



# Testzone presents Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test Series Month-wise

# June MockDrill100 PDF No.5

(PDF in English)



Test Launch Date: 5th July 2021

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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 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 स्मार्टकीडा



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## **National & States Affairs**

**401.** The Central Government has launched the "Trusted Telecom Portal" under the National Security Directive on Telecommunication Sector (NSDTS). The portal has been developed and implemented by Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Central Government launched the "Trusted Telecom Portal" under the NSDTS
- The portal is developed by Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT)
- HQs of C-DoT New Delhi | Executive Director Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay
- C-DoT functions under Ministry of Communications

**402.** On June 15, The Ministry of Labour and Employment has announced that the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) would extend benefits of its Health Insurance Cover under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 (ESI Act) to all casual and contractual workers at municipal bodies. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ESIC would extend benefits of its Health Insurance Cover to all casual & contractual workers
- HQs of ESIC New Delhi | Director General Mukhmeet S. Bhatia

**403.** Every year, the Indian Coast Guard's "Operation Olivia" helps protect Olive Ridley turtles as they congregate along the Odisha coast for breeding and nesting from November to December. The Olive Ridley (Lepidochelys olivacea) is listed as Vulnerable under the IUCN's Red list. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Indian Coast Guard conducted "Operation Olivia" to rescue Olive Ridley turtles (Lepidochelys olivacea)
- Olive Ridley turtles are listed as "Vulnerable" under the IUCN's Red list
- HQs of IUCN Gland, Switzerland | President Xinsheng Zhang | CEO Bruno Oberle | Founded in 1948

**404.** On June 10, Gujarat has inaugurated hi-tech "Command & Control Centre 2.0" (CCC 2.0) for the effective implementation of various educational projects as well as child-tracking and real-time monitoring of educational activities. The state-of-the-art 'CCC 2.0' will be useful for systematic monitoring of activities in 54,000 schools covering over 3 lakh teachers and 1 Cr students across the state. Students of Std. 1 to 12 who have smartphone-tablet will get education under Home Learning Management System "G-SHALA" (Gujarat Students Holistic Adaptive Learning App) application and e-content. {Read more}

- Gujarat inaugurated hi-tech "Command & Control Centre 2.0" (CCC 2.0)
- Students of Std 1-12 in Gujarat will get education under "G-SHALA" app
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat



**405.** On June 14, Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has cleared a proposal for the construction of a Bus Station on par with International Standards in Ayodhya at a cost of Rs 400 Cr. The cabinet also gave its nod to a proposal for the construction of a four-lane flyover on the Ayodhya-Sultanpur road. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh cleared a proposal for the construction of a world-class Bus Station in Ayodhya (Cost Rs 400 Cr)
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

**406.** On June 16, The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has launched a "TV Channel Selector web portal" for consumers who could not access its mobile phone app of the same name due to lack of a smartphone. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- TRAI launched a "TV Channel Selector web portal" for consumers who could not access its mobile phone app
- HQs of TRAI New Delhi | Chairman P D Vaghela

**407.** On June 16, Minister of Tribal Affairs in partnership with UNDP has launched "Adi Prashikshan" portal and inaugurated a 3-day training programme on "Capacity Building Training of Master Trainers for ST PRI Members" as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' in New Delhi. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Minister of Tribal Affairs + UNDP = launched "Adi Prashikshan" portal
- Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda (Constituency Khunti, Jharkhand)
- HQs of UNDP New York, USA | Administrator Achim Steiner | Founded in 1965

**408.** On June 18, Maharashtra government has appointed Mukund Gosavi as Brand Ambassador of 'Corona Vaccination Program' for speedy implementation of Corona vaccination in Jalgaon due to his selfless service. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Mukund Gosavi appointed as Brand Ambassador of 'Corona Vaccination Program' of Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**409.** On June 17, Power and Renewable Energy Minister R. K. Singh has announced to set up a committee for implementation of the Roadmap on Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon Technologies. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency has developed two programmes namely "ROSHANEE" and "UNNATEE" laying down the Sector wise action plan for the period 2021-2030. {Read more}

- R K Singh announced to set up a committee to implement roadmap on Energy Efficiency & Low Carbon Technologies
- Bureau of Energy Efficiency developed two programmes namely "ROSHANEE" and "UNNATEE" for 2021-30



**410.** On June 12, The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released an amendment to "Interconnection Regulations of 2017" which provides for a framework for technical compliance of Conditional Access System (CAS) and Subscriber Management System (SMS) for the broadcasting and cable sector. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- TRAI released an amendment to "Interconnection Regulations of 2017" for broadcasting & cable services
- HQs of TRAI New Delhi | Chairman P D Vaghela

**411.** On June 16, The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) & Department of Fertilizers on "Deep Ocean Mission", with a view to explore the deep ocean for resources and develop deep-sea technologies for sustainable use of ocean resources. Deep Ocean Mission will have 6 Major Components. The estimated cost of the Mission will be Rs 4077 Cr for a period of 5 years. The Union Cabinet has also approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) Fertilisers for 2021-22. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved the proposal of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) & Dept. of Fertilizers on "Deep Ocean Mission"
- Major Components 6 | Estimated Cost Rs 4,077 Cr | Time period 5 years
- Cabinet approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for 'Phosphatic' & 'Potassic' fertilisers

412. On June 16, In a landmark decision, the Union cabinet has approved the plan to corporatize the 41 Ordnance Factories into 7 fully government-owned corporate entities, based on their production type. It means, the Ordnance Factory Board, establishment by British India in 1775, will cease to exist. {Read more} Key Points:

