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May MockDrill100 PDF No.8

(PDF in English)



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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

701. On May 27, Assam has appointed "Guardian Ministers" for different districts in the state. They will review the implementation of various government schemes in the districts and submit a report to the chief minister. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Assam – appointed "Guardian Ministers" for different districts in the state

• Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

702. Defence Secretary Dr. Ajay Kumar has launched Directorate General National Cadet Corps (NCC) Mobile Training App Version 2.0 in New Delhi on May 28, 2021. The app will assist in conducting countrywide online training to NCC cadets during the COVID-19 pandemic conditions. {Read more} Key Points:

- Ajay Kumar launched "DG NCC Mobile Training App Version 2.0" in New Delhi
- HQs of NCC New Delhi | Director General Lt. Gen. Rajeev Chopra

703. On May 26, The government has set up a panel of State Ministers for better valuation of services of casinos, online gaming portal and race courses for levying goods and services tax (GST). The 7-member panel is headed by Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel. {Read more}

• Government – set up a Panel of State Ministers to examine valuation of services by Casinos & Online gaming for GST

• 7-member panel is headed by – Nitin Patel (Deputy Chief Minister of Gujarat)

704. On May 27, One of the oldest crypto companies in India, ZebPay, has launched a new and first of its kind lending platform called the "Zebpay Lending Platform" for crypto asset exchange in India. At launch, the lending feature will only support Bitcoin, Ethereum, Tether and Dai tokens. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- ZebPay launched the first of its kind "Zebpay Lending Platform" for crypto asset exchange
- HQs of Zebpay Singapore | Co-CEO Avinash Shekhar

705. On May 28, Maharashtra has formally scrapped the move to lift 5 tmc ft water from the 'Ujani dam' in Solapur for irrigation purposes in Indapur, which is part of the Baramati Lok Sabha constituency. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Maharashtra scrapped the move to lift 5 tmc ft water for irrigation purposes from 'Ujani dam' in Solapur, MH
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari



706. On May 27, In a bid to expand its purview to the OTT segment, the Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) is being renamed as the Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation (IBDF). IBDF will also form a Self-Regulatory Body (SRB), as per the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) renamed as Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation (IBDF)
- IBDF will form a Self-Regulatory Body (SRB)
- HQs of IBDF New Delhi | President K. Madhavan

707. On May 25, A panel constituted by the Union Home Ministry to suggest reforms to the British-era Indian Penal Code (IPC) is likely to propose a separate Section on offences relating to speech and expression. The panel is headed by Vice Chancellor of National Law University (NLU), Delhi, Srikrishna Deva Rao. As there is no clear definition of what constitutes a "hate speech" in the IPC, the Committee for Reforms in Criminal Laws is attempting for the first time to define such speech. Earlier in 2018, a committee headed by T. K. Viswanathan recommended the Law Commission to prepare a distinct law for online "Hate Speech". {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Home Ministry constituted a panel to suggest reforms in Criminal Laws or in the IPC
- The panel is headed by Srikrishna Deva Rao (VC of National Law University)
- The Committee for Reforms in Criminal Laws is attempting for the first time to define "Hate Speech"
- Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah | Constituency Gandhinagar, Gujarat

708. On May 27, Paytm is planning to come out with an Initial Public Offer (IPO) worth \$3 billion (over Rs 21,700 Cr) later this year. Coal India's Rs 15,200 Cr IPO in 2010 is India's largest one till date. {Read more} Key Points:

- Paytm is planning to come out with an IPO worth \$3 billion (over Rs 21,700 Cr)
- HQs of Paytm Money Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Varun Sridhar | Founded in 2009

709. The Curated Festival Series of women-centric documentary films will be kick-started by Films Division with "The Eclipse and After", a festival of films on women by women being screened online from 28 to 30 May 2021. It was launched by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Films Division of India started "The Eclipse and After" a festival of films
- It was launched by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
- HQs of Films Division of India Mumbai, MH | Director K. S. Shridhar

710. On May 29, The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has asked all States and Union Territories (UTs) to upload data of children who have lost either one or both parents to COVID-19 on its "Bal Swaraj" portal. The portal is an online tracking portal of the NCPCR for children in need of care and protection. {Read more}



- NCPCR asked all States & UTs to upload data of children who lost their parents to COVID-19 on "Bal Swaraj" portal
- HQs of NCPCR New Delhi | Chairman Priyank Kanongoo

711. On May 30, The CSC E-Governance India Ltd (CSC SPV) has unveiled a unique "Agri Services Portal" that will act as a one-stop destination and marketplace for them. It is aimed at empowering small and marginal farmers, who constitute 86% of India's farming community. The CSC SPV is a Special Purpose Vehicle under the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY). {Read more}

Key Points:

- CSC E-Governance India Ltd unveiled a unique "Agri Services Portal"
- CSC SPV a Special Purpose Vehicle under the MeitY
- HQs of CSC New Delhi | CEO Dinesh Tyagi (CSC works under MeitY)

712. On May 29, The Central government has reconstituted 6 Empowered Groups into 10 to tackle the current Covid-19 situation in India. The Centre has also formed a panel for vaccination and to monitor medical oxygen requirements. Niti Aayog member Dr. V. K. Paul will lead the panel on vaccination. {Read more} Key Points:

