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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 पढ़ना, 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।

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टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा

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National & States Affairs

1. Abu Dhabi's "Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) - MIC Redwood 1 RSC Limited" has become the first foreign SWF that has been notified and granted 100% income-tax exemption for the long-term investments to be made in the specified priority sectors in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian gov. gave 100% income tax exemption to Abu Dhabi's "SWF MIC Redwood 1 RSC Limited"

2. Aegon Life Insurance has announced the launch of "Life + 36 critical illness Insurance" on Flipkart at the starting premium of just Rs. 153 for a life cover of Rs 1 lakh plus Critical Illness cover of Rs.10,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aegon Life Insurance – launched "Life + 36 critical illness Insurance" on Flipkart
- HQs of Aegon Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – K S Gopalakrishnan

3. Andhra Pradesh has banned online gaming, online betting and gambling, and has urged the Centre to direct all internet service providers to block access to 132 websites and apps, including Paytm First Game, Mobile Premier League and Adda52. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – banned online gaming, online betting and gambling
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

4. Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has laid the foundation stone of the "Indo-Israeli Centre of Excellence for Vegetables Protected Cultivation" in Guwahati, Assam. It will provide farmers with latest Israeli technologies and help them maximize their income. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Indo-Israeli Centre of Excellence for Vegetables Protected Cultivation" to be set up in – Guwahati, Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

5. Haryana Health and Home Minister, Anil Vij has launched an Android application and web portal called "Asha-Pay" for digital payment and monitoring of the state's authorized social health workers (Asha workers). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Haryana – launched “Asha-Pay” an android application
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

6. HDFC ERGO General Insurance has announced the launch of the “AI tool IDEAS” (Intelligent Damage detection Estimation and Assessment Solution) for motor claim settlements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance – launched “AI tool IDEAS”
- IDEAS – Intelligent Damage detection Estimation and Assessment Solution
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Ritesh Kumar

7. In a bid to boost the sale and use of electric vehicles in the State, the Tamil Nadu government has granted 100% tax exemption to all battery-operated vehicles till December 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – granted 100% tax exemption to all battery-operated vehicles till December 31, 2022
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

8. In a bid to push for electric vehicles (EV), the Andhra Pradesh state government has decided to set up 400 charging stations in the state. The government also has plans to set up testing facilities for vehicles and components, and intelligence testing tracks for electric vehicles with an investment of Rs 250 crore. Moreover, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) also launched the ‘Go Electric’ campaign in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BEE – launched the ‘Go Electric’ campaign in Andhra Pradesh – to set up 400 EV charging stations
- HQs of BEE – New Delhi | Director General – Abhay Bakre
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

9. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated India's first of its kind Solar Energy-driven Miniature Train. He has also dedicated an "Urban Park" and a swimming pool at the eco-friendly tourist village. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's first of its kind Solar Energy-driven Miniature Train – inaugurated in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

10. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has announced the launch of 'RuPay Festive Carnival', a flagship campaign as a gift for RuPay users who will enjoy compelling benefits and attractive discounts on products of various categories. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPCI launched 'RuPay Festive Carnival' as a gift for RuPay users
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe

11. Rajasthan is the first state in the country to enact a law making it compulsory to wear masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – 1st state in India to enact a law making it compulsory to wear masks
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

12. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has handed over the Mangaluru Airport to the Adani group on lease for a period of 50 years. The central government in February 2019 had privatised 6 major airports of the country - Lucknow, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Mangaluru, Thiruvananthapuram, and Guwahati. After a competitive bidding process, the Adani group won the rights to run all of them. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AAI handed over the "Mangaluru Airport" to the Adani group on lease for a period of – 50 years
- Mangaluru Airport / Mangalore International Airport – located in Karnataka
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Arvind Singh

13. The Maharashtra state education department has asked schools in the state to celebrate Children's week between November 8 and 14. The education department has also announced prizes in each category for students between Classes 1 and 12. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra state education department – asked schools to celebrate Children's week between November 8-14

- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

14. The Railways has announced that it will run 753 more services on the Mumbai suburban train system. Recently the Railways announced that the Central Railway (CR) and the Western Railway (WR) will run an additional 610 local services in Mumbai, increasing daily services from 1,410 to 2,020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Railways – announced that it will run 753 more services on the Mumbai suburban train system
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

15. The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Jitendra Singh has inaugurated the “Mansar Lake Rejuvenation/Development Plan” in Jammu. It will attract 20 lakh tourists every year once completed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh – inaugurated the “Mansar Lake Rejuvenation/Development Plan” in Jammu
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- Jitendra Singh – MoS of DoNER, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space

16. West Bengal will soon feature India’s first ‘Tyre Park’, where artworks made from scrap and defective parts will be on display. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s first ‘Tyre Park’ to come up in – West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

17. “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



18. 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

19. 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

20. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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

21. 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

22. 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

23. 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

24. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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

25. 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

26. 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

27. 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

28. 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

29. 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 route. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

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

30. 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



31. 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](#)

32. 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](#)

33. 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 KIIIFB. The first phase of the internationally acclaimed Elephant Rehabilitation Centre will be commissioned in February 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 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 KIIIFB – Thiruvananthapuram | CEO – K. M. Abraham](#)

34. 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

35. 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

36. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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

37. “Australia-India Water Centre” was inaugurated by Gajendra Singh Shekhawat through a Webinar, in view of the pandemic situation. The Water Centre is led by University of Western Sydney from Australia and IIT Guwahati from India along with 21 other partners from India and Australia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Australia-India Water Centre” – inaugurated by Gajendra Singh Shekhawat – in Guwahati, Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

38. “International Bird Festival” will be organized in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh in the month of February, 2021. It will attract international tourists at Ramgarhtal Lake for bird watching. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- International bird festival – to be organized in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh – in February, 2021
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

39. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Sirius (Russia) have launched “AIM-Sirius Innovation Programme 3.0” - a 14-day virtual programme for Indian and Russian school children. The first Indo-Russian bilateral youth innovation initiative, the “AIM–Sirius programme” seeks to develop technological solutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIM (India) & Sirius (Russia) = launched “AIM-Sirius Innovation Programme 3.0”
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant)
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

40. Chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has inaugurated 725-metre long “Dobra-Chanti Suspension Bridge” in Tehri Garhwal district to mark the 20th foundation day of Uttarakhand. It is India’s longest single-lane motorable suspension bridge. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 725-metre long “Dobra-Chanti Suspension Bridge” inaugurated in Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand
- November 9 – 20th foundation day of Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

41. Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance has announced the launch of “Covid Shield+” to secure people’s dreams and aspirations from the financial impact of a Covid-19 diagnosis. The term insurance plan has 1-year tenure with premium rates starting at only Rs. 5,329. It offers a critical illness benefit of minimum Rs. 10 lakh post 24-hour ICU or HDU hospitalization owing to Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance – to launch “Covid Shield+”
- HQs of Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sumit Rai

42. In a first for India, the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL) will lay Vibration-Absorbing Tracks on the Colaba-Bandra-SEEPZ Metro Line-3. Estimated to cost a little over Rs.23,000-crore, the Mumbai Metro Line-3 will have 27 underground stations en route and is expected to be operational in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd – will lay India’s 1st ‘Vibration-Absorbing Tracks’ (to be operational in 2021)

43. India is moving from tax terrorism to tax transparency. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the office-cum-residential complex of Cuttack bench of Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) in Odisha. ITAT was created and started functioning in 1970. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – rated the office-cum-residential complex of Cuttack bench of ITAT – in Odisha
- ITAT – Income Tax Appellate Tribunal | Started functioning in – 1970
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

44. Kamala Harris' ancestral village Thulasendrapuram 'roots' for her victory. The village is located in Tiruvarur district of Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kamala Harris' ancestral village – Thulasendrapuram, Tiruvarur, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

45. Marathi film Karkhanisanchi Waari is the only Indian entry at Tokyo International Film Festival which began on October 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karkhanisanchi Waari (Marathi film) – the only Indian entry at 'Tokyo International Film Festival'

46. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched "Secha Samadhan" - a bilingual mobile application, to address the irrigation problems faced by farmers without them having to visit the offices concerned. It will enable farmers to directly connect with Water Resources Department. Farmers can apply for community lift irrigation points under the 'Biju Krushak Bikas Yojana' (BKBY) through phones, computers or nearby Jana Seva Kendras using the app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – launched "Secha Samadhan" - a bilingual mobile application – to connect 'Water Resources Dept.'
- Biju Krushak Vikas Yojana – Odisha
- Water Resources department developed – "Go Swift" portal
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



47. Pakke Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Arunachal Pradesh has become the first in the eight-State northeast to provide insurance cover against COVID-19 for “green soldiers”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pakke Tiger Reserve – the first in northeast to provide insurance cover against COVID-19 for “green soldiers”
- Pakke Tiger Reserve – located in Arunachal Pradesh
- [Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra](#)

48. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of various development projects related to the agriculture, tourism and infrastructure sectors and worth Rs 614 crores in the city of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. Some of the development projects are Sarnath Light and Sound show, upgradation of Lal Bahadur Shastri Hospital Ramnaga, a housing complex for players in Sampurnanand Stadium, 105 Anganwadi Kendras and 102 Gau Ashray Kendras, Redevelopment of Dashashwamedh Ghat and Khidkiya Ghat, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – laid the foundation stone of Various Development Projects – in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- The projects worth – Rs 614 crores
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

49. Telangana has launched 2 mobile applications - ‘Palle Pragathi Panchayat Secretary App’ and ‘Palle Pragathi Inspection Officer App’ for effectively monitoring the works undertaken by the gram panchayats and improving their efficiency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – launched ‘Palle Pragathi Panchayat Secretary App’ & ‘Palle Pragathi Inspection Officer App’
- [Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan](#)

50. The Centre has issued an order for bringing films, audio-visual programme, news and current affairs content on online platforms under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in the Second Schedule of Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Centre issued an order to bring online news portals and current affairs content under – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- [Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting \(Constituency – Maharashtra\)](#)

51. The Centre has renamed the “Shipping Ministry” as the “Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways”, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi made an announcement to this effect. The decision had been taken by exercising of the powers conferred by clause (3) of Article 77 of the Constitution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Shipping Ministry” renamed as the “Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways”
- [MoS I/C in Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways – Mansukh L. Mandaviya](#)

52. The government is looking to set up 14 more water aerodromes across India under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) after the successful launch of maiden seaplane service by PM Narendra Modi between the Statue of Unity (Narmada district) and Sabarmati Riverfront (Ahmedabad). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Government – set up 14 more water aerodromes across India – under ‘UDAN Scheme’
- PM Modi launched maiden seaplane service – between the Statue of Unity & Sabarmati Riverfront – in Gujarat
- [Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat](#)

53. The government is planning to sell up to 15% of its stake in railway engineering company IRCON International Ltd through an offer-for-sale of shares. The government currently holds 89.18% stake in IRCON International Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government – to sell up to 15% stake in IRCON International Ltd (currently holds 89.18% stake)
- [HQs of Ircon Int. – New Delhi | CMD – S K Chaudhary](#)

54. The Indian Government has made FASTags compulsory for all four-wheelers from January 2021. It is being done to promote the 100% digital payment of fees for highway toll collection across the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Government made FASTags compulsory for all four-wheelers – from January 2021

55. The labour ministry has notified draft rules for the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, paving way for greater flexibility to employers to retrench workers while making it mandatory for unions to give prior notice before a strike. The government aims to implement 4 labour codes from April 1, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The labour ministry has notified draft rules for the Industrial Relations Code, 2020
- The government aims to implement 4 labour codes from – April 1, 2021

56. The Ministry of Textiles has launched a “Local4Diwali” campaign. The Prime Minister has urged that it should be our endeavour to use Indian handicrafts, and also communicate to more and more people about them. Handicraft is a symbol of India’s glorious cultural heritage and an important source of livelihood in the country. This sector is a key to women’s empowerment as over 55% of all handicrafts artisans and allied workers are women. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Textiles – launched a “Local4Diwali” campaign
- Smriti Zubin Irani – Minister of Women & Child Development, Minister of Textiles (Amethi, Uttar Pradesh)

57. The Odisha government is set to introduce fish and fish-based products in the supplementary nutrition programme for children, pregnant and nursing women, and adolescent girls. An MoU in this regard was signed between the state government and World Fish. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – is set to introduce fish and fish-based products in the supplementary nutrition programme
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

58. The Prime Minister has dedicated 2 Ayurveda institutions to the nation on the 5th Ayurveda Day. These are the Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar and the National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi inaugurated – ITRA (Gujarat) & NIA (Rajasthan)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

59. Tripura has issued warning against hunting of migratory ‘Amur falcons’. The order was issued after several Amur falcons were reportedly hunted and killed in the Mon district of Tripura. The Amur falcons mainly breed in south-eastern Siberia and fly thousands of miles to reach India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tripura – issued warning against hunting of migratory ‘Amur falcons’ (mainly breed in south-eastern Siberia)
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Ramesh Bais

60. Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has unveiled “Project Air Care”, under which 65 Wind Augmentation Purifying Units will be installed across Gurugram through public-private partnership. The Air Purifiers have been developed by CSIR-NEERI (National Environmental Engineering Research Institute) & IIT Bombay. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – unveiled “Project Air Care” – to install 65 Wind Augmentation Purifying Units
- Developed by = CSIR-NEERI + IIT Bombay
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

61. India’s first Sandalwood Museum is being set up in Aranya Bhavan, Mysuru in Karnataka. The museum is likely to be inaugurated after November 25. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s first Sandalwood Museum is being set up in – Mysuru, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

62. On November 11, the Cabinet has approved Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for 10 more sectors, including auto and pharmaceuticals, with an outlay of about Rs 1,45,980 Cr over a period of 5 years. Under another PLI scheme, an outlay of Rs 51,311 Cr has already been approved. Top 5 key sectors were Automobiles & Auto Components, Advance Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery, Pharmaceuticals drugs, Telecom & Networking Products & Food Products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Cabinet has approved PLI Scheme for 10 more sectors | Outlay – Rs 1,45,980 Cr | For period of 5 years

63. Bengaluru, IT major Infosys has launched its integrated “Applied AI” offering to help enterprises adopt a roadmap to scaling enterprise-grade Artificial Intelligence for their businesses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Infosys – launched its integrated “Applied AI”
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh

64. National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) will launch its first agricultural commodity futures contract for crude degummed soybean oil on December 1. The contract is a monthly expiry cash settled futures contract with a trading lot size of 10 metric ton (MT) and price basis as Kandla. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSE – to launch its first agricultural commodity futures contract for crude degummed soybean oil
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi | MD & CEO – Vikram Limaye

65. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unveiled a life-size statue of Swami Vivekananda at the Jawaharlal Nehru University. The construction of the statue was begun 3 years ago in November 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – unveiled a life-size statue of Swami Vivekananda – at Jawaharlal Nehru University

66. The Delhi in collaboration with EVERA has launched the “Jeevan Seva” app to aid Delhi’s Covid patients and their families for a safe commute to hospitals and healthcare facilities in the city. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi + EVERA = launched “Jeevan Seva” app
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

67. Larsen & Toubro Ltd (L&T) has emerged as the lowest bidder at ₹3166 Cr to construct a 20 km, 4-lane bridge. It is India's longest road bridge to be built over Brahmaputra river. The bridge will be built between Dhubri (Assam) to Phulbari (Meghalaya). The project is being financed by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- L&T – to construct India's longest 4-lane road bridge over Brahmaputra | Cost: ₹3166 Cr | Length: 20 km
- It will connect – Dhubri (Assam) & Phulbari (Meghalaya) | Financed by – JICA (Japan)
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CMD – SN Subrahmanyam

68. Finance Ministry has given an approval to set up India’s first ever “National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW)”. Total cost is expected around ₹650 Cr. The Ministry of Labour & Employment has envisaged development of 'NDUW' seeded with Aadhaar. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Finance Ministry approved to set up India's 1st ever "National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW)"
- Expected Total cost – ₹650 Cr
- Finance Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency – Karnataka)

69. Air passengers using Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) have been asked to use bio-waste bins to dispose personal protective equipment (PPE). 139 bio-waste bins of different sizes have placed at different points for disposing of PPE. BLR airport collects almost 800 to 1,000 kg of bio-waste a day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kempegowda International Airport (Karnataka) – set up 139 bio-waste bins of different sizes across the airport
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

70. The IIT Alumni Council has launched "MegaScope" to include data analysis, testing and genomics to accurately diagnose infections and to prescribe personalised medicine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Alumni Council – launched "MegaScope" for healthcare
- HQs of IITAC – New Delhi | President – Ravi Sharma

71. Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has launched the "Oil Palm Project" which could be an alternative to replace Jhum and poppy cultivations in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur – launched the "Oil Palm Project"
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

72. Chhattisgarh Chief Minister has instructed to dismiss all government servants holding fake or false caste certificates, except those who got a stay order from the court. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – instructed to dismiss all government servants holding fake or false caste certificates
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey



73. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unveiled the 'Statue of Peace' in Rajasthan's Pali to mark the 151st Jayanti celebrations of Jainacharya Shree Vijay Vallabh Surishwer Ji Maharaj. The 151-inch tall statue has been made from Ashtadhatu- 8 metals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – unveiled the 'Statue of Peace' in Pali, Rajasthan
- 151st Jayanti celebrations of – Jainacharya Shree Vijay Vallabh Surishwer Ji Maharaj
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