#### Key i Oilits.

- Union cabinet approved the plan to corporatize the 41 Ordnance Factories into 7 new Corporate Entities
- HQs of OFB Kolkata, West Bengal | Chairman Hari Mohan

**413.** On June 18, The Kerala cabinet has given Green light to begin acquiring land for "SilverLine", its flagship semi high-speed railway project aimed at reducing travel time between the state's northern and southern ends. The project, estimated to cost Rs 63,940 Cr, is billed as one of the biggest infrastructure enterprises being pushed by the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) government. {Read more}

- Kerala gave Green light to begin acquiring land for its flagship semi high-speed railway project "SilverLine"
- Estimated cost of this project Rs 63,940 Cr
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan



**414.** The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to launch special "Pink booths" to encourage the women of the state to take a shot of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) vaccine. These booths will start operating in all 75 districts of the state. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh to launch special "Pink booths" to encourage the women of the state to take Covid-19 vaccine
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

**415.** On June 17, A COVID-19 recovered patient was airlifted from Madhya Pradesh's Indore to Mumbai after being diagnosed with 'Green fungus' or 'Aspergillosis', the first such reported case in India. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- 1st case of 'Green fungus' or 'Aspergillosis' found in recovering COVID-19 patient in Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Anandiben Patel

**416.** On June 15, Karnataka has announced Rs 1 lakh relief to each family under Below Poverty Line (BPL) which has lost an earning or adult member due to COVID-19. The decision will benefit about 25,000 to 30,000 such families incurring an expenditure of Rs 250 Cr to Rs 300 Cr to the state exchequer. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka announced Rs 1 lakh relief to each family under BPL which has lost an earning or adult member
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM BS Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala

**417.** On June 18, The Odisha government has launched "e-Pathsala" and "e-Mulyankan" facilities keeping in mind disruption of classes during the ongoing pandemic. The state also plans to activate the "Odisha Shiksha Sanjog", a WhatsApp-based programme that allows the teachers to share e-content and materials with students. The e-contents will also launch "Radio Pathsala" and telecast video lessons under 'Shiksha Darpan' for Class I to XII on Doordarshan. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Odisha launched "e-Pathsala" and "e-Mulyankan" facilities
- Odisha plans to activate the "Odisha Shiksha Sanjog" a WhatsApp-based programme to share e-content
- The e-contents will also launch "Radio Pathsala" under 'Shiksha Darpan' for Class I to XII on Doordarshan
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

**418.** On June 17, According to Nasscom, the Indian IT industry is on track to achieve its vision of \$300-350 billion revenues by 2025. The industry continued to be a net hirer of skilled talent, adding 1,38,000 people in FY2021, and robust hiring plans for FY22 with top players, TCS, Infosys, Wipro, HCL and Tech Mahindra, alone planning to add over 96,000 employees. {Read more}

- Indian IT industry is on track to achieve its vision of \$300-350 billion revenues by 2025
- HQs of NASSCOM New Delhi | President Debjani Ghosh



**419.** On June 17, The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has operationalised the national Helpline 155260 and reporting platform for preventing financial loss due to cyber fraud. The reporting platform has been made operational by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Home Affairs operationalised the national Helpline 155260 to prevent financial loss due to cyber fraud
- Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) functions under Ministry of Home Affairs

**420.** On June 17, The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has extended the validity of Entrepreneurs Memorandum (EM) Part-II and Udyog Aadhaar Memorandums (UAMs) from March 31 to December 31, 2021. It was launched on July 1, 2020. Now, only PAN and Aadhaar will be required for registration of MSMEs. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of MSME extended the validity of "EM Part-II" and "Udyog Aadhaar Memorandums (UAMs)" till Dec, 2021
- Nitin Gadkari Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)

**421.** On June 17, Minister of State for Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) Babul Supriyo has released the updated version of "Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India". It has been published by Space Application Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad. The event also observed release of Coffee Table Book "India Hosting UNCCD-COP 14" and a short film on UNCCD-COP 14. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MoEFCC released the updated version of "Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India"
- It has been published by ISRO's Space Application Centre (Ahmedabad, Gujarat)

**422.** On June 14, The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has issued a notification to make the PUC (Pollution Under Control) certificate for all vehicles uniform across the country and also to link the PUC database with the National Register. After the changes in the 'Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989' by the road ministry, the QR code shall be printed on the PUC form and will have details of the vehicle, owner and the status of the emission. {Read more}

- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways made PUC certificate for all vehicles uniform across country
- The changes were made under the 'Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989'
- MoRTH's target to reduce road accident deaths by 50% by 2024



**423.** On June 18, PM Narendra Modi has launched a "Customised Crash Course programme" for Covid 19 frontline workers. The aim of this programme is to train about 1 lakh frontline workers in a span of 2-3 months. The training programme would be conducted in 111 training centres spread over 26 states. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi launched a "Customised Crash Course programme" for Covid 19 Frontline Workers
- The training programme would be conducted in 111 training centres

**424.** On June 18, Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has given an interview in the 'Kokborok' dialect to a local television channel. This dialect is spoken by most of the State's 33% indigenous population. Kokborok was declared as the second official language of Tripura in 1979. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Kokborok' dialect Second official language of Tripura recently used by Tripura's CM Biplab Kumar Deb
- Tripura: Capital Agartala | CM Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor Ramesh Bais

**425.** On June 16, The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has made usage of drone mandatory for recording development, construction, operation and maintenance of all national highways. Contractors and Concessionaires shall carry out the drone video recording in presence of Team Leader of the Supervision Consultant and upload comparative project videos of the current and last month on NHAI's portal 'Data Lake'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NHAI made Drone usage mandatory for recording status of new highway projects
- Drone video recordings will be uploaded on NHAI's portal 'Data Lake'
- HQs of NHAI New Delhi | Chairman Sukhbir Singh Sandhu | Founded in 1988

