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## An important message from Team Smartkeeda

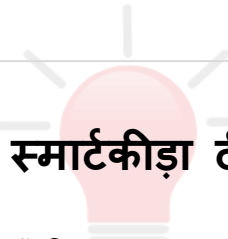
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of June 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial 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 स्मार्टकीड़ा



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# National & States Affairs

**501.** On June 16, Wipro has joined the World Economic Forum's Partnership for New Work Standards initiative to establish a healthy, resilient and equitable future of work. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Wipro – joined the WEF's Partnership for New Work Standards initiative
- HQs of Wipro – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Thierry Delaporte
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab | Founded in – 1971

**502.** On June 14, The SEBI has imposed a Rs 15 Cr fine on 9 entities, including Franklin Templeton Trustee Services, some senior officials and fund managers. SEBI has fined Rs 3 Cr on Franklin Templeton Trustee Services Pvt Ltd and Rs 2 Cr on Franklin Asset Management (India) Pvt Ltd President Sanjay Sapre and CEO Santosh Kamat. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – imposed Rs 15 Cr fine on Franklin Templeton & 8 other entities including some senior officials
- Rs 3 Cr – on Franklin Templeton Trustee Services Pvt Ltd | Rs 2 Cr – on Franklin AMC's President & CEO
- HQs of Franklin Templeton AMC – California, US | President & CEO – Jennifer M. Johnson
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**503.** On June 20, The SEBI has issued fresh guidelines for participation of Mutual Fund Schemes in Interest Rate Swap (IRS). Mutual funds can enter into plain Vanilla Interest Rate Swaps (IRS) for hedging purposes. If mutual funds are transacting in IRS through an electronic trading platform, the single transaction should not exceed 10% of the net assets of the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – issued fresh guidelines for participation of Mutual Fund Schemes in Interest Rate Swap (IRS)
- MFs can enter into plain Vanilla IRS for hedging purposes
- Single transaction should not exceed 10% of the net assets, if MFs are transacting in IRS
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

**504.** On June 17, The Union Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry has launched 14 Cross Disability Early Intervention Centres across India to provide support to infants and young children at risk of or with disabilities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SJE Ministry launched 14 Cross Disability Early Intervention Centres across India
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – Thawar Chand Gehlot (Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)

**505.** On June 19, The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's portal for application of certificates of identity for transgender persons was made available in 10 languages apart from English. The portal was launched on November 25, 2020 which was available in English only. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoSJE's portal for facilitating ID cards to trans persons – made available in 10 languages apart from English



**506.** On June 18, A couple in Madhya Pradesh has deployed nearly a dozen guards and dogs to protect their orchard, which has a total of two mango trees. The two trees are unique 'Japanese Miyazaki', a variety of mango that is sold at around Rs 2.70 lakh per kilogram in the international market. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Japanese Miyazaki' – a variety of mango (sold at around Rs 2.70 lakh/kg)
- A couple in Madhya Pradesh has two mango trees of 'Japanese Miyazaki' in their orchard

**507.** On June 21, Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has launched an awareness campaign for coronavirus vaccination "Jaan Hai To Jahan Hai" from Uttar Pradesh's Rampur district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Minority Affairs – launched "Jaan Hai To Jahan Hai" - an awareness campaign for Covid vaccination
- [Ministry of Minority Affairs – Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi \(Constituency – Jharkhand\) | Set up in – 2006](#)

**508.** On June 17, Yoga Certification Board of India has appointed Indian Council for Cultural Relations as the personnel certification body. ICCR, along with the Ministry of Ayush, will now start Yoga Certification courses for the professionals across the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yoga Certification Board of India – appointed ICCR as the personnel certification body
- [Location of Yoga Certification Board of India – New Delhi](#)
- [HQs of ICCR – New Delhi | DG – Dineshk Patnaik | Founded in – 1950](#)

**509.** On June 20, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) has decided to establish 5 "Divyangta Khel Kendra" in different parts of India, out of which Ahemdabad City is identified to open one of such facilities. Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot also addressed the 'Samajik Adhikarita Shivar' for distribution of aids and assistive devices to 'Divyangjan' under the Assistance to Disabled Persons (ADIP) Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – to establish 5 "Divyangta Khel Kendra" across India
- Assistance to Disabled Persons (ADIP) Scheme – belongs to Ministry of SJE

**510.** On June 20, Tamil Nadu chief minister M. K. Stalin has inaugurated a 24x7 customer care cell, "Minnagam" at Tangedco headquarters to address consumer grievances. Public can register their grievances by calling the 24 x 7 helpline number – 9498794987. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – inaugurated a 24x7 customer care cell "Minnagam" to address consumer grievances
- [Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit](#)

**511.** The government has announced that the last day to link the Permanent Account Number (PAN) card with the Aadhaar number is June 30, 2021. Failing to link the two would result in the PAN card becoming "inoperative" and a penalty of ₹1,000 would also be levied. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Failing to link the PAN with Aadhaar by June 30 would result in PAN becoming 'inoperative' & a penalty of ₹1,000



