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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

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

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

## 201. Amount & Agreements

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to a new pan India Central Sector Scheme "Agriculture Infrastructure Fund". Under the scheme, Rs. 1 Lakh Cr will be provided by banks and financial institutions. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Union cabinet – approved – New pan India Central Sector Scheme "Agriculture Infrastructure Fund"
- Outlay of the Scheme – Rs. 1 Lakh Cr

## 202. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

IIT Hyderabad collaborated with NVIDIA, a multinational technology company, to establish India's first "NVIDIA AI Technology Centre" (NVAITC) to accelerate research on Artificial Intelligence and its commercial adoption. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IIT Hyderabad + NVIDIA = to establish India's first "NVIDIA AI Technology Centre"
- HQs of NVIDIA – California, USA | President and CEO – Jensen Huang

## 203. Banking & Economic Affairs

The global economy is likely to contract by 5.2% in 2020 due to coronavirus effect, according to Dun and Bradstreet's "Country Risk and Global Outlook Report" that covered 132 countries. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- "Country Risk and Global Outlook Report" – released by D & B
- Global Economy – likely to contract by 5.2% this year {Flexible News}
- HQs of D & B – New Jersey, USA | In India – Mumbai, MH | MD (India) – Manish Sinha

## 204. Persons in News

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has set up an independent panel that will look into the world's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The panel will be co-chaired by Helen Elizabeth Clark (former PM of New Zealand) & Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (former President of Liberia). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- WHO – set up an independent panel – to look into the world's response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- The panel will be co-chaired by = Helen Elizabeth Clark (New Zealand) + Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Liberia)
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

## 205. Persons in News

The IRDAI has set up a nine-member committee headed by IRDAI Executive Director Suresh Mathur to set up a "Pandemic Risk Pool" in order to address various risks which have been triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic and offer protection in case of a similar crisis in the future. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IRDAI – set up a 9-member committee – headed by Suresh Mathur – to set up a "Pandemic Risk Pool"
- IRDAI HQs – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur

## 206. Current GK

A centuries-old folk theatre form and the worship of a forest goddess (ie. Bon Bibi) has helped the islanders understand the power of nature and the limits to human need in this precarious tide country. The Sundarbans is one of the most ecologically vulnerable terrains in the world. It spans from the Hooghly River in India's state of West Bengal to the Baleswar River in Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Sundarbans – spans from the Hooghly River (West Bengal) to Baleswar River (Bangladesh)

## 207. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Arunachal Pradesh filmmaker Kezang D Thongdok has won 10th edition of "Dada Saheb Phalke Award-2020" for documentary "Chi Lupo" on honey hunting. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Kezang D Thongdok – won – 10th edition of "Dada Saheb Phalke Award-2020" – for "Chi Lupo" documentary
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

## 208. National & States Affairs

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched 8 technology-driven solutions under 5T initiatives for Home, General Administration and Public grievances departments to improve public service delivery. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Odisha launched – 8 technology-driven solutions – under 5T initiatives
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



## 209. National & States Affairs

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed deal involving Eros International, STX Filmworks Inc and Marco Alliance Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- CCI – approved the proposed deal involving = Eros International + STX Filmworks + Marco Alliance
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta

## 210. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has signed an MoU with the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) for data exchange between the two organizations. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SEBI + CBDT = an MoU for data exchange
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – P C Mody

## 211. National & States Affairs

Legal Service Authority and the high Court of Chhattisgarh has organised India's first e-Lok Adalat amid the restricted judicial functioning owing to Covid-19 outbreak. The high court Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh P R Ramchandra Menon inaugurated the e-Lok Adalat through video conferencing. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh organised – India's first e-Lok Adalat
- Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh HC – P R Ramchandra Menon
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

## 212. Science & Technology

The Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog, has launched a free online app development course named "ATL App Development Module" for school students across the country. The course has been jointly developed by NITI Aayog's AIM and Indian startup "Plezmo". [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- AIM + Plezmo = jointly developed "ATL App Development Module for school students across the country
- HQs of Plezmo – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Amol Palshikar



