



**Bipin Nambiar**  
(SBI PO 2018)



**Shiraz Khan**  
(SBI Clerk 2018)



**Kuldeep Yadav**  
(SBI PO 2018)



**Rajat Saxena**  
(IBPS Clerk 2018)



**Anupam Tyagi**  
(IBPS PO 2018)

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## An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill 100 of March 2020 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

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

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda

### 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 मार्च माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill 100 में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

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

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा

## 101. Sports & Games

The International Cricket Council (ICC) launched a 12-month campaign dedicated to the promotion of women's cricket to build on the momentum of the ongoing T20 World Cup. The campaign title was "100% Cricket" [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- ICC – launched – "100% Cricket" campaign – dedicated to the promotion of women's cricket
- ICC: Hq – Dubai, United Arab Emirates | Chairperson – Shashank Manohar

## 102. Books & Authors

Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani released a book titled Chronicles of Change Champions at an event held in New Delhi. The book is a compilation of 25 innovative initiatives taken at the state and district levels under the Prime Minister's flagship scheme of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Smriti Zubin Irani released – "Chronicles of Change Champions" – compilation of 25 innovative initiatives of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao
- Minister for Women and Child Development – Smriti Zubin Irani | Constituency – Amethi

## 103. Obituaries

N Vijayan Pillai, 65, the CPM MLA representing Chavara constituency Kerala, passed away in Kochi. He was the first non-Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP) candidate to win an election from Chavara, a stronghold of RSP. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- N Vijayan Pillai – CPM MLA – from Kerala passed away
- Kerala: CM - Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor- Arif Mohammad Khan

## 104. Schemes & Initiatives

During International Women's Day function at the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), Secretary at the department of science and technology Ashutosh Sharma said the newly launched Vigyan Jyoti scheme was to encourage women to pursue science. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- TIFAC launched Vigyan Jyoti to encourage women to pursue science
- TIFAC comes under Ministry of science and technology
- Ministry of science and technology – Harsh Vardhan

## 105. Sports & Games

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the five-day Khelo India Winter games 2020 at famous tourist destination Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Union Minister of Sports – inaugurated – Khelo India Winter games 2020 – held at Gulmarg in J&K
- Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West

## 106. Obituaries

Former Union law minister and veteran Congress leader Hansraj Bhardwaj died after a cardiac arrest at a hospital. He was 83. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Hansraj Bhardwaj (Rohtak, Punjab) – died at the age of 83 – Former Union law minister and veteran Congress leader

## 107. Sports & Games

National team captains Manpreet Singh and Rani Rampal won the Dhruv Batra Player of the Year Award 2019 in the men's and women's categories respectively at the 3rd Hockey India Annual Awards at Delhi. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Manpreet Singh – Player of the Year Award 2019 in the men's categories
- Rani Rampal – Player of the Year Award 2019 in the women's categories
- 3rd Hockey India Annual Awards – held in Delhi

## 108. National & States Affairs

Andhra Pradesh government has launched a mobile app called 'Nigha' in Tadepalli, Amaravati with an aim to prevent the corrupt practices in elections. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – launched mobile app – 'Nigha' – to prevent the corrupt practices in elections
- Andhra Pradesh : CM – Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

### 109. National & States Affairs

The Arunachal Pradesh government has decided to temporarily suspend issuing Protected Area Permits (PAPs) to foreigners to check the spread of coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh – temporarily suspend issuing Protected Area Permits (PAPs) to foreigners
- Arunachal Pradesh : CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

### 110. Arts & Cultural Affairs

The 4th Global Ayurveda Festival, GAF will be held at Kochi in Kerala from 16th to 20th May. A curtain raiser event was organized in New Delhi for the GAF. The theme for the five-day event is Ayurveda Medical Tourism: Actualizing India's credibility. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- 4th Global Ayurveda Festival – will be held at Kochi in Kerala
- Theme: “Ayurveda Medical Tourism: Actualizing India's credibility”

### 111. Appointments & Resignations

Ukraine's parliament approved Denys Shmygal as the new prime minister after his predecessor resigned, caught out by a leaked recording of him criticising the president. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Denys Shmygal – new prime minister of Ukraine
- Ukraine – Kyiv – hryvni

### 112. Banking & Economic Affairs

The trade impact of the Coronavirus epidemic for India is estimated to be about \$348 million and the top 15 economies most affected as slowdown of manufacturing in China disrupts world trade, according to a UNCTAD report. Among the most affected economies are the European Union followed by the United States, Japan, South Korea. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Trade impact of the Coronavirus epidemic for India – \$348 million
- Most affected economies – European Union followed by the United States then Japan
- UNCTAD: Hq – Geneva, Switzerland | Founded – 30 December 1964 | Head – Mukhisa Kituyi

