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Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test Series Month-wise

November MockDrill100 PDF No. 2

(PDF in English)



Test Launch Date: 22nd Nov 2020

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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 November 2020 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 नवम्बर 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 स्मार्टकीडा



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National & States Affairs

101. "Tezpur Litchi" of Assam has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. The news has been confirmed by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) which is responsible for the export promotion of agricultural products. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Tezpur Litchi (Assam) received GI tag
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of APEDA New Delhi | Chairman Paban K. Borthakur

102. National & States Affairs A pioneering eco-sustainable programme "Parivarthanam", to help the fishing community was launched in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. It aims to improve the livelihood skills of youngsters along the coastline and also enable socio-economic uplift of the fishermen community. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Kerala launched "Parivarthanam" a pioneering eco-sustainable programme
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

103. A Green Innovation Fund, a six-month long fund-linked accelerator programme for social impact startups, was launched by Kerala Finance Minister Dr Thomas Isaac. The fund is a joint initiative of Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), Haritha Keralam Mission and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Kerala launched a six-month long "Green Innovation Fund" for social impact startups
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- HQs of UNDP New York, USA | Administrator Achim Steiner

104. A snubbing unit from Canada is called to control the fire erupted in The Oil India Limited (OIL)-owned Baghjan well No. 5. Over the last 150 days, the fire has continued to burn, causing extensive damage to the villages in Assam. {Read more}

- A snubbing unit from Canada is called to control the fire erupted in Well No. 5, Baghjan district, Assam
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi



105. After studying the malaria data from Nagpur, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has decided to start issuing forecast for malaria outbreaks from next monsoon. India also plans to ramp up its High Performance Computing (HPC) facility from the existing capacity of 10 petaflops to 40 petaflops. Currently, India is only next to the US, the UK and Japan in HPC. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IMD will start issuing forecast for malaria outbreaks from next monsoon
- India ranks 4th in High Performance Computing (HPC)
- HQs of IMD New Delhi | Director General Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

106. Armstrong Fernando - a fisherman from the Ramanathapuram district's Pamban town has started 'Kadal Osai FM 90.4', India's first and only radio channel for fisherfolk. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Armstrong Fernando (Tamil Nadu) started 'Kadal Osai FM 90.4' India's 1st & only radio channel for 'fisherfolk'
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

107. In Assam, Bongaigaon District Administration has initiated "Mission Sampoorna" in a bid to improve the health condition of the malnourished children. The Mission also aims to relish the dream of women empowerment. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Bongaigaon, Assam initiated "Mission Sampoorna"
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

108. In celebration of 'Maharashtra's most beloved personality' and the legendary Indian writer, Purushottam Laxman Deshpande, also known as Pu La Deshpande, Google dedicated Sunday's doodle to the multi-talented Indian for his 101st birth anniversary. {Read more}

- Google dedicated doodle to Purushottam Laxman Deshpande (Maharashtra) an Indian writer (101st birth anniversary)
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari



109. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has launched the doorstep Digital Life Certificate (DLC) service to help the elderly pensioners who are not tech savvy. Every pensioner needs to submit Life Certificate in the month of November every year to continue getting the pension. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IPPB launched the doorstep Digital Life Certificate (DLC) service to help the elderly Pensioners
- Every pensioner needs to submit Life Certificate in November
- HQs of IPPB New Delhi | MD & CEO J Venkatramu
- **110.** India's first solar-based Integrated Multi-Village Water Supply Project (IMVWSP) was dedicated in Lower Dibang Valley district in Arunachal Pradesh by Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat. It was commissioned at a cost of Rs 28.50 crore. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India's first solar-based Integrated Multi-Village Water Supply Project inaugurated in Arunachal Pradesh
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital Itanagar | CM Pema Khandu | Governor B D Mishra
- **111.** Kerala aims to start providing free, high-speed Internet to schools, public offices, and poor households in the state by December, making digital connectivity a basic right. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Kerala 1st state to start providing free, high-speed Internet to schools, public offices, and poor households
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- **112.** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has capped the volume of transactions via Unified Payments Interface (UPI) on third-party apps at 30%. This will be with effect from January 1, 2021. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NPCI capped the volume of transactions via UPI on third-party apps at 30%
- HQs of NPCI Mumbai, MH | Chairman Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO Dilip Asbe
- **113.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated a "Ro-Pax Ferry Service" between Hazira near Surat and Ghogha in Bhavnagar district. The service will reduce the 375-km road distance between Bhavnagar and Surat to 90-km by sea rout. {Read more}



- Narendra Modi inaugurated a "Ro-Pax Ferry Service" between Hazira (Surat) & Ghogha (Bhavnagar) in Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat

114. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has given a green signal to the introduction of a "Flexi Cap" Category in mutual funds. Schemes in this category are required to invest at least 65% of their corpus in equity. {Read more}

Key Points:

- SEBI introduced "Flexi Cap" Category in mutual funds (at least 65% investment is required)
- HQs of SEBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Ajay Tyagi
- **115.** Six women led startups have won "COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge" organized by MyGov in collaboration with UN Women. With an objective to encourage and involve women led startups to come up with innovative solutions that can help in the fight against COVID19 or solve problems that impact a large number of women, MyGov launched the "COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge" on April 13, 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 6 women led startups won "COVID-19 Shri Shakti Challenge" = organized by MyGov + UN Women
- HQs of UN Women New York, USA | Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
- **116.** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the investment of Rs 1810.56 crore for 210 mw "Luhri Stage-I Hydro Electric Project" on river Satluj in Shimla & Kullu districts of Himachal Pradesh. This project will generate 758.20 million units of electricity annually. {Read more}

Key Points:

- CCEA approved the investment of Rs 1810.56 crore for 210 mw "Luhri Stage-I Hydro Electric Project"
- The project located 'Satluj' river in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital Shimla & Dharamshala | CM Jai Ram Thakur | Governor Bandaru Dattatreya
- **117.** The Elephant Rehabilitation Centre at Kottoor in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, is set to become the largest care and cure centre for elephants in the world at a cost of Rs 108 crore with funding from KIIFB. The first phase of the internationally acclaimed Elephant Rehabilitation Centre will be commissioned in February 2021. {Read more}



- The largest care and cure centre for elephants in the world to be set up at Kottoor, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- Cost: Rs 108 crore | It will be commissioned in February 2021
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- HQs of KIIFB Thiruvananthapuram | CEO K. M. Abraham
- **118.** Tourism Minister Prahlad Singh Patel has virtually inaugurated Tourist Facilitation Centre at Guruvayur, Kerala under PRASHAD Scheme. The PRASHAD scheme was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in 2014-15 with the objective of integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated Tourist Facilitation Centre in Kerala under 'PRASHAD' Scheme
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan
- **119.** Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has launched "eco-friendly" bamboo candles and diyas for Diwali to promote 'vocal for local' initiative. The newly launched bamboo candles comprises shells which can be used multiple times, reducing the use of plastic and other non bio-degradable products. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Tripura launched "eco-friendly" bamboo candles and diyas for Diwali
- Tripura: Capital Agartala | CM Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor Ramesh Bais
- **120.** V. P. Singh Badnore, Governor of Punjab & Administrator of Chandigarh has launched a real time mobile application namely "Wildlife Rescue App" for online monitoring of Wildlife rescue in Chandigarh. {Read more}

- V. P. Singh Badnore launched "Wildlife Rescue App" in Chandigarh
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor V. P. Singh Badnore



International Affairs

121. Interpol has created 2 secure and flexible services to facilitate cybercrime related communication among law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders. One of them is "Cybercrime Knowledge Exchange workspace" and the other is "Cybercrime Collaborative Platform-Operation". {Read more}

Key Points:

- Interpol created 2 secure and flexible services to facilitate cybercrime related communication:
- 1. Cybercrime Knowledge Exchange workspace | 2. Cybercrime Collaborative Platform-Operation
- HQs of Interpol Lyon, France | President Kim Jong Yang
- **122.** China is building the world's Highest-Altitude Cloud Computing Data Centre in Tibet that will meet the data storage needs of the country and South Asian nations like Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan. {Read more}

Key Points:

- China building the world's Highest-Altitude Cloud Computing Data Centre in Tibet
- China: Capital Beijing | Currency Renminbi | President Xi Jinping
- **123.** Qatar's Emir said that a long delayed vote for the country's policy reviewing chamber will be held in October 2021, marking the Gulf emirate's first national election. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Qatar sets its first National Election in October 2021
- Qatar Doha Riyal | PM Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani
- **124.** Rio Tinto's Argyle diamond mine has stopped its production after 40 years. Rio Tinto's Argyle mine is the world's largest pink diamond mine and it produces 90% of the world's pink diamonds. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Argyle diamond mine (Australia) stopped its production after 40 years
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison
- **125.** The death toll from the calamitous storm Eta in Central America has soared on after it has hit Guatemala. Around 150 people have died or remain unaccounted for due to this. {Read more}

- "Eta" storm hit Guatemala
- Guatemala Guatemala City Guatemalan quetzal | President Alejandro Giammattei



