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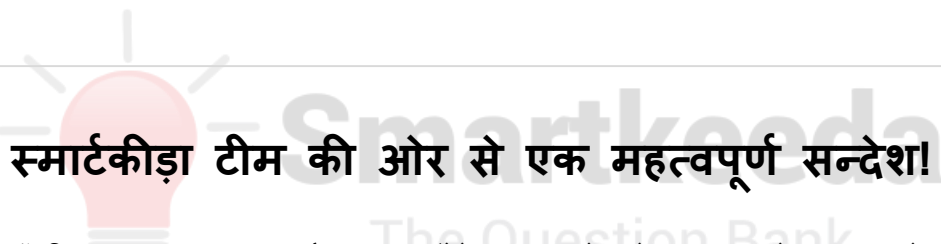
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of May 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if 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 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

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National & States Affairs

301. On May 12, The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of the Department of Heavy Industry for implementation of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme. “National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage” was included with an outlay of ₹18,100 Cr. Each selected ACC battery Storage manufacturer would have to commit to set-up an ACC manufacturing facility of minimum 5 GWh capacity and ensure a minimum 60% domestic value addition at the Project level within 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the proposal of the Department of Heavy Industry for implementation of the ‘PLI Scheme’
- “National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage”—included with an outlay of ₹18,100 Cr
- Each selected ACC battery Storage manufacturer should possess a minimum manufacturing capacity of 5 GWh capacity

302. On May 13, Madhya Pradesh has become the first state government to come to the rescue of kids who have become orphans or lost either of their parents/guardians due to the Covid pandemic. The Madhya Pradesh CM announced that all such children/families will get Rs 5,000 as monthly pension. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – first state to provide Rs 5,000 per month, free education & ration to Covid orphans
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

303. On May 10, E-commerce company Snapdeal has launched “Sanjeevani” to connect COVID-19 patients with potential plasma donors. The tool will be accessible via the website and mobile app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Snapdeal – launched “Sanjeevani” to connect COVID-19 patients with potential plasma donors
- [HQs of Snapdeal – New Delhi | CEO – Kunal Bahl | Founded in – 2010](#)

304. On May 9, Delhi Police has launched “COVI Van Helpline” (012- 26241077) for senior citizens who are struggling with their essential needs amid Covid-19. The information of commencement of “COVI Van” has been disseminated in the Greater Kailash -1 area. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Police – launched “COVI Van Helpline” (012- 26241077) for senior citizens
- [Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev](#)

305. On May 14, In a bid to counter the third wave of Covid, the Maharashtra Government is implementing “Mission Oxygen”, which will aim at achieving self-sufficiency in oxygen production by targeting a production of 3,000 metric tonnes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – launched “Mission Oxygen” to counter third wave of Covid-19
- [Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari](#)



306. On May 13, The Punjab government has joined the “COVAX” initiative (Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access) to procure Covid-19 vaccines globally at the best price, becoming the first state in India to do so. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – became the 1st state to join “COVAX” initiative (Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access)
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

307. On May 13, The NITI Aayog has set up a dedicated portal “CovAid” for tracking all foreign aid coming via missions or by individual organisations. All Covid-19 related foreign aid received by the government can be tracked online end-to-end till distribution by the donors. Indian Red Cross Society is financially responsible for all the consignments of donations from foreign countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – set up a dedicated portal “CovAid” for real-time monitoring of all foreign aid
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

308. On May 9, The Environment Appraisal Committee (EAC) - Infrastructure I of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has flagged serious concerns about NITI Aayog’s ambitious project for Great Nicobar Island. It has recommended it “for grant of terms of reference (TOR)” for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies, which in the first instance will include baseline studies over 3 months. It was estimated with an outlay of Rs 75,000 Cr for development of Great Nicobar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Environment Ministry recommended the ‘Great Nicobar Plan’ – for grant of Terms & References of the EIA studies
- Estimated outlay for development of Great Nicobar – Rs 75,000 Cr

309. On May 13, The central government’s ambitious “Special Window for Affordable and Mid-Income Housing” (SWAMIH) initiative has completed its first residential project “Rivali Park Wintergreen Projects” located in Mumbai. From this SWAMIH Investment Fund, a total of 1,16,600 homebuyers will get possession of their homes. SWAMIH is a Rs 25,000 Cr fund having 14 investors. The Government of India holds 50% in the fund. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government’s “SWAMIH” completed its first residential project “Rivali Park” – in Mumbai
- SWAMIH – Special Window for Affordable and Mid-Income Housing
- SWAMIH fund – Rs 25,000 Cr (Govt’s holding in the fund – 50%)

310. On May 13, The fortnight-long “Maru Gam, Corona Mukta Gam” (My Village, Corona Free Village) programme organised by the Gujarat government to control the spread of Covid-19 in the villages, has been extended for five more days till May 20. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Gujarat government – extended “Maru Gam, Corona Mukht Gam” to prevent spread in villages
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

311. On May 13, Chief Justice N. V. Ramana has launched an official mobile app which would allow media persons (Journalists) to view the Supreme Court’s virtual proceedings live on their mobile phones. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- N. V. Ramana – launched an official mobile app for media persons (Journalists) to telecast live SC proceedings
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice N. V. Ramana (48th)

