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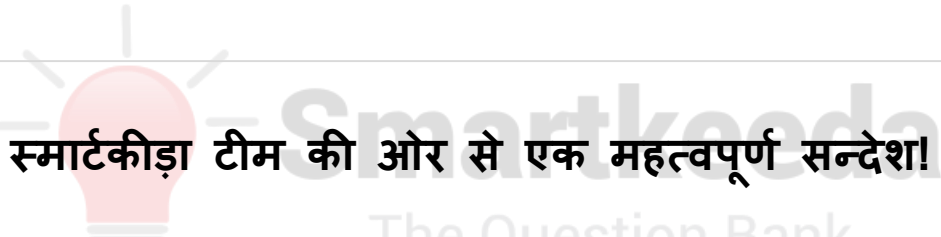
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of March 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

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

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF मार्च 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढ़ना, 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



INDEX

National & States Affairs.....	5
International Affairs.....	9
Banking & Economic Affairs.....	11
Defence Affairs.....	13
Sports & Games.....	13
Important Days & Dates.....	15
Meetings, Conferences and Summits.....	15
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes.....	16
Appointments & Resignations.....	17
Amount & Agreements.....	19
Ranks, Reports & Surveys.....	19
Acquisitions & Mergers.....	22
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships.....	22
Books & Authors.....	24
Obituaries.....	25
Persons in News	26
Science & Technology.....	26
Ordinance, Bills and Acts.....	27



National & States Affairs

101. On March 3, Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan has virtually inaugurated 6 new Outreach Service Centres for communication disorders by the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH), Mysuru on World Hearing Day. The centres have been setup in Bihar, Odisha and Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harsh Vardhan – inaugurated 6 new Outreach Service Centres for communication disorders by AIISH (Mysuru)
- The centres setup in – Bihar (1) + Odisha (1) + Karnataka (4):

Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Science	Patna, Bihar
AIIMS	Bhubaneswar, Odisha
Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences	Belagavi, Karnataka
Karnataka Institute of Medical Science	Hubbali, Karnataka
Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research	Kolar, Karnataka
Bidar Institute of Medical Sciences	Bidar, Karnataka

102. The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) is in favour of 4 sub-categories of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) suggested by the Justice Rohini Commission. Bhagwan Lal Sahni is the Chairman of NCBC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCBC is in favour of 4 sub-categories of OBCs – suggested by the Justice Rohini Commission
- HQs of NCBC – New Delhi | Chairman – Bhagwan Lal Sahni

103. On March 6, The Arunachal Pradesh government has dedicated 2021 as the “Year of Education” with a planned investment of ₹1,000 Cr for the sector. The state government will launch “Mission Shiksha” to improve the standard of education in the next 2 years with 6 focus areas. The state had presented a ₹578.50 Cr deficit budget in the assembly. Rs 300 Cr are allocated towards the initiation of ‘Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh – dedicated 2021 as the “Year of Education” with a planned investment of ₹1,000 Cr
- Arunachal Pradesh government – to launch “Mission Shiksha”
- Arunachal Pradesh – presented a ₹578.50 Cr deficit budget
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

104. On March 4, Dr. Harsh Vardhan has exhorted scientists of CSIR laboratories in 21 states across India to develop the land available at each laboratory to be set up as a model under the “CSIR Floriculture Mission”. Since 1953, CSIR has been developing new floral varieties and several value addition technologies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – launched “CSIR Floriculture Mission” – in 21 states
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | Director General – Shekhar C. Mande



105. On March 3, India is conducting a 90-day 'Scientific Cruise Mission' in the second week of March in the Indian Ocean to sample water, sediments, planktons and various organisms in search of genomes and micro-nutrient. CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) has been commissioned to conduct genome and proteome mapping (micro nutrients) present inside single-cell organisms in the Indian Ocean. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CSIR-NIO is conducting a 90-day 'Scientific Cruise Mission' in Indian Ocean in search of genomes & micro-nutrient
- HQs of CSIR-NIO – Panaji, Goa

106. On March 4, Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has announced opening of two new Kendriya Vidyalayas - KV Sadalaga, Belagavi in Karnataka and KV IIT Ropar in Punjab. With this, the total number of KVs across India will raise to 1247. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Two new Kendriya Vidyalayas to be opened in – Karnataka & Punjab
- Now, the total number of KVs across India – 1247
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

107. On March 5, In a major boost to India's rice exports potential, the first consignment of 'Red rice' was flagged off to the USA. Iron-rich 'Red rice' referred as 'Bao-dhaan' is grown in the Brahmaputra valley of Assam, without the use of any chemical fertilizer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 1st consignment of 'Red rice' was sent to – USA
- 'Red rice' referred as 'Bao-dhaan' is grown in – Brahmaputra valley of Assam
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

108. On March 4, The Jammu and Kashmir administration distributed tablets among Auxiliary Nursing Midwives (ANMs) and launched ANMOL application under the National Health Mission for identification and tracking of beneficiaries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – distributed tablets among Auxiliary Nursing Midwives
- J & K – launched ANMOL application 'ANMOL' application under the National Health Mission
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

109. On March 5, The government has set up a 259-member High-Level National Committee, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to commemorate 75 years of India's independence. The panel includes dignitaries and eminent citizens from all walks of life. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 259-member High-Level National Committee is set up to commemorate 75 years of India's independence
- The committee is headed by – PM Narendra Modi