## **International Affairs**

**426.** On June 16, World's 'Third largest' diamond of 1,098-carat has recently been found in Botswana. The biggest diamond ever discovered in the world was the 3,106-carat Cullinan, found in South Africa in 1905. {Read more}

- World's 'Third largest' diamond of 1,098-carat found in Botswana
- World's biggest diamond was discovered in South Africa in 1905 (3,106-carat)
- Botswana Gaborone Pula | President Mokgweetsi Masisi



## **Banking & Economic Affairs**

**427.** On June 10, Karix Mobile, a wholly owned subsidiary of Tanla Platforms, has announced the deployment of a conversational banking solution for Axis Bank through WhatsApp. Using the solution, Axis Bank customers can now start a WhatsApp chat with the bank to conduct frequent banking activities on-the-go. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Karix Mobile + Axis Bank = partnership to deploy 'Conversational Banking Solution' through WhatsApp
- HQs of Karix Mobile Mumbai, MH | CEO Jay Sheth
- HQs of Axis Bank Mumbai | MD & CEO Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline "Badhti ka Naam Zindagi"

**428.** On June 15, The RBI has revoked the deposit-taking status of Dewan Housing Finance (DHFL) and has reclassified it as a non-deposit taking housing finance company, before approving the Piramal group's bid to take over it. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI revoked the deposit-taking status of DHFL & reclassified it as a Non-deposit taking Housing Finance Company
- HQs of DHFL Mumbai | CEO Kapil Wadhawan
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**429.** On June 16, LIC Cards Services Ltd (LIC-CSL) has partnered with IDBI Bank to launch contactless prepaid gift card "Shagun" on RuPay platform. The Shagun Gift Card offers flexible loading amounts, ranging from ₹500 to ₹10,000 and validity of 3 years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- LIC Cards Services Ltd + IDBI Bank = to launch contactless prepaid gift card "Shagun" on RuPay platform
- Shagun Gift Card's loading amounts from ₹500 to ₹10,000 | Validity 3 years
- HQs of LIC Cards Services Ltd Mumbai, MH
- HQs of IDBI Bank Mumbai, MH | CEO Rakesh Sharma | Established in 1964 | Tagline "Bank Aisa Dost Jaisa"

**430.** On June 16, ICICI Bank has launched a comprehensive set of digital banking solutions called "ICICI STACK" for Corporates. It provides customised digital banking services to companies in over 15 sectors such as financial services, IT/ITES, pharmaceuticals, steel and their entire ecosystem. It has also opened 8 ecosystem branches, 5 in Mumbai and 3 New Delhi. {Read more}

- ICICI Bank launched a comprehensive set of digital banking solutions called "ICICI STACK" for Corporates
- HQs of ICICI Bank Mumbai | MD & CEO Sandeep Bakshi | Tagline "Hum Hain Na!"



**431.** On June 14, The RBI has expanded scope and coverage of Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS). Currently, Direct to Home (DTH), Electricity, Gas, Telecom and Water are payable through BBPS. The RBI decided to permit 'Mobile Prepaid Recharges' as a biller category in BBPS. This will be implemented on or before August 31, 2021. BBPS is as an interoperable platform for repetitive bill payments. It was launched by the NPCI in 2016 on Pilot basis and became operational in 2017. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI expanded scope & coverage of Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)
- RBI to permit 'Mobile Prepaid Recharges' as a biller category in BBPS
- BBPS was launched on Pilot basis by NPCI in 2016 (became operational in 2017)
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- **432.** On June 17, IndusInd Bank has launched "IndusEasy Credit", a comprehensive digital lending platform that enables customers to meet their financial requirements from the comfort of their homes. With this, both existing as well as non-IndusInd Bank customer can instantly avail personal loans or credit cards on a single platform in a completely paperless and digital manner. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IndusInd Bank launched "IndusEasy Credit" a comprehensive digital lending platform
- HQs of IndusInd Bank Pune, MH | MD & CEO Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline "We Make You Feel Richer"
- **433.** On June 15, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released Consultative Document on Regulation of Microfinance. The key proposals of the Consultative Document include a common definition of microfinance loans for all regulated entities. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI released Consultative Document on Regulation of Microfinance
- HQs of RBI Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935
- **434.** On June 16, Google Pay has expanded Tokenisation of Credit & Debit cards with SBI, IndusInd, HSBC and Federal Bank. The platform had earlier rolled out tokenisation with Kotak Mahindra Bank, SBI Cards and Axis Bank. {Read more}

- Google Pay expanded Tokenisation of Credit & Debit cards with SBI, IndusInd, HSBC & Federal Bank
- HQs of Google California, US | CEO Sundar Pichai | Founded in 1998



## **Schemes & Initiatives**

**435.** On June 15, Shri Arjun Munda, Minister for Tribal Affairs has launched the tribal livelihoods initiative "Sankalp Se Siddhi - Mission Van Dhan". Seven new Tribes India Outlets were inaugurated virtually at Jagdalpur, Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Sarnath. With these outlets, the total number of Tribes India outlets has gone up to 141. The Sarnath outlet is the first successful collaboration with the Ministry of Culture at an ASI heritage site. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the tribal livelihoods initiative "Sankalp Se Siddhi Mission Van Dhan"
- 7 new Tribes India Outlets were inaugurated at Jagdalpur, Ranchi, Jamshedpur & Sarnath
- Now, the total number of Tribes India outlets = 141
- 'Sarnath outlet' was established in collaboration with Ministry of Culture

