

Friends!

We used **TESTZONE** and cracked Bank Exams

बैंक परीक्षाओ के लिए निश्चित रूप से
सर्वश्रेष्ठ मॉक टेस्ट सीरीज



Karishma Pradhan
SBI Clerk 2021



Sai Kiranmai
IBPS PO 2021



Mayank Jain
IBPS Clerk 2021



Aarvi Pareek
IBPS PO 2021



Manjali Sahu
RRB Clerk 2021



Abhishek Sinha
IBPS Clerk 2021



Preeti Kumari
IBPS PO



Sazid Laskar
RRB Clerk 2021



Rahul Raj
IBPS PO 2021



Anjali Mangal
IBPS Clerk 2021



Jyoti Tanwani
SBI Clerk 2021



Manisha Arora
SBI Clerk 2021



Smartkeeda
The Question Bank

It's **Your Turn** Now
Take A **FREE** Mock Test

Warning: Smartkeeda possesses all copyrights on its content. This doesn't allow anyone to use its content for commercial purposes. If any infringement is found, legal action will be taken against the individual or entity. If you want to use the content for commercial purposes, kindly write to us at admin@smartkeeda.com.



SCAN TO
DOWNLOAD APP

Smartkeeda प्रस्तुत करता है

भारत का पहला

EGS

Education-Gaming-Social-Platform



Play Quizzes in

QUANT | REASONING | ENGLISH | GS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | LAW

Useful for Exams

- BANK & INSURANCE
- SSC & RAILWAYS
- TEACHING EXAMS
- LAW EXAMS
- UPSC
- DEFENCE EXAMS
- STATE EXAMS
- CUET

इस खेल में कोई वित्तीय जोखिम नहीं है और इसकी आदत लग जाए तो अच्छा है।

www.smartkeeda.com | testzone.smartkeeda.com

SBI | RBI | IBPS | RRB | SSC | NIACL | EPFO | UGC NET | LIC | Railways | CLAT | RJS



Join us

Testzone presents
Full-Length Current Affairs Mock
Test Series Month-wise

March
MockDrill
PDF No. 13
(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 20th April 2022

[Attempt Test No. 13 Here!](#)



An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of March 2022 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 2022 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 | 6 |
| International Affairs | 7 |
| Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs | 8 |
| Defence Affairs | 10 |
| Sports & Games | 11 |
| Arts & Cultural Affairs | 11 |
| Science & Technology | 11 |
| Appointments & Resignations | 12 |
| Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes | 13 |
| Important Days & Dates | 14 |
| Meetings, Conferences & Summits | 15 |
| Ranks, Reports & Surveys | 15 |
| Acquisitions & Mergers | 16 |
| MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships | 16 |

 **Smartkeeda**
The Question Bank



National & States Affairs

601. “Modi Story”, a volunteer-driven initiative to uncover the life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that will include anecdotes of his life as told by various personalities from different walks of life, was launched. The “Modi Story” web portal was inaugurated by the granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi, Sumitra Gandhi Kulkarni. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sumitra Gandhi Kulkarni (granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi) – inaugurated “Modi Story” web portal

602. On March 25, National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) declared Real estate developer Supertech Ltd as bankrupt. A two-member NCLT bench comprises P. S. N. Prasad and Rahul Bhatnagar. Acting on a petition filed by the Union Bank of India for non-payment of about ₹432 Cr worth dues, the bankruptcy court ordered the initiation of insolvency proceedings against real estate firm Supertech Ltd., one of the companies of Supertech group. The tribunal admits a petition and initiates CIRP on the corporate debtor with immediate effect. CIRP refers to Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP). NCLT was created on the recommendations of Eradi Committee in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCLT declared Real estate developer Supertech Ltd as bankrupt for non-payment of about ₹432 Cr worth dues
- [President of the NCLT – Ramalingam Sudhakar](#) | [Created in 2016 – by Eradi Committee](#)

