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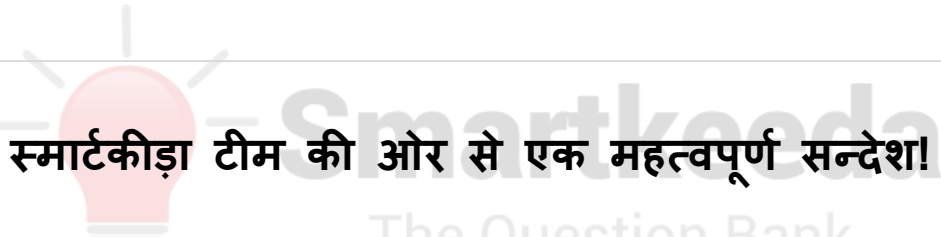
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of May 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if 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 मई 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

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

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

201. On May 7, The Supreme Court has constituted a 12-member National Task Force to streamline and ensure the effective and transparent allocation of liquid medical oxygen on a scientific, rational and equitable basis to States and Union Territories fighting COVID-19. A Bench of justice is led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SC constituted a 12-member National Task Force for transparent oxygen allocation
- A Bench of justice is led by – Justice D. Y. Chandrachud
- [Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana \(48th\)](#)

202. On May 7, Haryana has started “Ayurvedic Telemedicine” facility for Covid patients. Those interested in taking Ayurvedic Telemedicine in the State can call 1075 and consult Ayurvedic physicians. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – started “Ayurvedic Telemedicine” facility for Covid patients
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya](#)

203. On May 6, Due to shortage and complaints of overcharging by private ambulances, Haryana Police have temporarily pressed into service 440 sport utility vehicles (SUVs) for free transportation of Covid-19 patients. These vehicles will be called “COV-HOTS” (Covid-19 Hospital Transport Service). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana Police – deployed 440 SUVs as Ambulances for free transportation of Covid-19 patients
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya](#)

204. On May 8, The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has granted permission for emergency use of anti-COVID-19 therapeutic application of the drug 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG) developed by Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), a lab of the DRDO in collaboration with Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories (DRL), Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DCGI – approved anti-COVID drug “2-DG” for emergency use – developed by DRDO-INMAS + DRL ([Hyderabad](#))
- [The Drug Controller General of India \(DCGI\) – V G Somani](#)
- [Location of DRDO-INMAS – Timarpur, Delhi](#)

205. On May 8, Assam has launched a real time Digital Flood Reporting and Information Management System (FRIMS). The online system was developed jointly by Assam State Disaster Management Agency and UNICEF. Daily flood reporting between May 15 and October 15 has been made mandatory in Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – launched a real time Digital Flood Reporting and Information Management System (FRIMS)
- FRIMS is jointly developed by = Assam + UNICEF
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)
- [HQs of UNICEF – New York, USA | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore | Established in – 1946](#)



206. On May 7, Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has become the first airport in the world to have completed 1,000 movements of sustainable taxing of aircraft with TaxiBot. IGI is the only airport in the world which adopted this green taxiing solution in May 2019. TaxiBot is semi-robotic towbarless aircraft movement equipment developed by Israel Aerospace Industries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indira Gandhi International Airport ([Delhi](#)) – became the first in world to register 1,000 TaxiBot movements
- TaxiBots – developed by Israel Aerospace Industries

207. On May 7, Jharkhand has launched “Amrit Vahini” App for online booking of hospital beds. CM Hemant Soren has also launched ‘Chatboat’ through which one may also get all information related to coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jharkhand – launched “Amrit Vahini” App for online booking of hospital beds
- [Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu](#)

208. On May 6, The Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a special “Kharif Strategy” for implementation in the ensuing Kharif 2021 season with an aim to attain self-sufficiency in the production of pulses. The Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes (ATARIs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras will also be roped in for effective implementation and training to the farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agriculture Ministry – formulated “Kharif Strategy” for 2021 to attain self-sufficiency in the production of ‘Pulses’
- [Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – Narendra Singh Tomar \(Constituency – Morena, MP\)](#)

209. The ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified 48.32 sq km around the “Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary” (TCFS) as an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ). The draft proposal, which was sent to the ministry by the Maharashtra government in March, was published in an official gazette on April 30. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoEFCC notified 48.32 sq km around “Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary” ([Maharashtra](#)) as an Eco-Sensitive Zone
- [Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)

210. On May 10, A technical group on Social Stock Exchanges (SSEs), constituted by the SEBI, has recommended that political and religious organisations, trade organisations as well as corporate foundations should not be allowed to raise funds through SSEs. SEBI has set up this technical group in September under the chairmanship of Harsh Bhanwala, former chairman of NABARD. SSEs are engaged in at least one of the 15 broad eligible activities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A technical group on SSEs recommended not to allow “Political & Religious Org, Trade Org & Corporate Foundations” to raise funds through SSEs
- Chairman of a technical group on Social Stock Exchanges (SSEs) constituted by the SEBI – Harsh Bhanwala
- [HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992](#)



211. The Goa government has decided to give 'Ivermectin' drug to the people above 18 years in the state, irrespective of their Covid-19 symptoms. The government's decision to administer the anthelmintic drug to the entire population comes at a time its vaccination program for the 18-44 age group is yet to take off. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – to give 'Ivermectin' drug to the people above 18 years in the state
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

212. On May 11, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved Kyndryl Holdings and Grand Ocean Managed Infrastructure Services' proposal for the internal restructuring of IBM Corporation under the green channel route. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved internal restructuring of IBM under Green Channel Route
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of IBM – Armonk, New York, USA | CEO – Arvind Krishna
- HQs of IBM India – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD – Sandip Patel

