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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

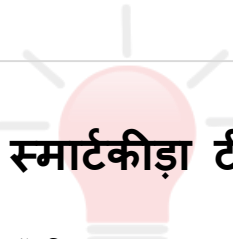
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of June 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

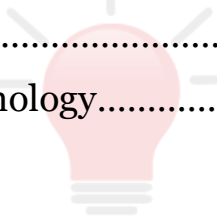
आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

801. On June 29, The Ministry of Jal Shakti has released an updated “Glacial Lake Atlas of Ganga River Basin”. About 4,707 glacial lakes have been mapped in the Ganga basin. The Atlas is available on ‘Bhuvan portal’ of National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Jal Shakti – released an updated “Glacial Lake Atlas of Ganga River Basin”
- About 4,707 glacial lakes – mapped in the Ganga basin
- Atlas is available on ‘Bhuvan portal’ of NRSC, ISRO ([Hyderabad](#))

802. Union Minister Prakash Javadekar has virtually inaugurated Asia’s longest High-Speed Track “National Automotive Test Tracks (NATRAX)” for automotive testing in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. It is also the 5th largest in the world. The new facility at NATRAX measures 11.3 km in length and will facilitate automotive and component testing for automobile companies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Asia’s longest High-Speed Track “NATRAX” for automotive testing – inaugurated in Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- It is the 5th largest in the world | NATRAX measures 11.3 km in length
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

803. On June 30, Jammu & Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched the “HAUSLA - inspiring her growth”, a comprehensive programme for Catalysing Women Entrepreneurship in the UT. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – launched the “HAUSLA - inspiring her growth” programme for Catalysing Women Entrepreneurship
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

804. Ministry of Defence (MoD) has initiated a project to create an “Interactive Virtual Museum” of India’s Gallantry award winners to honour the heroic deeds of the bravehearts of India. MoD will implement the project in partnership with Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) and Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoD + SIDM + CII = initiated a project to create an “Interactive Virtual Museum” of India’s Gallantry award winners
- [HQs of SIDM – New Delhi | President – Jayant D. Patil](#)
- [HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee](#)



International Affairs

805. The leaders of the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) have launched a joint platform for accessing Covid-19 vaccines, treatments and technologies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO + WIPO + WTO = launched a joint platform for accessing Covid-19 vaccines, treatments & technologies
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- HQs of WIPO – Geneva, Switzerland | Director General – Daren Tang
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7th DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Countries – 164

806. On June 30, China has been certified as malaria-free by the World Health Organisation. China is the first country in the WHO's Western Pacific region to be awarded a malaria-free certification in more than three decades. China reported 30 million cases of the infectious disease annually in the 1940s but has now gone 4 consecutive years without an indigenous case. China becomes the 40th territory certified as malaria-free by the WHO. There is a separate list of 61 countries where malaria never existed, or disappeared without specific measures. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – certified as 'malaria-free' by the WHO (40th country)
- China – 1st country in the WHO's Western Pacific region to be awarded a 'malaria-free' certification
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

807. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has paid an official visit to two nations Greece and Italy. It will be the first visit to Greece at the level of the external affairs minister since 2003. He unveiled the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Athens, Greece. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Jaishankar – paid an official visit to two Nations "Greece & Italy"
- S. Jaishankar unveiled the statue of Mahatma Gandhi – in Athens, Greece
- Greece – Athens – Euro | Turkey – Ankara – Lira
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi



Banking & Economic Affairs

808. On June 29, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has partnered with digital lender LoanTap to provide personal loans up-to Rs 10 lakhs to salaried professionals. This is part of Ujjivan SFB's API banking initiative, through which over 150 APIs are available offering fast and secure tie-ups for digital lending and digital liabilities, payments to fintechs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ujjivan SFB + LoanTap = partnership to provide personal loans up-to Rs 10 lakhs to Salaried Professionals
- HQs of Ujjivan SFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Nitin Chugh
- HQs of LoanTap – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Satyam

809. On June 29, Axis Bank has selected Amazon Web Services (AWS) by signing a multi-year agreement to accelerate its digital transformation program and meet the growing demand for its digital banking services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Axis Bank – selected Amazon Web Services (AWS) to accelerate its digital transformation program
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”
- HQs of AWS – Seattle, Washington, US | CEO – Adam N. Selipsky

