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**Kriti Advani**  
IBPS PO 2020, Clerk, RRB Clerk



**Kola Murali Krishna Sai**  
SBI PO & IBPS PO 2020



**Abhishek Raj**  
IBPS PO & RRB PO 2020



**Rahul Jha**  
All IBPS 2020 Exams



**Nimish Mishra**  
IBPS RRB PO & IBPS Clerk 2020



**Subha Saha**  
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**Test Series Month-wise**

November  
MockDrill  
PDF No. 11  
**(PDF in English)**



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**Test Launch Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022**

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## An important message from Team Smartkeeda

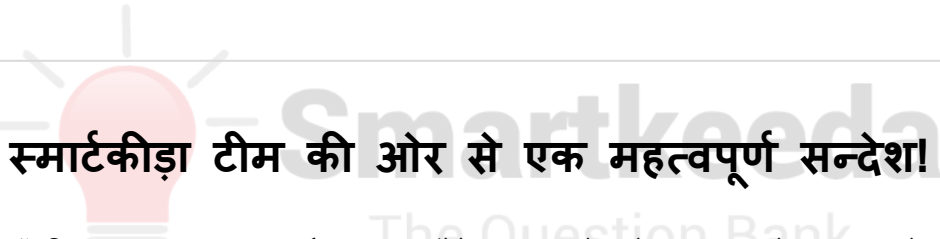
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of November 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

**501.** Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw announced theme-based Tourist Circuit Trains under a new scheme “Bharat Gaurav”. It will be run, by both Private sectors and IRCTC. The railway has earmarked 3,033 ICF coaches for this purpose, roughly translating to 150 trains. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Ministry of Railways – theme-based Tourist Circuit Trains under a new scheme “Bharat Gaurav”
- It will be run – Private sectors & IRCTC
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

**502.** The Odisha cabinet approved the “Odisha Electronics Policy 2021” to stimulate the Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) industry in the state. Through this policy, which will be in effect till 2026, the state government plans to promote Odisha as an attractive destination for the electronics industry. Among the various incentives under the policy, new investment and expansion can avail a production linked incentive (PLI) at 1% of annual turnover for 5 years. A subsidy ranging from Rs 10 Cr to Rs 250 Cr will also be provided to ESDM units based on their fixed capital investment. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Odisha – approved “Electronics Policy 2021” to stimulate the Electronics System Design & Manufacturing industry
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**503.** On November 24, Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport announced to become a “Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport” by the year 2030, ahead of the 2050 deadline set by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). India is currently the world’s third biggest emitter of Greenhouse Gases, after the United States and China. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Indira Gandhi International Airport – to become a “Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport” by 2030
- World’s biggest emitters of Greenhouse Gases: 1<sup>st</sup> – China, 2<sup>nd</sup> – US, 3<sup>rd</sup> – India



# Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

**504.** On November 23, Equitas Small Finance Bank announced its partnership with HDFC Bank for the launch of its new co-branded credit cards. The credit card can be availed in two categories - 'Excite Credit Card' with credit limit from Rs 25,000 to Rs 2,00,000 and 'Elegance Credit Card' with credit of over Rs 2,00,000. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Equitas SFB + HDFC Bank = partnership to launch new Co-branded Credit Cards in two categories
- Two categories: 'Excite Credit Card' (Rs 25,000 to Rs 2 lakh) & 'Elegance Credit Card' (over Rs 2 lakh)
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

**505.** On November 23, NPCI Bharat Bill Pay Limited (NBBL) announced its integration with Tata Power on “ClickPay” - making it the first power company to go live on the newly launched platform. ClickPay will enable Tata Power customers to make monthly electricity bill payments with ease. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- NPCI Bharat BillPay + Tata Power = integration to onboard Tata Power as the first power company on its “ClickPay”
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Praveer Sinha | Established – 1915