126. The First Committee of UN General Assembly also known as 'Disarmament and International Security Committee' has adopted 2 resolutions which were sponsored by India - 'Convention on the Prohibition of the use of Nuclear Weapons' and 'Reducing Nuclear Danger' under the 'Nuclear weapons' cluster. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 1st Committee of UNGA (Disarmament and International Security Committee) = adopted 2 resolutions
- HQs of UNGA NewYork, USA | President Tijjani Muhammad Bande
- **127.** The largest Initial Public Offering (IPO) in global finance, worth around \$35 billion has been postponed in China. The Shanghai Stock Exchange has decided to temporarily postpone the listing of Ant Group. {Read more}

Key Points:

- The largest IPO in global finance worth around \$35 billion postponed in China
- HQs of Ant Group Hangzhou, China | CEO Simon Xiaoming Hu
- **128.** The Russian-built Belarus' first nuclear power plant "Astravyets Nuclear Power Plant" has begun operating recently. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Astravyets Nuclear Power Plant located in Belarus (built by Russia)
- Russia Moscow Russian Ruble | PM Mikhail Mishustin | President Vladimir Putin
- Belarus Minsk Ruble | PM Siarhiej Rumas
- **129.** The UK in India network and over 100 partners has launched a "Pledge for Progress" campaign with the aim of promoting gender equality and bringing about real-world change. {Read more}

Key Points:

- UK launched a "Pledge for Progress" campaign in India network and over 100 partners
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM of UK Boris Johnson
- **130.** The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced a major overhaul of the country's Islamic personal laws, allowing unmarried couples to cohabitate, loosening alcohol restrictions and criminalizing so-called honor killings. {Read more}

- UAE relaxed Islamic personal laws
- UAE Abu Dhabi Dirham | President Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan



131. The USA has formally exited the Paris Climate Agreement amid election uncertainty. President Trump originally announced his intention to withdraw from the agreement in 2017 and formally notified the United Nations last year. {Read more}

Key Points:

- USA exited the Paris Climate Agreement amid election uncertainty
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Joe Biden

132. Typhoon Molave has slammed into Vietnam with destructive wind force of up to 150 kilometers (93 miles) per hour, causing at least two deaths and sinking two fishing boats with 26 crew. {Read more}

- Typhoon "Molave" hit Vietnam
- Vietnam Hanoi Vietnamese dong | PM Nguyen Xuan Phuc





Banking & Economic Affairs

133. Bank of Baroda (BoB) has introduced an "Employee Assistance Program" to help its employees to deal with their personal problems and professional issues through psychological counselling and consulting. {Read more}

Key Points:

- BoB introduced an "Employee Assistance Program" to help its employees to deal with their personal problems
- HQs of BOB Vododara, Gujarat | CEO Sanjiv Chadha
- **134.** ICICI Bank has launched India's first comprehensive banking programme called "ICICI Bank Mine" for millennial customers, in the age bracket of 18 years to 35 years. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank launched "ICICI Bank Mine" programme for millennial customers
- HQs of ICCI Bank Mumbai | MD & CEO Sandeep Bakhshi | Tagline "Hum Hain Na!"
- **135.** The Reserve Bank has launched a Co-Lending Model (CLM) scheme under which banks can provide loans along with NBFCs to priority sector borrowers based on a prior agreement. {Read more}

- RBI launched a Co-Lending Model (CLM) scheme
- RBI: HQs Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25th)



Defence Affairs

136. A special tri-Service combat exercise called "Bull Strike", with Special Forces and amphibious operations, was conducted by the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) over the last three days at Teressa Island. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Bull Strike" tri-Service combat Exercise conducted by the Andaman & Nicobar Command Teressa Island
- Teressa Island located at Nicobar Islands, India
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Capital Port Blair | Lieu. Governor Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi

137. A two-day joint Coastal Security Exercise, "Sagar Kavach" was launched at Paradip Coast, Odisha. The exercise is being carried out by a joint effort of the state of Odisha and West Bengal governments. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Sagar Kavach" Coastal Security Exercise launched at Paradip Coast, Odisha = by Odisha + West Bengal
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar

138. The 24th edition of "Malabar" Naval exercise is scheduled in 2 phases in November 2020 and Phase 1 involving participation by Indian Navy (IN), United States Navy (USN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF), and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) is set to commence off Visakhapatnam in Bay of Bengal" from November 3 to November 6. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 24th edition of "Malabar" Naval exercise is scheduled in 2 phases in November 2020
- Phase 1 involving participation by = India + USA + Japan + Australia = held in Visakhapatnam (Bay of Bengal)

139. The Bangladesh and USA navies have launched the 'Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Bangladesh 2020' to expand relationships and broaden maritime awareness between the two countries. {Read more}

- Bangladesh + USA = launched joint naval exercise "CARAT Bangladesh 2020"
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Joe Biden