213. On May 7, The ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has amended the guidelines for implementation of Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) scheme phase-II for setting up 12,000 MW Grid-connected Solar Projects with viability gap funding (VGF). According to the amended guidelines, power produced by the government producers could be used on payment of mutually agreed usage charges of not more than Rs 2.45 per unit. The maximum permissible VGF has been kept at Rs 0.55 Cr per MW. Only those PSUs/Government Organisations in which 50% stakes were owned by Central/ State Governments organizations are eligible to avail the benefits of the scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MNRE amended the guidelines for implementation of Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) scheme phase-II
- It is done to set up 12,000 MW Grid-connected Solar Projects with Viability Gap Funding (VGF)
- Traffic Charged on Power Distribution Companies capped to – Rs 2.45/unit
- The maximum permissible VGF – Rs 0.55 Cr per MW

214. On May 11, Maharashtra government has appointed 8-member committee led by Justice Dilip Bhosale to study Maratha Quota Judgement. Bhosale is the former Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court & a former Bombay High Court judge. The committee will submit its report on or before May 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – appointed 8-member committee led by Justice Dilip Bhosale to study "Maratha Quota Judgement"
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



215. On May 11, Haryana government will provide Rs 5,000 to the families below the poverty line (BPL) in the state as their livelihood has been affected during the COVID pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – to provide Rs 5,000 to the BPL families in the state during the COVID pandemic
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

216. On May 10, Puducherry has become 'Har Ghar Jal' UT by achieving the target of 100% piped water connection in rural areas under the Jal Jeevan Mission. With this, Puducherry has become the 4th State/UT after Goa, Telangana & Andaman and Nicobar Islands to provide tap water supply to every rural home under Jal Jeevan Mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Puducherry – 4th State/UT to achieve the target of 100% piped water connection in rural areas
- First three State/UT: Goa, Telangana & Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- Puducherry: CM – N. Rangasamy | Governor – Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge)

217. On May 10, The Uttarakhand Police has launched a drive called "Mission Hausla" to help people get oxygen, beds and plasma for COVID-19 patients. Besides this, the police are also helping the public in getting ration, ambulance, cremation of bodies as part of the mission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – launched a drive called "Mission Hausla" to help people get oxygen, beds & plasma
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

218. On May 10, Chhattisgarh has launched "CG Teeka" web portal to enable the disadvantaged section of its population to register for Covid-19 vaccination programme through help desks, to be set up at hundreds of locations across the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – launched "CG Teeka" web portal to ease the registration for Covid-19 vaccination programme
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

219. On May 12, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has approved registration to Pranurja Solution Ltd (led by PTC Ltd, BSE & ICICI Bank) to start India's 3rd Power Exchange. The other two power exchanges are Indian Energy Exchange and Power Exchange of India Ltd. PTC India and BSE Investments Ltd own 22.62% each in Pranurja Solutions while 9.04% is held by ICICI Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CERC – approved registration to Pranurja Solution Ltd to start India's 3rd Power Exchange
- Pranurja Solution Ltd – led by PTC Ltd, BSE & ICICI Bank
- HQs of CERC – New Delhi | Chairman – P. K. Pujari
- HQs of Pranurja Solution Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra



220. On May 10, SBI Cards and Payment Services (SBI Card) has raised Rs 455 Cr by issuing bonds. The bonds with a maturity date of May 10, 2024, will offer coupons at 5.70% per annum. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI Card – raised Rs 455 Cr by issuing bonds (maturity date of bonds – May 10, 2024)
- HQs of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Rama Mohan Rao Amara

221. On May 12, The Central government, in consultation with the RBI, has issued Sovereign Gold Bonds in 6 tranches between May and September 2021. The sovereign gold bond will provide an assured return of 2.50% per annum payable semi-annually on the nominal value. Maximum Purchase limit for an Individual is 4 Kgs for a financial year and the tenor of the bond will be for 8 years. The minimum permissible investment will be 1 gram of gold. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government – issued Sovereign Gold Bonds in 6 tranches between May and September 2021
- Points related to Sovereign Gold Bonds:
 - Assured return on bond – 2.50% per annum
 - Minimum Purchase limit – 1 gram of gold | Maximum Purchase limit – 4 Kg of gold
 - Tenor of the bond – 8 years
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

222. On May 11, The National Bamboo Mission (NBM) has launched an MIS-based reporting platform called “MIS Module” (Management Information Systems) for agarbatti stick production to enable India become Atma Nirbhar in the agarbatti sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NBM launched “MIS Module” (Management Information Systems) for Agarbatti stick production

International Affairs

223. On May 10, Hugo Xavier has become one of the first people to cross the world’s longest pedestrian suspension bridge called “516 Arouca” when it opened near his tiny hometown of Arouca in northern Portugal. The 516-metre-long bridge hangs 175 meters above the fast-flowing River Paiva. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The world's longest pedestrian suspension bridge “516 Arouca” is now open for local residents in Arouca, Portugal
- Length of the bridge – 516 metre | Above – River Paiva | Hugo Xavier – 1st person to cross the bridge
- Portugal – Lisbon – Euro | President – Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa



224. On May 7, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched “Asia Pacific Tax Hub” to create an open and inclusive platform to promote strategic policy dialogue, improve knowledge sharing and strengthen coordination on tax policy. Through the hub, ADB will coordinate closely with International Monetary Fund (IMF) to support Developing Member Countries (DMCs) as they formulate country-specific medium-term revenue strategies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – launched “Asia Pacific Tax Hub” to enhance international tax cooperation
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

225. On May 10, The US Transport Department has declared Regional Emergency after cyberattack on Georgia-based Colonial Pipeline Company that carries gasoline and other fuel from Texas to the Northeast. It delivers roughly 45% of fuel consumed on the East Coast. [{Read more}](#)

