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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। 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

101. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Frans Timmermans, the EU's climate chief, hosted the 4th Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA) at a videoconference, along with the environment ministers of Canada and China, Jonathan Wilkinson and Huang Runqiu. From India, Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar participated in meet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA) – hosted by European Union (EU), China and Canada
- Indian participant – Prakash Javadekar (Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change – Maharashtra)

102. Current GK

Scientists in Italy are investigating the mysterious appearance of pink glacial melting ice in the Alps, caused by algae known as “Ancyronema Nordenskiöldii” that accelerate the effects of climate change. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists in Italy – investigating – pink glacial melting ice – in the Alps
- It is caused by – “Ancyronema Nordenskiöldii” – an algae

103. Important Days & Dates

“World chocolate day” also known as the “International chocolate day” observed on July 7th is all about celebrating one of the best creations of humankind- Chocolate. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 7 – “World chocolate day”

104. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed a License Agreement and Transfer of Technology (LAToT) with DRDO for Akash Missile Weapon System (Indian Army Variant). BDL is the lead integrator for Akash Weapon System. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BDL + DRDO = License Agreement & LAToT – For “Akash Missile Weapon System”
- HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Siddharth Mishra
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddyz



105. Banking & Economic Affairs

Fino Payments Bank Limited has launched "Bhavishya", a savings account scheme for minor children aged between 10 and 18 years. It is aimed at making children banking ready, inculcating a savings habit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fino Payments Bank – launched "Bhavishya" – a savings account scheme for minor children
- HQs of FPBL – Maharashtra | MD and CEO – Rishi Gupta

106. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) has entered into a corporate agency partnership with Bajaj Allianz Life to offer the life insurance solutions of the latter to its customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVB + Bajaj Allianz Life = Bancassurance agreement
- HQs of KVB – Karur, Tamil Nadu | CEO – P. R. Seshadri
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Life – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Tarun Chugh

107. National & States Affairs

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray virtually inaugurated Asia's largest & world's second largest "Yotta NM1 data centre" near Mumbai, Maharashtra. It is owned by Yotta Infrastructure Group, a subsidiary of the Hiranandani Group. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uddhav Thackeray inaugurated – Asia's largest & world's 2nd largest "Yotta NM1 data centre" – in MH
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

108. Appointments & Resignations

Luxury Ride, the chain of pre-owned, multi-brand luxury car showrooms, has signed singer Sukhbir Singh as its brand ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sukhbir Singh (Singer) – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of – Luxury Ride
- HQs of Luxury Ride – New Delhi | Co-founder and MD – Sumit Garg



109. Science & Technology

Pune-based Mylab Discovery Solutions has launched 'Compact XL' a machine claimed to fully automate the manual lab operations and test multiple samples concurrently including RT-PCR tests for COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mylab Discovery Solutions – launched – 'Compact XL' machine
- HQs of Mylab Discovery Solutions – Pune, Maharashtra

110. National & States Affairs

Nagaland government has banned import, trading and sale of dog meat in the state. The move followed a similar decision taken by Mizoram government in March this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nagaland – banned – Import, trading and sale of Dog meat (after Mizoram did so)
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi

111. International Affairs

Germany has become the first major economy in the world to phase out long-awaited coal, nuclear power as an energy source. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Germany – first major economy – to phase out coal, nuclear power as an energy source
- Germany – Berlin – Euro

112. Sports & Games

Asian Games champion and World Championships silver-medallist, Amit Panghal, has become the World No. 1 pugilist in his 52kg category in the newest list of world rankings released by the Amateur International Boxing Association (AIBA). In women, Manju Rani, has become the highest-ranked Indian globally at No. 2 position in her 48kg weight division. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Panghal (Boxer) – topped – the list of world rankings released by AIBA
- Manju Rani (Boxer) – stood at 2nd position – in the list of world rankings released by AIBA
- HQs of AIBA – Lausanne, Switzerland | Interim President – Dr Mohamed Moustahsane

