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Testzone presents
Full-Length Current Affairs Mock
Test Series Month-wise

November
MockDrill
PDF No. 8
(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 30th December 2021

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

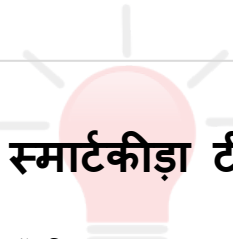
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of November 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

351. On November 17, Ministry of Home Affairs approved a new Rajya Sainik Board for Ladakh headed by a Director. The Rajya Sainik Board would be responsible for advising on the matters affecting the interest of the ex-servicemen, war widows, widows and non-combatants. Approximately 60,000 ex-servicemen, war widows, widows, serving personnel, including their dependents, would benefit from the establishment of the Rajya Sainik Board Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs – approved a new Rajya Sainik Board for Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

352. On November 17, Indian Railways' first pod hotel was inaugurated at Mumbai Central Railway Station by the minister of state for railways, Raosaheb Danve. It comprises three categories - 30 classic pods, 7 ladies only, 10 private pods and 1 for differently-abled passengers. Pod hotels were first developed in Japan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways' first pod hotel was inaugurated at Mumbai Central Railway Station
- Pod hotels were first developed in Japan
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Suneet Sharma
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh

353. On November 17, Himachal Pradesh CM Jai Ram Thakur launched ₹1010.6 Cr phase 2 of the HP Crop Diversification Promotion Project (HPCDP) supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) at Dharamshala. It would be implemented in all 12 districts and help in uplifting the socio-economic status of farming families. The aim is to increase the land under vegetable cultivation from 2,500 hectares to 7,000 hectares by 2031. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – launched phase-2 of 'Crop Diversification Promotion Project' worth ₹1010.6 Cr
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

354. On November 17, Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services launched its leasing and subscription business "Quiklyz". This venture is a new-age digital platform for vehicle leasing and subscription, that aims to provide great convenience, flexibility and choice to customers across cities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services – launched its vehicle leasing & subscription business "Quiklyz"
- HQs of MMFS – Mumbai, MH | Vice Chairman & MD – Ramesh Iyer | Non-Executive Chairman – Anish Shah



355. On November 17, the Cabinet approved provisioning of 4G mobile services in 7,287 uncovered villages of 44 Aspirational Districts across 5 States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Odisha, at an estimated cost of ₹6,466 Cr. The project will be supported by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) and will be completed within 18 months. The Cabinet has also approved to the proposals of Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development for continuation of “Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-I and II” up to September, 2022 for completion of remaining road and bridge works. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) also approved continuation of “Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA)” up to March, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved 4G mobile services in 7,287 uncovered villages of 44 Aspirational Districts across 5 States
- Cost of the project – ₹6,466 Cr | Supported by – Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)
- Cabinet approved continuation of “Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-I and II” up to September, 2022
- Cabinet approved continuation of “Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA)” up to March, 2023

356. On November 16, Mobile Premier League (MPL), an online gaming platform, will set up a game development centre in Telangana employing 500 youths in the state. The MPL will work with Telangana Academy of Skills and Knowledge (TASK) to introduce special game development, animation and sports focussed courses to enhance the available talent pool in the state. In this regard, MPL signed an MoU with the state government on the sidelines of IndiaJoy 2021, Asia's largest digital entertainment festival themed "Virtual is Reality" which began in Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MPL will set up a ‘Game Development Centre’ in Telangana to employ 500 youths in the state
- HQs of MPL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Sai Srinivas Kiran G.

