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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

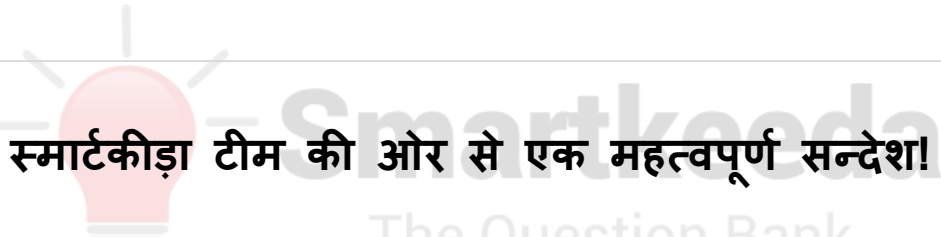
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of May 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if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

601. On May 24, The Ministry of Power will set up a “National Mission on use of Biomass” in Coal based Thermal Power Plants to address the issue of air pollution due to farm stubble burning and to reduce carbon footprints of thermal power generation. The duration of the proposed National Mission would be a minimum 5 years. The proposed National Mission on biomass will also contribute to the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Power – to set up a “National Mission on use of Biomass” in Coal based Thermal Power Plants
- Minimum duration of this National Mission – 5 years
- Ministry of Power and New & Renewable Energy – R. K. Singh (Raj Kumar Singh)

602. On May 24, Anurag Thakur, Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs has launched the first phase of a data analytics driven version of “MCA 21 Version 3.0” (V3.0). It is being implemented in two phases with the second and final phase likely to be launched in October 2021. The first phase comprised of revamped website, new email services for MCA Officers and two new modules, namely, eBook and eConsultation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Corporate Affairs – launched the 1st phase of “MCA 21 Version 3.0” (V3.0)
- The 2nd phase is to be launched – in October, 2021
- “MCA 21” – an Online portal of Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- Nirmala Sitharaman – Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs | Constituency – Karnataka

603. On May 23, In order to seek the World Heritage Site tag for 14 forts in the state, the Maharashtra government has prepared and submitted a tentative serial nomination for these sites. All 14 of them belong to the era of Maratha king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in the 17th century and these forts have been built on the theme of Maratha Military Architecture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – submitted a tentative list of 14 forts to seek the World Heritage Site tag
- All 14 of them have been built on the theme of – Maratha Military Architecture
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

604. On May 23, The first consignment of well-known GI-certified “Shahi Litchi” was sent from Bihar’s Muzaffarpur district to the United Kingdom via a special flight. The consignment is being exported by Cira Enterprises. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- First consignment of GI-certified “Shahi Litchi” was sent to the UK – from Muzaffarpur, Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson



605. On May 25, Gift city regulator IFSCA has constituted 12-member Expert Committee on Investment Funds to recommend the roadmap for the funds industry in the International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs). The committee is headed by Nilesh Shah, Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Co Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IFSCA – constituted 12-member Expert Committee on Investment Funds – headed by Nilesh Shah
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

606. On May 25, The Central Government has allowed free import of Tur, Urad and Moong after a gap of 3 years as the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put imports of all these 3 types of pulses under a Non-Restricted list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of C&I – allowed free import of Tur, Urad & Moong – by putting them under a Non-Restricted list

607. On May 25, Mohali International Hockey Stadium has been renamed as “Olympian Balbir Singh Senior International Hockey Stadium” on the first death anniversary of the legendary sportsperson. India’s 3 time Olympics champion, Balbir Singh Senior was the manager of the 1975 World Cup-winning Indian hockey team. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mohali International Hockey Stadium – renamed as “Olympian Balbir Singh Senior International Hockey Stadium”
- The stadium is located in – Mohali, Punjab

608. On May 25, The Union Cabinet of India has granted approval for MoUs entered into by the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICoAI) and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) with Foreign Countries/Organisations. The ICoAI and the ICSI have signed MoUs with some foreign organizations i.e. the Institute of Public Accountants (IPA), Australia and Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA), UK. Besides, the cabinet also approved the creation of a new post of Director in the NDRF Academy in Nagpur, Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet granted approval for MoUs entered into by – ICoAI & ICSI
- ICoAI & ICSI signed MoUs with some foreign organizations:
- Institute of Public Accountants (IPA), Australia
- Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI), UK
- Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA), UK
- Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), UK
- Institute of Certified Management Accountants, Sri Lanka
- HQs of ICoAI – Kolkata, West Bengal | President – Biswarup Basu
- HQs of ICSI – New Delhi | CEO – Sutanu Sinha



609. On May 25, WhatsApp has filed a legal complaint in Delhi against the Indian government seeking to block regulations coming into force that experts say would compel Facebook unit to break privacy protections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WhatsApp – filed a legal complaint in Delhi against the Indian government seeking to block regulations
- HQs of Whatsapp – California, USA | CEO – Jan Koum | Founded in – 2009

610. On May 25, Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) has decided to set-up One-Stop Centres (OSC) in 9 countries to provide legal, medical and emotional support to Indian women facing violence abroad. The Ministry of External Affairs will set-up and operate these OSCs in the missions abroad with support from the Union ministry of women and child development. Besides, 300 more OSCs will also be opened across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoWCD – decided to set-up One-Stop Centres (OSC) in 9 countries – to support Indian women facing violence abroad
- Ministry of External Affairs will set-up & operate these OSCs
- OSC scheme was launched in – 2015 | 100% centrally sponsored scheme – under ‘Nirbhaya Fund’
- Smriti Zubin Irani – Minister of Women and Child Development, Minister of Textiles (Constituency – Amethi, UP)

