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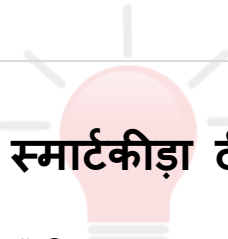
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of June 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

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

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF जून 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

301. On June 5, The “SPAG9” antigen developed by the National Institute of Immunology (NII) has received the ASPAGNIITM trademark. India’s first indigenous tumour antigen “SPAG9” was discovered in 1998 by Dr Anil Suri to treat Cancer patients. Cancer kills 8.51 lakh people in India every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- National Institute of Immunology – received the “ASPAGNIITM trademark” – for “SPAG9” antigen
- “SPAG9” - India’s first indigenous tumour antigen – discovered in 1998 by Dr Anil Suri – to treat Cancer patients
- HQs of NII – New Delhi | Director – Dr. Rajesh S. Gokhale

302. On June 11, Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has set up a wholly-owned subsidiary company namely “BASL” (BSE Administration & Supervision Ltd) for carrying out administration and supervision activities of all SEBI-registered investment advisors (RIA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE – set up a wholly-owned subsidiary company namely “BASL” (BSE Administration & Supervision Ltd)
- RIA – Registered Investment Advisors
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sethurathnam Ravi | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan
- BSE is Asia’s 1st Stock Exchange Company

303. On June 11, The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has approved the preparation of a detailed project report (DPR) for the development of a 2.74 km long two-lane tunnel in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand. Project Management Consultancy has been awarded for 2.74 km long Mussoorie Tunnel project, which is being built on NH 707A with a budget of Rs 700 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoRTH – approved the appointment of Project Management Consultancy for 2.74 km long Mussoorie Tunnel project
- Mussoorie Tunnel project is being built on ‘NH 707A’ – with a budget of Rs 700 Cr

304. On June 11, Three Indian S&T-led small-to-medium enterprises (Start-ups) have been selected to undertake joint R&D and technology transfer projects under the India-Russia Joint Technology Assessment and Accelerated Commercialisation Programme. These start-ups are Start-ups Prantae Solutions, Jayon Implants & Ananya Technologies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3 Indian Start-ups – selected to undertake joint R&D & tech transfer projects under ‘India-Russia tech cooperation’
- 3 Start-ups: Prantae Solutions, Jayon Implants & Ananya Technologies
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin



305. On June 11, “Namaste Yoga” mobile application was launched in the curtain raiser event for the 7th International Day of Yoga. The event was organised by the Ministry of Ayush in association with the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Namaste Yoga” mobile app – launched in curtain raiser event for 7th International Day of Yoga
- The event was organised by = Ministry of Ayush + Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga

306. On June 11, Policybazaar has received an insurance broking licence approval from regulator IRDAI to undertake insurance broking. Policybazaar has a market share of 25% in the life insurance segment while 10% in health insurance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Policybazaar – received an insurance broking licence approval from IRDAI
- HQs of Policybazaar – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Yashish Dahiya

307. On June 12, Flipkart has partnered with Telangana government to lead a consortium tasked with the development and execution of the drone deliveries of medical supplies to remote areas under the “Medicines from the Sky” project. A combination of these technologies will then be used to conduct “Beyond Visual Line of Sight” (BVLOS) deliveries in remote areas of Telangana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Flipkart + Telangana = drone delivery for vaccine & medical supplies under “Medicines from the Sky” project
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal | CEO – Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

308. Hallmarking on Gold Jewellery and related items is set to become mandatory from June 15, 2021. As per the new guidelines, jewellers across India will now be allowed to sell gold items of only 14, 18 and 22 carats. Hallmarking centres have grown by 25% in the last 5 years. A committee, headed by Pramod Tewari, has been formed to ensure proper coordination and resolve the implementation issues. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hallmarking on Gold Jewellery and related items is set to become mandatory – from June 15, 2021
- Jewellers across India will now be allowed to sell Gold items of only 14, 18 & 22 carats – from June 15, 2021

309. On June 14, As part of the renovation works, 21 Copper plate inscriptions dating back to the 14th or 16th century were found near Ghanta Matham of Sri Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna Swamy temple in Srisailam, Andhra Pradesh. The inscriptions are in Sanskrit and Telugu. A total of 35 inscriptions have been found during the renovation works till now. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 21 Copper plate inscriptions dating back to the 14th or 16th century – found in Srisailam, Andhra Pradesh
- The inscriptions are in – Sanskrit & Telugu



- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

310. On June 14, Malaria No More in collaboration with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is creating an India Interagency Expert Committee on Malaria and Climate (IEC) to explore and advance climate-based solutions for accelerating malaria elimination in India. India has made steady progress towards achieving Prime Minister Narendra Modi's goal of malaria elimination by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Malaria No More + IMD + ICMR = is creating an India Interagency Expert Committee on Malaria & Climate (IEC)
- HQs of Malaria No More – New York, US | CEO – Martin Edlund | Founded in – 2006
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911

311. On June 8, The Assam government has instituted a series of annual awards similar to the Bharat Ratna and Padma awards entailing a slew of benefits for the awardees. Asom Ratna would be presented to one person, the Asom Bibhushan would be presented to three, the Asom Bhushan to two and the Asom Shree to 10 persons every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – to present a series of annual awards similar to the Bharat Ratna & Padma awards
- Awards: Asom Ratna, Asom Bibhushan, Asom Bhushan & Asom Shree
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

312. On June 14, “Yuva Shakti Corona Mukti Abhiyan” (Free from Corona with the help of a Youth power) campaign has been launched in Madhya Pradesh to make people aware about the COVID pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – launched “Yuva Shakti Corona Mukti Abhiyan”
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