603. On March 27, Union Minister Anurag Thakur launched a Skill India International Project namely “TEJAS” (Training for Emirates Jobs And Skills) at Dubai Expo to train overseas Indians. The project is aimed at skilling, certification and overseas employment of Indians. Tejas aims at creating a 10,000 strong Indian workforce in UAE during the initial phase. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anurag Thakur – launched a Skill India International Project namely “TEJAS” at Dubai Expo to train overseas Indians
- TEJAS – Training for Emirates Jobs And Skills

604. On March 27, with the first pour of concrete for a 700 MW atomic power plant in Karnataka’s Kaiga, India is set to start construction of 10 ‘fleet mode’ nuclear reactors from 2023. The first pour of concrete (FPC) signals the beginning of construction of nuclear power reactors from the pre-project stage. The Centre had approved the construction of 10 indigenously developed pressurised heavy water reactors (PHWR) of 700 MW each in June 2017. The 10 PHWRs will be built at a cost of ₹1.05 lakh Cr. Currently, India operates 22 reactors with a total capacity of 6780 MW in operation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- First pour of concrete for a 700 MW atomic power plant – in Kaiga, Karnataka
- Construction of 10 indigenously developed PHWR of 700 MW each was approved in June 2017 (cost – ₹1.05 lakh Cr)
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore](#) | [CM – Basavaraj Bommai](#) | [Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot](#)

605. On March 29, Meghalaya’s Living Root Bridges were included in the UNESCO world heritage site tentative list. Locally known as “Jingkieng Jri”, there are around 100 known living root bridges found in 72 villages in the East Khasi Hills district and West Jaintia Hills district of the mountainous state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Living Root Bridges (Meghalaya) – included in the UNESCO world heritage site tentative list
- The bridges are locally known as – “Jingkieng Jri”
- [Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong](#) | [CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma](#) | [Governor – Satya Pal Malik](#)



606. On March 30, Maharashtra government decided to offer personal loans of up to ₹50,000 to prisoners against their earnings from work done in jail. It will be a first of its kind initiative in India & it aims to improve the living standard of the families of the inmates. Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank will give loans under the scheme up to ₹50,000 at an interest rate of 7%. The scheme will be implemented on a pilot basis at Yerawada Central Jail, Pune. Such type of loan is called “khavti” loan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – to offer personal loans of up to ₹50,000 to prisoners (first of its kind initiative in India)
- Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank will give loans under the scheme at an interest rate of 7%
- Such type of loan is called “khavti” loan
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

607. In March 2022, Uttarakhand Police has set up “Defense Forces Help Desk” for the security and quick redressal of complaints of the families of the army and paramilitary forces deployed away from their homes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand Police – set up “Defense Forces Help Desk”
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

International Affairs

608. In March 2022, A UK consortium led by United Traffic Management (UTM) software provider ‘Altitude Angel’ plans to build the world’s largest and longest ‘Drone Superhighway’ network. Known as “Project Skyway”, the blueprint for a 165 mile (265km) drone superhighway has been submitted by the consortium. ‘Project Skyway’ aims to enable businesses to develop and grow through commercialisation of innovative drone-based products, processes and service. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World’s largest & longest ‘Drone Superhighway’ network called “Project Skyway” – to be built in England
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

609. On March 26, India handed over a coastal radar system to chief of the Maldives National Defence Force, Maj Gen Abdulla Shamaal during external affairs minister S. Jaishankar’s two-day visit to Maldives. The radar system is an example of India’s “SAGAR” (Security and Growth for All in the Region) and “Neighbourhood First” policies. The system, which comprises 10 radar stations, was built with an Indian grant of \$15.8 million. Maldives President Ibrahim Solih and Jaishankar jointly inaugurated the National College of Policing and Law Enforcement in Addu city, one of the largest projects implemented in the Maldives with an Indian grant. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – handed over a Coastal Radar System to Maldives during S. Jaishankar’s two-day visit
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