### 113. Obituaries

Former UN Chief Javier Perez de Cuellar, who served as United Nations Secretary General from 1981 to 1991, passed away in his native Peru. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Javier Perez de Cuellar – served as United Nations Secretary General – passed away
- United Nations Organization (UNO):HQs – New York, United States

### 114. National & States Affairs

The Ghaziabad (UP) police has launched a special drive named 'One Cop One Gangster' to keep a close eye on criminals by deputing a dedicated policeman behind every wanted person. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- 'One Cop One Gangster' – launched by Ghaziabad (UP) police – to keep a close eye on criminals
- Uttar Pradesh: CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor- Anandiben Patel

### 115. Sports & Games

World champion shuttler PV Sindhu was named Sportsperson of the Year at the 4th Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019 in New Delhi as she won gold at the World Championships in Basel, Switzerland. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- PV Sindhu – Sportsperson of the Year at the 4th Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019
- 4th TOISA – powered by BHIM-UPI

### 116. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Union Minister of Jal Shakti released a study done by the UNICEF and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) on the impact of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) on rural women and also launched Rs. 1,40,881 crores SBM (G) Phase-II in New Delhi. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Minister of Jal Shakti released a study – done by UNICEF + BMGF – on the impact of SBMG on rural women
- Jal Shakti Minister – also launched Rs. 1,40,881 crores SBM (G) Phase-II – in New Delhi
- Union Minister of Jal Shakti – Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- UNICEF : Hq – New York City, US

## 117. Sports & Games

Former Zimbabwe player and England head coach Andy Flower has been appointed assistant coach of Indian Premier League franchise Kings XI Punjab. He will replace Sunil Joshi. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Andy Flower – assistant coach – IPL franchise Kings XI Punjab
- Andy Flower replace Sunil Joshi
- Chairman of the Indian national selection committee – Sunil Joshi

## 118. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

IIT Bombay has emerged as the top-ranked institute from India in the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2019. As against being ranked at 179th place in the 2018 rankings released last year, IIT Bombay jumped 17 places to 162nd position. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- IIT Bombay at 162nd position – topped in the latest QS World University Rankings 2019
- IISc at 170th position – in QS World University Rankings 2019
- QS World University Rankings – has given for Higher education

## 119. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara have won the 2020 Pritzker Prize, becoming only the fourth and fifth women to claim architecture's equivalent to the Nobel Prize in its 41-year history. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Yvonne Farrell & Shelley McNamara – 2020 Pritzker Prize
- The Pritzker Prize – the most important award in the field of architecture, awarded to a living architect whose built work "has produced consistent and significant contributions to humanity through the art of architecture."
- First Time Awarded – in 1979

## 120. Obituaries

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) General Secretary K Anbazhagan passed away in Chennai. He was 97 years old. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- K Anbazhagan (DMK) General Secretary – passed away in Chennai – at the age of 97



### 121. Appointments & Resignations

German sportswear brand Puma said it has signed Bollywood actor Kareena Kapoor Khan as its new brand ambassador. With this association, Khan joins the brand's roster of women personalities such as Sara Ali Khan, MC Mary Kom, and Dutee Chand in India. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Puma – new brand ambassador Kareena Kapoor Khan

### 122. Schemes & Initiatives

The government is planning to create a total of 75 lakh Self Help Groups by 2022 to enable more women to get a livelihood. Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said this while addressing a programme on Women's Empowerment to mark International Women's Day [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar said – Govt plans to create 75 lakh SHGs by 2022
- Union Agriculture Minister – Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh

### 123. Banking & Economic Affairs

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has helped in raising women's ownership of bank accounts from 43 % in 2014 to 77 % in 2017, according to a report by Consulting firm MicroSave Consulting (MSC). In a report titled 'The real story of women's financial inclusion in India'. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- MSC report – PMJDY helped in raising women's ownership of bank accounts from 43 % to 77 %.
- PMJDY : Launch year – 2014 | Ministry – Ministry of Finance

### 124. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

India Smart Utility Week 2020 (ISUW) an International Conference and Exhibition on Smart Utilities for Smarter Cities held in New Delhi, was organized by Smart Grid Forum [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- ISUW 2020 – organized by Smart Grid Forum – in New Delhi

### 125. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Bangladesh-based international development organization BRAC has retained its position as the top NGO of the world for the 5th consecutive year. The rankings for 2020 were announced by the Geneva-based organization NGO Adviser which publishes the rankings every year based on publicly available data for the top 500 global NGOs. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- BRAC (Bangladesh-based international development organization ) – topped NGO Adviser 2020 rankings
- NGO Adviser Geneva-based organization