313. On June 15, As part of the Year of AI 2020 initiative, the Telangana government launched the Telangana Artificial Intelligence Mission (T-AIM) accelerator programme “Revv Up”, which is exclusively designed for growth-stage artificial intelligence (AI) startups. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – launched “Revv Up” for AI startups to solve tough business problems
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan



314. On June 14, The Central government has launched “Project O₂ for India” to step up production of medical oxygen to meet the potential increase in demand due to further waves of the pandemic. The government has established a ‘National Consortium of Oxygen’ and hospital beds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government launched “Project O₂ for India” to step up production of medical oxygen
- The government also established a ‘National Consortium of Oxygen’

315. On June 11, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated two Centres of Excellence (CoE) established by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at Seema Sadak Bhawan in New Delhi. The two CoEs are Centre of Excellence for Road Safety and Awareness (CoERSA) and Centre of Excellence for Roads, Bridges, Air Fields and Tunnels (CoERBAT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh inaugurated two Centres of Excellence (CoE) established by the BRO – in New Delhi
- 2 CoEs are:
 - Centre of Excellence for Road Safety and Awareness (CoERSA)
 - Centre of Excellence for Roads, Bridges, Air Fields and Tunnels (CoERBAT)
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded in – 1960

316. On June 16, Union Minister for Agriculture Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated three Centres of Excellence: one for mango in Kolar, pomegranate in Bagalkot and for vegetables in Dharwad. The three centres were established under the Indo-Israel action plan with advanced technologies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated 3 Centres of Excellence – in Karnataka (under Indo-Israel action plan)
- 3 CoEs: Mango (in Kolar), Pomegranate (in Bagalkot) & Vegetables (in Dharwad)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

317. On June 15, Various organisations initiated a Twitter campaign demanding official language status to Tulu in Karnataka and Kerala and the Tulu speakers are also demanding to include it in the eighth schedule to the Constitution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Twitter campaigns demanding official language status to ‘Tulu’ – in Karnataka & Kerala
- Tulu speakers are also demanding to include ‘Tulu’ language – in the 8th schedule to the Constitution
- Currently, there are 22 languages in the 8th schedule to the Constitution

318. On June 16, The Rajasthan government will soon set up a “Vedic Education and Sanskar Board” in next 4 to 5 months to revive the knowledge of Sanskrit scriptures and vedas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – to set up a “Vedic Education and Sanskar Board” in next 4 to 5 months
- Minister of State (MoS) for Sanskrit Education – Subhash Garg
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

International Affairs

319. On June 11, A week-long Indian mango promotion programme began in Bahrain where 16 varieties of the fruit including three GI certified Khirsapati & Lakshmanbhog (West Bengal), Zardalu (Bihar) are being displayed. The mangoes were sourced from farmers in Bengal and Bihar by APEDA registered exporter. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian mango promotion programme (displaying 16 varieties of the fruit) – began in Bahrain
- 16 varieties include 3 GI certified mangoes: Khirsapati & Lakshmanbhog ([West Bengal](#)), Zardalu ([Bihar](#))
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

320. On June 11, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has inaugurated the “China-Sri Lanka Friendship Hospital” in Polonnaruwa. The hospital was built with a Chinese grant of \$60 million and it specialises in kidney ailments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Gotabaya Rajapaksa inaugurated the “China-Sri Lanka Friendship Hospital” – in Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka
- Chinese grant – \$60 million | The hospital specialises in – Kidney ailments
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

321. On June 11, Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana and the UAE were elected unopposed to the UN Security Council (UNSC) as Non-permanent members for the 2022-23 term. Every year, five countries are elected to the 15-member Council as non-permanent members for a 2-year term. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana & UAE – elected to the UNSC as Non-permanent members for 2022-23 term
- India’s Permanent Representative to the UN – T. S. Tirumurti
- HQs of UNSC – New York, USA | Presidency in June 2021 – Estonia (July - France | Aug - India)
- Permanent members in the UNSC = 5 – China, France, Russia, U.K. & U.S.



322. On June 15, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is on a three-day visit to Kenya where he inaugurated the renovated Mahatma Gandhi Library at University of Nairobi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Jaishankar – inaugurated the renovated Mahatma Gandhi Library – at University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | President – Uhuru Kenyatta

323. On June 12, G7 leaders have adopted a “Build Back Better World (B3W)” project to oppose China’s Belt and Road Initiative by helping build infrastructure in poorer nations in a ‘Values-driven, high-standard and transparent’ partnership. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G7 leaders – adopted a “Build Back Better World (B3W)” project to oppose China’s Belt and Road Initiative
- G7 member countries – US, UK, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Canada | Founded in – 1975

Banking & Economic Affairs

324. On June 11, HDFC Asset Management Company has launched the New Fund Offer (NFO) of HDFC Banking and Financial Services Fund, which aims to invest in the banking and financial services sector across segments and market capitalisation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Mutual Fund – launched the New Fund Offer (NFO) of HDFC Banking & Financial Services Fund
- HQs of HDFC Mutual Fund – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Navneet Munot

325. On June 7, The SEBI has barred Franklin Templeton Asset Management Company (AMC) from launching any new debt scheme for 2 years, while imposing a penalty of Rs 5 Cr for violation of regulations norms and also asked it to pay Rs 517 Cr to wind up 6 debt schemes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – barred Franklin Templeton AMC from launching any new debt scheme for 2 years
- SEBI – imposed a penalty of Rs 5 Cr on Franklin Templeton AMC for violation of regulations norms
- SEBI – also asked Franklin Templeton AMC to pay Rs 517 Cr to wind up 6 debt schemes
- HQs of Franklin Templeton AMC – California, US | President & CEO – Jennifer M. Johnson
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