**506.** Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) approved measures to invest up to 5% of its annual deposits in infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs) and other alternative funds. The Central Board of Trustees (CBT) empowered Finance Investment and Audit Committee (FIAC) to decide upon the investment options, on case-to-case basis, for investment in asset classes included in the Pattern of Investment notified by the Centre. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- EPFO approved measures to invest up to 5% of its annual deposits in InvITs & other alternative funds
- HQs of EPFO – New Delhi | CEO – Sunil Barthwal | Established in – 1952

**507.** On November 24, BOB Financial Solutions Ltd (BFSL) partnered with OneCard to launch a co-branded Mobile-First Credit Card. The internationally valid credit card will be issued by BFSL and managed by OneCard on VISA's Signature platform. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- BOB Financial Solutions + OneCard = to launch a co-branded Mobile-First Credit Card on VISA's Signature platform
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha | Tagline – “India's International Bank”
- HQs of OneCard – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | CEO – Anurag Sinha (launched by - FPL Technologies)



**508.** On November 25, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance partnered with deep-tech startup TropoGo for the distribution of a drone Insurance product. The drone insurance product will cover damage to the Drone, Payload with additional covers for BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight) Endorsement & Night flying Endorsement. HDFC Ergo General Insurance was the first insurer to launch a drone insurance cover in June, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance + TropoGo = for the distribution of a DRONE Insurance product
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Gen Ins – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Tapan Singhel
- HQs of TropoGo – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Founder – Sandipan Sen

**509.** On November 24, Union Bank of India (UBI) entered into a co-lending partnership with Mumbai-based Capri Global Capital, under which they will disburse loans to MSMEs. The co-lending agreement aims to enhance last-mile finance and drive financial inclusion to MSMEs by offering secured loans between Rs 10 lakh to Rs 1 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UBI + Capri Global Capital = co-lending partnership to disburse loans between Rs 10 lakh to Rs 1 Cr to MSMEs
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”



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Defence Affairs

**510.** On November 24, Indian Navy deployed indigenously built Missile Corvette Khanjar along with Dornier maritime patrol aircraft for the 37<sup>th</sup> edition of “CORPAT” (Coordinated Patrol) with Indonesian Navy in the Indian Ocean amid growing concern over China’s increasing maritime forays into the region. The CORPAT highlights the mutual trust, synergy and cooperation between the two friendly Navies. Both countries have been conducting CORPAT twice a year since 2002. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy & Indonesian Navy – conducted the 37<sup>th</sup> edition of “CORPAT” (Coordinated Patrol) in the Indian Ocean
- Both countries have been conducting CORPAT twice a year – since 2002
- INS Khanjar & Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft participated in the CORPAT
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950



**511.** On November 24, the Defence Ministry approved a proposal to procure 'GSAT-7C' satellite and related equipment for the Indian Air Force (IAF) at a cost of Rs 2,236 Cr. Induction of GSAT-7C satellite and Ground Hubs for software-defined radios (SDRs) will enhance the ability of the IAF to communicate beyond Line of Sight among one another. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Defence Ministry approved a proposal to procure 'GSAT-7C' satellite & Ground Hubs for the IAF at a cost of Rs 2,236 Cr
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

**512.** During the "Rashtra Raksha Samarpan Parv" in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi, PM Narendra Modi handed over the indigenously built Light Combat Helicopters (LCH), developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, to the Indian Air Force chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari. He also handed over indigenously developed Drones and UAVs to the Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Mukund Naravane. He handed over the Advanced Electronic Warfare Suite for naval ships, developed by the DRDO and Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL), to the Indian Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh. PM Modi laid the foundation stone of a ₹400 Cr project to develop the propulsion system of the Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) by the Bharat Dynamics Limited in Jhansi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- During the "Rashtra Raksha Samarpan Parv" in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi, Narendra Modi handed over:
  - - Light Combat Helicopters (LCH) to the Chief of IAF (developed by HAL)
  - - Drones & UAVs to the Chief of Indian Army
  - - Advanced Electronic Warfare Suite for Naval Ships to the Chief of Indian Navy (developed by DRDO & BEL)
- Narendra Modi – laid the foundation stone of a ₹400 Cr project to develop propulsion system of the ATGM in Jhansi