610. On March 29, French ambassador to India, Emmanuel Lenain, announced the 4th edition of the India-France cultural connect festival, “Bonjour India”. It will be held across multiple cities in India in collaboration with the cultural outreach arm Alliance Francaise and its network of consulates as well several French and Indian corporate sponsors. This year’s edition will celebrate 75 years since India and France established diplomatic relations. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 4th 'Bonjour India 2022' (India-France cultural festival) – marks 75 years of diplomatic relations between India & France
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

611. On March 28, India and the UAE will set up a Technical Council on Investment, Trade Promotion and Facilitation as part of a free trade agreement called “CEPA” signed between the two countries in February to boost economic ties. India and the UAE on February 18 had signed the CEPA with a view to boosting bilateral trade to \$100 billion over 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + UAE = to set up a “Technical Council on Investment, Trade Promotion & Facilitation” as part of “CEPA”
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

612. On March 30, Equitas Small Finance Bank launched Equitas Bank CSK Debit Card in association with the IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings owned by cement manufacturer The India Cements Ltd. Equitas partnered with CSK and the bank's logo is imprinted on the back of the helmet worn by the CSK players. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Equitas SFB + CSK = launched “Equitas Bank CSK Debit Card”
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan

613. On March 28, DBS Bank India partnered with EaseMyTrip to launch an environment-friendly international debit card made using 99% recycled polyvinyl chloride (PVC) material. Through this collaboration, EaseMyTrip aims to promote sustainability and incentivise sustainable tourism by the numerous rewards offered through the Debit Card for people opting for eco-friendly and sustainable booking options through the EaseMyTrip website and mobile app. In 2020, DBS introduced the “Towards Zero Food Waste” initiative as part of a global sustainability practice to encourage a shift in behaviours and mindsets to reduce food waste. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DBS Bank India + EaseMyTrip = launched an environment-friendly international debit card made using 99% recycled PVC
- HQs of EaseMyTrip – New Delhi | CEO – Nishant Pitti
- HQs of DBS Bank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Surojit Shome

614. The total liabilities of the government of India rose by 2.15% to ₹128.41 lakh Cr during Q3 of FY22, according to the Union Finance Ministry's quarterly report on Public Debt Management. As per the report, public debt accounted for 91.60% of total outstanding liabilities at the end of December 2021. In the same period between October and December 2021, the central government issued dated securities worth ₹2.88 lakh Cr. During Q3 of FY22, repayments stood at ₹75,300 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Finance Ministry's quarterly report on Public Debt Management:
- Total liabilities of the government of India during Q3 of FY22 – ₹128.41 lakh Cr (increase of 2.15%)
- Total repayments during Q3 of FY22 – ₹75,300 Cr



615. On March 30, IDBI Bank announced to sell its balance 25% stake in Ageas Federal Life Insurance Company (AFLI) to Ageas Insurance International NV. In December 2020, IDBI Bank had sold a 23% stake in an insurance joint venture to Ageas Insurance International JV for Rs 507 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IDBI Bank – to sell its balance 25% stake in Ageas Federal Life Insurance to Ageas Insurance International NV
- HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD CEO – Rakesh Sharma | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Established in – 1964

616. On March 29, HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company launched an industry-first digital customer engagement and rewards program called “VAULT program”. The Company has taken advantage of the Regulatory Sandbox by IRDAI, in the form of VAULT, an experiment to test a new idea. Under this program, the insurer will incentivize its Optima Restore health insurance customers by way of reward points. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO – launched an industry-first digital customer engagement & rewards program called “VAULT program”
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar

617. On March 29, Central Bank of India selected Kwik.ID to implement digital know your customer (KYC), video KYC and eKYC for its network across India. This partnership will support the bank in driving its digital transformation agenda and supporting digital finance initiatives championed by the government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Bank of India – selected Kwik.ID to implement digital KYC, video KYC & eKYC for its network across India
- HQs of CBoI – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Matam Venkata Rao | Tagline – “Central to You Since 1911”