810. Thane-based banking technology provider Network People Services Technology (NPST) has received a Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) registration from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for its TimePay solution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPST (Thane, MH) – received a Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) registration from NPCI
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

811. On June 30, The RBI has released the “Sources of Variation in Foreign Exchange Reserves” in India during 2020-21. India's Foreign Exchange Reserves in nominal terms, including the valuation effects, increased by \$99.2 billion during the financial year 2020-21. Foreign investment in India stood at \$80.1 billion in FY 2020-21. India's balance of payments (BoP) in Q4 of FY21 has reported a Current account surplus of 0.9% of GDP in FY21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – released the “Sources of Variation in Foreign Exchange Reserves” in India during 2020-21
- India's Foreign Exchange Reserves – increased by \$99.2 billion during FY21
- Foreign investment in India – \$80.1 billion in FY21
- Current account surplus of GDP in FY21 – 0.9%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935



Defence Affairs

812. On June 29, Indian Navy's indigenous ASW Corvette INS Kiltan has carried out a Joint-Naval exercise with South Korea in the East China Sea amid China's growing assertiveness in the region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Kiltan – conducted a Joint-Naval exercise with South Korea in the East China Sea
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in

813. On June 30, The Indian Navy has inked a pact with Defence Public Sector Undertakings Bharat Electronics Limited to develop emerging technologies related to artificial intelligence, quantum computing and robotics. The MoU provides for the setting up of a Technology Incubation Forum (ITF) to jointly work on developing new technologies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy + BEL = an MoU to set up a Technology Incubation Forum (ITF) & develop emerging technologies
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar
- HQs of BEL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Venkateswara Gowtama Mannava

814. On June 30, Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense Systems has unveiled "Sea Breaker", a 5th generation long-range, autonomous, precision-guided missile system with a 300 km range. It can neutralize a frigate-sized ship with a single hit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rafael Advanced Defense Systems (Israel) – unveiled "Sea Breaker" - a 5th generation missile (Range - 300 km)
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Isaac Herzog | PM – Naftali Bennett

Schemes & Initiatives

815. On June 29, The centrally sponsored Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme, launched under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, marked the completion of its one year. The scheme was launched on 29th June 2020 with an outlay of Rs 10,000 Cr over a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25. The PMFME Scheme is currently being implemented in 35 States & UTs. 54 Common Incubation Centres have been approved to improve the capacity of the PMFME Scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "PMFME" Scheme celebrated its 1st anniversary on June 29
- The scheme was launched on 29th June 2020 with an outlay of Rs 10,000 Cr – for 5 years (2020-21 to 2024-25)
- PMFME Scheme is currently being implemented in 35 States & UTs
- 54 Common Incubation Centres – approved to improve the capacity of the PMFME Scheme



816. On June 29, The Supreme Court has directed States and Union Territories to extend the implementation of “One Nation, One Ration Card” scheme by July 31, 2021. The state governments and the UT administrations shall bring a scheme to provide dry ration to migrant workers by July 31 and such a scheme will remain till COVID situation continues. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The SC directed States & UTs to extend the implementation of “One Nation, One Ration Card” scheme – by July 31
- “ONORC” scheme was started – in June 2019
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48th)

817. The Maharashtra Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (MAPS) aims to provide employment and training to 5 lakh educated unemployed youths in the next 5 years. Under this scheme, the trainees will be entitled to get 75% of the scholarship payable to them or a maximum of Rs 5,000 whichever is less. The apprenticeship scheme will be implemented in 715 businesses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – to provide employment to 5 lakh educated unemployed youths in next 5 years under “Maharashtra Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme”
- Trainees will get 75% of the scholarship payable or a maximum of Rs 5,000 (whichever is less)
- The apprenticeship scheme will be implemented in 715 businesses
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

818. On June 28, Telangana government has decided to provide Rs 10 lakh financial assistance directly to the bank accounts of Dalit beneficiaries under the Chief Minister Dalit Empowerment Programme to the eligible beneficiaries to make them financially self-sufficient and enable independent decision making. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – launched the “Chief Minister Dalit Empowerment Programme” (Rs 10 lakh financial assistance)
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