113. Current GK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated Asia's largest 750 MW Solar Power plant Project, the Rewa Solar Power Project in Madhya Pradesh, to the nation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – dedicated – 750 MW Rewa Solar Power Project – in Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

114. Sports & Games

Tamil Nadu's G Akash became the country's 66th chess Grandmaster. Akash's GM title was confirmed at the second council meet of International Chess Federation (FIDE) for the year 2020 held recently. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G Akash (Tamil Nadu) – became the country's 66th Chess Grandmaster
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Arkady Dvorkovich

115. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to the 11th edition of the "Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020", released by US based property consultant Jones Lang LaSalle's (JLL), India ranked 34th globally on the index with higher levels of transparency observed in the country. The list was topped by the UK. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 11th edition of the "Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020" report – release by Jones Lang LaSalle's (JLL)
- India – 34th | UK – topped
- HQs of JLL – USA

116. Science & Technology

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee launched a mobile application namely "Self Scan", developed by the state's information technology department, to scan documents as an alternative to CamScanner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – launched – "Self Scan" mobile app – as an alternative to CamScanner
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar



117. Sports & Games

Finland racing driver Valtteri Bottas has won the Formula One (F1) season-opening Austrian Grand Prix (GP). He drives Mercedes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Valtteri Bottas (Finland) – won ‘Austrian Grand Prix’ – drives Mercedes
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin

118. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

India is expected to add only 60 GW of renewable energy capacity in the next 5 years, according to Bridge To India's India Renewable Energy CEO survey report 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – expected to add only 60 GW of renewable energy capacity – in the next 5 years
- Government's Target: 175 GW - by 2022 & 450 GW - by 2030

119. Science & Technology

Australian scientists have discovered 7,000 years old ancient underwater Aboriginal sites. Archaeologists in Western Australia discovered hundreds of stone tools made by aboriginal people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australian scientists – discovered – 7000 years old ancient underwater Aboriginal sites
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

120. Current GK

The government of Assam has decided to upgrade the 111.942 sq km “Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary” into a National Park. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam Government – to upgrade “Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary” – into a National Park
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

121. Books & Authors

Maruti Suzuki chairman R C Bhargava authored a book on industrialising India namely "Getting Competitive: A Practitioner's Guide for India". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Getting Competitive: A Practitioner's Guide for India" book – authored by “R C Bhargava”
- HQs of Maruti Suzuki – New Delhi | Chairman – R C Bhargava | MD & CEO – Kenichi Ayukawa



122. International Affairs

Harsh Vardhan and Narendra Singh Tomar have released guidelines for evaluation of Nano-Based Agri-Input and Food Products in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan + Narendra Singh = released guidelines – on Nano-Based Agri-Input and Food Products
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)
- Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development – Narendra Singh Tomar (Morena, MP)

123. National & States Affairs

The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray launched "MahaJobs" portal for job seekers and the employers in Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra CM – launched – "MahaJobs" portal – for job seekers and the employers
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

124. Appointments & Resignations

The ministry of corporate affairs (MCA) extended the term of Justice Bansi Lal Bhat as acting chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) by three months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Bansi Lal Bhat – extended as the Chairperson of NCLAT – for 3 month
- Nirmala Sitharaman – Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs | Constituency – Karnataka

125. Persons in News

Current India skipper Virat Kohli's position has been questioned by Sanjeev Gupta in a mail to Ethics Officer D K Jain. Virat Kohli has been put under the scanner due to BCCI's conflict of interest laws. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – has been put – under the Conflict of Interest scanner
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Ethics Officer – D K Jain



126. Current GK

In Uttarakhand, Police has issued a notice of suspension of “Kanwar Mela” due to COVID-19 and requested devotees not to come to Haridwar as the district's borders have been sealed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – suspended – “Kanwar Mela”
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain
- CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

127. Books & Authors

A political thriller, interesting author and journalist Mr Kamlesh Sutar, titled his book as “36 Days: A Political Chronicle of Ambition, Deception, Trust and Betrayal” published by Rupa Publications.