74. Jumboking has launched its food truck at the premises of Pune railway station. It is the first-ever food truck of Indian Railways. According to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC), as on date, as many as 14 food stalls are currently functional at Pune railway station. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways launched its first Food Truck at – Pune railway station (launched by Jumboking)
- HQs of IRSDC – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. K. Lohia | Chairman – Pradeep Kumar
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman – Vinod Kumar Yadav

75. Uber has launched its "PIN-Dispatch" feature at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport, which will give riders a one-time PIN on requesting a trip, cutting wait times and ensuring a seamless pickup experience. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uber launched its "PIN-Dispatch" feature – at Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi)
- HQs of Uber – California, USA | CEO – Dara Khosrowshahi

76. Odisha has launched a Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) campaign on the occasion of 'World Pneumonia Day' for reducing the overall burden of childhood pneumonia in the State. Pneumonia is one of the topmost killers of children under 5 years of age (under-5) contributing to nearly 14% of mortality among the kids. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – launched "SAANS" campaign – for reducing the overall burden of childhood pneumonia
- SAANS – Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully

- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

77. The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will organise “Bharat Darshan-Dakshin Bharat Yatra” from Hyderabad and Secunderabad from December 12 to 18. The theme of the yatra is to ‘Show India to Indians’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRCTC – to organise “Bharat Darshan-Dakshin Bharat Yatra” – from Hyderabad to Secunderabad
- Theme – “Show India to Indians”
- HQs of IRCTC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Mahendra Pratap Mall

78. State song ‘Bande Utkala Janani’ will be part of the syllabus for Class IX and X across schools in Odisha. It is written by eminent poet Laxmikanta Mohapatra and was accorded the State Song status on June 7, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Bande Utkala Janani’ – State song of Odisha – written by ‘Laxmikanta Mohapatra’
- The song will be part of the syllabus for Class 9th & 10th – in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

79. India has 41 wetlands, the highest in South Asia, with 2 more added to list of recognised sites under Ramsar Convention. The “Lonar lake” in Buldhana, Maharashtra and “Sur Sarovar” also known as “Keetham lake” in Agra, have been added to the list of recognised Ramsar sites. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lonar lake (Maharashtra) & Sur Sarovar or Keetham lake (UP) – added to the list of recognised Ramsar sites
- India has 41 wetlands (the highest in South Asia)

80. The Odisha Government has decided to set up 4 commercial courts in the state. These Courts are going to be established at Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Berhampur, and Sambalpur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – decided to set up 4 commercial courts (Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Berhampur & Sambalpur)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

81. The Coastal Security Police have launched the “Kadalu App” for fishermen in Udupi that will help them in submitting information about their arrival and departure from the fishing harbour using android mobile phones. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Coastal Security Police – launched the “Kadalu App” for fishermen in Udupi, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

82. Ministry of Labour and Employment has notified the Draft Rules under the Code on Social Security, 2020 to enable unorganized workers and provided for their self registration on the government portal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Labour and Employment – notified the Draft Rules under the “Code on Social Security, 2020”
- MoS in Ministry of Labour and Employment – Santosh Gangwar

83. Nineteen out of the 38 mines put under the commercial coal mine auction have been successfully auctioned off by the Central Government recently. Out of 19 mines, 11 are open cast, 5 are underground and 3 are mixed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 19 mines were auctioned for commercial mining by the Central Government
- Pralhad Joshi – Minister of Coal, Minister of Mines (Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka)

84. Oil India Ltd has made a Natural Gas discovery at a well drilled in Tinsukia, Assam. The discovery will open up new areas for further oil and gas exploration in Assam. On testing, it produced gas at the rate of 115,000 standard cubic meters per day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Oil India Ltd – made a Natural Gas discovery – at Tinsukia, Assam
- HQs of OIL – Noida, UP | CMD – Sushil Chandra Mishra
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

85. Madhya Pradesh has decided to celebrate the “Tribal Pride Day” on 15th November 2020 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Freedom fighter and martyr ‘Birsa Munda’. The state will change the name of the ‘Tribal Welfare Department’ to ‘Tribal Affairs Department’ to prevent religious conversion of tribals. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- November 15 – “Tribal Pride Day” – celebrated by Madhya Pradesh (Birth anniversary of ‘Birsa Munda’)
- Madhya Pradesh – will change the name of the ‘Tribal Welfare Department’ to ‘Tribal Affairs Department’
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

86. The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) has become the first city in the country to get ISO certification for its Faecal Sludge & Septage Management (FSSM) services. It was also the first civic body to implement FSSM regulations in the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhubaneswar – became the first city in India to get ISO certification for FSSM services
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

87. BSE StAR MF has launched a direct investment portal “StAR MF Corp Direct Portal” for corporates with more features which will further simplify and provide end-to-end value-based services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE StAR MF – launched a direct investment portal “StAR MF Corp Direct Portal” for corporate
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sethurathnam Ravi | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan

88. In Maharashtra, the first solar power-enabled “Jai Bhawani Women's Cooperative Textile Mill” in Asia has come up in Parbhani district. The project will provide jobs to many women in the district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jai Bhawani Women's Cooperative Textile Mill – set up in Parbhani, Maharashtra (1st in Asia)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

89. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched ‘Recycled incense Sticks’ at an ashram of Gorakhnath Temple, in Gorakhpur to promote environment-friendly products in the market. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched ‘Recycled Incense Sticks’ – in Gorakhpur, UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



90. MPL Sports, an arm of an online gaming platform, has been announced as the Official Kit Sponsor and merchandise partner of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MPL Sports – announced as the Official Kit Sponsor of – Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Ethics Officer – D K Jain
- HQs of MPL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Sai Srinivas

91. Birdfin is set to revolutionise the space of learning financial habits through “gamification”. It is India’s first fintech app that will provide financial and life skills learning. It is developed by MyDigitalCube. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Birdfin – to revolutionise the space of learning financial habits through “gamification”
- It is developed by – MyDigitalCube

92. Bookend between Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday on October 2 and “Naturopathy Day” on November 18 this year, the National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN) has been conducting a series of Facebook live sessions to help people understand the principles of the practice. The institute has released a book on Naturopathy Day titled “Gandhi the Healer”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 18 – “Naturopathy Day”
- NIN – released a book titled “Gandhi the Healer”
- HQs of NIN – Pune, Maharashtra

93. The Sports Ministry has introduced an incentivisation structure to extend monetary support to 500 private academies, through the Khelo India Scheme over the next 4 years starting 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sports Ministry – introduced an incentivisation structure to extend monetary support to 500 private academies
- Sports Ministry – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West

94. “Phase II of Indo-German Development Cooperation” (IGDC) project that covers multiple areas of biodiversity and livelihood is launched at Ambassa, Dhalai in Tripura by Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb. The project costs ₹280 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Phase II of Indo-German Development Cooperation” (IGDC) project – launched in Ambassa, Dhalai, Tripura
- Cost of the Project – ₹280 Cr
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Ramesh Bais

95. National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI), Vadodra has launched 7 new Programmes - 2 B. Tech UG Programmes, 2 MBA and 3 MSc Programmes on core applied sector. These programmes are highly interdisciplinary and application oriented and not being offered by any other Institute in India and thus, unique in its contents. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NRTI launched 7 new Programmes (2 B. Tech UG + 2 MBA + 3 MSc Programmes)
- HQs of NRTI – Vadodra, Gujarat
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman – Vinod Kumar Yadav

96. The West Bengal government has decided to constitute multi-departmental anti-electrocution cells to protect wild elephants in the state. As per the department, 25 elephants have died due to electrocution in north Bengal in the last five years, of which 9 incidents took place this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – decided to constitute Anti-electrocution cells to protect wild Elephants
- 25 elephants died due to Electrocution in north Bengal in last 5 years (9 in 2020)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

97. Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan has decided to set up a ‘Gau Cabinet’ for the protection and promotion of cattle. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – decided to set up a ‘Gau Cabinet’
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel



98. N K Singh, Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, has suggested increasing public spending on the Health Sector to 2.5% of the GDP from 0.95% at present by 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- N K Singh – suggested increasing public spending on the Health Sector to 2.5% – 2024 (from 0.95%)
- Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission – N K Singh (Nand Kishore Singh)

99. Mumbai has become the first Indian city to have an Urban Plan with a gender-specific focus - land reservations for physical-social infrastructure designed to meet women's needs. An entire chapter titled 'Gender, Special Groups and Social Equity' was added by BMC to the city's Revised Draft Development Plan (RDDP) 2034. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai – became the first Indian city to have an Urban Plan with a gender-specific focus
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

100. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has issued a public notice asking entities involved in the streaming of news and current affairs through digital media to comply with the Centre's earlier order permitting 26% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under the government approval route to such entities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of I & B – issued a public notice for Digital News related entities permitting them 26% FDI
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Constituency – Maharashtra)