110. On March 2, Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs has inaugurated the “Tribes India GI Mahotsav” at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) Mussoorie. On the occasion, Shri Munda also inaugurated the 130th Tribes India Showroom and Café of Tribes India at LBSNAA, Mussoorie. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arjun Munda – inaugurated the “Tribes India GI Mahotsav” – at LBSNAA, Mussoorie
- Arjun Munda – also inaugurated the 130th Tribes India Showroom & Café of Tribes India – at LBSNAA, Mussoorie
- [Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda \(Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand\)](#)

111. As on March 6, The construction work of Rs 8,662 Cr “Dwarka Expressway” will be completed before 15 August 2022. The 29-km expressway, which connects Dwarka in Delhi to Gurugram, is being constructed under the Bharatmala Project. It will be the first-ever elevated Urban Expressway in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The construction work of Rs 8,662 Cr Dwarka Expressway – to be completed before 15 August 2022
- It connects Dwarka (Delhi) to Gurugram (Haryana) | Length – 29 km

112. On March 6, President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated All India State Judicial Academies Directors’ Retreat in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. He has appealed to judicial academies in states to provide training to quasi-judicial staff along with judges in district courts for the speedy disposal of cases. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – inaugurated All India State Judicial Academies Directors’ Retreat – in Jabalpur, MP
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

113. On March 5, The 29th edition of the annual “New Delhi World Book Fair”, organized by the National Book Trust (NBT), India was held virtually from March 6 to 12 with the theme of “National Education Policy (NEP) 2020”. The event was inaugurated by Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ – inaugurated 29th edition of “New Delhi World Book Fair” – organized by NBT
- Theme – “National Education Policy (NEP) 2020”
- [HQs of NBT – New Delhi | President – Govind prasad sharma](#)

114. On March 7, PM Narendra Modi has dedicated to the nation the 7,500th Janaushadhi Kendra at North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS), Shillong. An entire week from March 1-7 is being celebrated as ‘Janaushadhi Week’ across India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – dedicated to the nation the 7500th Janaushadhi Kendra – at NEIGRIHMS, Shillong
- March 1-7 – ‘Janaushadhi Week’
- March 7 – Janaushadhi Diwas (Generic Medicine Day)

115. On March 4, Addressing the virtual session “Investment Opportunities in Andhra Pradesh”, Piyush Goyal has stated that the government is working to ensure that the entire rail network will be fully electrified by December 2023 and the entire rail network will run on renewable energy by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The entire rail network will be fully electrified – by December 2023
- The entire rail network will run on renewable energy – by 2030

116. On March 5, Madhya Pradesh, which is known for its robust tourism industry, has now introduced ‘Night Safari’ in three of the national parks - Kanha National Park, Pench National Park and Bandhavgarh National Park. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh introduced ‘Night Safari’ in 3 National Parks: Kanha NP, Pench NP & Bandhavgarh NP
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

117. Uttarakhand government has declared Gairsain as the third administrative division in the state after Garhwal and Kumaon. The declaration was made by the CM in his budgetary speech on March 4 under which the new division would comprise 4 districts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gairsain – declared as the third administrative division in Uttarakhand (after Garhwal & Kumaon)
- [Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya](#)

118. On March 6, Dr. Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated the new research building ‘Desikan Bhawan’ equipped with new COVID-19 diagnostic facility at ICMR-NJIL&OMD, Agra in the presence of Director General ICMR & Secretary, Department of Health Research, Prof. Balram Bhargava. The new building is named after Institute's first Director, Dr. K. V. Desikan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harsh Vardhan – inaugurated ‘Desikan Bhawan’ equipped with new COVID-19 diagnostic facility – at Agra
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

119. On March 6, The Indian Army has launched its first community radio station ‘Radio Chinar’ in Sopore of Baramulla district in North Kashmir to bridge the gap between Jawan and Awaam. The radio station will have coverage around north Kashmir. It will be available at the frequency of 90.4 FM MHz. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – launched its first community radio station ‘Radio Chinar’ – in Baramulla, J & K
- [HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty](#)
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)



120. On March 9, To provide better facilities to livestock breeders in the state a Centre of Excellence in the dairy sector will soon be established in Rajasthan with the help of Denmark. Danish Ambassador Freddy Svane discussed this while meeting Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot during his visit to Jaipur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Denmark – to establish a Center of Excellence for the dairy sector in Rajasthan
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone | PM – Mette Frederiksen
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

121. On March 6, Odisha has announced to set up a “Department of Mission Shakti” to strengthen Self Help Group initiatives of the state. Now, the SHGs are also being promoted by Odisha Livelihood Mission (OLM) under Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water department and National Urban Livelihood Mission. The Mission Shakti was launched in the State in 2001. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – to set up a “Department of Mission Shakti” to strengthen SHG initiatives
- ‘Mission Shakti’ was launched in the State – in 2001
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



International Affairs

122. Global anti-terrorism watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has decided to retain Pakistan on its “Grey List” till June, 2021 for its failure to fully comply with FATF’s 27-point action plan to combat terrorism. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FATF decided to retain Pakistan on its “Grey List” – till June, 2021
- HQs of FATF – Paris, France | President – Marcus Pleyer | Member Countries – 39
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

123. On March 3, Australia has unveiled plans to build the world’s first Platypus Sanctuary, to promote breeding and rehabilitation as the duck-billed mammal faces extinction due to climate change. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – to build the world’s 1st Platypus Sanctuary
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