**436.** On June 14, Odisha has launched "Pitha on Wheels" initiative ahead of the 3-day 'Raja festival', one of the most popular ones celebrated at the onset of monsoon. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Odisha launched "Pitha on Wheels" initiative
- 'Raja festival' Odisha
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

**437.** On June 17, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has announced a Rs 61.09 Cr "Kuruvai Paddy Cultivation Package" for more than 2 lakh delta farmers aiming to bring additional area under this short-term crop. The scheme will enhance the acreage beyond the targeted 3.5 lakh acres this season. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu announced Kuruvai Paddy Cultivation Package worth Rs 61.09 Cr
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

**438.** On June 19, Bihar has launched two ambitious schemes christened as the "Mukhya Mantri Yuva Udyaymi Yojna" and the "Mukhya Mantri Mahila Udyami Yojna" to promote entrepreneurship among youth and women of all sections under the state's "Mukhaya Mantri Udyami Yojna" scheme which was started in 2018. Youth and women, wishing to start entrepreneurship, will get a loan of Rs 10 lakh. {Read more}

- Bihar launched "Mukhya Mantri Yuva Udyaymi Yojna" & "Mukhya Mantri Mahila Udyami Yojna"
- Youth & Women of all sections, wishing to start entrepreneurship, will get a loan of Rs 10 lakh
- Bihar: Capital Patna | CM Nitish Kumar | Governor Phagu Chauhan



## **Sports & Games**

**439.** Yuka Saso has won the 76<sup>th</sup> U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship at the Olympic Club in San Francisco. The 19-year-old Saso became the first Filipino player to win a Golf major. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Yuka Saso (Philippines) won the 76<sup>th</sup> U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship in San Francisco, California, US
- Philippines Manila Peso | President Rodrigo Duterte

**440.** On June 18, Indian sprinter and Padma Shri awardee Milkha Singh, popularly known as 'Flying Sikh' passed away. He was 91-year-old. The 1958 Commonwealth Games champion and 1960 Rome Olympian had tested positive for the Covid19 on May 20. He has won 4 Asian Games Gold medals. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Milkha Singh ('Flying Sikh') Indian Athlete/Sprinter passed away (Padma Shri)
- He has won 4 Asian Games Gold medals | Commonwealth Games (1958) | Rome Olympian (1960)

# **Important Days & Dates**

**441.** On June 16, the International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) was observed. The theme of IDFR this year is "Recovery and resilience through digital and financial inclusion". The day was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- June 16 International Day of Family Remittances
- Theme "Recovery and resilience through digital and financial inclusion"

**442.** June 15 is observed as the "ASEAN Dengue Day" to create awareness on dengue prevention and control. While, "National Dengue Day" is observed on May 16 in India. The 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting in 2010 declared 15 June as the "ASEAN Dengue Day". Bite of the Aedes aegypti mosquito is responsible for the transmission of dengue infection. {Read more}

- June 15 "ASEAN Dengue Day" (declared by the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting in 2010)
- May 16 "National Dengue Day" in India
- It is spread by a mosquito called 'Aedes Aegypti' & caused by dengue virus (DENV, 1–4 serotypes)



**443.** The 96<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Chittaranjan Das, popularly known as Deshbandhu or CR Das was observed on June 16, 2021. He was an Indian freedom fighter, political activist and lawyer during the Indian independence movement. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- June 16 96<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Chittaranjan Das (Deshbandhu)
- He was an Indian Freedom fighter, Political activist & Lawyer

**444.** The "Desertification and Drought Day" or "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought" is observed on June 17 every year. The day's focus is to turn the degraded land that has lost its natural productivity due to human activity into healthy land. This year's theme is "Restoration.Land.Recovery. We build back better with healthy land". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- June 17 "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought"
- Theme "Restoration.Land.Recovery. We build back better with healthy land"

**445.** On June 12, Google has celebrated the 99<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Margherita Hack with a doodle. She was a famous Italian Professor, Activist, Author and Astrophysicist. Margherita Hack was known as 'The Lady of the Stars'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- June 12 99<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Margherita Hack by Google Doodle
- She was an Italian Professor, Activist, Author & Astrophysicist | also known as 'The Lady of the Stars'

**446.** On June 21, The 7<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day was observed this year. The main theme of IDY 2021 is "Yoga for Wellness" which is aligned to the current pre-occupations. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- June 21 7<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day (since 2015) | Theme "Yoga for Wellness"
- **447.** On June 18, International Picnic Day is celebrated every year to encourage everyone to go out and spend an amazingly easy and stress-free day with their loved ones. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- June 18 "International Picnic Day"
- **448.** World Crocodile Day was recently observed across the globe on June 17. India is home to three crocodilian species: The mugger or marsh crocodile, The estuarine or saltwater crocodile & The gharial. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• June 17 – "World Crocodile Day"



**449.** "Autism Pride Day" or "Autistic Pride Day" is celebrated on June 18 every year to raise awareness among people about Autism Spectrum Disorder so that they do not see autistic people as disadvantaged but simply as unique individuals. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), one in 160 children has Autism Spectrum Disorder. This day was first celebrated by Aspies for Freedom in 2005. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• June 18 – "Autism Pride Day" (since 2005)

**450.** "Sustainable Gastronomy Day" is observed on June 18 across the globe. It aims to draw the world's attention towards the role that sustainable gastronomy can play in terms of sustainable development. The day was commemorated after the UNGA in 2016. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• June 18 – "Sustainable Gastronomy Day" (since 2016)