Schemes & Initiatives

140. Hardeep Singh Puri has launched the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge, which focuses on shaping cities for young children and their families. He also launched the Data Maturity Assessment Framework (DMAF) to evaluate data ecosystems of cities and an Online Training Programme for City Data Officers of smart cities. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri launched 3 initiatives:
 - Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge
 - Data Maturity Assessment Framework
 - Online Training Programme for City Data Officers
- MoHUA Minister Hardeep Singh Puri

141. On 7 November 2020, PM Narendra Modi has greeted on the 5th anniversary of his government's decision to implement OROP (One Rank One Pension) Scheme. OROP is aimed at ensuring uniform pensions for veterans retiring in the same rank. According to the government, over Rs 10,795.4 crore were distributed among 20.60 lakh ex-servicemen and their family pensioners as arrears with a yearly recurring expenditure of about Rs 7,123.38 crore. {Read more}

Key Points:

- November 7 5th anniversary of OROP (One Rank One Pension) Scheme (effective from 1st July 2014)
- The scheme was launched in 2015
- Rs 10,795.4 crore distributed among 20.60 lakh ex-servicemen and their family pensioners

142. The 'Plastic Lao, Mask Le Jao' (bring plastic, take mask) campaign is initiated by Dehradun Municipal Corporation along with social organisations on November 3. {Read more}

- 'Plastic Lao, Mask Le Jao' campaign initiated by Dehradun Municipal Corporation
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Trivndra Singh Rawat | Governor Baby Rani Maurya



Important Days & Dates

143. "International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict" is observed annually on November 6 to raise awareness about the environmental damage caused due to wars. {Read more}

Key Points:

• November 6 – "International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict"

144. "International Stress Awareness Week" was recently observed between 2 to 6 November. The theme of the week is "Managing stress and mental health issues in the age of Covid-19." The week was created in 2018 by the International Stress Management Association (ISMA). The International Stress Management Association – United Kingdom (ISMAUK) has organised the first ever online global stress and wellbeing summit on the occasion of this week. {Read more}

Key Points:

- November 2 to 6 "International Stress Awareness Week" since 2018
- Theme "Managing stress and mental health issues in the age of Covid-19"

145. "National Cancer Awareness Day" is observed every year on November 7 to raise the awareness of cancer and encourage its prevention. Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan first announced National Cancer Awareness Day in September 2014. {Read more}

Key Points:

• November 7 – "National Cancer Awareness Day" – since 2014

146. "National Stress Awareness Day", marked on the first Wednesday in November, aims to identify and reduce stress factors in our lives. This year, it falls on November 4. {Read more}

Key Points:

• November 4 – "National Stress Awareness Day" (first Wednesday in November)



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

147. A Virtual Bilateral Summit was held between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Italy Giuseppe Conte on November 6. The Summit resulted in the inking of 15 agreements/MoUs in various sectors. Bilateral trade between these two countries stood at Euros 9.52 billion in 2019. Italy is India's 5th largest trading partner in the EU, after Germany, Belgium, UK and France. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India + Italy = held a "Virtual Bilateral Summit" | signed 15 MoUs
- Italy India's 5th largest trading partner in the European Union (EU)
- Italy Rome Euro | PM Giuseppe Conte

148. Election Commission of India has organized a 3-day "International Virtual Election Visitors Programme" for Foreign Election Management Bodies and Organizations. Delegates from over 40 countries across the world have been invited to participate in the programme. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Election Commission of India organized a 3-day "International Virtual Election Visitors Programme"
- HQs of ECI New Delhi | Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora (23rd)

149. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar has virtually addressed the first "India-Nordic-Baltic Conclave". It was held with a theme of "An Innovation-driven Partnership for Growth in a New World". {Read more}

Key Points:

- S Jaishankar –addressed the 1st "India-Nordic-Baltic Conclave"
- Theme "An Innovation-driven Partnership for Growth in a New World"

150. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has co-chaired the 4th India-Philippines Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation. India, Philippines discussed the shared interest in visa liberation during the fourth Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation. {Read more}

- S Jaishankar = co-chaired the 4th India-Philippines Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation
- Ministry of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar | Constituency Gujarat



151. India has successfully hosted the 5th Joint Working Group (JWG) on Coal between India and Indonesia through video conference from New Delhi due to travel restrictions on account of Covid-19 pandemic. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India hosted the 5th Joint Working Group (JWG) on Coal between = India & Indonesia
- Indonesia Jakarta Rupiah | President Joko Widodo

152. Prakash Javadekar has chaired "India CEO Forum on Climate Change" held virtually in November, 2020. He requested the companies to provide their internal roadmaps and targets on a yearly basis to the Environment Ministry and participate in achieving targets set under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Prakash Javadekar chaired "India CEO Forum on Climate Change"
- Prakash Javadekar Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Constituency Maharashtra)

153. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has chaired the "Virtual Global Investor Roundtable (VGIR) 2020" which was attended by heads of 20 top institutional investors. The VGIR was organized by the Ministry of Finance and National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF). It focuses on discussions around India's economic and investment outlook, the government's vision for making the country a \$5 trillion economy and structural reforms. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi (India) chaired the "Virtual Global Investor Roundtable (VGIR) 2020"
- VGIR was organized by Ministry of Finance + NIIF
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman (Karnataka) | MoS for Ministry of Finance Anurag Thakur

154. The IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry has organized a 3-day long "Indo-Africa Virtual Summit 2020". A target of 100 billion USD of Bilateral Trade and 100 billion USD of Investment (100*100 matrix) is set between India and Africa by 2025. {Read more}

- IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a 3-day long "Indo-Africa Virtual Summit 2020"
- Trade & Investment target between India and Africa 100*100 matrix by 2025
- HQs of IMC Mumbai, MH | President Rajiv Podar



155. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has co-chaired the 4th high-level meeting of the "India-OPEC Energy Dialogue". The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary-General of OPEC Secretariat Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo. {Read more}

- Dharmendra Pradhan co-chaired the 4th high-level meeting of the "India-OPEC Energy Dialogue"
- HQs of OPEC Vienna, Austria | Secretary General Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo





Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

156. "Moustache" novel authored by Malayalam writer S. Hareesh and translated to English by Jayasree Kalathil, has won the "JCB Prize for Literature-2020". The prize, worth Rs 25 lakh, is one of the most prestigious literary awards in India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- S. Hareesh (Malayalam writer) "JCB Prize for Literature-2020" for "Moustache" novel
- Translated to English by Jayasree Kalathil | The prize worth Rs 25 lakh

157. Noted filmmaker Hariharan has been selected for the "JC Daniel Award", Kerala's highest honour for lifetime contributions to Malayalam cinema. The award carries a purse of Rs 5 lakh, a citation, and a sculpture. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Hariharan selected for the "JC Daniel Award" (Rs 5 lakh)
- JC Daniel Award Kerala's highest honour for lifetime contributions to Malayalam cinema
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan



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Appointments & Resignations

158. Democratic candidate Joseph Robinette Biden Jr., was elected as the 46th President of the United States on November 7, beating incumbent U.S. President Donald Trump, by securing more than the required 270 of 538 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House. Kamala Devi Harris, a U.S. Senator from California, will become the first woman and first Indian- and African-American Vice-President of the country. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Joe Biden (Joe Biden) elected as the 46th President of the USA (Democratic Party)
- He replaced Donald Trump (Republican Party)
- Kamala Devi Harris the 1st woman and first Indian- and African-American Vice-President of the USA
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Joe Biden

159. Former Chief Secretary of Delhi M M Kutty was appointed as Chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas. {Read more}

Key Points:

- M M Kutty appointed as Chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management in New Delhi
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

160. Indian diplomat Vidisha Maitra was elected to the U.N. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly. In the Group of Asia-Pacific States, Ms. Maitra, First Secretary in India's Permanent Mission to the U.N., obtained 126 votes. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Vidisha Maitra elected to the U.N. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)
- HQs of UNGA NewYork, USA | President Tijjani Muhammad Bande | Member Countries 193

161. Manipur's Gyanendro Ningombam is elected unopposed as the Hockey India (HI) president, taking over from Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad. He has become the first from North East Region. {Read more}

- Gyanendro Ningombam (Manipur) elected as the President of Hockey India (by replacing Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad)
- HQs of Hockey India New Delhi | President Gyanendro Ningombam



162. The Association of Indian Forging Industry (AIFI) has elected Vikas Bajaj as its new President for the term 2020-22. He takes over from the outgoing President S. Muralishankar, who held the position from 2017 to 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Vikas Bajaj appointed as the President of Association of Indian Forging Industry (by replacing S. Muralishankar)
- HQs of AIFI Pune, Maharashtra | President Vikas Bajaj

163. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha was appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC). President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath of office to Sinha as the Chief Information Commissioner in the Central Information Commission at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Presently there are 7 Information Commissioners but the Commission can hold up to 10 Information Commissioners. {Read more}

- Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC)
- Maximum number of Information Commissioners in Central Information Commission 10 (At present 7)





Amount & Agreements

164. Amazon Web Services has agreed to invest about Rs 20,761 crore (\$2.77 billion) to set up a Cluster of Data Centres in Telangana. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Amazon Web Services to invest about Rs 20,761 Cr (\$2.77 billion) to set up Cluster of Data Centres in Telangana
- HQs of Amazon Seattle , USA | Founder & CEO Jeff Bezos
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan

165. KfW bank has extended 2 loans totaling over 545 million Euros or Rs 4,767 crore to the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) for infrastructure projects in Mumbai. {Read more}

Key Points:

- KfW bank extended 2 loans totaling over 545 million Euros or Rs 4,767 crore to MMRDA
- HQs of KfW bank Frankfurt, Germany | CEO Gunther Braunig

166. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has doubled the limit of overseas investments for individual fund houses to \$600 million. However, the industry-wide cap for investing abroad remains unchanged at \$7 billion. The SEBI has also quadrupled the quantum of investment that individual fund houses can make in foreign exchange-traded funds (ETFs) to \$200 million from \$50 million at present. {Read more}

- SEBI doubled the limit of overseas investments for individual fund houses to \$600 million (from \$300 million)
- Industry-wide cap for investing abroad \$7 billion
- HQs of SEBI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Ajay Tyagi



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

167. According to CARE Ratings, Tamil Nadu has topped Indian states in attracting investments during the first half of FY21. It has managed to grab 16% of the funds that came into India during this period. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu topped Indian states in attracting investments during the first half of FY21 according to CARE Ratings
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

168. Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh has topped the rankings of aspirational districts by government thinktank Niti Aayog for September. Bokaro and Purbi Singhbhum (both in Jharkhand) have been placed at second and third positions, respectively. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Chandauli (UP) topped the rankings of Aspirational districts by Niti Aayog for September
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel
- NITI Aayog HQs New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar

169. India has recorded a spike in its unemployment rate in both urban and rural areas in the month of October, according to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). In October, India's unemployment rate stood at 6.98%. It was 6.67% in September 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India's unemployment rate stood at 6.98% in October according to CMIE
- HQs of CMIE Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Mahesh Vyas

170. Over 2.5 crore rural households have been provided tap connections under the 'Jal Jeevan Mission' (JJM) since it started in 2019. Telangana is the top performing state in terms of providing tap connections to a maximum proportion (69.56%) of rural households. The JMM aims at providing a functional household tap connection to every rural household by 2024. {Read more}

- Over 2.5 crore rural households are provided tap connections under JJM since 2019
- Telangana the top performing state (69.56%)
- Aim of JMM to provide a functional household tap connection to every rural household by 2024
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan



Acquisitions & Mergers

171. Axis Bank has acquired over 57,700 shares in CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd for Rs 36.38 crore. CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd is a special purpose vehicle set up by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) to oversee the implementation of the common services centre scheme. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Axis Bank acquired over 57,700 shares (Rs 36.38 Cr) in CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd
- HQs of Axis Bank Mumbai | MD & CEO Amitabh Chaudhry
- CSC e-Governance Services India set up by Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)

172. Flipkart has acquired the intellectual property (IP) of gaming startup Mech Mocha for an undisclosed sum. Mech Mocha runs a regional language social gaming platform, Hello Play, which essentially builds for Bharat. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Flipkart acquired the gaming startup "Mech Mocha"
- HQs of Flipkart Banglore, Karnataka | Chairperson Binny Bansal
- HQs of Mech Mocha Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Arpita Kapoor

173. Saudi Arabia's sovereign Public Investment Fund (PIF) has invested Rs 9,555 Cr (\$1.3 billion) to pick 2.04% stake in Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL), becoming the latest high-profile global fund to purchase stake in India's largest retailer. {Read more}

- PIF acquired 2.04% stake (Rs 9,555 Cr or \$1.3 billion) in Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL)
- HQs of PIF Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | Chairman Mohammad bin Salman
- HQs of Reliance Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Mukesh Ambani



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

174. 'Project Future Ready' is launched by Dell Technologies in partnership with American India Foundation (AIF), National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and University of Mumbai to equip the workforce with career skills. The project is set to impact over 100,000 students in Mumbai and Delhi NCR, of which 60% are female. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 'Project Future Ready' is launched by = Dell Technologies + AIF + NSDC + University of Mumbai
- HQs of Dell Tech. Texas, USA | CEO Michael S. Dell
- HQs of NSDC New Delhi | MD & CEO Manish Kumar

175. ICAR-Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture (CIBA) has partnered with the Fisheries Department in Kerala to set up a multi- species fish hatchery under the aegis of the government to increase brackish water fish production in the state. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ICAR-CIBA + Kerala = an MoU to set up a multi- species fish hatchery to increase brackish water fish production
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

176. Bangladesh has signed an MoU with Serum Institute of India (SII) and Bexmico Pharmaceuticals to procure 30 million doses of 'Covishield'. The Covid-19 vaccine candidate is being developed by the University of Oxford in collaboration with AstraZeneca and the Serum Institute of India (SII). {Read more}