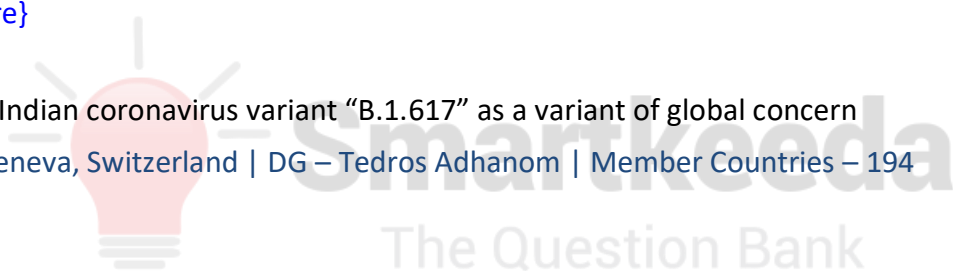
Key Points:

- US – declared Regional Emergency after cyberattack on Colonial Pipeline Company (Georgia, US)
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

226. On May 11, World Health Organization has declared Indian coronavirus variant “B.1.617” as a variant of global concern. B.1.617 and its particular lineage B.1.617.2 have rapidly expanded their footprint in some regions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO – declared Indian coronavirus variant “B.1.617” as a variant of global concern
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194



Banking & Economic Affairs

227. On May 6, The banking regulator Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has excluded Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) from the Second Schedule of the RBI Act. This was after LVB merged with DBS Bank India. All banks which are included in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 are Scheduled Banks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – excluded Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) from the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935
- HQs of LVB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Subramanian Sundar

228. On May 5, The RBI has granted an authorization to Bajaj Finance for issuance and operation of semi-closed Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) with perpetual validity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI granted an authorization to “Bajaj Finance” for Prepaid Payment Business
- HQs of Bajaj Finserv – Pune, Maharashtra | Chairman and MD (CMD) – Sanjiv Bajaj
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935



229. On May 10, HDFC Bank and Common Services Centres (CSCs) have launched “Eva” chatbot on CSCs Digital Seva Portal to support the Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) in providing banking services to rural consumers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank + CSCs = launched “Eva” chatbot on CSCs Digital Seva Portal to support rural consumers
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”
- HQs of CSCs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | CEO – Sanjay Kumar Rakesh

230. On May 9, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the restrictions on Karnataka-based Millath Co-operative Bank by 3 months, till August 8, 2021. The restrictions were first imposed in May, 2019 and have been extended thereafter. It was last extended till May 7, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – extended the restrictions Millath Co-operative Bank by 3 months (till Aug 8, 2021)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935
- HQs of Millath Co-operative Bank – Davangere, Karnataka

231. On May 10, The RBI has modified norms for undertaking government business by private banks. According to the modified norms, scheduled private sector banks, which are not under the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework of the RBI, can undertake government business after executing an agreement with the central bank. Besides, Existing bank accounts opened using OTP based e-KYC, will not be allowed for more than 1 year without further identification. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – modified norms for undertaking government business by Private Banks
- Scheduled Private Sector Banks which are not under the PCA framework can undertake government business
- Existing bank accounts opened using OTP based e-KYC won't be allowed for more than 1 year
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

232. On May 10, Federal Bank has entered into a strategic tie-up with UAE-based Mashreq Bank to facilitate money transfers from the UAE. Mashreq is one of the oldest banks and also the only privately-owned bank in UAE. The partnership will support Mashreq's faster payment product “QuickRemit” which was launched in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank + Mashreq Bank (UAE) = a strategic tie-up to facilitate money transfers between UAE & India
- HQs Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”

233. On May 11, Geojit Financial Services has entered into an agreement with Punjab National Bank to provide a three-in-one (Savings, Demat & Trading) account to the latter's customers. The 3-in-1 account makes it easier for PNB customers to transfer funds real time via the payment gateway facility. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Geojit Financial Services + PNB = an agreement to provide a 3-in-1 (Savings, Demat & Trading) account
- HQs of Geojit Financial Services – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – C. J. George
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”



234. On May 11, Jana Small Finance Bank has launched “I choose my number” feature for all its customers across India. This new feature gives the banks existing and new customers the option to select their favourite numbers as their savings or current account number. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jana SFB – launched “I choose my number” feature for all its customers across India
- HQs JSFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Ajay Kanwal

235. On May 12, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted authorisation to Eroute Technologies to operate as a prepaid payment instruments (PPI) company. PPIs are instruments that facilitate purchase of goods and services, including financial services, remittances, and funds transfers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – granted authorisation to “Eroute Technologies” to operate as a Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI) company
- HQs of Eroute Technologies – Noida, UP | MD & CEO – Sanjeev Pandey
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

236. On May 12, PayPal has introduced an automated process for receiving Foreign Inward Remittance Advice (FIRA), a key document for Indian MSME exporters and freelancers. At zero-cost, merchants will now be able to download their monthly digital FIRA issued by the ban. This FIRA was otherwise coming at a cost close to ₹2,000 for every 20 international transactions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PayPal – introduced an automated process for receiving “FIRA” – for Indian merchants
- FIRA – Foreign Inward Remittance Advice
- HQs of PayPal – California, USA | CEO – Daniel Schulman | Founded in – 1998

Defence Affairs

237. On May 8, The navies of India and Indonesia have carried out a military drill in the Southern Arabian sea with a focus on further improving their interoperability. The Indian Navy was represented at the “Passage Exercise” by INS Sharda. The 'Passage' exercises are regularly conducted by the Indian Navy with friendly foreign navies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Sharda represented India in the “Passage Exercise” – conducted between the Navies of India & Indonesia
- It was conducted – in the Southern Arabian sea
- ‘Garuda Shakti’ – a bilateral exercise between India & Indonesia
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo



238. On May 11, The Indian Army has inducted its first batch of 83 women soldiers into the Corps of Military Police (CMP). The Indian Army is likely to induct a total of 1,700 women soldier into CMP (Corps of Military Police) by 2036, in batches of 100 recruits per year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – inducted its first batch of 83 women soldiers into the Corps of Military Police (CMP)
- Indian Army – to induct a total of 1,700 women soldier into CMP (Corps of Military Police) – by 2036
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

Sports & Games

239. On May 8, Belarus' Aryna Sabalenka has stunned World No. 1 Ashleigh Barty to win the "Madrid Open" for the first time. This was Sabalenka's 10th career title but her first on red clay. While, Germany's Alexander Zverev has defeated Matteo Berrettini of Italy to win the Men's Singles Title. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus) – won women's single title of the "Madrid Open" (beating Ashleigh Barty)
- Alexander Zverev (Germany) – won men's single title of the "Madrid Open" (beating Matteo Berrettini)
- Belarus – Minsk – Ruble | PM – Siarhiej Rumas

240. On May 7, Indian rowers Arjun Lal Jat and Arvind Singh have qualified for the "Tokyo Olympics 2021" in men's lightweight double sculls event after finishing second in the final race of the Asia/Oceania Continental Qualifying Regatta in Tokyo. Arjun Lal and Arvind will be the only Indian rowers in Tokyo Games which open on July 23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arjun Lal Jat & Arvind Singh (Indian Rowers) – qualified for the "Tokyo Olympics 2021"

Important Days & Dates

241. The United Nations (UN) has a two-day global observance that occurs on May 8 and 9 each year. It is known as the "Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during the Second World War". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 8 & 9 – "Time of Remembrance & Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during the Second World War" – annually observed by the UN
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres



242. National Technology Day is celebrated on May 11 every year to commemorate the achievements of scientists, researchers, engineers and all others involved in the field of science and technology. The day marks the anniversary of the 1998 Pokhran Nuclear tests. The day was first observed on May 11, 1999. This year, the theme is “Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 11 – “National Technology Day” observed across India (since 1999)
- Theme – “Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future”

243. May 9 marked the 155th birth anniversary of Gopal Krishna Gokhale. He was an immensely wise liberal nationalist who made outstanding contributions towards social empowerment. He was born on May 9, 1866, in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra. Gokhale founded the Servants of India Society in Maharashtra’s Pune on June 12, 1905. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 9 – 155th birth anniversary of Gopal Krishna Gokhale ([Maharashtra](#))
- The founder of Servants of India Society - in 1905

244. Every year, May 12 is observed as International Nurses Day along with the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. It was started in 1965 by the International Council of Nurses (ICN). This year, the theme is “Nurses: A Voice to Lead - A Vision for Future Healthcare”. According to the WHO, more than 50% of the health care workers in the world are Nurses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 12 – International Nurses Day (since 1965)
- Theme – “Nurses: A Voice to Lead - A Vision for Future Healthcare”
- [HQs of International Council of Nurses – Geneva, Switzerland](#)

245. Morocco and the United Nations has marked the first-ever “International Argan Tree Day” or “International Day of Argania” on May 10th, 2021. The Argan tree, a tree specific to the Kingdom of Morocco, will thus be celebrated every year on May 10, as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity and ancestral source of sustainable development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 10 – 1st ever “International Argan Tree Day” or “International Day of Argania” – by Morocco & UN
- Argan tree – a tree specific to Morocco
- [Morocco – Rabat – Dirham | PM – Saad-Eddine El Othmani](#)



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

246. On May 8, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has participated in the India-EU Leaders' Meeting. This is the first time that the EU hosted a meeting with India in the EU+27 format. Currently, Portugal holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Union Minister Piyush Goyal had addressed the closing session of the "CII: EU-India Business Roundtable". Besides, European Investment Bank (EIB) has committed the 2nd tranche of 150 Million Euros for the Pune Metro Rail Project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – participated in the India-EU Leaders' Meeting – held in Portugal
- Presidency of the Council of the European Union – Portugal
- Piyush Goyal – addressed the closing session of the "CII: EU-India Business Roundtable"
- European Investment Bank – to provide 2nd tranche of 150 Million Euros for the Pune Metro Rail Project
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | President – Ursula von der Leyen | Member Countries – 27
- HQs of EIB – Kirchberg, Luxembourg | President – Werner Hoyer

247. On May 8, Union Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan has virtually participated in the 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM3) - the global platform for discussing research and cooperation in the Arctic region. The first two meetings, ASM1 and ASM2 were held in the USA in 2016 and Germany in 2018, respectively. ASM3, jointly organised by Iceland and Japan, is the first Ministerial meeting being held in Asia. The theme for this year is "Knowledge for a Sustainable Arctic". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – participated in the 3rd Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM3) – jointly organised by Iceland & Japan
- Theme of ASM3 – "Knowledge for a Sustainable Arctic"
- ASM1 – held in USA (2016) | ASM2 – held in Germany (2018)

248. On May 10, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided not to attend a summit of the G7 grouping in view of the prevailing coronavirus situation. The summit of the Group of Seven (G7) nations is scheduled to take place in Cornwall from June 11-13. As the chair of G7, the UK has invited India, Australia, South Korea, South Africa to the summit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi decided not to attend "G7 Summit" – to be chaired by the UK
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson
- G7 member countries – US, UK, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Canada | Founded in – 1975