819. On June 30, The Ministry of Finance has kept interest rates on Small Savings Schemes, including NSC and PPF, unchanged for the Q2 of 2021-22 amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The small savings schemes consist of 12 schemes. Public Provident Fund (PPF) and National Savings Certificate (NSC) will continue to carry an annual interest rate of 7.1% and 6.8%, respectively, in Q2 of 2021-22. The interest rate on the 5-year Senior Citizens Savings Scheme would be retained at 7.4%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Finance Ministry kept interest rates on Small Savings Schemes unchanged for the Q2 of 2021-22
- Public Provident Fund (PPF) – 7.1% | National Savings Certificate (NSC) – 6.8%
- 5-year Senior Citizens Savings Scheme – 7.4%
- The Small Savings Schemes consist of 12 schemes

820. On June 30, The Union Cabinet has approved a reforms-based & results-linked “Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme”. The Scheme will have an outlay of Rs 3,03,758 Cr with an estimated GBS from Central Government of Rs.97,631 Cr. The cabinet also approved signing of an MoU between Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Myanmar in the Healthcare Sector. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) & Power Finance Corporation (PFC) have been nominated as Nodal Agencies for the scheme. Besides, the cabinet also approved the Revised Implementation Strategy of BharatNet through Public Private Partnership mode (PPP) in 16 states. An MoU between India & Gambia was approved in the field of Personnel Administration and Governance Reforms. Moreover, the last date for registration of beneficiaries to avail the benefit under Atma Nirbhar Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) has been extended to March 31, 2022 from June 30, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved a reforms-based & results-linked “Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme” | Outlay – Rs 3.03 Cr
- Nodal Agencies for the scheme – REC & PFC
- RDS Scheme’s Objectives:
 - Reduction of AT&C losses to pan-India levels of 12-15% by 2024-25
 - Reduction of ACS-ARR gap to zero by 2024-25
 - Developing Institutional Capabilities for Modern DISCOMs
- ICMR + Myanmar = an MoU in the Healthcare Sector
- India + Gambia = an MoU in the field of Personnel Administration & Governance Reforms
- Revised Implementation Strategy of BharatNet – approved through PPP mode in 16 states
- Last date to avail the benefit under Atma Nirbhar Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) – extended to March 31, 2022

Sports & Games

821. On June 30, Discus thrower Seema Punia has been qualified for the “Tokyo Olympics 2020” with a Gold medal-winning throw of a 63.72m meters on the concluding day of the National Inter-State Athletics Championships. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Seema Punia ([Discus thrower](#)) – qualified for the “Tokyo Olympics 2020”



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

822. On June 30, Three students from Delhi - Kaif Ali, Sana Mittar and Devanshi Ranjan have won the prestigious “Diana Award 2021” for their contribution to society during the Covid pandemic. The Diana Award is established in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales. Besides, Two students from Gems Modern Academy, Kochi, Kerala - Nirvaan John Rao (12) and Sethulakshmi Chandra (15), have also received the prestigious “Diana Award 2021”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kaif Ali + Sana Mittar + Devanshi Ranjan (**Delhi**) = won the prestigious “Diana Award 2021”
- Nirvaan John Rao + Sethulakshmi Chandra (**Kerala**) = also won the prestigious “Diana Award 2021”
- Diana Award established in memory of “Diana” - a Princess of Wales | Founded in – 1999

Appointments & Resignations

823. Shambhu Nath Srivastava, a former judge of Allahabad High Court and former chief Lokayukta of Chhattisgarh, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA), a non-profit organisation to promote objectives of the United Nations and its specialised agencies. He succeeds Mukul Sangma. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shambhu Nath Srivastava – appointed as the Chairman of the IFUNA (succeeding - Mukul Sangma)
- HQs of IFUNA – New Delhi | Chairman – Shambhu Nath Srivastava

Amount & Agreements

824. World Bank has approved a USD 500 million (about Rs 3,717.28 Cr) loan programme to support India’s informal working class to overcome the current pandemic distress. Of the USD 500 million commitment, USD 112.50 million will be financed by its concessionary lending arm International Development Association (IDA) and USD 387.50 million will be a loan from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). The loan has a maturity period of 18.5 years including a grace period of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank (IDA + IBRD) – approved a \$500 million (about Rs 3,717.28 Cr) loan programme
- Maturity period of loan – 18.5 years | Grace period – 5 years
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

825. On June 29, The RBI has released its web publication entitled “Quarterly Basic Statistical Returns (BSR)-1: Outstanding Credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), March 2021” on its Database on Indian Economy (DBIE) portal. Personal loans continued to grow at robust pace and recorded 13.5% growth (Y-o-Y) in March 2021; industrial loan growth remained negative during all quarters of 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI released the “Quarterly Basic Statistical Returns (BSR)-1: Outstanding Credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), March 2021”
- Personal loans continued to grow at 13.5% growth in FY21 | Industrial loan reported Negative growth in FY21
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

