



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)

FRIENDS!
WE USED **TESTZONE**
AND CRACKED BANK EXAMS

बैंक परीक्षाओ के लिए निश्चित
रूप से सर्वश्रेष्ठ मॉक
टेस्ट सीरीज

IT'S YOUR TURN NOW
TAKE A **FREE** MOCK TEST



Smartkeeda

The Question Bank

Testzone presents
Complete Current Affairs Mock Test Series
Month-wise

March
MockDrill100
Test No 5



PDF by Smartkeeda

Smartkeeda

The Question Bank



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 21st June 2020

[Attempt Test No 5 Now!](#)

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

401. Defence Affairs

The United States announced that it has successfully tested an unarmed prototype of a hypersonic missile, a nuclear-capable weapon that could accelerate the arms race between superpowers. The Navy and Army jointly executed the launch. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- US – has successfully tested an unarmed prototype of a hypersonic missile
- USA – Washington, D.C. – Dollar

402. Defence Affairs

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled an updated Defence Procurement Procedure-2020 (DPP-2020) — the procurement manual that has, for the last 18 years, governed the purchase of weapons and equipment from the defence capital budget. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Minister – unveiled – DPP-2020 has governed the purchase of weapons and equipment from the defence capital budget
- Defence Minister – Rajnath Singh | Constituency - Lucknow

403. Schemes & Initiatives

Star Health and Allied Insurance launched a 'Star Novel Coronavirus' policy to cover all those who test positive for novel coronavirus (Covid-19) and require hospitalisation. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Star Health and Allied Insurance launched a 'Star Novel Coronavirus' policy
- Star Health and Allied Insurance:Hq – Chennai | Chairman – V. Jagannathan

404. Places in News

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has opened a 360-foot-long bailey suspension bridge on the Teesta river, near Chungthang in Sikkim for traffic, according to a statement issued by the government. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- BRO – opened – a 360-foot-long bailey suspension bridge – on the Teesta river, near Chungthang in Sikkim
- BRO: Hq – New Delhi | Director General – Lt. Gen.Harpal Singh

405. National & States Affairs

The Kerala state govt announced a Rs. 20,000 crore economic package to deal with the outbreak of the coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – announced – Rs. 20,000 crore economic package to deal with COVID-19
- Kerala: CM - Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor- Arif Mohammad Khan

406. Banking & Economic Affairs

Karur Vysya Bank has launched “Enkasu”, a pre-paid card in Karur. In response to the digital initiative of the Government of India, the bank undertook a Quit Cash Movement in Karur - a movement to reduce the usage of cash in the district of Karur. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Karur Vysya Bank has launched “Enkasu”, a pre-paid card in Karur
- Karur Vysya Bank: Hq – Karur, Tamil Nadu | CEO – P. R. Seshadri, K Venkataraman

407. Schemes & Initiatives

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) said that it has set up India's first COVID-19 dedicated hospital in Mumbai that includes a negative pressure room that helps in preventing cross-contamination and helps control infection. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- RIL has set up India's first COVID-19 dedicated hospital in Mumbai
- RIL:Hq – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

408. Places in News

An earthquake has rocked Croatia's capital Zagreb, damaging buildings and leaving cars crushed by falling chunks of masonry. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Croatia – Zagreb – kuna | President – Zoran Milanović

409. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

India is going ahead with a \$2.3 billion (about Rs 15,000 crore) deal to manufacture fleet support vessels (FSVs) in collaboration with a Turkish shipyard following a review after questions were raised on Turkey's links with Pakistan and the recent diplomatic tiff with the Recep Tayyip Erdogan government. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- India + Turkey – \$2.3 billion – deal to manufacture fleet support vessels
- Turkey – Ankara – lira | President – Recep Tayyip Erdoğan

410. Appointments & Resignations

HSBC Holdings PLC has appointed Noel Quinn—a stalwart of the British bank—as chief executive seven months after he assumed the position on an interim basis. Mr. Quinn has been with HSBC for more than 30 years. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Noel Quinn – appointed – as chief executive of HSBC Holdings PLC
- HSBC Holdings PLC:Hq – London, United Kingdom

411. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The economic and labour crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic could increase global unemployment by almost 25 million, according to a new assessment by the International Labour Organization (ILO). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- According to ILO – COVID-19 pandemic could increase global unemployment by almost 25 million
- ILO: Hq – Geneva, Switzerland | Director General – Guy Ryder

412. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Union Government has ordered implementation of 37 Central Laws (envisaged in the Concurrent List) in Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The order issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh Affairs), has been notified in the Gazette of India alongwith a schedule mentioning all 37 central Acts. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Union Government has ordered implementation of 37 Central Laws in J&K
- Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir – G C Murmu