101. The Karnataka Cabinet has approved the decade-old demand of carving out Vijayanagara district from the existing Ballari district. Vijayanagara will be the 31st district of the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Vijayanagara' (31st) district – separated from 'Ballari' district of Karnataka | Now, Total – 31 districts
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

102. The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has busted an international drug smuggling racket with the seizure of over half a kg of cocaine couriered from Trinidad & Tobago to Mumbai. Codenamed "Calypso", the operation spanning three days was carried out in Mumbai and Rajasthan's Udaipur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Directorate of Revenue Intelligence – launched “Calypso” Operation to bust International drug Racket
- HQs of DRI – New Delhi | Director General – Balesh Kumar

103. As part of its ongoing efforts to foster an ecosystem that enhances India’s digital talent with the right set of skills, the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has launched “FutureSkills PRIME Beta Platform”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASSCOM – launched “FutureSkills PRIME Beta Platform”
- HQs of NASSCOM – New Delhi | President – Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman – UB Pravin Rao | Vice-Chairman – Rekha M Menon

104. Madhya Pradesh is the first state to release a roadmap for self-reliance on the strategy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Atmanirbhar Bharat. Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has unveiled the blueprint for Atmanirbhar Madhya Pradesh by 2023 in Bhopal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – the first state to release a roadmap for self-reliance under PM’s Aatmanirbhar Bharat
- Shivraj Singh Chouhan unveiled the blueprint for Atmanirbhar Madhya Pradesh – by 2023
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

105. Union Minister of Communications, Ravi Shankar Prasad has released a “My Stamp on Chhath Puja” and a special cover on the theme “Chhath - A symbol of Simplicity and Cleanliness”. “My Stamp” is an innovative concept initiated by the Department of Posts (DoP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ravi Shankar Prasad has released a “My Stamp on Chhath Puja”
- He also launched – a special cover on the theme “Chhath - A symbol of Simplicity and Cleanliness”
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Constituency – Patna Sahib, Bihar)

106. Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has launched “Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge” across 243 cities on the occasion of World Toilet Day. It aims to ensure that no life of any sewer or septic tank cleaner is ever lost again, owing to the issue of 'hazardous cleaning'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri (MoHUA) – launched “Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge” – across 243 cities



- [MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri](#)

107. Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his Bhutanese counterpart Lotay Tshering has launched “RuPay Card Phase-II” that will allow Bhutanese card holders to access the RuPay network in India. The RuPay card is an Indian debit and credit card payment network, with acceptance at ATMs, POS devices and e-commerce websites. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi (India) + Lotay Tshering (Bhutan) = launched “RuPay Card Phase-II”
- [Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM – Lotay Tshering](#)

108. The Punjab and Haryana High Court has stated that marriage between first cousins is illegal. The assertion came after a youth moved the High Court against the State of Punjab for anticipatory bail. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab and Haryana – stated that marriage between first cousins is illegal
- [Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore](#)
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya](#)

109. One of the longest migrating small birds - “Willow Warbler” (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) was spotted for the first time in India at Punchakkari on the outskirts of Thiruvananthapuram. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Willow Warbler” – spotted for the 1st time in India – at Punchakkari, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- [Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan](#)

110. On November 18, 2020, Army Chief has complimented the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) on Completion of 15 Years of Excellence since its inception in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Army Chief – complimented the CLAWS on Completion of 15 Years of Excellence
- [HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – SK Saini](#)
- [HQs of CLAWS – New Delhi | Director – Vijay Kumar Ahluwalia | Inception – 2005](#)

111. The Uttarakhand tourism department has flagged off a 3-day “Nayar Valley Adventure Sports Festival” in Pauri which is being dubbed as the first such mega-event in the country where multiple adventure sports events are being organised at one platform. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Uttarakhand tourism department – flagged off a 3-day “Nayar Valley Adventure Sports Festival” – in Pauri
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

112. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced its first digital application, “Ananda” – an acronym for Atma Nirbhar Agents New Business Digital Application, for onboarding of policyholders through a paperless module. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC – introduced its first digital application - “Ananda”
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – M R Kumar

113. Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) has successfully conducted a ‘Proof of Concept’ feasibility study on ‘zero-emission electric mobility’ at one of its fuel stations in Bengaluru. Zero-Emission Electric Mobility is a concept that allows the electric vehicle (EV) to charge using solar power and ensuring zero emissions. The EV charging system has been designed by Hygge Energy, a start-up incubated by Tech Mahindra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IOCL – conducted a ‘Proof of Concept’ feasibility study on ‘zero-emission electric mobility’ – in Bengaluru
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
- The EV charging system – designed by Hygge Energy (a start-up incubated by - Tech Mahindra)

114. Ayodhya has created a new Guinness world record by lighting 6,06,569 (approx 6 lakh) earthen lamps (diyas) at the majestic ‘Ram Ki Paidi’ ghat on the banks of the Saryu river and other ghats of the temple town during the fourth Deepotsav. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A new Guinness world record by lighting 6,06,569 diyas – at ‘Ram Ki Paidi’ ghat, Ayodhya (Saryu river)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

115. Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has secured a mega contract to build India's first high-speed rail corridor from the National High-Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRCL) to construct 87.569 km of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) project, popularly referred as the ‘Bullet Train’ project. As per the L&T's classification, the valuation of the mega order is above Rs 7000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- L&T – secured a mega contract to build 87.569 km of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project



- MAHSR project – India's first high-speed rail corridor
- HQs of NHRCL – New Delhi
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CMD – SN Subrahmanyam

116. The Maharashtra government has decided to pay a monthly stipend to Scheduled Tribe (ST) candidates preparing for the UPSC exams to increase scheduled tribe representation in the civil service sector. The state government has decided to pay a monthly stipend of Rs 12,000 and a total of Rs 26,000 for the purchase of books. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – decided to pay a monthly stipend to ST candidates – preparing for the UPSC exams
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

117. The chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, M Ajit Kumar, (IRS) along with all board members has virtually inaugurated the newly built “GST Bhawan” at Sector 25 Panchkula, Haryana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M Ajit Kumar inaugurated newly built “GST Bhawan” – at Panchkula, Haryana
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

118. Chhattisgarh has launched a unique women special mobile medical facility - “Dai-Didi (Mother-Sister) clinic” across the slums and other localities of urban areas from November 19. It is first of its kind in the country and would initially offer its free health services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – launched “Dai-Didi (Mother-Sister) clinic” - a unique women special mobile medical facility
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

119. India's first ‘Moss Garden’ is inaugurated in Nainital district of Uttarakhand. The garden is spread across an area of around 10 hectares and it is home to around 30 different species of moss and various other bryophytes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's first ‘Moss Garden’ is inaugurated – in Nainital, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya



120. Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has offered flowers, 'harathi', and 'vastrams' to the statue of Tungabhadra Thalli on the banks of the Tungabhadra river, marking the beginning of the 12-day "Pushkaralu" festival at the Sankal Bagh Pushkar Gha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 12-day "Pushkaralu" festival – celebrated in honour of the Tungabhadra river
- Tungabhadra river flows through – Karnataka, Telangana & Andhra Pradesh

121. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone for Drinking Water Supply Projects worth Rs 5,555.38 Cr by launching "Har Ghar Nal Yojna" in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra districts of Uttar Pradesh. It is aimed at providing water to over 41 lakh villagers in two districts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi launched "Har Ghar Nal Yojna" in Mirzapur & Sonbhadra, UP – for Drinking Water Supply Projects
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

122. SunSource Energy has won a bid to develop a 4 megawatt (MW) Grid-connected Floating Solar Photovoltaic Power Project, along with 2 MW Battery Storage System (BESS) in Andaman and Nicobar islands. The project will be situated at the reservoir of Kalpong river, Kalpong Hydroelectric Project Dam, Diglipur in North Andaman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SunSource Energy – to develop a 6 MW (4+2) Floating Solar Plus Storage Project in Andaman & Nicobar islands
- "Kalpong river" or "Kalpong Hydroelectric Project" – located in Andaman & Nicobar islands
- HQs of SunSource Energy – Noida, UP | CEO – Adarsh Das
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair | Lieu. Governor– Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi

123. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Invest India have launched a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Investor Map for India, laying out 18 Investment Opportunity Areas (IOAs) in six SDG enabling sectors. Due to Covid-19, the SDG financing gap has widened by an estimated \$400 billion in developing countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNDP + Invest India = launched a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Investor Map for India
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner

124. Coastal Tamil Nadu and Puducherry are bracing for Cyclone "Nivar", which has intensified into a "severe cyclonic storm", expected to intensify further and is barrelling towards the southeast coast. The name Nivar has been given by Iran. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Cyclone “Nivar” likely to hit – Coastal Tamil Nadu and Puducherry
- The name “Nivar” is given by – Iran
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Hassan Rouhani