312. On May 14, Delhi is the third state/UT in the row to announce financial support and free education for children whose parents have died because of COVID19 after Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh. The UT government will also bear the expenses of the upbringing of those children along with providing financial assistance to all of them, especially senior citizens, who have lost the only earning member of their family. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – to provide financial assistance to all of them who have lost the only earning member of their family
- Delhi – the 3rd state/UT to do so (First two - Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh)
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

313. On May 14, At least 600 people throughout Haryana participated in a 3-day Monkey Census and documented approximately 6,000 monkeys on a specially designed mobile application by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – conducted a 3-day Monkey Census & documented approximately 6,000 monkeys
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya
- HQs of WII – Dehradun, Uttarakhand | Director – Dhananjai Mohan

314. On May 19, Manipur chief minister, N. Biren Singh has introduced “MOMA Market” a mobile app that enables residents to order fresh vegetables and have them delivered to their homes. In order to avoid loss of vegetable produce and the spread of COVID-19, MOMA has been assigned to work in the area and channel farm products to consumers via home delivery. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur – launched “MOMA Market” mobile app enabling residents to order fresh vegetables
- MOMA – Manipur Organic Mission Agency
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

315. On May 19, Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh has declared Malerkotla as the 23rd district of the State. The conversion of Malerkotla into a district was a long-standing demand of the local people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amarinder Singh – declared Malerkotla as the 23rd district of Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

316. On May 15, The Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) is building next generation “National Digital Financial Infrastructure (NADI)”. The NADI will consist of modern network infrastructure which includes 5G/Edge Cloud with SDNs (Software Defined Networking) for connecting to the critical data centre infrastructure at the back-end. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IDRBT – developed the National Digital Financial Infrastructure (NADI) with generation network infrastructure
- Modern Network Infrastructure includes – 5G/Edge Cloud with SDNs (Software Defined Networking)
- HQs of IDRBT – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – D. Janakiram

317. On May 13, The US has applauded India for stepping up its climate change commitment including the partnership with the United States to deploy 450 gigawatts (GW) of renewable power to meet the ambitious 2030 target for climate action and clean energy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US announced a Climate Change partnership with India – to help achieve RE target of 450 GW by 2030
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

318. On May 13, The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved Phase 2 and 3 clinical trial of Bharat Biotech's “COVAXIN” vaccine in the age group of 2 to 18 years. “Covaxin” is developed by Bharat Biotech in association with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National Institute of Virology (NIV). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DCGI – approved Phase 2 & 3 clinical trial of Bharat Biotech's “COVAXIN” vaccine – in the age group of 2 to 18 years
- “COVAXIN” vaccine is developed by = Bharat Biotech + ICMR + NIV
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) – V G Somani
- HQs of Bharat Biotech – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella

319. On May 14, India has begun using Russia's “Sputnik V” in its battle against COVID-19. Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) administers first dose of Sputnik V vaccine in Hyderabad. The vaccine is being sold at a maximum retail price of ₹995 per dose. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India began using Russia's “Sputnik V” in its battle against COVID-19 | MRP – ₹995 per dose
- Dr. Reddy's Laboratories administers first dose of ‘Sputnik V’ vaccine in Hyderabad
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin



320. On May 13, Wadia Group-owned GoAir has rebranded itself as “Go First” as the airline focuses on ultra-low-cost business model amid the aviation industry grappling with pandemic headwinds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GoAir – rebranded itself as “Go First”
- HQs of Go First – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Nusli Wadia | CEO – Kaushik Khona

321. Madhya Pradesh has become the first state to publish “SOP for Medical Oxygen”. This booklet contains detailed information regarding the use of medical oxygen and fire safety in the government and private hospitals of Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – became the first state to publish “SOP for Medical Oxygen”
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

322. On May 15, Amazon Prime has discontinued the one-month subscription plan worth Rs 129 in India. The company has also discontinued the free Amazon Prime trial pack as well. This has been done to comply with the Reserve Bank of India’s new guidelines. The deadline for the same is September 30. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon Prime – discontinued the one-month subscription plan worth Rs 129 – in India
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Present CEO – Jeff Bezos (Andy Jassy from October 2021)
- HQs of Amazon India – Hyderabad, Telangana | Country Head – Amit Agarwal

323. On May 13, At least 18 elephants were found dead in a forest in Assam’s Nagaon district. Preliminary investigation into the deaths by the forest department has revealed that the wild elephants could have been killed in lighting strikes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 18 elephants were found dead in a forest – in Nagaon, Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

324. On May 15, Anticipating a shortage of migrant labour in the upcoming paddy transplantation season, the Punjab government has decided to bring one million hectares under the Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR) technique for the crop this year. Direct seeding is a method under which pre-germinated seeds are directly drilled into the field by a tractor-powered machine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – decided to bring 1 million hectares under Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR) technique for the crop this year
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore



325. On May 14, In Himachal Pradesh, AYUSH Department launched a state-wide wellness programme “AYUSH Ghar Dwar” for COVID-19 patients, in Sloam district. The Program aims to reduce the disease burden of the pandemic by enhancing the recovery rate, improved Quality of Life, Equitable Healthcare facility and to ensure better rehabilitation post COVID-19 Infection. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AYUSH Dept. – launched a wellness programme “AYUSH Ghar Dwar” for COVID-19 patients – in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