413. Obituaries

Former Indian football captain Pradip Kumar Banerjee passed away in Kolkata at the age of 83 years. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- PK Banerjee (West Bengal) – Former Indian football captain – passed away

414. National & States Affairs

Himachal Pradesh State government launched Police Station Visitor Survey System and e-Night Beat Checking System for Himachal police in Shimla. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – launched – Police Station Visitor Survey System and e-Night Beat Checking System
- Himachal Pradesh : CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

415. Important Days & Dates

Since 1993, World Water Day is being celebrated every year on March 22. According to the United Nations, the day aims to create awareness regarding the 2.2 billion people who are living without access to clean and safe water. The theme for World Water Day 2020 is 'Water and Climate Change'. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- World Water Day – every year on March 22
- Theme for World Water Day 2020 – 'Water and Climate Change'

416. Schemes & Initiatives

In a bid to reduce panic among the citizens pertaining to COVID-19, the Central Government launched an official chatbot on popular instant messaging application WhatsApp. This WhatsApp Chatbot is named MyGov Corona Helpdesk and is available to all WhatsApp users. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Central Government launched an official chatbot on popular instant messaging application WhatsApp
- WhatsApp Chatbot is named MyGov Corona Helpdesk

417. Amount & Agreements

Under the bulk drug park scheme, the government will give grants-in-aid to states with a maximum limit of Rs. 1,000 crore per bulk drug park, effectively up to Rs. 3,000 crore in total, minister of state for chemicals and fertilisers Mansukh Mandaviya said. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Decision is to develop 3 mega Bulk Drug parks in India in partnership with States.
- Govt will Grants-in-Aid to States with a maximum limit of Rs. 1000 Crore per Bulk Drug Park.
- A sum of Rs. 3,000 crore has been approved for this scheme for next 5 years.
- MoS for chemicals and fertilisers – Mansukh Mandaviya

418. Important Days & Dates

Global Recycling Day was created in 2018 to help recognize, and celebrate, the importance recycling plays in preserving our precious primary resources and securing the future of our planet. It is a Day for the world to come together, and put the planet first. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- March 18 is observed around the world as the Global Recycling Day.
- Theme for 2020: #RecyclingHeroes

419. Obituaries

Roger Mayweather, who was a world champion boxer in two weight classes but became better known as the trainer of his nephew Floyd Mayweather Jr., died in Las Vegas. He was 58. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Roger Mayweather (American) – died – a world champion boxer in two weight classes

420. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters named Hillel Furstenberg from Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel and Gregory Margulis from Yale University, the USA as winners of the Abel Prize 2020. They share the prize & the amount of Norwegian Krone 7.5 Million. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Hillel Furstenberg and Gregory Margulis – winners of the Abel Prize 2020
- Abel Prize – the mathematics equivalent of a Nobel

421. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Microsoft India and NASSCOM Foundation launched the Innovate for Accessible India campaign aimed at empowering people with disabilities with the technology and tools required for better integration into society and access to equal opportunities. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Microsoft India + NASSCOM Foundation – launched – Innovate for Accessible India campaign
- Microsoft: Hq – Redmond, Washington, US | CEO – Satya Nadella
- NASSCOM Foundation: Hq – New Delhi | CEO – Mr. Arun Seth

422. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Singapore overtook Hong Kong as the world's freest economy for the first time since 1995 in the latest Heritage Foundation Index of Economic Freedom published last week. India is ranked in 120th position. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Singapore (ranked 1st) – the world's freest economy for the first time since 1995
- Hong Kong (ranked 2nd) & India (ranked 120th) – in Economic Freedom Index

423. Schemes & Initiatives

Google has also customised its India search page with the campaign “DO THE FIVE. Help stop coronavirus” that also contains a link to the Ministry of Health page giving important information on the pandemic, along with real-time data on the number of positive cases, their location and reported deaths. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The campaign “DO THE FIVE. Help stop coronavirus” – launched by Google
- Google: Hq – Mountain View, California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai

424. Appointments & Resignations

CRISIL announced that Arundhati Bhattacharya, an Independent Director of the Company, has submitted her resignation as a director of the Company, which will take effect on 15 April 2020. In her resignation, she has indicated that the reason for her resignation is her decision to accept a full time role as Chairperson and CEO in another company. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- CRISIL – announced – Arundhati Bhattacharya, an Independent Director of the Company,
- She has submitted her resignation as a director of the Company
- CRISIL: Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Ashu Suyash

425. Obituaries

Veteran Tamil director-actor Meenakshisundaram Ramasamy Viswanathan, popularly known as Visu in the Tamil film industry, passed away in Chennai. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Meenakshisundaram Ramasamy Viswanathan – passed away – Veteran Tamil director-actor

