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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 100 of July 2020 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 जुलाई माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill 100 में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इसPDF 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 स्मार्टकीडा

1. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and oncologist Siddhartha Mukherjee, and Professor of Economics at Harvard University Raj Chetty have been named by the Carnegie Corporation of New York as "2020 Great Immigrants" honourees. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Siddhartha Mukherjee + Raj Chetty = named as "2020 Great Immigrants" honourees
- Honoured by Carnegie Corporation (New York)

2. Appointments & Resignations

The Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), Karnam Sekar has retired on June 30, 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Karnam Sekar retired as the MD & CEO of IOB
- IOB HQs Chennai, Tamilnadu
- IOB Tagline "Good people to grow with"

3. Persons in News

The Ministry of Home Affairs has constituted a national level committee headed by Ranbir Singh for reform in criminal law. The committee, which has several leading legal academicians on board, would be gathering opinions online, consulting with experts and collating material for their report to the government. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs constituted a national level committee for reform in criminal law
- The committee is headed by Ranbir Singh
- Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah | Constituency Gandhinagar, Gujarat

4. Appointments & Resignations

Pakistan Army has appointed Major General Nigar Johar, a woman officer as Lieutenant General for the first time. {Read more}

- Nigar Johar is appointed as the Lieutenant General of Pakistan Army
- Present Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa
- Pakistan Islamabad Pakistani Rupee | PM Imran Khan | President Arif Alvi



5. Science & Technology

Swedish Institute of Space Physics will return to Venus for the second time through Indian Space Mission "Shukrayaan-1" which is scheduled to be launched at end of 2023. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Indian Space Mission to explore Venus named "Shukrayaan-1" to be launched by 2023
- In collaboration with Swedish Institute of Space Physics (IRF)

6. Sports & Games

China's two-time Olympic champion Lin Dan, arguably the greatest badminton player of all time, announced his retirement. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Lin Dan (China) - retirement - Badminton Player

7. National & States Affairs

In a bid to reduce air pollution in the national capital, the Delhi government has launched a campaign to plant as many as thirty-one lakh plants, trees, and shrubs across the city by launching "Podhe Lagao, Paryavaran Bachao" (Plant Trees, Save Environment) campaign. {Read more}

Key Points:

- New Delhi launched "Podhe Lagao, Paryavaran Bachao" (Plant Trees, Save Environment) campaign
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

8. Amount & Agreements

Estimated cost for distribution of food grains (Rice and Wheat) and pulses under 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana' during April - November 2020 is around Rs 1,48,938 Cr. {Read more}

Key Points:

Estimated cost – for distribution of food grains & pulses – under PMGKAY – Rs 1,48,938 Cr

9. Persons in News

Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar flagged off a "Bell Helicopter" with a pesticide-carrying capacity of 250 litres in one trip for locust-control. It can cover about 25 to 50 hectares of area in one flight. {Read more}

- Narendra Singh Tomar flagged off "Bell Helicopter" with a pesticide-carrying capacity of 250 litres
- Narendra Singh Tomar Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Panchayati Raj
- Constituency Morena, Madhya Pradesh



10. Persons in News

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has set up a 9-member working group headed by G Srinivasan (Director of National Insurance Academy) to study the legal framework and suitability of the Indian insurance industry or any other sector to offer surety bonds. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IRDAI set up a 9-member working group to study the legal framework and suitability of the Indian insurance industry to offer surety bonds
- The group is headed by G Srinivasan (Director of National Insurance Academy)
- HQs of IRDAI Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman Subhash C. Khuntia

11. Important Days & Dates

The United Nations commemorated "International Day of Vesak", which marks the birth, enlightenment and passing of Lord Buddha. This year it was on May 7, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was pushed back. {Read more}

Key Points:

May 7 – International Day of Vesak – by UN

12. Current GK

"Tribes India Outlet" of TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs was opened at Prayagraj Airport. The Tribes India outlet at Prayagraj Airport is the second one in the city of Prayagraj and the 4th in the State of Uttar Pradesh. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Tribes India Outlet" of TRIFED opened at Prayagraj Airport (Uttar Pradesh)
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda (Constituency Khunti, Jharkhand)

13. International Affairs

The US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) formally designated Chinese's Huawei Technologies Co and ZTE Corporation as posing threats to US national security. {Read more}

- US FCC designated Huawei Technologies + ZTE Corporation as national security threat
- HQS of FCC Washington, D.C., USA | Director Ajit Pai



14. National & States Affairs

The Kerala government is planning to launch 'Dream Kerala Project' to help and tap the potential and experience of those returning from abroad and other states after losing their jobs due to the Covid-19 pandemic. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Kerala decided to launch 'Dream Kerala Project' to help the returnees from abroad after losing their jobs
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

15. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Chandigarh based 3 Base Repair Depot (BRD) of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the city-based Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIO) have developed an indigenous control system for two Mi-17 helicopters for spraying atomised pesticides to arrest locust breeding. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 3 BRDs of IAF + CSIO = developed an indigenous control system for two Mi-17 helicopters
- Pesticides namely "Malathion" to arrest locust breeding
- IAF Chief Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
- HQs of CSIO Chandigarh, Punjab | Director Ravindra Kumar Sinha

16. Obituaries

Writer, Producer, Director & Actor, Carl Reiner has passed away recently at the age of 98. He was a famous Comedian too. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Carl Reiner (USA) passed away Comedian, Writer, Producer, Director & Actor
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

17. Important Days & Dates

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Asadha Poornima celebrations being observed as "Dhamma Chakra Day", from Rashtrapati Bhavan on July 4. {Read more}

Key Points:

• July 4 – "Dhamma Chakra Day" – inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind



18. Obituaries

Former Mizoram Assembly speaker Upa Rokamlova died at a hospital due to prolonged illness. He was 79. {Read more}

Key Points:

Upa Rokamlova – passed away – Former Mizoram Assembly speaker

19. Sports & Games

Rising tennis star Sumit Nagal has become the first Indian to win an international tournament in the Covid-19 era after he lifted the PSD Bank Nord Open trophy, a locally organised clay court tournament in Germany. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Sumit Nagal (Tennis) 1st Indian to win an international tournament in the Covid-19 era
- Sumit Nagal won PSD Bank Nord Open Trophy (in Germany)

20. Appointments & Resignations

Senior bureaucrat Sukhbir Singh Sandhu is given 6 months extension, till mid January next year, as the chairman of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). {Read more}

Key Points:

- Sukhbir Singh Sandhu given 6 months extension as the Chairman of NHAI
- HQs of NHAI New Delhi | Chairman Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

21. Important Days & Dates

The world celebrated "World Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) Day" on July 2. The day is celebrated across the world on two different dates-some countries celebrate it on June 24 while some others celebrate it on July 2. The day was first celebrated by an organisation called World UFO Day Organisation (WUFODO) in the year 2001. {Read more}

Key Points:

- July 2 "World UFO Day" since 2001
- The Day is also celebrated on June 24 in some countries

22. Acquisitions & Mergers

Bharti Airtel climbed 2% by selling 25% stake of its Data Centre business known as "Nxtra" for \$235 million to the US based Carlyle Group. {Read more}

- Carlyle Group (USA) acquired 25% stake (\$235 million) in "Nxtra" an arm of Bharti Airtel
- HQs of Bharti Airtel New Delhi | CEO & MD Gopal Vittal



23. National & States Affairs

The Delhi government has launched an online portal "LEAD" (Learning through E-Resources Made Accessible for Delhi), with over 10,000 instructional material and course content available on it for classes 1 to 12. The portal is developed by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT). {Read more}

Key Points:

- Delhi launched an online portal "LEAD" Learning through E-Resources Made Accessible for Delhi
- The portal is developed by SCERT (HQs New Delhi)
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

24. Current GK

The Forest Department will soon put in place a traffic monitoring mechanism along the roads adjacent to "Nagarahole National Park" which is also known as "Rajiv Gandhi National Park". {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Nagarahole National Park" or "Rajiv Gandhi National Park" Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM BS Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala

25. National & States Affairs

Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020 (DDH2020). It is a joint initiative of MHRD, AICTE and CSIR and supported by partners like CDAC, MyGov, Schrodinger and ChemAxon. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal + Dr. Harsh Vardhan = launched Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020 (DDH2020)
- A joint initiative of = MHRD + AICTE + CSIR
- HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' | Constituency Haridwar, Uttarakhand
- Health & Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan | Constituency Chandni Chowk, New Delhi

26. Current GK

The world has known 'Hagia Sofia Museum' in Turkey's capital city Istanbul as an iconic museum has turned into a mosque after Turkey Government's decision. {Read more}

- 'Hagia Sofia Museum' in Istanbul, Turkey converted into a Mosque
- Turkey Ankara Lira



27. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

As per UN's "Global E-waste Monitor 2020" report, India is the third largest electronic waste (e-waste) generator in the world after China and the USA and these three countries together contributed 38% of total 53.6 million tonnes (Mt) of e-waste, generated worldwide in 2019. {Read more}

Key Points:

- UN's "Global E-waste Monitor 2020" report
- World's Largest e-waste generator Countries in 2019 = 1st China | 2nd USA | 3rd India
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres

28. Current GK

The southern Africa country of Botswana is struggling to investigate the reasons for the mysterious deaths of over 350 elephants in the popular "Okavango Delta Nature Reserve". Botswana has the world's largest elephant population, believed to be more than 130,000. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Deaths of over 350 elephants in "Okavango Delta Nature Reserve" in Botswana
- Botswana has the world's largest elephant population
- Botswana Gaborone Pula

29. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

"Kotak Mahindra Bank" has partnered "Innoviti Payment Solutions" to enable the bank's customers to make debit-card purchases on equated monthly instalments (EMI) from stores. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank + Innoviti Payment Solutions = partnership to enable debit-card purchases on EMI
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Uday Kotak
- HQs of Innoviti Payment Solutions Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Rajeev Agrawal

30. Current GK

The clash had taken place in Asharodi forest range of "Rajaji Tiger Reserve" where 8 Van Gujjar families reside. Reportedly, the forest officials escaped the spot in a rush fearing that one of the Van Gujjar had died. {Read more}

- "Rajaji Tiger Reserve" Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Trivndra Singh Rawat | Governor Baby Rani Maurya



31. National & States Affairs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to quit microblogging site "Sina Weibo" which is a Chinese platform similar to Twitter. {Read more}

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi decided to quit "Sina Weibo" a microblogging Chinese site
- Narendra Modi Prime Minister of India (Constituency LS MP from Varansi, UP)

32. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

NLC India has signed a pact with state-owned Coal India Ltd (CIL) to form a joint venture (JV) to develop 5,000 megawatts of solar and thermal power assets across the country. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NLC India + CIL = to form a JV to develop 5,000 megawatts of solar and thermal power
- HQs of NLC Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CMD Rakesh Kumar
- HQs of CIL Kolkata, WB | Director Anil Kumar Jha | CMD Pramod Agrawal

33. Important Days & Dates

Every year July 02 is celebrated as "World Sports Journalists Day" or "International Sports Journalists Day". It is to acknowledge the sports journalists and also mark the anniversary of the International Sports Press Association (AIPS). The association was established in 1924 during the Summer Olympics in Paris. {Read more}

Key Points:

- July 02 "World Sports Journalists Day" or "International Sports Journalists Day"
- On the Anniversary of AIPS (established in 1924)

34. Science & Technology

Researchers at IIT Gandhinagar have developed an artificial intelligence-based deep learning tool for detection of Covid-19 from chest X-ray images. {Read more}

Key Points:

• IIT Gandhinagar – developed an AI-based deep learning tool for detection of Covid-19 from chest X-ray images



35. Science & Technology

The planet, called TOI-849b, orbits a star a bit smaller and cooler than the sun, located 730 light years from Earth was found by researchers recently. It is 39-times bigger than Earth. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "TOI-849b" a 39-times bigger planet than Earth is found
- It is located 730 light years from Earth

36. Current GK

The Environment Ministry has reconstituted the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) to include an expert from the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi, and a molecular biologist. The CZA is a statutory body chaired by the Environment Minister and tasked with regulating zoos across the country. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Environment Ministry reconstituted Central Zoo Authority (CZA)
- Prakash Javadekar Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ministry of Info. & Broadcasting
- Constituency Maharashtra

37. Schemes & Initiatives

The Odisha Government planned to implement a new initiative "Sabuja Odisha" to increase Green Cover through extensive plantation over 1,30,264 Hectares of land. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Odisha to implement a new initiative "Sabuja Odisha" to increase green cover through extensive plantation
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

38. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Al-enabled 'MyGov Corona Helpdesk' received two awards - "Best Innovation for Covid-19 - Society" and "People's Choice Covid-19 Overall Winner" at the CogX 2020 in London at a time when the flagship Digital India programme celebrated its 5th anniversary. {Read more}

- "MyGov Corona Helpdesk" received two awards
- Awards: "Best Innovation for Covid-19 Society" + "People's Choice Covid-19 Overall Winner' award"
- July 1 5th Anniversary of 'Digital India programme' (started in 2015)



39. Important Days & Dates

"The World Allergy Week" was observed between June 28 to July 4 with a theme of "Allergy care does not stop with COVID-19". The World Allergy Organization (WAO) addressed the people about how to better understand and distinguish between the symptoms of COVID-19 and common allergies. The first World Allergy Week was observed in July 2011. {Read more}

Key Points:

- June 28 to July 4 "The World Allergy Week" by WAO (1st time observed in 2011)
- Theme "Allergy care does not stop with COVID-19"

40. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan promulgated 'The Telangana Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020'. According to sources in the Finance Department, the gross borrowing was Rs 34,000 Cr in 2020-21 Budget. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Telangana amended FABM Act (Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management)
- Gross borrowing Rs 34,000 Cr in 2020-21 Budget
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan

41. Banking & Economic Affairs

ICICI Bank has launched a facility named "Insta Loans against Mutual Funds" in partnership with 'Computer Age Management Services' (CAMS). It will enable the retail customers to get loans up to Rs 1 crore instantly by pledging their holdings in both debt and equity schemes of mutual funds. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank + CAMS = launched "Insta Loans against Mutual Funds" loans up to Rs 1 Cr instantly
- ICCI Bank: HQs Mumbai | MD & CEO Sandeep Bakhshi
- Tagline "Hum Hain Na!"
- HQs of CAMS Chennai, TN | CEO Anuj Kumar

42. Obituaries

Sanjay Dobal, a popular club cricketer passed away due to Covid-19-related complications. He was 53. {Read more}

Key Points:

Sanjay Dobal – passed away – Cricketer



43. Banking & Economic Affairs

India's External Debt for the quarter ended on March 2020 rose to \$558.5 billion. The external debt during the period under review rose by 2.8% or \$15.4 billion on a year-on-year basis. {Read more}

Key Points:

• India's External Debt – increased by 2.8% (\$15.4 Billion) – rose to total \$558.5 billion (From 2019-20))

44. Appointments & Resignations

French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe resigned ahead of a government reshuffle by President Emmanuel Macron. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Edouard Philippe resigned from the post of PM of France
- France Paris Euro | President Emmanuel Macron | New PM Jean Castex

45. Science & Technology

The Mars Colour Camera (MCC) onboard ISRO's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) has captured the image of "Phobos", the closest and biggest moon of Mars. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ISRO's MOM captured the image of "Phobos" the closest and biggest moon of Mars
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan

46. Banking & Economic Affairs

Care Ratings revised India's GDP growth forecast for the current financial year to (-) 6.4% as economic activity continues to be under restriction due to the lockdown on account of the COVID-19 pandemic. {Read more}

Key Points:

- According to "Care Ratings" India's GDP (-) 6.4% {Flexible News}
- HQs of CARE Rating Agency Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Ajay Mahajan

47. Obituaries

Everton Weekes, the last surviving member of the famous three 'Ws' passed away recently. He was 95. In his career, Everton Weekes played 48 test matches and made 4,455 runs at an average of 58.61 per innings. That included a world-record five consecutive centuries in 1948. {Read more}

- Everton Weekes (Barbados) passed away Cricket
- Barbados Bridgetown Barbados Dollar



48. Appointments & Resignations

Shrikant Madhav Vaidya took charge as the new chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. He succeeds Sanjiv Singh. Prior to his elevation, Vaidya was the Director (Refineries) on the IOC Board, since October 2019. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Shrikant Madhav Vaidya took charge as the new chairman of IOCL
- HQs of IOCL New Delhi | Chairperson Shrikant Madhav Vaidya

49. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Kritika Pandey from India won "Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2020" for her short story 'The Great Indian Tee and Snakes'. This time she is the overall winner of this Prize. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Overall winner of "Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2020" Kritika Pandey (India)
- For her short story "The Great Indian Tee and Snakes"

50. Current GK

Lepidopterists in Arunachal Pradesh have discovered two species of butterflies namely "Striped Hairstreak" & "Elusive Prince" in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh while Elusive Prince is discovered at Namdapha National Park. It has been published in the April-June edition of the 'Bionotes Journal'. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Striped Hairstreak" & "Elusive Prince" species of Butterfly discovered in Changlang, Arunachal Pradesh
- Namdapha National Park Arunachal Pradesh
- The Discovery is published in "Bionotes Journal"

51. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Resident doctors of AIIMS with the help of IIT-Delhi students have developed a mobile application named "COPAL-19" to track real-time COVID-19 patients in the hospital, who can become potential plasma donors 28 days after recovery. {Read more}

- AIIMS + IIT-Delhi = developed a mobile application named "COPAL-19"
- HQs of AIIMS New Delhi | Director of AIIMS-Delhi Dr Randeep Guleria



52. Persons in News

In order to generate investment in highway sector, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has set up India's first government or semi government promoted Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) and has also formed a 'Search-Cum-Selection' committee with NHAI chairman Sukhbir Singh Sandhu as the convenor of the Committee. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NHAI to establish India's first Government Or Semi Government promoted "InvIT"
- NHAI formed a 'Search-Cum-Selection' committee
- Convenor of the committee Sukhbir Singh Sandhu
- HQs of NHAI New Delhi | Chairman Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

53. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has joined the central banks and supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) as an observer. NGFS was launched at the Paris One Planet Summit on December 12, 2017. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ADB joined the Central Banks and Supervisors NGFS as an observer
- NGFS Network for Greening the Financial System (launched in 2017)
- ADB: HQs Mandaluyong, Philippines | President Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries 68

54. International Affairs

The Kremlin and its supporters have won a controversial vote to amend the constitution and reset Vladimir Putin's term limits, allowing him to rule as president until 2036. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Vladimir Putin to stay as the President of Russia until 2036
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin

55. National & States Affairs

On National Doctors' Day, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan released Good Clinical Practice Guidelines Handbook and Prospectus for Fellowship Programme for International Students (FPIS) of National Board of Examinations (NBE). {Read more}

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan released Good Clinical Practice Guidelines Handbook
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Sci. & Tech., Ministry of Earth Science
- Constituency Chandni Chowk, New Delhi



56. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Tamil Nadu has overtaken Gujarat to occupy the top spot in annual fish production as per the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI). The country's marine production registered a marginal increase of 2.1% in 2019 compared to the previous year. {Read more}

Key Points:

- The report "Annual Marine Fish Landings in India for 2019" by CMFRI
- In Annual Fish Production: 1st Tamil Nadu | 2nd Gujarat
- Increase in Marine Fish Production of India 2.1% in 2019 (compared to 2018)
- HQs of CMFRI Kochi, Kerala | Director Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan

57. Appointments & Resignations

Shashank Manohar has stepped down as the chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Manohar took charge as ICC Chairman in November 2015. His deputy Imran Khwaja, from Hong Kong, will be the interim chairman. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Shashank Manohar stepped down as the Chairman of ICC
- Imran Khwaja (Hong Kong) appionted as the Interim Chairman of ICC
- HQs of ICC Dubai, UAE | Interim Chairman Imran Khwaja | CEO Manu Sawhney

58. Appointments & Resignations

Rajasthan government appointed Rajeeva Swarup (additional chief secretary), as the new chief secretary of Rajasthan and transferred 103 IAS officers. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Rajeeva Swarup appointed as the new Chief Secretary of "Rajasthan"
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra

59. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to a new report by UNCTAD, the world's tourism sector could lose at least 1.2 trillion dollars or 1.5% of the global GDP having been placed at a standstill for nearly 4 months due to the coronavirus pandemic. {Read more}

- According UNCTAD expected loss of 1.2 trillion or 1.5% of Global GDP in World Tourism Sector due to lockdown
- UNCTAD HQs Geneva, Switzerland | UNCTAD Secretary-General Mukhisa Kituyi



60. Banking & Economic Affairs

The RBI has decided to conduct simultaneous purchase of Government Securities (G-Secs), maturing between 2027 and 2031, and sale of 182 day and 364 day treasury bills (DTBs) under Open Market Operations (OMO) for ₹10,000 Cr each on July 2. This OMO is a part of "Operation Twist". {Read more}

Key Points:

- RBI decided to purchase of "G-Secs" between 2027 and 2031
- RBI decided to sell 182 day and 364 day treasury bills (DTBs)
- Under OMO a part of "Operation Twist"
- RBI: HQs Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25th)

61. Current GK

The Ekadashi that takes place during Shukla Paksha in the Hindu month of Ashadh is called "Devshayani Ekadashi" or "Ashadhi Ekadashi". This year, the auspicious day was celebrated on July 1 in Maharashtra. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Devshayani Ekadashi" or "Ashadhi Ekadashi" Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

62. Current GK

The Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Port Trust introduced a new shipping service through the inland waterways route between the West Bengal capital and the seaside town of Chittagong in Bangladesh. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Port introduced a new shipping service between West Bengal & Bangladesh
- Port located at Kolkata, West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar

63. International Affairs

US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) was launched on July 1, 2020 to implement international standards while seeking to promote best practices for all industries. President Trump signed US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) in January 2020. It has been characterised as "NAFTA 2.0" (North American Free Trade Agreement). {Read more}

- USMCA launched on July 1, 2020
- Characterised as "NAFTA 2.0" (between USA + Mexico + Canada)



64. Current GK

The Uttarakhand government decided to allow pilgrims from all the districts in the state to visit the "Char Dham shrines" from July 1. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand allowed Pilgrims to visit "Char Dham shrines"
- Char Dham Yatra consists = Badrinath + Kedarnath + Gangotri + Yamunotri
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Trivndra Singh Rawat | Governor Baby Rani Maurya