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

249. On May 7, Justice Gita Mittal has been bestowed with the “Arline Pacht Global Vision Award” by the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ). The award is presented to a sitting or retired woman judge to recognize her long-term contribution to the IAWJ and the IAWJ’s goals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Gita Mittal – bestowed with the “Arline Pacht Global Vision Award” – by the IAWJ
- HQs of IAWJ – Washington, DC, US | President – Vanessa Ruiz | Executive Director – Shawna Wilson

250. On May 10, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres honoured Indian UN Peacekeeping officer Yuvraj Singh during the UN annual Memorial Service 2021. Yuvraj died in line of duty in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yuvraj Singh – honoured by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres during “UN annual Memorial Service 2021”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres

251. On May 10, Pakistan captain Babar Azam has been named the “ICC Men’s Player of the Month for April 2021” for his stellar performances across all formats in the recently concluded series against South Africa. In the women's category, Australia wicketkeeper-batsman Alyssa Healy was declared the ICC Women’s Player of the Month for April 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Babar Azam ([Pakistan](#)) – named the “ICC Men’s Player of the Month for April 2021”
- Alyssa Healy ([Australia](#)) – named the “ICC Women’s Player of the Month for April 2021”

252. As on May 10, The American singer Taylor Swift will become the first female artiste and the first non-English artiste to receive “Global Icon Award” at 2021 Brit Awards. The only previous recipients are Elton John (2014), David Bowie (2016) and Robbie Williams (2017). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Taylor Swift ([American Singer](#)) – to become the 1st female artiste & the 1st non-English artiste to receive “Global Icon Award” at 2021 Brit Awards

253. On May 11, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) has been conferred with “Green Urja Award” by Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) for being the Leading Public Institution in Financing Institution for Renewable Energy this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IREDA – conferred with “Green Urja Award” by Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- HQs of IREDA – New Delhi | CMD – Pradip Kumar Das
- HQs of ICC – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director General – Dr. Rajeev Singh



254. On May 11, Dr Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted, a global nutrition expert of Indian descent has won the prestigious “2021 World Food Prize” for her groundbreaking research in developing holistic, nutrition-sensitive approaches to aquaculture and food systems. She is the 1st woman of Asian heritage to receive this prize. She is a native of Trinidad and Tobago and a citizen of Denmark. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted ([Denmark](#)) – won the prestigious “World Food Prize 2021”

Appointments & Resignations

255. On May 10, The RBI has appointed Jose J. Kattoor as Executive Director (ED). He will look after Human Resource Management Department, Corporate Strategy and Budget Department and Rajbhasha Department. Prior to being promoted as ED, Mr. Kattoor was heading Bengaluru Regional Office of the RBI as Regional Director for Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – appointed ‘Jose J. Kattoor’ as Executive Director of RBI – to look after Human Resource Management Department
- HQs of RBI – [Mumbai](#) | [Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25th\)](#) | [Established in – 1st April 1935](#)

256. On May 10, The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) has appointed Arun Kumar Singh as the Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL). Arun Kumar Singh is currently Director, marketing at BPCL. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arun Kumar Singh – appointed as Chairman & MD of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd
- HQs of BPCL – [Mumbai, MH](#) | [Chairman & MD – Arun Kumar Singh](#)

257. On May 11, Padmakumar Madhavan Nair is appointed as the 1st CEO of the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL), which is being set up by banks. He is currently Chief General Manager of SBI’s Stressed Assets Resolution Group. The Indian Banks’ Association (IBA) is spearheading the formation of NARCL in consultation with the Finance Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Padmakumar Madhavan Nair – appointed as the 1st CEO of National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL)
- Padmakumar Madhavan Nair – currently Chief General Manager of SBI’s Stressed Assets Resolution Group

258. On May 12, The United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed veteran British diplomat Martin Griffiths as the Undersecretary-General of UN Humanitarian Affairs. Currently, Mr. Griffiths is serving as the UN's top envoy for Yemen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Martin Griffiths – appointed as Undersecretary-General of UN Humanitarian Affairs – by UN Secretary-General
- HQs of UN – [New York, United States](#) | [Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres](#)



259. On May 12, Uganda's incumbent President Yoweri Museveni has sworn in to serve for the 6th five-year term in office. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yoweri Museveni – sworn in to serve his 6th term as the President of Uganda
- Uganda – Kampala – Ugandan shilling | President – Yoweri Museveni (6th term)

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

260. On May 9, Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Retail Ltd has been ranked second fastest growing retailer in the world in the “2021 Ranking of Global Retail Power Houses” by Deloitte. It has been ranked 53rd in the list of Global Powers of Retailing. The list is topped by US giant Walmart Inc. Reliance Retail is the only Indian entry in the global list of 250 retailers. It features consecutively for the fourth time in the list of Global Powers of Retailing and World's Fastest Retailers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 Ranking of Global Retail Power Houses” – released by Deloitte
- Coupang (South Korea) – World’s Fastest Growing Retail company | 2nd – Reliance Retail Ltd
- Reliance Retail – 53rd in the list of “Global Powers of Retailing” | 1st – Walmart Inc
- HQs of RRVL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – V. Subramaniam

261. On May 10, NITI Aayog and Mastercard have released a report titled “Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat”. The report recommends enabling agricultural NBFCs to access low-cost capital and deploying a ‘phygital’ (physical + digital) model for achieving better long-term digital outcomes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat” – released by NITI Aayog + Mastercard
- The report recommends to deploy a ‘phygital’ (physical + digital) model in Agriculture NBFC sector
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Michael Miebach | Founded in – 1966

262. On May 10, Mountain bongos, the largest among African forest antelopes, are a critically endangered species with only about 70-80 adults left in the wild, according to the IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species: “Mountain bongos” – are now ‘Critically Endangered’ species
- HQs of IUCN – Gland, Switzerland | President – Xinsheng Zhang