**512.** On June 20, National Ayush Mission organized a 12-hour virtual Yoga Session “Yogathon” in Kerala. Quiz competitions and essay competition on the theme Yoga was also be organized for school students. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- National Ayush Mission – organized a 12-hour virtual Yoga Session “Yogathon” in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**513.** On June 15, Navi General Insurance has introduced a subscription-based Health Insurance in Kerala through monthly EMIs instead of paying an upfront annual premium. The company offers health insurance cover ranging from ₹2 lakh to ₹1 Cr for individuals and families. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Navi General Insurance – introduced a subscription-based Health Insurance through EMI – in Kerala
- HQs of Navi General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ramchandra Pandit
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**514.** On June 15, The government is planning to increase the number of “Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras” (PMBJKs) in India to 10,000 by March, 2024. As on June 11, 2021, there were 7,836 PMBJK outlets across India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government aims to increase “PM Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras” to 10,000 – by March, 2024
- Currently, there were 7,836 PMBJK outlets across India

**515.** On June 23, CII-Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) along with National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) has launched the “IGBC Green High-Speed Rail Rating System” during an exclusive session. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CII-IGBC + NHSRCL = launched the “IGBC Green High-Speed Rail Rating System”
- HQs of Indian Green Building Council – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Vasudevan Suresh
- HQs of NHSRCL – New Delhi | MD – Achal Khare

**516.** On June 21, The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has constituted a committee to inquire into the complaints of post-poll violence in West Bengal following a Calcutta High Court order in the matter. The committee will be headed by NHRC Member Rajeev Jain. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHRC constituted a committee to inquire into the complaints of post-poll violence in West Bengal
- The committee is headed by – Rajeev Jain
- HQs of NHRC – New Delhi | Chairperson – Arun Kumar Mishra

**517.** On June 21, German agrochemicals major Bayer has launched the first-ever yellow watermelon variety called “Yellow Gold 48” under Seminis brand in India. Bayer offers five varieties of watermelons in India under the Seminis brand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bayer – launched a yellow watermelon variety called “Yellow Gold 48” under ‘Seminis brand’ in India
- HQs of Bayer – Leverkusen, Germany | CEO – Werner Baumann



**518.** On the occasion of International Day of Yoga on June 21, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the “mYoga” app in collaboration with World Health Organisation (WHO). The mYoga app has been developed by WHO in collaboration with the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga and the Ministry of Ayush. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – launched the “mYoga” app on the occasion of ‘International Day of Yoga’
- “mYoga” app is developed by WHO + Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga + Ministry of Ayush
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- Location of Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga – New Delhi
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa

**519.** On June 21, Tamil Nadu government has constituted an “Economic Advisory Council to the Chief Minister” with Noble Laureate Esther Duflo of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), as a member. The other members of the advisory committee are Raghuram Rajan (Former RBI Governor), Aravind Subramanian (Former Chief Economic Advisor), Jean Dreze (Development Economist) and S. Narayan (Former Union Finance Secretary). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – constituted an “Economic Advisory Council to the Chief Minister”
- Members of the council:
  - Esther Duflo (Noble Laureate & a member of Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
  - Raghuram Rajan (Former RBI Governor)
  - Aravind Subramanian (Former Chief Economic Advisor)
  - Jean Dreze (Development Economist)
  - S. Narayan (Former Union Finance Secretary)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

## **International Affairs**

**520.** On June 19, The United States Department of Energy (DOE), India’s Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) have jointly launched a US-India Hydrogen Task Force. This is under the US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + US = launched a ‘Hydrogen Task Force’ in clean energy push
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**521.** On June 17, Japan has decided to allow municipalities to begin issuing “Vaccine Passports” from mid-July. The certificates, to be issued by local municipalities in Japan, will be free of charge and based on the government’s vaccination records. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Japan – to allow municipalities to begin issuing “Vaccine Passports” from mid-July
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga





**522.** On June 21, Hungary has banned all content about homosexuality and gender change from Hungarian school curriculum and television shows for children under the age of 18. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hungary – banned all LGBT content for children under the age of 18
- Hungary – Budapest – Forint | President – Janos Ader

**523.** On June 18, The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced that “Lambda”, a new variant of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19), has been found in Peru. Later, the Lambda variant was also reported in neighbouring countries in South America, such as Argentina and Ecuador. Meanwhile, the ‘Delta’ Covid-19 variant, first identified in India, was classified as a “variant of concern” by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Lambda” a new variant of Covid-19 – first found in Peru
- ‘Delta’ Covid-19 variant (first identified in India) – classified as a ‘variant of concern’ by the CDC
- Peru – Lima – Sol | President – Martin Vizcarra

**524.** On June 18, The US has announced to spend \$3.2 billion for the “Antiviral Program” on developing antiviral treatments for COVID-19 and prepare for other ‘pandemic threats’ - viruses that have the potential to cause pandemics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- US – to spend \$3.2 billion for the “Antiviral Program” on developing antiviral treatments for COVID-19
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**525.** On June 21, The Civil Contract Party of Armenia’s acting Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has won the Parliamentary Election with nearly 54%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Civil Contract Party’ of Nikol Pashinyan (Armenia’s acting PM) – won the Parliamentary Election
- Armenia – Yerevan – Dram

**526.** On June 23, The World Heritage Committee under UNESCO has proposed to downgrade the status of Australia’s “Great Barrier Reef”, recommending it to be added to the list of World Heritage sites ‘in danger’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UNESCO recommended to add Australia’s “Great Barrier Reef” to the list of World Heritage sites ‘in danger’
- World’s largest Coral Reef system – Great Barrier Reef (Australia)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945



# Banking & Economic Affairs

**527.** On June 13, IDFC First Bank has launched the “Ghar Ghar Ration” Program, an Employee-funded program for its low-income customers whose livelihoods are affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The program involves the supply of ration kits to 50,000 low-income customers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IDFC First Bank – launched the “Ghar Ghar Ration” Program
- HQs of IDFC First Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – V. Vaidyanathan