611. On May 23, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has formed a committee to submit a report on alleged violation of norms in the construction of “Mekedatu Dam” across Cauvery river in Karnataka. The committee comprises Justice K Ramakrishnan and expert member K Satyagopal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NGT – formed a committee on Mekedatu dam construction violation | Location: across Cauvery river (Karnataka)
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

612. From May 15 to 31, The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has launched a 15-day “Special GST Refund Disposal Drive” to clear all pending GST refunds by month-end. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBIC – launched a 15-day “Special GST Refund Disposal Drive” – to clear all pending GST refunds
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar | Founded in – 1964

613. On May 26, Karnataka Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa has launched a first of its kind portal named “Akanksha” to provide comprehensive details on all the CSR activities in the state. The online portal has been developed in partnership with the UNDP. The portal will help the corporate sector, government and the donors to utilise CSR funds for Government programmes. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Karnataka + UNDP = launched a portal “Akanksha” to provide comprehensive details on all the CSR activities
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – B. S. Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

614. On May 27, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the “Services e-Health Assistance and Tele-consultation” (SeHAT) portal to provide tele-medicine services to serving military personnel, veterans and their families. This is the final version of the ‘SeHAT’ OPD portal. The trial version was made functional in August 2020. Besides, the last tranche of emergency medical supplies arrived from South Korea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – launched “Services e-Health Assistance & Tele-consultation” (SeHAT) portal – for military personnel
- The last tranche of Emergency Medical Supplies arrived from – South Korea
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in

615. On May 27, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has launched “Manipur Home Isolation Management (MHIM)” Mobile Application for Home Isolation Patients at Chief Minister’s Secretariat. The Mobile Application was developed by Pentabyte Technologies LLP with a mission to provide real-time health data and information of Home Isolation COVID-19 patients. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur – launched “Manipur Home Isolation Management (MHIM)” mobile app for Home Isolation Patients
- The app is developed by – Pentabyte Technologies
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

616. On May 26, The very severe cyclonic storm, “Yaas” crossed north Odisha coast about 20 km south of Balasore with an estimated wind speed of 130-140 kmph gusting to 155 kmph. Cyclone Yaas was named by Oman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Cyclone Yaas” crossed Odisha coast (very severe cyclonic storm)
- It is named by – Oman
- Oman – Muscat – Rial | Sultan – Haitham bin Tariq Al Said

617. On May 26, Union Minister of state (IC) for Ayush Shri Kiren Rijiju has launched the Ayush Clinical Case Repository (ACCR) portal and the 3rd version of Ayush Sanjivani app in a virtual event. This portal aims to aggregate information about clinical outcomes achieved by Ayush practitioners on a large scale. The portal and app are part of the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shri Kiren Rijiju – launched Ayush Clinical Case Repository (ACCR) portal & 3rd version of Ayush Sanjivani app
- MoS of AYUSH – Kiren Rijiju (additional charge for temporarily)



618. On May 28, Karnataka Government in partnership with the COVIDActionCollab has launched India's First City-wide Environmental Surveillance Platform called "Precision Health Platform" in Bengaluru. It is the first of its kind in Asia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka + COVIDActionCollab = launched India's First "Precision Health Platform" in Bengaluru
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

619. Markets regulator SEBI will appoint auditors for conducting Forensic Audits of financial statements of listed companies as part of efforts to curb frauds. [{Read more}](#)

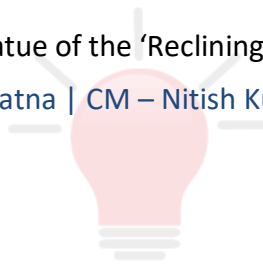
Key Points:

- SEBI – to appoint Auditors for conducting Forensic Audits of financial statements of listed companies
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

620. On May 27, India's largest statue of the 'Reclining Buddha' will be installed at the Buddha International Welfare Mission temple in Bodh Gaya. The ceremony has been put off due to Covid-19 restrictions. It is 100-foot fibreglass statue. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's largest statue of the 'Reclining Buddha' will be installed at – Bodh Gaya, Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan



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International Affairs

621. On May 24, India and Israel have signed a 3-year joint work programme till 2023 with an aim to enhance cooperation in the field of agriculture. However, under the new work programme, Villages of Excellence (VoE) - a model ecosystem in agriculture, will be created across eight states. India and Israel have had bilateral relations since 1993 in the agricultural sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Israel = 3-year joint work programme till 2023 to enhance cooperation – in Agriculture field
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

622. On May 23, The Union Cabinet, chaired by the PM Narendra Modi has approved the opening of a new Consulate General of India in Addu City, Maldives. Maldives occupies an important place in the 'Neighbourhood First Policy' and the 'SAGAR' (Security and Growth for All in the Region) vision of the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved the opening of a new Consulate General of India – in Addu City, Maldives
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih



623. The World Health Organization (WHO) has formed a high-level expert panel “One Health” to study the emergence and spread of Zoonotic Diseases like H5N1, Avian influenza, MERS, Ebola, Zika and COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO – formed a high-level expert panel “One Health” to study the emergence & spread of Zoonotic Diseases
- Zoonotic Diseases – H5N1, Avian influenza, MERS, Ebola, Zika & COVID-19
- Zoonotic Disease: A disease that can be transmitted from animals to people
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