124. On March 3, The U. N. General Assembly has adopted a resolution sponsored by India and supported by over 70 nations declaring 2023 as the “International Year of Millets”. It is aimed at raising awareness about the health benefits of the grain and their suitability for cultivation under changing climatic conditions. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- UNGA – adopted a resolution declaring 2023 as the “International Year of Millets”
- The resolution was sponsored by India & supported by over 70 nations
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Volkan Bozkir | Member Countries – 193

125. On March 3, India has signed a key pact with the Philippines for the sale of defence material and equipment which are likely to include BrahMos cruise missiles. India and Russia have also been planning to export the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile to the Philippines and several other countries. The BrahMos missile is produced by an Indo-Russian joint venture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Philippines = signed a pact for the sale of Defence material & equipment
- The BrahMos missile is produced by – Indo-Russian joint venture
- India's Ambassador to the Philippines – Shambu S. Kumaran
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Rodrigo Duterte

126. A World Bank funded project - ‘Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme’ (TEQIP) will be replaced with ‘Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education (MERITE)’. Three phases of the ₹3,600-Cr TEQIP project have been completed since it was launched in December 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank funded TEQIP – to be replaced with MERITE
- TEQIP project was launched in – 2002
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

127. On March 3, India has decided to send a consignment of 1,000 metric tonnes of rice and 1,00,000 tablets of Hydroxychloroquine to drought-hit Madagascar. The humanitarian assistance will be delivered onboard the Indian Naval Ship Jalashwa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India will send a consignment of 1,000 metric tonnes of rice & 1,00,000 tablets of Hydroxychloroquine – to Madagascar
- Humanitarian assistance delivered through – INS Jalashwa
- Madagascar – Antananarivo – Malagasy Ariary | President – Andry Rajoelina

128. As on March 4, Reliance Power has formed a joint venture with Japan-based JERA Co. Inc to develop a new gas-fired power generation project in Bangladesh. The project is to build, own, and operate a 745-MW natural gas combined-cycle power project in Meghnaghat near Dhaka. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Reliance Power + JERA = JV to develop 745-MW natural gas combined-cycle power project in Bangladesh
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani
- HQs of JERA – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Toshiro Kudama

Banking & Economic Affairs

129. On March 4, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has presented a budget of ₹57,400.32 Cr for 2021-22 fiscal in the Assembly with emphasis on health, rural infrastructure, employment generation and agriculture. Rs 25 Cr has been allocated to a new scheme “Chief Minister Ghasiyari Kalyan Yojana”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – presented a budget of ₹57,400.32 Cr for 2021-22 fiscal
- Rs 25 Cr – allocated to “Chief Minister Ghasiyari Kalyan Yojana”
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

130. PNB Housing Finance and YES Bank have entered into a strategic co-lending agreement to offer retail loans to home buyers. They will jointly do due diligence and co-originate the loan at an agreed ratio. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- YES Bank + PNB Housing Finance = a strategic co-lending agreement to offer retail loans to home buyers
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”
- HQs of PNBHF – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Hardayal Prasad | Tag Line – Ghar Ki Baat

131. On March 5, Kotak Mahindra Bank has signed an MoU with the Indian Army for salary accounts. All personnel of the Indian army will get access to the full range of Kotak's products and services including a zero-balance salary account that earns up to 4% interest per annum with free unlimited ATM transactions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank + Indian Army = an MoU for salary accounts
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

132. On March 4, The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation's (EPFO) has decided to fix 8.5% rate of interest for 2020-21 at its 228th meeting of Central Board of Trustees (CBT) in Srinagar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EPFO decided to fix 8.5% rate of interest for 2020-21 at its 228th meeting of CBT – in Srinagar, J & K
- HQs of EPFO – New Delhi | CEO – Shri Sunil Barthwal



133. On March 1, Federal Bank in partnership with Mastercard is set to launch Credit Cards in coming months and remains bullish about growth opportunities on the retail portfolio. The bank expects the retail portfolio to grow at about 13% to 15%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank + Mastercard = to launch Credit Cards in coming months
- HQs Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Michael Miebach

134. On March 4, The RBI had announced to conduct simultaneous purchase and sale of government securities under Open Market Operations (OMO) on March 10. On March 10, RBI purchased 4 government securities of different maturity dates aggregating to Rs 20,000 Cr and sell 3 securities aggregating to Rs 15,000 Cr using the multiple price auction method. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI conducted simultaneous purchase (Rs 20,000 Cr) & sale (Rs 15,000 Cr) of government securities under OMO
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

135. On March 5, Titan-owned youth accessories brand Fastrack has partnered India’s largest public sector bank Yono-State Bank of India (SBI) to enter the smart wearable category of fitness bands with digital payment component under its sub-brand Reflex. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fastrack (Titan) + Yono (SBI) = partnership to enter the smart wearable category of fitness bands
- HQs of Titan – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – C. K. Venkataraman
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

136. On March 4, HDFC ERGO General Insurance has launched “Business Kisht Suraksha”, a unique cover aimed at protecting the balance sheet of MFIs, financial institutions and banks in the event of a catastrophe or natural disaster. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO – launched “Business Kisht Suraksha” insurance cover
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Ritesh Kumar

137. On March 5, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and SBI Payments have partnered to launch “RuPay SoftPoS”, which is expected to provide seamless, cost-effective acceptance infrastructure to retailers at a nominal cost. It is a smart phone enabled Point of Sale (PoS) system. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPCI + SBI Payments = partnership to launch “RuPay SoftPoS”
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008
- HQs of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Rama Mohan Rao Amara