**528.** On June 18, The RBI has given approval for the takeover of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank (PMC Bank) by Centrum Financial Services Ltd and BharatPe. RBI also decided to grant in-principle approval to Centrum to set up a small finance bank under on-tap licensing norms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – gave approval for the takeover of PMC Bank by Centrum Financial Services & BharatPe
- RBI also decided to grant approval to Centrum to set up a Small Finance Bank
- HQs of PMC Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Administrator – A. K. Dixit
- HQs of Centrum Financial Services Ltd – Mumbai, MH | MD – Ranjan Ghosh

**529.** On June 17, As per the RBI’s “State of Economy” report, the RBI was second only behind Turkey in terms of reserves transferred to the government as a percentage of GDP for the fiscal year 2020-21. The RBI transferred 0.44% of the GDP while Turkey transferred 0.50% of the GDP. In FY20, the RBI stood 4th. In May, the RBI transferred a Rs 99,122 Cr surplus to the government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – stood at 2<sup>nd</sup> in terms of reserves transferred to the government as a percentage of GDP | 1<sup>st</sup> – Turkey
- RBI transferred 0.44% of the GDP in FY2020-21 | Turkey transferred 0.50% of the GDP in FY2020-21
- RBI transferred a Rs 99,122 Cr surplus to the government in May 2021
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**530.** 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. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IndusInd Bank – launched a comprehensive digital lending platform “IndusEasy Credit”
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”

**531.** On June 15, India’s retail inflation raced to 6.3% in May, breaching the upper limit of the RBI’s inflation target for the first time in 6 months. The jump in retail inflation was primarily on account of rising food and fuel prices. The RBI targets the 2-6% range only for retail inflation and may overlook the Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation. Wholesale price inflation also increased to 12.94% in May which is an 11-year-high. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India’s retail inflation reached to 6.3% in May, 2021
- RBI targets the 2-6% range for retail inflation
- Wholesale Price Inflation also increased to 12.94% in May, 2021
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935



**532.** On June 19, Union Bank of India (UBI) has entered into an MoU with The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC) under “NSIC Bank Credit Facilitation Scheme” to support MSMEs with credit requirements. Under the arrangement the MSME Unit can approach directly to any of NSIC branch offices which are also operating as Finance Facilitation Centre (FFC) and submit their request for loan requirement from Union Bank of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UBI + NSIC = an MoU to support MSMEs with credit requirements – under “NSIC Bank Credit Facilitation Scheme”
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”
- HQs of NSIC – New Delhi | CMD – Vijayendra

**533.** On June 21, ICICI Bank has extended the instant “Cardless EMI” facility to online purchases made on e-commerce platforms. Customers can convert the transactions up to ₹5 lakh into EMI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Bank – extended the instant “Cardless EMI” facility to online purchases made on e-commerce platforms
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”

**534.** On June 23, SBI General Insurance has inked a bancassurance Partnership with IDFC (Infrastructure Development Finance Company) FIRST Bank for selling its non-life insurance products. IDFC First Bank was established in 2018, by merging erstwhile IDFC Bank and former Capital First. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI General Insurance + IDFC FIRST Bank = a bancassurance Partnership
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prakash Chandra Kandpal | Tagline – ‘Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono’
- HQs of IDFC First Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – V. Vaidyanathan | Established in – 2018
- IDFC Bank + Capital First = IDFC First Bank (merged in 2018)

## **Defence Affairs**

**535.** On June 14, Indian Navy and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) participated in a joint naval exercise in the Indian Ocean to realize “Free and Open Indo-Pacific”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy & Japanese Navy participated in a joint naval exercise in the Indian Ocean
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

**536.** On June 18 & 19, For the first time the warships of the Indian Navy and the European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) have got together to conduct a complex naval operations at sea in the Gulf of Aden. Indian Naval ships have continued to be deployed for Anti-Piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia since 2008. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy & European Union Naval Force Somalia (EUNAVFOR) – conducted a Joint Exercise in Gulf of Aden
- Somalia – Mogadishu – Dollar/Shilling | New PM – Mohamed Hussein Roble | President – Md Abdullahi
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar



**537.** On June 22, The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a contract with Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL) for the construction of two Pollution Control Vessels (PCVs) for the Coast Guard at a cost of about ₹583 Cr. The ships are scheduled for delivery by November 2024 and May 2025 respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoD + Goa Shipyard = a contract for the construction of two Pollution Control Vessels (PCVs) for the Coast Guard
- Cost of construction – ₹583 Cr
- MD & Chairman of Goa Shipyard – Bharat Bhushan Nagpal