65. National & States Affairs

Union ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has extended the Armed Forces (Special power Act) (AFSPA) 1958 in Nagaland for six month as the Government has declared entire Nagaland as "disturbed area" for 6 more months. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Government declared Nagaland as "disturbed area" for 6 more months
- Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) 1958
- Nagaland: Capital Kohima | CM Neiphiu Rio | Governor Ravindra Narayana Ravi

66. Appointments & Resignations

Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Co. Ltd. has announced the retirement of S. S. Gopalarathnam as the MD and V. Suryanarayanan, currently President and COO, appointed as the Managing Director effective 1st July 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- S. S. Gopalarathnam retired as the MD of Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
- V. Suryanarayanan appointed as the MD of Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
- HQs of CMGIL Chennai, TN | Chairman MM Murugappan | MD V. Suryanarayanan

67. Science & Technology

IIT Kanpur has developed an innovative virtual classroom aid titled "Mobile Masterjee" in the backdrop of the disruption in normal classroom teaching owing to Covid-19 lockdown. {Read more}

Key Points:

• IIT Kanpur – developed virtual classroom aid titled "Mobile Masterjee"



68. National & States Affairs

Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar has inaugurated Unique "Urban Forest" in New Delhi. The planners, however, have used a method called the "Miyawaki method" which creates a multi-dimensional community of trees of various heights. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Prakash Javadekar inaugurated Unique "Urban Forest" in New Delhi
- The method used in this initiative "Miyawaki method"
- Prakash Javadekar Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ministry of Info. & Broadcasting
- Constituency Maharashtra

69. Appointments & Resignations

France's President Emmanuel Macron picked Jean Castex as the New Prime Minister of France after Edouard Philippe resigned. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Jean Castex appointed as the PM of France
- France Paris Euro | President Emmanuel Macron | New PM Jean Castex

70. Books & Authors

Vice President of India - M Venkaiah Naidu virtually released a book on "Future of Higher Education - Nine Mega Trends" authored by CA V Pattabhi Ram. The Virtual event was hosted by ICT Academy. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Future of Higher Education Nine Mega Trends" book authored by V Pattabhi Ram
- The book released by M Venkaiah Naidu

71. Schemes & Initiatives

The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has launched a new scheme called "Accelerate Vigyan" (AV) to provide a single platform for research internships, capacity building programs, and workshops across the country. {Read more}

- SERB launched a new scheme "Accelerate Vigyan" (AV)
- HQs of SERB New Delhi | Secretary Prof Sandeep Verma



72. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

A 13-year-old schoolgirl from Delhi, Freya Thakral has been selected among the recipients of this year's Diana Award, an honour given in the memory of Princess Diana to youngsters for humanitarian efforts. The award is given every year on the birth anniversary of Princess Diana. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Freya Thakral (Delhi) selected among the recipients of "Diana Award-2020" for her humanitarian efforts
- "Diana Award" is given in the field of 'Social Action or Humanitarian Work'

73. Banking & Economic Affairs

Government has approved a Special Liquidity Scheme (SLS) for non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) and housing finance companies (HFCs) to improve their liquidity position in order to avoid any potential systemic risks to the financial sector. State Bank of India's subsidiary SBI Capital Markets Ltd (SBICAP) has set up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) - SLS Trust to manage this operation. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Government approved Special Liquidity Scheme for NBFCs + HFCs
- Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set up by SBI Capital Markets Ltd (SBICAP)
- SBI Bank HQs Mumbai, Maharashtra | SBI Bank Chairman Rajnish Kumar
- SBI Bank MD & CEO Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO Chalasani Venkat Nageswar
- SBI Life CEO Sanjeev Nautiyal

74. Amount & Agreements

The World Bank and the Government of India signed a loan agreement to enhance support for the Namami Gange Programme that seeks to rejuvenate the Ganga river. The World Bank has approved a loan of \$400 million. {Read more}

Key Points:

- World Bank approved \$400 million loan to India to support the 'Namami Gange Programme'
- World Bank HQs Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant

75. Current GK

The Uttarakhand government has cleared diversion of about 70 hectares of forest land in the "Gangotri National Park" for construction of three strategically important roads to China border. {Read more}

- "Gangotri National Park" Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Trivndra Singh Rawat | Governor Baby Rani Maurya



76. Important Days & Dates

The United Nations "International Day of Cooperatives" is observed every year on the first Saturday of July. This year, the day was celebrated on July 4, 2020. The theme for this year is "Cooperatives For Climate Action". {Read more}

Key Points:

- July 4 UN "International Day of Cooperatives" (on the First Saturday of July)
- Theme "Cooperatives For Climate Action"

77. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Marathi writer and playwright Ratnakar Matkari will be posthumously honoured with the 'Natvarya Prabhakar Panshikar award' for lifetime contribution to theatre. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Ratnakar Matkari (Marathi writer) – honoured with the 'Natvarya Prabhakar Panshikar award' – by Maharashtra

78. Sports & Games

Lt. Col. Bharat Pannu, a serving Indian Army Officer created history by successfully securing a podium place at the first edition of the Virtual Race Across America (VRAAM) 2020 and became the first Indian ever to win a podium place at an international Ultra-cycling race. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Lt. Col. Bharat Pannu – 1st Indian to win a podium place at an international Ultra-cycling race at VRAAM-2020

79. Persons in News

Union Minister of Human Resource Development Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Minister of State (MoS) for Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs Kiren Rijiju launched "Fit Hai To Hit Hai India" webinar program under the India's flagship Fit India campaign. {Read more}

- Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' + Kiren Rijiju = launched "Fit Hai To Hit Hai India" webinar program
- Sports Ministry Kiren Rijiju | Constituency Arunachal West
- HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' | Constituency Haridwar, Uttarakhand



80. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

In Nagaland, Mon District Administration has been conferred the "SKOCH Awards" under three different categories at the 65th SKOCH Summit. 3 Categories: SKOCH crucible award 2020, SKOCH order of merit award 2020 & SKOCH honourable mention award 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Mon District Administration (Nagaland) conferred the "SKOCH Awards" at the 65th SKOCH Summit
- Under 3 categories: SKOCH crucible + SKOCH order of merit + honourable mention
- Nagaland: Capital Kohima | CM Neiphiu Rio | Governor Ravindra Narayana Ravi

81. National & States Affairs

Fast-moving consumer goods major Hindustan Unilever Ltd's (HUL's) flagship skin care brand for women Fair & Lovely will now be known as Glow & Lovely. The men's range of Fair & Lovely will be called Glow & Handsom. {Read more}

Key Points:

- HUL's flagship skin care brand renamed from "Fair & Lovely" to "Glow & Lovely" (women's range)
- Men's range from "Fair & Lovely" to "Glow & Handsom"
- HQs of HUL Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Sanjiv Mehta

82. Persons in News

Prof. Rattan Lal and Dr. Uma Lele are among the Scientific Group Members named UN chief Antonio Guterres for 2021 food summit. It is aimed to offer foremost scientific evidence for sustainable food systems. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Prof. Rattan Lal + Dr. Uma Lele = among the Scientific Group Members for Food Summit-2021
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres

83. Important Days & Dates

In India, National Doctor's Day is celebrated on July 1 every year to honour eminent physician and second chief minister of West Bengal Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy. Doctor's Day was established by the Government of India in 1991. The theme this year is "Lessen the mortality of COVID-19". {Read more}

- July 1 National Doctor's Day since 1991
- To honour eminent physician & 2nd CM of West Bengal Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy
- Theme "Lessen the mortality of COVID-19"



84. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Maharashtra Government and the UK India Business Council Business Council signed an MoU to Foster Sustainable Business Relations Between UK And India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- UK IBC + Maharashtra = MoU to Foster Sustainable Business Relations Between UK And India
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM of UK Boris Johnson
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

85. Obituaries

Three-time National Award winner, veteran Bollywood Choreographer, Saroj Khan, passed away due to cardiac arrest. She was 71. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Saroj Khan – passed away – Bollywood Choreographer (3 time National Award winner)

86. Acquisitions & Mergers

Reliance Industries (RIL) announced a stake sale of 0.39% in its digital services subsidiary, Jio Platforms, to US based Intel Capital for Rs 1,894.50 Cr. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Intel Capital to acquire 0.39% stake (Rs 1,894.50 Cr) in Jio Platforms
- HQs of Intel California, USA | CEO Robert (Bob) H. Swan
- HQs of Reliance Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Mukesh Ambani

87. Appointments & Resignations

Indra Mani Pandey has been appointed as India's next Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva. Indra Mani Pandey, a 1990-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, is currently serving as an additional secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. {Read more}

- Indra Mani Pandey appointed as India's next Permanent Representative to UN
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres



88. Sports & Games

India has bid for the 2027 Asian Cup hosting rights along with four other countries, the Asian Football Federation (AFC) has revealed. The other bidders for Asia's premier football tournament are Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India has bid for the 2027 Asian Cup (along with Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia & Uzbekistan)
- HQs of AFC Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President Salman Bin Ibrahim Al-Khalifa

89. Defence Affairs

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved a proposal to acquire 33 new fighter aircraft including 12 Su-30MKIs and 21 MiG-29s along with upgradation of 59 MiG-29s at a cost of Rs 18,148 Cr. The DAC also approved acquisitions of various platforms and equipment required by the Indian Armed Forces for an approximate cost of Rs 38,900 Cr. {Read more}