326. On May 12, The PM CARES Fund has approved the procurement of 1,50,000 units of the ‘Oxycare System’ developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) at a cost of Rs 322.5 Cr. Oxycare is a SpO2 based Oxygen Supply System which regulates the oxygen being administered to patients based on the sensed SpO2 levels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM CARES Fund – approved the procurement of 1,50,000 units of the ‘Oxycare System’ developed by – DRDO
- PM CARES Fund approves this at a cost of – Rs 322.5 Cr
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

327. On May 12, The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi, has started its virtual summer workshops named “Naimisha 2021” for children and adults from May 17. The workshop would go on till June 13. The workshops would include painting, sculpting, printmaking, videography and puppeteering. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NGMA (New Delhi) – started its virtual summer workshops named “Naimisha 2021” for children & adults

328. On May 16, Punjab CM Amarinder Singh has launched “Covid Fateh” drive to tackle the spread of coronavirus in rural areas of the state. He also launched the “Corona-Mukt Pind Abhiyaan” (corona-free village drive). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – launched “Covid Fateh” drive to tackle the spread of coronavirus
- Punjab – also launched the “Corona-Mukt Pind Abhiyaan” (corona-free village drive)
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

International Affairs

329. On May 13, 35-year-old Jimmy Hugo has recently discovered a 'human baby-sized' frog in Solomon Islands. That's the largest water frog in Solomon Islands and probably in Melanesia. This species, *Cornufer guppyi* has a geographic range from the Bismarck and Solomon archipelago to Malaita. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A 'human baby-sized' frog discovered in – Solomon Islands
- [Solomon Islands – Honiara – Dollar | PM – Manasseh Sogavare](#)

330. On May 16, Cyclone 'Tauktae' intensified into a 'very severe cyclonic storm' and is approaching the Gujarat coast. The cyclone was likely to cross Gujarat coast between Porbandar and Mahuva (Bhavnagar district). The cyclone has been given the name 'Tauktae' (pronounced Tau'te) by Myanmar. It means 'gecko', a highly vocal lizard, in the Burmese language. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cyclone 'Tauktae' (pronounced Tau'te) – given the name by Myanmar
- Its meaning – 'Gecko' - a highly vocal lizard
- [Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint](#)

331. On May 13, The Adani Group has opened its Regional Headquarters office in Singapore with focus on the energy, infrastructure and technology portfolios. Adani Singapore (SG) Country Head Jeyakumar Janakaraj has stated that Singapore was an ideal choice for Adani's regional headquarters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Group – opened its Regional Headquarters office in Singapore
- [Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob](#)
- [HQs of Adani Group – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani](#)

332. On May 14, Harley-Davidson Inc has launched an all-electric motorcycle brand "LiveWire". Named after Harley's first electric motorbike, which was unveiled in 2019, the "LiveWire" division is slated to launch its first branded motorcycle in July. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harley-Davidson Inc – launched an all-electric motorcycle brand "LiveWire"
- [HQs of Harley-Davidson Inc – Wisconsin, US | CEO – Jochen Zeit | Founded in – 1903](#)

333. On May 11, The Five Deeps Expedition measured the extreme depths of the World's 5 Oceans. The key locations - Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern oceans were mapped by the Five Deeps Expedition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The five Oceans with its deepest point on it:
 - Indian Ocean — Unnamed Deep in Java Trench (7,187 m)

- Arctic Ocean — Molloy Hole (5,551 m)
- Atlantic Ocean — Brownson Deep in Puerto Rico Trench (8,378 m)
- Pacific Ocean — Challenger Deep in Mariana Trench (10,924 m)
- Southern Ocean — Factorian Deep in South Sandwich Trench (7,432 m)

334. On May 14, Pablo Picasso's "Woman Sitting Near a Window (Marie-Therese)" was sold for \$103.4 million at Christie's in New York. The painting was completed in 1932. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pablo Picasso's painting "Woman Sitting Near a Window (Marie-Therese)" – sold for \$103.4 million in New York
- The painting was completed in 1932

Banking & Economic Affairs

335. On May 13, Shareholders of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) have given their approval for issuance of 246,54,23,932 equity shares to the government of India on a preferential basis for the capital infusion of Rs 4,100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOB – received shareholders' nod for Rs 4,100-Cr infusion by Government of India
- HQs of IOB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Partha Pratim Sengupta | Tagline – "Good people to grow with"

336. On May 13, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the licence of United Co-operative Bank Ltd, based in Bagnan, West Bengal due to inadequate capital and earning prospects. As such, it does not comply with the provisions of section 11(1) and section 22(3)(d) read with section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the licence of United Co-operative Bank Ltd (Bagnan, West Bengal)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

337. On May 13, Airtel Payments Bank has launched gold investment platform "DigiGold" in partnership with SafeGold. The DigiGold investment platform will enable Airtel Payments Bank's saving account customers to invest in 24K gold using the Airtel Thanks App. Airtel Payments Bank recently increased its savings deposit limit to Rs 2 lakhs in line with RBI guidelines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Airtel Payments Bank + SafeGold = launched gold investment platform "DigiGold"
- Savings deposit limit in Airtel Payments Bank – Rs 2 lakhs
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas | Founded in – 2017
- HQs of SafeGold – Mumbai, MH | MD – Gaurav Mathur