357. On November 17, Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) released an ‘Investor Charter’ outlining the rights and responsibilities of investors investing in the securities market. As per the investor charter, investors are entitled to fair and equitable treatment, can expect redressal of investor grievances filed in SCORES in a time bound manner and get quality services from SEBI recognised Market Infrastructure Institutions and SEBI registered intermediaries, regulated entities or Asset Management Companies (AMCs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – released an ‘Investor Charter’ outlining the rights & responsibilities of investors
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

358. On November 17, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated 130 transformed high schools with better facilities in 5 districts under the 5T School transformation program of the state government. The state government has reserved 15% of seats in Government medical and engineering colleges for the children of government schools. [{Read more}](#)



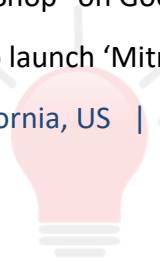
Key Points:

- Odisha – inaugurated 130 transformed high schools in 5 districts under ‘5T School transformation program’
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

359. On November 18, Google hosted the 7th edition of Google’s India event, where it announced new product updates focused on the Indian market. Google will now support voice-assisted bookings for vaccinations on the COWIN platform with the help of the Assistant which will be in English & 8 other Indian Languages. Google partnered with Coursera to launch “Google Career Certificates” in order to help train students in digital skills. Google Pay will also get the Hinglish option in 2022. Moreover, Google added “My Shop” feature where a small store merchant can showcase the entire inventory from the Google Pay app itself. Google also partnered with non-profit organisation Armaan to launch ‘Mitra’ program which is aimed at using to help benefit women who are pregnant and very often lack access to basic healthcare. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google – hosted the 7th edition of Google’s India Event
- Google – to support voice-assisted bookings for COWIN vaccine with the help of the Assistant
- Google + Coursera = to launch “Google Career Certificates” to help train students in Digital Skills
- Google – added “My Shop” on Google Pay for small store merchant
- Google + Armaan = to launch ‘Mitra’ program to help pregnant women
- HQs of Google – California, US | CEO – Sundar Pichai | Founded in – 1998



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International Affairs

360. On November 16, Barbados became the first country to establish a Digital Embassy after an agreement with metaverse platform ‘Decentraland’, a user-owned, Ethereum-based digital environment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Barbados – the first country to establish a Digital Embassy after an agreement with metaverse platform ‘Decentraland’
- Barbados – Bridgetown – Barbados Dollar | Prime minister – Mia Mottley

361. On November 12, India and Sri Lanka have set up Parliamentary Friendship Association. The association existed in the past and is being revived for the current Parliament, elected in August 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Sri Lanka = set up ‘Parliamentary Friendship Association’
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan Rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

362. On November 15, HDFC Bank launched the 2nd edition of its “Mooh Band Rakho” campaign in support of the “International Fraud Awareness Week 2021” held from November 15 - 21. Through this initiative, the bank aims to increase awareness on all types of frauds and the importance of keeping your mouth shut to ensure their prevention. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – launched the 2nd edition of its “Mooh Band Rakho” campaign
- November 15 to 21 – “International Fraud Awareness Week 2021”
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

363. On November 17, HDFC Bank launched micro-credit facility for street vendors, PM Street Vendor’s AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), with common service centres (CSC). HDFC Bank would facilitate PM SVANidhi for its village-level entrepreneurs (VLEs) on the ‘Digital Sewa’ portal. This facility is a collateral-free affordable loan of ₹10,000 with an interest subsidy of 7%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – launched micro-credit facility for ‘PM SVANidhi’ scheme with common service centres (CSC)
- Facility is available on ‘Digital Sewa’ portal | Collateral-free affordable loan of ₹10,000 | Interest subsidy of 7%
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

364. On November 17, Mswipe has partnered with OneCard, a mobile-first credit card company, to offer no-cost EMIs across its network of 2,50,000 retailers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mswipe + OneCard = partnership to offer no-cost EMIs across its network of 2,50,000 retailers
- HQs of Mswipe Technologies – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Manish Patel
- HQs of OneCard – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | CEO – Anurag Sinha (launched by - FPL Technologies)

365. On November 18, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) partnered with Google India Pvt Ltd (GIPL) for piloting a ‘Social Impact Lending Programme’ with financial assistance between ₹25 lakh to ₹1 Cr at competitive interest rates to MSMEs (having turnover up to ₹5 Cr). This partnership with GIPL brings a corpus of \$15 million (around ₹110 Cr) to MSMEs as a crisis response related to COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI + Google India = partnership for piloting a ‘Social Impact Lending Programme’
- Financial assistance: between ₹25 lakh to ₹1 Cr to MSMEs (having turnover up to ₹5 Cr)
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – Sivasubramanian Ramann | Established in – 1990