- Central government has reconstituted 6 Empowered Groups into 10 to tackle the current Covid-19 situation
- V. K. Paul head of the newly formed Empowered Group on Vaccination

713. On May 31, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has introduced the world's first Nano Urea Liquid for farmers across the world. The Nano Urea Liquid has been found effective and efficient for plant nutrition which increases the production with improved nutritional quality. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- IFFCO introduced the world's first Nano Urea Liquid for farmers
- HQs of IFFCO New Delhi | Chairman Balvinder Singh Nakai

714. On May 30, Amid the rising number of Mucormycosis, doctors treating patients of Covid-19, as well as those who have recovered, have reported cases of Aspergillosis. Doctors in Maharashtra's Mumbai and Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh have found patients with Aspergillosis. It is a type of Fungus. Aspergilloma is also called a "fungus ball". {Read more}

Key Points:

• Aspergillosis (Fungus ball) – reported in Maharashtra & Uttar Pradesh | It is a type of 'Fungus'

715. On May 30, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has launched Solar-based Electrification Programme for rural households in the state. This project will bring electricity through renewable energy to areas in Goa where grid connectivity is not feasible. {Read more}



- Goa launched Solar-based Electrification Programme for rural households in the state
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

International Affairs

716. On May 28, German Chancellor Dr Angela Merkel and Norway's Prime Minister Erna Solberg have officially commissioned NordLink - the 'Green Cable' that will exchange German wind energy with Norwegian hydropower and connect two optimally complementary systems. {Read more} Key Points:

- NordLink project the 'Green Cable' commissioned between Germany & Norway
- Germany Berlin Euro | President Frank-Walter Steinmeier
- Norway Oslo Krone | PM Erna Solberg

717. On May 25, A mysterious airbase is being built on a volcanic Mayun Island off Yemen that sits in one of the world's crucial maritime chokepoints for both energy shipments and commercial cargo. Mayun Island, also known as Perim Island, sits some 3.5 kilometers (2 miles) off the southwestern edge of Yemen. {Read more} Key Points:

• A mysterious airbase is being built on – Mayun Island (Perim Island) – in Yemen

• Yemen – Sana'a – Yemeni Rial | President – Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi

718. On May 26, Mark Lowcock, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator has warned that Ethiopia's Tigray region is at 'serious' risk of famine. {Read more} Key Points:

- UN warned: Ethiopia's Tigray region is at 'serious' risk of famine
- Ethiopia Addis Ababa Ethiopian Birr | President Sahle-Work Zewde

719. On May 28, Delegates at the World Health Assembly have approved a 16% increase to WHO's proposed budget for the next two years, setting it at about \$6.1 billion. More than 90% of the WHO's funding is tied to specific health issues. {Read more}

- Delegates at the World Health Assembly approved a 16% increase to WHO's proposed budget for next 2 years
- HQs of World Health Assembly Geneva, Switzerland | Chairperson Dr. Harsh Vardhan

720. On May 28, Germany has agreed to officially recognize the colonial-era killings of tens of thousands of people in Namibia as genocide and to spend a total of 1.1 billion euros (\$1.3 billion) on development projects. The accord with Namibia announced Friday is the result of more than five years of talks on the events of 1904-1908, when Germany was the southern African country's colonial ruler. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Germany officially recognized colonial killings in Namibia as genocide & will spend total \$1.3 billion
- Germany Berlin Euro | President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Banking & Economic Affairs

721. On May 27, Under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 10 Cr on HDFC Bank for deficiencies in regulatory compliances with regard to its auto loan portfolio. {Read more} Key Points:

- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 10 Cr on "HDFC Bank" after finding irregularities with bank's auto loan portfolio
- HQs of RBI Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in 1st April 1935
- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline "We understand your world"

722. On May 27, UCO Bank has allotted over 203 Cr preferential shares to the Government of India at an issue price of Rs 12.76 per share in lieu of Rs 2,600 Cr capital infusion for 2020-21. {Read more} Key Points:

- UCO Bank allotted over 203 Cr preferential shares to the Government of India for Rs 2,600 Cr capital infusion
- HQs of UCO Bank Kolkata, West Bengal | CEO Atul Kumar Goel

723. On May 28, Canara Bank has launched 3 loan schemes as part of the fight against the pandemic under which it will offer healthcare credit, business and personal loan to individuals. The Canara Chikitsa healthcare credit facility will offer loans from over Rs 10 lakh to Rs 50 Cr to registered hospitals, nursing homes, medical practitioners, diagnostic centres, pathology labs and all other units engaged in the servicing healthcare infrastructure. The Canara Jeevanrekha healthcare business loan will offer loan up to Rs 2 Cr. While, Canara Suraksha personal loan scheme will offer loan from Rs 25,000 - Rs 5 lakh as immediate financial assistance to customers for COVID-19 treatment. Canara Chikitsa and Canara Jeevanrekha loan schemes will be valid till March 31, 2022. {Read more}