Key Points:

- “36 Days: A Political Chronicle of Ambition, Deception, Trust and Betrayal” book – by Kamlesh Sutar

128. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

“INFORM Risk Index-2020” has been topped by Somalia with an inform risk of 8.9. India has ranked at 31st place with an inform risk of 5.4, means risk of humanitarian crises and disasters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UN’s “INFORM Risk Index-2020” – topped by Somalia | India – 31st

129. Appointments & Resignations

The first CEO of Startup Village and founder of Re-think Foundation, Sijo Kuruvilla George has been selected as the member of central government’s expert committee on the science and technology policy. The Expert Committee on India’s 5th Science and Technology Policy is led by Harkesh Mittal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sijo Kuruvilla George – selected as the member of – Expert Committee on Science and Technology Policy
- India’s 5th Science and Technology Policy is led by – Harkesh Mittal

130. Banking & Economic Affairs

Private lender Yes Bank has launched an instant personal loan disbursement facility ‘loan in seconds’ to push loan growth. The account holders identified by the bank can avail this quick loan disbursement facility without any document. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yes Bank – launched – ‘loan in seconds’ facility
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar
- Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”



131. National & States Affairs

In Madhya Pradesh, the Indore Municipal Corporation placed Yellow colour dustbins at all major places in the city for only corona infected materials. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yellow colour dustbins – introduced in – Indore Municipal Corporation, Madhya Pradesh
- MP: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

132. Books & Authors

In the midst of the rising tensions between India and China, a novel named “Mahaveer: The Soldier who never died” tells the tale of the Indo-Chinese battle of Nuranang in 1962. It is authored by A.K. Srikumar along with his wife Rupa Srikumar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Mahaveer: The Soldier who never died” a novel – authored by A.K. Srikumar + Rupa Srikumar

133. Science & Technology

In a study recently published in Nature Astronomy, the scientists from Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have provided a robust observational evidence for the first time that Lithium (Li) production is common among low mass Sun-like stars during their He-core burning phase. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIA – provided evidence for the first time – related to ‘Lithium (Li) production’
- The study was published in – “Nature Astronomy” journal
- HQs of IIA – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Annapurni Subramaniam

134. Science & Technology

Quidich Innovation Labs and Asteria Aerospace have successfully completed India’s First No-Permission No-Takeoff (NPNT) compliant drone flight on the A200 Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS). The flight was carried out in a green zone identified by the DGCA, near Tumkur in Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Quidich Innovation Labs + Asteria Aerospace = discovered – completed India’s 1st NPNT compliant drone flight
- On – A200 Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS)
- Carried out in – Green Zone, Near Tumkur, Karnataka



135. Sports & Games

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) adopted a new branding and visual identity, including an institutional and a commercial logo, to celebrate a 100 years of participation of the country's athletes at the Summer Olympics. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOA – adopted – a new visual identity – to celebrate a 100 years of participation – in Olympic Games
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | President – Narinder Dhruv Batra | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta

136. Important Days & Dates

"GST Day" was celebrated on July 1. GST was launched on July 1, 2017, and the GST day is celebrated to commemorate commencement of "One Nation-One Market-One Tax". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 1 – "GST Day" (GST launched in 2017)

137. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) announced a partnership with Facebook to provide training on digital safety, online well being and training on Augmented Reality (AR) to students and teachers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBSE + Facebook = to provide training on digital safety & Augmented Reality to students & teachers
- Parent Org. of CBSE – HRD Ministry (Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)
- HQs of CBSE – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shri Manoj Ahuja
- Facebook: HQs – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

138. Amount & Agreements

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has released \$50 million in the first tranche of assistance to L&T Infrastructure Finance Ltd (LTIFL) for funding Renewable Energy projects in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIIB – first tranche of assistance worth \$50 million – to L&T Infrastructure Finance Ltd
- HQs of AIIB – Beijing, China | President – Jin Liqun
- Larsen & Toubro HQs – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Dinanath Dubhashi



139. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) have announced the launch of a partnership between the USAID-supported South Asia Group for Energy (SAGE) and MNRE's national technical institutions for clean energy development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SAGE (USAID) + MNRE = partnership for clean energy development
- USAID HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Mark Green
- Raj Kumar Singh – Minister of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

140. Schemes & Initiatives

WhatsApp has launched "It's Between You" campaign in the country showcasing stories about how Indians are using the Facebook-owned platform 'Whatsaapp' to communicate in a secure manner. WhatsApp collaborated with Bollywood director Gauri Shinde along with BBDO India to create two 60-second ads. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WhatsApp – launched – "It's Between You" campaign
- WhatsApp + Gauri Shinde = to create two 60-second ads
- HQs of Whatsapp – California, USA | CEO – Jan Koum

141. Schemes & Initiatives

Karnataka Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa has launched "Weavers Weaver Samman Yojana". Under this scheme, 19,744 handloom weavers in the state will get annual financial assistance of Rs. 2000 through Direct Benefit Transfer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka – launched – "Weavers Weaver Samman Yojana" or "Nekara Samman Yojane"
- Annual financial assistance of – Rs. 2000
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

142. International Affairs

Sri Lanka and Maldives have become the first two countries in the World Health Organisation's South-East Asia region to eliminate both measles and rubella ahead of a 2023 target. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sri Lanka & Maldives – the first two countries – to eliminate both measles and rubella (Target – 2023)
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194



143. Science & Technology

Bengaluru-based National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) has discovered a new species of a fan-throated lizard, "Sitana dharwarensis", from the barren lands of northern Karnataka's Bagalkot district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCBS – discovered a new species – "Sitana dharwarensis" a fan-throated lizard – in Bagalkot, Karnataka
- HQs of NCBS – Bengaluru, Karnataka

144. Science & Technology

Israel's Defence Ministry has successfully launched "Ofek 16" a new spy satellite from central Israel into space. It described the "Ofek" as an electro-optical reconnaissance satellite with advanced capabilities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israel – launched "Ofek 16" a new spy satellite
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

145. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

India and Afghanistan have signed 5 agreements for developing educational infrastructure in 4 Afghan provinces. The five memorandums of understanding (MoUs) were signed under the High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP) programme being implemented by India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Afghanistan = signed 5 agreements – for developing educational infrastructure in 4 Afghan provinces
- Under – HICDP programme
- Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | President – Ashraf Ghani

146. Science & Technology

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will set up a research cell at the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IIT-H) to meet future defence technological requirements of the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – will set up a research cell – at IIT Hyderabad
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy



147. National & States Affairs

Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in the country where 100% households have LPG connections. Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur announced this through video conferencing while interacting with the beneficiaries of 'Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojana'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – first state in the country to achieve 100% LPG connections
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

148. Amount & Agreements

A new four-storey school building built with Indian assistance of Rs 1.94 Cr for students pursuing both vedic and modern education was inaugurated in Nepal's ilam district. The new building of 'Shri Saptmai Gurukul Sanskrit Vidyalaya' was set up in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – funded Rs 1.94 Cr – For new school infrastructure inaugurated in – ilam, Nepal
- The new building named "Shri Saptmai Gurukul Sanskrit Vidyalaya" – was set up in 2009
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

149. Appointments & Resignations

The UK India Business Council has announced that Jayant Krishna will take over as its new Group Chief Executive Officer from August 3. Krishna will be the first Indian CEO of UK India Business Council (UKIBC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jayant Krishna – appointed as the CEO of UKIBC (from Aug 3)
- HQs of UKIBC – London, UK | Chairman – Lord Davies of Abersoch

150. Science & Technology

With the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) fast-tracking efforts to develop "Covaxin" in partnership with Bharat Biotech, The first made-in-India coronavirus vaccine may be launched by August 15 for public health use. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Covaxin" – to be launched by "August 15, 2020" – for Public health use
- Developed by = ICMR + Bharat Biotech + NIV
- Bharat Biotech HQs – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella
- ICMR HQs – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava
- HQs of NIV – Pune, Maharashtra | NIV comes under – ICMR



151. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Indian Railways has set up a solar power plant in Bina, located in the state of Madhya Pradesh to directly power the Railway Overhead Line. The pilot project of 1.7 mega watt solar power plant has been set up by Indian Railways in collaboration with Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited (BHEL) on railway land. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways + BHEL = set up a solar power plant – in Bina, Madhya Pradesh
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra
- HQs of BHEL – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal

152. Appointments & Resignations

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Injeti Srinivas as the 1st chairman of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) for 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Injeti Srinivas – to be appointed as the 1st Chairman of IFSCA – for 3 years
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

153. Amount & Agreements

Karnataka Agriculture Minister B C Patil informed that Central Government has sanctioned Rs 4,000 Cr under 'Atmanirbhar Programme' to improve infrastructure for the Food Parks in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Government – sanctioned Rs 4,000 Cr – For the Food Parks in 'Karnataka'
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

154. National & States Affairs

Tamil Nadu chief minister K Palaniswami announced a monthly stipend of Rs 3,000 to newly enrolled junior lawyers for two years to help them overcome financial difficulties in pursuit of their profession. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – announced a monthly stipend of Rs 3,000 – to junior lawyers – for 2 years
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

155. National & States Affairs

Liberty General Insurance Ltd. (LGI), has launched an innovative service “Liberty Assure” as a part of its existing Private Car Package Policy, under the Regulatory Sandbox approval received from IRDAI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LGI – launched an innovative service “Liberty Assure” – a Private Car Package Policy
- HQs of LGI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Roopam Asthana

156. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Microsoft have announced a strategic partnership aimed at providing digital skills to over 1 lakh youth in the country over the next 12 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSDC + Microsoft = strategic partnership – to provide digital skills to over 1 lakh youth – in next 12 months
- Microsoft: HQs – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella

157. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Ride-hailing platform Ola has entered into a partnership with Flipkart-owned PhonePe to allow users to pay for rides using PhonePe within the Ola app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ola + PhonePe = to allow users to pay for rides using PhonePe
- HQs of Ola – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Bhavish Aggarwal
- PhonePE HQs – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam

158. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Deutsche Bank has agreed a strategic, multiyear partnership with Google to give the German lender access to cloud services and drive innovation in technology-based financial products for clients. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Deutsche Bank + Google = multiyear partnership – to give access to cloud services and drive innovation
- HQs of Deutsche Bank – Frankfurt, Germany | CEO – Christian Sewing | President – Karl von Rohr
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai



159. National & States Affairs

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated "Mission Vriksharopan-2020" in Kukarel forest in capital city Lucknow. Under this programme, more than 25 Cr saplings will be planted across the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched – "Mission Vriksharopan-2020" – to plant more than 25 Cr saplings
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

160. Acquisitions & Mergers

The online financial services provider Paytm will acquire general insurance company Raheja QBE in a deal worth around \$76 million or Rs 570 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm – to acquire – Raheja QBE – worth around \$76 million or Rs 570 Cr
- Paytm HQs – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Paytm CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- Paytm Payment Bank CEO – Satish Kumar Gupta | Paytm General Ins. CEO – Vineet Arora
- HQS of Raheja QBE – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Pankaj Arora

161. National & States Affairs

Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur has e-launched "Mission Organic Development Initiative (M.O.D.I)" and a Greenhouse Project to steer the Union Territory on a sustainable path. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ladakh – e-launched – "Mission Organic Development Initiative (M.O.D.I)" & Greenhouse Project
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

162. Current GK

In a very rare discovery, a red coral Kukri snake was spotted at the "Dudhwa National Park" in Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A red coral Kukri snake – spotted in – "Dudhwa National Park" – Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