338. On May 13, Bank of Baroda has launched a micro-website that will serve as an emergency networking platform for all employees amid the second wave of COVID-19. The microsite will offer vital data, including a network of plasma donors to employees who are in need of. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bank of Baroda – launched a micro-website to support employees amid COVID-19 pandemic
- [HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat](#) | [CEO – Sanjiv Chadha](#) | [Tagline – India's International Bank](#)

Schemes & Initiatives

339. On May 12, In Assam, “Aahaar” - a free meal distribution initiative has been launched with the motto of “Fighting Hunger - Feeding Future”. This initiative is being taken up by an NGO, “Care U 365” with the aim to provide healthy meals to roadside dwellers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Aahaar” - a free meal distribution initiative – launched in Assam | Motto – “Fighting Hunger - Feeding Future”
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

340. On May 13, PM Narendra Modi has released the 8th installment of over Rs 20,000 Cr to more than 9.5 Cr farmer beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme. Under the PM-KISAN scheme, the government is providing Rs 6,000 in three equal installments to 14 Cr farmers annually. West Bengal has joined the scheme with more than 7 lakh farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – released the 8th installment of over Rs 20,000 Cr under “PM-KISAN” scheme
- Under the PM-KISAN scheme: Govt provides Rs 6,000 in 3 equal installments to 14 Cr farmers annually
- Farmers in West Bengal – joined “PM-KISAN” Scheme for the 1st time
- [PM-KISAN scheme was launched in – 2019](#)

341. On May 12, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has launched a scheme called “Aashvaasan” to provide financial and medical assistance to its officials and staff members affected by the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBIC – launched a scheme called “Aashvaasan” to provide financial and medical assistance to its staff members
- [HQs of CBIC – New Delhi](#) | [Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar](#) | [Founded in – 1964](#)



342. On May 13, The Chhattisgarh government has decided to launch the “Chhattisgarh Mahtari Dular Yojna” to bear education expenses of the children who have lost parents to COVID-19. Under the scheme, a stipend of ₹500 per month will be paid to such children from Classes 1 to 8 and ₹1,000 per month from Classes 9 to 12. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – to launch the “Mahtari Dular Yojna” to fund education of Covid orphaned children
- Stipend: ₹500/m – from Classes 1 to 8 | ₹1,000 – from Classes 9 to 12
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

Sports & Games

343. On May 11, The BCCI has announced a strong 20-man squad along with 4 standby players, who will fly to England for the World Test Championship finale. Arzan Nagwaswalla was also included in it. He was Gujarat’s leading wicket-taker during the Ranji Trophy 2019-20 season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BCCI announced a strong 20-man squad for the World Test Championship finale – in England, UK
- Arzan Nagwaswalla (Gujarat) – Cricketer
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | President – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah

344. On May 13, Roman Khassanov, a tennis player who represented Kazakhstan in the Davis Cup has been banned by the International Tennis Integrity Agency for 10 years after admitting a string of corruption charges. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Roman Khassanov (Kazakhstan) – a Tennis Player – banned for 10 years by International Tennis Integrity Agency
- Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge | President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
- HQs of Tennis Integrity Unit – London, UK | CEO – Jonny Gray

345. On May 13, Manchester City football club has won the 3rd Premier League title in four seasons by defeating Manchester United. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manchester City FC – won the 3rd Premier League Championship
- CEO of Manchester City FC – Ferran Soriano

346. On May 13, World Rugby has confirmed the dates for next year's Women's Rugby World Cup to be held in New Zealand, with the tournament to run from 8th October to 12th November 2022. The 12-team tournament which was due to be held this year in Auckland and Whangarei was postponed earlier this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- New Zealand – to host the 2022 Women's Rugby World Cup – from 8th Oct to 12th Nov
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | Prime Minister – Jacinda Ardern

347. On May 13, Shafali Verma is set to make her Women's Big Bash League debut with two-time champions Sydney Sixers later this year. The 17-year-old is expected to be joined by left-arm spinner Radha Yadav. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shafali Verma ([Indian Cricketer](#)) – is set to make her Women's Big Bash League debut
- Radha Yadav – [Indian Cricketer](#)

348. The dates of the 2021 AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships in Belgrade, Serbia have been confirmed. The tournament will be held from 26 October - 6 November 2021. The previous edition of the AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships was hosted by Ekaterinburg, Russia in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2021 AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships – to be held in Belgrade, Serbia (from 26 Oct to 6 Nov, 2021)
- Serbia – Belgrade – Serbian Dinar | President – Aleksandar Vucic

349. The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) has entered into a tie-up with an Indian start-up company, Stupa Sports Analytics to provide Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled real-time match and practice solutions to leading players in all its 226 member associations. This collaboration also helps in strengthening the performance of ITTF's "With The Future in Mind" scholarship holders for the upcoming Olympic and Youth Olympic Games. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ITTF + Stupa Sports Analytics = to provide AI-enabled real-time match analysis
- HQs of ITTF – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Thomas Weikert | Founded in – 1926

350. On May 14, England and Nottinghamshire fast bowler Harry Frederick Gurney has announced retirement from all formats of Cricket. The left-arm bowler represented England in 10 ODIs and two T20Is. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harry Gurney ([England](#)) – retirement from all formats of Cricket

351. On May 14, Rafael Nadal has beaten Novak Djokovic (Serbia) to win his 10th Men's Singles title of the Italian Open, also known as Rome Masters played in a Clay Court. In the Women's Category, Iga Swiatek has defeated Karolina Pliskova from Czech Republic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rafael Nadal ([Spain - Tennis](#)) – won his 10th Men's Singles title of the Italian Open
- Iga Swiatek ([Poland - Tennis](#)) – won the Women's Singles title of the Italian Open