- Canara Bank launched 3 loan schemes as part of the fight against the pandemic
- Canara Chikitsa healthcare credit facility: loans from over Rs 10 lakh to Rs 50 Cr
- Canara Jeevanrekha healthcare business loan: loans up to Rs 2 Cr
- Canara Suraksha personal loan scheme: loan from Rs 25,000 to Rs 5 lakh
- HQs of Canara Bank Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Lingam Venkat Prabhakar
- Tagline of Canara bank "Together We Can" | Canara Bank + Syndicate bank = amalgamation in 2020



724. On May 30, As per the announcements made at a joint press conference by Indian Banks' Association (IBA) and State Bank of India (SBI), individuals including salaried, non-salaried and pensioners can avail Unsecured Personal Loans from ₹25,000 to ₹5 lakh to meet COVID-19 treatment. The repayment tenure is 5 years and SBI would charge interest of 8.5% per annum. Other banks are free to decide their interest rate. The PSBs have also offered to provide up-to ₹2 Cr as Healthcare Business Loan to existing hospitals and nursing homes. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IBA & SBI made announcements about Unsecured Personal Loans to salaried, non-salaried & pensioners
- PSBs can lend loans between Rs 25,000 to Rs 5 lakh | Tenure 5 years | Interest charged by SBI 8.5% / annum
- PSBs to provide up-to ₹2 Cr as Healthcare Business Loan
- HQs of IBA Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Rajkiran Rai G | Established in 1946
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

725. On May 31, The RBI has announced that the limits for foreign portfolio investors (FPI) investment during the current fiscal in Government Securities (G-secs) and State Development Loans (SDLs) will remain unchanged at 6% and 2% respectively. The allocation of incremental changes in the G-sec limit over the two sub-categories – 'General' & 'Long-term' will be retained at 50:50 for FY 2021-22. The FPI investment limit in the debt instruments for October 2021 - March 2022 period is Rs 10,75,637 Cr. {Read more} Key Points:

- FPI investment in G-secs & SDLs will remain unchanged at 6% & 2% respectively
- G-sec limit under sub-categories 'General' & 'Long-term' = 50:50 (for FY22)
- FPI investment limit in the debt instruments for Oct 2021 to Mar 2022 Rs 10,75,637 Cr

Defence Affairs

726. On May 29, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is conducting War Games from May to June 2021. The war games, called "Steadfast Defender 21", are aimed at simulating the 30-nation military organization's response to an attack on any one of its members. Most of the exercises will take place in Portugal, Germany and Romania. {Read more}

- NATO is conducting War Games called "Steadfast Defender 21" from May to June 2021
- HQs of NATO Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg | Member Countries 30

727. On May 30, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval has virtually commissioned offshore patrol vessel (OPV) "Sajag" that has been built by Goa Shipyard Ltd for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). Moreover, P305 and Varprada - both support vessels working for the ONGC's offshore oilfields near Mumbai, sank due to Cyclone Tauktae which made landfall on Gujarat coast on May 17. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- NSA Ajit Doval commissioned "OPV Sajag" for the Indian Coast Guard (built by Goa Shipyard Ltd)
- P305 & Varprada (support vessels working for the ONGC) sank due to 'Cyclone Tauktae'
- HQs of ICG New Delhi | Director General Krishnaswamy Natarajan | Founded in 1977
- MD & Chairman of Goa Shipyard Bharat Bhushan Nagpal

728. On May 28, The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has approved the Department of Military Affairs' proposal to notify the "Second Positive Indigenisation List" of 108 items. The second list is expected to be implemented from December this year to December 2025 as India's target is to attain Rs 35,000 Cr worth Defence Exports by 2025. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ministry of Defence notified the "Second Positive Indigenisation List" of 108 items
- India's target to attain Rs 35,000 Cr worth Defence Exports by 2025



729. On May 27, Kerala will make the guidelines and recommendations for the implementation of "Smart Kitchen" scheme by 10 July. It aims to account and reduce the workload of women's domestic labour. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Kerala to launch "Smart Kitchen" scheme by 10 July
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

730. On May 28, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has approved the proposal to provide monetary assistance to 11.8 Cr students (118 Million Students) through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to all eligible children under the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme. Indian government & states share the cost of the scheme in the ration of 60:40 respectively. The MDM scheme is centrally sponsored scheme and was launched in 1995. {Read more} Key Points:

• Ramesh Pokhriyal – approved a proposal of monetary assistance to 11.8 Cr students under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

• Mid-Day-Meal Scheme – a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 1995 | GoI : State = 60:40



731. On May 29, Ministry of Education has launched the "Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors" (YUVA) scheme, a mentorship programme to train young authors. The scheme is aimed at training 75 aspiring writers below 30 years. A consolidated scholarship of Rs 50,000 per month for a period of 6 months per author will be paid under the mentorship scheme. YUVA is a part of India@75 Project (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav). {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Education launched the "YUVA" scheme (Young, Upcoming & Versatile Authors)
- 75 aspiring writers will be selected below 30 years
- Schoolarship of Rs 50,000 per month for a period of 6 months per author will be paid

732. On May 28, Punjab Social Minister Aruna Chaudhary has launched the women-empowerment oriented "Udaan Scheme" throughout the state on the occasion of International Menstrual Hygiene Day. Under the scheme, sanitary pads will be distributed free of cost to women and girls in need every month within Punjab. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Punjab launched the women-empowerment oriented "Udaan Scheme" to distribute free sanitary pads
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor V. P. Singh Badnore