624. Rock art in Indonesia is decaying at an alarming rate. A picture of a wild pig which was drawn over 45,500 years ago on the island of Sulawesi is considered the world’s oldest animal cave painting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The world’s oldest animal cave painting – a picture of a Wild Pig drawn over 45,500 years ago on Sulawesi island
- Sulawesi Island – located in Indonesia
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo

625. On May 27, India is expected to acquire 4 Heron long-endurance drones from Israel on lease in the next few months to primarily crank up its surveillance capabilities along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China. The drones are capable of operating for nearly 45 hours at an altitude of up to 35,000 feet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to acquire 4 Heron long-endurance drones – from Israel on lease
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

Banking & Economic Affairs

626. On May 24, Fintech platform FlexiLoans has partnered with Vivriti Capital to provide working capital financing of over ₹300 Cr to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across India. The partnership will be powered by FlexiLoans’ technology and credit underwriting platform ‘BiFrost’ which has been integrated with Vivriti’s Co-lending platform ‘CredAvenue’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘BiFrost’ (FlexiLoans) + ‘CredAvenue’ (Vivriti Capital) = to provide working capital financing of over ₹300 Cr to MSMEs
- HQs of FlexiLoans – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Co-Founder – Manish Lunia
- HQs of Vivriti Capital – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Founder & MD – Vineet Sukumar



627. On May 24, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has tied-up with PayCore as one of the certified partners for “RuPay SoftPOS” to drive cashless payments across India. The solution will allow merchants to convert their NFC enabled smartphones into a POS machine to accept contactless payments through RuPay SoftPOS. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPCI + PayCore = partnership for “RuPay SoftPOS” to drive cashless payments across India
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008
- HQs of PayCore – Turkey | CEO – Raul Villar

628. On May 24, The RBI has issued guidelines for amalgamation of District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) with State Cooperative Banks (StCBs). This is subject to various conditions, including that a proposal should be made by the state government concerned. NABARD has to examine and recommend the proposal of the state government. The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2020 has been notified for the StCBs and DCCBs with effect from April 1, 2021. Besides, ‘Section 44A’ of the Banking Regulation act, 1949 provides effective procedure for voluntary amalgamation of banking entities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI issued guidelines for merging District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) with State Cooperative Banks (StCBs)
- A proposal should be made by – State Government
- NABARD – has to examine & recommend the proposal of the state government
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

629. On May 25, HDFC Ltd will raise up-to Rs 7,000 Cr by issuing bonds on private placement basis. The base issue size for the secured redeemable non-convertible debentures (NCDs) is Rs 5,000 Cr. It will offer coupon rate of 6% per annum on the bonds. The bonds have a tenor of 4 years and 363 days. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Ltd will raise up-to Rs 7,000 Cr by issuing bonds on private placement basis | Base issue size – Rs 5,000 Cr
- Tenor of Bonds – 4 years & 363 days

630. On May 27, ICICI Bank has launched a facility called “Pockets” for linking a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ID with its digital wallet. The bank has collaborated with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to link its ‘Pockets’ digital wallet to the UPI network. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank + NPCI = launched a facility called “Pockets” for linking UPI ID with its digital wallet
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008



631. On May 27, Punjab National Bank and PNB Housing Finance have signed a fresh Brand Agreement which gives PNB the right to withdraw its brand name from the PNB Housing. Currently, PNB holds 33% in PNB Housing. In case, PNB's shareholding in PNB Housing falls below 20%, PNB would have the right to terminate the revised agreement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB + PNB Housing Finance = a fresh Brand Agreement giving PNB the right to withdraw its brand name
- Currently, PNB holds 33% in PNB Housing
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline – “The Name You Can Bank Upon”
- HQs of PNB Housing Finance – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Hardayal Prasad

632. On May 27, YES Bank has implemented TransUnion's onboarding solution, which will enable it to onboard its credit card customers seamlessly. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- YES Bank – implemented TransUnion's onboarding solution
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

633. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has unveiled plans to revamp the way it conducts Economic Assessments to better account for risks related to climate change, inequality and demographics, as well as evolving digital technologies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMF – unveiled plans to include Climate Change & Digital Technologies into Economic Assessments
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

634. The RBI has released its Annual Report for 2020-21. The balance sheet size of RBI increased by 6.99% (Rs 3.73 lakh Cr) for the year ended 31 March 2021, mainly reflecting its liquidity and foreign exchange operations. Due to this transition, the accounting year 2020-21 was of 9 months only, i.e., July 2020 - March 2021. Net income for the 9 months stood at Rs 99,126 Cr. The RBI saw a 69% jump in earnings from Foreign Exchange Transaction. Bank Frauds of more than Rs 1 lakh has been decreased by 25% in 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The balance sheet size of RBI increased by – 6.99% (Rs 3.73 lakh Cr) for 2020-21
- Net income for the 9 months stood at – Rs 99,126 Cr
- Earnings from Foreign Exchange Transaction increased by – 69%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935



Schemes & Initiatives

635. On May 24, TRIFED has partnered with NITI Aayog to implement the “Van Dhan Yojana” in 39 Tribal Aspirational districts of India identified by NITI Aayog. An additional 9900 VDVks are proposed to be established. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TRIFED + NITI Aayog – to implement the “Van Dhan Yojana” in 39 Tribal Aspirational districts
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna | Launched in – 1987
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

636. On May 23, The Madhya Pradesh government has launched “Ankur Scheme” under which citizens will be awarded for planting trees during monsoon. People who take the initiative to plant saplings will be given the Pranvayu Award for their participation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – launched “Ankur Scheme” – to give ‘Pranvayu Award’ to people for planting trees
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