366. On November 18, NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure received an in-principle approval from the RBI to set up an Account Aggregator (AA) business under its wholly owned subsidiary, NSDL e-Governance Account Aggregator Ltd. Account Aggregator is a first-of-its-kind consent framework that empowers an individual with the ability to securely and digitally access and share his or her data. [{Read more}](#)

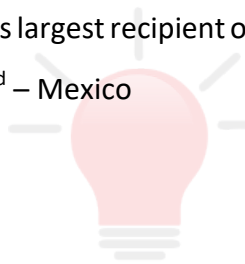
Key Points:

- NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure – received in-principle approval from RBI to set up an Account Aggregator business
- HQs of NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Suresh Sethi

367. On November 18, India, the world’s largest recipient of remittances, received \$87 billion in 2021 with the United States being the biggest source, accounting for over 20% of these funds, according to the World Bank’s “Remittance Prices Worldwide Report”. India is followed by China and Mexico. In India, remittances are projected to grow 3% in 2022 to \$89.6 billion. India had received over \$83 billion in remittances in 2020. Besides, the World Bank also released “Migration and Development Brief” report. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Remittance Prices Worldwide Report” – by World Bank
- “Migration and Development Brief” report – released by World Bank
- India – the world’s largest recipient of remittances (received \$87 billion in 2021) | Biggest source – US (20%)
- 2nd – China | 3rd – Mexico



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Defence Affairs

368. On November 17, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed an export contract with aircraft manufacturer Airbus Defense & Space, Spain to supply its in-house developed ‘Counter Measures Dispensing System (CMDS)’ to Airbus. The contract, which is valued at \$21 million approximately, was signed by BDL director (technical) N. P. Diwakar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BDL + Airbus Defense & Space (Spain) – an export contract to supply ‘Counter Measures Dispensing System (CMDS)’
- HQs of BDL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Siddharth Mishra | Founded in – 1970



Sports & Games

369. On November 19, Indian men's recurve team won the silver medal in their final match at "Asian Archery Championship 2021" which was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. While Jyothi Surekha Vennam won the women's compound individual Gold at the championships. With this, India concluded their tournament by winning one gold, four silver and two bronze medals, sitting second on the medal tally behind the sport's powerhouse South Korea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India ranked 2nd in medal tally at the "Asian Archery Championship 2021" (1 Gold + 4 Silver + 2 Bronze)
- "Asian Archery Championship 2021" was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh

370. Former South Africa captain and superstar batter Abraham Benjamin de Villiers, also known as AB de Villiers announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abraham Benjamin de Villiers (South Africa) – retired from all forms of Cricket

Important Days & Dates

371. On November 17, 2021, the 20th edition of World COPD Day was organized by the Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) in collaboration with health care professionals and COPD patient groups throughout the world. The day is observed on the 3rd Wednesday of November. In 2021, the theme is "Healthy Lungs - Never More Important". The COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) affects our lungs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 17 – 20th edition of World COPD Day (3rd Wednesday of Nov)
- Theme – "Healthy Lungs - Never More Important"
- COPD – Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

372. On the 3rd Thursday of November every year, World Philosophy Day is observed. This year, the day is observed on 18 November. In 2005, UNESCO General Conference declared that World Philosophy Day would be celebrated on the third Thursday of November every year. In 2021, the theme is "Different interactions of Human Beings in their Social, Cultural, Geographical and Political Environment". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 18 (3rd Thursday of Nov) – World Philosophy Day
- 2021's Theme – "Different interactions of Human Beings in their Social, Cultural, Geographical & Political Environment"



373. On the 4th Naturopathy Day observed on November 18 this year, Union Minister of State for Ayush, Munjpara Mahendrabhai launched “Disease-Free India” campaign initiated by the Surya Foundation and International Naturopathy Organisation (INO) to propagate among the masses the self-healing system using natural remedies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 18 – 4th Naturopathy Day
- Munjpara Mahendrabhai – launched “Disease-Free India” campaign – initiated by Surya Foundation & INO