733. On May 30, The Ministry of Finance has further expanded the scope of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) amid the economic disruption caused by the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic. Under the ECLGS 4.0, 100% guarantee cover will be extended to loans of up to Rs 2 Cr. The interest rate has been capped at 7.5% for the same. Furthermore, the validity of ECLGS extended for another 3 months till September, 30 or till guarantee for an amount of Rs 3 lakh Cr is issued. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Finance expanded the scope of the "Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme" (ECLGS)
- Under the ECLGS 4.0: 100% guarantee cover will be extended to loans of up to Rs 2 Cr
- Validity of ECLGS extended for another 3 months (till September, 30)

734. On May 29, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the "Mukhyamantri Sishu Sewa Achoni Scheme" which will provide relief to children who have lost their parents due to Covid-19. Under the scheme, Covid Orphan children will be provided Rs 3,500 financial aid per month. {Read more} Key Points:

- Assam launched the "Mukhyamantri Sishu Sewa Achoni Scheme" for Covid Orphan children
- Rs 3,500 financial aid per month to Covid Orphan children
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

735. On May 30, The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a welfare scheme called "Mukhyamantri Bal Seva Yojana" for children who have either lost both of their parents to COVID-19 or the earning parent. As part of the scheme, the government will provide a monthly financial assistance of Rs 4,000 to a child's guardian or caretaker until he or she attains adulthood. {Read more}



- Uttar Pradesh launched a welfare scheme called "Mukhyamantri Bal Seva Yojana" for Covid Orphan children
- Rs 4,000 to child's guardian or caretaker
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

736. On May 29, The government has announced a special "PM-CARES for Children" scheme for all those orphaned due to COVID-19, which will include a corpus of ₹10 lakh for each child. When a child turns 18, he or she will draw a monthly stipend from the corpus of ₹10 lakh in order to meet expenses for personal needs and higher education. On reaching 23, the child will get the entire ₹10 lakh. Besides, Children between 11-18 years will be given admission in any Central Government residential school. All children will be enrolled as a beneficiary under "AB PM-JAY" with a health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakhs. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Under a special "PM-CARES for Children" scheme ₹10 lakh for each child when they turn 23
- Children between 11-18 years to be given admission in any Central Government residential school
- All children will be enrolled as a beneficiary under "AB PM-JAY" | Health Insurance Cover Rs 5 lakhs



737. On May 28, Chelsea Football Club has defeated Manchester City 1-0 to clinch the "UEFA Champions League title 2021". This is Chelsea's second Champions League crown and the first of Tuchel's managerial career. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Chelsea FC won the "UEFA Champions League title 2021" (defeating Manchester City)
- HQs of UEFA Nyon, Switzerland | President Aleksander Ceferin

738. On May 29, Novak Djokovic has won "Belgrade Open" by beating Slovakian Alex Molcan in the final. It was Djokovic's first triumph since he clinched his 18th major at the Australian Open in February. {Read more} Key Points:

- Novak Djokovic (Serbia Tennis) won the "Belgrade Open" (by beating Alex Molcan of Slovakia)
- Serbia Belgrade Serbian Dinar | President Aleksandar Vucic
- Slovakia Bratislava Euro | President Zuzana Caputova | PM Eduard Heger

739. On May 30, India's Pooja Rani has won her 2nd Gold-medal at the "Asian Elite Boxing Championships" by beating Mavluda Movlonova in the women's 75kg final in Dubai. Pooja has also qualified for the Tokyo Olympics. While, in men's category, Sanjeet Kumar defeated the 5-time Asian Championships medallist Vassiliy Levit in the Finals to clinch the Gold medal for India. {Read more}



- Pooja Rani won her 2nd Gold-medal in women's 75kg at "Asian Elite Boxing Championships" in Dubai, UAE
- Sanjeet Kumar won the Gold-medal in men's 91kg at "Asian Elite Boxing Championships" in Dubai, UAE
- Pooja Rani (Haryana) Indian boxer | Sanjeet Kumar (Haryana) Indian boxer

Important Days & Dates

740. "International Everest Day" is annually observed on May 29, to mark the date mountaineers Tenzing Norgay Sherpa (Nepal) and Edmund Hillary (New Zealand) scaled the world's highest peak in 1953. {Read more} Key Points:

- May 29 "International Everest Day"
- 1st Summit of Mount Everest in 1953 by Sir Edmund Hillary (New Zealand) & Tenzing Norgay Sherpa (Nepal)

741. On May 29, A webinar was hosted by the Tamil Nadu Gastroenterologist Trust and World Gastroenterology Organisation to mark the "World Digestive Health Day". This year, the theme is "Obesity: An Ongoing Pandemic". The day was launched in 2004 to mark the 45th anniversary of the creation of the World Gastroenterology Organisation. {Read more}

Key Points:

- May 29 World Digestive Health Day (since 2004)
- Theme "Obesity: An Ongoing Pandemic"
- HQs of World Gastroenterology Organisation Wisconsin, United States