## Schemes & Initiatives

**538.** On June 18, The Telangana government has sought the support of the Andhra Pradesh government for use of the software developed for the “Nadu-Nedu” scheme - the flagship school revamp programme of the Jaganmohan Reddy government. The “Nadu-Nedu” scheme of AP was launched in 2019 to transform the existing infrastructure of the 44,512 schools in a phased manner over a period of 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – will implement the “Nadu-Nedu” Scheme of Andhra Pradesh
- The “Nadu-Nedu” scheme of AP was launched – in 2019
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**539.** On June 20, Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has launched a new scheme “Ashirbad” for education, health and maintenance of Covid orphans .. Rs 2500 per month will be deposited in the bank accounts of family members who have taken responsibility of the children after death of their parents. The assistance will continue till 18 years of the child. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – launched a new scheme “Ashirbad” for education, health & maintenance of Covid orphans
- Rs 2500 per month will be deposited in the bank accounts of family members
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**540.** On June 22, West Bengal has revised the “Krishak Bandhu” scheme and decided to double the benefits for farmers under scheme. Under the new plan, farmers with landholding of 1 acre or more would be entitled to receive Rs 10,000 per annum instead of the previous assistance of Rs 5,000 annually. Even the assistance for those holding land below 1 acre or less and for marginal farmers has been doubled from Rs 2,000 to Rs 4,000 per year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- West Bengal – revised the “Krishak Bandhu” scheme
- Rs 10,000 per annum – for farmers with landholding of 1 acre or more (from Rs 5,000)
- Rs 4,000 per annum – for farmers with landholding below 1 acre or less (from Rs 2,000)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar



**541.** On June 22, The Assam government has signed an MoU with the Survey of India (Sol) for implementing the “Svमित्वा” scheme in the state. The scheme aims to provide an integrated property validation solution for rural areas. The Svमित्वा scheme was launched on a pilot basis on April 24, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam + Survey of India = an MoU for implementing the centrally sponsored “Svमित्वा” scheme in the state
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of Survey of India – Dehradun, Uttarakhand | Surveyor General – Naveen Tomar

**542.** On June 19, A new scheme called “Indian Certification of Medical Devices 13485 PLUS” for verification of the quality, safety and efficacy of medical devices has been launched by the Quality Council of India (QCI) and the Association of Indian Manufacturers of Medical Devices (AiMeD) to help Indian products gain a bigger share of the global market. The initial ICMED Scheme was launched for Certification of Medical Devices in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- QCI + AiMeD = launched “Indian Certification of Medical Devices 13485 PLUS” scheme
- The initial ICMED Scheme was launched – in 2016
- HQs of QCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Adil Zainulbhai | Secretary General – Dr Ravi P Singh

## Sports & Games

**543.** On June 18, Punjab Sports and Youth Services Minister Rana Gurmit Singh Sodhi has launched a special Mobile App “Khedo Punjab” for putting the Sports Department and all the Sports persons of State of Punjab on Digital platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab – launched a special Mobile App “Khedo Punjab”
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**544.** On June 20, The 21-year-old Lalremsiami has created history when she became the first female player from Mizoram to get selected for the Tokyo Olympics 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lalremsiami (Mizoram - Hockey) – the 1<sup>st</sup> female player of Mizoram to get selected for the Tokyo Olympics 2020
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

**545.** On June 18, Ireland all-rounder Kevin O’Brien has announced his retirement from One-Day Internationals. The 37-year-old’s 3619 runs are the third highest from his country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kevin O’Brien (Ireland) – retirement from One-Day Internationals Cricket
- Ireland – Dublin – Euro | PM – Micheal Martin



**546.** On June 19, In Women's Cricket Test at Bristol, India's 17-year-old Shafali Verma has become the youngest woman and the fourth overall, to score twin half-centuries in her debut Test. Besides, Shafali Verma has become the first women's cricketer in history to hit 3 sixes in a Test match. Also, Shafali now ranks 4th on the list of most aggregate runs on Test debut by an Indian. Shikhar Dhawan tops the list. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shafali Verma – became the youngest woman and the 4<sup>th</sup> overall to score twin half-centuries in her debut Test
- Shafali Verma – became the first women's cricketer in history to hit 3 sixes in a Test match
- Shafali Verma – ranks 4<sup>th</sup> on the list of most aggregate runs on Test debut by an Indian | 1<sup>st</sup> – Shikhar Dhawan

**547.** According to International Weightlifting Federation, Romania has become the 4<sup>th</sup> country barred from the Tokyo Olympics weightlifting competition after Egypt, Malaysia and Thailand, which were also excluded over doping-related issues. The Romanian Weightlifting Federation was issued a 1-year ban from competition over five doping cases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Romania – became the 4<sup>th</sup> country barred from the Tokyo Olympics weightlifting competition
- Other three countries: Egypt, Malaysia & Thailand
- Romania – Bucharest – leu | PM – Florin Citu
- HQs of IWF – Budapest, Hungary | Interim President – Dr. Michael Sheriar Irani (Interim) | Founded in – 1905

**548.** On June 20, Formula One (F1) championship leader Max Verstappen overtook Lewis Hamilton to win the “French Grand Prix 2021” held in France. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Max Verstappen – won the “French Grand Prix 2021” held in France
- Max Verstappen (Netherlands) – Red Bull team

**549.** On June 17, Former World No. 4 Kiki Bertens has announced her retirement from professional Tennis at the end of the 2021 season. The 10-time winner from the Netherlands underwent Achilles surgery last October. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kiki Bertens (Netherlands) – retirement from professional Tennis
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro | PM – Mark Rutte

## Important Days & Dates

**550.** International Day of Yoga is celebrated every year on June 21 since 2015. This year, the theme is “Yoga for wellness”. The idea for an UN-mandated International Day of Yoga was first proposed by PM Narendra Modi during his speech at the UNGA in 2014. PM Modi in collaboration with the WHO, had launched the “M-Yoga” app. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – International Day of Yoga (since 2015)
- Theme – “Yoga for wellness”