### 213. National & States Affairs

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has removed the cap of Rs 5 lakh on maximum sum insured under 'Arogya Sanjeevani Policy.' [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- IRDAI – removed the cap of Rs 5 lakh – on maximum sum insured under 'Arogya Sanjeevani Policy'
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia

### 214. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has renewed an MoU with the International Energy Agency (IEA) to increase collaboration and advance progress on sustainability with an increased focus on energy sector resilience in Asia and the Pacific. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- ADB + IEA = to increase collaboration and advance progress on sustainability of energy sector resilience
- ADB: HQs – [Mandaluyong, Philippines](#) | President – [Masatsugu Asakawa](#)
- HQs of IEA – Paris, France | Executive Director – Dr. Fatih Birol

### 215. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

India has been ranked eighth for cancer preparedness among 10 Asia-Pacific countries according to the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) report on "Cancer preparedness in Asia-Pacific: Progress towards universal cancer control". [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- "Cancer preparedness in Asia-Pacific: Progress towards universal cancer control" report – by EIU
- For cancer preparedness among 10 Asia-Pacific countries: India – 8th | Topped by – Australia
- HQs of EIU – London, UK | MD & CEO – Robin Bew

### 216. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Qatar-based Education Above All (EAA) Foundation have signed an agreement to carry out \$100 million in joint projects to put out-of-school and at-risk children into quality primary education. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- ADB + EAA = signed agreement to carry out \$100 million – in joint projects related to Education
- ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa
- HQs of EAA – Doha, Qatar | Chairperson – Sheikha Moza bint Nasser

## 217. National & States Affairs

Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has released a White Paper on "Focused Intervention for Make In India Post COVID-19" and it is proposed by Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan released – a White Paper – on "Focused Intervention for Make In India Post COVID-19"
- It is proposed by – TIFAC
- Union Health & Family Welfare Minister – Dr Harsh Vardhan (Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi)

## 218. Appointments & Resignations

Rahul Johri, the first CEO of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), will step down after the board accepted his resignation. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Rahul Johri – the first CEO of BCCI – resigned
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | President – Sourav Ganguly

## 219. Science & Technology

Researchers have now found fungi namely "Ophicordyceps nutans" for the first time in central India during a plant survey at the "Kanger Valley National Park" in Chhattisgarh. The fungus was found on its specific host insect 'Halyomorpha halys'. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Researchers found – "Ophicordyceps nutans" fungi – in "Kanger Valley National Park" (Chhattisgarh)
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

## 220. Important Days & Dates

When the world's population reached 5 billion on 11 July 1987, it was observed as the "Five Billion Day" by the United Nations. Taking inspiration from this, the Governing Council of the United Nations' Development Program for the first time in 1989 launched an initiative to observe 11 July as the "World Population Day" every year. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- July 11 – "World Population Day" – by UNDP since 1989
- "Five Billion Day" was observed by UN – on 11 July 1987
- HQs of United Nations Population Fund (UNPF) – New York, USA
- Theme – "Putting the brakes on COVID 19: Safeguarding the health and rights of women and girls"



## 221. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The president of National Media Club (NMC) and Founder of Shri Ram Seva Mission, Sachin Awasthi has received 'Top Publicist' honor under 'Global Humanitarian Award 2020.' [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Sachin Awasthi – received 'Top Publicist' honor under 'Global Humanitarian Award 2020'
- HQs of NMC – Noida, UP | President – Sachin Awasthi (Founder of Shri Ram Seva Mission)

## 222. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) and IIT Alumni Council signed an MoU for COVID-19 disease research and patient data analysis. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- CSIR-IGIB + IIT Alumni Council = an MoU for COVID-19 disease research and patient data analysis
- HQs of IGIB – New Delhi | Director – Anurag Agrawal

## 223. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Jharkhand government has signed an MoU with private lender HDFC Bank to offer digital payment solutions to traffic violators or the state's transport departments. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Jharkhand + HDFC Bank = an MoU to offer digital payment solutions to traffic violators
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Aditya Puri
- Tagline – "We understand your world"