Key Points:

- Bangladesh + SII + Bexmico Pharmaceuticals = an MoU to procure 30 million doses of 'Covishield'
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid
- HQs of SII Pune, Maharashtra | CEO Adar C. Poonawalla
- HQs of Bexmico Dhaka, Bangladesh | MD Nazmul Hassan Papon

177. HIL Limited (Hindustan Insecticides Limited) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals recently to achieve the revenue target of Rs 451 crore in the current financial year (2020-21). {Read more}

- HIL Limited + Dept. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals = an MoU to achieve the Revenue Target of Rs 451 Cr in FY21
- HQs of HIL Ltd Kochi, Rasayani, Bathinda



178. IFFCO Bazar has announced its integration with the State Bank of India (SBI) YONO Krishi to boost accessibility of Quality Agri-Products. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IFFCO Bazar + YONO Krishi (SBI) = partnership to boost accessibility of Quality Agri-Products
- HQs of IFFCO New Delhi | Chairman Balvinder Singh Nakai
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds Vinay M. Tonse

179. Leading digital financial services platform Paytm and SBI Card have joined hands to launch co-branded credit cards available in two variants. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Paytm + SBI Card = partnership to launch co-branded credit cards available in 2 variants
- HQs of Paytm Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- HQs of SBI Card New Delhi | Chairperson Rajnish Kumar | MD & CEO Ashwini Kumar Tewari

180. National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) in association with IIT Hyderabad has launched an Incubation and Fellowship program titled, "NICE Program" (NMDC Innovation and Incubation Centre). {Read more}

Key Points:

- IIT Hyderabad + NMDC = launched "NICE Program"
- HQs of NMDC Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman & MD Sumit Deb

181. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed an MoU with NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam (NVVN) to promote usage of electric vehicles and set up solar power plants at its airports. The AAI owns and manages more than 100 airports across India. The airports in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mangaluru and Lucknow are managed by private companies and not by the AAI. {Read more}

- AAI + NVVN = an MoU to promote usage of EVs and set up solar power plants at its airports
- HQs of AAI New Delhi | Chairman Arvind Singh
- HQs of NTPC New Delhi | CMD Gurdeep Singh



182. The Karnataka government has entered into an agreement with Tata Technologies Ltd to upgrade and modernise 150 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and thereby create increased employment opportunities to the youth of the state. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Karnataka + Tata Technologies = an agreement to upgrade and modernise 150 it is
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM BS Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala
- HQs of Tata Technologies Singapore | CEO Warren Harris

183. The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of an MoU between India and Israel for cooperation in the field of health and medicine. The MoU covers areas of cooperation such as exchange and training of medical doctors and other health professionals. {Read more}

- India + Israel = an MoU for cooperation in the field of health and medicine
- Israel Jerusalem Israeli Shekel | President Reuven Rivlin | PM Benjamin Netanyahu





Books & Authors

184. Celebrated actor, author, and former Chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India Anupam Kher has announced his third book, "Your Best Day Is Today!" which he describes as a journey of self-discovery, willpower, small triumphs and the strength of positive thinking. The book will be released worldwide on December 5. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Your Best Day is Today!" authored by 'Anupam Kher' (3rd book)
- His autobiography "Lessons Life Taught Me Unknowingly"

185. Rachna Bisht Rawat's 'Insomnia' is an engaging collection of tales about the Indian Army. With tales such as these, Rawat steps away from her 4 previous books on the Indian Army that celebrate the soldier's derringdo in the nation's many wars. {Read more}

Key Points:

• "Insomnia: Army Stories" – Rachna Bisht Rawat

186. The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has virtually launched the book titled "Thavaasmi: Life and Skills through the lens of Ramayana". The author of the book is Shri Rallabandi Srirama Chakradhar and the co-author is Smt. Amara Sarada Deepthi. {Read more}

- "Thavaasmi: Life and Skills through the lens of Ramayana" launched by 'M. Venkaiah Naidu'
- The book is authored by = 'Rallabandi Srirama Chakradhar' + 'Amara Sarada Deepthi'



Persons in News

187. Army chief Gen MM Naravane has arrived in Nepal on a 3-day crucial visit to strengthen overall ties including in areas of defence and security. He was accompanied by his wife Veena Naravane, who is the chairperson of the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) of the Indian Army. {Read more}

Key Points:

- MM Naravane visited 'Nepal' to strengthen ties in areas of defence and security
- Chairperson of the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) Veena Naravane
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief S K Saini

188. The president of Kosovo, Hashim Thaci, has resigned to face war crimes charges at a special court in the Hague. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Hashim Thaci (Kosovo) resigned to face war crimes charges at a special court in the Hague, Netherlands
- Kosovo Pristina Euro | President Hashim Thaci