**451.** "World Sickle Cells Awareness Day" is observed every year on June 19 to increase awareness and understanding of the disease and the challenges faced by its patients and their families. Sickle cell disease (SCD) causes patients to have sickle-shaped Red Blood Cells. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- June 19 "World Sickle Cells Awareness Day"
- SCD causes patients to have 'Red Blood Cells'

**452.** On June 19, The International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict is observed by the United Nations to raise awareness on the urgent need to prevent and combat the heinous incidents of sexual violence in conflict zones. In 2015, the UN conceived of this initiative in a bid to condemn the gender-based violent acts. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• June 19 – "International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict" (since 2015)

**453.** India celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of the National Reading Day on June 19. The day is celebrated in honour of "Father of India's Library Movement" - Puthuvayil Narayana Panicker, a teacher from Kerala. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- June 19 25<sup>th</sup> edition of "National Reading Day"
- The day marks the death anniversary of P. N. Panicker also known as "Father of India's Library Movement"



## **Meetings, Conferences and Summits**

**454.** On June 14, Union Minister Piyush Goyal has represented India at the "UN Trade Forum 2021". He stated that the world should decouple trade policy and its green goals. The forum was themed "Towards a green and inclusive recovery". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal represented India at the "UN Trade Forum 2021"
- Theme "Towards a green and inclusive recovery"

**455.** On June 16, A 3-day virtual Conference of BRICS Network Universities on the theme of 'Electric Mobility' was hosted by IIT Bombay as part of 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit. Shri Nitin Gadkari was the Chief Guest of the conference. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IIT Bombay hosted a 3-day virtual Conference of BRICS Network Universities as part of 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit
- Theme 'Electric Mobility' | Chief Guest Nitin Gadkari

**456.** On June 16, Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has represented India at the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus 2021. Brunei is the Chair of the ADMM Plus forum this year. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh represented India at the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus 2021 chaired by Brunei
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2021 Brunei | Secretariat of ASEAN Jakarta, Indonesia | Members 10
- Brunei Bandar Seri Begawan Brunei dollar (BND) | Prime minister Hassanal Bolkiah

**457.** On June 16, The historic 'Great Power' Summit between the US President Joe Biden and Russia President Vladimir Putin took place in Geneva, Switzerland. {Read more}

- The historic 'Great Power' Summit between Joe Biden & Vladimir Putin took place in Geneva, Switzerland
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP Kamala Harris
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putins



## **Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes**

**458.** On June 17, United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) has recognised Sumant Sinha (Chairman & MD of ReNew Power) as one of the ten "SDG Pioneers 2021", for his work to advance access to clean and affordable energy. ReNew Power has been a participant in the UN Global Compact since 2016. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Sumant Sinha recognised as one of the ten "SDG Pioneers 2021"
- HQs of ReNew Power Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman Sumant Sinha

**459.** On June 17, Rajasthan-based climate activist Shyam Sundar Jyani's environment conservation concept, Familial Forestry has won the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification's (UNCCD) "Land for Life Award for 2021". This year's theme was "Healthy Land, Healthy Lives". This award was launched at the UNCCD COP (Conference of Parties) 10 in 2011. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Familial Forestry won the UNCCD's "Land for Life Award" for 2021
- 'Familial Forestry' an environment conservation concept of Shyam Sundar Jyani (Rajasthan)
- Theme "Healthy Land, Healthy Lives"
- HQs of UNCCD Bonn, Germany | Executive Secretary Ibrahim Thiaw



**460.** On June 13, The Centre has appointed Anand Mohan Bajaj as Member of the Board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). He has replaced Tarun Bajaj, who is now the Revenue Secretary. {Read more} **Key Points:** 

- Anand Mohan Bajaj appointed as Member of the Board of SEBI
- HQs of SEBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Ajay Tyagi | Established in 1992

**461.** On June 17, Global sports brand PUMA has extended its decade long partnership with former Indian Cricketer Yuvraj Singh by signing him as brand ambassador of PUMA Motorsport in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Yuvraj Singh extended as Brand Ambassador of PUMA Motorsport in India
- HQs of Puma Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO Bjorn Gulden

**462.** On June 17, Microsoft Corporation has named Chief Executive Officer Satya Nadella as its new Chairman, in place of John Thompson. Nadella took over as CEO in 2014. {Read more}

- Satya Nadella appointed as Chairman of Microsoft
- HQs of Microsoft Washington, USA | Chairman Satya Nadella | Founded in 1975



**463.** On June 16, Embalam R. Selvam was elected unopposed as Speaker of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of Puducherry. Chief Minister N. Rangasamy and Opposition leader R. Siva accompanied Mr. Selvam to the Speaker's chair. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Embalam R. Selvam elected unopposed as Speaker of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly
- Puducherry: CM N. Rangasamy | Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge)

**464.** On June 17, For the first time, the government has appointed a private person Aashish Chandorkar as 'Counsellor' in Permanent Mission of India (PMI) in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for 3 years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Aashish Chandorkar appointed as 'Counsellor' in Permanent Mission of India (PMI) in the WTO for 3 years
- HQs of WTO Geneva, Switzerland | 7<sup>th</sup> DG Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Countries 164

## **Amount & Agreements**

**465.** On June 22, India will help financially for the construction of a new parliament building in Eswatini in southern Africa with the Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) extending a line of credit (LoC) of \$108.28 million. A total of 211 LoCs totalling \$12.85 billion have been extended to African countries to support infrastructure projects. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Exim Bank (India) extended a line of credit (LoC) of \$108.28 million to Eswatini
- HQs of EXIM Bank Mumbai | MD&CEO David Rasquinha | Founded in 1982
- Eswatini (Swaziland) Mbabane/Lobamba Swazi lilangeni | King Mswati III