618. On March 28, Shaktikanta Das, Governor of RBI, laid foundation stone for the establishment of a Learning and Development Centre (LDC) of the Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of RBI, in Mysuru, Karnataka. LDC is being established with active collaboration from Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shaktikanta Das – laid foundation stone to establish a Learning & Development Centre (LDC) of BRBNMPL in Mysuru
- HQs of BRBNMPL – Bengaluru, Karnataka

619. On March 30, Google Pay in collaboration with Pine Labs announced the launch of Tap to Pay for UPI to bring the seamless convenience of Tap to Pay to UPI. So far, Tap to Pay was only available for cards. To complete a payment, users will need to tap their phone on the POS terminal and authenticate the payment from their phone, using their UPI PIN. The functionality will be available to any UPI user who wants to use their NFC-enabled Android smartphone to transact using any Pine Labs Android POS terminal across India. This was piloted with Reliance Retail and will now be available at other large merchants such as Future Retail and Starbucks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google Pay + Pine Labs = launched ‘Tap to Pay for UPI’
- Payment can be done from user’s NFC-enabled Android smartphone using the UPI PIN
- HQs of Pine Labs – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – B. Amrish Rao
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998



Defence Affairs

620. On March 28, Indian Air Force collaborated with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and introduced a 'Fleet Card - Fuel on Move' for its varied fleet of vehicles. HQ Western Air Command was earmarked as lead agency in the implementation and execution of this innovative concept of "Fuel on Move". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Air Force + IOCL = introduced 'Fleet Card - Fuel on Move' for IAF's varied fleet of vehicles
- HQ Western Air Command – lead agency in the implementation and execution of "Fuel on Move"
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959

621. On March 29, Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 316, the Indian Navy's second P-8I aircraft squadron, was commissioned into the service at INS Hansa Naval air base in Goa in the presence of Chief of Naval Staff Admiral R. Hari Kumar. INAS 316 has been christened 'Condors'. INAS 316 will operate the 'Boeing P-8I', a multi-role Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance Anti-Submarine Warfare (LRMR ASW) aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'INAS 316' (christened 'Condors') – commissioned into the service at INS Hansa Naval air base in Goa
- INAS 316 will operate the 'Boeing P-8I'

622. On March 30, Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed two contracts worth ₹3,102 Cr with the Bengaluru and Hyderabad units of the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL). The MoD signed the contract with the BEL-Bengaluru for supply of Advanced Electronic Warfare (EW) suite for Fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force. The MoD signed the contract with the BEL-Hyderabad for Instrumented Electronic Warfare Range (IEWR) for the Indian Air Force. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoD + BEL-Bengaluru = for supply of Advanced Electronic Warfare (EW) suite for Fighter aircraft of the IAF
- MoD + BEL-Hyderabad = for supply of Instrumented Electronic Warfare Range (IEWR) for the IAF
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh

623. On March 28, Indian Army inducted the "Sako .338 TRG-42" sniper rifles from Finland for soldiers deployed along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir. The Sako rifles have replaced the .338 Lapua Magnum Scorpio TGT by Beretta, and the .50 Calibre M95 by Barrett, which were inducted in the Indian army in 2019 and 2020. These rifles were made in Italy and America. While the Sako TRG-42 sniper rifle is a bolt-action sniper rifle designed and developed by the Finnish gun maker SAKO. It has an effective range of 1,500 metres. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army inducted the "Sako .338 TRG-42" sniper rifles from Finland for soldiers deployed along LoC in J&K
- Range of the rifle – 1,500 metres (1.5 km) | developed by – SAKO
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande



Sports & Games

624. India emerged as Champion of the 3rd edition of “2022 SAFF U-18 Women’s Championships” defeating Bangladesh. The valuable player of the tournament and the highest goal scorer was Lynda Kom who scored five goals in total. Indian Women’s Team Head Coach is Thomas Dennerby. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – won the 3rd edition of “2022 SAFF U-18 Women’s Championships” (defeating - Bangladesh)
- Indian Women’s Team Head Coach – Thomas Dennerby