**513.** On November 22, INS Visakhapatnam, an indigenously designed 'P15B' stealth-guided missile destroyer, has been formally commissioned into the Indian Navy at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai in the presence of Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. P15B is the first of the four 'Visakhapatnam' class destroyers. It was built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL). Moreover, INS Vela, the fourth submarine in the series of six submarines of 'Project-75', was commissioned in the presence of Admiral Karambir Singh, Chief of the Naval Staff. The Scorpene Class submarines are being built in India by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group (earlier DCNS), France. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- INS Visakhapatnam (P15B) – commissioned into the Indian Navy at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai
- INS Visakhapatnam (P15B) – the first of the four 'Visakhapatnam' class destroyers | Built by – MDL
- INS Vela – commissioned into the Indian Navy at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai
- INS Vela – the fourth of the six 'Scorpene' class submarines | Built by – MDL





## Schemes & Initiatives

**514.** On November 25, Union minister for power R. K. Singh and Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan laid the foundation stones of 3 Solar Power Projects with a total capacity of 1,500 MW. On the same day, the state government also launched the “Urja Saksharta Abhiyan”, a mass campaign on how to stop the wastage of electricity. In another major decision, the cabinet ratified the amendment of the Gram Panchayat Raj evam Gram Swaraj (Samsodhan) Vidhayak, 2021. Moreover, Madhya Pradesh Cabinet approved the proposal to create cyber tehsils and the state will be the first across India to do so. Cyber Tehsil will make the mutation process easy and people from anywhere in the state can avail of its benefit. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- R. K. Singh + Shivraj Singh Chouhan = laid the foundation stones of 3 Solar Power Projects of 1,500 MW capacity
- Madhya Pradesh – launched the “Urja Saksharta Abhiyan” - an awareness campaign to stop the wastage of electricity
- Madhya Pradesh – the first state which will create ‘Cyber Tehsil’
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

**515.** On November 24, the Cabinet accorded its approval for continuation of “National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS)” of Ministry of Education for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. The cabinet also accorded its approval for stipendiary support of Rs 3,054 Cr to apprentices who undergo apprenticeship training under the NATS. Moreover, the cabinet also approved continuation of the umbrella scheme “Ocean Services, Modelling, Application, Resources and Technology (O-SMART)” of Ministry of Earth Sciences up to 2025-26 at an overall cost of Rs. 2177 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved continuation of National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) – up to 2025-26 (under MoE)
- Cabinet approved continuation of “O-SMART” scheme – up to 2025-26 (under Ministry of Earth Sciences)

**516.** On November 24, the Union Cabinet has approved the extension of “Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY)” for another 4 months (December 2021-March 2022). The food grain under Phase V would entail an estimated food subsidy of Rs 53344.52 Cr. Food grains at 5 kg per person per month free of cost for all the beneficiaries is covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), including those covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The cabinet also approved continuation of the umbrella scheme “Atmosphere & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)” along with its 8 sub-schemes for next 5 years i.e. 2021-2026 at an estimated cost of Rs 2,135 Cr. The ACROSS scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved the continuation of “Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY)” – up to March 2022
- Cabinet approved the continuation “ACROSS” scheme up to 2026 (Implemented by Ministry of Earth Sciences)



## Sports & Games

**517.** Legends Cricket League, a professional cricket league for former star cricketers, has announced that the inaugural season of the league scheduled to take place in January 2022 will be played at Al Amerat Cricket Stadium in Oman. The first season of LLC will have former cricketers from various nations. Ravi Shastri recently joined the League as the Commissioner after completing his term with the Indian cricket team as its head coach. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> edition of “Legends Cricket League” – to be held at Al Amerat Cricket Stadium, Oman (in January 2022)
- Commissioner of LLC – Ravi Shastri

## Important Days & Dates

**518.** “International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women” is observed every year across the globe on November 25 to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls around the world. To raise awareness, this year's theme is “Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now!” [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- November 25 – International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- 2021's Theme – “Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now!”