## 224. Acquisitions & Mergers

Qualcomm Ventures, the investment arm of Qualcomm Incorporated will invest Rs 730 Cr in Jio Platforms for a 0.15% stake. This is the 12th investor to pick up a stake in Reliance Industries Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Qualcomm Ventures (12th investor) – acquired 0.15% stake (Rs 730 Cr) – in Jio Platforms
- HQs of Qualcomm Ventures – California, USA | Head – Quinn Li
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani



## 225. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Chicago based Rotary Foundation has honoured Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami with “Paul Harris Fellow” recognition. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ‘Rotary Foundation’ honoured – Edappadi K Palaniswami – with “Paul Harris Fellow” recognition
- HQs of Rotary Foundation – Chicago
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

## 226. Obituaries

Noted Journalist and Writer Nagindas Sanghvi has passed away recently. He was 100. He was conferred with ‘Padma Shri’ by the central government in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Nagindas Sanghvi – passed away – Journalist and Writer (Padma Shri in 2019)

## 227. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

India and UAE have agreed to have an ‘Open Sky Agreement’ by operating special repatriation flights between the two countries from July 12 to 26. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India + UAE = ‘Open Sky Agreement’ by operating special repatriation flights
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

## 228. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The 4th edition of India’s 2018 Tiger Census has entered the Guinness Book of World Record for being the largest ever camera trap wildlife survey. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 4th edition of India’s 2018 Tiger Census – entered the Guinness Book of World Record
- The 1st survey was conducted in – 2006

## 229. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Loyal Textile Mills Limited has launched world’s 1st reusable PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) with Triple Viral Shield. The series has been launched in collaboration with Reliance Industries India and HeiQ from Switzerland. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Loyal Textile Mills + Reliance + HeiQ = launched world’s 1st reusable PPE – with Triple Viral Shield
- HQs of Loyal Textile Mills – Chennai, Tamilnadu | Chairperson – Valli M. Ramaswami
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani
- HQs of HeiQ – Switzerland | CEO – Carlo Centonze



### 230. Appointments & Resignations

Gyanendro Ningombam was named as the Officiating President of Hockey India in an Executive Board meeting after the resignation of Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad, who stepped down from the position on July 07. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- “Gyanendro Ningombam” – appointed as the President – of Hockey India (HQs – New Delhi)
- He will replace – Mushtaque Ahmad

### 231. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Flipkart has signed an MoU with Karnataka MSME and Mines department to promote the states arts, crafts and handloom sectors by bringing them on to e-commerce and providing market access. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Flipkart + Karnataka = to promote the states arts, crafts and handloom sectors
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

### 232. Persons in News

Indian teenager Soham Mukherjee, in UAE has made 101 one-leg hops over stationery ruler and brought Guinness World Records title. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Soham Mukherjee – 101 one-leg hops & brought Guinness World Records title

### 233. Obituaries

Ivory Coast's Prime Minister 'Amadou Gon Coulibaly' has passed away after falling ill at a ministerial meeting. He was 61. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Amadou Gon Coulibaly – passed away – PM of “Ivory Coast” or “Cote d'Ivoire”
- Cote d'Ivoire – Yamoussoukro – CFA franc

### 234. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The world could see Average Global Temperatures 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) above the pre-industrial average for the first time in the coming five years, as per the report “Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update for 2020-2024” released by World Meteorological Organization (WMO). [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- “Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update for 2020-2024” released by – WMO
- Assumption of Average Global Temperatures – 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit)
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Petteri Taalas



### 235. Science & Technology

In Tripura, a team of wildlife researchers has rediscovered 'Ypthima watsoni' butterfly commonly known as 'Looped three-ring' after 61 years. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- 'Ypthima Watsoni' butterfly – rediscovered – in Tripura – after 61 years
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Ramesh Bais

### 236. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

An Indian battalion stationed with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has won an Environment Award for a project that aims to decrease waste generation, reuse plastic, build green houses and compost pits. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- "Indian battalion" won – an Environment Award – of United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
- HQs of UNIFIL – Naqoura, Lebanon

### 237. International Affairs

The government of Bangladesh has launched a "Digital Haat" for online sale and purchase of sacrificial animals ahead of the festival of Eid-UI-Azha. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Bangladesh launched – "Digital Haat" – For online sale and purchase of sacrificial animals
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Seikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