637. On May 24, Maharashtra government has launched the “Mission Oxygen Self-Reliance” scheme to meet the state’s oxygen needs. Special incentives will be given to oxygen producing industries under this scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – launched the “Mission Oxygen Self-Reliance” scheme
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

638. On May 24, Jammu & Kashmir has launched a “Special Assistance Scheme for Covid Mortalities” (SASCM) for financial assistance to families, who lost their only bread earner to the Coronavirus pandemic. Under the SASCM scheme, cash assistance of Rs 1000 per month shall be provided to spouse. Besides, the SASCM scheme provides for a scholarship of Rs 20,000 per annum for school-going students and Rs 40,000 per annum for college-going students. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – launched a “Special Assistance Scheme for Covid Mortalities” (SASCM)
- Rs 1000 / month to spouse | Rs 20,000 / annum for school students | Rs 40,000 / annum for college students
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



Sports & Games

639. Indian para shuttlers Palak Kohli and Parul Parmar have qualified for doubles in the Tokyo Paralympics 2021. Their ranking is world No. 6 while Palak ranks No. 11 in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Palak Kohli & Parul Parmar ([Indian Para Badminton](#)) – qualified for doubles in the Tokyo Paralympics 2021

640. On May 24, The 50 year old, Phil Mickelson has become the oldest major winner in golf history to win the PGA Championship by two strokes for his sixth major title. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Phil Mickelson ([American Golfer](#)) – become the oldest major winner to win the PGA Championship

641. On May 25, Sami Khedira has retired from international football at the end of Bundesliga season. He was a World Cup winner in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sami Khedira ([Germany](#)) – retirement from International Football
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)

642. On May 24, Bayern Munich's Robert Lewandowski has been officially crowned Europe's Golden Shoe winner. He did so by scoring a record-breaking 41 goals in the Bundesliga en route to Bayern's ninth consecutive league title. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Robert Lewandowski ([Poland - Football](#)) – awarded with "Europe's Golden Shoe" award
- Robert Lewandowski – associated with Bayern Munich FC
- [Poland – Warsaw – Polish Zloty | President – Andrzej Sebastin Duda](#)

643. On May 23, World No. 5 Stefanos Tsitsipas has won the "Lyon Open 2021" clay-court title with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Briton Cameron Norrie. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Stefanos Tsitsipas ([Greece - Tennis](#)) – won the "Lyon Open 2021" (beating - Briton Cameron Norrie)
- [Greece – Athens – Euro | Turkey – Ankara – Lira](#)

644. Representing Kansas State University, India's Tejaswini Shankar has won consecutive men's High Jump Titles in the Big 12 Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Manhattan, USA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tejaswini Shankar ([Delhi](#)) – won men's High Jump Title in the Big 12 Outdoor Track & Field Championships ([USA](#))
- He represents – Kansas State University



Important Days & Dates

645. 'Buddha Jayanti' or 'Buddha Purnima' is the celebration of the birth of Gautama Buddha, and this year it will be observed on May 26. His birth anniversary is also known as 'Vaisakhi Buddha Purnima' or 'Vesak'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 26 – 'Buddha Jayanti' or 'Buddha Purnima' (birth anniversary of Gautama Buddha)

646. "International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories" was recently observed from May 25 to 31. From 1960 to 2002, 54 Territories attained self-government. The week was first observed in 2000. At present, there are 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories remaining. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 25 to 31 – UN's "International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories" (since 2000)

647. On May 28, World Hunger Day is annually observed across the globe since 2011. It has been estimated that almost 800 million people in the world don't have enough food to eat. This year, the theme is "Access Ends Hunger". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 28 – World Hunger Day (since 2011)
- Theme – "Access Ends Hunger"

648. The "International Day of Action for Women's Health" is celebrated every year on May 28. This year, the theme is "Women's Health Matters: Ending the Inequality Pandemic and Ensuring SRHR remains essential!". The human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality and individual agency, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination, and violence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 28 – International Day of Action for Women's Health
- Theme – "Women's Health Matters: Ending the Inequality Pandemic and Ensuring SRHR remains essential!"

649. May 28 is recognised as "Menstrual Hygiene Day". Many of you probably do not know that 15 - 40% of girls in the developing world do not attend school during their periods due to lack of access to sanitary napkins, toilets, sanitation and adequate privacy. This year, the theme is "Action and Investment in Menstrual Hygiene and Health". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 28 – Menstrual Hygiene Day
- Theme – "Action and Investment in Menstrual Hygiene and Health"



650. The 122nd birth anniversary of the national poet of Bangladesh Kazi Nazrul Islam was celebrated in Bangladesh on May 25. The Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) of the High Commission of India in Dhaka organised an online tribute to the great poet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- May 25 – 122nd birth anniversary Kazi Nazrul Islam (National Poet of Bangladesh)
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

651. On May 24, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare and the Chairman of WHO Executive Board presented details of the 147th and 148th sessions of the Executive Board before the 74th World Health Assembly. The 74th session of the WHA was held virtually from Geneva, Switzerland. The theme of the session was “Ending this pandemic, preventing the next: building together a healthier, safer and fairer world”. During the session, January 30 was unanimously adopted as “World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) Day” as proposed by the UAE. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – addressed the 74th World Health Assembly & presented details of 147th & 148th sessions of EB
- 74th session of World Health Assembly – held virtually from Geneva, Switzerland
- Theme – “Ending this pandemic, preventing the next: building together a healthier, safer and fairer world”
- January 30 – unanimously adopted as “World NTD Day” – as proposed by the UAE
- Union Health & Family Welfare Minister – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi)