625. In March 2022, the 20-year-old Iga Swiatek became Poland’s first World No. 1 in tennis history. Swiatek became the 28th woman to reach the WTA summit and secured the WTA Tour’s No. 1 ranking. She’s the youngest player to make her No.1 debut since Caroline Wozniacki, who was 216 days younger, in 2010. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Iga Swiatek ([Poland - Tennis](#)) – secured the WTA Tour’s No. 1 ranking in 2022 (first from Poland)
- [Poland – Warsaw – Polish Zloty](#) | [President – Andrzej Sebastin Duda](#)

Arts & Cultural Affairs

626. The 3-day “Ishan Manthan” cultural festival was organised in New Delhi by the central government. The festival was aimed at showcasing and promoting the cultural heritage of the Northeast Indian states to the world. Union Culture Minister G. Kishen Reddy inaugurated the festival. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3-day “Ishan Manthan” cultural festival – organised in New Delhi to promote cultural heritage of North-Eastern India

Science & Technology

627. On March 27, Jagdeep Dhankhar, Governor of West Bengal inaugurated “PARAM Shakti”, a Petascale Supercomputer, at IIT Kharagpur. This Supercomputer has been dedicated to the nation under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). NSM is a joint initiative of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Department of Science and Technology (DST). An MoU was signed between IIT Kharagpur and Centre for Development in Advanced Computing (CDAC) in March 2019 to establish this state-of-the art Supercomputing Facility with 17680 CPU cores along with 44 GPUs. IIT Kharagpur has also established the Centre for Computational and Data Science with a mandate to train the researchers in Supercomputer accelerated R&D. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jagdeep Dhankhar – inaugurated a Petascale Supercomputer namely “PARAM Shakti” at IIT Kharagpur
- ‘PARAM Shakti’ – established by IIT Kharagpur + CDAC
- [Director of IIT Kharagpur – Virendra Kumar Tewari](#)
- [HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra](#) | [Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni](#) (functions under MeitY)
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar](#)



628. In March 2022, Scientists have discovered microplastics in human blood for the first time. A study by researchers from Netherlands, published in the Environment International journal, examined blood samples from 22 anonymous, healthy volunteers and found microplastics in nearly 80% of them. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists from Netherlands discovered microplastics in human blood for the first time
- [Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro](#) | [PM – Mark Rutte](#)

629. In March 2022, An IIT Hyderabad developed portable, cost-effective, and IoT-enabled ventilator powered by lithium-ion batteries is now available for commercial use. The smart ventilator named “Jeevan Lite” was launched by Telangana and Puducherry Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Hyderabad – developed portable, cost-effective, and IoT-enabled ventilator named “Jeevan Lite”
- [Director of IIT Hyderabad – B. S. Murty](#)

Appointments & Resignations

630. On March 25, Incumbent Himanta Biswa Sarma was re-elected unopposed as the President of Badminton Association of India (BAI) for a second term of 4 years from 2022 to 2026. Sarma was elected as BAI chief for the first time in 2017. He is also a Badminton Asia vice president and a member of the Badminton World Federation Executive Council. Former junior national coach Sanjay Mishra will be the new General Secretary of BAI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himanta Biswa Sarma – re-elected unopposed as the President of Badminton Association of India (BAI) for 2nd term
- [HQs of BAI – New Delhi](#) | [President – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [General Secretary – Sanjay Mishra](#)

631. In March 2022, the board of Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) India has elected Shashi Sinha as the new Chairman. He will take over from Punit Goenka. A representative and board member of the Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI), Sinha has played a key role in the formation of BARC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shashi Sinha – elected as the new Chairman of Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) India
- [HQs of BARC India – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Shashi Sinha](#) | [CEO – Nakul Chopra](#)