326. On June 11, Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has emerged as the top performer among public sector lenders in terms of loan and deposit growth during financial year 2020-21. The lender recorded 13.45% increase in gross advances at ₹1.07 lakh Cr in 2020-21. It was followed by Punjab & Sind Bank which registered 8.39% growth. Current Account Savings Account (CASA) for BoM saw 24.47% rise, the highest among the public sector lenders. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Bank of Maharashtra – topped among PSU banks in terms of loan & deposit growth during FY 2020-21
- BoM recorded 13.45% increase in gross advances at ₹1.07 lakh Cr in 2020-21 | 2nd – Punjab & Sind Bank (8.39%)
- HQs of BoM – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – A S Rajeev | Tagline – “One Family One Bank”

327. On June 11, The RBI has extended the Risk-Based Internal Audit (RBIA) system to select Housing Finance Companies to enhance the quality and effectiveness of their Internal Audit System. The RBI has extended the provisions issued for NBFCs to housing finance companies (HFCs) also. All HFCs with asset size of Rs 5,000 Cr and above, have been asked to put in place an RBIA framework by June 30, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – extended the Risk-Based Internal Audit (RBIA) system – to select HFCs
- All HFCs with asset size of Rs 5,000 Cr & above are asked to put in place an RBIA framework – by June 30, 2022
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

328. On June 11, The State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced a collateral-free loan called “Kavach Personal Loan” for its customers facing financial stress due to COVID treatment-related expenditures. Under the scheme, SBI is providing collateral-free personal loans of up to Rs 5 lakh at an 8.5% annual interest rate. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI – introduced a collateral-free loan called “Kavach Personal Loan” for its customers facing financial stress
- Collateral-free Personal Loans – upto Rs 5 lakh | Annual Interest Rate – 8.5%
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

329. On June 10, As per the recommendations of the Committee on ATM Pricing under the chairmanship of VG Kannan, the RBI has increased the interchange fee on ATM transactions from ₹15 to ₹17 and on non-financial transactions from ₹5 to ₹6. This revised rate will come into effect from August 1, 2021. RBI enabled the customers eligible to make 5 free transactions every month from the ATMs of Bank of Origin. If customers exceed their monthly limit of free transactions from January 1, 2022, they will have to pay ₹21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Committee on ATM Pricing” headed by VG Kannan – recommended the RBI to modify the ATM interchange fee
- The interchange fee on ATM transactions = ₹17 (from ₹15) | Non-financial transactions = ₹6 (from ₹5)
- This revised rate will come into effect – from August 1, 2021
- 5 free transactions every month from the ATMs of Bank of Origin – from Jan, 2022 (₹21 for more than 5 transactions)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935



330. On June 11, India's foreign exchange reserves crossed the \$600 billion mark for the first time after increasing by \$6.842 billion in the week ended June 4, as per weekly data by the RBI. In the reporting week, foreign currency assets (FCA) jumped by \$7.362 billion to \$560.890 billion and Gold reserves declined by \$502 million to \$37.604 billion. India presently ranks 5th in terms of foreign exchange reserves. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's foreign exchange reserves crossed the \$600 billion mark for the first time (increased by \$6.842 billion)
- FCA increased by \$7.362 billion – to \$560.890 billion | Gold reserves declined by \$502 million – to \$37.604 billion
- Currently, India's rank in term of foreign exchange reserves – 5th

331. On June 15, The Sikkim legislative assembly has passed Rs 9852.85 Cr budget for the financial year 2021-22. The state government has announced a loss of Rs 900 Cr due to pandemic hit - Tourism sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sikkim – passed Rs 9852.85 Cr budget for the FY 2021-22 (loss of Rs 900 Cr due to pandemic hit on Tourism)
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

332. On June 9, Indian Bank and Practo have partnered to provide existing and former employees of the bank and their family members with Practo's signature corporate health and wellness plans during the covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank + Practo = to provide Practo's Corporate Health & Wellness plans to bank's employees
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru | ED – Imran Amin Siddiqui
- HQs of Practo – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Shashank ND

333. On June 15, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has collaborated with customer engagement platform MoEngage to drive digital banking experiences in the unserved and underserved regions of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ujjivan SFB + MoEngage = to drive digital banking experiences in the unserved & underserved regions
- HQs of Ujjivan SFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Nitin Chugh
- HQs of MoEngage – San Francisco, California, US | Founder & CEO – Raviteja Dodda

334. On June 15, The RBI has issued restrictions/regulations with respect to investments in payments system operators (PSOs) by new entities from FATF non-compliant jurisdictions that have weak measures to deal with money laundering and terrorist financing activities. Fresh investments (directly or indirectly) from such jurisdictions, in aggregate, should account for less than 20% of the voting power of the PSO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI issued restrictions with respect to investments in PSOs by new entities from FATF non-compliant jurisdictions
- Fresh investments from such jurisdictions should account for less than 20% of the voting power of the PSO
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935



Defence Affairs

335. On June 11, Rajnath Singh has invited Swedish defence majors to set up manufacturing bases in India. An MoU was also signed between the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) and Swedish Security and Defence Industry Association (SOFF) to promote and strengthen the bilateral defence industrial relations through setting up of a dedicated joint working group to take forward mutual objectives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – invited Swedish Defence Majors to set up manufacturing bases in India
- SIDM + SOFF (Sweden) = an MoU to promote & strengthen the bilateral defence industrial relations
- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona | PM – Kjell Stefan Lofven

336. On June 13, Three of sixteen Advanced Light Helicopters ALH Mk-III, manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), were inducted into the Indian Coast Guard. These helicopters, which are part of “ALH Mk-III” programme, will be positioned in Bhubaneswar, Porbandar, Chennai and Kochi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3 (out of 16) “ALH Mk-III” – inducted into the Indian Coast Guard (manufactured by - HAL)
- These helicopters will be positioned in – Bhubaneswar, Porbandar, Chennai & Kochi
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt

337. On June 13, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the budgetary support of ₹498.8 Cr to Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) challenge under the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO) for the next 5 years. The scheme is aimed at providing financial support to nearly 300 start-ups, MSME, individual innovators and 20 partner incubators under the DIO framework. Besides, the ministry also approved the declassification of War records within 25-years of the completion of war. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh approved the budgetary support of ₹498.8 Cr to “iDEX challenge” – under the DIO for next 5 years
- Defence ministry also approved the declassification of War records within 25-years of the completion of war
- “iDEX” initiative was launched in – April, 2018
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

Schemes & Initiatives

338. On June 14, The administration of Ladakh will give financial assistance to meritorious students for availing coaching facility for specific examinations under a scheme named “Rewa - Lt Governor’s Student Support Initiative”. Meritorious students who plan to appear in NEET, JEE, UG CLAT and NDA examinations will be provided up to ₹1 lakh as financial assistance. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ladakh administration – to give financial assistance up to ₹1 lakh to meritorious students to avail coaching facility
- It's done under a scheme named "Rewa - Lt Governor's Student Support Initiative"
- [Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur](#)

339. On June 11, In a partial modification of the FAME-II scheme (Faster Adoption and manufacturing of electric vehicles in India) under the National Mission for Clean mobility, the government has decided to go for aggregation of electric buses and three-wheelers. All components of electric three-wheelers will be manufactured by the Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) to bring down the cost of electric three-Wheelers. According to sources, the FAME-II scheme is also likely to be extended by 2 years to 2024 as only 5% or Rs 500 Cr of the allocated Rs 10,000 Cr has been spent so far. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central govt modified "FAME-II scheme" (**F**aster **A**doption and **M**anufacturing of **E**lectric vehicles in India)
- EESL – to manufacture electric buses & 3 wheelers to bring down the cost
- "FAME-II scheme" was launched in 2019 – with Rs 10,000 Cr (only 5% or Rs 500 Cr has been spent so far)

340. On June 15, A new Facebook initiative called "Report it, don't share it" has been kicked off to prevent online child abuse in partnership with Aarambh India Initiative, Cyber Peace Foundation and Arpan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fb + Aarambh India Initiative + Cyber Peace Foundation + Arpan = launched "Report it, don't share it" initiative
- [HQs of Facebook – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004](#)

Sports & Games

341. On June 12, Barbora Krejckikova has won her maiden Grand Slam singles title at the French Open, beating Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova. While, Novak Djokovic has claimed his second French Open title, defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas at Roland Garros. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Barbora Krejckikova ([Czech Republic - Tennis](#)) – won women's single title at French Open 2021
- Novak Djokovic ([Serbia - Tennis](#)) – won men's single title at French Open 2021
- The French Open – also known as "Roland Garros"



342. On June 11, Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Kiren Rijiju has launched a first-of-its-kind initiative - Central Athlete Injury Management System (CAIMS). It will start with support for athletes who are a part of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) development group expected to participate in 2024 and beyond. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kiren Rijiju – launched a first-of-its-kind initiative “Central Athlete Injury Management System (CAIMS)”
- Coverage: The Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) development group expected to participate in 2024 & beyond

343. On June 14, D. Gukesh has won the \$15,000 Gelfand Challenge chess title. Gukesh, 15, won all four rounds, including the key battle against R. Praggnanandhaa who secured the second place. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D. Gukesh ([Chess](#)) – won the \$15,000 Gelfand Challenge chess title | 2nd – R. Praggnanandhaa ([Chess](#))

344. On June 11, Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat has won the women’s 53kg category gold medal at the Poland Open ranking Series in Warsaw after beating Ukraine’s Khrystyna Bereza in the final. This was India’s second medal at the event after Ravi Kumar Dahiya’s silver in the men’s 61kg. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinesh Phogat ([Wrestler](#)) – won the Gold medal in women’s 53kg category – at Poland Open in Warsaw, Russia
- Ravi Kumar Dahiya ([Wrestler](#)) – won the Silver medal in men’s 61kg category – at Poland Open in Warsaw, Russia

345. On June 10, Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra has clinched a Gold medal in the City of Lisbon athletics meet at the Lisbon University Stadium in Portugal. He has also set a national record with an 88.07m throw in the Indian Grand Prix in Patiala. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Neeraj Chopra ([Javelin thrower](#)) – clinched a Gold medal in the City of Lisbon athletics – in Portugal

346. Brisbane will be offered hosting rights to host the 2032 Olympics which will be confirmed by the International Olympic Committee members in Tokyo Olympics opening in July, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Brisbane ([Australia](#)) – to be offered hosting rights to host the “2032 Olympics”
- HQs of IOC – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach



Important Days & Dates

347. On June 12, World Day Against Child Labour was observed by people across the globe. It aims to spread awareness about the illegal employment practice and also talks about the ways to eradicate it completely. This year's theme is "Act now: End Child Labour". The day was launched by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 12 – World Day Against Child Labour – by ILO (since 2002)
- Theme – "Act now: End Child Labour"
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder | Founded in – 1919

348. International Albinism Awareness Day is observed by the United Nations on June 13 every year. This year, the theme is "Strength Beyond All Odds". Albinism is a rare and genetically inherited condition present at birth. It is also non-contagious. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 13 – International Albinism Awareness Day
- Theme – "Strength Beyond All Odds"

349. World Blood Donor Day is celebrated on June 14, every year to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products as a lifesaving gift. The birth anniversary of Karl Landsteiner is celebrated as World Blood Donor Day on June 14. The host for this year's World Blood Donor Day 2021 is Italy. The slogan for this year will be "Give blood and keep the world-beating". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 14 – World Blood Donor Day (birth anniversary of Karl Landsteiner) | Host for 2021 – Italy
- Slogan – "Give blood and keep the world-beating"
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi

350. Every year, June 15 is marked as 'World Elder Abuse Awareness Day'. The day is said to have come into existence in June 2006. This year's theme is "Access to Justice". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 15 – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (since 2006)
- Theme – "Access to Justice"

351. June 15 is celebrated as "Global Wind Day", also known as "World Wind Day". The day was first inaugurated back in 2007 as "Wind Day". The current name was given only two years later in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 15 – "Global Wind Day" or "World Wind Day" (since 2007)
- HQs of Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) – Brussels, Belgium | CEO – Ben Backwell



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

352. On June 11, Member States at the UNGA High-Level Meeting on HIV and AIDS have adopted a Political Declaration to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. Member States agreed to ensure that 90% of people living with HIV receive preventive treatment for TB and reduce AIDS-related TB deaths by 80% by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Member States at UNGA High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS – adopted a Political Declaration to end AIDS by 2030
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

353. On June 12, PM Shri Narendra Modi has participated in the first “Outreach Session of the G7 Summit” (47th G7 Leaders’ Summit 2021). PM Modi called G7 summit members for ‘One Earth One Health’. The session was titled/themed “Building Back Stronger - Health” and focused on global recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. It was hosted by the UK. The UK has also decided to set up an Animal Vaccine Manufacturing and Innovation Centre at Pirbright Institute in Surrey, England. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – participated in the first “Outreach Session of the G7 Summit” (47th G7 Leaders’ Summit 2021)
- Theme – “Building Back Stronger - Health” | The summit was hosted by – UK
- G7 member countries – US, UK, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Canada | Founded in – 1975

354. On June 14, The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) held its 31st summit in Brussels, Belgium. NATO leaders largely backed US President Joe Biden’s decision to withdraw troops from Afghanistan. NATO leaders have also declared China as a global security challenge. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 31st summit of NATO – held in Brussels, Belgium
- NATO leaders – declared China as a global security challenge
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries – 30

355. On June 14, PM Narendra Modi has delivered a keynote address at the UN “High-Level Dialogue on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought”. He spoke there as the President of the 14th Session of the Conference of Parties of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). PM Modi also highlighted India’s target to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – addressed the UN “High-Level Dialogue on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought”
- PM Narendra Modi – is the President of the 14th Session of the UNCCD
- India’s target to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land – by 2030
- HQs of UNCCD – Bonn, Germany | Executive Secretary – Ibrahim Thiaw



356. On June 12, The 44th GST Council virtually met under the Chairmanship of Smt Nirmala Sitharaman. The Council has decided to reduce the GST rates on the specified items being used in Covid-19 relief and management till 30th September, 2021. Besides, Eight-member committee headed by Himanta Biswa Sarma was appointed to examine GST concession on Covid-19 essentials. The council also exempted 'Tocilizumab' and 'Amphotericin B' drugs that are used in treating Black Fungus (mucormycosis). [{Read more}](#)

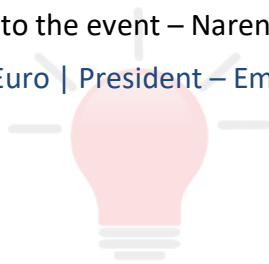
Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman chaired – the 44th Meeting of GST Council
- Council decided to reduce the GST rates on the specified items being used in Covid-19 relief – till Sep, 2021
- 'Tocilizumab' & 'Amphotericin B' drugs (used in treating Black Fungus) – exempted from GST
- 8-member committee is appointed to examine GST concession on Covid essentials – headed by Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Assam – the 1st Indian state to implement GST

357. On June 16, PM Narendra Modi has delivered a keynote address at the 5th edition of VivaTech. VivaTech is one of the largest digital and startup events in Europe, held in Paris every year since 2016. Narendra Modi was a Guest of Honour to the event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – addressed the 5th edition of "VivaTech" – held in Paris, France
- Guest of Honour to the event – Narendra Modi | Paris organizes "VivaTech" every year since 2016
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex



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Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

358. On June 12, Pune-based musician-developer Sandeep Ranade has developed Artificial Intelligence music app "NaadSadhana" that helps Indian Classical musicians tune, synthesise and create music. The app won in the Innovation category at the Apple Design Awards during "Worldwide Developer Conference 2021 (WWDC21)". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "NaadSadhana" AI music app – won in the Innovation category at the Apple Design Awards during WWDC21
- "NaadSadhana" app – developed by Sandeep Ranade (Pune, MH)

359. On June 12, The Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE) has released a list of 400 colleges from across India which have actively participated to keep their campuses clean and sanitized. These colleges won the "One District One Green Champion" Award by MGNCRE, Union Ministry of Education, under "Swachhta Action Plan 2020-21". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MGNCRE released a list of 400 colleges from across India – for "One District One Green Champion" Swachhata Award



360. On June 12, Louise Erdrich has won the “Pulitzer Prize 2021” under the fiction category for “The Night Watchman”. Other winners for books include the late Les Payne and daughter Tamara Payne under the Biography category for their Malcolm X biography “The Dead Are Arising”. The New York Times won the Public Service Pulitzer. While, Pulitzer Prizes awarded special citation to Darnella Frazier, the teenager who recorded the killing of George Floyd. From India, Megha Rajagopalan has won the Pulitzer Prize for exposing China’s vast infrastructure for detaining Muslims. Besides, others winners are also mentioned below. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Pulitzer Prize 2021”: (First Pulitzer Prize was given in - 1917)