374. On November 15, National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), a public enterprise under Ministry of Steel celebrated its 64th Formation Day at its Head Office - Hyderabad. NMDC, the largest iron ore producer in India was incorporated on 15th November 1958 and has completed 63 years of service to the nation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 15 – 64th Formation Day of NMDC
- HQs of NMDC – Hyderabad, Telangana | CMD – Sumit Deb | Founded on – November 15, 1958

375. The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) observes “Communal Harmony Campaign and Fund Raising Week” every year from November 19 to 25 and the last working day of this week is observed as the ‘Flag Day’. The main activity of the Foundation is to provide financial assistance to children rendered orphan or destitute in communal, caste, ethnic or terrorist violence for their education and rehabilitation under Project ‘Assty’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 to 25 – “Communal Harmony Campaign & Fund Raising Week”
- The last working day of this week (November 25) is observed as ‘Flag Day’

376. Every year on November 19, International Men’s Day (IMD) is observed and celebrated across the world. It is a day to spread awareness about men’s wellbeing and their contribution to households and society at large. The International Men’s Day was established by Dr Jerome Teelucksingh in the year 1999. In 2021, the theme is “Better Relations between Men and Women”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 – International Men’s Day (since - 1999)
- 2021’s Theme – “Better Relations between Men and Women”

377. Every year on November 19, ‘National Integration Day’ also known as ‘Quami Ekta Divas’ is celebrated. The day commemorates the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The key objective of observing the day is to achieve harmony, peace, love, and brotherhood among people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 – ‘National Integration Day’ or ‘Quami Ekta Divas’ (Birth anniversary of - Indira Gandhi)



378. Each year, World Toilet Day on 19 November highlights the importance of sanitation and hygiene in driving improvements in public health, gender equality, education, economic development and environmental protection. This year's theme is "Valuing Toilets". The UN-Water organizes World Toilet Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 – World Toilet Day – organised by UN-Water
- 2021's Theme – "Valuing Toilets"

379. Women's Entrepreneurship Day is observed globally on November 19 every year in a bid to encourage and support women-led businesses and the spirit of women entrepreneurship in general. Google-Bain Report in 2019 estimated that women in India owned only around 20% out of all enterprises. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 – Women's Entrepreneurship Day

380. "World Heritage Week" is celebrated every year from November 19 to 25. At present, 3,691 monuments across India are protected by the ASI, with the highest number, 745, in Uttar Pradesh. Total 40 heritage sites in India are listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites at present. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 to 25 – World Heritage Week



381. On November 17, PM Narendra Modi virtually addressed the inaugural session of 82nd All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC). To commemorate the centennial year of AIPOC, the 82nd edition of the All India Presiding Officers' Conference was in Shimla on 17-18 November 2021. The first Conference was also held in Shimla in 1921. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – addressed the inaugural session of 82nd All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) – in Shimla
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

382. On November 17, Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated 3-day 'Bengaluru Tech Summit 2021' in a hybrid format. Naftali Bennett, the Prime Minister of Israel and Scott Morrison, the Prime Minister of Australia, attended the event virtually. The 24th edition of the summit witnessed participation of over 30 countries. For the first time South Africa, Vietnam, and UAE participated in the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS). The theme of this year's Summit is "Driving the Next". [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – inaugurated the 24th edition of “Bengaluru Tech Summit 2021”
- 2021’s Theme – “Driving the Next”
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot

383. Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri led an official and business delegation to UAE from November 15-17 to attend the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC) hosted by the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri – attended the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition & Conference (ADIPEC)
- Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas: Hardeep Singh Puri | Constituency – Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas: Rameswar Teli

384. On November 18, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 1st “Global Innovation Summit” of the pharmaceutical sector. The summit highlighted opportunities in the Indian Pharma industry that has a huge growth potential. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 1st “Global Innovation Summit” of the pharmaceutical sector

385. On November 17, Minister of State External Affairs (MoS), Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh virtually participated in the 21st Annual Council of Ministers (COM) meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) hosted by Bangladesh. Salman Al-Farisi was selected as the next Secretary-General (SG) of IORA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajkumar Ranjan Singh – participated in the 21st IORA Council of Ministers’ Meeting – hosted by Bangladesh
- HQs of IORA – Ebene, Mauritius | Chairship – Bangladesh
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