632. On March 27, Malta’s Prime Minister Robert Abela from Malta’s governing Labour party has won the country's General Election. This was the first general election in Malta in which 16 and 17-year-olds were allowed to vote. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Robert Abela – elected as the Prime Minister of Malta
- [Malta – Valletta – Euro](#) | [PM – Robert Abela](#)

633. On March 24, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) extended the term of Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg by a year until September 30, 2023. Stoltenberg, former Norwegian prime minister, was named NATO Secretary-General in October 2014. His term was due to expire in September 2021. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Jens Stoltenberg (former PM of Norway) – got extension as Secretary-General of NATO until September 30, 2023
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries – 30
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Jonas Gahr Store

634. On March 26, Ritu Khanduri Bhushan, BJP MLA from Uttarakhand's Kotdwar assembly, became the first woman speaker of the state assembly. She became the speaker of the 5th Uttarakhand legislative assembly. Ritu is the daughter of former Uttarakhand chief minister and Union minister Major General (Retd) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ritu Khanduri Bhushan – became the first woman speaker of Uttarakhand's state assembly (constituency – Kotdwar)
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh

635. On March 25, Payments Council of India (PCI) re-elected Vishwas Patel as the chairman for another term. PCI is a payments ecosystem industry body and a part of the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI). Praveena Rai and MN Srinivasu have been appointed as co-chairs of PCI's seven committees. Srinivasu founded BillDesk twenty years ago along with Ajay Kaushal and Karthik Ganapathy. BillDesk recently got acquired by PayU. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vishwas Patel – re-elected as the chairman of Payments Council of India (PCI) for another term

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

636. On March 28, Olympic silver medallist weightlifter Mirabai Chanu won the "BBC Indian Sportswoman of The Year" award. In 2021, Chanu created history becoming the first Indian weightlifter to clinch a silver medal at the Summer Olympics. Young India opener Shafali Verma was awarded the "BBC Emerging Player" award. India's former weightlifter Karnam Malleswari was presented the "BBC Lifetime Achievement" award. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "BBC Indian Sportswoman of The Year" award – Mirabai Chanu
- "BBC Emerging Player" award – Shafali Verma
- "BBC Lifetime Achievement" award – Karnam Malleswari

637. On March 25, Costa Rican film 'Clara Sola', directed by Nathalie Alvarez Mesen, became winner at the 26th International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK), bagging the Golden Crow Pheasant (Suvarna Chakoram) for the 'Best Film' and the Silver Crow Pheasant (Rajata Chakoram) for the 'Best Debut Director'. Tamil film 'Pebbles' (Koozhangal), directed by P. S. Vinodraj, won the Audience Poll award for the Best Film at the festival. Argentinian film 'Camila Comes Out Tonight', directed by Ines Barrionuevo, won the Silver Crow Pheasant (Rajata Chakoram) for the Best Director. 'Pebbles' also won the Network for Promotion of Asian Cinema (NETPAC) award for the Best Asian Film. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 26th International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK):
 - 'Clara Sola' film – Golden Crow Pheasant for the 'Best Film' & Silver Crow Pheasant for the 'Best Debut Director'
 - 'Pebbles' (Koozhangal) film – Audience Poll award for the 'Best Film'
 - 'Camila Comes Out Tonight' film – Silver Crow Pheasant for the 'Best Director'
 - 'Pebbles' – NETPAC award for the 'Best Asian Film'

638. On March 28, President Ram Nath Kovind felicitated the winners of the 3rd National Water Awards at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The President also launched the “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign 2022” during the event. ‘Catch the Rain’ campaign will continue to be implemented this year till 30th November 2022. The first National Water Award was launched by the Jal Shakti Ministry in 2018. The Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti is giving 57 awards to States, Organizations, Individuals etc. in 11 different categories. Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have got the first, second and third prizes respectively in the Best State category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind – felicitated the winners of the 3rd National Water Awards in New Delhi
- The President also launched “Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign 2022”
- ‘Catch the Rain’ campaign will continue to be implemented – till 30th Nov 2022
- “3rd National Water Awards” under ‘Best State’ category: Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu (respectively)