652. On May 25, The 3rd Foreign Office Consultations between India and New Zealand were held virtually. Ms. Riva Ganguly Das has led the Indian delegation while New Zealand-side was led by Mr. Mark Sinclair. The previous round of consultations took place on 5 February 2019 in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3rd Foreign Office Consultations – held virtually between India & New Zealand
- Indian delegation was led by – Ms. Riva Ganguly Das
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | Prime Minister – Jacinda Ardern

653. On May 25-26, Experts deliberated on emerging issues in the various fields of Biotechnology and Biomedicine at the 4th BRICS Working Group meeting sponsored & organized by China. Indian side was led by Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Varshney. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th BRICS Working Group meeting – sponsored & organized by China
- Indian delegation led by – Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Varshney
- BRICS Member Countries = 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | BRICS Chairmanship in 2021 – India
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

654. On May 25, Shree Malani Foams Pvt Ltd has won the “Star Export House” award from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The certification is valid for 5 years between 2021 to 2026. With this notable development, Shree Malani Foams Pvt. Ltd. has emerged as the first and only mattress and mattress components company to be awarded this honour in the past 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shree Malani Foams Pvt Ltd – won the “Star Export House” award – from Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- The certification is valid for 5 years between – 2021 to 2026
- Location of Shree Malani Foams Pvt Ltd – Medak, Telangana | MD – Siddharth Malani

655. On May 24, A Bengaluru-based start-up, Breathe Applied Sciences has received the “National Award 2021” from the Technology Development Board for developing a commercial solution for conversion of carbon dioxide to chemicals and fuels. This start-up is incubated at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Breathe Applied Sciences (Bengaluru) – received “National Award 2021” from Technology Development Board
- Location of Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research – Bengaluru, Karnataka

656. On May 23, V. Kartikeyan Pandian, Private Secretary to Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik since 2011, was conferred with the FIH (International Hockey Federation) President’s Award in recognition for his contribution to the promotion of hockey in Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- V. Kartikeyan Pandian (Odisha) – conferred with the “FIH President’s Award 2021”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

657. On May 26, Indian Economist and Nobel Laureate Amartya Kumar Sen has been conferred with Spain’s top “Princess of Asturias Award” in the Social Sciences category. He won the ‘Nobel Prize’ in Economics in 1998. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amartya Kumar Sen – conferred with “Princess of Asturias Award” in the Social Sciences category
- “Princess of Asturias Award” – Top award of Spain
- Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez

658. On May 28, Emmy Award nominated choreographer Suresh Mukund, has recently become the first Indian to win the “World Choreography Award” during the 10th annual award ceremony in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suresh Mukund – became the first Indian to win the “World Choreography Award” in 2020



659. On May 28, Gurugram based startup Mooofarm's Co-founders Jitesh Arora, Abhijeet Mittal and Aashna Singh secured a place in the most esteemed "2021 Forbes 30 under-30 Asia List". The most used services of the app include E-dairy Mitra, Mooofarm Saba and the Cattle Trading platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jitesh Arora + Abhijeet Mittal + Aashna Singh = listed in the "2021 Forbes 30 under-30 Asia List"
- Category: Industry, Manufacturing & Energy
- HQs of Mooofarm – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Param Singh

660. Bharat Ratna Professor Chintamani Nages Ramachandra Rao has received "International Eni Award 2020" also called the "Energy Frontier Award" for research into Renewable Energy sources and energy storage. This is considered to be the Nobel Prize in Energy Research. The Energy Frontiers award is to be presented in October 2021 in Rome, Italy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C. N. R. Rao – received "International Eni Award 2020" also called the "Energy Frontier Award"
- This award is considered to be the Nobel Prize in 'Energy Research' | It will be presented in Oct 2021 – in Rome, Italy

661. On May 25, Padma Bhushan awardee and Chairman of AIG Hospitals, Dr. D Nageshwar Reddy has won the highest honour the "Rudolf V. Schindler Award" from The American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE). He is the first-ever Indian medical practitioner to get this recognition from ASGE for his work in the field of 'Endoscopy'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. D Nageshwar Reddy – won the highest honour the "Rudolf V. Schindler Award" – from ASGE
- He is the first-ever Indian to get this recognition – in the field of 'Endoscopy'

Appointments & Resignations

662. On May 25, The Badminton Association of India (BAI) president Himanta Biswa Sarma has been elected to the Badminton World Federation (BWF) council for the period 2021-25. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himanta Biswa Sarma – elected to the Badminton World Federation (BWF) council for the period 2021-25
- HQs of BWF – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President – Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen
- HQs of Badminton Association of India – New Delhi | President – Himanta Biswa Sarma



663. On May 25, Fiame Naomi Mata'afa has sworn in as the 1st female Prime Minister of Samoa. She is associated with Faith in the One True God. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fiame Naomi Mata'afa – sworn in as the 1st female Prime Minister of Samoa
- [Samoa – Apia – Samoan Tala | PM – Fiame Naomi Mata'afa](#)

664. On May 21, Anvee Bhutani, an Indian-origin student from Magdalen College at the University of Oxford has won the Student Union (SU) byelection for the 2021-22 academic year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anvee Bhutani – won the Student Union (SU) byelection for the 2021-22 academic year – at University of Oxford