### 238. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at 3-day virtual "India Global Week 2020", a virtual conference organised in the UK. The theme of the conference was 'Be The Revival: India and a Better New World'. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – delivered the inaugural address – at 3-day virtual "India Global Week 2020" – in UK
- Theme – "Be The Revival: India and a Better New World"
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson



### 239. Obituaries

Veteran Actor-comedian Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed Jafri (Jagdeep), best known for his role as Soorma Bhopali in "Sholay" movie, has passed away. He was 81. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed Jafri (Jagdeep) – passed away – Actor

### 240. Books & Authors

A new biography titled "His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography" on the life and times of Tibetan spiritual leader 'Dalai Lama'. The book is written by Tenzin Geyche Tethong and will be published by Roli Books. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- "His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography" book – authored by Tenzin Geyche Tethong
- Dalai Lama – Tibetan spiritual leader

### 241. Obituaries

Actor Susheel Gowda died by suicide in his home town Mandya, Karnataka. He was 30. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Susheel Gowda – passed away – Actor

### 242. National & States Affairs

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh inaugurated 5 Water Supply projects, one office building of Weight and Measures Department and Rapid Antigen Detection Testing Centre (RADTC) at Jiribam through video conferencing at total cost of Rs 48.39 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Manipur inaugurated – 5 Water Supply projects + 1 office building of Weight and Measures Dept + RADTC
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

### 243. Books & Authors

Ruskin Bond's new book, "A Song of India" is all set to release in July this year. Published by Puffin Books, the book is set in 1951. The illustrated book will mark 70th year of the author's writing journey. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- "A Song of India" book – authored by 'Ruskin Bond'
- The book marks 70th year of his writing journey

#### 244. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) in collaboration with the National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR) will establish 'Fish Cryobanks' in different parts of the country. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- NFDB + NBFGR = to establish 'Fish Cryobanks'
- HQs of NFDB – Hyderabad, Telangana | HQs of NBFGR – Lucknow, UP

#### 245. Science & Technology

"Eulophia obtusa", a rare orchid species, also known as 'Ground orchid', has been rediscovered after 118 years in the forests of "Dudhwa Tiger Reserve" in Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- "Eulophia obtusa" or "Ground orchid" – rediscovered after 118 years in "Dudhwa Tiger Reserve" (Uttar Pradesh)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

#### 246. Important Days & Dates

College of fisheries at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Gadvasu) celebrated the "National Fish Farmers' Day" on July 10 and tributed to fish farmers online. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- College of fisheries at Gadvasu – celebrated – "National Fish Farmers' Day" – on July 10

#### 247. Sports & Games

Two-time European champion weightlifter Andrei Demanov of Russia has been provisionally suspended by the International Weightlifting Federation for doping after testing positive for a banned steroid. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- Andrei Demanov (Russia) – suspended – Weightlifter
- IWF HQs – Budapest, Hungary | President – Tamas AJAN

#### 248. Amount & Agreements

The Union cabinet has given its approval to provide budget rental accommodation to poor and migrant workers in urban areas. This is estimated to benefit more than 350,000 people. The government has kept aside Rs 600 Cr in the form of technology innovation grant. [{Read more}](#)

##### Key Points:

- Union cabinet – approved Rs 600 Cr – to provide budget rental accommodation to poor and migrant workers

## 249. National & States Affairs

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has launched 'Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping' (ASEEM) portal to help skilled people find sustainable livelihood opportunities. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- MSDE launched – “ASEEM” portal – for skilled people
- ASEEM – Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping
- MSDE Minister – Mahendra Nath Pandey (Constituency – Chandauli, UP)

## 250. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Union Ministry of Home Affairs released the 'Ranking of Police Stations' in a ceremony during a DGPs' conference recently. Nadaun Police Station in Himachal Pradesh was declared as one of the best in the country. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 'Ranking of Police Stations' – released by Ministry of Home Affairs
- Nadaun Police Station (Himachal Pradesh) – declared as one of the best in the country
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