639. On March 24, Army Chief Gen MM Naravane presented the ‘President’s Colours’ to two battalions of the Dogra Regiment at a ceremony in Faizabad in Uttar Pradesh. The battalions that received the prestigious ‘President’s Colours’ are 20 DOGRA and 21 DOGRA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MM Naravane presented the ‘President’s Colours’ to two battalions (20 DOGRA and 21 DOGRA) of the Dogra Regiment
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande



Important Days & Dates

640. The International Day of the Unborn Child is observed every year on March 25. It aims to take a moment in the view to celebrate the value of human life, dignity, and the developing child yet to be born. The day was first observed in 1993 in El Salvador. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 25 – International Day of the Unborn Child
- The day was first observed in 1993 in El Salvador

641. Every year on March 30, Rajasthan Day or Rajasthan’s Foundation Day is celebrated across the state to mark the formation of the state of Rajasthan. On March 30, 1949, Rajasthan, previously known as Rajputana, came into existence. On this day, the kingdoms of Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Jaisalmer were accessed together to form a state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 30 – Rajasthan Day or Rajasthan’s Foundation Day
- Rajasthan (previously known as Rajputana) – came into existence on March 30, 1949



Meetings, Conferences & Summits

642. On March 26, CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore (CSIR-NAL) participated in “Wings India 2022” and showcased its indigenous initiatives of civil aircrafts for flying training & commuter air connectivity. HANSA-NG Aircraft, designed and developed by CSIR-NAL, was displayed in the event. HANSA-NG is one of the most advanced two seat flying trainer aircraft powered by Rotax Digital Control Engine. Moreover, Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru won two major awards at the Wings India Awards 2022 - ‘Best Airport’ in the General Category and ‘Aviation Innovation’ Award. Cochin International Airport won the ‘Covid champion’ award while Mumbai’s Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport won the ‘Aviation Sustainability & Environment’ award at Wings India 2022. The 5th edition of Asia’s largest event on Civil Aviation, “Wings India 2022” was held at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad from March 24 to 27. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th edition of Asia’s largest event on Civil Aviation, “Wings India 2022” – held at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad
- “HANSA-NG Aircraft” designed & developed by CSIR-NAL – displayed in “Wings India 2022”
- Kempegowda International Airport – won ‘Best Airport’ Award & ‘Aviation Innovation’ Award
- Cochin International Airport – won ‘Covid Champion’ Award
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport – won ‘Aviation Sustainability & Environment’ Award

Ranks, Report & Surveys

643. On March 29, the 7th edition of its Celebrity Brand Valuation Study 2021 titled, “Digital Acceleration 2.0” was released by Duff & Phelps. The study provides a ranking of India’s most powerful celebrity brands based on brand values derived from their brand endorsement portfolios and relative social media presence. Virat Kohli retains the top position for the fifth consecutive year with a brand value of \$185.7 million. Ranveer Singh is at second position with a brand value of \$158.3 million. Akshay Kumar landed the third position this year with a brand value of \$139.6 million. Alia Bhatt was ranked 4th and MS Dhoni was ranked 5th on the list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Celebrity Brand Valuation Study 2021 titled, “Digital Acceleration 2.0,” – was released by Duff & Phelps
- 1st – Virat Kohli (\$185.7 million) | 2nd – Ranveer Singh (\$158.3 million) | 3rd – Akshay Kumar (\$139.6 million)

644. India reported a sharp 19% rise in tuberculosis cases in 2021 over the previous year, according to the “India TB Report 2022” released by the Union Health Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya. At the same time, there has been an increase in the mortality rate due to all forms of TB between 2019 and 2020 by 11% in India. As per “National TB Prevalence Survey in India 2019-2021”, the prevalence of all forms of TB for all ages in India was 312 per lakh population for the year 2021 and the highest prevalence for all forms of TB was 747 per lakh in Delhi and the lowest was 137 per lakh population in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya – released “India TB Report 2022”
- India reported a sharp 19% rise in tuberculosis cases in 2021
- highest prevalence for all forms of TB – Delhi (747 per lakh) | lowest – Gujarat (137 per lakh)