**466.** On June 17, India has extended a \$100 million Line of Credit to Sri Lanka to help the island nation finance various projects in the solar energy sector. An agreement was signed between the Sri Lankan government and the Export-Import Bank of India. {Read more}

- EXIM Bank (India) extended a \$100 million Line of Credit to Sri Lanka
- HQs of EXIM Bank Mumbai | MD&CEO David Rasquinha | Founded in 1982
- Sri Lanka Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte Sri Lankan rupee
- PM Mahinda Rajapaksa | President Gotabaya Rajapaksa



**467.** On June 16, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$484 million loan to improve transport connectivity and facilitate industrial development in Tamil Nadu. Highways under Chennai-Kanniyakumari Industrial Corridor will be upgraded. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ADB approved a \$484 million loan to improve transport connectivity in Tamil Nadu
- HQs of ADB Mandaluyong, Philippines | President Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries 68
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**468.** On June 13, According to the "UNESCO Science Report 2021", the Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research (GERD) has been stagnant at 0.7% of the GDP for years. India's research intensity has been declining since 2014. India has one of the lowest GERD/GDP ratios among the BRICS nations, according to the report which is published every five years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "UNESCO Science Report 2021" Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research is stagnant at 0.7% of the GDP
- India's research intensity has been declining since 2014
- HQs of UNESCO Paris, France | Director-General Audrey Azoulay | Founded in 1945

**469.** On June 15, China, Pakistan and India have 350, 165 and 156 nuclear warheads respectively as of January this year and the three countries appear to be expanding their nuclear arsenals, as per the "SIPRI Yearbook 2021" released by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). It is the 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of Yearbook. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- The 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of "SIPRI Yearbook 2021" released by SIPRI
- China (350), Pakistan (165) & India (156) appear to be expanding their Nuclear Arsenals
- HQs of SIPRI Stockholm, Sweden | Director Dan Smith

**470.** On June 16, India is likely to have 330 million 5G subscribers by 2026 and the monthly data consumption per smartphone is expected to grow to 40 gigabyte per smartphone, according to the "Ericsson Mobility Report 2021". Average data consumption per smartphone at 14.6 GB per month in India continues to be the second-highest in the world. {Read more}

- "Ericsson Mobility Report 2021": India is likely to have 330 million 5G subscribers by 2026
- Monthly data consumption per smartphone is expected to grow to 40 gigabyte per smartphone
- India ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in terms of Average data consumption per smartphone in India (at 14.6 GB per month)



**471.** On June 16, According to a Bank of America report, domestic IT companies are set to slash 3 million jobs by 2022 due to automation. It will help them save a whopping \$100 billion mostly in salaries annually. The domestic IT sector employs around 16 million, of them around 9 million are employed in low-skilled services and BPO roles, according to Nasscom. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bank of America report: Domestic IT companies are set to slash 3 million jobs by 2022 due to automation
- **472.** On June 16, More than 18 million children and adolescents working at e-waste dumpsites in low and middel-income countries are potentially at the risk of severe health hazards caused by e-Waste processing, according to a new report, titled "Children and Digital Dumpsites" released by the WHO. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Children and Digital Dumpsites" report released by the WHO
- Over 18 million children & adolescents working at e-waste dumpsites are potentially at the risk of health hazards
- HQs of WHO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries 194
- **473.** On June 17, India maintained 43<sup>rd</sup> rank on an annual "World Competitiveness Index-2021" compiled by the Institute for Management Development (IMD) that examined the impact of COVID-19 on economies around the world this year. The 64-nation list was led by Switzerland, followed by Sweden and Denmark. {Read more} **Key Points:**
- "World Competitiveness Index-2021" released by Institute for Management Development (IMD)
- India 43<sup>rd</sup> | 1<sup>st</sup> Switze<mark>rland, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sweden, 3<sup>rd</sup> Denmark</mark>
- HQs of IMD Lausanne, Switzerland | President Jean-Francois Manzoni
- **474.** On June 16, According to the "Renewable Energy Market Update Outlook for 2021 and 2022" released by the International Energy Agency (IEA), India is near to achieve its goal of installing 175 GW renewable capacity by 2022. The country installed 643.66 MW of renewable energy capacity during May, taking the cumulative installed renewable capacity to 95.66 GW. IEA has forecast that India will add 17 GW renewable capacity in 2021 and 19.3 GW in 2022, with the total still under 140 GW by 2022. {Read more}

- "Renewable Energy Market Update Outlook for 2021 and 2022" released by the IEA
- India installed 643.66 MW of renewable energy capacity during May, 2021
- IEA's forecast: India will add 17 GW RE in 2021 & 19.3 GW in 2022
- HQs of IEA Paris, France | Executive Director Dr. Fatih Birol | Member countries 30
- **475.** On June 19, The Sydney-based Institute of Economics and Peace has published the "Global Peace Index-2021". The criteria of the Global Peace Index are economic parity, gender equality, security of citizens regardless of religious and racial diversity. Bangladesh is the third most peaceful country in South Asia. India is at the 135<sup>th</sup> place out of 163 countries in the index with a score of 2.553. The list was topped by Iceland, followed by New Zealand & Denmark. Afghanistan (163) was ranked as the least peaceful country. {Read more}



#### **Key Points:**

- "Global Peace Index-2021" published by the Institute of Economics and Peace (Sydney)
- India 135<sup>th</sup> out of 163 countries (Score 2.553) | Top Iceland | Least Afghanistan
- Top 3 most peaceful countries in South Asia Nepal, Bhutan & Bangladesh