263. New Delhi and Mumbai have moved one spot down to 32nd and 36th rank respectively, while Bengaluru has moved down four spots to 40th rank in the latest Knight Frank's "Prime Global Cities Index Q1". Chinese city Shenzhen has recorded the strongest performing world region with a growth of 18.9%. While, New York was the weakest performing market. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Prime Global Cities Index Q1" – by Knight Frank (London, UK) | Top – Shenzhen (China) & Last – New York (US)
- New Delhi – 32nd | Mumbai – 36th | Bengaluru – 40th

264. On May 11, The SEBI has made 'Dividend Distribution Policy' mandatory for top 1,000 listed firms to strengthen corporate governance practices and disclosure requirements. SEBI has amended Listing of Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (LODR) rules and also notified rules regarding Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BSSR). The listed companies will have to provide Reports of Environmental effects due to the company on a mandatory basis from FY23. The SEBI has also approved amendment to alternative investment funds (AIF) norms to provide a definition of 'Start-up' as specified by the central government for the purpose of investment by Angel funds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – made 'Dividend Distribution Policy' mandatory for top 1,000 listed firms
- SEBI – also notified rules regarding Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BSSR)
- Listed companies will have to provide Reports of Environmental effects – from FY23
- SEBI also approved amendment to AIF norms to provide a definition of 'Start-up'
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

265. On May 11, A report titled "Nature in a Globalised World: Conflict & Conservation" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has examined the close interplay between the environment and armed conflict. The report found that civil unrest and military exercises pose high risk to 219 Endangered Species. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Nature in a Globalised World: Conflict & Conservation" report – released by IUCN
- According to report: Civil unrest & military exercises pose high risk to 219 Endangered Species
- HQs of IUCN – Gland, Switzerland | President – Xincheng Zhang | CEO – Bruno Oberle | Founded in – 1948

266. On May 11, India's renewable energy capacity has declined by more than 50% in 2020 due to construction delays brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to International Energy Agency's (IEA) "Renewable Energy Market Update". Globally, annual renewable capacity additions increased 45% in 2020 to almost 280 GW in which India accounts for 5.62 GW of capacity. Photovoltaic (PV) capacity addition is expected to be three times in 2021 compared with 2020. China alone accounted for more than 50% of all the new renewable energy projects in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Renewable Energy Market Update" report – by the IEA
- India's renewable energy capacity declined by more than 50% in 2020
- Globally, annual renewable capacity additions increased 45% in 2020 to almost 280 GW (India's – 5.62 GW)
- HQs of IEA – Paris, France | Executive Director – Dr. Fatih Birol | Member countries – 30



267. On May 7, The area under cultivation of Summer Crops has increased by 21.58% from last year to 80.02 lakh hectares. The rise is primarily due to sharp increase in pulses area, which has increased by almost 70% from last year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Area of cultivation of Summer Crops increased by 21.58% – to 80.02 lakh hectares (due to increase in ‘Pulses’ area)
- Pulses area increased by almost 70%

268. On May 8, International food commodity prices rose for the 11th consecutive month in April. FAO Food Price Index averaged 120.9 points in April, 1.7% higher than March and 30.8% higher than its level in the same month last year. The FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index rose 1.8% in April. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- International food commodity prices rose for the 11th consecutive month in April
- FAO Food Price Index averaged 120.9 points in April
- FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index rose 1.8% in April
- [HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945](#)

269. On May 11, China’s population is growing at its most sluggish pace in decades, as per the 7th census data released by China. The average annual growth rate was 0.53% over the last 10 years, down from 0.57% between 2000 and 2010, taking the population to 1.41 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China released its 7th Census | Population – 1.41 billion | Average Annual Growth Rate – 0.53% for last 10 years
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping](#)

270. On May 11, India has received over \$83 billion in remittances in 2020, a drop of just 0.2% from the previous year, according to a World Bank report titled “Resilience COVID-19 Crisis through a Migration Lens”. In 2019, India had received \$83.3 billion in remittances. India topped the list of Low- and Middle-Income Countries followed by China & Mexico. India’s remittance decline was due to 17% outflow drop from UAE. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Resilience COVID-19 Crisis through a Migration Lens” report – released by the World Bank
- India received over \$83 billion in remittances in 2020 (drop of 0.2%) | 2nd – China | 3rd – Mexico
- India’s remittance decline was due to 17% outflow drop from UAE

271. On May 12, According to the Council on Energy, Environment and Water - Centre for Energy Finance (CEEW-CEF) Market Handbook, India has added 12.1 gigawatt (GW) power generation capacity in 2020-21. Renewable Energy (RE) dominated power generation capacity addition in FY21, accounting for 7.7 GW (64%) of the 12.1 GW. India's total power generation also increased by 1.3% in FY21 despite pandemic restrictions. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- According to CEEW-CEF Market Handbook: India added 12.1 GW power generation capacity in 2020-21
- Renewable Energy dominated Power Generation Capacity addition in FY21 – with 7.7 GW (64%)
- India's total power generation also increased – by 1.3% in FY21

Acquisitions & Mergers

272. On May 10, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of 100% shareholding and sole control of Ingram Micro Inc. by Imola Acquisition Corporation. Imola is a newly incorporated entity belonging to Platinum Equity Group. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the acquisition of 100% stake of Ingram Micro Inc. – by Imola Acquisition Corporation
- HQs of Ingram Micro – California, US | CEO – Alain Monie
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