826. The report, titled “Growth engines of innovation: How Asia Pacific’s technology hubs are reshaping Regional Real Estate”, is an in-depth analysis of how the growth of the APAC technology sector is transforming the region’s property markets. Beijing, Shanghai, Bengaluru, Shenzhen and Singapore currently rank as the top five technology centres in APAC. Hyderabad is also witnessed in Top 10 in the list. Outer Ring road (ORR) of Bengaluru has been ranked 6th in the top 10 established technology submarkets in APAC. While, the list is topped by Beijing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Growth engines of innovation: How Asia Pacific’s technology hubs are reshaping Regional Real Estate” – by Colliers
- Beijing, Shanghai, Bengaluru, Shenzhen and Singapore – top 5 Technology Centres in APAC
- Bengaluru – ranked 6th in the top 10 established technology submarkets in APAC | 1st – Beijing (China)

827. On June 30, India stands at the 20th spot among the top 100 countries that have been ranked in the “Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021” by Startup Blink. India currently has 43 of its cities listed in the top 1000, globally, with Bengaluru, New Delhi and Mumbai in the top 20. India’s Bengaluru stands in the 10th spot among cities, globally. Bengaluru also ranks first in India and among its South-Asian counterparts. New Delhi ranks 2nd in India and South Asia, and 14th globally. Mumbai ranked 3rd in India & 16th globally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021” – by Startup Blink
- Countries: India – 20th | 1st – US, 2nd – UK, 3rd – Israel
- Cities in India: 1st – Bengaluru (10th), 2nd – New Delhi (14th), 3rd – Mumbai (16th) | Globally 1st – San Francisco (US)



828. On June 29, According to a report titled “Road to a UK-India FTA: Enhancing the partnership and achieving Self-reliance” released by UK India Business Council (UKIBC), both countries have agreed to begin negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement. About 77% of UK companies believe that ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’ is an opportunity for them to do more business with India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Road to a UK-India FTA: Enhancing the partnership and achieving self-reliance” – by UKIBC
- 77% of UK companies believe that ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’ is an opportunity to do more business with India
- HQs of UKIBC – London, UK | CEO – Jayant Krishna

829. On June 29, The NITI Aayog has released a comprehensive study on the “Not-for-Profit Hospital Model” in India. As per the Niti Aayog's report, the Not-for-Profit hospitals account for only 1.1% of treated ailments as of June 2018. The report further revealed that for-profit hospitals account for 55.3% of in-patients, while Not-for-Profit hospitals account for only 2.7% of in-patients in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – released a comprehensive study on the “Not-for-Profit Hospital Model” in India
- Not-for-Profit hospitals account for only 1.1% of treated ailments (as of June 2018)
- Not-for-Profit hospitals account for only 2.7% of in-patients in India
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

830. On June 30, The collapse of international tourism due to COVID-19 is estimated at \$4 trillion in terms of global GDP for 2020 and 2021 according to a report titled “COVID-19 and Tourism: An Update” released by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the UN World Tourist Organisation (UNWTO). India experienced a 54% drop in tourist arrivals in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “COVID-19 and Tourism: An Update” report – released by the UNCTAD + UNWTO
- Collapse of International Tourism due to COVID-19 – \$4 trillion (54% drop in tourist arrivals in 2020 in India)
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Rebecca Grynspar
- HQs of UNWTO – Madrid, Spain | Secretary-General – Zurab Pololikashvili

831. The Khasi Food System has earned recognition in an international publication called “Indigenous Peoples’ food systems: Insights on Sustainability and Resilience from the frontline of Climate Change” released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in collaboration with Alliance of Bioversity International (ABI) and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). The Khasi are a group of Indigenous People that predominate in the eastern part of Meghalaya. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Indigenous Peoples’ food systems: Insights on Sustainability and Resilience from the frontline of Climate Change” report – released by FAO + ABI + CIAT
- Khasi Food System – earned recognition in the above report | ‘Khasi’ a group of People – in Meghalaya
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945