## 126. National & States Affairs

Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy said that there has been a 70 % reduction in insurgency incidents and an 80 % drop in civilian deaths in the Northeast in 2019 compared to 2013. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

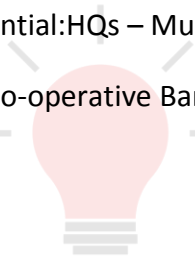
- G Kishan Reddy (MoS Home Affairs) – said 70 % reduction in insurgency incidents & 80 % drop in civilian deaths in the NE
- MoS Home Affairs – G Kishan Reddy | Constituency - Secunderabad

## 127. Banking & Economic Affairs

ICICI Prudential AMC has tied up with Saraswat Co-operative Bank, the largest in the urban co-operative banking space in India, to distribute its products with the bank's customers. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- ICICI Prudential AMC has tied up with Saraswat Co-operative Bank – to distribute its products with the bank's customers
- ICICI Prudential:HQs – Mumbai | CEO – N. S. Kannan
- Saraswat Co-operative Bank:HQs – Mumbai | Founded – 14 September 1918 | CHAIRMAN – Shri Gautam E. Thakur



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## 128. National & States Affairs

Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath said that his government has decided to pay Rs 900 per month to those farmers who will keep stray cattle at their houses. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- UP govt – pay Rs 900 per month to those farmers who will keep stray cattle at their houses
- Uttar Pradesh: CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor- Anandiben Patel

## 129. Science & Technology

Researchers at the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST) Guwahati, have found that the endophytic actinobacteria can replace fertilizers & fungicides in tea. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- (IASST) Guwahati, has found the endophytic actinobacteria

### 130. Banking & Economic Affairs

Women account for over 81 % of the total beneficiaries under the 'Stand Up India' scheme with loans worth Rs 16,712 crore sanctioned for them in nearly 4 years time, the finance ministry said. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Women A/C – over 81 % of the total beneficiaries under the 'Stand Up India' scheme
- Start Up India: Launch year – 2016 | Ministry – Ministry of Commerce and Industry

### 131. Appointments & Resignations

RBI Deputy Governor N S Vishwanathan has decided to step down by March 31 due to ill health, three months before the end of his extended one-year tenure. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- RBI Deputy Governor – N S Vishwanathan – to step down by March 31 due to ill health
- RBI:Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das

### 132. Sports & Games

Australia cricket team has won 5th title after defeated India on home soil in ICC Women's T20 World Cup. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Australia cricket team – won – ICC Women's T20 World Cup
- ICC Women's T20 World Cup – host country – Australia(2020) | South Africa (2022)

### 133. Appointments & Resignations

Anurag Mehrotra, a key architect of Ford India's alliance with Mahindra & Mahindra, is set to take over as the chief executive of their joint venture on April 1. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Anurag Mehrotra – CEO of the New joint venture formed by Mahindra and Ford
- Ford – American Automaker Company | CEO – Jim Hackett

### 134. Schemes & Initiatives

The Superintending Engineer of Mission Bhagiratha (Bhongir Circle) has opened a dedicated monitoring cell, inviting grievances and issues in supply of the tapped drinking water. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Mission Bhagiratha – opened a dedicated monitoring cell – grievances and issues in supply of the tapped drinking water
- Mission Bhagiratha: Start date – 6 August 2016 | State – Telangana



### 135. Sports & Games

Olympic steeplechase champion Ruth Jebet was banned four years for doping. The Kenya-born Jebet, who competes for Bahrain, tested positive for the stamina-boosting drug EPO in a sample she gave in December 2017. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Ruth Jebet (born in Kenya) – steeplechase champion – banned four years for doping
- Ruth Jebet represents Bahrain
- World Anti-Doping Agency: Hq – Montreal, Canada | President – Sir Craig Reedie

### 136. National & States Affairs

Pragyan Conclave 2020: Indian Army's International Seminar Analysing Future Warfare. "PRAGYAN CONCLAVE 2020", a two-day Indian Army International Seminar is being organised by Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), commenced on 04 Mar 2020 at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- "PRAGYAN CONCLAVE 2020" – Indian Army International Seminar – organised by CLAWS – in New Delhi.
- Indian Army: Hq – New Delhi | Founded – 1 April 1895 | Chief of the Army Staff – Manoj Mukund Naravane

### 137. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Union Cabinet has approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Republic of Cote d'Ivoire on cooperation in the field of health. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- India + Republic of Cote d'Ivoire – signed MoU cooperation in the field of health
- Republic of Cote d'Ivoire – Yamoussoukro – franc