## 251. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to the 'COVID-19 and Tourism' report released by The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Global tourism revenues are expected to fall by up to \$3.3 trillion due to COVID-19 restrictions, with the United States standing to lose the most. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- According to the 'COVID-19 and Tourism' report – released by UNCTAD
- Global tourism revenues – expected to fall by – \$3.3 trillion – due to COVID-19
- The most affected country – USA
- UNCTAD HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | UNCTAD Secretary-General – Mukhisa Kituyi

## 252. Science & Technology

The UAE is planning to make history with the scheduled launch of the "Hope" mission, which will make it the first Arab nation to send a probe to Mars. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- UAE – first Arab nation to send a probe to Mars – with the launch of "Hope" mission
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan



### 253. Acquisitions & Mergers

The Competition Commission (CCI) has approved the acquisition of 9.09% stake in Escorts Ltd by Kubota Corporation, and 40% stake acquisition in Kubota Agricultural Machinery India by Escorts under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- CCI approved – acquisition of 9.09% stake in Escorts Ltd – by Kubota Corporation
- CCI approved – acquisition of 40% stake in Kubota Agricultural Machinery India – by Escorts
- Acquisition approved under – Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta
- HQs of Escorts – Haryana | Chairperson – Mr. Nikhil Nanda

### 254. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

World Bank and Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) conferred Institute for Human Development (IHD) with 'Development Marketplace Award 2020: Innovations to Address Gender-Based Violence' for the project alcohol. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- World Bank + SVRI = conferred "IHD" with - 'Development Marketplace Award 2020'
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- HQs of IHD – Patparganj, Delhi | Chairman – Prof. S.R. Hashim

### 255. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Former India captain of Hockey Team, Pritam Rani Siwach has been recommended for the "Dronacharya Award" this year. Nominated by Indian Railways, Pritam has been part of the Indian women's team coaching set-up in the past (2010-12). [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- Pritam Rani Siwach (Hockey) – recommended for the "Dronacharya Award" – nominated by Indian Railways
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

### 256. Science & Technology

The Indian Space Research and Research Organisation (ISRO) gets ready to launch Brazil's "Amazonia-1" satellite next month onboard PSLV. [{Read more}](#)

#### Key Points:

- ISRO – to launch Brazil's "Amazonia-1" satellite – next month onboard PSLV
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed in – 1969
- Brazil – Brasilia – Brazilian real



## 257. Science & Technology

Facebook's photo sharing app Instagram has announced to launch its short video format "Reels" in India. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Instagram – to launch "Reels" short video feature similar to TikTok's format – in India

## 258. Current GK

Bangladesh will not move the Rohingyas settled on the 'Bhashan Char Island' amid Corona pandemic. More than 300 Rohingya refugees were sent to the Bhashan Char in April. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 'Bhashan Char Island' – Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

## 259. National & States Affairs

After Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has decided not to use Chinese goods, equipments in state government projects. Amid boycott call, Uttarakhand is preparing a report of Chinese firms involved in the power sector. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – decided not to use Chinese goods, equipments in state government projects
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

## 260. Science & Technology

First launch of China's "Kuaizhou-11" carrier rocket has failed as malfunction occurred during the flight. The rocket was launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 1st launch of China's – "Kuaizhou-11" carrier rocket – failed
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

## 261. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The government of Maharashtra along with the State Bank of India is setting up a stress fund to restart stuck slum rehabilitation projects in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) and other urban areas of the state. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Maharashtra + SBI = setting up a stress fund to restart stuck slum rehabilitation projects in the state
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- 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

## 262. National & States Affairs

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved restricted emergency use of "Itolizumab" injection for treating moderate to severe Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) patients. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- DCGI approved – use of "Itolizumab" injection for treating moderate to severe ARDS patients
- ARDS – Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) – V G Somani

## 263. International Affairs

Australia has suspended its extradition treaty with Hong Kong and extended visas for Hong Kong residents in response to China's imposition of a tough national security law. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Australia – suspended its extradition treaty and extended visas – for Hong Kong
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- Hong Kong – City of Victoria – Hong Kong dollar