742. The United Nations has designated 29 May as the "International Day of UN Peacekeepers". The day aims to celebrate the contributions of civilian and uniformed personnel who perform the task of peacekeeping for the organisation. This year, the theme is "The road to a lasting peace: Leveraging the power of youth for peace and security". Three Indian peacekeepers - Corporal Yuvraj Singh, Ivan Michael Picardo and Mulchand Yadav were posthumously honoured with the prestigious UN medal called "Dag Hammarskjold Medal" for courage and sacrifice in the line of duty. {Read more}

Key Points:

- May 29 International Day of UN Peacekeepers
- Theme "The road to a lasting peace: Leveraging the power of youth for peace and security"

• Corporal Yuvraj Singh, Ivan Michael Picardo & Mulchand Yadav (Indians) – received "Dag Hammarskjold Medal"



743. "Amnesty International Day" was recently observed on May 28. Amnesty International was founded in London in 1961, following the publication of the article "The Forgotten Prisoners". The organisation was awarded the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize for its campaign against torture and the United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights in 1978. {Read more}

Key Points:

- May 28 "Amnesty International Day"
- HQs of Amnesty International London, UK | Secretary-General Kumi Naidoo | Founded in 1961

744. On May 28, The Commonwealth Day is celebrated on the second Monday in the month of March every year. However, in India another Commonwealth Day is also celebrated on May 24. Also known as the Empire Day, the Commonwealth Day commemorates the formation of the British Empire in India and other colonies of Britain. The first Empire Day was celebrated on May 24, 1902. {Read more} **Key Points:**

• May 24 – "Commonwealth Day" in India (also known as 'Empire Day' – since 1902)

745. On May 31, the WHO has launched a global campaign under the slogan "Commit to Quit" to celebrate the World No Tobacco Day 2021. World No Tobacco Day was created by the Member States of WHO in 1987 to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes. {Read more} Key Points:

- May 31 "World No Tobacco Day" (since 1987)
- Slogan/Theme "Commit to Quit"

746. Millions of e-cigarette users or vapers across the globe are celebrating "World Vape Day" on 30 May 2020. The main components of the liquid used in e-cigarettes are propylene glycol and glycerin, accounting for 95% of the e-liquid. The remaining components are water, nicotine, and flavorings. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- May 30 "World Vape Day"
- e-cigarettes = 95% Propylene Glycol & Glycerin + Water, Nicotine & Flavorings

747. On May 28, The National AI Portal has celebrated its first anniversary on May 28 in a virtual event attended by nearly 400 participants and dignitaries. The National AI Portal is a joint initiative by Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), National e-Governance Division (NeGD) and NASSCOM. The portal was launched by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad. {Read more}

- May 28 the 1st anniversary of 'National AI Portal'
- 'National AI Portal' is a joint initiative by = MeitY + NeGD + NASSCOM



748. On May 30, Goa has observed its Statehood Day. Goa became the 25th state of India in 1987. {Read more} Key Points:

- May 30 Statehood Day of Goa
- Goa became the 25th state of India in 1987
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

749. On May 28, "World Blood Cancer Day" is annually observed across the globe. As per the GLOBOCAN 2020 report, every year, over one lakh people are being diagnosed in India with a form of blood cancer such as lymphoma, leukemia and multiple myeloma. {Read more} **Key Points:**

• May 28 – "World Blood Cancer Day"

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

750. On May 30, South Africa has hosted and coordinated the 5th BRICS Working Group meeting on High-Performance Computing (HPC) and Information Communication Technologies (ICT) virtually under the Science, Technology and Innovation track. Besides, the 2nd BRICS Sherpas' & Sous Sherpas' meeting was chaired by India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- South Africa hosted the 5th BRICS Working Group meeting on High-Performance Computing (HPC)
- 2nd BRICS Sherpas' & Sous Sherpas' meeting chaired by India
- South Africa Cape Town South African Rand | President Cyril Ramaphosa

751. On May 28, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 43rd Good & Services Tax (GST) Council Meeting through video conferencing. The Council will constitute a Group of Ministers to examine the Covid cess to be levied in Sikkim on the pharmaceutical and power sectors. The Council also recommended the 'Amnesty Scheme' to reduce the late fees payable for pending returns by small & medium-sized taxpayers. COVID-19 related Supplies are fully exempted from IGST till August 31, 2021. The panel to examine GST exemptions on Covid material will be chaired by Conrad K Sangma. {Read more}

- Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 43rd Good & Services Tax (GST) Council Meeting on May 28
- Council constituted a GoM to examine the Covid cess to be levied in "Sikkim" on Pharmaceutical & Power sectors
- Council recommended the 'Amnesty Scheme' to reduce the late fees payable for pending returns
- COVID-19 related Supplies fully exempted from IGST till August 31, 2021
- Panel to examine GST exemptions on Covid material to be chaired by Conrad K. Sangma
- Sikkim: Capital Gangtok | CM Prem Singh Tamang | Governor Ganga Prasad

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Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

752. Mexican author Valeria Luiselli has won this year's "Dublin Literary Award" for her work, "Lost Children Archive". This fictional novel also won the "Rathbones Folio Prize" in 2020. {Read more} Key Points:

- Valeria Luiselli (Mexican Author) won "Dublin Literary Award 2021" for "Lost Children Archive" fictional novel
- This novel also won the "Rathbones Folio Prize" in 2020