665. On May 25, The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed Maharashtra cadre IPS officer of 1985 batch, Subodh Kumar Jaiswal as CBI Director for 2 years. He is currently Director General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Subodh Kumar Jaiswal – appointed as CBI Director for 2 years (Currently, DG in CISF)
- [HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Subodh Kumar Jaiswal | Motto – Industry, Impartiality, Integrity](#)

666. On May 24, French fashion tycoon Bernard Arnault, CEO and owner of French luxury group Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy (LVMH), has overtaken Amazon founder Jeff Bezos to become world's richest person on the Forbes Real Time Billionaires list 2021. His estimated net worth is \$186.3 billion followed by Jeff Bezos (\$186 billion) and Elon Musk (\$147.3 billion). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Forbes Real Time Billionaires list 2021” – as on May 24
- 1st – Bernard Arnault (\$186.3 billion) | 2nd – Jeff Bezos (\$186 billion) | 3rd – Elon Musk (\$147.3 billion)
- [HQs of FORBES – Jersey City, New Jersey](#)

667. On May 25, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has appointed David Barnea as the new head of the country's spy agency, “Mossad”. He will succeed Yossi Cohen as head of Israel's intelligence agency on June 1. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- David Barnea – appointed as the new head of “Mossad” - Israel's intelligence agency
- [Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu](#)

668. On May 25, Interim President Bah Ndaw and Prime Minister Moctar Ouane were detained by the Military officers of Mali. Both of them resigned from their posts while in detention. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bah Ndaw – resigned from the post of Interim President of – Mali (after detention)
- Moctar Ouane – resigned from the post of Prime Minister of – Mali (after detention)
- [Mali – Bamako – CFA franc](#)



669. On May 25, Research and Analysis Wing Chief Samant Kumar Goel and Intelligence Bureau head Arvind Kumar were given a 1-year extension in their services. The extensions were cleared by the Appointments Committee of Cabinet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Samant Kumar Goel – tenure extended for 1 year as the Chief of – Research & Analysis Wing (HQs – New Delhi)
- Arvind Kumar – tenure extended for 1 year as the Director of – Intelligence Bureau (HQs – New Delhi)

670. On May 28, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has been re-elected for the 4th term. Mr. Assad took 95% of the vote. [{Read more}](#)

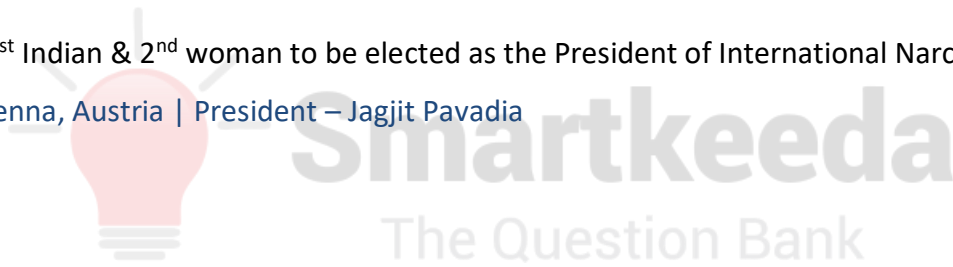
Key Points:

- Bashar al-Assad – re-elected as the President of Syria (4th term)
- Syria – Damascus – Syrian Pound | President – Bashar al-Assad

671. On May 23, Jagjit Pavadia has been elected as the President of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB). She is the first Indian to be heading the Vienna-based organization and the second woman to hold this office. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jagjit Pavadia – 1st Indian & 2nd woman to be elected as the President of International Narcotics Control Board
- HQs of INCB – Vienna, Austria | President – Jagjit Pavadia



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

672. On May 24, The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India has received the highest ever Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) during financial year 2020-21 at \$81.72 billion which is 10% higher than the previous fiscal. FDI equity inflow increased 19% during FY21 to \$59.64 billion, as against \$49.98 billion in FY20. Singapore was the biggest investor in India last fiscal, accounting for 29% FDI, followed by the US (23%) and Mauritius (9%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India received the highest ever FDI in FY21 – at \$81.72 billion (10% growth compared to previous year)
- FDI equity inflow increased 19% in FY21 – at \$59.64 billion
- Biggest investor in India in FY21 – Singapore (29%) | 2nd – US (23%) | 3rd – Mauritius (9%)

673. On May 25, As per the 3rd Advance Estimates for the 2020-21 Crop year released by the Agriculture Ministry, India's Foodgrain Production is estimated to rise 2.66% to a new record of 305.43 million tonnes in the current crop year 2020-21. In the 2019-20 crop year (July-June), India's Foodgrain Production stood at a record 297.5 million tonnes. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- The 3rd Advance Estimates for the 2020-21 Crop year – released by Agriculture Ministry
- India's Foodgrain Production is estimated to rise 2.66% to 305.43 million tonnes (in 2020-21)
- India's Foodgrain Production stood at 297.5 million tonnes (in 2019-20)

674. According to the “Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update” issued by the UK's Met Office & the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), there is about a 40% chance of the Annual Average Global Temperature temporarily reaching 1.5°C above the pre-industrial level in at least one of the next five years. There is 90% chance of at least one year between 2021-2025 will become the warmest on record. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update” – issued by Met Office (UK) & WMO
- Annual Average Global Temperature – to reach 1.5°C above the pre-industrial level (40% chance)
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Petteri Taalas | Established in – 1950