Winner	Category	Prize given for
Louise Erdrich	Fiction	“The Night Watchman”
David Zucchino	Non-fiction	“Wilmington’s Lie”
Late Les Payne & Tamara Payne	Biography	“The Dead Are Arising”
Marcia Chatelain	History	“Franchise”
Natalie Diaz	Poetry	“Postcolonial Love Poem”
Tania Leon	Music	“Stride”
Katori Hall	Drama	“The Hot Wing King”
Darnella Frazier	Special Citation	for recording the killing of George Floyd
Megha Rajagopalan (India)	International reporting	for exposing China’s vast infrastructure for detaining Muslims
New York Times	Public Service Pulitzer	for its detailed, data-filled reporting on the pandemic

361. On June 13, The ICC inducted 10 legends of the game into “ICC Hall of Fame 2021”. Vinoo Mankad (India), Kumar Sangakkara (Sri Lanka), Desmond Haynes (Barbados), Andy Flower (Zimbabwe) were among the 10 legends. Flower became the first player from Zimbabwe to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame. Vinoo Mankad was born in Jamnagar, Gujarat in 1917. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICC inducted 10 legends of the game into “ICC Hall of Fame 2021”
- The list includes – Vinoo Mankad (India) & Kumar Sangakkara (Sri Lanka)
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Manu Sawhney

362. On June 12, Prof. Shailesh Ganpule from IIT Roorkee has received the “NSG Counter-IED & Counter-Terrorism Innovator Award 2021” instituted by National Security Guard for his design of a blast-resistant helmet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shailesh Ganpule (IIT Roorkee) – received the “NSG Counter-IED & Counter-Terrorism Innovator Award 2021”
- HQs of NSG – New Delhi | DG – M. A. Ganapathy | Founded in – 1950



363. On June 14, Bangladesh wicketkeeper-batsman Mushfiqur Rahim and Scotland all-rounder Kathryn Bryce have been named the ICC Players of the Month for May 2021. All-rounder Kathryn Bryce is the first player from Scotland - male or female - to make it to the top 10 of the batting or bowling lists in the ICC Player Rankings released recently. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mushfiqur Rahim (Bangladesh - Cricket) – named the ICC Men’s Player of the Month for May 2021
- Kathryn Bryce (Scotland - Cricket) – named the ICC Women’s Player of the Month for May 2021
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Manu Sawhney

Appointments & Resignations

364. On June 9, R. Kishore Kumar will re-join the group to head Sterlite Copper as the President as the current CEO Pankaj Kumar quitted the company citing personal reasons. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. Kishore Kumar – appointed as the New President of Sterlite Copper
- HQs of Sterlite Copper – Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu | President – R. Kishore Kumar

365. On June 10, President-elect of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly and Maldivian Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid has appointed Kakanur Nagaraj Naidu (India’s Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador) as his Chef de Cabinet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abdulla Shahid (UNGA President - from Maldives) – appointed India’s K. Nagaraj Naidu as his Chef de Cabinet
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

366. On June 12, Bollywood superstar Akshay Kumar has been appointed as the new Brand Ambassador of biotechnology company Mylab Discovery Solutions. This announcement comes after Mylab launched India’s first COVID-19 self-test kit - CoviSelf. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akshay Kumar – appointed as the new Brand Ambassador of Mylab Discovery Solutions
- HQs of Mylab Discovery Solutions – Lonavla, Maharashtra | MD – Hasmukh Rawal | CEO – Rahul Patil

367. On June 12, Central African Republic has appointed former finance minister Henri Marie Dondra as Prime Minister. CAR's Prime Minister Firmin Ngrebada announced his resignation. President Faustin-Archange Touadera was sworn in for a second five-year term in March. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Henri Marie Dondra – appointed as the Prime Minister of Central African Republic
- Central African Republic – Bangui – CFA Franc | President – Faustin-Archange Touadera | PM – Henri Marie Dondra



368. On June 11, The Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has appointed former Supreme Court Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri to chair the Grievance Redressal Board of the recently formed Digital Publisher Content Grievances Council (DPCGC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAMAI appointed “Arjan Kumar Sikri” – to chair the Grievance Redressal Board - a part of the DPCGC
- HQs of IAMAI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | President – Subho Ray | Chairperson – Amit Agarwal

369. On June 12, The UN General Assembly has approved the nomination of Costa Rican economist Rebecca Grynspan as Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She was nominated by Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. She is the first woman and Central American to lead the Geneva-based organisation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rebecca Grynspan (Costa Rica) – nominated by Antonio Guterres as Secretary-General of the UNCTAD
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Rebecca Grynspan
- Costa Rica – San Jose – Costa Rican colon | President – Carlos Alvarado Quesada

370. On June 14, Shri Ngulkhom Jathom Gangte, presently High Commissioner of India to Zambia, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Tunisia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ngulkhom Jathom Gangte – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Tunisia
- Tunisia – Tunis – Dinar | President – Kais Saied | PM – Hichem Mechichi

371. On June 14, S. Janakiraman, presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Cuba. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Janakiraman – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Cuba
- Cuba – Havana – Peso | President – Miguel Diaz-Canel

372. On June 14, Naftali Bennett was sworn in as Israel’s 13th Prime Minister, replacing Benjamin Netanyahu from power after an uninterrupted 12 years at the helm of affairs. Bennett is 49-year-old leader of the right-wing Yamina party. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naftali Bennett (Yamina party) – sworn in as 13th PM of Israel (replacing Benjamin Netanyahu)
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

373. On June 13, German luxury carmaker Audi has extended its association with Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli as brand ambassador. Kohli has been associated with Audi India since 2015. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Audi – extended its association with Virat Kohli as Brand Ambassador
- HQs of Audi – Ingolstadt, Germany | CEO – Markus Duesmann

374. On June 14, Mukesh Sharma, a faculty at IIT Kanpur, has been appointed as an honorary member of World Health Organisation's (WHO) Global Air Pollution and Health - Technical Advisory Group (GAPH-TAG). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mukesh Sharma (IIT Kanpur) – appointed as an honorary member of WHO's Global Air Pollution & Health - Technical Advisory Group
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