**551.** June 21 is celebrated as “World Music Day” all over the world. It is also known as “Fete de la Musique” in French and Make Music Day as well. The day was first celebrated in France in 1982. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – “World Music Day” also known as “Fete de la Musique” (since 1982 | First celebrated in France)
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

**552.** On June 21, World Hydrography Day is celebrated every year to commemorate the work of hydrographers. The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) came up with the idea of World Hydrography Day in 2005. This year, the theme is “One Hundred Years of International Cooperation in Hydrography”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – “World Hydrography Day” (since 2005)
- Theme – “One Hundred Years of International Cooperation in Hydrography”

**553.** On June 21, 2021, the Northern hemisphere will experience its longest day of the year, known as “Summer Solstice”, or the first day of summer or “International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice”. The summer solstice occurs between June 20 and 22 every year. Summer Solstice is also referred to as Midsummer, First Day of Summer, June solstice (in the Northern Hemisphere) and the longest day of the year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – “Summer Solstice” or “International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice” (longest day of the year)

**554.** “World Refugee Day” is observed every year by the United Nations on June 20 to respect and honour the courage and resilience of refugees across the world. The day was celebrated for the first time in 2001. This year, the theme is “Together we heal, learn and shine”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 20 – UN’s “World Refugee Day” (since 2001)
- Theme – “Together we heal, learn and shine”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres

## Meetings, Conferences and Summits

**555.** On June 15, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has addressed the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Conference. To commemorate the long standing relationship between India and the FAO, the PM of India Shri Narendra Modi ji had released a special Rs 75 commemorative coin. Hans Hoogeveen is elected as the new Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) for the next 2 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar – addressed the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of FAO Conference
- Hans Hoogeveen – elected as the new Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) for next 2 years
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945



**556.** On June 21, India is set to host a two-day summit on “Green Hydrogen Initiatives” starting on June 22 involving the BRICS nations. The event will be anchored by the NTPC. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – will host a two-day summit on “Green Hydrogen Initiatives” involving the BRICS nations
- The event will be anchored by – NTPC
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

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

**557.** On June 18, Indian-American chemist Sumita Mitra has won the “European Inventor Award 2021” under ‘Non-EPO (European Patent Office) countries’ category for her application of nanotechnology in dentistry. The European Inventor Award was launched by the EPO in 2006. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sumita Mitra (Indian-American) – won the “European Inventor Award 2021” under ‘Non-EPO countries’ category
- The European Inventor Award was launched by the EPO in 2006

**558.** On June 17, Larsen & Toubro Infotech has been recognized as the “Global Innovation Partner of the Year” by Snowflake, the Data Cloud Company. LTI received this prestigious recognition during Snowflake Virtual Partner Summit held on 16 June 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- L&T Infotech – recognized as the “Global Innovation Partner of the Year” by Snowflake
- HQs of LTI – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Sanjay Jalona
- HQs of Snowflake – Bozeman, Montana, US | CEO – Frank Sloatman

**559.** On June 19, Former Health Minister & a Teacher, K. K. Shailaja has been chosen for the prestigious Central European University’s (CEU) “Open Society Prize 2021” in recognition of her commitment to public health services. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K. K. Shailaja – honoured with the “Open Society Prize 2021” – by the Central European University (Hungary)

**560.** On June 20, INS Sahyadri has been adjudged the ‘Best Ship’ of the Eastern Fleet at the “Fleet Awards Function” and INS Kamorta has received the title of the ‘Most Spirited Ship’. INS Kiltan and INS Khukri won the ‘Best Corvette’ trophy amongst corvettes and similar classes of ships. The function was held to mark the culmination of the Operational Cycle of the Eastern Fleet and to recognise accomplishments of the ‘Sword Arm’ of the Eastern Naval Command (ENC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- INS Sahyadri – adjudged the ‘Best Ship’ of the Eastern Fleet
- INS Kamorta – received the title of the ‘Most Spirited Ship’
- INS Kiltan & INS Khukri – won the ‘Best Corvette’ trophy





**561.** On June 20, A documentary on Mahatma Gandhi produced by internationally-renowned South African filmmaker Anant Singh has won the Best Documentary Feature Award at the 21<sup>st</sup> New York Indian Film Festival. The film, titled “Ahimsa - Gandhi: The Power of the Powerless”, was written and directed by Ramesh Sharma. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Ahimsa - Gandhi: The Power of the Powerless” – won Best Documentary Feature Award
- The film was written & directed by – Ramesh Sharma | Produced by – Anant Singh

## **Appointments & Resignations**

**562.** On June 16, British lawyer Karim Khan was sworn in as the new Chief Prosecutor for the International Criminal Court for a tenure of 9 years. He takes over from Fatou Bensouda of Gambia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karim Khan ([Britain](#)) – sworn in as the new Chief Prosecutor for the International Criminal Court – for 9 years
- [HQs of International Criminal Court – Hague, Netherlands](#) | [President – Judge Piotr Hofmanski](#)

**563.** On June 16, Chinese smartphone and wearables maker OnePlus has roped in Indian cricket Jasprit Bumrah as the Brand Ambassador for its wearable category. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jasprit Bumrah – as the Brand Ambassador for the wearable category of OnePlus
- [HQs of OnePlus – Shenzhen, China](#) | [CEO – Pete Lau](#)

**564.** On June 19, Ebrahim Raisi has been elected as the new President of Iran. When 90% of the ballots were counted, Mr. Raisi won 62% of the vote. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ebrahim Raisi – elected as the new President of Iran
- [Iran – Tehran – Rial](#) | [President – Ebrahim Raisi](#)