Acquisitions & Mergers

675. On May 25, For aggregate consideration of Rs 43.91 Cr, Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd (HDFC) has sold 81,05,667 shares representing 3.08% stake held in Reliance Infrastructure Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC – sold 3.08% stake held in Reliance Infrastructure Ltd – for Rs 43.91 Cr
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | CEO – Keki Mistry
- HQs of Reliance Infrastructure – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Punit Garg

676. On May 25, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has given approval to a proposal pertaining to intra-group reorganisation of the Motherson Group under the Green Channel Route - an automatic approval system. CCI received a notice relating to an intra-group reorganisation of the Motherson Group from Motherson Sumi Systems, Samvardhana Motherson International & Sumitomo Wiring Systems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI – approved intra-group reorganisation of the “Motherson Group” under Green Channel Route
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of Motherson Group – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Founder & Chairman – Vivek Chaand Sehgal

677. On May 26, PharmEasy has acquired Medlife for an undisclosed amount. The deal will make PharmEasy the largest player in the domestic online pharmacy sector. This acquisition spells the end of Medlife as a brand. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- PharmEasy – acquired Medlife for an undisclosed amount
- HQs of PharmEasy – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Dharmil Sheth
- HQs of Medlife – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Tushar Kumar

678. On May 27, Amazon has agreed to buy the Hollywood studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) movie company for \$8.45 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon – to acquire the Hollywood studio “Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM)” for \$8.45 billion
- HQs of MGM Studios Inc. – California, US
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Present CEO – Jeff Bezos (Andy Jassy from Oct 2021)

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

679. On May 20, PayNearby, a bank and digital payments network, has partnered with Centrum Microcredit Limited, the Centrum Group’s micro finance arm, to provide unsecured business loans to its retail partners as part of its Shop Owners Benefit Program. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PayNearby + Centrum Microcredit Ltd = to provide unsecured business loans to its retail partners
- HQs of PayNearby – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Anand Kumar Bajaj
- HQs of Centrum Microcredit Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Executive Director & CEO – Prashant Thakker

680. On May 25, The World Health Organization (WHO) and Switzerland have signed an MoU to launch a “BioHub” facility that will allow rapid sharing of pathogens between laboratories and partners to facilitate a better analysis and preparedness against them. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO + Switzerland = an MoU to launch a “BioHub” facility – for rapid sharing of viruses & pathogens
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Guy Parmelin

681. IIM Indore has partnered with the German Development Agency (GIZ) to identify the challenges across pandemic-hit sectors and to figure out ways to tackle them. Under the pact, IIM Indore has received a research grant of Rs 85.3 lakh from The Deutsche Gesellschaft fr Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIM Indore + GIZ = partnership to identify challenges across pandemic-hit sectors
- IIM Indore – received a research grant of Rs 85.3 lakh from Gesellschaft fr Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH



682. On May 25, V. O. Chidambaranar Port Trust has signed an MoU with National Technology Centre for Ports Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC) of IIT Madras for operation, manning and maintenance of Vessel Traffic System and development of indigenous vessel traffic software at the port. The duration of the MoU for maintenance and updating of the entire system is for a period of 5 years and is extendable by another 5 years. V. O. Chidambaranar Port became the 1st Indian Major Port to receive the indigenous VTS Software. VTS is mandatory under International Maritime Organisation Convention “SOLAS” (Safety of Life at Sea). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- V. O. Chidambaranar Port Trust + NTCPWC (IIT Madras) = an MoU for developing Indigenous VTS Software
- Duration of the MoU – 5 years
- VTS is mandatory – under IMO Convention “SOLAS” (Safety of Life at Sea)
- Location of V. O. Chidambaranar Port Trust – Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu

Books & Authors

683. On May 23, Shivshankar Menon, who was the Prime Minister’s National Security Adviser and Foreign Secretary, tells the story of how India weathered the many geopolitical storms of the past in his latest book, “India and Asian Geopolitics: The Past, Present”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “India and Asian Geopolitics: The Past, Present” book – authored by Shivshankar Menon

684. On May 25, A Delhi-based entrepreneur and mountaineer aims to raise Rs 1 Cr for COVID-19 relief from the sale proceeds of his recently released book “7 Lessons from Everest Expedition Learnings from Life and Business”. The coffee-table book, with 350 stunning images spread over 250 pages, is written by Aditya Gupta. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “7 Lessons from Everest Expedition Learnings from Life and Business” – written by Aditya Gupta
- The book aims to raise 1 Cr for child rights amid pandemic

685. Avtar Singh Bhasin has authored a book titled “Nehru, Tibet and China”. Based on years of meticulous archival research, this book in fascinating detail, analyses the events from 1949 to the Indo-China war in 1962 and its aftermath to explore the answers to these burning questions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Nehru, Tibet and China” book – authored by A. S. Bhasin

Obituaries

686. On May 21, Farmers' leader and former union minister, Babagouda Rudragouda Patil passed away. He was 80. He had represented the Belagavi Lok Sabha constituency in 1998 as a BJP nominee. He quit the BJP in early 2000 to join the JD(S). But he quit the JD(S) in 2013 and concentrated on organising farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Babagouda Rudragouda Patil ([Karnataka](#)) – a Politician & Farmers Leader – passed away [Parties – BJP/JD(S)]

687. On May 22, Yuan Longping, a Chinese Agricultural Scientist passed away at the age of 91. His breakthroughs in hybrid rice brought food security to China and transformed agriculture worldwide. He is also known as the “Father of Hybrid Rice”. He was honoured with the World Food Prize in 2004. His discovery of Nan-you No. 2, led to a rise in China's rice production from 5.69 billion tonnes in 1950 to 19.47 billion tonnes in 2000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yuan Longping also known as “Father of Hybrid Rice” ([China](#)) – an Agricultural Scientist – passed away
- His Awards: World Food Prize (2004) | His discovery: “Nan-you No. 2”
- [China](#): Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