Defence Affairs

138. On March 2, The Army has decided to induct the first lot of 6,000 new Light Machine Guns (LMG) from Israel. These are part of the 16,497 “Negev” LMGs contracted from Israeli Weapons Industry (IWI) in March 2020. The first lot of 6,000 guns had arrived in Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Army decided to induct the first lot of 6,000 new “Negev” LMGs – from Israel
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

139. On March 4, The Special Forces Training School (SFTS) of the Indian Army, which is a unique institution providing training to the Indian Army's Special Forces, has commenced training of paratroopers from the Turkmenistan Special Forces in Combat Free Fall. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army's Special Forces Training School is providing the training to the Turkmenistan Special Forces
- Turkmenistan – Ashgabat – Manat | President – Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

140. On March 3, Indian Air Force Chief, Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria has arrived in Colombo to take part in celebrations and ceremonies to mark the 70th anniversary of the Sri Lankan Air Force (SLAF). India's indigenous fighter aircraft the Tejas (LCA) Light Combat Aircraft will be taking part in the events to mark the SLAF anniversary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria – arrived in Colombo to take part in the 70th anniversary of Sri Lankan Air Force
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



Sports & Games

141. According to the Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA), the second ODI National Zone Cricket Championship League for the deaf was held from March 1 to 5. The 50-over tournament will be held at the MCG 2 & 3, Ghevra Cricket Ground, Kanjhwala. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 2nd ODI National Zone Cricket Championship League for the deaf – held from March 1 to 5
- President of IDCA – Sumit Jain

142. Indian boxer Deepak Kumar has won the silver medal at the 72nd Strandja Memorial Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria. He lost a fiercely-contested flyweight (52kg) final. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Deepak Kumar ([Boxing](#)) – won the silver medal at the 72nd Strandja Memorial Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria
- Bulgaria – Sofia – Lev | President – Rumen Radev

143. The Mumbai City Football Club has won their first Indian Super League title. Mumbai City has completed a treble against ATK Mohun Bagan in this season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai City FC – won their 1st Indian Super League title

144. On March 6, The India has defeated England in the 4th Test Match held at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. With this, India has again qualified for the 'Anthony de Mello Trophy'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – defeated England in the 4th Test Match held at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- 'Anthony de Mello Trophy' – related to Cricket

145. On March 8, India's ace shuttler P. V. Sindhu has won a silver medal in the "BWF Swiss Open Super 300" at Basel. She was defeated in the final by Spain's Carolina Marin. Viktor Axelsen of Denmark has won men's single title at Swiss Open. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- P. V. Sindhu ([India-Badminton](#)) – won Silver medal in the "BWF Swiss Open Super 300" at Basel
- Carolina Marin ([Spain-Badminton](#)) – won Gold medal in the "BWF Swiss Open Super 300" at Basel
- Viktor Axelsen ([Denmark-Badminton](#)) – won Gold medal in the men's single title

146. A 14-member (8 men and 6 women) Indian contingent had participated in the 35th edition of the Boxam International Tournament. Manish Kaushik has clinched the Gold Medal in the men's 63 Kg category as Indian boxers concluded their impressive campaign at the "2021 Boxam International Tournament" with 10 medals in Castellon, Spain. The other five silver medals for the country were secured by Simranjit Kaur (60kg), Mohammed Hussamuddin (57), Ashish Kumar (75kg), Sumi Sangwan (81kg), and Satish Kumar (+91kg). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 14-member Indian contingent – won 10 medals in 35th “Boxam International Tournament” – in Castellon, Spain
- Manish Kaushik ([Indian Boxer](#)) – clinched the Gold Medal (men’s 63 Kg category)

Important Days & Dates

147. March 4 is observed every year as National Safety Day (Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas) in India with the purpose of creating awareness among people with respect to safety measures. This year, the focus of National Safety Day is on road safety and the theme is “Sadak Suraksha” (road safety). A seminar and public function will be organized on the theme “Learn from Disaster and Prepare for a Safer Future”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 4 – 49th National Safety Day (Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas)
- Theme – “Sadak Suraksha” (road safety)
- Seminar & public function – organized on the theme “Learn from Disaster and Prepare for a Safer Future”

148. On March 3, India has commemorated “Chabahar Day” on March 4 on the margins of the ‘Maritime India Summit-2021’ which is being held from March 2 to 4. The Chabahar port is a key connectivity project to boost trade ties among India, Iran, and Afghanistan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 4 – “Chabahar Day” commemorated by India
- [Chabahar Port](#) – located in Iran
- [Iran](#) – [Tehran](#) – [Rial](#) | [President](#) – [Ali Khamenei](#)

149. International Women’s Day is celebrated on March 8 every year. It was first organised in 1911 by the early 20th century Marxist from Germany Clara Zetkin. This year, the theme is “Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 8 – International Women’s Day – by the UN
- Theme – “Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world”



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

150. On March 4, TEPC (Telecom Equipment Export Promotion Council) has organized 'India Telecom 2021' - an Exclusive International Business Expo being held virtually on March 3 & 4, 2021 under Market Access Initiative Scheme (MAI) of Department of Commerce. This annual event was inaugurated by Shri Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre – inaugurated 'India Telecom 2021' - an Exclusive International Business Expo
- This annual event was organized by – TEPC ([New Delhi](#))
- [MoS for Communications, Education and Electronics & Information Technology](#) – Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre

151. On March 6, PM Narendra Modi has held a virtual summit with his Sweden counterpart Stefan Lofven to exchange views on regional and global issues and to discuss the bilateral relations between the two countries. This was the fifth interaction between the two leaders since 2015 in which they decided to establish a "Sweden-India Health Hub" at AIIMS-Jodhpur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – held a Virtual Summit with his Sweden counterpart Stefan Lofven
- India + Sweden = decided to establish a "Sweden-India Health Hub" – at AIIMS-Jodhpur
- [Sweden – Stockholm – Krona](#) | [PM – Kjell Stefan Lofven](#)

152. PM Narendra Modi has addressed a conference of India's top military leadership in Gujarat's Kevadia on March 6, which will also see the participation of jawans and junior commissioned officers (JCOs) for the first time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi addressed a conference of India's top military leadership – in Kevadia, Gujarat
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar](#) | [CM – Vijay Rupani](#) | [Governor – Acharya Devvrat](#)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

153. On March 2, Sayragul Sauytbay, a human rights activist and survivor from China's Xinjiang, has been awarded the "2021 Nuremberg International Human Rights Award", for highlighting the human rights abuses being meted to ethnoreligious minorities in the country's western region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sayragul Sauytbay – awarded the "2021 Nuremberg International Human Rights Award"



154. On March 5, India's 3 premiere engineering institutions IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi and IIT Madras have made it to the list of 100 top engineering institutions worldwide, as per the latest "QS World University Rankings 2021". IIT Bombay has grabbed the best ever 49th rank whereas IIT Delhi stood at 54th in the ranking. And IIT Madras has ranked 94. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA has again emerged as the best global institution for engineering students. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Bombay (49th), IIT Delhi (54th) & IIT Madras (94th) – featured in top 100 of the "QS World University Rankings 2021"
- The list is topped by – Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA

155. On March 2, Mohankrishna Bohara has been awarded the 30th Bihari Puraskar Award for his critical work 'Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya'. The Bihari Puraskar is one of the three literary awards instituted by the KK Birla Foundation in 1991. The award carries a cash prize of ₹2.5 lakh, a plaque and a citation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mohankrishna Bohara – received the 30th Bihari Puraskar Award
- 'Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya' by – Mohankrishna Bohara

156. On March 4, As per Confederation of Indian Industry's IGBC ratings, Indian Railways' Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) becomes the first railway station in Maharashtra to be awarded with Gold certification. Various green initiatives have been implemented across the Central Railway zone with the installation of solar panels, plantation, passenger-friendly initiatives at many railway stations, LED bulbs, lights, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (MH) – 1st in Maharashtra to be awarded with 'IGBC Gold certification'
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

157. On March 6, As many as 40 scholars from 6 countries have been awarded with "Indian Science Research Fellowship (ISRF) 2021" to carry out their research in Indian Institutes and Universities by the Government of India. The ISRF has been implemented since 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 40 scholars from 6 countries – awarded with "Indian Science Research Fellowship (ISRF) 2021"



Appointments & Resignations

158. On March 2, Indian-American Maju Varghese has been appointed as the Deputy Assistant to US President Joe Biden and Director of the White House Military Office. He previously served as a key member of the Biden campaign and the inaugural committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maju Varghese – appointed as the Deputy Assistant to US President Joe Biden
- Maju Varghese – Director of the White House Military Office
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

159. On March 3, Shri Rajesh Vaishnav (IFS: 1996), presently High Commissioner of India to Malta, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Kingdom of Morocco. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajesh Vaishnav – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Morocco
- Morocco – Rabat – Dirham | PM – Saad-Eddine El Othmani

160. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has given an additional charge of Director General (DG) of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to Kuldiep Singh who is a 1986 batch officer from the West Bengal cadre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kuldiep Singh (West Bengal) – given an additional charge as DG of CRPF
- HQs of CRPF – New Delhi | DG – Kuldiep Singh

161. On March 5, Drug major Glenmark Pharma has signed cricketer Rohit Sharma as Brand Ambassador for its product Candid Powder. Sharma will be the official face of the brand as part of its 360 degree communication. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohit Sharma – appointed as Brand Ambassador by Glenmark Pharma for its product 'Candid Powder'
- HQs of Glenmark Pharmaceuticals – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Glenn Mario Saldanha

162. On March 5, 73rd EXCOM and 22nd General Assembly Meeting of the APRACA were held in New Delhi. NABARD Chairman G. R. Chintala has taken over the Chairmanship of the Asia Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA). Chintala has succeeded Bank of Ceylon CEO DPK Gunasekera. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G. R. Chintala – took over the Chairman of the Asia Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA)
- HQs of APRACA – Manila, Philippines | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala



163. On March 5, Private sector lender Kotak Mahindra Bank has appointed agricultural economist Ashok Gulati as Additional Independent Director on its board for 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashok Gulati – appointed as Additional Independent Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak

164. On March 6, Indian-American financial services industry veteran Naureen Hassan has been appointed as the first Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naureen Hassan – appointed as the 1st Vice President & COO of Federal Reserve Bank of New York
- HQs of Federal Reserve Bank of New York – New York | President – John C. Williams