753. On May 28, Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu has been announced as the winner of "ONV Literary Award". He has become the first non-Malayalee poet to win this award. Several actors, writers and women's rights activists are criticising the jury's decision to confer the award on a person facing multiple #MeToo allegations. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Vairamuthu (Tamil poet) - the first non-Malayalee poet to be announced as the winner of "ONV Literary Award"

754. On May 29, Nitin Rakesh and Jerry Wind have won the prestigious "International Business Book of the Year Award for 2021" for their recently launched book "Transformation in Times of Crisis", published by Notion Press. Author Nitin Rakesh is also a winner of the "Gold Stevie Award" for Tech Innovator of the Year. {Read more} Key Points:

- Nitin Rakesh (India) + Jerry Wind (Israel) = won the "International Business Book of the Year Award for 2021"
- They received award for their recently launched book "Transformation in Times of Crisis"
- Nitin Rakesh winner of the "Gold Stevie Award" for Tech Innovator of the Year

755. World Health Organisation (WHO) has awarded Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan with "WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award" for his accomplishments in the area of tobacco control. {Read more} Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan awarded with "WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award" by the WHO
- HQs of WHO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries 194

Appointments & Resignations

756. On May 27, Former banker Guillermo Lasso has been sworn-in as President of Ecuador. He was elected in April in his third run for the Presidency, replacing President Lenin Moreno. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Guillermo Lasso sworn-in as President of Ecuador (replacing Lenin Moreno)
- Ecuador Quito US Dollar | President Guillermo Lasso



757. On May 29, Mali's constitutional court has named Colonel Assimi Goita, leader of the post-coup junta, as the country's transitional president. Colonel Goita had originally been named Vice President with other key posts given to fellow army officers. {Read more} Key Points:

- Assimi Goita appointed as the transitional President of Mali
- Mali Bamako CFA franc | Transitional President Col. Assimi Goita

758. On May 29, CRPF Chief Kuldiep Singh has been given the additional charge of the Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to replace Y. C. Modi. {Read more} Key Points:

- Kuldiep Singh given the additional charge of the DG of the National Investigation Agency (NIA)
- HQs of NIA New Delhi | Director General Kuldiep Singh (additional charge)

759. On May 27, Indian government has brought in the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir, B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, as next the Commerce Secretary, Government of India, upon superannuation of Anup Wadhawan on June 30. Mr. Subrahmanyam is a 1987 batch IAS officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre. {Read more} Key Points:

- B.V.R. Subrahmanyam appointed as next the Commerce Secretary of India
- He will replace Anup Wadhawan (on June 30)

760. On May 28, Art historian and curator Laurence des Cars has become the first woman to be appointed as the President of 'Louvre' - the world's largest art museum, based in Paris. The Louvre is the world's most visited museum. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Laurence des Cars (France) became the 1st woman to be appointed as the President of 'Louvre'
- 'Louvre' world's largest art museum in Paris, France
- France Paris Euro | President Emmanuel Macron | PM Jean Castex

761. On May 27, US Senate has 'unanimously' confirmed Christine Wormuth as the first female Army Secretary of the US. She served as the undersecretary of defense for policy and the senior director for defense policy at the NSC during the Obama administration. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Christine Wormuth appointed as the first female Army Secretary of the US
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46th President Joe Biden | 49th VP Kamala Harris

762. On May 28, India's Nagraj Adiga has been elected as the Asia-Oceania Representative at the recently concluded 2021 International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU) Congress. The newly constituted Executive Council and Area Representative include Nadeem Khan (Canada) as President and Robert Boyce (Australia) as Vice President. {Read more}



- Nagraj Adiga (India) elected in IAU Council as the Asia-Oceania Representative
- Nadeem Khan (Canada) elected as the President of the IAU Council
- Robert Boyce (Australia) elected as the Vice President of the IAU Council

763. On May 30, U. S. President Joe Biden has announced his intent to nominate Indian American Arun Venkataraman to a key position in his administration related to foreign commercial service. Mr. Venkataraman is the nominee for Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service. {Read more} Key Points:

- Arun Venkataraman nominated as the Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service
- US Washington, D.C. US Dollar | 46th President Joe Biden | 49th VP Kamala Harris

764. On May 31, Hari Krishna Dwivedi is appointed as new Chief Secretary of West Bengal after Alapan Bandopadhyay announced his retirement from service. BP Gopalika has been named as the new Home Secretary of the state. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Hari Krishna Dwivedi appointed as new Chief Secretary of West Bengal
- BP Gopalika appointed as new Home Secretary of West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar

765. On May 31, The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has elected T. V. Narendran (MD & CEO of Tata Steel), as its new President for 2021-22. He takes over from Uday Kotak (MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank). {Read more}

Key Points:

- T. V. Narendran (MD & CEO of Tata Steel) appointed as the President of the CII
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President T. V. Narendran | Director General Chandrajit Banerjee

766. Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra will hold the charge as the interim Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). Outgoing Chairman Pramod Chandra Mody completed his term on May 31. {Read more} Key Points:

- Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra appointed as the interim Chairman of CBDT
- HQs of CBDT New Delhi | Interim Chairman Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra | Formed in 1944