688. On May 25, Col Panjab Singh, Vir Chakra awardee and a decorated veteran of the ‘1971 War’, passed away in Haryana due to post-COVID complications. He was 79. For this brave act, Col. Singh was awarded the third highest wartime gallantry award, the Vir Chakra, on December 24, 1971. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Col. Panjab Singh – a Decorated Army Veteran – passed away
- Awards: Vir Chakra (1971) - the 3rd highest Wartime Gallantry Award

689. On May 26, H. S. Doreswamy, centenarian freedom fighter, activist and Karnataka's noted voice for freedom of expression, passed away in Bengaluru. He was 104. He had recently recovered from COVID-19. He ran the Indian nationalist newspaper ‘Pauravani’ and ‘Sahitya Mandira’ publication house. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- H. S. Doreswamy ([Karnataka](#)) – a Freedom Fighter & Activist – passed away
- He ran the ‘Pauravani’ newspaper
- [Karnataka](#): Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

690. On May 27, Author Eric Carle passed away at the age of 91. He is illustrator of the beloved children's classic “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Eric Carle ([USA](#)) – an Author – passed away
- His book – “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”



Person in News

691. On May 27, Assistant police inspector Sambhaji Gurav from the quick response team of the Navi Mumbai Police has become the third policeman from Maharashtra to climb Mount Everest. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sambhaji Gurav – became the 3rd policeman from Maharashtra to climb Mount Everest
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Science & Technology

692. On May 25, Researchers at Bhopal's Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) have discovered a new species of African Violet plant "Didymocarpus Vickifunkiae" in Mizoram. The discovery was published in journal Systematic Botany. Researchers also documented the presence of the same species in Myanmar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IISER's Researchers (Bhopal) – discovered a new species of African Violet plant "Didymocarpus Vickifunkiae" in Mizoram
- Presence of the same species is also discovered – in Myanmar
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint

693. On May 23, Eight more species have been added to the Delhi's list of snakes after an extensive 5-year study conducted by researchers from the Delhi University. This has taken the number of snake species recorded in Delhi to 23, updating the 1997 list mentioned in the book "Fauna of Delhi". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 8 more species – added to the Delhi's list of snakes – mentioned in the book "Fauna of Delhi"
- Now, the total number of snake species recorded in Delhi – 23
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

694. On May 25, India, in partnership with the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Operational Support, has been working towards developing a mobile tech platform "UNITE AWARE" that helps increase situational awareness and provides terrain-related information to peacekeepers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India is developing a mobile tech platform "UNITE AWARE" – to improve security & safety of UN Peacekeeping Force
- HQs of UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations – New York, US | Secretary-General – Jean-Pierre Lacroix



695. On May 25, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) will initiate process for selection of private partner for India's First Research Reactor Project for Production of Medical Radioisotopes and Processing Facility Complex. DAE plans to conclude the Request for Proposal (RfP) process by March 2022. The reactor will be constructed by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) and designed by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DAE – to initiate process for selection of private partner for India's 1st Research Reactor Project
- The reactor will be constructed by – NPCIL & designed by – Bhabha Atomic Research Centre

696. On May 24, After continuous efforts for 5 years, the Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) in Chennai has developed Broodstock and Seed Production Technology of Mangrove Red Snapper, a fish species. This fish is known as 'Seppili' in Tamil, 'Chemballi' in Malayalam and 'Tagoo/Thundava' in Telugu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CIBA (Chennai) – developed Broodstock & Seed Production Technology of 'Mangrove Red' fish species
- Mangrove Red: 'Seppili' in Tamil, 'Chemballi' in Malayalam & 'Tagoo/Thundava' in Telugu

697. On May 26, The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has established the "Isothermal Forging Technology" to produce all the 5 stages of High-Pressure Compressor [HPC] discs out of difficult-to-deform titanium alloy using its unique 2000 metric tonne isothermal forge press. The technology was developed by the Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL), a laboratory of the DRDO in Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – established the "Isothermal Forging Technology" to produce all the 5 stages of HPC discs
- It is produced from Titanium alloy – by DMRL-DRDO (Hyderabad)
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy | Established in – 1958

698. On May 25, A miniature sculpture of the Buddha has been found in Udipi district of Karnataka. It looks like a replica of the Sarnath Buddha. The sculpture is in the Gupta style. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A miniature sculpture of the Buddha – found in Udipi, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

699. On May 25, Researchers at the IIT Guwahati have developed a "Smart Window Material" for automatic climate control of buildings. It was designed using Noble Metals that can dynamically control the intensity of transmitted solar radiation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Guwahati – developed a "Smart Window Material" for automatic climate control of buildings



Ordinance, Bills and Acts

700. On May 24, Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat has given his assent to “Gujarat Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2021”. As per the Bill, a forcible conversion by marriage, or by getting a person married, or by aiding a person to get married shall invite imprisonment of 3 to 5 years and a fine of up to ₹2 lakh. If the victim is a minor, woman, Dalit or tribal, the offender may be punished with a jail term of 4 to 7 years and a fine of not less than ₹3 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat Governor – gave his assent to “Gujarat Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2021”
- Punishment under the Bill for forcible conversion by marriage: imprisonment of 3-5 years & fine of up to ₹2 lakh
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat





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