Amount & Agreements

165. March 4, India has pledged ₹24.6 Cr (\$2.11 million) for reconstruction of 3 heritage sites in central Nepal that were destroyed during the devastating April 2015 earthquake which saw the death of over 9,000 people. The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) will provide technical assistance for the restoration of Jestha Varna Mahavihara. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – pledged ₹24.6 Cr (\$2.11 million) for reconstruction of 3 heritage sites in Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

166. On March 4, India has extended a grant of Nepali Rs 44.17 million to Nepal to build a new building for Naharpur Secondary School at Butwal-11 in Rupandehi district under the Nepal-Bharat Maitri Development Partnership as part of India's High Impact Community Development Project scheme programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India extended a grant of NRs 44.17 million to Nepal – to build a new building for Naharpur Secondary School
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

167. On March 2, PM Narendra Modi has identified more than 574 port projects at a cost of \$82 billion or ₹6 lakh Cr for implementation during 2015 to 2035 under the Sagarmala Project. The Ministry of Port Shipping and Waterways has created a list of 400 investable projects. These projects have an investment potential of \$31 billion or ₹2.25 lakh Cr. It is also aimed to operationalise 23 waterways by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to invest \$82 billion or ₹6 lakh Cr in 574 port projects by 2035 – under Sagarmala Project
- Ministry of Port Shipping and Waterways – created a list of 400 investable projects
- 23 waterways to be operationalized – by 2030



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

168. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has published the “Initial NDC Synthesis Report”, showing nations must redouble efforts and submit stronger, more ambitious national climate action plans in 2021 if they’re to achieve the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global temperature rise by 2°C ideally 1.5°C by the end of the century. 2021 is a ‘make or break year’ to confront the global climate emergency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNFCCC – published the “Initial NDC Synthesis Report” – that has set 2021 is a ‘make or break year’
- HQs of UNFCCC – Bonn, Germany | Executive Secretary – Patricia Espinosa

169. As on March 3, Closure of 1.5 million schools due to coronavirus pandemic and the resultant lockdowns in 2020 impacted 247 million children enrolled in elementary and secondary schools in India, according to a UNICEF report. Globally, schools for more than 168 million children have been completely closed for almost a full year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Closure of 1.5 million schools due to coronavirus pandemic impacted 247 million children in Indian schools
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, USA | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore | Established in – 1946

170. As on March 4, According to the report titled “Freedom in the World 2021 - Democracy under Siege” released by US based Freedom House, India has a score of 67 out of 100. India has downgraded from ‘free’ to ‘partly free’ in democracy report. India’s ranking has also fallen to 88 from 83 out of 211 countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Freedom in the World 2021 - Democracy under Siege” report – released by Freedom House (US)
- India’s score – 67 | India’s rank – 88 | India’s status – ‘Partly Free’

171. As on March 4, An estimated 931 million tonnes of food were wasted globally in 2019, enough to circle the Earth seven times, according to a report titled “Food Waste Index Report 2021” released by the UNEP & Waste & Resources Action Programme. 17% of the food produced globally each year is wasted. The report states that household food waste in India is about 68.7 million tonnes a year or 50 kg per capita per year. While, globally 74 Kg per capita of food is wasted each year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Food Waste Index Report 2021” – released by UNEP
- 17% of the food produced globally each year is wasted
- An estimated 931 million tonnes of food were wasted globally in 2019
- Food waste in India – 50 kg per capita or 68.7 million tonnes a year | Food waste Globally – 74 Kg per capita
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen



172. On March 4, Hardeep Singh Puri has released the final rankings of Ease of Living Index (EoLI) 2020 and the Municipal Performance Index (MPI) 2020. Bengaluru has emerged as the top performer in the Million+ category under Ease of Living Index 2020, followed by Pune, Ahmedabad. In the Less than Million category, Shimla was ranked the highest in ease of living. In the Million+ category under the Municipal Performance Index (MPI) 2020, Indore has emerged as the highest ranked municipality, followed by Surat and Bhopal. In the Less than Million category, New Delhi Municipal Council has emerged as the leader. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA – released final rankings of Ease of Living Index (EoLI) & Municipal Performance Index (MPI) for 2020
- EoLI (Million+ category): 1st – Bengaluru, 2nd – Pune, 3rd – Ahmedabad
- EoLI (Less than Million category): 1st – Shimla, 2nd – Bhubaneswar, 3rd – Silvassa
- MPI (Million+ category): 1st – Indore, 2nd – Surat, 3rd – Bhopal
- MPI (Less than Million category): 1st – New Delhi, 2nd – Tirupati, 3rd – Gandhinagar

173. On March 4, According to the 2nd edition of NCAER Land Record and Services Index (N-LRSI) 2021, 32 States and UTs have shown an improvement in their effort to digitize land records. Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the top performer for the second year in a row, followed by West Bengal, Odisha, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd edition of “NCAER Land Record & Services Index (N-LRSI) 2021”
- 1st – Madhya Pradesh | 2nd – West Bengal | 3rd – Odisha | 4th – Maharashtra | 5th – Tamil Nadu

174. On March 4, India has ranked 3rd in the world for women working in senior management positions, according to the “Women in Business 2021” report by Grant Thornton. The percentage of women in senior management for India stood at 39%, against the global average of 31%. As much as 47% of mid-market businesses in India now have women chief executive officers (CEOs) compared with 26% globally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Women in Business 2021” report – by Grant Thornton (US)
- India ranked 3rd in the world for women working in senior management (percentage of women - 39%)