125. Oil India Ltd (OIL) has launched a Rs 220 Cr seismic campaign to locate oil and gas in the Mahanadi basin in Odisha, as it is boosting the country's hydrocarbon resource base. OIL had won 5 blocks for hydrocarbon exploration in Odisha in two bid rounds under Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Oil India Ltd – launched a Rs 220 Cr seismic campaign to locate oil and gas – in the Mahanadi basin, in Odisha
- HQs of OIL – Noida, UP | CMD – Sushil Chandra Mishra
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

126. Tamil Nadu CM Edappadi K. Palaniswami has launched “Thee”, a mobile phone-based application for the benefit of the general public to reach out to the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services when in need. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – launched “Thee” app to support the general public to reach out Fire and Rescue Services
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

127. Andhra Pradesh has launched “Abhayam” mobile phone application which helps women and children travelling in taxis and auto-rickshaws, to raise alarm in case of any emergency. To start with, 1,000 auto-rickshaws equipped with Internet-of -Things (IoT)-enabled GPS devices will be rolled out in Visakhapatnam city. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – launched “Abhayam” app to help women and children travelling in taxis and auto-rickshaws
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

128. Karnataka government has issued a notification on renaming “Haveri railway station” as “Mahadevappa Mailara Railway Station” after freedom fighter Mahadeva Mailar. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Karnataka issued a notification – to rename “Haveri railway station” as “Mahadevappa Mailara Railway Station”
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

129. India’s longest water tunnel - “Parwan tunnel” will become operational by January 2021. The 8.75km-long tunnel will pass through the hilly tract connecting Jhalawar and Baran districts of Rajasthan. The tunnel has been constructed at a cost of Rs 299 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Parwan tunnel” - India’s longest water tunnel – to become operational by January 2021 (located in – Rajasthan)
- Length – 8.75 km | Cost – Rs 299 Cr
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

130. The Karnataka government has renamed the Government Medical College and Research Centre in the premises of Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital in Bengaluru as “Sri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College and Research Centre”. The Bowring Civil Hospital for men was established in 1867. The Lady Curzon Hospital was established in the late 1890s for women and children. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Bowring and Lady Curzon Medical College and Research Institute – named after ‘Atal Bihari Vajpayee’
- The institute is located in – Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

131. The Karnataka government has set a target to become a USD 50 billion biotechnology market by 2025, contributing to half of the national bio-economy projected to be achieved by then. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka set a target to become a USD 50 billion biotechnology market by 2025
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

132. Ministry of Tourism has organised a webinar on ‘India’s Hidden Gems’ under Dekho Apna Desh Webinar Series on November 21, 2020. The webinar was presented by Bindu Menon. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism – organised a webinar on ‘India’s Hidden Gems’ – under ‘Dekho Apna Desh Webinar Series’
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture

133. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has inaugurated ‘Padharo Mhare Des’ digital COVID relief concert series to support the folk artists of the state. ‘Padharo Mhare Des’ series will feature 70 folk artists from the interiors of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, and Barmer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – inaugurated ‘Padharo Mhare Des’ digital COVID relief concert series to support the folk artists
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

134. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has issued an order under “Section 69A” of the “Information Technology Act” blocking access to 43 mobile apps majorly including Chinese applications, citing threat to national security, integrity and sovereignty. This is in addition to a total of 177 Chinese apps banned till now. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MeitY – issued an order blocking access to 43 mobile apps under “Section 69A” of “Information Technology Act”
- Total number of Chinese apps banned till now = 220 apps (177 +43)
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)

135. Food Processing minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated “Sukhjiti Mega Food Park” in Kapurthala district of Punjab that will benefit 25,000 farmers and create 5,000 jobs. This MFP is built at project cost of Rs 107.83 Cr and it is equipped with warehouses, silos, cold storage, deep freezer and other related food processing facilities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated “Sukhjiti Mega Food Park” – in Kapurthala, Punjab
- Narendra Singh Tomar – Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Morena, MP)
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore



136. Daily working hours can extend up to 12 hours, according to the Employment Draft Rules, notified for the Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH & WC) by Ministry of Labour. The OSH & WC rules will supersede 13 existing central labour law rules. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Daily working hours can extend up to 12 hours – according to the Code on OSH & WC
- OSH & WC – Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions – released by Ministry of Labour
- [MoS in Ministry of Labour and Employment – Santosh Gangwar](#)

137. The First ever Cow hospital of Northeast is inaugurated in Assam's Dibrugarh. The hospital "Surbhi Aarogyashala" is set up by Shree Gopal Gaushala at a cost of Rs 17 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The First ever Cow hospital of Northeast "Surbhi Aarogyashala" is inaugurated in – Dibrugarh, Assam
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

138. The 10th Edition of prestigious 'Science Film Festival' has kicked off in a virtual mode. This year, the 4-day long festival is being jointly organized by Vigyan Prasar and the Tripura State Council of Science and Technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 10th Edition of prestigious 'Science Film Festival' kicked off in a virtual mode
- It was organized by – Vigyan Prasar & the Tripura State Council of Science and Technology

139. Indian Railway has launched a completely digitized online Human Resource Management System (HRMS). Vinod Kumar Yadav has launched HRMS modules of Employee Self Service, PF Advance and Retirement Settlement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railway – launched a completely digitized online Human Resource Management System (HRMS)
- [HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman – Vinod Kumar Yadav](#)

140. Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot has e-launched a "National Portal for Transgender Persons" and e-inaugurated a "Garima Greh: A Shelter Home for Transgender Persons" in Vadodara, Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Thaawarchand Gehlot – e-launched “National Portal for Transgender Persons” – in Vadodara, Gujarat
- He also – e-inaugurated “Garima Greh: A Shelter Home for Transgender Persons” – in Vadodara, Gujarat
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – Thawar Chand Gehlot (Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

141. The SEBI has enhanced the penalty against 3 rating agencies - ICRA, CARE and India Ratings and Research to Rs 1 Cr each for their lapses in giving credit rating to non- convertible debentures of IL&FS. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – enhanced the penalty against - ICRA, CARE and India Ratings and Research to Rs 1 Cr each
- For their lapses in giving credit rating to non- convertible debentures of – IL & FS
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

142. Kia Motors India has launched a complete contactless, paperless aftersales and personalised vehicle service for its customers, in view of safety concerns amid COVID-19. Kia Motors India is also launching a new 'My Convenience' service initiative for personalised vehicle maintenance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kia Motors India – launched a complete contactless, paperless aftersales and personalised vehicle service
- HQs of Kia Motors India – Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh | CEO – Kookhyun Shim

143. Indian Oil R&D Centre has developed Robust Technology on Bio-methanation and has signed MoU with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas as a technology provider for the upcoming CBG Plants. Indian Oil Corporation is the first company to market Compressed Bio-Gas from 10 retail outlets spread across Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat, under the brand name “Indi Green”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Oil R&D Centre – developed Robust Technology on Bio-methanation
- Indian Oil R&D Centre + MoPNG = an MoU as a technology provider for the upcoming CBG Plants
- Indian Oil Corp Ltd – the 1st company to market CBG from 10 retail outlets – under “Indi Green” brand name
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya

144. Narendra Singh Tomar has virtually inaugurated the “Honey Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) Programs” in 5 states which will be set up with the help of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) under the “Formation & Promotion of 10,000 FPOs” Scheme. Under the new FPOs scheme, so far National Level Project Management Advisory and Fund Sanctioning Committee (N-PMAFSC) had allocated 2200 FPO clusters for 2020-21 to all Implementing agencies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – inaugurated the “Honey FPOs Programs” in 5 states (UP, MP, WB, Rajasthan & Bihar)
- N-PMAFSC – allocated 2200 FPO clusters for 2020-21
- HQs of NAFED – New Delhi | MD – Shri Sanjeev Kumar Chadha | Chairman – Bijender Singh

145. India will soon launch an ambitious ‘Deep Ocean Mission’ that envisages exploration of minerals, energy and marine diversity of the underwater world. The mission, which is expected to cost over ₹4,000 Cr, will give a boost to efforts to explore India’s vast Exclusive Economic Zone. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – will launch an ambitious ‘Deep Ocean Mission’ (Expected cost: over ₹4,000 Cr)

146. The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has approved the construction of the “Song Dam Drinking Water Project” worth Rs 1100 Cr in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The “Song Dam Drinking Water Project” to be set up in – Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

147. NITI Aayog has released a compendium titled “Mitigation and Management of Covid-19: Practices from India’s States & UTs”. It consists of information about various initiatives implemented by states, districts, and cities in India for containing and managing the Covid-19 outbreak. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – a compendium titled “Mitigation and Management of Covid-19: Practices from India’s States & UTs”
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

148. Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has launched a Whatsapp helpline (7875756177) for women in distress in the state. This dedicated WhatsApp number will be functional round the clock at the State Police Control Room, Panaji to redress grievances of women in distress. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – launched a Whatsapp helpline for women in distress
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

149. The Department of Telecommunications has announced that Callers in India using landlines to make calls to mobile phones will be required to add '0' as a prefix from January 15 onward. The use of the '0' prefix opens up new numbering resources for future wireless subscriptions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian callers using landlines to make calls to mobile phones will be required to add '0' as a prefix from January 15
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Constituency – Patna Sahib, Bihar)

150. Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath has invoked the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA), prohibiting strikes in all state government departments and corporations for 6 months (till May 2021). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – invoked the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) – for 6 months (till May 2021)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

151. Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar has launched the “India Climate Change Knowledge Portal”. The portal will have all the major steps the Government is taking at both national and international levels to address the climate change issues. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prakash Javadekar – launched the “India Climate Change Knowledge Portal”
- Prakash Javadekar – Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Constituency – Maharashtra)

152. Every year, for the past 10 years, 27 November has been celebrated as the “Indian Organ Donation Day” in the country. A study, published in the journal The Lancet, noted that countries with high infection rates have



seen organ donations fall by more than 50%. Tamil Nadu has been adjudged as the best in organ donation in the country for the 6th consecutive year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 27 – 11th “Indian Organ Donation Day”
- August 13 – “World Organ Donation Day”
- Tamil Nadu – adjudged the best in organ donation in India (for the 6th consecutive year)

153. The SEBI has launched the Securities Market Trainers (SMARTs) program, an initiative aimed at enhancing investor education and awareness as a part of World Investor Week being celebrated across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – launched the Securities Market Trainers (SMARTs) program
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | ED – G P Garg

154. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is set to become the first Arab Gulf country to generate electricity from coal. Dubai is starting up the \$3.4 billion Hassyan coal plant, with capacity being increased from an initial 600 mega watts to 2,400 by 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UAE – to become the first Arab Gulf country to generate electricity from coal
- Hassyan Clean Coal Power Plant – Dubai, UAE
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

155. Uttar Pradesh Cabinet led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has cleared the proposal to rename the ‘Ayodhya airport’ as ‘Maryada Purushottam Sri Ram Airport’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Ayodhya airport” renamed as “Maryada Purushottam Sri Ram Airport” – located in Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

156. The Union Territory of Ladakh has got the largest solar power project setup namely “Provision of Solar Photo Voltaic Powerplant 1.5 MW” under the Centre's ‘Make in India’ initiative at Leh IAF station to provide sustainable energy alternative to fossil fuel and traditional methods of energy generation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- “Provision of Solar Photo Voltaic Powerplant 1.5 MW” the largest solar power project – in Leh, Ladakh
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

157. The Nagarjuna Besha of Lord Jagannath and siblings were held recently in Odisha's Puri after a gap of 26 years. The last Besha of the Lords was held in 1994. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Nagarjuna Besha of Lord Jagannath and siblings – held recently in Puri, Odisha (after 26 years)
- The last Besha of the Lords was held in – 1994
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

158. Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways Nitin Gadkari has virtually inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of 16 National Highway projects with a total length of over 500 Kms worth Rs 7,477 Cr in Uttar Pradesh. He has asked the Uttar Pradesh government to exempt toll plaza agreements from stamp duty in the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari – inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of 16 National Highway projects in Uttar Pradesh
- Length: 500 Kms | Worth: Rs 7,477 Cr
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

159. Odisha government has launched “Mission Zero F” in Sambalpur district to improve the pass rate in high school certificate examination. The initiative aims to minimise the number of students scoring grade F. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – launched “Mission Zero F” in Sambalpur to improve the pass rate in high school certificate exams
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

160. On the occasion of National Organ Donation Day, Rajasthan chief minister Ashok Gehlot has inaugurated the India's first organ donor memorial in Jaipur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashok Gehlot – inaugurated India's first organ donor memorial in Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

161. After a gap of 10 years, Kerala will receive the central funds for literacy programmes as it is now part of the union government's ambitious literacy drive "Padhna Likhna Abhiyan". The core objective of the new scheme is to impart functional literacy and numeracy to 57 lakh non-literate and non-numerate adults in both rural and urban areas across India in the age group of 15 years and above. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – recently became the part of the "Padhna Likhna Abhiyan" of central government
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

162. Bharat Heavy Electronics Limited (BHEL) has set a new record by successfully manufacturing and testing India's highest rated Auto Transformer "500 MVA 400/220/33 kV" at the National High Power Test Laboratory (NHPTL) at Bina in Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BHEL sets a new record of manufacturing India's highest-rated auto transformer – at NHPT (in Bina, MP)
- HQs of BHEL – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Nalin Shinghal
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

163. Airline major SpiceJet has launched dedicated freighter services connecting Leh with the rest of the country. The flight was operated by SpiceXpress, the dedicated cargo arm of SpiceJet. A Boeing 737 freighter has been deployed on this route. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpiceJet – launched dedicated freighter services connecting Leh with the rest of the country
- HQs of SpiceJet – Gurugram, Haryana | CEO – Ajay Singh

164. PM Narendra Modi has addressed Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University's (PDPU) students virtually during the 8th Convocation Day ceremony at Gandhinagar, Gujarat. He has also laid the foundation stone of a "45 MW Production Plant of Monocrystalline Solar Photo Voltaic Panel" and "Centre of Excellence on Water Technology" at the university. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – addressed Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University's students on the 8th Convocation Day

- PM Modi – laid the foundation stone of a “45 MW Production Plant of Monocrystalline Solar Photo Voltaic Panel”
- PM Modi – laid the foundation stone of “Centre of Excellence on Water Technology”
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

165. Recently, the newly electrified “Dighawara-Bandikui” section of Indian Railways’ North Western railway zone is inaugurated by Railway Minister Piyush Goyal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal inaugurated – “Dighawara-Bandikui section” of North Western railway zone
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra
- HQs of North Western railway zone – Jaipur, Rajasthan | GM – Anand Prakash

166. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has inaugurated the “Suryadhar” lake at Doiwala to address the drinking water and irrigational needs of nearly 20 villages around it. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – inaugurated the “Suryadhar” lake
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya



International Affairs

1. After 10 years of planning, the construction of the world's longest immersed tunnel - "Fehmarnbelt Tunnel" has officially begun. It will connect Denmark and Germany. And it is scheduled to be officially opened by 2029. It's one of Europe's largest ongoing infrastructure projects, with a budget of more than US\$8 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Fehmarnbelt Tunnel" – will join Denmark and Germany | to be opened by – 2029
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone
- Germany – Berlin – Euro

2. In a Burnley Council meeting, it has been decided to name a street in Burnley, United Kingdom after a legendary Cricketer James Anderson who brought respect to his by becoming the first fast bowler in the history of the game to bag 600 Test wickets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A street in Burnley, UK – named after 'James Anderson' a Cricketer from UK
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

3. Philippines is recently hit by year's most powerful storm "Typhoon Goni". At least 10 people have died amid reports of storm surges, flash floods, power outages and blown-off roofs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Typhoon Goni – hit 'Philippines'
- Philippines – Manila – Peso | President – Rodrigo Duterte

4. The new building of Bhimsen Adarsha Higher Secondary School constructed with India's assistance of NRs 25.83 million has been inaugurated in Nepal's central Nawalpur district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The new building of Bhimsen Adarsha Higher Secondary School – inaugurated in Nawalpur, Nepal
- Constructed with India's assistance of NRs 25.83 million
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari



5. The USA has approved the sale of \$600 million in MQ-9 armed drones to Taiwan, the latest in a series of arms transfers for the island. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The USA approved the sale of \$600 million in MQ-9 armed drones – to Taiwan
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen

6. 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

7. 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

8. 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

9. 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

10. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- “Eta” storm – hit Guatemala
- [Guatemala – Guatemala City – Guatemalan quetzal | President – Alejandro Giammattei](#)

11. 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 – Volkan Bozkır](#)

12. 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](#)

13. 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 – Siarhiey Rumas](#)

14. 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](#)

15. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced a major overhaul of the country's Islamic personal laws, allowing unmarried couples to cohabit, loosening alcohol restrictions and criminalizing so-called honor killings. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

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

16. 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

17. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- Typhoon “Molave” – hit Vietnam
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM - Nguyen Xuan Phuc

18. A top German court has approved the construction of the world's longest combined rail and road tunnel “Fehmarn Belt” that is expected to slash journey times from northern Germany to Denmark. The 18-kilometre submerged Fehmarn Belt Tunnel is due to open in 2029. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The world's longest combined rail and road tunnel “Fehmarn Belt” – to open in 2029
- It will connect – Germany & Denmark
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone

19. Virgin Hyperloop has successfully completed the first-ever human trial in the hyperloop pod at the 500 metre DevLoop test facility in the USA, where the company has previously run over 400 un-occupied tests. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Virgin Hyperloop – completed the first-ever human trial in the hyperloop pod at DevLoop test facility – in USA
- India's first Hyperloop project is being set up in – Maharashtra (Mumbai-Pune project)
- HQs of Virgin Hyperloop – Los Angeles, California, USA | Chairman – Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden

20. Guadalajara (Mexico) was named “World Book Capital” for the year 2022 by the Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, on the recommendation of the World Book Capital Advisory Committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Guadalajara (Mexico) – named “World Book Capital” for the year 2022 – by UNESCO
- Mexico – Mexico City – Peso
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

21. The word – “Lockdown” has been named the as the ‘Word of the Year 2020’ by Collins Dictionary. It is chosen as ‘Word of the Year’ because it is a unifying experience for billions of people across the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The word “Lockdown” – named the as the ‘Word of the Year 2020’ by Collins Dictionary

22. India and Nepal have launched the construction of a Rs 147.12-crore 3rd Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Nepalgunj to streamline and boost cross-border trade. Commerce minister Piyush Goyal and Nepal's urban development minister Krishna Gopal Shrestha witnessed the groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction of the ICP. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Nepal = launched the construction of 3rd Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Nepalgunj (Cost: Rs 147.12 Cr)
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

23. The India Customs intercepted an 18-tonne shipment of red sandalwood destined for the UAE, during a month-long “Operation Thunder 2020”, coordinated by the Interpol and the World Customs Organisation, which involved law enforcement agencies against environmental crimes in 103 countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India Customs intercepted an 18-tonne shipment of 'Red Sandalwood' destined for – the UAE
- Interpol & World Customs Organisation – conducted "Operation Thunder 2020" in 103 countries
- HQs of Interpol – Lyon, France | President – Kim Jong Yang
- HQs of WCO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Kunio Mikuriya

24. The World Health Organization (WHO) has listed Indonesia's "nOPV2" (novel Oral Polio Vaccine type 2) vaccine for emergency use to address the outbreak of type 2 circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV2). This is the first emergency use listing (EUL) of a vaccine which may be granted for future coronavirus vaccines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indonesia's "nOPV2" vaccine – became the 1st vaccine to be listed under the WHO's Emergency use Listing
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo

25. Arsenal Football club has become the first Premier League club to join the United Nations (UN) Sports for Climate Action Framework. The UN initiative aims to bring together the global sports community with a commitment to align with the goals of the Paris Agreement and support the ambition to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arsenal FC (England) – became the 1st Premier League club to join "UN Sports for Climate Action Framework"
- Aim: To support the ambition to achieve climate neutrality – by 2050

26. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has launched its "Global Strategy to Accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer" during the 73rd World Health Assembly. It has outlined three key steps: Vaccination, Screening and Treatment. Successful implementation of all 3 could reduce more than 40% of new cases of the disease and 5 million related deaths by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The WHO launched its "Global Strategy to Accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer"
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

27. The World Health Organisation (WHO) will set up a “Global Centre for Traditional Medicine” in India. According to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has emerged as the ‘Pharmacy of the World’ and the WHO institution will become the centre for Global Wellness. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The WHO will set up a “Global Centre for Traditional Medicine” – in India
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG – Tedros Adhanom](#) | [Member Countries – 194](#)

28. Tesla has opened the world’s largest supercharger station in Firebaugh, California to the public with a massive capacity of 56 V3 rated slots to charge the electric vehicle up to 250kW for fast charging. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tesla – opened the world’s largest supercharger station – in Firebaugh, California, USA
- [HQs of Tesla – California, USA](#) | [CEO – Elon Musk](#)

29. Storm “Vamco” has hit the Philippines and the rescuers are urgently searching for thousands of people trapped after catastrophic floods. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Storm “Vamco” hit the Philippines in November
- [Philippines – Manila – Peso](#) | [President – Rodrigo Duterte](#)

30. Britain will ban the sale of new gasoline and diesel cars by 2030, a decade earlier than its previous commitment. According to the British government, sales of new gasoline and diesel cars and vans will end in 2030, though hybrid vehicles can be sold until 2035. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Britain will ban the sale of new gasoline and diesel cars by 2030
- [Britain – London – Pound sterling](#)

31. The National Science Foundation (NSF) has announced to dismantle the iconic “Arecibo radio telescope” in Puerto Rico. Based on the stresses acting on the second broken cable, engineers concluded that the remaining cables were probably weaker than previously thought. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- National Science Foundation announced to dismantle “Arecibo Radio Telescope” – located in Puerto Rico, US

- HQs of NSF – Virginia, US | Director – Sethuraman “Panch” Panchanathan

32. India has become the 4th country in the world to have its independent regional navigation satellite system “IRNSS” (Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System) recognised by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) as a part of the World Wide Radio Navigation System (WWRNS). The other 3 are the US, Russia and China. The IRNSS is developed by the ISRO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – the 4th country in the world to have its independent “IRNSS” (Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System)
- HQs of IMO – London, UK | Secretary-General – Kitack Lim

33. The isolated UK Overseas Territory of ‘Tristan da Cunha’ is declared as the largest fully protected marine reserves in the Atlantic Ocean at 6,87,000 square Kms. It is home to the world’s most remote human settlement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Tristan da Cunha’ – declared as the largest fully protected marine reserves in Atlantic Ocean

34. The High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Vikram Doraiswami has launched a limited series of Special Edition Wristwatches in Dhaka, Bangladesh for the Mujib Centenary year ‘Mujib Borsho’. The wristwatches in this limited edition series bear the images of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vikram Doraiswami – launched a limited series of Special Edition Wristwatches – in Dhaka, Bangladesh
- The High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh – Vikram Doraiswami
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

35. The only known White Giraffe in the world has been fitted with a GPS tracking device in Kenya. A rare genetic trait called leucism causes the white color. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The only known White Giraffe in the world – is fitted with a GPS tracking device – in Kenya
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling

36. 18th century stone statue of goddess Annapurna, which may have been stolen and transported to Canada over a century back, will be returned to India by Canada. The statue is believed to be originally from Varanasi and was part of the university’s collection in its MacKenzie Art Gallery. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Canada – to return 18th century stone statue of goddess Annapurna – to India
- MacKenzie Art Gallery – located in Canada
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

37. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently discovered a rare “Chapare” virus in Bolivia. The virus is capable of human-to-human transmission and belongs to a family of viruses that can cause haemorrhagic fevers, such as Ebola. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US CDC discovered a rare “Chapare” virus – in Bolivia
- Bolivia – La Paz/Sucre – Boliviano | President – Luis Arce

38. Scotland has launched the world's first Hydrogen Powered Double-Decker Buses. It is an attempt to reduce air pollution and transform the city into a green economy. A fleet of 15 such buses have been launched as part of the trial. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scotland – launched the world's first Hydrogen Powered Double-Decker Buses
- Scotland – Edinburgh – Pound sterling

39. In the wake of rising antimicrobial resistance (AMR), a global group called ‘One Health Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance’ was launched by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The 20-member group was co-chaired by Bangladesh and Barbados. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FAO + OIE + WHO = launched ‘One Health Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance’
- The 20-member group was co-chaired by – Bangladesh & Barbados
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu
- HQs of OIE – Paris, France | President – Mark Schipp
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

40. Widespread and heavy rains due to “Cyclone Gati” in Somalia have spurred a threat of a widespread locust outbreak in the east African country. It made landfall there on November 22, 2020. It was the first named cyclone of the 2018 North Indian Ocean cyclone season & was named by India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- “Cyclone Gati” – made landfall in Somalia (The cyclone is named by – India)
- Somalia – Mogadishu – Dollar/Shilling | New PM – Mohamed Hussein Roble | President – Md Abdullahi

41. On November 22, 2020, the United States has officially withdrawn from the ‘Open Skies Treaty’. The US submitted notice of withdrawal from the Treaty on Open Skies on May 22, 2020. The Open Skies Treaty was signed in Helsinki by 23 member nations of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in March 1992. It entered into force on January 2, 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USA – officially withdrew from the ‘Open Skies Treaty’
- The Open Skies Treaty – signed in 1992 & entered into force in – 2002
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden

42. Disney has recently launched its own online store “ShopDisney” in India. The eCommerce platform will also offer licensed merchandise inspired by popular Disney characters and more. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Disney – launched its own online store “ShopDisney” in India
- HQs of The Walt Disney Company – California, USA | CEO – Bob Chapek

43. The China has issued a strong statement against the Five-Eyes alliance’s criticism of their Hong Kong policy. The Five-Eyes is an intelligence alliance comprising the US, Canada, Britain, Australia, and New Zealand. The Chinese Foreign ministry also attacked Australia in a 14-point letter. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – issued a strong statement against the Five-Eyes alliance’s criticism of their Hong Kong policy
- The Five-Eyes Alliance – US, Canada, Britain, Australia & New Zealand
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