426. Sports & Games

Greece handed over the Olympic flame to Tokyo 2020 organisers at a ceremony held behind closed doors amid calls for the Olympics to be postponed over the coronavirus pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Greece handed over the Olympic flame to Tokyo 2020
- Greece – Athens – Euro

427. Appointments & Resignations

Justice Bhushan P Dharmadhikari has been sworn-in as Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court by Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari. Justice Dharmadhikari was appointed as the acting Chief Justice of the High Court last month. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Bhushan P Dharmadhikari – sworn-in as Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court
- Maharashtra : CM - Uddhav Thackeray | Governor- Bhagat Singh Koshyari

428. Defence Affairs

The defence ministry has signed a major contract for procuring more than 16,000 light machine guns from an Israeli firm for frontline troops. The ministry said that it has signed a Rs 880 crore contract for the light machine guns with Israel Weapons Industries. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The defence ministry – signed – contract for procuring – light machine guns (16000) from an Israeli firm.
- It has signed a Rs 880 crore contract for the light machine guns
- Israel – Jerusalem – Shekel | Prime minister – Benjamin Netanyahu

429. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

As per the latest key world energy statistics published by the International Energy Agency (IEA) in 2019, India is the 3rd largest producer of electricity in the world and it ranks 106th in terms of per capita consumption in 2017. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- As per IEA India is the 3rd largest producer of electricity in the world
- India ranks 106th in terms of per capita consumption in 2017
- IEA: Hq – Paris, France | Executive Director – Fatih Birol

430. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Facebook-owned messaging app WhatsApp said that it would launch the WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub globally, in partnership with the World Health Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, and United Nations Development Programme, and a \$1 million donation to the Poynter Institute's International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Whatsapp + WHO + UNDP + UNICEF – launched – the WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub globally
- WHO: Hq – Geneva, Switzerland | Director General – Tedros Adhanom
- UNDP: Hq – New York, United States | Head – Achim Steiner
- UNICEF : Hq – New York City, US | Head – Henrietta H. Fore

431. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Prahlad Singh Patel, MoS (Independent charge) Tourism, told the Lok Sabha that a detailed report had been prepared as regards 17 iconic sites. Now, Konark temple (Odisha) and Statue of Unity (Gujarat) have been added to the list, thus taking the number to 19. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Konark temple (Odisha) and Statue of Unity (Gujarat) have been added to the list iconic sites.
- The list taking the total number to 19 from 17
- MoS (Independent charge) Tourism – Prahlad Singh Patel

432. Amount & Agreements

Afghanistan and Maldives said they will be contributing \$1 million and \$2,00,000, respectively, to the 'SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) Emergency Response Fund for COVID-19', a day after Nepal and Bhutan announced their contributions. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Afghanistan and Maldives will be contributing \$1 million and \$2,00,000, respectively to the 'SAARC Emergency Response Fund for COVID-19'
- SAARC: Hq – Kathmandu, Nepal | Secretary general – Esala Weerakoon



433. International Affairs

The Union Cabinet has approved the signing and ratification of an extradition treaty between India and Belgium that will enable the two countries to repatriate from each other any person who is accused of or convicted in an extraditable offence. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet – approved – the signing and ratification of an extradition treaty between India and Belgium
- Belgium – Brussels – Euro | Prime minister – Sophie Wilmès

434. Sports & Games

Indian female umpires Janani Narayanan and Vrinda Rathi have been named in the International Panel of ICC Development Umpires. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Janani Narayanan & Vrinda Rathi – named – in the International Panel of ICC Development Umpires
- ICC: Hq – Dubai, United Arab Emirates | Chairperson – Shashank Manohar | CEO – Manu Sawhney

435. Schemes & Initiatives

A game changing and unique project aimed to transform 5 crore Tribal Entrepreneurs under the name “Tech for Tribal” has been launched by TRIFED. It was launched on 19th March 2020 by TRIFED and IIT-Kanpur along with IIT-Roorkee, IIM Indore, Kalinga Institute of Social Science, Bhubaneswar and SRIJAN, Jaipur in the first phase of organising tribal entrepreneurship and skill development program. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- “Tech for Tribal” program has been launched by TRIFED.
- Minister of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda
- TRIFED: Managing Director – Pravir Krishn

436. Amount & Agreements

Russia will create a 300-billion rouble (\$4 billion) anti-crisis fund to try to shield its economy from the coronavirus shock. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Russia – will create – \$4 billion anti-crisis fund – to try to shield its economy from the coronavirus shock
- Russia – Moscow – Rouble | Prime minister – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