163. National & States Affairs

The All India Radio (AIR) will broadcast its first- ever 'News Magazine' programme in Sanskrit which will have news from the world of Sanskrit and prominent developments of the week. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIR – to broadcast its first- ever 'News Magazine' programme – in Sanskrit
- HQs of AIR – New Delhi | Director – A Surya Prakash | Chairman – Shashi Shekhar Vempati

164. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

SBM Bank India, the first bank to receive universal banking license from the Reserve Bank of India, has announced its partnership with Mastercard to revolutionise domestic and cross-border payments and remittances through “Mastercard Send”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBM Bank India + Mastercard = to revolutionise domestic and cross-border payments and remittances
- SBM Bank India – 1st bank to receive universal banking license from RBI
- SBM Bank India - is promoted by the government of Mauritius
- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)

165. National & States Affairs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached Leh in Ladakh with Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat and Army Chief MM Naravane. Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a surprise visit to Ladakh. In Ladakh he was briefed by senior officials of Indian Army at a forward position in Nimu, in Ladakh. This is among the tough terrains surrounded by Zaskar range located at 11,000 feet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – made a surprise visit – to Nimu, Ladakh (Zaskar range) - on the banks of 'Indus River'
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

166. Obituaries

Italian composer and two times Oscar winner, Ennio Morricone has passed away recently. He was 91. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ennio Morricone (Italy) – passed away – Composer

167. National & States Affairs

After lifting all travel restrictions, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board (MPTB) has introduced “Intezaar Aapka” campaign to attract tourists who would like to visit the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – introduced “Intezaar Aapka” campaign – to attract tourists
- MP: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

168. Current GK

The Jharkhand government has decided not to celebrate “Shravani Mela” this year at the famous Shiva temple of Deoghar district due to Covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Shravani Mela” – Deoghar, Jharkhand
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

169. Science & Technology

A NASA astronaut who is currently onboard the International Space Station (ISS) captured several images of the newly discovered comet “Neowise” and shared them on social media. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA’s astronauts – captured several images of – comet “Neowise”
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

170. International Affairs

China has reported its first suspected case of “Bubonic Plague”. The bubonic plague, known as the “Black Death” in the Middle Ages, is a highly infectious and often fatal disease that is spread mostly by rodents. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – reported – first case of “Bubonic Plague” (Black Death) – spread by “Rodents”
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

171. National & States Affairs

Indian Railways is all set to transform itself as ‘Net Zero’ Carbon Emission Mass Transportation Network by 2030 in a mission mode. The national transporter plans to solarise railway stations by utilizing its vacant lands for renewable energy projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways – to transform – as ‘Net Zero’ Carbon Emission Mass Transportation Network – by 2030
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra



172. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Star Health and Allied Insurance has entered into a strategic partnership with Karur Vysya Bank to offer innovative health insurance solutions to the bank's customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Star Health Ins. + KVB = to offer innovative health insurance solutions
- HQs of KVB – Karur, Tamil Nadu | CEO – P. R. Seshadri
- HQs of Star Health Insurance – Chennai, TN | CEO – V. Jagannathan

173. National & States Affairs

Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat allocated Rs. 326.20 Cr for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Himachal Pradesh in 2020-21. Himachal Pradesh will provide tap connections to all rural households by 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government – allocated Rs. 326.20 Cr – for the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission – in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh – to provide tap connections to all rural households – by 2022
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

174. International Affairs

President Donald Trump has officially started the withdrawal of the United States from the World Health Organization (WHO), making good on threats to deprive the UN body of its top funding source over its response to the coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USA – officially issued a notice to UN – For withdrawal from WHO – on July 6, 2021
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

175. Obituaries

Earl Cameron, who was one of the first Black actors to perform in mainstream British Films has passed away. He was 102. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Earl Cameron (Bermuda) – passed away – Actor
- Bermuda – Hamilton – Bermuda Dollar

176. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Haryana Cabinet has approved a proposal to bring an ordinance to give 75% reservation in private sector jobs to the youth of the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – ordinance – to give 75% reservation – in private sector jobs to the youth of the state
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