375. On June 10, India has moved down 12 spots in the Global Home Price Index to the 55th position in Q1 2021 against 43rd rank in Q1 2020, with a decline of 1.6% year-on-year (YoY) in home prices, according to property consultant Knight Frank's research report - "Global House Price Index - Q1 2021". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Global Home Price Index - Q1 2021" – released by Knight Frank (London, UK)
- Top – Turkey | India – 55th position in Q1 2021 (with decline of 1.6% year-on-year (YoY) in home prices)

376. On June 11, In an independent appraisal report titled "Aspirational Districts Programme: An Appraisal" released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India has appreciated India's Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) as 'a very successful model of local area development'. Total 117 Aspirational districts with poor socio-economic indicators are identified by NITI Aayog. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Aspirational Districts Programme: An Appraisal" report – released by UNDP
- UNDP India – appreciated India's Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)
- NITI Aayog – identified total 117 Aspirational districts with poor socio-economic indicators
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

377. On June 7, As per the report entitled "Complicit: 2020 Global Nuclear Spending" released by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Nuclear-armed countries increased their spending on atomic weapon arsenals by \$1.4 billion to \$72.6 billion. India was the 6th largest spender among them. The US spent more than half of the total amount, at \$37.4 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Complicit: 2020 Global Nuclear Spending" report – released by ICAN | India – 6th largest spender
- 1st – US (\$37.4 billion) | 2nd – China (\$10 billion) | 3rd – Russia (\$8 billion)
- Spending on atomic weapon arsenals by Nuclear-armed countries – \$72.6 billion (increased by \$1.4 billion)
- HQs of ICAN – Geneva, Switzerland | Executive Director – Beatrice Fihn



378. On June 15, According to the Charities Aid Foundation's (CAF) World Giving Index (WGI) 2021, India ranked 14th despite the state-level restrictions. This year, Indonesia has topped the index, followed by Kenya and Nigeria. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "World Giving Index (WGI) 2021" – by Charities Aid Foundation | India's rank – 14th
- 1st – Indonesia | 2nd – Kenya | 3rd – Nigeria

379. On June 10, A report titled "Financing Clean Energy Transitions in Emerging and Developing Economies" is released by the International Energy Agency (IEA) in collaboration with the World Bank and the World Economic Forum. According to the report, annual clean energy investment into emerging and developing economies must increase by more than \$1 trillion by 2030 to put the world on track to reach net-zero emissions by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Financing Clean Energy Transitions in Emerging & Developing Economies" report – by IEA + WEF + World Bank
- Annual clean energy investment must increase by over \$1 trillion by 2030 – to achieve Net-zero emissions by 2050

380. On June 11, Although spending on science has risen worldwide, greater investment is needed in the face of growing crises, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has recommended in the latest edition of its Science Report titled "The race against time for smarter development" which is published every five years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "The race against time for smarter development" report – published by the UNESCO (in every 5 years)
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945

Acquisitions & Mergers

381. On June 8, Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd has received a bankruptcy court's approval from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) to acquire Dewan Housing Finance Corp. Ltd (DHFL) for ₹37,250 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piramal CHFL – received a bankruptcy court's approval from NCLT to acquire DHFL – for ₹37,250 Cr
- HQs of Piramal Group – Mumbai, MH | Executive Director – Rajesh Laddha | Chairman – Ajay Piramal
- HQs of PCHFL – Mumbai, MH | MD – Khushru Jijina | CEO – Jairam Sridharan
- HQs of DHFL – Mumbai | CEO – Kapil Wadhawan



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

382. On June 11, Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) has signed an MoU with MECON to support energy efficiency and resources conservation measures in the steel sector and associated mining industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EESL + MECON = an MoU to support energy efficiency in the steel sector & mining industry
- EESL – a joint venture of NTPC + PFC + POWERGRID + Rural Electrification Corp (REC)
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | MD – Rajat Sud | Chairman – Rajeev Sharma
- HQs of MECON – Ranchi, Jharkhand | MD & Chairman – Atul Bhatt

383. On June 11, India and Kuwait have signed an MoU that brings Indian domestic workers in the Gulf nation within the ambit of a legal framework that streamlines their recruitment and provides them with the protection of the law. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is a political and economic alliance of six countries - Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India & Kuwait – an MoU for cooperation on recruitment of domestic workers
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Dinar | PM – Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah | Emir – Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah

384. On June 15, Ambuja Cement Foundation has joined hands with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for implementation of its employability through Phase II of “Employability through Skill Initiative Project (ESIP)”. The foundation received grant assistance from NABARD under the Gramya Vikas Nidhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ambuja Cement Foundation + NABARD = for implementation of its employability through Phase II of “ESIP”
- HQs of Ambuja Cements – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Neeraj Akhoury
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu | Founded in – 1982

385. On June 14, SJVN Ltd has signed an MoU with the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) for ‘Technical Consultancy Services’ for development of solar, wind, hybrid (wind and solar) and hybrid (wind, solar and battery storage) energy projects of SJVN. India is targeting to achieve installation of 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by the year 2022 and 450 GW by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SJVN Ltd + NIWE = for ‘Technical Consultancy Services’ for developing Solar, Wind, Hybrid Energy Projects
- HQs of SJVN Ltd – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | CMD – Nand Lal Sharma
- HQs of NIWE – Chennai, Tamil Nadu



386. On June 15, NHPC Ltd has signed a pact with Bihar State Hydroelectric Power Corporation (BSHPC) to implement a 130.1 MW Dagmara hydroelectricity project in Bihar. The project is on river Kosi in Supaul district of Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC + Bihar = an MoU to implement 130.1 MW Dagmara Hydroelectricity Project – in Supaul, Bihar (on Kosi river)
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