**519.** PM Narendra Modi paid tributes to Lachit Borphukan on the occasion of “Lachit Diwas” which is celebrated every year on November 24 in Assam. Lachit Borphukan is a cultural idol in Assam after he defeated a large Mughal Army on the banks of Brahmaputra in the ‘Battle of Saraighat’ in 1671 to defend Guwahati. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- November 24 – Lachit Diwas – celebrated in Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



# Meetings, Conferences and Summits

**520.** India and the United States held the 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial-level meeting of the India-United States Trade Policy Forum (TPF) in New Delhi on November 23, 2021. Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal co-chaired the TPF meeting. Both sides agreed to re-launch workshops focused on accelerating implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. The TRF was re-launched after 4 years. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – co-chaired the 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial-level meeting of the “India-US Trade Policy Forum (TPF)” in New Delhi
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46<sup>th</sup> President – Joe Biden | 49<sup>th</sup> VP – Kamala Harris

**521.** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin inaugurated the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of “Connect 2021” and launched various policies of the Information Technology Department. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organised “Connect 2021”, an international conference and exhibition on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on November 26 and 27, 2021. It was hosted by the Tamil Nadu Government and co-hosted by Software Technology Parks of India. The theme of the two-day conference was “Building a Sustainable Deep Technology Ecosystem”. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- M. K. Stalin – inaugurated the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of “Connect 2021” - an international conference & exhibition on ICT
- “Connect 2021” was organised by – CII | Theme – “Building a Sustainable Deep Technology Ecosystem”
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895

**522.** The 5<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit (EAS) Conference on Maritime Security Cooperation was held in Kolkata on 23-24 November, 2021. The event was organized by India in partnership with Australia. India was represented by Ms. Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit (EAS) Conference on Maritime Security Cooperation – held in Kolkata, West Bengal
- The event was organized by = India + Australia | India was represented by – Ms. Riva Ganguly Das



# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**523.** On November 23, Pralhad Joshi chaired the 5<sup>th</sup> National Conclave on Mines & Minerals held in New Delhi and allotted over 52 mineral blocks to state governments. He also launched an 'e-portal' to ease the accreditation process. The National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), a public enterprise under the Ministry of Steel, received a total of nine 5-star ratings for 3 years for all its operating iron ore mines. Two iron ore mines of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Kiriburu Iron Ore Mines and Meghahatuburu Iron Ore Mines, also received 5-star rated awards for sustainable mining practices and all round performance in the Iron Ore category. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- Pralhad Joshi – chaired the 5<sup>th</sup> “National Conclave on Mines & Minerals” held in New Delhi
- NMDC – received a total of nine 5-star ratings for 3 years under ‘Iron Ore’ category
- Kiriburu & Meghahatuburu (two iron ore mines of SAIL) – also received 5-star rated awards under ‘Iron Ore’ category
- HQs of NMDC – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Sumit Deb | Founded on – November 15, 1958
- HQs of SAIL – New Delhi | CEO – Soma Mondal | Founded in – 1954

**524.** The prestigious “Tata Literature Live! Literary Awards for 2021”, which are one of the highlights of the “Tata Literature Live! The Mumbai LitFest”, were announced at the grand finale of the Festival which was held from November 18 to 21, 2021. The Tata Group is the title sponsor of “Tata Literature Live! The Mumbai LitFest”. The annual “Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021” was given to celebrated author Anita Desai, and the “Tata Literature Live! Poet Laureate for 2021” was legendary poet Adil Jussawalla. Other awards which were given category-wise are as below. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- “Tata Literature Live! Literary Awards” for 2021:

Category	Winner
Lifetime Achievement Award	Anita Desai
Poet Laureate	Adil Jussawalla
First Book Award (Fiction)	“A Death in Shonagachhi” - by Rijula Das
First Book Award (Non-Fiction)	“Landscapes of Loss: The Story of an Indian Drought” - by Kavitha Iyer
Book of the Year Award (Fiction)	“Asoca: A Sutra” - by Irwin Allan Sealy
Book of the Year Award (Non-Fiction)	“Born A Muslim: Some Truths About Islam in India” - by Ghazala Wahab
Business Book of the Year Award	“Pandemonium: The Great Indian Banking Tragedy” - by Tamal Bandyopadhyay
Publisher of the Year Award	HarperCollins

**525.** Venezuela’s National System of Youth and Children’s Orchestras, known as “El Sistema”, has set a new Guinness record for the world’s largest orchestra with 8,573 musicians playing together. The previous record was for an orchestra of 8,097 musicians who played together in St. Petersburg, Russia. [{Read more}](#)

## Key Points:

- “El Sistema” (Venezuela) – set a new Guinness record for the world’s largest orchestra with 8,573 musicians
- Venezuela – Caracas – Bolivar | President – Nicolas Maduro



## Appointments & Resignations

**526.** On November 24, Century LED Ltd appointed iconic cricketer and former Indian captain Sourav Ganguly as brand ambassador for its Magik range of LED lighting products. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Sourav Ganguly – appointed as Brand Ambassador of Century LED – for its Magik range of LED lighting products

**527.** On November 24, Kuwait's Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Khalid has been reappointed as the Prime Minister. He was reappointed by an emiri order issued by Crown Prince Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad al-Sabah. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Sheikh Sabah al-Khalid – reappointed as the Prime Minister of Kuwait
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Dinar | PM – Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah | Emir – Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah

## Amount & Agreements

**528.** On November 23, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Government of India signed a \$300-million loan agreement to strengthen and improve access to primary healthcare in urban areas of 13 states. The loan agreement will support the government's initiatives - Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWC) and Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM). The programme is supported by a \$2-million technical assistance grant from ADB's Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR). [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- ADB + GoI = \$300-mn agreement to strengthen & improve access to Primary Healthcare in urban areas of 13 states
- \$2-million technical assistance grant from ADB's Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR)
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

**529.** On November 23, the Government of India, Government of Andhra Pradesh and the World Bank signed loan agreements of \$250 million for the Learning Transformation Project which aims to improve quality of learning for over 50 lakh students in the state of Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- World Bank + GoI + Andhra Pradesh = \$250 million loan agreement for the Learning Transformation Project of AP
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**530.** On November 23, the Financial Stability Board (FSB), in consultation with Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) published its latest “2021 List of Global Systemically Important Banks (G-SIBs)”. JP Morgan Chase has become the world’s most systemically important bank for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time. BNP Paribas, Citigroup & HSBC are in the same & next bucket behind JP Morgan Chase. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- “2021 List of Global Systemically Important Banks (G-SIBs)” – published by Financial Stability Board (with BCBS)
- JP Morgan Chase – the world’s most Systemically Important Bank for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time
- HQs of JP Morgan Chase – New York, US | CEO – Jamie Dimon

**531.** On November 23, the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of “Microfinance Pulse”, a quarterly publication by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Equifax India has revealed that the outstanding portfolio of the Microfinance Industry has been flat on Year-on-Year (Y-o-Y) basis as of June 2021. The outstanding portfolio of Microfinance industry was Rs 2,22,060 Cr as of June 2021. The industry disbursed loans worth Rs 25,808 Cr during April-June 2021 quarter registering a Y-o-Y growth of 300% by value and 209% by volume. West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh were the top five states as of June 2021. West Bengal is the leading state with a portfolio outstanding of Rs 31,024 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 10<sup>th</sup> edition of “Microfinance Pulse” – published by SIDBI & Equifax India
- The outstanding portfolio of Microfinance industry was – Rs 2,22,060 Cr (as of June 2021)
- West Bengal – the leading state with a portfolio outstanding of Rs 31,024 Cr
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990