### 138. National & States Affairs

The Madhya Pradesh cabinet gave its approval to constitute a trust under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Kamal Nath for the project of constructing 'Ram Van Gaman Path', a route taken by Lord Ram during his 14-year exile. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – approval – to constitute a trust for the project of constructing 'Ram Van Gaman Path'
- Madhya Pradesh : CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

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

The 15 women awarded the Nari Shakti Puraskar by President Ram Nath Kovind for their contribution in acting as game changers and catalyst of positive change in the society on the occasion of International Women's Day. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- 15 women – awarded the Nari Shakti Puraskar – by President Ram Nath Kovind
- Nari Shakti Puraskar: First Awarded – 1999 | Sponsored – Government of India

### 140. Sports & Games

Mumbai is set to host the 2023 International Olympic Committee's session after the IOC Executive Board recommended the Indian city for the annual conference. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Mumbai – host the 2023 International Olympic Committee's session
- IOC:HQs – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Bach

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

India was admitted to the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC: Commission de l'Océan Indien, COI) as 5th observer. The decision was taken at the meeting of the IOC Conference of ministers in Seychelles. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- India – 5th observer – to Indian Ocean Commission
- IOC: Hq – Mauritius | Founded – 1982 | Secretary General – Hamada Madi

### 142. Schemes & Initiatives

PM Narendra Modi handed over his social media accounts to 7 women achievers for them to share their lives' journeys and interact with the people on the occasion of International Women's Day. The 7 women achievers would now login to his accounts one by one under #SheInspiresUs campaign. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – handed over his social media accounts – to 7 women achievers
- 7 women achievers – login to his accounts – under #SheInspiresUs campaign

### 143. Defence Affairs

The US European Command (USEUCOM) and the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) have terminated the remaining portion of Exercise Juniper Cobra 2020 (JC20) over Coronavirus fears. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- USEUCOM + IDF – Exercise Juniper Cobra 2020
- Israel – Jerusalem – Shekel

### 144. International Affairs

The central government permitted airlines operating in India to provide in-flight Wi-Fi services to passengers. Tata group's NELCO, in partnership with Panasonic Avionics had launched in-flight Wi-Fi services in India. While taking the delivery of its first Boeing 787-9 aircraft at Everett, Vistara CEO Leslie Thng had said it would be the first plane in India to avail of this facility and provide in-flight Wi-Fi services. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Vistara – would be the first aircraft to provide Wi-Fi during flight in India
- Vistara:Hq – Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

### 145. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

India has the third highest trade-related illicit financial flow among 135 countries with 83.5 billion dollars (about Rs 6.08 lakh crore) -- or 3.05 % of gross domestic product (GDP) -- escaping the government's tax net, according to US-based think tank Global Financial Integrity (GFI). [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- India has the 3rd highest trade-related illicit financial flow among 135 countries – with 3.05 % of GDP
- 1ST China | 2nd Mexico | 3rd India | 4th Russia | 5th Poland

### 146. Banking & Economic Affairs

The government approved a scheme for the amalgamation of 10 state-owned banks into 4, putting to rest any doubts about a possible delay in the process. Effective from April 1, 2020, the balance sheets as well as stocks of these banks will be integrated, according to the scheme of amalgamation approved by the Union Cabinet. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Govt – approved a scheme for the amalgamation of 10 state-owned banks into 4

### 147. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

A total of 40.59 % of the crimes related to environment in the country were committed in Rajasthan during 2014-16, according to a report by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) . [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- 40.59 % of the crimes related to environment – Rajasthan – report by CAG
- CAG: Hq – New Delhi | Founded – 1858 | Current CAG of the India – Rajiv Mehrishi (13th)
- Rajasthan: CM - Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

### 148. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

4th International Diabetes Summit 2020 was inaugurated at JW Marriot Hotel Pune. The Chellaram Institute has organised its 4th International Diabetes Summit, to identify practical ways to tackle the growing menace of diabetes and the resulting complications. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- 4th International Diabetes Summit 2020 – inaugurated in Pune

### 149. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

International Conference on Nano Science and Technology 2020, under the aegis of DST Nanomission, Govt. of India was held at Biswa Bangla Conventional Centre, Kolkata. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- International Conference on Nano Science and Technology – 2020 held in Kolkata

### 150. Banking & Economic Affairs

While no rate cut was announced by the RBI, the Long Term Repo Operations (LTRO) proposed to be conducted by the central bank may lead to banks reducing lending rates (MCLR) and thereby bringing good news for borrowers with loans linked to this benchmark. [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- LTRO – Long Term Repo Operations
- RBI: Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das | Founded – 1 April 1935

### 151. National & States Affairs

The Home Ministry has given approval to the automated facial recognition system (AFRS) for identification of unrecognized bodies, missing children and criminals. The approval has been accorded for implementation of AFRS by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). [Click here for more details](#)

