC on partnership in “Specified Skilled Worker” sector
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga



174. On January 5, in order to address this challenge, Tata Power has partnered with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to provide easy financing scheme for MSME customers in rooftop solar segment with financial aid without any collateral at an interest of less than 10%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Power + SIDBI = to provide easy financing scheme for MSME customers in rooftop solar segment
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai | CEO – Praveer Sinha
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa | Established in – 1990

175. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has signed an MoU with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) worth over Rs 8.73 Cr for procurement of 1,71,520 cotton ‘khadi durries’ or mats for various central paramilitary forces. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ITBP + KVIC = signed an MoU worth over Rs 8.73 Cr for procurement of 1,71,520 cotton ‘khadi durries’ or mats
- HQs of ITBP – New Delhi | DG – Surjeet Singh Deswal | ADG – Manoj Singh Rawat
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena

176. On January 6, the Indian Air Force has signed an MoU with the Institute of Defence Studies and Research (IDSR) that would enable IAF officers to undertake doctoral research and post-graduate programmes in various areas as part of Project Akashdeep. The IDSR is an autonomous institution of Gujarat University. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAF + IDSR = an MoU to enable IAF officers to undertake doctoral research – under ‘Project Akashdeep’
- IDSR is an autonomous institution of – Gujarat University (Ahmedabad)
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

177. On January 6, PhonePe in association with ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has announced the launch of ‘Term Life Insurance’ plans starting at Rs 149 on its platform. PhonePe’s users aged 18 to 50 years and earning Rs 1 lakh per annum or above can avail this policy instantly on the platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PhonePe + ICICI Prudential Life Ins. = to launch ‘Term Life Insurance’ plans starting at Rs 149
- Criteria to avail this policy: Age – 18 to 50 years | Income – Rs 1 lakh or above per annum
- HQs of PhonePE – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam
- HQs of ICICI Prudential Life Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – N. S. Kannan



178. On January 5, Dell Technologies in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Tata Trusts have developed a mobile application for the management of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) at the government Primary Health Centres (PHCs) across the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dell Technologies + MoHFW + Tata Trusts = developed a mobile application for the management of NCDs at PHCs
- HQs of Dell Tech. – Texas, USA | CEO – Michael S. Dell

179. As per the MoU signed, University of Cambridge, renowned research institution in the UK, will provide training to teachers and students belonging to government schools in various municipalities in Andhra Pradesh in order to improve their English language proficiency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cambridge University – to train teachers and students of ‘Andhra Pradesh’ schools in English language proficiency
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

180. On January 8, the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) has signed an agreement with the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) to provide its technical expertise in setting up renewable energy (RE) projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC + IREDA = an agreement to provide technical expertise in setting up renewable energy (RE) projects
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh
- HQs of IREDA – New Delhi | Director – Girish Kumar

181. On January 7, Flipkart has signed an MoU with the Logistics Skill Sector Council (LSC) to set up its 1st Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru to build a skilled and trained workforce for the fast-growing e-commerce industry in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Flipkart + LSC = an MoU to set up its 1st Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- LSC – an organisation set up by MSDE + NSDC + KSDC



182. On January 8, Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) has signed an MoU with National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) to establish various clean and energy efficiency interventions at NHAI structures. EESL and NHAI agreed to implement energy efficient, renewable energy projects and e-mobility services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EESL + NHAI = an MoU to establish various clean and energy efficiency interventions
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | Chairman – Rajeev Sharma
- HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

183. On January 8, Universal Sampo General Insurance Company Ltd has tied up with Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Finance Corporation to initiate comprehensive insurance covers. It plays a pioneering role in boosting industrial climate in the UTs by providing financial assistance to various Small and Medium Enterprises besides others. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Universal Sampo Gen. Ins. + J&K and Ladakh Finance Corporation – tie up for comprehensive insurance covers
- HQs of Universal Sampo Gen. Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sharad Mathur
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

Books & Authors

184. On January 6, a book titled “India’s 71-Year Test: The Journey to Triumph in Australia” was launched. The book, a Bradman Museum initiative, is authored by senior cricket scribe R. Kaushik. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India’s 71-Year Test: The Journey to Triumph in Australia” book – authored by R. Kaushik

185. The RBI officer R. Giridharan has penned a novel titled “Right Under our Nose”. A general manager at RBI, Giridharan said that his job had an influence on his debut book. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Right Under our Nose” a novel – authored by R. Giridharan



186. On January 8, Manipur Governor Dr Najma Heptulla has released a book titled “Making of a General - A Himalayan Echo” authored by (Redt) Lt. Gen. Konsam Himalay Singh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur – released a book titled “Making of a General - A Himalayan Echo”
- The book is authored by – Konsam Himalay Singh

Obituaries

187. On January 6, Bob Brett has passed away. He was 67. He was an Australian Tennis Coach whose players included Grand Slam champions Boris Becker, Goran Ivanisevic and Marin Cilic. Brett received the ATP's Tim Gullickson Career Coach award in November. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bob Brett (Australia) – a Tennis Coach of Australia’s team – passed away (ATP's Tim Gullickson Career Coach award)