832. On June 30, India has scored a total of 97.5 points from a possible maximum of 100 points, to make it to the 10th position worldwide in the “Global Cybersecurity Index 2020” launched by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). India has also secured the 4th position in the Asia Pacific region. The US topped the chart, followed by the UK and Saudi Arabia tied on the second position, while Estonia was ranked third in the index. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Cybersecurity Index 2020” – released by ITU
- India – 10th (97.5 points) | 1st – US, 2nd – UK & Saudi Arabia, 3rd – Estonia (worldwide)
- In Asia Pacific region: India – 4th | Topped by – South Korea & Singapore
- HQs of ITU – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary General – Houlin Zhao



Acquisitions & Mergers

833. The UAE’s sovereign wealth fund Abu Dhabi Investment Authority has picked up a minority stake in the IPO-bound digital payments player Mobikwik for nearly \$20 million (about Rs 150 Cr). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abu Dhabi Investment Authority picked up a minority stake in Mobikwik – for \$20 million (about Rs 150 Cr)
- HQs of ADIA – Abu Dhabi, UAE | CEO – Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- HQs of MobiKwik – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder, CEO & Director – Bipin Preet Singh

834. Amazon has acquired an encrypted messaging app Wickr which was founded in 2012. The terms of the deal were not disclosed. Wickr has been popular with journalists and whistleblowers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon – acquired an encrypted messaging app ‘Wickr’
- HQs of Wickr – San Francisco, CA, US | CEO – Joel Wallenstrom | Founded in – 2012



835. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved 100% acquisition of SB Energy Holding Limited (Target) by Adani Green Energy Limited (Acquirer) for about \$3.5 billion. Meanwhile, the CCI has also approved the merger of Tech Data Corporation with SYNEX Corporation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI – approved 100% acquisition of SB Energy Holding by Adani Green Energy for about \$3.5 billion
- CCI approved the merger of = Tech Data Corporation + SYNEX Corporation
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of Adani Green Energy – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | MD & CEO – Vneet S. Jaain
- HQs of Tech Data Corporation – Florida, US | CEO – Richard T. Hume

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

836. On June 30, The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU between Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), India and Nepal in the field of Health Research. The objectives of this MOU are collaboration on joint research activities of mutual interest such as cross-border health issues, Ayurveda/traditional medicine and medicinal plants, climate change and health. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved an MoU between ICMR (India) & Nepal – in the field of Health Research
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

837. On June 30, Rosatom, Russia’s Nuclear Energy Corporation has partnered with Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) for the construction of the 5th and 6th reactors of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project in Tamil Nadu. The light water reactors (VVER) will be built on an outlay of ₹49,621 Cr. The 5th reactor will be commissioned in December 2026. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rosatom (Russia) + NPCIL (Mumbai) = to construct 5th & 6th reactors of “Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project” (in TN)
- The reactors will be built on an outlay of – ₹49,621 Cr | 5th reactor will be commissioned in – 2026
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin



Obituaries

838. On June 30, K. V. Sampath Kumar passed away in Mysuru following cardiac arrest. He was the Editor of “Sudharma” - India’s and the world’s only Sanskrit daily newspaper. He, along with his wife Vidushi K. S. Jayalakshmi, was awarded the ‘Padma Shri’ in 2020. His father Pandit K. N. Varadaraja Iyengar had launched Sudharma in 1970. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- K. V. Sampath Kumar – the Editor of “Sudharma” Sanskrit daily newspaper – passed away
- “Sudharma” – India’s & the world’s only Sanskrit daily newspaper
- K. V. Sampath Kumar + Vidushi K. S. Jayalakshmi = awarded the ‘Padma Shri’ (2020)

Science & Technology

839. On June 29, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body of Department of Science and Technology (DST), has partnered with Intel India to launch the first-of-its-kind research initiative called “Fund for Industrial Research Engagement (FIRE)” to advance deep tech-based research in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SERB + Intel India = launched first-of-its-kind research initiative “Fund for Industrial Research Engagement (FIRE)”
- HQs of SERB – New Delhi | Secretary – Prof Sandeep Verma

840. The European Space Agency (ESA) has decided to hire and launch the world’s first physically disabled astronaut. The 22-member space programme has just closed its latest decennial recruitment call for astronauts and received 22,000 applicants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- European Space Agency (ESA) – to hire the world’s first physically disabled astronaut
- HQs of ESA – Paris, France | CEO – Johann-Dietrich Wörner | Administrator – Josef Aschbacher





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