**532.** India has made no progress on anaemia and childhood wasting according to the “2021 Global Nutrition Report (GNR, 2021)” released by the World Health Organization on November 23, 2021. 53% of Indian women in the age group 15-49 years are anaemic, according to the report. India is also among 23 countries that have made no progress or are worsening on reducing ‘childhood wasting’. Over 17% of Indian children under 5 years of age are affected. India is ‘off-course’ in meeting 7 of the 13 global nutrition targets, according to the report. In 2012, the World Health Assembly had identified 6 nutrition targets to be met by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “2021 Global Nutrition Report” – released by the WHO
- 53% of Indian women in the age group 15-49 years are Anaemic
- India is ‘off-course’ in meeting 7 of the 13 global nutrition targets
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

**533.** On November 23, Shimla, Coimbatore and Chandigarh have topped the NITI Aayog’s first “Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Urban India Index”, while Dhanbad, Meerut and Itanagar are the worst performers. NITI Aayog has developed the “SDG Urban Index & Dashboard 2021-22” in collaboration with GIZ and BMZ under the umbrella of ‘Indo-German Development Cooperation’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> “SDG Urban Index & Dashboard 2021-22” – released by NITI Aayog
- Top 3: Shimla, Coimbatore & Chandigarh | Worst 3: Dhanbad, Meerut & Itanagar (respectively)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | VC – Rajiv Kumar

**534.** Sadar Bazar police station in Delhi has been ranked as the best police station in India, as per the “India’s Top 10 Police Stations for 2021” released by the Home Ministry to grade police stations based on parameters including handling of crime, infrastructure, and approachability of personnel. Gangapur police station in Ganjam district of Odisha and Bhattu Kalan police station in Fatehabad, Haryana were ranked on second & third place respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “India’s Top 10 Police Stations for 2021” rankings – released by the Ministry of Home Affairs
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Sadar Bazar PS (Delhi) | 2<sup>nd</sup> - Gangapur PS (Odisha) | 3<sup>rd</sup> - Bhattu Kalan PS (Haryana)

**535.** On November 24, A report titled “The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2021” was released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). As per the report, Food costs could increase for up to 845 million people if a disruption to critical transport links were to occur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2021” – released by the FAO
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1945



**536.** On November 24, India is listed among top 6 destinations in Asia attracting investments in the domestic seed sector, as per the “Access to Seeds Index 2021” released by World Benchmarking Alliance. Apart from India, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Bangladesh attract investments in breeding, production and processing. East-West Seed tops the 2021 Index. While India’s Mahyco Grow and Acsen HyVeg ranked 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Access to Seeds Index 2021” released by World Benchmarking Alliance
- India is listed among top 6 destinations in Asia attracting investments in the domestic seed sector
- In Companies: Top – East-West Seed | From India: Mahyco Grow (4<sup>th</sup>) & Acsen HyVeg (5<sup>th</sup>)

## Acquisitions & Mergers

**537.** On November 23, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved acquisition of minority stake in Delhivery Limited (Delhivery) by FedEx Express Transportation and Supply Chain Services (India) Pvt Ltd (FedEx India) and acquisition of certain operating assets of FedEx India and TNT India Pvt Ltd (TNT) by Delhivery. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CCI approved acquisition of minority stake in Delhivery – by FedEx India & Supply Chain Services (India)
- CCI approved acquisition of certain operating assets of FedEx India & TNT India – by Delhivery
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of Delhivery – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Sahil Barua

## MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**538.** On November 24, the Tamil Nadu government signed 59 MoUs for projects worth Rs 35,208 Cr in various sectors, including aerospace and defence, which is set to create job opportunities for 76,795 people. The CM M. K. Stalin released the “Tamil Nadu Fin-Tech Policy 2021”, which encompasses features like a ‘Fin Tech City’ in Chennai and unveiled an “Aerospace and Defence Handboo” for enterprises involved in the sector. An MoU was signed between the TN Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) and Dassault Systemes to set up a Centre of Excellence at an investment of Rs 212 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – signed 59 MoUs for projects worth Rs 35,208 Cr in various sectors, including Areospace & Defence
- TN CM M. K. Stalin – released the “Fin-Tech Policy 2021” & unveiled an “Aerospace & Defence Handbook”
- TIDCO + Dassault Systemes (France) = an MoU to set up a Centre of Excellence at an investment of Rs 212 Cr
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi





**539.** On November 23, India and Nepal signed an MoU for reciprocal recognition of COVID vaccination certificate to significantly ease the travel for fully vaccinated people from the two neighbouring countries. Indian Ambassador to Nepal Vinay M. Kwatra signed the MoU from Indian side. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Nepal = an MoU for reciprocal recognition of COVID vaccination certificate to ease the travel
- Vinay M. Kwatra – Indian Ambassador to Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM – Sher Bahadur Deuba

**540.** On November 22, MakeMyTrip partnered with the Ministry of Civil Aviation to promote Regional Air Connectivity through the UDAN scheme. MakeMyTrip will now power UDAN flights on the 'AirSewa' portal and market them on its platform to provide air connectivity to underserved destinations. Besides, Ministry of Civil Aviation also signed an MoU with Indian School of Business (ISB) for undertaking research to analyse the effect of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) on commercial air travel in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MCA + MakeMyTrip = partnership to promote Regional Air Connectivity through the UDAN scheme
- MCA + ISB = an MoU to analyse the effect of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) on commercial air travel
- 'AirSewa' portal – an initiative by the Ministry of Civil Aviation
- HQs of MakeMyTrip – Gurugram, Haryana | Co-founder & CEO – Rajesh Magow
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency – Guna, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Civil Aviation: V. K. Singh

**541.** On November 22, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) has partnered with the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Global Environmental Facility (GEF) to deploy 35 energy-efficient technologies in MSMEs to improve the energy productivity of fellow MSMEs units. The project also aims to adopt various business models of ESCO (Energy Servicing Company). With India rolling out the world's largest Electricity Smart Metering programme, EESL and IntelliSmart has been present in India's smart meter programme space. Moreover, Gerd Muller succeeded Li Yong as the new Director General of the UNIDO in November, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EESL + Ministry of MSME + UNIDO + GEF = partnership to deploy 35 energy-efficient technologies in MSMEs
- India – to launch the world's largest Electricity Smart Metering programme
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | CEO – Arun Kumar Mishra | Chairman – K. Sreekant
- HQs of UNIDO – Vienna, Austria | Director General – Gerd Muller | Founded in – 1966
- HQs of GEF - Washington, D.C., US | CEO – Carlos Manuel Rodriguez



**542.** Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), a flagship initiative of NITI Aayog collaborated with Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous organization of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India to drive synergies between AIM's Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) and Vigyan Prasar's unique interactivity platform, Engage With Science (EWS). [{Read more}](#)

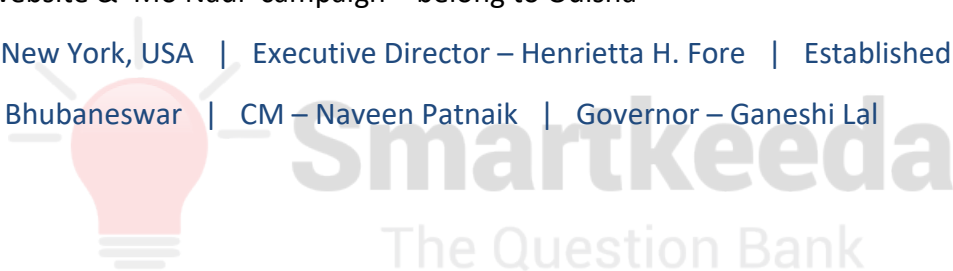
**Key Points:**

- AIM + Vigyan Prasar = collaboration to drive synergies between Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) & Engage With Science (EWS)
- Vigyan Prasar – an organization of Department of S&T
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav)