Important Days & Dates

352. International Day of Families is annually observed by the United Nations across the world on May 15. This year, the theme is "Families and New Technologies". In 1993, the General Assembly decided that this day will be observed on May 15 every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 15 – UN's International Day of Families (since 1993)
- Theme – "Families and New Technologies"

353. May 16 is celebrated as the Statehood Day of Sikkim, the day when Sikkim became the 22nd state of the Indian Union in 1975. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – 46th Statehood Day of Sikkim (Sikkim became the 22nd state of India in 1975)
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

354. The International Day of Light is celebrated annually on May 16. The day also marks the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in 1960 by physicist & engineer Theodore Maiman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – International Day of Light

355. On the occasion of 14th World Agri-tourism Day on 16th May, the Department of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra is organizing an International Conference on Agri Tourism on 15th & 16th of May 2021. The theme of the conference is - "Rural Women Sustainable Entrepreneurship Opportunities through Agri". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – 14th World Agri-Tourism Day
- Theme of the Conference – "Rural Women Sustainable Entrepreneurship Opportunities through Agri"



356. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare decided May 16 to be observed as the “National Dengue Day” in India. This viral disease is caused by the dengue virus (DENV, 1–4 serotypes) and it is spread by a specific mosquito called ‘Aedes Aegypti’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – “National Dengue Day” – observed in India by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- It is spread by a mosquito called ‘Aedes Aegypti’ & caused by dengue virus (DENV, 1–4 serotypes)

357. In 2017, the United Nations declared 16 May the “International Day of Living Together in Peace”, to promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, understanding, and solidarity across the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 16 – “International Day of Living Together in Peace” – by the UN (since 2017)

358. World Hypertension day is celebrated on May 17 every year. It is observed annually to raise awareness about the symptoms of hypertension. This year, the theme is “Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer”. The day was first inaugurated in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 17 – World Hypertension day (since 2005)
- Theme – “Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer”

359. 17 May, is the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. It’s a day to recognise that while the rights of the LGBTQI+ people have significantly advanced in recent decades, progress remains patchy and geographically uneven. This year, the theme is “Together: Resisting, Supporting, Healing”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 17 – International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia
- Theme – “Together: Resisting, Supporting, Healing”

360. World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is observed every year on May 17. WTISD is an amalgamation of World Information Society Day and World Telecommunication Society Day. The theme for this year is “Accelerating Digital Transformation in challenging times”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 17 – World Telecommunication and Information Society Day
- Theme – “Accelerating Digital Transformation in challenging times”
- [HQs of International Telecommunication Union – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [Head – Houlin Zhao](#)

361. The 6th UN Global Road Safety Week (UNGRSW), held from 17-23 May 2021, highlights the benefits of low-speed urban streets as the heart of any community. UNGRSW mandates 30Km/hr as the nominal speed limit for cities across the world. Under this, the World Health Organisation (WHO) organizes a global road safety campaign annually. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 17-23 May – 6th UN Global Road Safety Week
- Nominal speed limit for cities across the world – 30Km/hr

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

362. Apurva Chandra (Secretary of Labour and Employment) has chaired the 1st BRICS Employment Working Group (EWG) Meeting virtually held on 11-12 May in Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi. India has assumed BRICS Presidency this year. The prime agenda for the discussions were Promoting Social Security Agreements (SSA) amongst BRICS Nations, Formalization of labour markets, Participation of women in labour force and Gig and platform workers - Role in labour market. Apart from BRICS countries, representatives from International Labour Organization (ILO) were also present in the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Apurva Chandra – chaired the 1st BRICS Employment Working Group (EWG) Meeting (hosted by India)
- BRICS countries + Representatives from ILO = were present in the meeting
- Prime agenda for the discussions:
 - Promoting Social Security Agreements (SSA) amongst BRICS Nations
 - Formalization of labour markets
 - Participation of women in labour force
 - Role of Gig & platform workers in labour market
- Theme of BRICS 2021 – “BRICS@15: Intra BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation & Consensus”
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 – India

363. On May 11, The 4th India-Swiss Financial Dialogue was held virtually in New Delhi. Secretary of Economic Affairs Ajay Seth has led the Indian delegation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th India-Swiss Financial Dialogue held in New Delhi – Indian delegation led by Ajay Seth (Secretary of EA)
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Guy Parmelin

364. On May 13, The Department of Economic Affairs and the New Development Bank (NDB) have jointly organised a virtual seminar on “Social Infrastructure Financing and use of Digital Technologies” as part of the Economic and Financial Cooperation Agenda under the Indian BRICS Chairmanship, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dept. of EA + NDB = organised a virtual seminar on “Social Infrastructure Financing and use of Digital Technologies”
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Prado Troyjo (established by BRICS Countries - in 2014)



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

365. On May 14, Y. Nuklu Phom, an environmentalist from Nagaland's remote Longleng district has won this year's Whitley Awards 2021, also known as the Green Oscar, in a virtual award ceremony organised by the UK-based Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN). He has won this award for creating the 'Biodiversity Peace Corridor' to protect Amur Falcon. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nuklu Phom ([Longleng, Nagaland](#)) – won the "Whitley Awards 2021" (Green Oscar)
- Award for: Creating the 'Biodiversity Peace Corridor' to protect Amur Falcon
- [HQs of Whitley Fund for Nature \(WFN\) – UK](#)