#### Key Points:

- Home Ministry – approval to AFRS by NCRB – for identification of unrecognized bodies, missing children and criminals
- NCRB:HQs – New Delhi

## 152. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The Freedom in the World 2020 report ranks India at the 83rd position, along with Timor-Leste and Senegal. This is near the bottom of the pile among the countries categorised as “Free”, with only Tunisia receiving a lower score. India’s score fell by four points to 71, the worst decline among the world’s 25 largest democracies this year. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Freedom in the World 2020 report – India at the 83rd position
- Topped by Finland

## 153. National & States Affairs

Meghalaya CM, Conrad K Sangma laid the foundation stone for an integrated sports complex in Tura district to be built at a cost of Rs 125 crore. The chief minister said the complex, to be named after his father and former CM PA Sangma, will be a first of its kind in the region and have a football field and a multi- purpose indoor stadium. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Meghalaya CM Conrad K Sangma – laid foundation stone for an integrated sports complex in Tura district – costing Rs 125 crore
- Meghalaya: CM - Conrad K Sangma | Governor- Tathagata Roy

## 154. Banking & Economic Affairs

Retirement fund body Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been lowered the interest rate on deposits to 8.50 % for the current financial year (FY20) from 8.65 % in 2018-19. The decision was taken at a meeting of the central board of trustees (CBT) of the EPFO. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- EPFO – lowered the interest rate to 8.50 % (FY20) from 8.65 %
- EPFO:Hq – New Delhi | CPFC – Sunil Barthwal (IAS)
- CEO is known as Central Provident Fund Commissioner(CPFC)

## 155. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

A full bench of Lokpal shall consider initiation of a corruption complaint against the Prime Minister or an ex-Prime Minister, though the lokpal role notified allow such a complaint to be disposed of within 30 days if its contents are illegible, vague, ambiguous, trivial or frivolous. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Under the Lokpal Act, – vague complaints – to be disposed of within 30 days
- Lokpal: Hq – New Delhi | Founded – 19 March 2019 | Chairperson – Pinaki Chandra Ghosh





## 156. Sports & Games

Middle distance runner Prachi Choudhary who had dragged the Athletics Federation of India to the Supreme Court over her exclusion from the squad for the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games, has failed the dope test by National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA). [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Prachi Choudhary (Uttar Pradesh) – Middle distance runner
- World Anti-Doping Agency: Hq – Montreal, Canada | President – Sir Craig Reedie
- NADA: Hq – New Delhi | CEO – Navin Agarwal

## 157. Sports & Games

Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the 19th century Sikh ruler, has beaten competition from around the world to be named the “Greatest Leader of All Time” in a poll conducted by ‘BBC World Histories Magazine’. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Maharaja Ranjit Singh, – “Greatest Leader of All Time” – poll conducted by ‘BBC World Histories Magazine’

## 158. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Government, after considering an application made by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has placed Yes Bank under moratorium for the period from 18:00 hrs on 5 March 2020 up to and inclusive of 3 April 2020. And limits withdrawals from Yes Bank at Rs 50000 per account. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI – limits withdrawals from Yes Bank at Rs 50000 per account – under moratorium for the period
- Moratorium comes under – Section 45 of Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- YES Bank : Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Prashant Kumar
- RBI: Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das | Founded – 1 April 1935

## 159. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

An MoU was signed between IIT Delhi and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for Agri Export Policy Implementation. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- IIT Delhi + APEDA – signed MoU for Agri Export Policy Implementation
- APEDA: Hq – New Delhi | Chairman – Shri Asit Tripathy



## 160. Appointments & Resignations

The government has appointed Revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey as the Finance Secretary of India, according to the Personnel Ministry. He will succeed current Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Ajay Bhushan Pandey – As New Finance Secretary of India – succeed current Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar

## 161. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Environmental activist Jadav Payeng, popularly called the 'Forest Man of India', was named as the 128th Commonwealth Points of Light Award winner. Queen Elizabeth II has honoured Payeng for his exceptional voluntary service to environmental conservation, a spokesperson of the British Deputy High Commission said. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Jadav Payeng (Forest Man) – named as the 128th Commonwealth Points of Light Award winner

## 162. Sports & Games

Veteran Tamim Iqbal became the first Bangladesh batsman to score 7000 ODI runs, after he roared back to form with a crackling 158 against Zimbabwe during the second One-Day International. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Veteran Tamim Iqbal – the 1st Bangladesh batsman – score 7000 ODI runs
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – taka