437. International Affairs

Climate change has for the many past years been showing its effect on the environment. In a recent report, the Ice Sheet Mass Balance Intercomparison Exercise (IMBIE) team has revealed that Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets are losing ice six times faster than they were in the 1990s. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets are losing ice six times faster than they were in the 1990s

438. Appointments & Resignations

Former CM Shivraj Singh will become the chief minister of Madhya Pradesh a fourth time after the elected Congress government there fell 15 months into its tenure due to a rebellion in its camp. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Shivraj Singh will become the chief minister of Madhya Pradesh for the 4th time
- Madhya Pradesh : CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

439. National & States Affairs

The Gujarat Police is now equipped with taser guns as a part of their modernization drive to ensure public safety and security, as per a statement from the office of the Director General of Police in Gujarat, Shivanand Jha. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat Police – equipped – with taser guns – to ensure public safety and security
- Gujarat: CM - Vijay Rupani | Governor- Acharya Devvrat

440. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The United Nations (UN) released its World Happiness Report and India was at a dismal 144 rank of a total 156 nations surveyed. Pakistan, on the other hand, has been ranked 66. On top of the charts is Finland rated as high for the third consecutive year with Denmark and Switzerland at the no 2 and 3 spots, respectively. Followed by Iceland and Norway, completing the top five positions in the ranking. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The United Nations (UN) released its World Happiness Report
- World Happiness Report – India ranked 144 out of 156 nations
- The top five positions in the ranking – Finland(1) , Denmark (2) , Switzerland (3), Iceland (4), Norway (5) respectively.

441. Science & Technology

Elon Musk's SpaceX will send astronauts to the International Space Station for the first time in May, NASA said, announcing the first crewed launch from the United States to the platform since 2011. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Elon Musk's SpaceX will send astronauts to the International Space Station for the first time in May
- NASA: Hq – Washington, D.C., US | Founded – 1 October 1958 | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine
- SpaceX: Hq – California, US | CEO – Elon Musk

442. Science & Technology

The National Task Force for COVID-19 constituted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recommended the use of hydroxychloroquine for treatment of the deadly respiratory disease caused by the new coronavirus (SARS-Cov-2). However, the recommendation is meant for the high-risk population. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The National Task Force for COVID-19 constituted by ICMR recommended the use of hydroxychloroquine for SARS-Cov-2 cases
- ICMR: Hq – New Delhi | Secretary & Director General – Dr. Balram Bhargava

443. Appointments & Resignations

The RBI appointed two additional directors on the board of Yes Bank -- former deputy governor of the central bank R Gandhi and Ananth Narayan, an associate professor at SP Jain Institute of Management and Research. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – appointed – R Gandhi and Ananth Narayan – as additional directors on the board of Yes Bank
- YES Bank: Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Prashant Kumar

444. Schemes & Initiatives

The government has approved the proposal for creation of National Technical Textiles Mission for a period of 4 years (2020-21 to 2023-24) with an outlay of Rs. 1480 crores. The use of technical textiles in agriculture, aquaculture, dairy, poultry, etc. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The govt – proposal – to create National Technical Textiles Mission for a period of 4 years – with an outlay Rs.1480 cr
- Minister for Textiles and Women and Child Development – Smriti Z Irani

445. Schemes & Initiatives

The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) said it will start Swavalamban Express on June 5 this year for budding entrepreneurs. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI will start Swavalamban Express for budding entrepreneurs
- SIDBI: Hq – Lucknow | MD&Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa | Founded – 2 April 1990

446. Important Days & Dates

The country will be observing an unprecedented shutdown following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal for a 'Janata curfew', where people have been urged to voluntarily stay indoors to check the spread of coronavirus while public transport will be suspended or curtailed and all markets and shops except those dealing in essential items will be closed on the day. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 'Janata curfew' – will be observed on March 22

447. International Affairs

The UK has been confirmed as the first co-chair of the governing council of India-led global Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The UK – as the first co-chair of the governing council of India-led global CDRI
- CDRI: Hq – New Delhi | Founded – 23 September 2019 | Founded at – New York, US

448. National & States Affairs

At least 17 jawans were martyred and 14 others were injured in a Naxal attack in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh. The Naxal attack in Sukma took place. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 17 jawans were martyred and 14 others were injured in a Naxal attack – in Sukma, Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

449. Sports & Games

New Zealand all-rounder Andrew Ellis has announced his retirement from Canterbury Cricket after an 18-year long career. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Andrew Ellis (New Zealand all-rounder) – announced – his retirement from Canterbury Cricket

450. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Road and Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari informed the Lok Sabha that there has been positive results of the implementation of new act and the highest reduction in deaths was 14 % in Gujarat followed by 13 % in Uttar Pradesh. There has been 10 % reduction in the number of accidental deaths in the country after implementation of new Motor Vehicles Act. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- After implementation of new Motor Vehicles Act – The highest reduction in deaths was 14 % in Gujarat followed by 13 % in Uttar Pradesh
- 10 % reduction in the number of accidental deaths – after implementation of new Motor Vehicles Act
- Minister of MSME & Road and Transport – Nitin Gadkari | Constituency - Nagpur

451. Appointments & Resignations

Arundhati Bhattacharya, the former chairperson of India's largest public-sector lender State Bank of India (SBI), has been hired as the chairperson and CEO of the Indian arm of Salesforce, a US cloud-based service provider. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Arundhati Bhattacharya, the former chairperson of SBI – Appointed as the chairperson and CEO of the Indian arm of Salesforce
- Salesforce, a US cloud-based service provider: Hq – San Francisco, California

452. Science & Technology

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) lined up s many as 36 missions including ten earth observation satellites in 2020-21. Union Minister of State for Atomic Energy and Space, Jitendra Singh said that besides 10 earth observation satellites, the space agency lined up three communication satellites, three space science satellites, two navigation satellites and one technology demonstration. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO lined up s many as 36 missions including ten earth observation satellites in 2020-21
- MoS Atomic Energy and Space – Jitendra Singh
- ISRO: Hq – Bengaluru | Director – K Sivan

453. Schemes & Initiatives

Under the UDAN scheme of Government of India, the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) flagged off the first-ever thrice-weekly flight from Indore (Madhya Pradesh) to Kishangarh (Ajmer, Rajasthan). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- first-ever thrice-weekly flight from Indore, MP to Kishangarh (Ajmer, Rajasthan)
- UDAN scheme: Launched – 27April 2017 | Launched by – Narendra Modi
- Minister of Civil Aviation – Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Amritsar



454. Schemes & Initiatives

Government has taken a decision to give NCC Certificate holders Bonus Marks in direct entry examinations in the Central Armed Police Forces, CAPFs. The decision was taken in order to achieve PM Narendra Modi's vision to increase participation of India's youth in National Cadet Corps, NCC. This provision already exists in the Armed forces examinations. NCC 'C' certificate holders will be given 5 % of the maximum marks of the examination as bonus marks. NCC 'B' will be given 3 %, NCC 'A' will be given 2 %. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

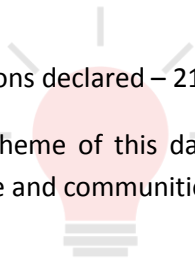
- NCC Certificate holders Bonus Marks in direct entry examinations in the CAPFs.
- NCC 'C' certificate holders will be given 5 % of the maximum marks of the examination as bonus marks
- NCC 'B' will be given 3 %, NCC 'A' will be given 2 %
- NCC: Hq – New Delhi | Founder – Govt of the United Kingdom | Director General – Lt Gen Rajeev Chopra

455. Important Days & Dates

International Nowruz Day is being celebrated globally on 21 March every year. International Nowruz Day is being observed to celebrate “Nowruz” which is an ancestral festivity and marks the first day of spring as well as the renewal of nature.

Key Points:

- United Nations declared – 21st March of every year – as International Nowruz Day in 2010.
- The basic theme of this day is to promote values of peace, friendships, solidarity, brotherhood and harmony among people and communities.



Smartkeeda
The Question Bank

456. Obituaries

Former Real Madrid president Lorenzo Sanz has died at the age of 76 after contracting the coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Lorenzo Sanz – Former Real Madrid president – passed away

457. Obituaries

Kenny Rogers, the American country music star with hits popular across the world, has died of natural causes at the age of 81. He won three Grammy awards. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Kenny Rogers (three Grammy awards winner) – a renowned musician – passed away



458. National & States Affairs

Goa became the first Indian state to launch a digital self-assessment tool for COVID-19 for the common people to identify if they are infected by the virus without having to physically visit a doctor or a hospital. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Goa became the first Indian state to launch a digital self-assessment tool for COVID-19
- Goa: CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor- Satya Pal Malik

459. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

A committee under the 15th Finance Commission will discuss the fiscal consolidation roadmap of the central and state governments. The commission under Chairmanship of N K Singh has been mandated to work out the fiscal consolidation roadmap for the government for the period - 2021-22 to 2025-26. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- A committee will discuss the fiscal consolidation roadmap of the central and state governments – headed by N K Singh

460. Important Days & Dates

The International Day of Happiness is celebrated across the world every year on March 20. It was initially founded and conceptualized in 2006 by Jayme Illien, CEO of the United Nations New World Order project. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- International Day of Happiness – every year on March 20
- Theme: “HAPPINESS FOR ALL, TOGETHER”