**565.** On June 20, The SEBI has reconstituted its Takeover Panel chaired by N. K. Sodhi. The regulator has appointed N. Venkatram (MD & CEO of Deloitte India) as the new member of the Takeover Panel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI reconstituted its Takeover Panel – chaired by N. K. Sodhi
- N. Venkatram – appointed as the new member of the Takeover Panel
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Ajay Tyagi](#) | [Established in – 1992](#)

**566.** On June 21, Shri Ashok Kumar, presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of Djibouti, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Zambia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ashok Kumar – appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Zambia
- [Zambia – Lusaka – Zambian Kwacha](#) | [President – Edgar Lungu](#)



**567.** Ajai Puri (CEO of Bharti Airtel) has been re-elected as Chairman of the Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI) for 2021-22. Pramod Kumar Mittal (President of Reliance Jio Infocomm) will continue as Vice Chairman of the association. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ajai Puri – re-elected as Chairman of the COAI for 2021-22
- Pramod Kumar Mittal – re-elected as Vice Chairman of the COAI for 2021-22
- HQs of COAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajai Puri | VC – Pramod Kumar Mittal | Founded in – 1995

**568.** On June 21, WWF India has inducted Upasana Kamineni (Director of Apollo Hospitals) as “Ambassador of Forest Frontline Heroes” with the aim to appreciate the efforts of frontline workers in hospitals and in the wildlife protection space. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Upasana Kamineni – appointed as ‘Ambassador of Forest Frontline Heroes’ by WWF India
- HQs of WWF India – New Delhi, India | President – Jamshyd N. Godrej

**569.** On June 22, Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari was appointed as the acting Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court replacing Justice Sanjay Yadav. Chief justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court L. Narayana Swamy has retired. Chief Justices and Judges of the High Courts retire at the age of 62. The retirement age of the Chief Justice of India and judges of the Supreme Court is 65 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Munishwar Nath Bhandari – appointed as the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court
- Retirement age of Chief Justices & Judges of HC – 62 years | Chief Justice of India & judges of the SC – 65 years

**570.** On June 19, Pratima Murthy, Professor and HoD (Psychiatry), has been appointed as the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) till she attains the age of 65 years. Y. C. Janardhan Reddy has been appointed Head of Department of Psychiatry. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pratima Murthy – appointed as the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences
- HQs of NIMHANS – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Pratima Murthy

**571.** On June 20, Dr Tadang Minu from Arunachal Pradesh has become the first woman in India and the second Indian to be appointed as a member of the Coaches Committee of the International Boxing Association (AIBA). Dr Minu is an assistant professor at Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) and also the president of the Arunachal Amateur Boxing Association (AABA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tadang Minu (Arunachal Pradesh) – became the first woman in India & 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian to be appointed as a member of the Coaches Committee of the “AIBA”
- HQs of AIBA – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Umar Kremlev (from Russia)



## Amount & Agreements

**572.** On June 18, PayPoint India has signed 'Lead Generation Agreements' with 12 financial institutions including Punjab National Bank, ICICI Bank, Deutsche Bank and other NBFCs, to add lending vertical to its portfolio of services. PayPoint India would also be introducing 2 more products - an investment related Systematic Investment Plan and inter-operable wallets. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- PayPoint India + 12 financial institutions = signed 'Lead Generation Agreements'
- HQs of PayPoint India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Ketan Doshi

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**573.** On June 18, The "Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2020 Report" was recently released by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The number of displaced people increased to 82.4 million people in 2020. Above 1% of the world's population or 1 in 95 people is now forcibly displaced. According to the report, Turkey currently hosts 3.6 million refugees, followed by Columbia that shelters 1.8 million people. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- "Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2020 Report" – released UNHCR
- The number of displaced people increased to – 82.4 million people in 2020
- Turkey – hosts 3.6 million refugees (most) | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Columbia (1.8 million refugees)
- Above 1% of the world's population or 1 in 95 people is now forcibly displaced
- HQs of UNHCR – Geneva, Switzerland | Head – Filippo Grandi

**574.** On June 20, Comprising all statistical figures and data of the last Lok Sabha polls, the Election Commission of India has released "General Elections 2019: An Atlas". It consists of statistical analysis of 17<sup>th</sup> General Election that was held in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- ECI – released "General Elections 2019: An Atlas"
- HQs of ECI – New Delhi | Chief Election Commissioner – Sushil Chandra (24<sup>th</sup>) | Formed on – 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950

**575.** On June 21, India has received \$64 billion in Foreign Direct Investment in 2020, the fifth largest recipient of inflows in the world, according to "World Investment Report 2021" by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The FDI increased 27% to \$64 billion in 2020 from \$51 billion in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- "World Investment Report 2021" – by UNCTAD
- India – received \$64 billion in Foreign Direct Investment in 2020 (27% increase)
- India – 5<sup>th</sup> largest recipient of inflows in the world
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Rebecca Grynspan



**576.** On June 20, Tata Memorial Centre published the first of its kind study on the “Cost of illness and Treatment of Oral Cancer” in India. India has spent approximately Rs 2,386 Cr in 2020 on oral cancer treatment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A study titled “Cost of illness and Treatment of Oral Cancer” – by Tata Memorial Centre
- India spent approx Rs 2,386 Cr in 2020 on Oral Cancer treatment