Books & Authors

387. On June 12, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has released a collection of 61 poems titled “Beyond Here and Other Poems”. The book was written by senior bureaucrat Bishnupada Sethi. It’s published by Har Anand Publications, New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naveen Patnaik – released a collection of 61 poems titled “Beyond Here and Other Poems”
- Author – Bishnupada Sethi | Publisher – Har Anand Publications
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



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Obituaries

388. On June 11, One of India’s top Neurologist and Padma Shri awardee Dr. Ashok Panagariya passed away in Jaipur. He was 71. In 2014 he was awarded the “Padma Shri” for his contribution in Medicine. The Medical Council of India gave him the prestigious “Dr. BC Roy award” in 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Ashok Panagariya – India’s top Neurologist – passed away
- Awards: “Padma Shri” in ‘Medicine’ (2014) | “Dr. BC Roy Award” (2002)

389. On June 13, India’s 1951 Asian Games marathon bronze medal winner and 1952 Olympian Surat Singh Mathur has died of COVID-19 in Delhi. He was 90. He was the first athlete from India to complete an Olympic marathon race in 1951. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Surat Singh Mathur – an Athlete – passed away (first athlete from India to complete an Olympic marathon)
- 1951 Asian Games marathon Bronze medal winner | 1952 Olympian



390. On June 11, Noted Dalit poet Dr. Siddalingaiah passed away due to COVID-19. He emerged as the fiery voice of the Dalit world in Kannada with his debut poetry collection “Hole Madigara Hadu” in 1975. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Siddalingaiah – a Kannada Poet – passed away

391. On June 15, National award-winning Kannada actor Vijay Kumar Basavarajaiah popularly known as ‘Sanchari Vijay’ passed away recently in a road accident. He was 38 years old. Vijay had won the national award for his performance in the film ‘Naanu Avanalla Avalu’ (I’m not him, her) in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanchari Vijay (Vijay Kumar Basavarajaiah) – a Kannada Actor – passed away (National award in 2015)

392. On June 11, Gottfried Bohm, the first German architect to be awarded the Pritzker Prize in 1986, has passed away at 101. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gottfried Bohm – an Architect – passed away
- Pritzker Prize in ‘Architecture’ – in 1986



393. On June 11, China has successfully launched 4 satellites into planned orbits that will be used for ecological environment monitoring, asteroid resource exploration, disaster prevention and mitigation among others. The satellites were launched by a Long March-2D rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre. Among them was the “Beijing-3” (BJ-3) satellite, a commercial remote sensing satellite developed by China Spacesat Co Ltd. The other three were HS-2, YW-1 & TJ. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – successfully launched 4 satellites into planned orbits (by using - Long March-2D rocket)
- 4 satellites: BJ-3, HS-2, YW-1 & TJ
- “BJ-3” - a commercial remote sensing satellite – developed by China
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

394. On June 12, The European Space Agency (ESA) will launch “EnVision” as its next orbiter that will visit Venus in the 2030s. EnVision is an ESA led mission with contributions from NASA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ESA – to launch “EnVision” mission to explore Venus – in the 2030s
- HQs of ESA – Paris, France | CEO – Johann-Dietrich Worner



395. On June 13, A 15-meter-tall tree that belongs to the genus of the coffee family has recently been discovered from the Andaman Islands by a team of researchers from India and the Philippines. The new species, “Pyrostria laljii”, is also the first record of the genus Pyrostria in India. Pyrostria laljii has been assessed as ‘Critically Endangered’ based on the IUCN Red List criteria. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Pyrostria laljii” a 15-meter-tall tree (coffee family) – discovered in Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- “Pyrostria laljii” is assessed as ‘Critically Endangered’
- [Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair | Lieu. Governor– Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi](#)

396. On June 9, The ISRO will assist development projects in the Northeast states through space technology and will contribute by offering optimum utilisation of satellite imaging and other space technology applications for better accomplishment of infrastructural projects in all eight states. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – will assist development projects in India’s Northeast states to offer optimum utilisation of satellite imaging
- [HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed in – 1969](#)

397. On June 17, China has launched crewed spacecraft “Shenzhou-12” or “Divine Vessel” using Long March rocket from the Gobi Desert. The spacecraft carries 3 astronauts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – launched crewed spacecraft “Shenzhou-12” or “Divine Vessel” – from Gobi Desert (using Long March rocket)
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping](#)

398. On June 15, The European Space Agency (ESA) has planned to put the world’s first wooden satellite, “WISA Woodsat”, on Earth’s orbit by the end of this year. This wooden satellite is designed and built in Finland. The mission of the satellite is to test the applicability of wooden materials like plywood in spacecraft structures and expose it to extreme space conditions. It will be launched with a Rocket Lab Electron rocket from New Zealand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ESA – to put the world’s first wooden satellite, “WISA Woodsat” on Earth’s orbit
- Designed & built in – Finland | To be launched from – New Zealand
- [HQs of ESA – Paris, France | CEO – Johann-Dietrich Worner](#)

399. On June 14, IIT Ropar has developed a device “Jivan Vayu” which can be used as a substitute of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machine. It is India’s first CPAP device that can function without electricity. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- IIT Ropar – developed India’s first power-free CPAP device called “Jivan Vayu”
- CPAP – **C**ontinuous **P**ositive **A**irway **P**ressure

400. On June 13, Blue Origin has concluded the online auction for the very first seat on ‘New Shepard’ rocket system with a winning bid of \$28 million. A bidder paid \$28 million at auction for a seat alongside Jeff Bezos. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A bidder paid \$28 million to get the first seat on ‘New Shepard’ rocket system alongside Jeff Bezos
- ‘New Shepard’ is a reusable suborbital rocket system of – Blue Origin
- HQs of Blue Origin – Washington, US | CEO – Bob Smith | Founder – Jeff Bezos | Founded in – 2000





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