175. On March 2, LinkedIn has released the “Opportunity Index 2021” report which states that 85% working women in India believe they missed out on a raise and promotion because of their gender. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Opportunity Index 2021” report – released by LinkedIn
- 85% working women in India believe they missed out on a raise and promotion because of their gender
- HQs of LinkedIn – California, USA | CEO – Ryan Roslansky



176. On March 5, According to a report prepared by the economists of Bank of America (BofA), Gender inequality has cost the world \$70 trillion since 1990. It will take 257 years to close the gap at the current rate. The report also notes that full gender equality globally can increase the world GDP by up to \$28 trillion by 2025 and the loss of human capital wealth due to gender inequality alone is estimated at \$160.2 trillion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gender inequality has cost the world \$70 trillion since 1990
- According to report: Full Gender Equality can increase the world GDP by up to \$28 trillion by 2025
- HQs of BofA – North Carolina, US | CEO – Brian Moynihan

Acquisitions & Mergers

177. On March 3, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zones (APSEZ) Ltd, will acquire the 31.5% stake held by Windy Lakeside Investment Ltd in Gangavaram Port Ltd (GPL) for Rs 1,954 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APSEZ – to acquire the 31.5% stake of Windy Lakeside Investment Ltd in “Gangavaram Port Ltd”
- HQs of APSEZ – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani
- Gangavaram Port – located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

178. On March 5, Indian Bank has decided to divest 38.26% stake in joint venture entity ASREC (India) Ltd as part of asset monetisation exercise. The company was granted a certificate of registration by the RBI in October 2004 to carry out activities under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank – to divest 38.26% stake in joint venture entity ASREC (India) Ltd
- ASREC (India) Ltd – granted a certificate of registration by the RBI in October 2004 – under SARFAESI Act 2002
- HQs of ASREC (India) Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – V. K. Shunglu
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chundururu

179. On March 4, Wipro Ltd has agreed to acquire British consulting firm Capco for \$1.45 billion. Capco has a team of more than 5,000 business and technology consultants across 30 locations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wipro – agreed to acquire Capco for \$1.45 billion
- HQs of Wipro – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Thierry Delaporte
- HQs of Capco – Flemish Brabant, Belgium | CEO – Lance Levy



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

180. On March 3, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given ex-post facto approval to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and France on renewable energy cooperation. This MoU will help in attaining the ambitious target of 450 GW of installed Renewable Energy capacity by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet – approved an MoU between India & France on Renewable Energy Cooperation
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

181. On March 3, The government has approved a pact between India and Fiji for co-operation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors. The MoU also provides for establishment of Indo-Fiji Working Group for dealing phytosanitary issues and any other form of cooperation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

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

182. On March 5, Odisha Government has signed an MoU with ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel (AMNS) India for a 12 million ton integrated steel plant in Kendrapara district with an investment of Rs 50,000 Cr. The company had won two iron ore mines - Thakurani and Sagasahi in Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha + ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel = an MoU to set up 12 million ton steel plant in Kendrapara (worth Rs 50,000 Cr)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

183. On March 5, Fourth Partner Energy has entered into a partnership with Indonesia's Indika Energy to offer a wide range of solutions and accelerate renewable energy transition by setting up a solar powered company "Empat Mitra Indika Tenaga Surya (EMITS)" in Indonesia. Indika Energy will hold 51% and Fourth Partner Energy 49% stake in EMITS. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fourth Partner Energy + Indika Energy = partnership to set up a solar powered company "EMITS" – in Indonesia
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo
- HQs of Fourth Partner Energy – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – Zubin Irani
- HQs of Indika Energy – Jakarta, Indonesia | President Commissioner – Agus Lasmono



184. As on March 4, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog partners with MathWorks-the developer of mathematical computing software for scientists and engineers to strengthen the Deep-tech startup ecosystem of India. Under this partnership, startups supported by AIM, will get access to steps of the art MathWorks tools including MATLAB and Simulink. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIM (NITI Aayog) + MathWorks = partnership to strengthen the Deep-tech startup ecosystem of India
- HQs of MathWorks – Massachusetts, US | CEO – Jack Little
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Ramanan Ramanathan)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

185. On March 6, IIT Jammu has entered into an MoU with the Army's Northern Command providing innovative solutions through exhaustive research and development in Jammu and Kashmir. This collaboration will encourage innovations from the IIT community that can help the Indian Army on ground. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Jammu + Army's Northern Command = an MoU to provide innovative solutions through R&D
- HQs of Northern Command – Udhampur, J & K | Present Commander – Lieu. Gen. Yogesh Kumar Joshi

186. On March 2, As part of the Maritime India Summit 2021 organised by Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Cochin Port Trust has signed 3 MoUs with stakeholders for developing a Free Trade Warehousing Zone (FTWZ), a Cryogenic Warehouse and an Aviation Fuel Terminal. The Maritime India Summit - 2021 organised by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways & was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cochin Port Trust (Kerala) – signed 3 MoUs with stakeholders for various projects
- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 2nd edition of “Maritime India Summit - 2021”

Books & Authors

187. According to a new book titled “Artificial Intelligence and The Future of Power: 5 Battlegrounds” by researcher-author Rajiv Malhotra, India currently has a disappointing level of artificial intelligence (AI) development and it needs to embark on a rapid program to catch up. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Artificial Intelligence And The Future Of Power: 5 Battlegrounds” book – Rajiv Malhotra