177. National & States Affairs

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries has launched “JioMeet” video conferencing app with unlimited free calling that is being seen as rate war on rival Zoom. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Industries – launched “JioMeet” – a video conferencing app with unlimited free calling
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

178. Important Days & Dates

The state of Andhra Pradesh celebrated July 8 as “Rythu Dinotsavam” (Farmers’ Day) as it marked the birth anniversary of YS Rajasekhara Reddy, the 14th CM of Andhra Pradesh who served from 2004 to 2009. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 8 – “Rythu Dinotsavam” (Farmers’ Day) – celebrated by Andhra Pradesh
- The birth anniversary of – Y S Rajasekhara Reddy (14th CM of Andhra Pradesh)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

179. National & States Affairs

As per Railway board chairman VK Yadav, the Private players will begin Rail Passenger services by April 2023, and they will run only five per cent of the Railways' total mail and express trains. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Private players – will begin Rail Passenger services – by April 2023
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra



180. National & States Affairs

Sports Ministry has announced to remove salary cap of Rs 2 lakhs for Indian coaches to encourage them to produce better results and attract former players to become high performance trainers. The ministry also announced that foreign and Indian coaches will be hired on a contractual basis for 4 years in sync with the Olympic Games. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sports Ministry – removed salary cap of ‘Rs 2 lakhs’ – for Indian coaches
- Foreign and Indian coaches will be hired on a contractual basis for – 4 years
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)

181. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) under Ministry of AYUSH and ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) under Department of Agricultural Research and Education have signed an MoU to conserve Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources (MAPGRs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMPB + ICAR-NBPGR = an MoU – to conserve Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources
- NMPB – comes under Ministry of AYUSH
- ICAR-NBPGR – comes under Dept of Agricultural Research and Education | HQ – New Delhi
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa
- HQs of ICAR – New Delhi | DG – Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra | President – Narendra Singh Tomar

182. Persons in News

Wrestler-turned-actor Dwayne Johnson has been named Instagram's highest-paid celebrity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dwayne Johnson (American-Canadian) – named Instagram's highest-paid celebrity

183. National & States Affairs

The new administrative and academic building of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Jharkhand has been named after Bharatiya Jan Sangh founder Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on his birth anniversary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Academic building of IARI (Jharkhand) – named after ‘Shyama Prasad Mukherjee’
- The founder of Bharatiya Jan Sangh – Shyama Prasad Mukherjee’



184. National & States Affairs

A Himalayan butterfly named Golden Birdwing is India's largest, a record an unknown specimen had held for 88 years. The male was from the Wankhar Butterfly Museum in Shillong, Meghalaya and the female was recorded from Didihat in Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Golden Birdwing (Himalayan butterfly) – named India's largest butterfly
- "Wankhar Butterfly Museum" – Shillong, Meghalaya

185. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

On recommendations of MHA, MeitY has issued orders under Sec 69A of the I.T. Act, 2000, for blocking 40 websites linked to pro-Khalistan group 'Sikhs for Justice (SFJ)' for a campaign for registering supporters for its cause. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY – blocked 40 websites – linked to 'Sikhs for Justice (SFJ)'
- The order issued under – Sec 69A of the IT Act 2000

186. Science & Technology

India's first social media super application "Elyments" was launched by the Vice President of India, Venkiah Naidu on Sunday. The app allows users to stay in touch through a vibrant feed, free audio/video calls, and private/group chats. This app is being seen as a massive boost to Indian startups and a major push towards 'Make in India' initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Elyments" India's first Social Media Super Application – launched by Venkiah Naidu

187. National & States Affairs

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal inaugurated the 10,000-bedded Sardar Patel Covid Care Centre and Hospital (SPCCCH) in Delhi. This is the world's largest Covid care facility which will function as an isolation centre for mild and asymptomatic Covid-19 positive patients. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anil Baijal inaugurated – 10,000-bedded Sardar Patel Covid Care Centre and Hospital (SPCCCH) – in Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

188. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

White-ball skipper Quinton de Kock was named the men's 'cricketer of the year' at Cricket South Africa's (CSA) Annual Awards Ceremony. While young opener Laura Wolvaardt took home the women's cricketer of the year and ODI cricketer of the year awards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Quinton de Kock (South Africa) – men's cricketer of the year Award – at CSA Annual Awards Ceremony
- Laura Wolvaardt (South Africa) – women's cricketer of the year + ODI cricketer of the year Awards
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa

189. National & States Affairs

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami has laid foundation for a new government medical college in Ariyalur which is being established at a cost of Rs 347 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – laid foundation for a new government medical college – in Ariyalur
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

190. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The legal and legislative committee of Kuwait's National Assembly has approved the draft expat quota bill, according to which Indians should not exceed 15% of the population. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indians should not exceed 15% of the population in Kuwait – according to the draft expat quota bill
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Kuwaiti Dinar | PM – Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah

191. Appointments & Resignations

Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) has appointed SP Kochhar as its new Director General (DG), after Rajan Mathews quitting the position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SP Kochhar – appointed as the new DG of – COAI (by replacing – Rajan Mathews)
- HQS of COAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Ravinder Takkar



192. Persons in News

American rapper Kanye West, a vocal supporter of US President Donald Trump, announced that he would contest the Presidential election of USA in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kanye West (hip-hop musician) – to contest in the ‘USA Presidential election-2020’
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

193. Persons in News

The National Human Rights Commission has constituted an 11-member expert committee headed by Dr K S Reddy to study impact of Covid-19 on human rights and future response of the government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHRC – constituted an 11-member expert committee – headed by Dr K S Reddy
- HQs of NHRC – New Delhi | Chairman – Justice H L Dattu

194. National & States Affairs

Jal Shakti Minister expressed happiness that Goa plans to provide 100% Functional Household Tap Connections in rural areas by 2021. The aim of this mission is to provide potable drinking water to every rural household. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – plans to provide 100% Functional Household Tap Connections in rural areas – by 2021
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

195. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Indian Coast Guard and Indonesian Coast Guard have signed a MoU on ‘Maritime Safety and Security’ as part of their Indo-Pacific visions to establish rules-based order amid China’s growing belligerence in the region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Coast Guard + Indonesian Coast Guard = MoU on ‘Maritime Safety and Security’
- HQs of ICG – New Delhi | Director General – Krishnaswamy Natarajan,
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo



196. Science & Technology

A team of researchers at IIT-Roorkee has developed a disinfection box named "Unisaviour box" that can be used for sterilizing a wide variety of personal belongings including medical equipment, Personal Protection Equipment, apparels among others, against coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT-Roorkee – developed "Unisaviour box" a disinfection box

197. National & States Affairs

The National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) will be setting up its own tier IV, Smart Data Centre at an investment of Rs 500 Cr at Narsingi, Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPCI – to set up Smart Data Centre – at an investment of Rs 500 Cr – in Hyderabad
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor - Tamilisai Soundararajan

198. Banking & Economic Affairs

Equitas Small Finance Bank has launched video KYC account opening service, which would enable any person anywhere in the country to open a savings account with the lender. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Equitas SFB – launched – “Video KYC account opening service”
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan

199. Books & Authors

Former RBI governor Urjit Patel authored a book titled "Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver". The book focuses on the non-performing assets (NPAs) issue that has afflicted Indian banking in recent years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver" book – authored by “Urjit Patel” (Former RBI governor)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

200. Important Days & Dates

“World Zoonoses Day” was celebrated on July 6. Hundreds of street and pet dogs were administered anti-rabies vaccine at temple of Bhadrachalam in the district of Karnataka. It is observed to raise awareness of the risk of zoonotic diseases among people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- July 6 – “World Zoonoses Day”
- An anti-rabies vaccine – at a temple of Bhadrachalam, Karnataka





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