366. On May 13, According to the latest list by Fortune, New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has topped the Fortune's 2021 "World's 50 Greatest Leaders" list. The only Indian among the top 10 names is Adar Poonawalla, CEO of Serum Institute of India (SII). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jacinda Ardern ([PM of New Zealand](#)) – topped the Fortune's 2021 "World's 50 Greatest Leaders" list
- The only Indian among the top 10 names – Adar Poonawalla ([CEO of SII](#))



Appointments & Resignations

367. On May 13, The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has appointed former Indian cricketer Ramesh Powar as the head coach of Indian Women's Cricket Team. He will replace W. V. Raman, who was appointed the head coach of the India women's team in December 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BCCI – appointed Ramesh Powar as the head coach of Indian Women's Cricket Team
- He will replace W. V. Raman
- [HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | President – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah](#)

368. On May 14, K. P. Sharma Oli has sworn in as Nepal's Prime Minister for the 3rd time even after he lost a vote of confidence in Parliament. He previously served as prime minister from October 11, 2015 to August 3, 2016 and again from February 15, 2018 to May 13, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- K. P. Sharma Oli – sworn in as Nepal's Prime Minister for the 3rd time
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – K. P. Sharma Oli](#)



369. On May 13, Shri S. Balachandran, presently Consul General of India in Jaffna, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Suriname. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Balachandran – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Suriname
- [Suriname – Paramaribo – Dollar | President – Chandrikapersad \(Chan\) Santokhi](#)

370. On May 13, Italy has for the first time appointed a woman, career diplomat Elisabetta Belloni, to head Italy's Security Intelligence Department (DIS). The DIS's brief includes handling intelligence and security matters at home and abroad as well as counter-espionage and cybersecurity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elisabetta Belloni – first woman appointed to head Italy's Security Intelligence Department (DIS)
- [Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi](#)

371. On May 11, Ram Karan Verma, presently Ambassador of India to the Democratic Republic of Congo, has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to the Central African Republic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Karan Verma – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Central African Republic
- [Central African Republic – Bangui – CFA Franc | President – Faustin-Archange Touadera](#)

372. On May 14, Footwear major Bata India has appointed Gunjan Shah as its new Chief Executive Officer. Currently, Shah is serving at Britannia Industries as its chief commercial officer. Sandeep Kataria, Bata India's current CEO, has been elevated to the position of global CEO of Bata brands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gunjan Shah – appointed as the CEO of Bata India
- Sandeep Kataria – elevated as global CEO of Bata brands
- [HQs of Bata Corporation – Lausanne, Switzerland | CEO – Sandeep Kataria](#)
- [HQs of Bata India Ltd – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Gunjan Shah](#)

373. On May 13, General Secretary of Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), Manisha Kapoor has been appointed as the Vice President of the International Council for Advertising Self-Regulation (ICAS). She will be one of the four vice-presidents to serve on the Executive committee of the global body. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manisha Kapoor – appointed as the Vice President of the ICAS
- [HQs of ASCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Subhash Kamath | General Secretary – Manisha Kapoor](#)



374. On May 13, India-born entrepreneur Rajesh Agrawal has been re-appointed as London's Deputy Mayor for Business by Mayor Sadiq Khan. Rajesh Agrawal is also the co-chair of the Labour Friends of India (LFIN) diaspora representative group of the Opposition Labour Party. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajesh Agrawal – re-appointed as London's Deputy Mayor for Business – by Mayor Sadiq Khan

375. On May 13, TVS Motor Company has appointed Robert Hentschel as the Chief Executive Officer and Vittorio Urciuoli as Chief Technical Officer of the Norton Motorcycle Co. Ltd. Robert will replace John Russell. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Robert Hentschel – appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Norton Motorcycle Co. Ltd
- Vittorio Urciuoli – appointed as the Chief Technical Officer of Norton Motorcycle Co. Ltd
- HQs of Norton Motorcycle – England, UK | CEO – Robert Hentschel (owned by – TVS Motor)

Amount & Agreements

376. On May 10, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has allocated Rs 2250 Cr for development of horticulture sector during 2021-22 and especially for "Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture" (MIDH), a centrally sponsored scheme. The Ministry has been implementing MIDH with effect from 2014-15. India recorded its highest ever horticulture production of 320.77 million tonnes from an area of 25.66 million hectares. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agriculture Ministry – allocated Rs 2250 Cr for "Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture" (MIDH)
- India recorded its highest ever horticulture production of 320.77 million tonnes
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – Narendra Singh Tomar (Constituency – Morena, MP)

377. On May 15, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has provided an all-time high amount of Rs 1,236 Cr from its Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) during the financial year 2020-21 with Rural Connectivity Projects (Roads & Bridges) as the focus area in the state of Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD – provided Rs 1,236 Cr from its Rural Infrastructure Development Fund for Assam in FY21
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu | Founded in – 1982
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