188. As on March 2, Dr. Deepak Ravindran is set to launch his book “The Pain-Free Mindset” (published by Vermilion) shortly. In his book ‘The Pain-Free Mindset’, Dr. Deepak Ravindran says pain is not a sign of danger but an evolutionary mechanism of protection. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Pain-Free Mindset” book – authored by Deepak Ravindran
- The book is published by – Vermilion

189. The book titled “Dynasty to Democracy: The Untold Story of Smriti Irani's Triumph” - an English translation of journalist-author Anant Vijay's book “Amethi Sangram: Aitihāsik Jeet Ankahi Dastan” will be released on March 15 by publishing house Westland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Dynasty to Democracy: The Untold Story of Smriti Irani's Triumph” book – authored by Anant Vijay

190. The book, titled “The Frontier Gandhi: My Life and Struggle”, is translated by former Pakistani civil servant and author Imitiaz Ahmad Sahibzada. First published in Pashto in 1983, the autobiography of freedom fighter Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, fondly known as Bacha Khan or Badshah Khan, is now published in English by publishing house Roli Books. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Frontier Gandhi: My Life and Struggle” book – authored by Imitiaz Ahmad Sahibzada
- An autobiography of – freedom fighter Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan
- Translated in English by – Imitiaz Ahmad Sahibzada

Obituaries

191. On March 2, Reggae icon Bunny Wailer has passed away. He was 73. He co-founded The Wailers with Bob Marley in the 1960s and helped make the catchy Jamaican beat a global phenomenon. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bunny Wailer ([Jamaica](#)) – Singer & Songwriter – passed away
- [Jamaica](#) – [Kingston](#) – [Jamaican dollar](#)

192. On March 5, Muthoot Group Chairman M. G. George has passed away after a fall in his fourth floor residence in South East Delhi's Amar Colony area. He was 71 years old and was listed as the 26th richest man in India by Forbes in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. G. George – Indian Entrepreneur & Businessman – passed away (Chairman of Muthoot Group)
- He was listed as the 26th richest man in India by Forbes in 2020
- [HQs of The Muthoot Group](#) – [Kochi, Kerala](#)



193. Nikolai Snesev, a coach who virtually changed the distance running scene in India, has passed away on March 5. He was 72. He had landed in India a few days ago to train 3000m steeple chaser Avinash Sable. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nikolai Snesev ([Belarus](#)) – Middle & long distance Coach – passed away
- [Belarus – Minsk – Ruble | PM – Siarhiej Rumas](#)

194. On March 6, Veteran Indian Athlete Ishar Singh Deol has passed away at the age of 91. He is a recipient of the “Dhyan Chand National Sports Award” in 2009 for his lifelong contribution towards sports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ishar Singh Deol – Indian Athlete (Shot putter) – passed away
- He is a recipient of the “Dhyan Chand National Sports Award” in 2009

Person in News

195. On March 2, Indian captain Virat Kohli has recorded another century as he became the first cricketer in the world to have 100 million followers on social media platform Instagram. The 32-year-old Kohli is also the first person in the Asia-Pacific region to achieve the feat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – became the 1st cricketer in the world to have 100 million followers on Instagram
- [HQs of Instagram – California, USA | CEO – Kevin Systrom](#)

196. On March 8, Tashnuva Anan Shishir, a transgender has started her journey as a News Anchor in Bangladesh on International Women’s Day. She went live for a Bengali channel, Boishakhi News. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tashnuva Anan Shishir – a transgender has started her journey as a News Anchor in Bangladesh
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid](#)

Science & Technology

197. On March 3, PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the “Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Institute of Medical Sciences and Research” at IIT Kharagpur and has also addressed the 66th Convocation of IIT Kharagpur. The MBBS programme is expected to start from the academic year 2021-22 in addition to postgraduate and doctoral programmes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi inaugurated “Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Institute of Medical Sciences & Research” – at IIT Kharagpur
- PM Modi also addressed the 66th Convocation of – IIT Kharagpur



198. On March 2, Scientists of ICAR-National Rice Research Institute (NRRI), Cuttack, have developed an Alternate Energy Light Trap (AELT) device for checking pests in agricultural fields and got a patent for the invention. The automated device was invented by Dr. Shyamaranjan Das Mohapatra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Shyamaranjan Das Mohapatra (ICAR-NRRI) – developed an Alternate Energy Light Trap (AELT) device
- Location of NRRI – Cuttack, Odisha

199. On March 5, The DRDO has successfully carried out a flight demonstration based on Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology from Integrated Test Range (ITR) Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. Separately, the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) has carried out keel laying for the 3rd stealth frigate for the Navy under 'Project-17A'. The ₹19,293 Cr contract for three stealth frigates under P-17A was the largest ever order to GRSE from the Defence Ministry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – test fired flight demonstration based on Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology – from Chandipur, Odisha
- GRSE – carried out keel laying for the 3rd stealth frigate for the Navy under 'Project-17A'
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958
- HQs of GRSE – Kolkata, India | CMD – Rear Admiral Vipin Kumar Saxena



200. On March 3, The Central Government has amended “Insurance Ombudsman Rules - 2017” under the section 24 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999 bringing insurance brokers within their ambit and also allowed policyholders to file online complaints. The ombudsman mechanism was administered by the Executive Council of Insurers, which has been renamed as the Council for Insurance Ombudsmen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Government – amended “Insurance Ombudsman Rules - 2017” under Section 24 of the IRDA Act, 1999
- Executive Council of Insurers – renamed as the ‘Council for Insurance Ombudsmen’
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur





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