**577.** On June 19, NTPC Ltd has been ranked 38 in the ‘Great Place to Work’ ranking by the Great Place to Work Institute. NTPC has been recognised as a ‘Great Place to Work’ for the 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row. NTPC is the only PSU to consistently feature in India’s Top 50 Best Workplaces. It also won its first-ever recognition of India’s Best Employers among Nation-Builders 2021. NTPC plans to invest ₹1 trillion between 2019 and 2024 to become a 130GW power producer by 2032. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NTPC Ltd – ranked 38 in the ‘Great Place to Work’ ranking of 2021 (15<sup>th</sup> year in a row in India’s Top 50 Best Workplaces)
- NTPC Ltd – also won the first-ever recognition of India’s Best Employers among Nation-Builders 2021
- NTPC plans to invest ₹1 trillion between 2019 & 2024 to become a 130GW power producer by 2032
- HQs of Great Place to Work Institute – Oakland, California, US
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

**578.** On June 21, The report titled “Suicide Worldwide in 2019” released by World Health Organization (WHO) shows that some 7,03,000 people or one in a 100, died by suicide in 2019. Suicide is the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death among 15-29 year olds. 77% of global suicides occur in low- and middle-income countries. The WHO had published new LIVE LIFE guidelines to help countries reduce the global suicide mortality rate by a third by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Suicide Worldwide in 2019” – released by the WHO
- 7,03,000 people or one in a 100 – died by suicide in 2019
- Suicide – 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death among 15-29 year olds
- WHO: World is not on track to reduce suicide mortality rate by 2030
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

**579.** On June 19, Under the IBPS Scheme (India Business Process Outsourcing Promotion Scheme), Andhra Pradesh is the highest in employment generation by creating 12,234 new jobs followed by Tamil Nadu at 9,401. IBPS scheme was launched in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh – the highest in employment generation under the ‘IBPS Scheme’ (2<sup>nd</sup> - Tamil Nadu)
- ‘IBPS Scheme’ – launched in 2014
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan



## Acquisitions & Mergers

**580.** On June 19, Ca Rover Holdings, a subsidiary of Carlyle group has sold its 5.1% stake or 48 million shares in SBI Cards and Payment Services Ltd worth about Rs 4,811 Cr through open market transactions on BSE and NSE. Ca Rover Holdings is a public shareholder of SBI Cards and held an 11.61% stake in the firm, in March 2021. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ca Rover Holdings – sold its 5.1% stake in SBI Cards and Payment Services worth about Rs 4,811 Cr
- HQs of Carlyle Group – Washington, D.C., USA | Co-Chief Executive Officers – Kewsong Lee, Glenn Youngkin

**581.** On June 21, Adani Power Ltd (APL) will acquire 1,200 MW Essar Power's "Mahan Project" located at Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh. Adani Power will shell out close to Rs 3,000 Cr for the Mahan Project. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Adani Power will acquire 1,200 MW Essar Power's "Mahan Project" – located at Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh
- HQs of Adani Power Ltd – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Vneet Jaain

**582.** On June 22, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of 16.4% equity shareholding of United Breweries Limited (UBL) by Heineken International BV (HIBV). [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- CCI approved acquisition of 16.4% of United Breweries Ltd – by Heineken International BV (HIBV)
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of United Breweries Ltd – Bangalore, Karnataka | President – A. K. Ravi Nedungadi
- HQs of Heineken International BV – Amsterdam, Netherlands | CEO – Dolf van den Brink

**583.** On June 21, Muthoot Fincorp has picked up 54% stake in Hyderabad-based fintech startup Paymatrix by buying out existing investors as part of its added focus on digital payments segment. Paymatrix was set up in 2016 and was incubated at IIIT-Hyderabad along with Paypal accelerator programme. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Muthoot Fincorp – picked up 54% stake in Paymatrix
- HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot
- HQs of Paymatrix – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Mukesh Chandra Anchuri | Established in – 2016

## MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**584.** On June 18, India and Bhutan have inked an MoU for developing cooperation between two countries in the area of Environment. The MoU is a platform to further enhance Indian and Bhutanese partnership and support, exchange best practices in areas like prevention of Air Pollution, Waste Management, Chemical Management, Climate Change, etc. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- India & Bhutan – inked an MoU for developing cooperation in the area of Environment
- Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM – Lotay Tshering



**585.** On June 22, Bharti Airtel and Tata Group have announced a strategic partnership for implementing 5G network solutions for India, which will be available for commercial development from January 2022. Tata Group has developed an “O-RAN” (Open-Radio Access Network)-based radio and Non-standalone Architecture/Stand-alone Architecture (NSA/SA) core. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharti Airtel & Tata Group – partnership for implementing 5G network solutions for India
- Tata Group – developed an “O-RAN” based radio
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- HQ of Tata Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran

**586.** On June 21, Fintech platform FlexiLoans.com has partnered with Retailio to provide working capital loans to its more than 1,00,000 retailers and distributors across India. This partnership aims to fund over 15,000 pharma retailers in the next 18 months. The Indian pharmacy market is a \$40-billion market. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FlexiLoans.com + Retailio = partnership to provide working capital loans to retailers & distributors
- Partnership aims to fund over 15,000 pharma retailers in the next 18 months
- Indian pharmacy market – \$40-billion
- HQs of FlexiLoans – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Co-Founder – Manish Lunia
- HQs of Retailio – Pune, Maharashtra