## 163. National & States Affairs

The Kerala government has issued an order capping the retail price of bottled drinking water at Rs 13 per litre. The order, issued by the civil supplies department stated that the price should not exceed Rs 13 for one litre and all bottles should have the new price printed. A litre of drinking water is now priced at Rs 20. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Kerala govt – capping the retail price of bottled drinking water at Rs 13 per litre
- Kerala: CM - Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor- Arif Mohammad Khan



## 164. Banking & Economic Affairs

Under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), 40.70 % enrollments are of women members and 58.21% of claim beneficiaries are women. (As on 31.01.2020) [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Under PMJJBY – 40.70% enrollments are of women members
- PMJJBY – launched on 9th May 2015
- PMJJBY – the age group of 18-50 years by providing a renewable life insurance cover of Rs.2 lakhs with just a premium of Rs.330

## 165. International Affairs

India has signed a deal Rs 1,200 crore with the United States for buying protection suites to protect the two new Boeing-777 VVIP planes from missile attacks that will be used to ferry the President and the Prime Minister. The missile protection suites will be code named as 'Air Force One'. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- India + US – signed a Rs 1,200 crore deal – to protect the two new Boeing-777 VVIP planes from missile attacks
- USA – Washington, D.C. – Dollar

## 166. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Government, after considering an application made by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has placed Yes Bank under moratorium for the period from 18:00 hrs on 5 March 2020 up to and inclusive of 3 April 2020. And limits withdrawals from Yes Bank at Rs 50000 per account. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- RBI – limits withdrawals from Yes Bank at Rs 50000 per account – under moratorium for the period
- YES Bank : Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Prashant Kumar
- RBI: Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das | Founded – 1 April 1935

## 167. National & States Affairs

The Maharashtra Government renamed the Aurangabad Airport as Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Airport. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Maharashtra Govt – renamed the Aurangabad Airport as Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Airport.
- Maharashtra: CM - Uddhav Thackeray | Governor- Bhagat Singh Koshyari

## 168. Sports & Games

Former India spinner Sunil Joshi was named chairman of the national selection panel by the BCCI's Cricket Advisory Committee, which also picked ex-pacer Harvinder Singh in the five-member group. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Sunil Joshi – chairman of BCCI's selection Committee
- BCCI:Hq – Mumbai | President – Sourav Ganguly

## 169. Schemes & Initiatives

Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar has said that Sanitary napkin makers will be asked to supply a biodegradable bag with each napkin from January 2021. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Govt to make sanitary napkin disposal bags mandatory from January 2021
- Environment Minister – Prakash Javadekar (Additional charge from 2019 for Ministry of Heavy Industries)

## 170. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has introduced a scheme namely “LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020” for limited liability partnership (LLPs) by allowing a one-time condonation of delay in filing statutorily required documents with the Registrar of Office. The scheme is providing a three-month window from 16th March, 2020 to 13th June, 2020 to LLPs for completing overdue or delayed filings of four forms which were due for filing till 31st October, 2019. Also, the additional fee on these forms is reduced to Rs. 10 from Rs. 100 per day of delay with upper cap of Rs. 5,000 per form. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- MCA has introduced a scheme namely “LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020
- MoS for Corporate Affairs – Anurag Thakur.
- Minister of Finance & Minister of Corporate Affairs – Nirmala Sitharaman

## 171. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Supreme Court struck down the curb on cryptocurrency trade in India. “SC rules curb on crypto currency trade illegal,” the report said while adding that the order lifted ban on trading in virtual currency, cryptocurrency and bitcoins. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Supreme Court has lifted ban on trading Cryptocurrency
- The first decentralized cryptocurrency, bitcoin, was created in 2009 by developer Satoshi Nakamoto

## 172. Sports & Games

West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard became the first player in the history of T20 cricket to feature in 500 matches when he took the field against Sri Lanka for the first T20 International in Pallekele. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Kieron Pollard (West Indies Captain) – first player in the history of T20 cricket to feature in 500 matches
- 2nd Dwayne Bravo & 3rd Chris Gayle – in the list

## 173. National & States Affairs

Hyderabad Metro Rail Ltd in partnership with Paytm has launched a QR-code-based metro ticketing system at Rasoolpura metro station Hyderabad, Telangana. Now simply purchase a QR ticket on their Paytm app, which can be displayed at the Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) gates to proceed for the journey. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Hyderabad Metro Rail + Paytm – QR-code-based metro ticketing system
- AFC – Automatic Fare Collection
- Telangana : CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

## 174. Appointments & Resignations

The Assam government has decided to appoint ace athlete Hima Das as a deputy superintendent of police (DSP). [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Assam govt – appointed Hima Das as a DSP
- Assam : CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