461. Books & Authors

On the eve of first death anniversary of Manohar Parrikar, defence minister released a coffee table book on the life and times of the former Union minister. The book titled 'Invincible' has been edited by former MP and BJP leader Tarun Vijay. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 'Invincible - A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar' has been written by Tarun Vijay

462. Schemes & Initiatives

The Delhi Government has decided to roll out online application forms with OTP facility on the website of State Law Department for advocates who intend to avail the benefits of the Chief Minister's Advocates Welfare Scheme. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Govt – roll out online application forms – for advocates – to avail the benefits of the Chief Minister's Advocates Welfare Scheme
- New Delhi: CM - Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor- Anil Baijal

463. Books & Authors

Former vice president of India Hamid Ansari made the remarks at the launch of Bhalchandra Mungekar's book "My Encounters in Parliament". [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- "My Encounters in Parliament" – written by – Bhalchandra Mungekar

464. Schemes & Initiatives

In the year 2023-2024 (till the month of December 2023), Indian Railways has planned to electrify a total of 28,810 km of broad gauge route. Indian Railways bets big on electrification and renewable energy! [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways has planned to electrify a total of 28,810 km of broad gauge route by December 2023.
- Ministry of Railways – Piyush Goyal

465. Appointments & Resignations

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath announced his resignation just a couple of hours ahead of a crucial floor test in the assembly for which he did not clearly have the numbers. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh CM Kamal Nath announced his resignation
- Madhya Pradesh :Governor – Lalji Tandon

466. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Jammu and Kashmir govt set up a commission to examine the social and educational backwardness of various backward classes people, including dalits, in the Union Territory. Named "J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission", the panel will be headed by Justice (retired) G D Sharma. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- "J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission", the panel will be headed by Justice (retired) G D Sharma
- Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir – G C Murmu

467. Science & Technology

Amid rising cases of fake sanitisers in the market following increasing demand for such products due to the coronavirus scare, scientists at CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT) based in Palampur, Himachal Pradesh, have developed a new type of hand sanitiser. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists at CSIR-IHBT have developed a new type of hand sanitiser
- CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology based in Palampur, Himachal Pradesh

468. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

A bench of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) is being constituted in Chennai to handle matters arising from Southern states. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- NCLAT – constituted in Chennai – to handle matters arising from Southern states
- The NCLAT was constituted under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013 to hear appeals against the orders of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)
- NCLAT : chairman – Justice B L Bhat

469. National & States Affairs

The Punjab government has granted permission to distilleries to manufacture and supply sanitisers in wake of the rise in coronavirus cases in the state. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab granted permission to distilleries to manufacture and supply sanitisers in wake of the rise in COVID-19 cases.
- Punjab : CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

470. Important Days & Dates

The date for World Down Syndrome Day is the 21st day of the 3rd month, which was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. World Down Syndrome Day (WSD) is observed on 21 March every year. The theme 2020: "We Decide"

Key Points:

- World Down Syndrome Day – 21 March every year
- The theme 2020: "We Decide"

471. National & States Affairs

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami announced in the Assembly that 64,583 sanitary personnel employed by urban and rural civic bodies in the State will from now on be called 'cleanliness workers' to honour their work. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu CM K Palaniswami – announced – sanitary personnel employed by urban and rural civic bodies called 'cleanliness workers'
- Tamil Nadu: CM – Edappadi Palaniswami | Governor- Banwarilal Purohit



472. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the formation of a COVID-19 Economic Response Task Force led by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to deal with the situation arising out of novel coronavirus outbreak. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- PM of India announced the formation of a COVID-19 Economic Response Task Force led by Nirmala Sitharaman
- Minister of Finance & Minister of Corporate Affairs – Nirmala Sitharaman

473. Current GK

CRISIL, was the first credit rating agency in India, introduced in 1988 by the ICICI and UTI jointly with share capital coming from SBI, LIC and United India Insurance Company. In April 2005, US based credit rating agency S&P acquired the majority shares (51 percent) of company.

Key Points:

- CRISIL: Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Ashu Suyash

474. Important Days & Dates

World Tuberculosis Day is observed on March 24 every year in order to spread awareness about the health, social and economic consequences of the disease.