## 264. National & States Affairs

The "Operation Samudra Setu" launched by the Indian Navy on May 5 as part of the national effort to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas by sea during the Covid-19 pandemic has been completed in 55 days by traversing more than 23,000 kilometers. 3,992 Indian citizens have been brought back to their homeland by sea. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- The "Operation Samudra Setu" launched by the Indian Navy – completed in 55 days (launched on May 5)
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

## 265. Amount & Agreements

The union cabinet has decided to put on hold the proposed merger of the three state-run general insurers even as it approved ₹12,450 Cr in capital infusion. Three general insurance companies are Oriental Insurance Company Limited (OICL), National Insurance Company Limited (NICL) and United India Insurance Company Limited (UIICL). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Union cabinet – approved ₹12,450 Cr capital infusion – in OICL + NICL + UIICL
- HQs of OICL – New Delhi | CMD – A V Girija Kumar
- HQs of NICL – Kolkata, WB | Chairman & MD – Tajinder Mukherjee
- HQs of UIICL – Chennai, TN | CEO – Shri Girish Radhakrishnan



## 266. Sports & Games

India's squash star Joshna Chinappa has come back into the top-10 of the PSA world rankings. She has moved up a spot to be in 10th position. Egypt's Nouran Gohar is the new World No. 1 following the retirement of Raneem El Welily. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Joshna Chinappa (Squash) – came back into the top-10 of the PSA world rankings (at 10th Place)
- Nouran Gohar (Squash) – From Egypt – at 1st Place

## 267. Defence Affairs

US aerospace major 'Boeing' has delivered the final 5 of the 22 Apache attack helicopters to the Indian Air Force. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 'Boeing' – delivered – final 5 of the 22 Apache attack helicopters – to IAF
- IAF Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
- HQs of Boeing – Chicago, USA | CEO – Dave Calhoun

## 268. Important Days & Dates

“Malala Day” is commemorated on July 12, the birthday of Malala Yousafzai, to honour women and children’s rights around the world. On October 9, 2012, Malala was shot in the head by Taliban gunmen after she publicly advocated for the education of girls. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- July 12– “Malala Day” – the birthday of Malala Yousafzai (from Pakistan)
- Malala was shot by Taliban gunmen – On October 9, 2012
- Malala Yousafzai – the youngest recipient of Noble prize (in 2014)

## 269. National & States Affairs

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has issued a fresh advisory against fraudulent websites claiming to be registration portal for PM-KUSUM scheme. The “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM)” scheme was issued by MNRE on March 8, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- MNRE – issued a fresh advisory against fraudulent websites – For PM-KUSUM scheme
- PM-KUSUM scheme – launched by MNRE – on March 8, 2019
- Raj Kumar Singh – Minister of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

## 270. Sports & Games

Top-ranked women's squash player, Raneem El Welily, announced her retirement. The 31-year-old Egyptian was the first Arab woman to be world No. 1 in any sport. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Raneem El Welily (Egypt) – retirement – Squash (First Arab woman to be world No. 1 in Sports)
- Egypt – Cairo – Egyptian Pound | President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

## 271. Science & Technology

Internet search giant Google has relaunched its social networking platform Google+ as Google Currents. The company has rebranded the app to “Google Currents” on both Google Play Store and Apple App Store. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Google – relaunched – Google+ as “Google Currents”
- Google HQs – California, USA | CEO – Sundar Pichai

## 272. Important Days & Dates

The “Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week” was held from 6-10 July and convened under the overarching theme of “Strategic and Practical Challenges of Countering Terrorism in a Global Pandemic Environment”. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- July 6-10 – “Virtual Counter-Terrorism Week”
- Theme - “Strategic and Practical Challenges of Countering Terrorism in a Global Pandemic Environment”

## 273. National & States Affairs

Gujarat state cabinet, chaired by CM Vijay Rupani has constituted a 5-member commission to protect rights of tribal castes like Rabari, Bharwad and Charan residing in areas of Gir, Barda, and Aalech forests in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Gujarat – constituted a 5-member commission – to protect rights of tribal castes like Rabari, Bharwad & Charan
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