188. Colin Bell, one of Manchester City’s greatest Football players, has passed away recently on January 5. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Colin Bell – a Football player – passed away

189. Canadian indigenous actor Taran Kootenhayoo, best known for the 2018 indie film Bella Ciao, has passed away recently at the age of 27. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Taran Kootenhayoo (Canada) – an Actor – passed away
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

190. On January 5, Tamil writer and Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award recipient A. Madhavan has passed away due to age-related ailments. He was 87. He was selected for the ‘Kendra Sahitya Akademi’ award in 2015 for his collection of essays Ilakkiya Chuvadukal. He was also a recipient of ‘Kalai Mamani Award’ in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A. Madhavan – Tamil writer – passed away (‘Kendra Sahitya Akademi’ award in 2015)
- “Kalai Mamani Award” – the highest recognition bestowed on writers and artists – by Tamil Nadu Government
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit



191. On January 7, Popular fashion designer Satya Paul has passed away. He was 79 years old. Born in 1942, Paul founded the eponymous label 'Satya Paul' in 1985. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Satya Paul – a Fashion designer – passed away

192. On January 7, the world's oldest living first-class cricketer Alan Burgess has passed away at the age of 100. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alan Burgess (New Zealand) – a Cricketer – passed away
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | PM – Jacinda Ardern

193. Veteran Congress leader Madhavsinh Solanki has passed away recently on January 9. He served as the chief minister of Gujarat four times and also as a Union Minister. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhavsinh Solanki – a Politician (Congress) – passed away (4 times CM of Gujarat)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

194. Neil Sheehan (Cornelius Mahoney Sheehan), an American Journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author has passed away recently. He was 84. Mr. Sheehan, who covered the war from 1962 to 1966 for United Press International and The Times, was also the author of "A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam" which won a National Book Award and a Pulitzer in 1989. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Neil Sheehan – an American Journalist – passed away (Pulitzer Prize in 1989)
- "A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam" book – authored by Neil Sheehan

Person in News

195. On January 6, a 10-member committee has been constituted under Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy to find an appropriate solution to the issues related to language, culture and conservation of land in the Union Territory of Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A committee is constituted to protect the language, culture and land of Ladakh – headed by G. Kishan Reddy
- MoS for Home Affairs – G. Kishan Reddy



196. Argentine filmmaker Pablo Cesar is named as Chairman of the international jury of the 51st edition of “International Film Festival of India” (IFFI) to be held in Goa. Bangladesh will be the focus country at the 51st IFFI starting at Goa on January 16. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pablo Cesar ([Argentina](#)) – will head international jury of the 51st edition of IFFI ([Goa](#))
- Focus country at the 51st IFFI – [Bangladesh](#)
- [Argentina](#) – [Buenos Aires](#) – [Peso](#) | [President](#) – [Alberto Fernandez](#)

Science & Technology

197. On January 8, the Pakistan military has conducted a test flight of a guided multi-launch rocket system (GMLRS) - “Fatah-1”. The indigenously developed weapon system is designed to be able to carry a conventional warhead up to a range of 140km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pakistan military – conducted a test flight of “Fatah-1” a guided multi-launch rocket system ([GMLRS](#))
- Strike range of “Fatah-1” – [140 km](#)
- [Pakistan](#) – [Islamabad](#) – [Pakistani Rupee](#) | [PM](#) – [Imran Khan](#) | [President](#) – [Arif Alvi](#)

198. The ISRO has outlined plans to develop reusable and heavy lift launchers, advanced propulsion and foster private space activities across the 2020s. The Aditya-L1 solar mission and a first Indian Data Relay Satellite are also expected in 2021 or early 2022. A first, uncrewed flight for the Gaganyaan human spaceflight project is planned for late 2021 or early in 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- [Aditya-L1](#) (1st Solar Mission of [ISRO](#)) + [Gaganyaan-3](#) (3rd Solar Mission of [ISRO](#)) + [Data Relay Satellite](#) + [Gaganyaan](#) project ([India's](#) 1st unmanned flight) = to be launched by late in 2021 or early in 2022
- [HQs of ISRO](#) – [Bengaluru](#), [Karnataka](#) | [Director](#) – [Kailasavadivoo Sivan](#)

199. On January 9, Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated the Coastal Research Vessel (CRV) “Sagar Anveshika” at Chennai Port Trust. It is a coastal research vessel for strengthening scientific research about various issues inside the ocean. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- [Dr Harsh Vardhan](#) – inaugurated the Coastal Research Vessel (CRV) - “[Sagar Anveshika](#)” – at [Chennai Port Trust](#)
- [Union Health & Family Welfare Minister](#) – [Dr Harsh Vardhan](#) ([Constituency](#) – [Chandni Chowk](#), [New Delhi](#))



Ordinance, Bills and Acts

200. On January 7, the Centre has promulgated an ordinance namely “The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Ordinance 2021” to merge the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) cadre of All India Services Officers such as the IAS, IPS and the Indian Forest Service (IFoS) with the Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Centre promulgated an ordinance to merge the J&K cadre of All India Services Officers – with AGMUT cadre
- AGMUT – Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram Union Territory
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha





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