Key Points:

- DAC approved a proposal to acquire 33 new fighter aircraft (12 Su-30MKIs + 21 MiG-29s)
- Total Rs 38,900 Cr approved by DAC For capital acquisition of equipment for armed forces
- Chairman of DAC Rajnath Singh (Defence Minister Lucknow, UP)

90. Important Days & Dates

72nd edition of "Chartered Accountants Day" was celebrated on July 1 by ICAI. An act of Parliament gave birth to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on July 1, 1949. It is the national accounting body of India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- July 1 72nd edition of "Chartered Accountants Day" celebrated by ICAI
- HQs of ICAI New Delhi | Chairman Atul Kumar Gupta

91. National & States Affairs

Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Hardeep Singh Puri, launched the toolkit for Swachh Survekshan 2021, the sixth edition of the annual cleanliness survey of urban India conducted by MoHUA. The ministry also launched the integrated SBM-Urban MIS portal. {Read more}

- MoHUA launched 6th Edition of "Swachh Survekshan 2021" + integrated SBM-Urban MIS portal
- MoHUA Minister Hardeep Singh Puri



92. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited (IndiaFirst Life), promoted by Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India, has associated with BOB Financial Services Limited (BOB Financial), to offer a unique group insurance covering that provides financial support upon hospitalisation or on COVID-19 diagnosis. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IndiaFirst Life Ins. + BOB Financial = to offer a unique group insurance on COVID-19 diagnosis
- IndiaFirst Life Insurance Co. promoted by = BOB + UBI
- HQs of IndiaFirst Life Ins. Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO R. M. Vishakha
- BOB HQs Vododara, Gujarat | CEO Sanjiv Chadha

93. Schemes & Initiatives

The Odisha government has launched a scheme "Balaram" to provide agricultural credit of Rs 1,040 Cr to landless farmers who are facing hardships due to the coronavirus outbreak. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Odisha launched "Balaram" scheme to provide agricultural credit to landless Farmers
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

94. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

With an objective to support and build a strong ecosystem for Indian Apps, MeitY in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission – Niti Aayog launched "Digital India AatmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge" for Indian tech entrepreneurs and Startups. {Read more}

Key Points:

- MeitY + Atal Innovation Mission = "Digital India AatmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge"
- Ravi Shankar Prasad Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)
- Atal Innovation Mission under "NITI Aayog" (HQs New Delhi)
- CEO Amitabh Kant | Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar

95. Sports & Games

Sports Ministry will soon launch Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) for junior athletes in the country with an aim to produce Olympic champions by 2028. {Read more}

- Sports Ministry to launch "TOPS" for junior athletes
- Aim to produce Olympic champions by 2028
- TOPS Target Olympic Podium Scheme
- Sports Ministry Kiren Rijiju | Constituency Arunachal West



96. Banking & Economic Affairs

HDFC bank is going to launch state-of-the-art technology-enabled "ZipDrive" instant auto loans to customers across 1,000 cities in India. This offering will be extended to Tier 2 and 3 cities. {Read more}

Key Points:

- HDFC bank to launch "ZipDrive" instant auto loans service across 1000 cities in India
- HQs Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & Chairman of HDFC Bank Aditya Puri
- Chairman of HDFC Ltd. Deepak Parekh

[

97. National & States Affairs

Edelweiss Asset Management Company announced the launch of second tranche of Bharat Bond ETF with two new series after the successful launch of the initial series of ETFs in December last year. It aims at raising Rs. 14,000 Cr. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Edelweiss to launch 2nd tranche of Bharat Bond ETF to raise Rs. 14,000 Cr
- HQs of Edelweiss AMC Mumbai, Maharashtra

98. Current GK

Flood caused by heavy rains continued to wreak havoc in Assam affecting not just people but also the animals at the world-famous Kaziranga National Park. Nearly 80% area of the sanctuary is inundated by flood waters. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Kaziranga National Park" Assam
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

99. Acquisitions & Mergers

US private equity giant KKR has agreed to acquire about 54% stake in Mumbai-based drug manufacturer JB Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals for Rs 3,100 Cr. {Read more}

Key Points:

• KKR (USA) – to acquire 54% stake (Rs 3,100 Cr) – in JB Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals (Mumbai)

100. Schemes & Initiatives

The Ladakh Food Security Scheme (LFSS) has been launched by the Union Territory administration of Ladakh with effect from July 1, 2020. {Read more}

- UT administration of Ladakh launched "Ladakh Food Security Scheme (LFSS)"
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R K Mathur





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