## 274. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) has signed an agreement with the New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA) to promote electric vehicles and install public EV charging stations and related infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- EESL + NOIDA = to promote electric vehicles and install public EV charging stations
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | Chairman – Rajeev Sharma
- HQs of NOIDA – Noida, UP | Chairman – Alok Tandon

## 275. Persons in News

The SEBI has revamped its committee that advises the capital markets regulator on matters related to regulation and development of mutual fund industry. The 20-member advisory committee on mutual funds is headed by Usha Thorat, former deputy governor of RBI. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- SEBI revamped – its 20-member advisory committee on mutual funds headed by – Usha Thorat
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

## 276. International Affairs

India has invested in 120 projects and created 5,429 new jobs in the UK to become the second-largest source of foreign direct investment (FDI) after the US in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Largest source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in UK in 2019 = 1st – USA | 2nd – India
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

## 277. Obituaries

Country Music Hall of Fame musician Charlie Daniels has passed away recently in July. He was 83. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Charlie Daniels (USA) – passed away – Musician

## 278. National & States Affairs

The Ministry of Culture has taken up the project of reprinting of 108 volumes of Mongolian Kanjur Manuscript under the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM). The first set of 5 volumes of Mongolian Kanjur was presented to the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind on the occasion of Guru Purnima. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ministry of Culture – presented first set of 5 volumes of 'Mongolian Kanjur Manuscript' out of 108 volumes
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture (Constituency – Damoh, Madhya Pradesh)

## 279. International Affairs

China has warned its citizens living in Kazakhstan of a local "unknown pneumonia" which has a "much higher" fatality rate than the COVID-19 disease. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- China – warned its citizens living in "Kazakhstan" – for a local "unknown pneumonia"
- Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

## 280. National & States Affairs

A week-long campaign "Pure for Sure" has been launched in Rajasthan to ensure purity of milk and its products. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Rajasthan launched – "Pure for Sure" campaign – to ensure purity of milk and its products
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

## 281. Appointments & Resignations

Lee Hsien Loong has again become the Prime Minister of Singapore and has secured a "clear mandate" with his ruling People's Action Party (PAP) winning 83 of the 93 contested parliamentary seats in the general election held amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Lee Hsien Loong – became the PM of Singapore – with ruling party "People's Action Party (PAP)"
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob



## 282. National & States Affairs

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has dedicated 6 bridges to the nation via a video-conference in a bid to ensure better connectivity of roads and bridges in sensitive border areas close to India-Pakistan International Border (IB) and Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu & Kashmir (J&K). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – dedicated 6 bridges – in J & K border areas
- J & K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh

## 283. International Affairs

The Administrative & Academic Block of 'Shree Mahadev Masta Chaturdev Campus', newly built under the Nepal-Bharat Maitri Development Cooperation programme at a cost of Nepali Rs. 35.11 million, was formally inaugurated at Kathmandu, Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Administrative & Academic Block of Shree Mahadev Masta Chaturdev Campus – inaugurated in – Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

## 284. Defence Affairs

India has planned to invite Australia to join the annual 'Malabar Naval Exercise' in a move that could risk China's ire. This Exercise has so far included just Japan and the USA. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India – to invite 'Australia' – to join the annual 'Malabar Naval Exercise'
- 'Malabar Naval Exercise' is already conducted among = India + Japan + USA
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

## 285. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

"T-Hub" has partnered with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Digital India. T-Hub will lead Digital India's Scale Up program for hardware and IoT startups across India. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- "T-Hub" + MeitY + Digital India = to lead Digital India's Scale Up program for hardware and IoT startups
- HQs of T-Hub – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Ravi Narayan
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)

## 286. Sports & Games

The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has postponed the Asia Cricket Cup tournament, scheduled for September, 2020 owing to an upsurge in COVID-19 cases in the region. Sri Lanka will host this rescheduled tournament expected in June 2021. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- ACC – postponed – the Asia Cricket Cup tournament
- Sri Lanka – to host – in June 2021
- HQs of ACC – Colombo, Sri Lanka | President – Nazmul Hassan Papon