767. On May 31, As proposed by a High-powered recommendation Committee, former Supreme Court judge Arun Kumar Mishra will be new Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). {Read more} Key Points:

• Arun Kumar Mishra – will be new Chairperson of the NHRC

• HQs of NHRC – New Delhi | Chairperson – Arun Kumar Mishra



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

768. On May 30, Odisha's blackbuck population has doubled in the last 6 years according to the latest population census report. The antelopes numbered 7,358. Blackbucks are found only in the Ganjam district & Balukhand-Konark Wildlife Sanctuary in Puri district. {Read more} Key Points:

- Odisha's Blackbuck (Indian Antelope) population doubled in the last 6 years (7,358)
- Blackbucks are found only in Ganjam district & Balukhand-Konark Wildlife Sanctuary (Puri district)
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal

769. On May 29, As many as 68 Indian institutes have made it to the list of the top 2000 higher education institutes across the world, as per the Centre for World University Rankings (CWUR) 2021-22. The Indian pack is led by the IIM Ahmedabad which has bagged 415th rank followed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) at 459th rank and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai at 543rd. Harvard University has topped the ranking globally followed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University. {Read more} Key Points:

- "World University Rankings 2021-22" 68 Indian institutes made it to the list of the Top 2000
- Globally: 1st Harvard University | 2nd Massachusetts Institute of Technology | 3rd Stanford University
- In India: 1st IIM Ahmedabad | 2nd IISc, Bangalore | 3rd TIFR, Mumbai

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

770. On May 27, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU) has signed an MoU with Wadhwani Institute for Artificial Learning for artificial intelligence-based pest management. As part of the agreement, the AI-based pest/insect management system developed by the Wadhwani Institute would identify the possibility of pink bollworm and other insect/pest infestation on cotton in advance. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- PJTSAU + Wadhwani Institute for Artificial Learning = an MoU for AI-based pest management
- Location of PJTSAU Hyderabad, Telangana
- Location of Wadhwani Institute for Artificial Learning Mumbai, Maharashtra



Books & Authors

771. Cricket legend, commentator and one of Team India's most successful coaches, Ravi Shastri has penned a book titled "Stargazing: The Players in My Life". The news was announced by publisher HarperCollins India on Ravi Shastri's birthday on May 27, 2021. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- "Stargazing: The Players in My Life" book authored by Ravi Shastri
- Publisher HarperCollins India

772. Historian Vikram Sampath's book, titled "Savarkar: A contested Legacy (1924-1966)" will cover the story of one of the most contentious political thinkers of the 20th century from 1924 to 1966. The book will be published on July 26 by Penguin Random House India. The first volume, "Savarkar: Echoes from a Forgotten Past" was released in 2019. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Savarkar: A contested Legacy (1924-1966)" book authored by Vikram Sampath
- 1st volume "Savarkar: Echoes from a Forgotten Past" book also authored by Vikram Sampath

773. On May 24, In the book, "Languages of Truth: Essays 2003-2020", Salman Rushdie attempts to perform a defensive castling move. He suggests his work has been misunderstood and mistreated because the literary culture has turned from brio-filled imaginative writing toward the humbler delights of autofiction. {Read more} Key Points:

"Languages of Truth: Essays 2003-2020" book – authored by Salman Rushdie

774. On May 31, "All You Need Is Josh: Stories of Courage and Conviction in 21st-century India" is a collection of 30 awe-inspiring real life stories of people bracing odds and obstacles and achieving their dreams. The stories in the book are edited by Supriya Paul and published by Bloomsbury. {Read more} **Key Points:**

• "All You Need Is Josh: Stories of Courage and Conviction in 21st-century India" – authored by Supriya Paul

Obituaries

775. Urdu Poet, Critic & Author Tarannum Riyaz passed away in a Delhi hospital due to Covid-19. Her husband, Riyaz Punjabi, who was former Kashmir University vice-chancellor, had passed away in April. She was also a recipient of the "SAARC Literature Award". {Read more} Key Points:

- Tarannum Riyaz Urdu Poet, Critic & Author passed away
- Awards: "SAARC Literature Award"



776. On May 28, Denmark's Prime Minister for over a decade from 1982-1993, Poul Schlueter passed away. He was 92. He was a key personality in the European Union Treaty. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Poul Schlueter (Denmark) a Politician passed away (Former PM of Denmark)
- Denmark Copenhagen Danish krone | PM Mette Frederiksen

777. On May 30, Swiss Moto3 rider Jason Dupasquier has died aged 19 from injuries sustained in a crash in qualifying at the Italian Grand Prix. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Jason Dupasquier (Switzerland) Moto3 Rider passed away
- Switzerland Bern Swiss Franc | President Guy Parmelin

Person in News

778. On May 27, Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne has asked neighbouring Dominica to hand over Mehul Choksi to India directly. The fugitive businessman Mehul Choksi was caught in Dominica. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Antigua & Barbuda PM Gaston Browne asked Dominica to hand over "Mehul Choksi" to India directly
- Antigua & Barbuda Saint John's Eastern Caribbean dollar | PM Gaston Browne
- Dominica Roseau Eastern Caribbean dollar | PM Roosevelt Skerrit