645. In March 2022, India has crossed a milestone of 50,000 open defecation-free (ODF) Plus villages. Among the top performing States are Telangana with 13,960 ODF Plus villages followed by Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Phase-II was launched in February 2020 with the aim to ensure that all villages in India can declare themselves as ODF Plus by the end of 2024. ODF Plus villages have been divided into three categories, Aspiring, Rising, and Model, to showcase their progress. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India crossed a milestone of 50,000 open defecation-free (ODF) Plus villages as on March 2022
- Top performing States: Telangana, Tamil Nadu & Madhya Pradesh (respectively)

Acquisitions & Mergers

646. On March 30, the central government announced to sell 1.5% stake in Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to raise over ₹3,000 Cr through an offer for sale (OFS) of 94,352,094 equity shares, including an equal number of shares in a Green Shoe Option. The floor price for the offer shall be Rs 159. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government announced to sell 1.5% stake in ONGC to raise over ₹3,000 Cr through OFS
- HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Alka Mittal (addi. charge)

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

647. On March 28, Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) for construction of eight Fast Patrol Vessels for Indian Coast Guard at a total project cost of Rs 473 Cr. These surface platforms will be indigenously designed, developed and manufactured by GSL under Buy (Indian-IDDM) Category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Defence + GSL = signed Rs 473 Cr contract for construction of 8 Fast Patrol Vessels for Indian Coast Guard
- HQs of Goa Shipyard – Vasco da Gama, Goa | CMD – Bharat Bhushan Nagpal
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

648. On March 27, Abu Dhabi-based LuLu Group International announced it will set up two shopping malls and a 100% export-oriented food processing unit in Tamil Nadu with the investment of Rs 3,500 Cr. Five other companies also signed MoUs with Tamil Nadu government with an investment of Rs 2,600 Cr, which could result in total investment of Rs 6,100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LuLu Group International (UAE) + Tamil Nadu = an MoU to implement 3 projects worth Rs 3,500 Cr in Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi



649. SpiceJet, Boeing and CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP) are working together to explore opportunities for the use of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in the Indian aviation industry. The coordination is part of their commitment to helping reduce carbon emissions to achieve environmental goals. SAF can reduce CO2 emissions by as much as 65% over the life-cycle of fuel. The CSIR-IIP is a research institute in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpiceJet + Boeing + CSIR-IIP = to explore opportunities for the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel in Indian aviation industry
- HQs of SpiceJet – Gurugram, Haryana | Chairman & MD – Ajay Singh
- HQs of Boeing – Chicago, US | CEO – Dave Calhoun | Founded in – 1916

650. On March 29, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Meghalaya counterpart Conrad K. Sangma, in the presence of Union home minister Amit Shah, signed an agreement to resolve the five-decade-old border dispute between the two northeastern states. It will settle the dispute in 6 of the 12 locations along the 884.9 km border. The dispute emerged in 1972 when Meghalaya was carved out of Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himanta Biswa Sarma + Conrad K. Sangma = signed an agreement to resolve 50-year old pending border dispute
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik





Smartkeeda

The Question Bank

Presents

Testzone

India's least priced Test Series Platform

All Banks Exams

2022-2023

12 Months Plan

@Just

Rs. **593**

To get 10% Off use code **FEST22**

- ✓ Brilliant Test Analysis
- ✓ Excellent Content
- ✓ Unmatched Explanation

Buy Now



www.smartkeeda.com | testzone.smartkeeda.com

SBI | RBI | IBPS | RRB | SSC | NIACL | EPFO | UGC NET | LIC | Railways | CLAT | RJS



Join us