378. On May 14, Asian Development Bank (ADB) has committed \$3.92 billion in sovereign loans for 13 projects to India in 2020. This includes over \$1.8 billion fund related with Covid-19. It is the highest-ever annual lending commitment to India. ADB also committed \$356.1 million through its non-sovereign operations to India. Among the new projects committed in 2020 included \$500 million to build a modern, high-speed 82-kilometers Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit system corridor. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – committed \$3.92 billion in sovereign loans for 13 projects to India in 2020
- ADB also committed \$356.1 million through its non-sovereign operations to India
- \$500 million to build high-speed 82-kilometers Delhi-Meerut RRTS
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

379. On May 14, As per the “Environmental Risk Outlook 2021” released by Verisk Maplecroft, of the 100 most vulnerable cities, 99 are in Asia. Of those, 37 are in China and 43 are in India. Asian cities face the greatest risk from environmental issues including air pollution and natural disasters. Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, topped the list of combined risk based on all nine factors analyzed by Verisk Maplecroft. India is home to 13 of the 20 riskiest cities in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Environmental Risk Outlook 2021” released by Verisk Maplecroft
- 100 most vulnerable cities: 99 are in Asia (India – 43 & China – 37)
- Jakarta ([Indonesia](#)) – topped the list of combined risk based on all 9 factors
- India – home to 13 of the 20 riskiest cities in the world

380. On May 12, Irish Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) fighter and Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) icon Conor McGregor has been crowned the Forbes’s highest-paid athlete in the world for the first time in his career. McGregor is followed by Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Conor McGregor ([Ireland - Mixed martial Artist](#)) – topped the Forbes’s Highest-paid Athlete’s list (\$180 m)
- 2nd – Lionel Messi (\$130 m) | 3rd – Cristiano Ronaldo (\$120 m)



Acquisitions & Mergers

381. On May 10, Online investment platform Groww has announced to acquire Indiabulls Mutual Fund for a total consideration of Rs 175 Cr. The Alternate Investment Fund (AIF) and Portfolio Management Service (PMS) businesses will be demerged from the existing Indiabulls Asset Management Company (IBAMC) structure, and remain under Indiabulls Housing Finance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Groww – to acquire Indiabulls Mutual Fund for Rs 175 Cr
- HQs of Groww – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Lalit Keshre

382. On May 14, Piramal Capital and Housing Finance (PCHFL) has received an approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to take over Dewan Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) for Rs 35,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piramal Capital & Housing Finance – received an approval from CCI – to acquire DHFL for Rs 35,000 Cr
- HQs of Piramal Group – Mumbai, MH | Executive Director – Rajesh Laddha | Chairman – Ajay Piramal
- HQs of DHFL – Mumbai | CEO – Kapil Wadhawan



383. On May 9, The Cabinet has approved the signing of an MoU between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and the Qatar Financial Centre Authority (QFCA). The MoU would enhance cooperation between the institutes to strengthen the accounting profession and entrepreneurship base in Qatar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the signing of an MoU between = ICAI + Qatar Financial Centre Authority (QFCA)
- HQs of ICAI – New Delhi | President – Nihar N Jambusaria
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani

384. On May 13, India's Epsilon Advance Material (EAMPL) has signed an MoU with the UK's Beowulf Mining plc to set up a joint venture company in Finland. The MoU acts as a formal market entry vehicle for Epsilon for supplying anode material into Europe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Epsilon Advance Material + Beowulf Mining plc (UK) = an MoU to set up a joint venture company in Finland
- HQs of Epsilon Advance Material – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Vikram Handa
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin



385. On May 13, SoftBank Corp and OneWeb have signed an agreement for mutual cooperation to promote OneWeb's satellite communication services in the global and Japan markets. SoftBank aims to provide advanced seamless connectivity services and DX platform services by using global connectivity solutions that incorporate OneWeb's services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

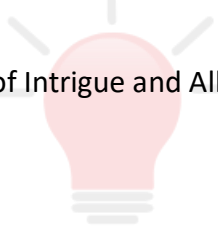
- SoftBank + OneWeb = an agreement for mutual cooperation to promote OneWeb's satellite communication services
- HQs of Softbank – Tokyo, Japan | Founder & CEO – Masayoshi Son
- HQs of OneWeb – London, UK | CEO – Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

Books & Authors

386. A book titled "Sikkim: A History of Intrigue and Alliance" by Preet Mohan Singh Malik has been published with permission from HarperCollins India. In Sikkim, former diplomat Preet Mohan Singh Malik writes about the Namgyal dynasty that ruled the Himalayan kingdom until it became India's 22nd state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Sikkim: A History of Intrigue and Alliance" book – authored by Preet Mohan Singh Malik



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Obituaries

387. On May 13, Times Group Chairperson Indu Jain has passed away due to Covid-related complications. She was 84. She set up The Times Foundation in 2000. She was the founder president of FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO), established in 1983. From 1999, she also served as chairperson of Bharatiya Jnanpith Trust, founded in 1944 by Sahu Shanti Prasad Jain, her father-in-law. She received Padma Bhushan for Trade and Industry in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indu Jain – Chairperson of Times Group – passed away (Padma Bhushan for Trade & Industry in 2016)
- Founder president of – FICCI Ladies Organisation | Chairperson of – Bharatiya Jnanpith Trust

388. On May 13, Noted Assamese litterateur and journalist 'Homen Borgohain' has passed away recently. He was 88. He won the Sahitya Akademi in 1978 for his novel "Pita Putra" but returned the award in 2015 to protest the growing intolerance in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Homen Borgohain ([Assam](#)) – a Litterateur & Journalist – passed away (Sahitya Akademi in 1978 for "Pita Putra")
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur](#) | [CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma](#) | [Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)