## 175. Banking & Economic Affairs

Under the 'Yes Bank Ltd. Reconstruction Scheme,2020', the authorized capital of the reconstructed bank shall be altered to Rs. 5,000 crores while the number of equity shares will be 2,400 crores. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- 'Yes Bank Ltd. Reconstruction Scheme,2020' – authorized capital – altered to Rs. 5,000 crore
- YES Bank: Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Prashant Kumar | Founded – 2004

## 176. National & States Affairs

In a novel initiative, the Kerala government has decided to offer safe abodes for couples who married across religion and castes. The initiative named 'Safe Homes'. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Kerala govt – initiative named 'Safe Homes' – to offer safe abodes for couples who married across religion & castes
- Kerala: CM - Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor- Arif Mohammad Khan

## 177. Science & Technology

IIT Madras claimed to have developed an AI-powered drone to counter 'rogue drones' (unregulated unmanned aerial vehicles) ensuring safety at vital locations. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- IIT Madras – developed an AI-powered drone to counter 'rogue drones'

## 178. Science & Technology

NASA announced the official new name of the Mars 2020 rover: Perseverance. The naming contest began in 2019, granting students from kindergarten to 12th grade a chance to be a part of the mission. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- NASA announced the official name – of the Mars 2020 rover – Perseverance
- NASA: Hq –Washington, D.C., United States

## 179. Arts & Cultural Affairs

The three-day-long Namaste Orchha festival kick-started to promote tourism by showcasing the rich culture and history of the town. The festival was organised by Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board to promote the state as a leading tourism destination. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Namaste Orchha festival – organised by Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board – to promote the state as a leading tourism destination
- Madhya Pradesh : CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

## 180. Science & Technology

The Doctors from Oregon Health and Science Institute, Portland uses gene editing tool CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats – tool for locating and cutting DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) at a specific spot.) technology to cure blindness who have suffered from Leber congenital amaurosis (Blindness in early childhood). [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- CRISPR technology used to cure blindness
- CRISPR – Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats
- Portland is Oregon's largest city

## 181. Sports & Games

Indian shuttlers Tasnim Mir and Mansi Singh created history at the Yonex Dutch Junior International 2020 in Haarlem, Netherlands by bagging bronze medals. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Tasnim Mir & Mansi Singh – won bronze medals at the Yonex Dutch Junior International 2020
- Yonex Dutch Junior International 2020 – held in Haarlem, Netherlands
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro

## 182. Banking & Economic Affairs

Tata AIA Life Insurance, through its unique initiative 'Bachhpan ka Rakshakaran', in association with Oscar Foundation, aims to infuse interest in education for the under-privileged girls, using football coaching as a medium. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Tata AIA Life Insurance + Oscar Foundation – unique initiative 'Bachhpan ka Rakshakaran'
- Tata AIA Life Insurance: Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Rishi Srivastava
- Oscar Foundation (NGO): Hq – Mumbai

## 183. Sports & Games

Former India opener Wasim Jaffer from Maharashtra announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, putting a hold on his two-decade-long cricketing career. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Wasim Jaffer (Maharashtra) – Former India opener – announced his retirement from cricket
- Maharashtra: CM - Uddhav Thackeray | Governor- Bhagat Singh Koshyari



## 184. National & States Affairs

The drive, powered by the Kerala State IT Mission under the Department of Information Technology and Kerala Literacy Mission, is titled as 'I am also digital.' [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Kerala Literacy Mission – 'I am also digital' – under the Department of Information Technology
- Minister of Electronics and Information Technology – Ravi Shankar Prasad
- Kerala: CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

## 185. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs has constituted a committee to examine and recommend Community Forest Resources (CFR) Guidelines under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA). The committee headed by NC Saxena. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Tribal Affairs Minister constituted a committee – to examine and recommend Community Forest Resources – headed by NC Saxena
- Tribal Affairs Minister – Arjun Munda | Constituency – Khunti (MP)

## 186. Appointments & Resignations

Prashant Kumar, former managing director and CFO of State Bank of India, has taken charge as administrator of YES Bank. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Prashant Kumar (former deputy MD & CFO of SBI) – has taken charge as administrator of YES Bank
- YES Bank:Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Prashant Kumar

## 187. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

President of India Sh. Ram Nath Kovind gave away 61st Lalit Kala Akademi annual awards to 15 artists at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. The Union Minister of Culture Sh. Prahlad Singh Patel, the Akademi Chairman Dr. Uttam Pacharne and the Cultural Secretary, GoI, Shri Yogendra Tripathi, among many dignitaries graced the award ceremony at the President House. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind (President) – 61st Lalit Kala Akademi annual awards to 15 artists – in New Delhi
- LKA – funded by Union Minister of Culture (Prahlad Singh Patel)
- LKA – LKA or National Academy of Art is India's national academy of fine arts. LKA provides scholarships and a fellow program, and sponsors and organises exhibitions in India and overseas