**476.** On June 19, The "Sustainable Development Report 2021" (SDR 2021) was written by lead author Prof Jeffrey Sachs and his team at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN). India has dropped three spots from 117 to rank at 120 out of 165 countries with a score of 60.1. Finland, Sweden and Denmark occupy the top three ranks. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Sustainable Development Report 2021": India 120<sup>th</sup> (Score 60.1)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Finland, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sweden, 3<sup>rd</sup> Denmark

**477.** On June 17, Funds held by Indians in Swiss banks rose to Swiss Francs (CHF) 2.55 billion (Rs 20,706 Cr) in 2020, as per the "Annual Bank Statistics of 2020" of Swiss National Bank. India has been placed at 51<sup>st</sup> place in the list of foreign clients' money in Swiss Banks in 2020. The UK topped the list with CHF 377 billion, followed by US with CHF 152 billion. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Annual Bank Statistics of 2020" of Swiss National Bank
- India 51<sup>st</sup> (CHF 2.55 billion or Rs 20,706 Cr) | 1<sup>st</sup> UK (CHF 377 billion) | 2<sup>nd</sup> US (CHF 152 billion)

## **Acquisitions & Mergers**

**478.** On June 15, Canara Bank will be the lead sponsor and will acquire 12% stake in National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL). While, Union Bank of India will pick up a 9% stake in NARCL or bad bank. Bad bank refers to a financial institution that takes over bad assets of lenders and undertakes resolution. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Canara Bank to acquire 12% stake in National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL)
- UBI to acquire up a 9% stake in NARCL or 'bad bank'
- HQs of Canara Bank Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Lingam Venkat Prabhakar | Tagline "Together We Can"
- HQs of UBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline "Good People to Bank With"

**479.** On June 17, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of a stake in Magma HDI General Insurance Company by two entities. Under the transaction, India Advantage Fund S4 I & Dynamic India Fund S4 US I, and NHPEA Trisul Holding (NTH) would acquire a stake in the general insurance company. {Read more}

- CCI approved the proposed acquisition of a stake in Magma HDI = by IAF S4 I + DIF S4 US I + NTH
- HQs of CCI New Delhi | Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in 2003



## **MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships**

**480.** On June 14, Emirates Group Security (EGS) and GMR Aviation Academy (GMRAA) have signed an MoU to promote cooperation for the development and exchange of information, technical expertise and experiences in aviation security. GMR Group is the fourth largest private airport company in the world. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Emirates Group Security + GMR Aviation Academy = an MoU for cooperation
- GMR Group 4<sup>th</sup> largest private airport company in the world
- HQs of GMR Group New Delhi | Chairman G. M. Rao
- Location of GMR Aviation Academy Hyderabad, Telangana | Chief Parul Kulshreshtha Singh

**481.** On June 15, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has signed an MoU with Ministry of Civil Aviation to start seaplane services across India. Under this agreement, seaplane services will be developed as a part of the "RCN-UDAN" initiative of the Civil Aviation Ministry. A total of 28 seaplane routes and 14 water aerodromes are in various stages of development at a cost of ₹450 Cr. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways + Ministry of Civil Aviation = an MoU to start seaplane services across India
- Seaplane services will be developed under "RCN-UDAN" initiative of Civil Aviation Ministry
- 28 seaplane routes & 14 water aerodromes are in various stages of development at a cost of ₹450 Cr

**482.** On June 16, The Ministry of Culture (MoC) and Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) signed an MoU for cooperation in development of National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat. NMHC will be developed as world class historical site and an international tourist destination showcasing India's rich maritime heritage. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- MoC + MoPSW = an MoU for cooperation in development of National Maritime Heritage Complex at Lothal, Guj.
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat

**483.** On June 16, H-Energy has signed an MoU with Bangladesh's Petrobangla to supply re-gasified liquefied natural gas (R-LNG) from India to Bangladesh. H-Energy has received a nod to build, own and operate Kanai Chhata-Shrirampur natural gas pipeline. {Read more}

- H-Energy + Petrobangla (Bangladesh) = an MoU to supply 'R-LNG' from India to Bangladesh
- HQs of H-Energy Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Darshan Hiranandani
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid



**484.** On June 18, Gurgaon based ACME Solar Holdings Ltd signed a shareholders' agreement with UNOPS S3i and Investment Fund for Developing Countries (IFU) for developing a 250 MW solar power plant located in the Rajasthan. The total value of the project is estimated to \$200 million. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ACME Solar Holdings Ltd + UNOPS S3i + IFU = an agreement for developing 250 MW solar power plant in Rajasthan
- Project is estimated to cost \$200 million
- HQs of ACME Solar Holdings Ltd Gurugram, Haryana | CEO Nikhil Dhingra
- Rajasthan: Capital Jaipur | CM Ashok Gehlot | Governor Kalraj Mishra

**485.** On June 19, Pune based Central Institute of Road Transport (CIRT) and IIM Nagpur have signed an MoU to build competencies and generate industry-oriented knowledge in transport management. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CIRT + IIM Nagpur = an MoU to build competencies in Road Transport Management
- Location of CIRT Pune, Maharashtra | Director Dr. Rajendra B Saner-Patil

**486.** On June 17, The Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Santosh Gangwar has signed a Statement of Intent with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for empowering the youths to gain relevant skills and guidance. National Career Service (NCS), launched in 2015, caters to the employment and career needs of the youth. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- UNICEF + Ministry of Labour and Employment = an Sol for empowering the youths to gain relevant skills
- National Career Service (NCS) was launched in 2015
- HQs of UNICEF New York, USA | Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore | Established in 1946

## **Books & Authors**

**487.** Jnanpith awardee and bestselling author Amitav Ghosh's new book "The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis" is all set to release in October, 2021. It will be published by John Murray. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• "The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis" book – authored by Amitav Ghosh