189. The recent Habeas Corpus petition by Republic TV Editor-in-Chief Arnab Goswami before the Bombay High Court, challenging his arrest by Raigad Police on November 4 as illegal and thus seeking his immediate release, has raised the issue of maintainability of Habeas Corpus. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Habeas Corpus petition – by 'Arnab Goswami' (Republic TV Editor-in-Chief) – before the Bombay High Court



Science & Technology

190. A five-member team from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee has developed the world's first specific reliable bacterial "Biosensor" that can detect the presence of common environmental pollutant: Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate (SDS). {Read more}

Key Points:

• IIT Roorkee – developed the world's 1st specific reliable bacterial "Biosensor" - to detect 'Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate'

191. Amazon India has announced the launch of its first all-women Virtual Customer Service (VCS) site in Bengaluru. The company initially has extended flexible career opportunities for fresh hires of 60 women across the city, empowering them to pursue their careers from homes. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Amazon launched its first all-women Virtual Customer Service (VCS) site in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- HQs of Amazon Seattle, USA | Founder & CEO Jeff Bezos
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM BS Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala

192. Australian scientists have found 500 metres tall and 1.5 Km wide coral reef on the 'Great Barrier Reef'. It lies 40 metres below the ocean surface and about six kilometres from the edge of Great Barrier Reef. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Australian scientists found 500 metres tall and 1.5 Km wide Coral Reef on 'Great Barrier Reef'
- Great Barrier Reef located in Australia
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison

193. Facebook has deleted the page of ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) from its platform without any intimation. This has prompted the ISSF to start a campaign '#unblock_ISSF_facebook'. The page was created on January 14, 2010. {Read more}

- Facebook deleted the page of ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation)
- HQs of Facebook California, United States | CEO Mark Zuckerberg
- HQs of ISSF Brussels, Belgium | President Vladimir Lisin



194. IIT Kharagpur will set up a Centre of Excellence for the Indian knowledge system. Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has inaugurated the international webinar called 'Bharata Tirtha' organised by IIT Kharagpur. {Read more}

Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur will set up a Centre of Excellence for the Indian knowledge system
- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated "Bharata Tirtha" webinar organised by IIT Kharagpur
- Ministry of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

195. India has successfully launched its latest earth observation satellite "EOS-01" and nine customer satellites from 'PSLV-C49' in Sriharikota. The customer satellites are from Lithuania (1), Luxembourg (4) and USA (4). {Read more}

Key Points:

- India launched its latest earth observation satellite "EOS-01" & 9 customer satellites from 'PSLV-C49'
- 9 customer satellites = Lithuania (1), Luxembourg (4) & USA (4)
- Lithuania Vilnius Euro | Luxembourg Luxembourg Euro
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Joe Biden

196. NASA has detected the first mix of X-ray and radio signals called "Fast Radio Burst (FRB)" in the Milky Way galaxy. The study was published in the journal Nature on November 4. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NASA detected the first "Fast Radio Burst (FRB)" in the 'Milky Way' galaxy
- The study published in the "Nature" journal
- NASA HQs Washington D.C., USA | Administrator Jim Bridenstine

197. WhatsApp has finally launched "Disappearing Messages" feature. This feature has been in testing since last year. As the name suggests, this feature will automatically delete messages from chats once the time limit reaches. {Read more}

- WhatsApp launched "Disappearing Messages" feature
- HQs of Whatsapp California, USA | CEO Jan Koum



198. WhatsApp has received the NPCI approval in India to go live with a payment feature on its messaging platform using the Unified Payments Interface in 10 regional languages. WhatsApp has been offering the service on a trial basis in India since February 2018. Moreover, WhatsApp has partnered with 5 Indian banks to process its payment services. {Read more}

- WhatsApp received the NPCI approval in India to launch a payment system on UPI in 10 languages
- WhatsApp partnered with 5 Indian banks to process its payment services
- HQs of Whatsapp California, USA | CEO Jan Koum
- HQs of NPCI Mumbai, MH | Chairman Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO Dilip Asbe





Ordinance, Bills and Acts

199. The government has issued the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 to further amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. The ordinance also does away with the 8th Schedule of the Act which contained the necessary qualifications for accreditation of arbitrators. {Read more}

Key Points:

• The government issued an Ordinance to amend "Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996"

200. The Haryana Assembly has passed a bill to give 75% reservation in the private sector to job seekers from the state. The Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Bill, 2020 provides the quota for local people in private sector jobs that offer a salary of less than Rs 50,000 a month. {Read more}

- Haryana passed a bill to give 75% reservation in the private sector jobs (Salary of less than Rs 50,000/m)
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya







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