Key Points:

- World Tuberculosis Day – on March 24 every year
- Theme of World Tuberculosis Day 2020 – It's Time

475. National & States Affairs

The Jammu and Kashmir government approved implementation of a scheme for dairy cooperative societies with the support of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- J&K – approved – implementation of a scheme for dairy cooperative societies with the support of the NCDC
- J&K: Lieutenant Governor – Girish Chandra Murmu

476. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The Government has postponed its mega summit on Artificial Intelligence called RAISE 2020 - 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020,' from April due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The Summit which will be inaugurated by the prime minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi is expected to be attended by representatives of the global AI industry. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Government – has postponed – RAISE 2020 from April – due to the COVID-19 outbreak
- RAISE 2020 - 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020 – held in New Delhi

477. Important Days & Dates

World Puppetry Day comes every March 21. The idea came from the puppet theater artist Javad Zolfaghari from Iran. The first celebration was in 2003.

Key Points:

- World Puppetry Day comes every March 21

478. Banking & Economic Affairs

Amid businesses getting affected due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, the country's largest lender State Bank of India has opened an emergency credit line to meet any liquidity mismatch for its borrowers. The additional liquidity facility — Covid-19 Emergency Credit Line (CECL), will provide funds up to Rs. 200 crore and will be available till June 30, 2020. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- SBI – additional liquidity facility — Covid-19 Emergency Credit Line (CECL) – funds up to Rs. 200 crore – available till June 30, 2020
- SBI: Hq – Mumbai | Founded – 1 July 1955 | Chairperson – Rajnish Kumar

479. Banking & Economic Affairs

In an emergency move, the Federal Reserve announced it is dropping its benchmark interest rate to zero and launching a new round of Quantitative Easing (QE). The QE program will entail \$700 billion worth of asset purchases entailing Treasuries and mortgage-backed securities. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Federal Reserve announced – dropping its benchmark interest rate to zero & launching Quantitative Easing (QE)
- The QE program will entail \$700 billion worth of asset purchases
- The Federal Reserve System is the central banking system of the United States of America. It was created on December 23, 1913.
- The Federal Reserve System: Chairperson – Jerome Powell

480. Science & Technology

Dubbed the Wonderchicken, the remains were found in rocks dating to about 66.8m to 66.7m years ago, revealing that the bird was active shortly before the asteroid strike that wiped out the dinosaurs 66m years ago. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Experts have discovered a fossil of the world's oldest known modern bird – Wonderchicken

481. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The country's insurance regulator IRDAI has set up a 16-member committee to find ways to improve corporate governance systems of insurers, primarily on making key functions such as risk management and internal audits independent of each other. The committee will be headed by Pravin Kutumbe. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI set up a 16-member committee to find ways to improve corporate governance systems of insurers – headed by Pravin Kutumbe
- IRDAI: Hq – Hyderabad | Chairperson – Subhash Chandra Khuntia

482. Important Days & Dates

World Metrological Day (WMD) is observed on March 23 every year; the day was established at the first International Meteorological Congress in Vienna, Austria, in 1873 and on March 23, 1950, International Meteorological Organization became the World Meteorological Organization.

Key Points:

- World Metrological Day – March 23 every year
- Theme for 2020 – “Climate and Water”

483. Science & Technology

In a move to fight against whiteflies National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) Lucknow has developed a pest-resistant variety of cotton and is going to start field trials this year from April to October in Faridkot Center of Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- NBRI Lucknow has developed a pest-resistant variety of cotton

484. Amount & Agreements

Netflix Inc (NFLX.O) has established a \$100 million (86.3 million pounds) fund to assist workers on film and television productions that have been shut down due to the global coronavirus outbreak. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Netflix Inc has established a \$100 million fund to assist workers on film and television productions
- Netflix Inc: Hq – Los Gatos, California, US | CEO – Reed Hastings

485. Schemes & Initiatives

The Uttar Pradesh government announced that around 35 lakh labourers in the state will get Rs 1,000 each as financial aid while free ration for one month will be provided to 1.65 crore construction workers amid the coronavirus outbreak. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- UP Govt – announced – Rs 1,000 each (35 lakh labourers) as financial aid while free ration for one month to 1.65 crore construction workers
- Uttar Pradesh: CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor- Anandiben Patel



486. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The 7th World Cities Summit (WCS) that is to be held from 5 to 9 July 2020 in Singapore has been postponed to June 20-24, 2021, due to COVID-19. Theme 2020: Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Adapting to a Disrupted World. It is organized by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities and the Urban Redevelopment Authority. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 7th World Cities Summit (WCS) – has been postponed – from 5 to 9 July 2020 to June 20-24, 2021
- 7th World Cities Summit (WCS) will be held in Singapore
- Theme 2020: Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Adapting to a Disrupted World

487. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Satyarup Siddhanta has been nominated for the coveted Limca Book of World Records for his extra-ordinary achievement to be the first Indian to climb the highest volcanoes of each of the 7 continents. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Satyarup Siddhanta – nominated – for the coveted Limca Book of World Records
- He became the first Indian to climb the highest volcanoes of each of the 7 continents
- Limca Book of Records is an extension of the Limca brand. It is the second book of records in the world after Guinness Book of World Records.
- Limca Book of Records: Launched in India – 1990 | Publisher – Coca-Cola India

488. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Reserve Bank of India decided to infuse additional liquidity with a second tranche of bond purchase worth Rs. 30,000 crores amid the Covid-19 pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- RBI decided to infuse additional liquidity with a 2nd tranche of bond purchase worth Rs. 30,000 crores
- RBI: Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das | Founded – 1 April 1935

489. National & States Affairs

Indian Oil Corp (IOC), the nation's biggest oil firm, has begun the supply of the world's cleanest petrol and diesel across the country with all its 28,000 petrol pumps dispensing ultra-low sulphur fuel a good two weeks before the April 1 deadline. "We have successfully rolled out the supply of BS-VI grade fuel across the country," IOC Chairman Sanjiv Singh said. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IOC becomes 1st company to begin supply of BS-VI fuel across country
- IOC:Hq – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjiv Singh

490. Important Days & Dates

Every year on March 23, Shaheed Diwas is celebrated. On this day, those who laid out their lives for us, and our Independence, are remembered. The day, in particular, pays tribute to Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar, and Shivaram Rajguru who died on March 23 in 1931. They were hanged to death for assassinating John Saunders, a British police officer in 1928.

Key Points:

- Shaheed Diwas – Every year on March 23

491. Important Days & Dates

World Sparrow Day is celebrated on 20 March every year in many countries around the world. Every year celebration is organised according to the theme. The theme for World Sparrow Day is "I LOVE Sparrows" and is pictured like " I Sparrows". [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- World Sparrow Day – 20 March every year
- Theme: "I LOVE Sparrows" and is pictured like " I Sparrows"

492. National & States Affairs

Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal announced that Banihal to Katra railway link in Jammu and Kashmir will be completed by 2022. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Banihal to Katra railway link in Jammu and Kashmir – completed by 2022
- Minister of Railway & Commerce – Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra

493. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

DBS Bank India said it has tied-up with Bharti AXA to roll out a complimentary insurance plan covering all medical conditions, including Covid-19. The plan would cover all medical conditions, including Covid-19, and up to 10 days of hospitalisation, with a cover of Rs 5,000 per day, for a 30-day period, DBS Bank India said in a release. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- DBS Bank + Bharti AXA – roll out a complimentary insurance plan covering all medical conditions, including Covid-19
- Bharti AXA: Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Sanjeev Srinivasan
- DBS Bank: Hq – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta

494. Science & Technology

Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey informed the Lok Sabha that the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has received several complaints against the misuse of stem cell therapy from various sources. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- ICMR) has received several complaints against the misuse of stem cell therapy from various sources.
- Union MoS for Health and Family Welfare – Ashwini Kumar Choubey

495. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The government has constituted a high level technical committee of Public Health Experts for COVID-19 to guide the prevention and control activities in the country. The 21 member committee will be headed by NITI Aayog member Dr V K Paul. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- A high level technical committee of Public Health Experts for COVID-19 – headed by Dr V K Paul

496. Important Days & Dates

Bangladesh celebrated the birth centenary of its founder President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The day marks the beginning of the yearlong celebration of the birth centenary named 'Mujib Barsho' in Bangladesh and across the world. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Bangladesh celebrated the birth centenary of its founder President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – taka

497. Obituaries

Spanish football coach Francisco Garcia has passed away aged 21 after contracting coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Francisco Garcia – Spanish football coach – passed away

498. National & States Affairs

Goa Health Minister Vishwajit P Rane has launched a chatbot to create awareness about coronavirus among the citizens. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Goa Health Minister – launched – a chatbot to create awareness about coronavirus
- Goa : Chief minister – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

499. National & States Affairs

The government of Uttarakhand decided to remove reservation in promotions for SC/ST employees. Around two lakh General and OBC employees in the government were demanding the removal of the reservation to SC/ST employees and had been protesting since March 2. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – decided – remove reservation in promotions for SC/ST employees
- Uttarakhand: CM - Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor- Baby Rani Maurya

500. Science & Technology

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras is organizing India's first Global Hyperloop Pod Competition in a bid to increase awareness and enthusiasm about Hyperloop in India. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras is set to organize India's first Global Hyperloop Pod Competition



Smartkeeda
The Question Bank





SmartKeeda

The Question Bank

Presents

TestZone

India's least priced Test Series platform



ALL BANK EXAMS

2020-2021 Test Series

@ Just

₹ **599/-**

300+ Full Length Tests

- Brilliant Test Analysis
- Excellent Content
- Unmatched Explanations

JOIN NOW