273. On May 11, Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services (MMFS) has extended the date of investment of the third and final tranche for acquisition of shares of Sri Lanka-based Ideal Finance from its existing shareholders to September 30, 2021. The company had agreed to acquire 58.20% equity share capital of Ideal Finance, Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services – extended date of investment in Ideal Finance by 6 months (Sep, 2021)
- MMFS – agreed to acquire 58.20% equity share in Ideal Finance (Sri Lanka)
- HQs of MMFS – Mumbai, MH | Vice Chairman & President – Ramesh Iyer

274. On May 6, The Canada Pension Plan Investment Board or CPP Investments has acquired an additional 15.9% of the total units in Indinfravit Trust (Indinfravit) through two separate transactions. Indinfravit is an infrastructure investment trust (InvIT) sponsored by L&T Infrastructure Development Projects since 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CPP Investments – acquired an additional 15.9% in Indinfravit Trust (Indinfravit)
- HQs of CPP Investments – Toronto, Canada | CEO – John Graham
- HQs of Indinfravit – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – J. Subramanian



275. On May 11, Bay Tree India Holdings I LLC has sold over 2% stake in YES Bank through Open Market Transactions. Bay Tree India Holdings I, owned by Tilden Park, was the largest anchor investor, investing ₹2,250 Cr in YES Bank. Currently, SBI is the largest shareholder of YES Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bay Tree India Holdings I LLC – sold over 2% stake in YES Bank – through Open Market Transactions
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

276. On May 12, NHPC Ltd has received approval from the Ministry of Power to acquire the entire 2% equity stake of PTC India in Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Ltd. After the acquisition of the stake, the NHPC's share will increase to 51% to become a majority stakeholder in Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC Ltd – received approval to acquire 2% equity stake of PTC India – in Chenab Valley Power Projects (J&K)
- HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh
- HQs of PTC India – New Delhi | MD & Chairman – Deepak Amitabh

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

277. On May 10, Muthoot Finance Limited has partnered with Bengaluru-based NIRA to provide salaried customers a personal loan of up to Rs 1 lakh through the NIRA app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Muthoot Finance + NIRA (Bengaluru) = to provide salaried customers a personal loan of up to Rs 1 lakh
- HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot

278. On May 7, Japan and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have partnered to provide 8 Oxygen-Generation Plants to ensure an uninterrupted supply of the life-saving gas at hospitals in the northeast. These plants will support over 1,300 hospital beds across the region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan + UNDP = partnership to develop 8 Oxygen-Generation Plants in the northeast
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

279. On May 10, The Mumbai-based drug major Cipla has inked a pact with US-based Eli Lilly and Company to manufacture and produce ‘Baricitinib’ in India for the treatment of COVID-19. Baricitinib has already received a restricted emergency use approval by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) for use in combination with Remdesivir for the treatment of COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Cipla + Eli Lilly & Company (US) = to manufacture and produce 'Baricitinib' in India for the treatment of COVID-19
- HQs of Cipla – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Umang Vohra

280. Shivrai Technologies, Indian AgTech company has recently launched B2C Farm accounting mobile application, "Farmizo Khata" in partnership with Yono by SBI. Shivrai also owns its own B2B brand, FarmERP. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shivrai Technologies + Yono app (SBI) = partnership to launch "Farmizo Khata" app
- HQs of Shivrai Technologies – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO & Co-founder – Sanjay Borkar

Books & Authors

281. "Life in the Clock Tower Valley" is the debut book of Press Trust of India (PTI) journalist Shakoor Rather. It is published by Speaking Tiger. It talks about Kashmir's pristine past, its grievous present and always-uncertain future. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Life in the Clock Tower Valley" book – authored by Shakoor Rather

282. A new book titled "Elephant" is authored by British Novelist Paul Pickering. The book is published by Salt Publishing. Pickering has also authored the acclaimed novel Over the Rainbow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Elephant" book – authored by Paul Pickering

283. On May 9, Actor Kalki Koechlin is making her debut as an author with an illustrated non-fiction book titled "Elephant in The Womb". The book is illustrated by Valeriya Polyanychko and will be published under Penguin's imprint this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Elephant in The Womb" – authored by Kalki Koechlin
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India (PRHI)

284. On May 8, A book titled "Buddha in Gandhara" is authored by Sunita Dwivedi. The real value of "Buddha in Gandhara" lies in how she combines her survey with onsite inspections of Buddhaland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Buddha in Gandhara" book – authored by Sunita Dwivedi



285. A book titled “1971: The Beginning of India’s Cricketing Greatness” is authored by Boria Majumdar and Gautam Bhattacharya. Boria Majumdar is also the co-author of Sachin Tendulkar’s autobiography “Playing It My Way”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “1971: The Beginning of India’s Cricketing Greatness” book – authored by Boria Majumdar & Gautam Bhattacharya

286. On May 9, “Klara and the Sun” is the latest novel of Nobel Prize-winning author Kazuo Ishiguro. In his latest novel, Kazuo Ishiguro presents an Artificial Friend, created to provide companionship to a possible race of forsaken humans. [{Read more}](#)

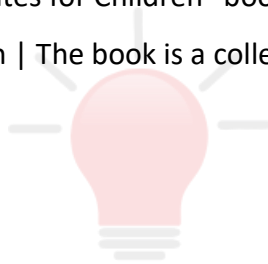
Key Points:

- “Klara and the Sun” novel – authored by Kazuo Ishiguro

287. India's beloved writer from the hills, Ruskin Bond turned 87 on May 19, 2021. And in honour of his birthday, a new anthology of his short stories “All-Time Favourites for Children” is released by Puffin. The book is a collection of the author's 25 most favourite short stories for kids aged 9 and above. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “All-Time Favourites for Children” book – authored by Ruskin Bond
- Publisher – Puffin | The book is a collection of the author's 25 most favourite short stories for kids