**543.** On November 25, the Department of Water Resources (DoWR) and UNICEF signed a letter of agreement (LoA) to develop water policy for Sustainable Water Management in Odisha. Principal Secretary of Water Resources at Government of Odisha launched a website “Youth4Water” for the same purpose. He stated that ‘Youth4Water’ and ‘Mo Nadi’ campaigns are the key features of the collaboration with UNICEF. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UNICEF + Water Resources Dept. = to develop water policy for Sustainable Water Management in Odisha
- “Youth4Water” website & ‘Mo Nadi’ campaign – belong to Odisha
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, USA | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore | Established in – 1946
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



## Books & Authors

**544.** A Seminar titled “India-Bangladesh: Fifty Years of Friendship” was organised by the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) at the India International Centre (IIC) situated in New Delhi to commemorate 50 Years of ‘India-Bangladesh Friendship’ on 24 November, 2021. A book titled “Bangladesh Liberation@50 Years: ‘Bijoy’ with Synergy: India-Pakistan War 1971” was released by the Chief of Indian Army General M. M. Naravane. This book is a compilation of personal experiences of the war by veterans from India and Pakistan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “India-Bangladesh: Fifty Years of Friendship” seminar – organised by the CLAWS
- M. M. Naravane – released “Bangladesh Liberation@50 Years: ‘Bijoy’ with Synergy: India-Pakistan War 1971” book
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid



## Obituaries

**545.** Renowned Punjabi folk singer Gurmeet Bawa, popularly known as 'Lambi hek di malika' (the queen of singing in an extended breath), passed away at the age of 77. She was also awarded the 'Rashtrapati Puraskar' by the Bharti Sangeet Natak Akademi. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Gurmeet Bawa – Punjabi Folk Singer – passed away

**546.** Eminent Assamese Poet Sananta Tanty passed away at the age of 69. Sananta Tanty received several awards and recognitions, including the "Sahitya Akademi" in 2016 for "Kailoir Dinto Amar Hobo" (Tomorrow Will Be Ours), a collection of his poems in Assamese. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Sananta Tanty ([Assam](#)) – an Eminent Assamese Poet – passed away
- Awards: "Sahitya Akademi" (2016) for "Kailoir Dinto Amar Hobo" a collection of his poems in Assamese

## Science & Technology

**547.** On November 24, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched the world's first planetary defence system. The mission of NASA's "Double Asteroid Redirection Test" (DART) spacecraft is to demonstrate the world's first planetary defence system, which is designed to smash directly into an asteroid and deflect it away from causing a collision with Earth. It is a \$330 million (Rs 2,460 Cr) project. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- NASA – launched the world's first planetary defence system, "Double Asteroid Redirection Test" (DART) spacecraft
- It is a \$330 million (Rs 2,460 Cr) project/mission
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

**548.** On November 25, China successfully launched a new satellite "Shiyan-11" into space aboard a 'Kuaizhou-1A' carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in the Gobi Desert in Inner Mongolia. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- China – launched a new satellite "Shiyan-11" into space aboard a 'Kuaizhou-1A' carrier rocket
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping



**549.** On November 25, Skyroot Aerospace has test fired India's first privately developed fully cryogenic rocket engine named "Dhawan-1" and successfully demonstrated the technology that will power the upper stages of its upcoming 'Vikram-2' orbital launch vehicle. The rocket engine is named in honour of Indian rocket scientist Satish Dhawan and has been developed using 3D printing technology. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Skyroot Aerospace – test fired India's first privately developed fully cryogenic rocket engine named "Dhawan-1"
- HQs of Skyroot Aerospace – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Pawan Kumar Chandana

## Ordinance, Bills and Acts

**550.** On November 19, PM Narendra Modi in his address to the nation announced the repeal of 3 Contentious Farm Laws under the 'Article 245', as approved by the Union Cabinet recently. 'Article 245' of the Indian Constitution which gives Parliament the power to make laws also gives the legislative body the power to repeal them through the 'Repealing and Amending Act'. The Act was first passed in 1950 when 72 Acts were repealed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 3 Contentious Farm Laws were repealed under the 'Article 245'
- 'Article 245' of the IC gives Parliament the power to make or repeal laws



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