779. On May 28, Actor Randeep Hooda has been removed as the ambassador of Convention for the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), an Environmental Treaty of United Nations. The actor was appointed as the CMS Ambassador for Migratory Species in February 2020 for 3 years. {Read more} Key Points:

• Randeep Hooda – removed as Ambassador of Convention for the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

• CMS is an Environmental Treaty of – United Nations

780. On May 24, Aashritha V. Olety, an officer of the Indian Air Force (IAF) has graduated from the Air Force Test Pilot School as India's first woman flight test Engineer. Squadron Leader Aashritha V Olety is the first and only woman in the IAF qualified for the role. {Read more} Key Points:

• Aashritha V. Olety – became India's first woman flight test Engineer (graduated from Air Force Test Pilot School)

• HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria | Founded in – 1932



781. On May 28, Climbers from the United States and Hong Kong have set new records as they scaled Mount Everest. Arthur Muir (75) has become the oldest American to climb the world's highest peak - Mount Everest at 8,848.86-metres (29,031 feet). Besides, Hong Kong's Tsang Yin-Hung has scaled the peak in less than 26 hours, the shortest time taken by any woman. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Arthur Muir (USA) became the oldest American to climb Mt Everest (75 years old)
- Tsang Yin-Hung (Hong Kong) made a record by climbing the Mt Everest in less than 26 hours

Science & Technology

782. The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has approved 8 Chinese names for features around the area on the Moon where China's spacecraft Chang'e-5 probe landed. China has been naming geographical entities on the Moon since 2010. 'Tianhe' is another name for the galaxy in ancient China. {Read more} Key Points:

- International Astronomical Union approved 8 Chinese names to identify areas on the Moon
- HQs of IAU Paris, France | President Ewine van Dishoeck

783. On May 29, Bellatrix Aerospace has successfully tested India's first privately developed "Hall-Effect Thruster", an electric propulsion engine for micro satellites weighing 50-500 kg. Bellatrix has completed ground tests for the new thruster in line with ISRO & ESA standards at its lab at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Bellatrix had earlier won an order from ISRO for developing the world's first "Commercial Microwave Plasma Thruster" which uses water as its fuel. {Read more}

- Bellatrix Aerospace successfully tested India's first privately developed "Hall-Effect Thruster" at IISc (Bangalore)
- It is an electric propulsion engine for micro satellites weighing 50-500 kg
- Bellatrix Aerospace also developed the world's first "Commercial Microwave Plasma Thruster"
- HQs of Bellatrix Aerospace Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Ganapathy | Established in 2015

784. On May 28, A team of zoologists headed by Dr. Ranjana Jaiswara has discovered the 12th species of spider cricket "Jayanti" in the Kurra caves of Chhattisgarh. It was named after Professor Jayant Biswa, one of the leading cave explorers in India. It was identified under the genus Arachnomimus Saussure, 1897. {Read more} Key Points:

- 12th species of spider cricket "Jayanti" discovered in 'Kurra caves' of Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey



785. On May 26, Archaeologists have discovered 6 sacrificial pits containing about 500 artifacts, including Gold and Bronze masks, in the ancient Chinese city of Sanxingdui. The artifacts date back around 3,000 years. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Archaeologists discovered 6 sacrificial pits containing about 500 artifacts in Sanxingdui, China
- It also includes Gold & Bronze masks
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping

786. On May 30, China has successfully launched its "Tianzhou-2" cargo spacecraft or "Heavenly Vessel" through Long March-7 Y3 rocket for the country's first Tianhe space station core cabin supply mission. {Read more} Key Points:

- China launched its "Tianzhou-2" cargo spacecraft or "Heavenly Vessel" (via Long March-7 Y3 rocket)
- China Beijing Renminbi | President Xi Jinping

787. On May 29, OneWeb has launched another batch of 36 satellites by Arianespace from the Vostochny cosmodrome in Russia. OneWeb is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite communications operator and co-owned by Bharti Global & the UK government. {Read more} Key Points:

- OneWeb launched another batch of 36 satellites from Russian cosmodrome (carried out by Arianespace)
- OneWeb co-owned by Bharti Global & the UK
- HQs of OneWeb London, UK | CEO Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal
- HQs of Arianespace France | CEO Stephane Israel

788. On May 30, NASA's "Mars Curiosity" rover has captured images of Shining Clouds on the Red Planet. The scientists noticed clouds forming over NASA's Curiosity rover earlier than expected, one full Martian year ago - two Earth years. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NASA's "Mars Curiosity" rover captured images of Shining Clouds on the Mars
- HQs of NASA Washington D.C., USA | Administrator Bill Nelson | Founded in 1958

789. On May 29, A rare bamboo species, "Chimonobambusa Callosa", has been found in Idukki district of Kerala. Chimonobambusa callosa, an eastern Himalayan hill bamboo, can grow to a height of 5 to 10 metres. {Read more}

- "Chimonobambusa Callosa" a rare bamboo species found in Idukki, Kerala
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan



Ordinance, Bills and Acts

790. On May 26, "Recovery of Damages to Property Act" - a law which allows the authorities to recover compensation from violent protesters who cause damage to both public and private properties has come into effect in Haryana. {Read more}

- "Recovery of Damages to Property Act" came into effect in Haryana
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya







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