## 188. Sports & Games

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) shifted the Asia Championships 2020 from Wuhan, China, the epicentre of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, to Manila, in the Philippines. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Asia Badminton Championships 2020 – from Wuhan, China – to Manila, Philippines
- BWF: HQs – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President – Poul-Erik Høyer Larsen

## 189. Schemes & Initiatives

The Union Commerce Ministry has approved the proposals of software firm TCS and realty major DLF to set up special economic zones (SEZs) for IT sector in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- TCS and DLF to set up SEZs for IT sector – in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh
- Haryana: CM - Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor- Satyadev Narayan Arya
- Uttar Pradesh: CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor- Anandiben Patel
- TCS: Hq – Mumbai | DLF: Hq – Delhi

## 190. Books & Authors

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik released "The Adventures of the Daredevil Democrat" - a comic book on adventure and works of legendary leader and his father Biju Patnaik. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Naveen Patnaik released – "The Adventures of the Daredevil Democrat" – a comic book on Biju Patnaik
- Odisha: CM – Naveen Patnaik (14th CM) | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

## 191. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Former Prime minister Indira Gandhi and freedom fighter Amrit Kaur have been named by the TIME magazine among world's 100 powerful women who defined the last century in a new project that "spotlights influential women who were often overshadowed." [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Former PM Indira Gandhi & freedom fighter Amrit Kaur – TIME magazine among world's 100 powerful women

## 192. Appointments & Resignations

Information Commissioner Bimal Julka has been appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC). [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Bimal Julka – appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC)
- CIC:Hq – New Delhi | Founded – 12 October 2005

## 193. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

State-owned NMDC Ltd and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad have signed an agreement to support start-ups through a collaborative joint incubation programme and set up an innovation and incubation centre. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- NMDC + IIT Hyderabad – signed an agreement to support start-ups
- NMDC: Hq – Hyderabad

## 194. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) India study, India is the only country among the 153 surveyed countries where the economic gender gap is larger than the political gap. The female labour-force participation in India has declined from 34% in 2006 to 24.8% in 2020. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- (UNGC) India study – female labour-force participation in India has declined from 34% to 24.8% from (2016 – 2020)
- UNGC: Hq – New York, United States | Founded – 26 July 2000 | Head – Lise Kingo

## 195. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The government has set up a 12-member high-level panel to prepare an investigation manual for probe agency SFIO. The panel would be chaired by Corporate Affairs Secretary Injeti Srinivas, as per an order issued by the corporate affairs ministry. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- 12-member high-level panel – to prepare manual investigation – chaired by Injeti Srinivas
- Corporate Affairs Secretary – Injeti Srinivas
- Minister of Corporate Affairs – Nirmala Sitharaman
- SFIO (Serious Fraud Investigation Office): Hq – New Delhi | Director – Amardeep Singh Bhatia,



## 196. Appointments & Resignations

Beverage major PepsiCo has been roped in 16-year old Indian cricketer Shafali Verma as one of its brand ambassadors for one year. Pepsi will be Shafali's first contract with a major brand. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Shafali Verma – brand ambassadors PepsiCo for one year
- PepsiCo:Hq – New York, United States | CEO – Ramon Laguarta

## 197. Appointments & Resignations

Slovenia's President named former Prime minister Janez Jansa, the head of the largest party in parliament, as a candidate for prime minister. He will replace center-left Prime Minister Marjan Sarec, who resigned last month. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Janez Jansa – appointed as the Prime Minister of Slovenia.
- Slovenia – Ljubljana – Euro

## 198. Banking & Economic Affairs

Markets regulator SEBI said it has launched a mobile application for convenience of investors to lodge grievances in Sebi Complaints Redress System (SCORES). The app, 'Sebi SCORES', is available on both iOS and Android platforms. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Sebi SCORES – mobile application for convenience of investors to lodge grievances
- SEBI:Hq – Mumbai | Chairperson – Ajay Tyagi

## 199. Arts & Cultural Affairs

In Mizoram, the biggest and most joyful festival of Mizos tribe, Chapchar Kut has been celebrated across the state. The Chapchar Kut is also regarded as the most popular spring festival to the people of the state [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Chapchar Kut Festival – celebrated in Mizoram by Mizos tribe
- Mizoram: CM - Zoramthanga | Governor- P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

## 200. National & States Affairs

Haryana CM Manohar Lal announced a new scheme under which the State government would give credit guarantee against education loan for students. [Click here for more details](#)

### Key Points:

- Haryana CM Manohar Lal – announced a new scheme to give credit guarantee against education loan for students
- Haryana: CM - Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor- Satyadev Narayan Arya



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