**587.** On June 22, Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar and Fiji’s Minister Dr. Mahendra Reddy signed an MoU for cooperation in the field of Agriculture and allied sectors between India and Fiji. The MoU will remain valid for a period of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Fiji = an MoU for cooperation in the field of Agriculture and allied sectors
- Fiji – Suva – Fijian Dollar | President – Jioji Konrote

## **Books & Authors**

**588.** On June 21, Filmmaker-writer Tahira Kashyap Khurrana has announced her upcoming book about motherhood, titled “The 7 Sins of Being A Mother”. This is her 5<sup>th</sup> book. Last year, she had released “12 Commandments of Being A Woman”. The writer has also penned books like “Cracking The Code: My Journey in Bollywood” and “Souled Out”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The 7 Sins of Being A Mother” book – authored by Tahira Kashyap Khurrana
- Other books: “12 Commandments of Being A Woman”, “Cracking The Code: My Journey in Bollywood” & “Souled Out”



**589.** On June 21, Will Smith has announced that his first memoir, titled “Will”, is set to be published on November 9. Smith has co-written the book with Mark Manson and will be published by Penguin Random House. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Will” memoir of – Will Smith (co-written with Mark Manson)
- Publisher – Penguin Random House

**590.** On June 21, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan has unveiled Krishna Saksena’s book “My Joys and Sorrows - as a Mother of a Special Child”. Saksena was the first woman to get a PhD degree from Lucknow University in 1955. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan unveiled “My Joys and Sorrows - as a Mother of a Special Child” – authored by Krishna Saksena

## **Obituaries**

**591.** Mufti Faiz-ul-Waheed, a renowned Islamic Scholar passed away recently. He was the first to translate the Quran into the Gojri language and helped hundreds of tribal students pursue medical and engineering education across Jammu and Kashmir. He was 56. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mufti Faiz-ul-Waheed (J & K) – a renowned Islamic Scholar – passed away
- The first person to translate the Quran into the ‘Gojri language’

**592.** On June 19, Gujarat cadre IAS officer and Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Guruprasad Mohapatra passed away due to Covid-19 related complications. He was 59. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Guruprasad Mohapatra – IAS officer (Gujarat) & Secretary in DPIIT – passed away
- DPIIT works under – Ministry of Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)
- HQs of DPIIT – New Delhi

**593.** On June 21, Former Indian women Volleyball Team Captain Nirmal Kaur died at a Mohali hospital due to complications related to Covid-19 infection. She is wife of legendary Olympian Milkha Singh. She was 85. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nirmal Kaur – Former Indian women Volleyball Team Captain – passed away



## Person in News

**594.** On June 22, 24-year-old Mawya Sudan is the first woman from Jammu and Kashmir to become a fighter pilot and to be inducted in the Indian Air Force. She is the 12<sup>th</sup> woman fighter pilot in the IAF. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Mawya Sudan – the first woman from Jammu & Kashmir to become a fighter pilot
- Now, total number of woman fighter pilots in the IAF – 12
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Founded in – 1932

## Science & Technology

**595.** On June 16, A team of Indo-French researchers from multiple Indian institutions, including Raman Research Institute (RRI) in Bengaluru and ISRO's Space Application Centre (SAC) in Ahmedabad and the Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS, France has developed a new imaging technique that can potentially help reveal obstacles in the path that would otherwise be hidden by fog in rail, sea, and road transportation and would also help spotting lighthouse beacons. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Indo-French researchers – developed a new imaging technique to view clear images hidden by fog
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex
- ISRO's Space Application Centre (SAC) – located in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Raman Research Institute (RRI) – located in Bengaluru, Karnataka

**596.** On June 18, Russia has joined hands with China to develop a Joint International Lunar Research Station (ILRS). Preliminary exploratory missions are likely to begin by the end of 2021 and construction for the lunar base will begin as early as 2025. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Russia + China = collaboration to develop a Joint International Lunar Research Station (ILRS)
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**597.** On June 17, A new Tardigrade species "Stygarctus keralensis" was discovered from Vadakara in north Kerala by a research team. Their findings have been published in Zootaxa. "Stygarctus keralensis" is the 8<sup>th</sup> species named under the genus 'Stygarctus'. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- "Stygarctus keralensis" a new Tardigrade species – discovered from Vadakara, in Kerala
- It was published in – 'Zootaxa' journal
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan





**598.** On June 19, A new grass species named “Lophopogon Prasannae” has been discovered in the Nigidi forest of Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh. The species has been named after reputed botanist Dr PV Prasanna, scientist G, Botanical Survey of India (BSI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Lophopogon Prasannae” a grass species – discovered in Nigidi forest, Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**599.** On June 23, Two labs of the DRDO - Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) and High Energy Material Research Laboratory (HEMRL) developed a modern Canopy Severance System (CSS) for indigenous aircraft including LCA Tejas, HJT-36 and HTT-40. A ceremony marking the transfer of technology was held in Pune. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ARDE + HEMRL (DRDO’s labs in Pune) = developed a modern Canopy Severance System (CSS) for indigenous aircraft
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

## Ordinance, Bills and Acts

**600.** On June 16, The Union Cabinet has given the nod to the “Inland Vessels Bill, 2021”, which will replace the “Inland Vessels Act, 1917”. Total 4,000 km inland waterways have been operationalised. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Union Cabinet – gave the nod to the “Inland Vessels Bill, 2021” – replacing the “Inland Vessels Act, 1917”
- Total 4,000 km inland waterways have been operationalised



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