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Obituaries

288. On May 10, Former India footballer Fortunato Franco passed away in Goa. He was 84. One of India's finest mid-fielders, Franco was a part of Indian football's golden era between 1960-64. He was an integral part of India’s 1962 Jakarta Asian Games gold medal winning team. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fortunato Franco ([Goa](#)) – Former India footballer – passed away

289. On May 8, Olympic Gold Medalist, former India coach, Arjuna and Dronacharya awardee Maharaj Kishen Kaushik has passed away. He was 66. M K Kaushik was awarded the Arjuna Award in 1998, before being bestowed with the Dronacharya award in 2002. A book titled “The Golden Boot” was written by him. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharaj Kishen Kaushik – Former Indian Hockey player & coach – passed away (Olympic Gold Medalist)
- Arjuna Award in 1998 | Dronacharya award in 2002
- His book – “The Golden Boot”



290. On May 9, Eminent sculptor and Rajya Sabha member Padma Vibhushan Raghunath Mohapatra has passed away while undergoing treatment for COVID-19. He was 77. He was felicitated with Padma Shri in 1975, Padma Bhushan in 2001 & Padma Vibhushan in 2013. In 2018, President Ram Nath Kovind nominated Mr. Mohapatra, first person from Odisha to the Rajya Sabha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Raghunath Mohapatra – Eminent Sculptor & Rajya Sabha member – passed away
- Padma Shri in 1975 | Padma Bhushan in 2001 | Padma Vibhushan in 2013

291. On May 4, V. Kalyanam, the last personal secretary of Mahatma Gandhi, has passed away in Chennai due to age-related ailments. He was 99. Kalyanam, who was born in Shimla on August 15, 1922, was associated with Mahatma Gandhi from 1944 to 1948. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- V. Kalyanam – Last Personal Secretary of Mahatma Gandhi – passed away (from 1944 to 1948)

292. On May 12, Veteran Table Tennis coach Venugopal Chandrasekar has passed away due to COVID-19-related complications at the age of 63. He was the winner of Arjuna Award. His Autobiography is “My fightback from Death’s Door” that was published in 2006. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Venugopal Chandrasekar – a Table Tennis Coach – passed away (Arjuna Award)
- His autobiography – “My fightback from Death’s Door”

293. On May 11, Kerala’s living Communist legend Kalathilparambil Raman Gouri, one of the longest-serving politicians in the state, has passed away. She was 102. A prominent CPI (M) leader of several decades is popularly known in the state as Gouri Amma. K R Gouri was currently the president of Janathipathya Samrakshana Samithi. She was elected to Kerala Assembly 11 times. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kalathilparambil Raman Gouri ([Kerala](#)) – a Politician – passed away (Party – CPI - Communist Party of India)

Person in News

294. On May 11, Tesla CEO Elon Musk who hosted the Saturday Night Live (SNL) show has revealed to be suffering from Asperger’s Syndrome and created history by becoming the first host to do so, or at least the one to admit it. Asperger’s syndrome is one of a group of neurological disorders known as ‘Autism Spectrum Disorders’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elon Musk – recently revealed to be suffering from Asperger’s Syndrome
- Asperger’s syndrome is one of a group of – ‘Autism Spectrum Disorders’
- HQs of Tesla – California, USA | CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2003
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002



Science & Technology

295. On May 1, The team of botanists led by Manju C. Nair has discovered “Bryocrumia malabarica” in the Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary of Kerala along the Western Ghats. Bryocrumia malabarica is the 12th species of bryophytes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Bryocrumia malabarica” discovered in the Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala) & Western Ghats
- “Bryocrumia malabarica” – 12th species of bryophytes
- It was discovered by the team of botanists – led by Manju C. Nair
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

296. On May 11, SpaceX will launch the “DOGE-1” Satellite to the Moon in 2022 carrying a so-called cubesat. The 40-kilogram cubesat will launch aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. It will accept Dogecoin as payment to launch lunar mission next year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpaceX – to launch the “DOGE-1” Satellite to the Moon in 2022
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002

297. On May 10, Researchers at the IIT-Madras are working on voice-based solutions in regional languages to boost Digital Money Transactions. The researchers are collaborating with the Mobile Payment Forum of India (MPFI) to develop such solutions in several regional languages. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras + MPFI = to develop voice-based solutions in regional languages to boost Digital Money Transactions

298. On May 11, NASA's OSIRIS-REx spacecraft which has collected samples from an asteroid called “Bennu”, began its two-year journey back to Earth which will be completed by 2023. OSIRIS-REx arrived at Bennu in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- OSIRIS-REx spacecraft (NASA) – collected samples from an asteroid “Bennu” & will return to the Earth by 2023
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958

299. On May 11, Alphabet Inc's Google has launched “International Money Transfer” in partnerships with remittances firms Wise and Western Union for its US users. Google Pay users in the United States can now transfer money to app customers in India and Singapore. London-based Wise was launched in 2011, while Western Union remains a market leader in remittances. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google Pay + Wise + Western Union = launched “International Money Transfer” for its US users
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998
- HQs of Wise – London, UK | CEO – Kristo Kaarmann
- HQs of Western Union – Colorado, US | CEO – Hikmet Ersek



Ordinance, Bills and Acts

300. On May 7, The Supreme Court has struck down West Bengal's law on regulating the real estate sector saying it was 'unconstitutional' as West Bengal Housing Industry Regulation Act of 2017 (WB-HIRA) is 'repugnant' to the Centre's Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act (RERA) of 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SC struck down West Bengal's "Housing Industry Regulation Act of 2017" as 'unconstitutional'
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48th)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar





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