389. On May 15, Senior Congress leader and six-time MP from Amritsar Raghunandan Lal Bhatia has passed away after a brief illness. He was 100. He was first elected to the Lok Sabha in 1972 from Amritsar. Mr Bhatia had also served as the Governor of Kerala and Bihar from 2004 to 2008 and 2008 to 2009, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Raghunandan Lal Bhatia – a Politician – passed away (Party – INC | 6-time MP from Amritsar, Punjab)
- He served as the Governor of – Kerala & Bihar

390. Padma Bhushan awardee Mudumbai Seshachulu Narasimhan, a towering figure in Indian science, has passed away on May 15 in Bangalore. He was 88. He was a world-renowned mathematician of extraordinary breadth and depth. He is the only Indian to receive the King Faisal International Prize in Science. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. S. Narasimhan – a world-renowned mathematician – passed away (Padma Bhushan)
- He is the only Indian to receive – “King Faisal International Prize in Science”

Person in News

391. On May 13, Mingma Tenji Sherpa, a 43-year-old Nepali mountain guide, has created a world record by scaling Mount Everest twice in the shortest span of four days only. Besides, Nepali mountain guide Kami Rita Sherpa broke his own record by climbing the mountain for the 25th time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mingma Tenji Sherpa ([Nepal](#)) – created a world record by scaling Mount Everest twice in just 4 days
- Kami Rita Sherpa ([Nepal](#)) – broke his own record by climbing the mountain for the 25th time
- [Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – K. P. Sharma Oli](#)

Science & Technology

392. On May 13, IIT Ropar has developed an alternative to the mercury blood pressure (BP) monitor that works just like the mercury type but is free of mercury. India is a signatory to the Minamata Convention of the World Health Organization (WHO) under which mercury BP monitors are to be banned. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Ropar – developed an alternative to Mercury BP monitor

393. On May 13, NASA and aerospace startup Axiom Space have signed an agreement to send 4 people to the International Space Station (ISS) as early as January 2022. The plan for the mission, called “Axiom Mission 1” (AX-1), is to send men into orbit on one of SpaceX's Crew Dragon spaceships. AX-1 would launch atop SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA + Axiom Space = to launch a mission called “Axiom Mission 1” (AX-1) to send men into orbit
- They have signed an agreement to send 4 people to the International Space Station (ISS) – in Jan, 2022
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958
- HQs of Axiom Space – Houston, Texas, US | CEO – Michael Suffredini

394. Billionaire Jeff Bezos' rocket company, Blue Origin has announced to launch its 1st Space Tourism Trip on its New Shepard spacecraft on July 20. Virgin Galactic also aims to fly private customers in early 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Blue Origin – opened up bidding for the 1st Space Tourism Trip in July, 2021
- HQs of Blue Origin – Washington, US | CEO – Bob Smith | Founder – Jeff Bezos | Founded in – 2000

395. A Chinese spacecraft “Tianwen-1” has landed on Mars, making China only the second country after the US to send a rover namely “Zhurong” to the surface of the Red Planet. Zhurong rover is named after an ancient Chinese god of fire. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – became 2nd country after the US to send a rover namely “Zhurong” on Mars (using “Tianwen-1”)
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

396. After the successful roll out in 3 states, Ex-Defence OPD, now renamed as “Defence National OPD”, has been launched across pan India on 14 May. Veteran defence doctors will provide free online consultation services on the e-Sanjeevani platform. e-Sanjeevani OPD is a Government of India flagship telemedicine platform, developed by the C-DAC, Mohali. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Defence National OPD” – launched across India on ‘e-Sanjeevani platform’ – for Free online medical consultations
- It is developed by – the C-DAC (Mohali)
- ‘C-DAC’ functions under – Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni

397. On May 14, Google has partnered with SpaceX to provide cloud services to help deliver internet through the latter's Starlink satellites. Under the deal, SpaceX will install Starlink ground stations at Google data centres that connect to Starlink satellites, with an aim to enable high-speed broadband internet via Google Cloud. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Google + SpaceX = partnership to provide cloud services to SpaceX's Starlink satellites
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002

398. On May 14, Amid rising COVID-19 related fatalities, IIT Ropar has launched an Eco-friendly Cremation Cart, fitted with stainless steel insulation for ensuring no heat loss and less wood consumption. The cart has been developed in collaboration with Cheema Boilers Limited. It works on temperature above 1000°C that ensures complete sterilization. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Ropar – launched an Eco-friendly Cremation Cart (in collaboration with Cheema Boilers Ltd)

399. The European Space Agency (ESA) has announced that its latest space probe, the “Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer” (Juice), had been delivered to ESA's European Space Research and Technology Centre (Estec) in the Netherlands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer” (Juice) mission – belongs to ESA
- HQs of ESA – Paris, France | CEO – Johann-Dietrich Wörner

400. On May 17, A new species of dinosaur called the “Talkative Dinosaur” discovered by Mexican paleontologists is believed to have been ‘very communicative’ and used low-frequency sounds like elephants to talk to each other. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A new species of dinosaur called the “Talkative Dinosaur” discovered – in Mexico
- Mexico – Mexico city – Mexican Peso | President – Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador





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