386. On November 17, Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Shri Anurag Thakur conferred the first ever SAI Institutional Awards to 246 athletes and coaches in New Delhi. A total of 162 athletes and 84 coaches have been conferred awards in the ‘Outstanding Award’ and ‘Best Award’ categories for their performance in national and international competitions, with cash awards amounting to a total of Rs 85.02 Lakh. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Anurag Thakur – conferred the first ever ‘SAI Institutional Awards’ to 246 athletes & coaches
- 162 athletes & 84 coaches – conferred awards in the ‘Outstanding Award’ & ‘Best Award’ categories
- HQs of SAI – New Delhi | Director General – Sandip Pradhan

387. In November 2021, North Carolina writer Jason Mott has won the National Book Foundation’s 2021 Prize for fiction, for his novel “Hell of a Book”. The Harvard University historian Tiya Miles won the National Book award for Non-fiction for “All That She Carried”. The National Book award for Young People’s Literature went to Malinda Lo for “Last Night at the Telegraph Club” novel. The Latino poet Martin Espada won the National Book award for poetry for his collection of poems “Floaters”. The National Book award for translated literature went to Aneesa Abbas Higgins for her translation of Elisa Shua Dusapin’s “Winter in Sokcho”, from French into English. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- National Book Foundation’s “National Book Awards 2021”:

Category	Winner	For
Fiction	Jason Mott	“Hell of a Book”
Non-fiction	Tiya Miles	“All That She Carried”
Young People’s Literature	Malinda Lo	“Last Night at the Telegraph Club”
Poetry	Martin Espada	“Floaters”
Translated Literature	Aneesa Abbas Higgins	“Winter in Sokcho”

Appointments & Resignations

388. On November 15, Sourav Ganguly, the BCCI president, has taken over from Anil Kumble as the new Chairman of the ICC Cricket Council. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sourav Ganguly – appointed as new Chairman of the ICC Cricket Committee (succeeding - Anil Kumble)
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | Acting CEO – Geoff Allardice | Members – 106 countries

389. On November 17, Justice M. Duraiswamy is appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court. Justice Sanjib Banerjee is appointed as the chief justice of Meghalaya High Court. Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari, transferred from the Allahabad HC to the Madras HC, will join as the senior-most judge of the Madras HC. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- M. Duraiswamy – appointed as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court
- Sanjib Banerjee – appointed as the Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court
- Munishwar Nath Bhandari – will join as the senior-most judge of the Madras HC

390. On November 18, India got re-elected to the Executive Board of the UNESCO with 164 votes for the term 2021-25. The UNESCO Executive Board is one of the three constitutional organs of the U.N. agency and it is elected by the General Conference. It consists of 58 member-states each with a 4-year term of office. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – got re-elected to the Executive Board of the UNESCO with 164 votes for the term 2021-25 (for 4 years)
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945

391. On November 14, the Indian cricket board (BCCI) has signed a deal with former India Cricketer Vangipurapu Venkata Sai Laxman known as VVS Laxman for the post of head of cricket at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru. The post was vacated by Rahul Dravid after he became the head coach of Indian Cricket Team. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- VVS Laxman – to assume charge as the Head of the National Cricket Academy
- NCA – located in Chinnaswamy Cricket Stadium, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Amount & Agreements

392. On November 19, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved \$150 million loan to the Government of India for implementation of the Sustainable Urban Services Program in Chennai metropolitan area (CMA). India is the largest beneficiary of AIIB and the bank has so far approved 29 projects for India worth \$6.8 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIIB approved \$150 million loan to India for implementation of Sustainable Urban Services Program in Chennai
- HQs of AIIB – Beijing, China | President – Jin Liqun | Established in – 2016 | Members – 104
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi



Acquisitions & Mergers

393. On November 17, the Supreme Court allowed the central government to disinvest its remaining 29.5% shares in Hindustan Zinc Limited. In 2016, the Supreme Court had directed the central government to maintain status quo on the proposed disinvestment of Hindustan Zinc Limited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SC allowed the central government to disinvest its remaining 29.5% shares in Hindustan Zinc Limited
- HQs of Hindustan Zinc Limited – Udaipur, Rajasthan | CEO – Arun Misra

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

394. On November 18, the Odisha government signed an MoU with SaveLIFE Foundation (SLF), a Delhi-based NGO, to improve road safety in the state. The SLF will identify 100 accident-prone spots and recommend measures to bring down the number of mishaps in those areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha + SaveLIFE Foundation = an MoU to improve road safety in the state
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of SaveLIFE Foundation – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Piyush Tewari

Books & Authors

395. Union Minister Smriti Zubin Irani has turned author with her debut novel “Lal Salaam”, announced by publishing house Westland. The novel is inspired by the tragic killings of 76 CRPF personnel in Dantewada in April 2010. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Lal Salaam” debut novel – by Smriti Zubin Irani



Obituaries

396. On November 15, Legendary author Wilbur Smith passed away at the age of 88. In 1964, the author published his first novel, “When the Lion Feeds”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wilbur Smith – British-South African Novelist/Author – passed away

Science & Technology

397. Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) discovered an exoplanet that is 725 light years away from us and has 1.5 times the mass of our Sun. The exoplanet is 1.4 times the size of Jupiter. Exoplanets are planetary bodies that are outside our solar system and they usually orbit a star. The exoplanet was discovered using the ‘PARAS’ (PRL Advanced Radial velocity Abu Sky Search) optical fibre-fed spectrograph on the laboratory’s telescope at its Mt. Abu observatory. The study was led by Abhijit Chakraborty. The newly found exoplanet will be called ‘HD 82139b’ or ‘TOI 1789b’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Physical Research Laboratory (Ahmedabad, Guj) – discovered a new exoplanet called ‘HD 82139b’ or ‘TOI 1789b’
- Exoplanet’s Mass – 1.5 times the mass of Sun | Size – 1.4 times the size of Jupiter
- The exoplanet was discovered using ‘PARAS’ (PRL Advanced Radial velocity Abu Sky Search)
- The study was led by – Abhijit Chakraborty
- Mount Abu InfraRed Observatory – located in Rajasthan

398. On November 18, Maharashtra’s Hingoli Revenue Department has handed over 225 hectare of land at Dudhala in Aundha Nagnath town to authorities of the “Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO)” project for setting up the first such facility in India. In 2016, the central government had given an ‘in principle’ approval to the LIGO-India mega science proposal for research on gravitational waves. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra’s Hingoli Revenue Dept. handed over 225 hectare of land to set up “LIGO Project” in India
- India’s 1st “LIGO Project” will be set up – at Aundha Naganath town, Hingoli district, Maharashtra

399. On November 18, Russia launched an anti-satellite (ASAT) missile called “Nudol”, destroying one of its own satellites and creating a cloud of space debris that is threatening astronauts at the International Space Station. India launched its first ASAT test in 2019. Moreover, Russia’s navy successfully test-fired ‘Zircon’ Hypersonic Cruise Missile. The Admiral Gorshkov frigate in the White Sea launched the missile, hitting a practice target 400 km away. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Russia – launched an anti-satellite (ASAT) missile called “Nudol” to destroy one of its own satellites
- Russian Navy – successfully test-fired ‘Zircon’ Hypersonic Cruise Missile in the White Sea
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

Ordinance, Bills and Acts

400. On November 14, the Centre has promulgated ordinance to extend the tenure of Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) directors up to 5 years. At present, director of CBI and ED have been appointed for 2-year tenure in office by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003. Moreover, on November 17, the central government extended the tenure of ED Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra by a year till November 18, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government promulgated an ordinance to extend the tenure of Directors of ED & CBI from 2 years to 5 years
- Sanjay Kumar Mishra – tenure extended as the Directors of ED by 1 year (till Nov 2022)
- HQs of Enforcement Directorate – New Delhi | Director – Sanjay Kumar Mishra
- HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Subodh Kumar Jaiswal | Motto – “Industry, Impartiality, Integrity”





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