## 287. National & States Affairs

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched a web and mobile-based solution “BLUIS - Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System”, the flagship development of General Administration and Public grievances departments to use space technology & AI to monitor government lands. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Odisha – launched a web and mobile-based solution “BLUIS - Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



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## 288. Amount & Agreements

To address the challenges occurred due to Covid-19, Mastercard has announced a investment of Rs 250 Cr (\$33 million) to help reboot Indian SMEs and enable business recovery. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Mastercard – to invest Rs 250 Cr (\$33 million) – to support Indian SMEs
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)

## 289. International Affairs

Nepal's cable TV operators have switched off signals of all Indian news channels except Doordarshan as some propaganda was being shown on these channels against Nepal Government. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Nepal – switched off signals of all Indian news channels – except ‘Doordarshan’
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari





## 290. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

On June 30, the RBI released the indicative data of market borrowings by the state governments for the second quarter of the fiscal. The largest amount was raised by Tamil Nadu (Rs 28,000 Cr), Maharashtra (Rs 25,500 Cr) & Rajasthan (Rs 16,000 Cr). The states' combined market borrowings as state development loans have doubled to Rs 1.7 lakh Cr during the first quarter of current fiscal. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- As per the RBI's data of market borrowings by the state governments for the Q2 of the fiscal
- 1st – Tamil Nadu | 2nd – Maharashtra | 3rd – Rajasthan
- During Q1 – States' combined market borrowings – doubled to “Rs 1.7 lakh Cr”
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

## 291. National & States Affairs

Targeting to break into India's top three start-up-congenial states, the Uttar Pradesh cabinet has approved the UP 'Startup Policy 2020' to nurture fresh business ideas. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – approved 'Startup Policy 2020' – to nurture fresh business ideas
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

## 292. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has announced that its new headquarters in Lausanne has been awarded the “European 2020 US Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership Award”. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- IOC – has received - “European 2020 US Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership Award”
- HQs of IOC – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach

## 293. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Ministry of Shipping has issued the draft of Aids to Navigation Bill, 2020, proposed to replace the almost 9 decades old “Lighthouse Act, 1927”. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ministry of Shipping – will replace 9 decades old “Lighthouse Act, 1927”
- MoS I/C of Ministry of Shipping – Mansukh L. Mandaviya

## 294. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Ministry of Tribal Affairs has hosted a Webinar along with Facebook India for sensitization of Members of Parliament (MPs) from Scheduled Tribe (ST) Constituencies of India on “Going Online As Leaders (GOAL) Project”. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs + Facebook India = hosted a Webinar for sensitization of Members of Parliament
- ‘GOAL’ Project – Going Online As Leaders
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jhrakhand)
- Facebook: HQs – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

## 295. International Affairs

Fast-moving Tropical Storm "Fay" has made landfall in New Jersey amid heavy, lashing rains that closed beaches and flooded shore town streets. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Tropical Storm "Fay" – made heavy landfall – in New Jersey, USA
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

## 296. Science & Technology

On July 9, China has successfully launched the “APSTAR-6D” commercial telecommunication satellite into orbit from the southwestern Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Sichuan Province. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- China – launched the “APSTAR-6D” commercial telecommunication satellite – from Sichuan Province
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

## 297. Obituaries

1966 World Cup winner and a renowned Football Player, Jack Charlton has passed away recently. He was 85. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Jack Charlton (UK) – passed away – Football Player (1966 World Cup winner)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson



## 298. Sports & Games

Six-time formula one champion and Mercedes racer Lewis Hamilton has won 'Styrian Grand Prix' in Spielberg, Austria in July, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton (UK) – won 'Styrian Grand Prix' – Mercedes racer

## 299. Obituaries

Former health minister of Goa, Dr Suresh Amonkar has passed away due to Covid-19 infection. He was 68. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Dr Suresh Amonkar – passed away – Former Health Minister of Goa
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

## 300. Amount & Agreements

The USA has approved a possible USD 620 million upgrade package for Patriot surface-to-air missiles to Taiwan. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- USA – approved 'USD 620 million' upgrade package – for Patriot surface-to-air missiles to "Taiwan"
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan Dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen



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