**488.** On June 14, Renowned Neurologist Ashok Panagariya's publisher has released his memoir, "Monk in a Merc". Ashok Panagariya is the younger brother of Arvind Panagariya who has just published his own book titled "My Father: The Extraordinary Story of an Ordinary Man". {Read more}

- "Monk in a Merc" memoir authored by Ashok Panagariya
- "My Father: The Extraordinary Story of an Ordinary Man" book authored by Arvind Panagariya



### **Obituaries**

**489.** On June 13, Mahavir Chakra recipient legendary veteran Brigadier Raghubir Singh or 'Dadosa' passed away at the age of 99. He participated in the Burma war in 1944 and went to Japan to fight. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Brigadier Raghubir Singh or 'Dadosa' an Army Officer passed away (Mahavir Chakra recipient)
- **490.** On June 17, Kenneth David Buchizya Kaunda, the first President of Zambia, passed away due to pneumonia. He was 97. He served as Zambia's first president from 1964 to 1991. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kenneth David Kaunda 1st President of Zambia passed away
- Zambia Lusaka Zambian Kwacha | President Edgar Lungu

**491.** On June 14, The 2008 Olympic doubles Gold medallist from Indonesia Markis Kido has died after suffering a heart attack. He was 36. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Markis Kido (Indonesia) a Badminton Player passed away (2008 Olympic doubles Gold medallist)
- Indonesia Jakarta Rupiah | President Joko Widodo

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## **Person in News**

**492.** On June 15, A statue of Colonel Santosh Babu, who died in the Chinese army attack at Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh in June, 2020, was unveiled at Suryapet in Telangana. Colonel Babu was awarded the Mahavir Chakra posthumously. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- A statue of Colonel Santosh Babu unveiled at Suryapet, Telangana
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan

**493.** On June 17, Montek Singh Ahluwalia was named as a member of a "High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery and Growth" formed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the face of the dual crisis posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and climate change. {Read more}

- "High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) on Sustainable & Inclusive Recovery and Growth" formed by = World Bank + IMF
- Montek Singh Ahluwalia named as a member of HLAG



- HQs of IMF Washington, D.C., USA | President Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries 190
- HQs of World Bank Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant

494. On June 16, The Formula 1 legend Michael Schumacher has recovered from coma after 6 years. The Formula 1 legend suffered life changing injuries in a skiing accident in 2013. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Michael Schumacher (Germany) a retired racing driver & F1 Champion recovered from coma after 6 years
- Germany Berlin Euro | President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

## Science & Technology

495. On June 15, Rocket Lab has received a contract to design 2 Photon Spacecrafts for NASA's ESCAPADE (Escape and Plasma Acceleration and Dynamics Explorers) mission to Mars in 2024. Rocket Lab had previously been awarded another NASA mission for Photon called Capstone. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rocket Lab received a contract to design 2 Photon Spacecrafts for NASA's "ESCAPADE" mission to Mars in
- HQs of Rocket Lab California, US | CEO Peter Beck

496. According to scientists, the Delta variant (B.1.617.2) has further mutated to form the "Delta Plus" or "AY.1" variant. Delta Plus has the mutation called "K417N", first found in the Beta variant (South Africa). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Delta variant (B.1.617.2) has further mutated to form the "Delta Plus" or "AY.1" variant
- Delta Plus has the mutation called "K417N" (first found in South Africa)

497. On June 14, Pune-based startup ThinCr Technologies has developed 3D-printed face masks impregnated with anti-viral agents called 'Viricides' that kill viruses. The material used for coating on the mask is a solution based on sodium olefin sulphonate. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• ThinCr Technologies (Pune) – developed 3D-printed face masks coated with anti-viral agents called 'Viricides'

498. On June 15, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO) has developed and transferred the technology of Precision Iodine Value Analyzer (PIVA), an instrument for the measurement of the degree of unsaturation (iodine value) in vegetable oils. This indigenous food testing equipment was recognized by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- CSIR-CSIO developed & transferred the technology of Precision Iodine Value Analyzer (PIVA)
- "PIVA" was recognized by FSSAI
- HQs of CSIO Chandigarh | Director S. Anantha Ramakrishna
- HQs of FSSAI New Delhi | Chairperson Rita Teaotia | CEO Shri Arun Singhal

**499.** The Polar-Areas Stellar-Imaging in Polarisation High-Accuracy Experiment or "PASIPHAE", named after the Minoan queen, is a polarisation survey of stars at high Galactic latitudes, aimed to provide a statistical and systematic accuracy of 0.1%. It is being led by an Indian astronomer. The Institute of Astrophysics, Greece is the leader of the experiment. The project is funded by the European Research Council and the National Research Foundation in South Africa. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "PASIPHAE" a polarisation survey of stars at high Galactic latitudes
- PASIPHAE Polar-Areas Stellar-Imaging in Polarisation High-Accuracy Experiment
- Leader of "PASIPHAE" experiment Institute of Astrophysics (Greece) | Leader of the group is an Indian astronomer

## **Ordinance, Bills and Acts**

**500.** On June 17, The Central Government has issued a notification amending the "Cable Television Network Rules, 1994" by replacing it with the "Cable Television Networks, 2021" for providing a statutory mechanism for redressal of grievances/complaints of citizens relating to content broadcast by television channels. At present, there are over 900 television channels which are required to comply with the 'Programme and Advertising Code' laid down under the 'Cable Television Network Rules'. {Read more}

- Central Government issued a notification amending the "Cable Television Network Rules, 1994"
- Currently, Over 900 television channels are required to comply with the 'Programme and Advertising Code'





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