44. A bipartisan resolution recognising the cultural and religious significance of an autonomous Tibet and seeking peaceful solutions to the conflict has been passed by the US House of Representatives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USA passed – a bipartisan resolution recognising the cultural and religious significance of an autonomous Tibet

45. The United Nations has adopted a resolution calling for the urgent solution of the Rohingya crisis. The resolution tabled by the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) and European Union (EU) was adopted by a majority of 132 countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- United Nations – adopted a resolution calling for the urgent solution of the ‘Rohingya crisis’
- The resolution was tabled by – OIC & EU
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

46. Cambridge Dictionary has named ‘Quarantine’ as Word of the Year 2020. Quarantine was the only word to rank in the top 5 for both search spikes and overall views (more than 183,000 by early November). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Quarantine” – named as ‘Word of the Year 2020’ by Cambridge Dictionary

47. China has powered up its first domestically developed nuclear reactor - “Hualong One” a significant step in Beijing's attempts to become less dependent on Western allies for energy security and critical technology. The reactor can generate 10 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity each year and cut carbon emissions by 8.16 million tons. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – powered up its first domestically developed nuclear reactor “Hualong One”
- Capacity: 10 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity / year
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

48. Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla has inaugurated 3 schools built under Indian assistance in Nepal's Gorkha district. Still, 70 schools and 150 health facilities are coming up in 12 districts of Nepal with Indian support. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harsh Vardhan Shringla inaugurated 3 schools built under Indian assistance – in Gorkha, Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

49. India and France have launched a “Bilateral Fast Track Mechanism” in investments in the 18th session of India France Joint Committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + France = launched a “Bilateral Fast Track Mechanism” in investments in the 18th session
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

50. A Chinese hydropower company plans to construct the first downstream dam on the lower reaches of the Brahmaputra river or Yarlung Zangbo (known in Tibet) marking a new phase in China’s hydropower exploitation of the river with potential ramifications for India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chinese Hydropower Company plans to construct the first downstream dam on Brahmaputra / Yarlung Zangbo
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

51. Japan's southern Kagawa prefecture has detected another outbreak of ‘Avian influenza’ disease in the Mitoyo city and is set to cull 77,000 chickens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – detected outbreak of ‘Avian influenza’ disease in Mitoyo city
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

52. The “Hayabusa2” spacecraft has left for the asteroid ‘Ryugu’, about 300 million Kms (180 million miles) from Earth, a year ago and is expected to reach Earth and drop a capsule containing the soil samples in southern Australia on Dec. 6. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The “Hayabusa2” spacecraft – left for the asteroid ‘Ryugu’ (300 million Kms from the Earth)

Banking & Economic Affairs

1. 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 – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha

2. 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 ICICI Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”

3. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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

4. HDFC Bank has launched of India’s first comprehensive banking and payment solution for merchants – “SmartHub Merchant Solutions 3.0” to instantly open a current account and start accepting payments in-store, online, and on-the-go. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – launched “SmartHub Merchant Solutions 3.0”
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & MD – Aditya Puri (Sashidhar Jagdishan – from November)

5. International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has approved draft Banking regulations for banking operations at IFSCs. In its meeting, the IFSC Authority approved the International Financial Services Centres Authority (Banking) Regulations, 2020. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- IFSCA – approved “International Financial Services Centres Authority (Banking) Regulations, 2020”
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas | Established in – April, 2020

6. Karnataka Bank Ltd has launched “National Common Mobility Debit Card”. This Rupay card is a contactless debit-cum-prepaid and interoperable transport card. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka Bank – launched “National Common Mobility Debit Card”
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S.

7. The Reserve Bank has asked all lending institutions, including NBFCs, to ensure that the scheme of waiver of interest on interest for loans up to Rs 2 crore for the 6-month moratorium period is implemented by November 5, as decided by the government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI asked lenders to implement waiver of interest on interest scheme by Nov 5 (loans up to Rs 2 Cr for 6-month)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

8. The Reserve Bank will evaluate the impact of multi-media public awareness campaign “RBI Kehta Hai”, which was launched in 14 languages to educate the public about safe banking and financial practices. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – to evaluate the impact of its “RBI Kehta Hai” multi-media public awareness campaign
- The campaign launched in – 14 languages
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

9. SBM Bank India has partnered with Fintech PayNearby to launch a neo banking platform called “Nivesh” in India. SBM Bank India was the first foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI to operate as a Wholly Owned Subsidiary in January 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBM Bank India + PayNearby = partnership to launch a neo banking platform called “Nivesh” in India
- SBM Bank India – the 1st foreign bank in India to obtain a banking licence from the RBI



- HQs of SBM Bank India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sidharth Rath
- HQs of PayNearby – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Anand Kumar Bajaj

10. The State Bank of India (SBI) has announced adoption of 15 tigers of the “Nehru Zoological Park” in Hyderabad. A cheque of ₹15 lakh was handed over by chief general manager Om Prakash Mishra to principal chief conservator of forests R. Shoba. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI – announced adoption of 15 tigers of the “Nehru Zoological Park” – located in Hyderabad, Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor - Tamilisai Soundararajan
- 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

11. HDFC Bank has launched “Mooh Band Rakho” Campaign to create awareness on Cyber Frauds and preventing them. The Bank will be conducting 1,000 workshops in the next 4 months across the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – launched “Mooh Band Rakho” Campaign
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your world"

12. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the Certificate of Authorisation (CoA) of 5 Payment System Operators (PSOs). These 5 PSOs are - Pyro Networks Pvt Ltd, Card Pro Solutions Pvt Ltd, InCashMe Mobile Wallet Services Pvt Ltd, Aircel Smart Money Ltd & Delhi Integrated Multi-Modal Transit System Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – cancelled the Certificate of Authorisation of 5 Payment System Operators
- CoA – Certificate of Authorisation | PSOs – Payment System Operators
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

13. The RBI has showed in its first ever published 'nowcast' report that India has entered a technical recession in the first half of 2020-21 for the first time in its history. GDP has contracted 8.6% in the quarter ended September-2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to RBI's 'nowcast' report – India entered a technical recession in the first half of 2020-21
- GDP contracted 8.6% – in the quarter ended September-2020 (Q2)
- [RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25th\)](#)

14. Equitas Small Finance Bank (ESFB) has launched a unique savings account "Eva" for women offering 7% interest. It also offers PF waiver and discounted gold loan rates for women customers, along-with 25-50% discounts on lockers. The bank also announced woman cricketer Smriti Mandhana as the new brand ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Equitas Small Finance Bank – launched a unique savings account "Eva" for women offering 7% interest
- Smriti Mandhana is appointed as Brand Ambassador of – Equitas Small Finance Bank
- [HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan](#)

15. The Indian government has imposed a one-month moratorium on Lakshmi Vilas Bank and capped the cash withdrawal limit at Rs 25,000 for depositors. The moratorium on Lakshmi Vilas Bank came into effect from on November 17 and is scheduled to end on December 16, 2020. The RBI has also drafted amalgamation scheme of LVB with DBS Bank India. It aims to merge the bank before the moratorium ends. Thothala Narayanaswamy (T. N.) Manoharan is appointed as administrator of Lakshmi Vilas Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lakshmi Vilas Bank is placed under moratorium – withdrawals capped at Rs 25,000
- RBI drafted amalgamation scheme of – LVB with DBS Bank India
- T. N. Manoharan – appointed as Administrator of Lakshmi Vilas Bank
- [HQs of LVB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Subramanian Sundar](#)

16. Goldman Sachs has revised upwards its FY21 growth forecast for India to a 10.3% contraction, from -14.8% it had projected in September. It has projected India's GDP to rebound to 13% in the next fiscal, compared with 15.7% estimated earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goldman Sachs projected India's GDP = (-10.3%) for FY21 & 13% for FY22 {Flexible News}
- HQs of Goldman Sachs – New York, USA | CEO – David M. Solomon

17. Yes Bank in partnership with Neokred Technologies has launched “Yes Bank Neokred Card”, a co-branded prepaid card for encouraging cashless payment. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Yes Bank + Neokred Technologies = launched “Yes Bank Neokred Card”
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”
- HQs of Neokred Technologies – Bangalore, Karnataka

18. Karnataka Bank has launched CASA (Current Account, Savings Account) mobilisation campaign which will run from November 17 to March 4, 2021. It intends to mobilise over 4.10 lakh current and savings accounts with an accretion of ₹650 crore of business. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Karnataka Bank – launched “CASA” campaign
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S.

19. HDFC Bank and IndusInd Bank have been put in the ‘Red Flag’ list, a system used for monitoring foreign portfolio investor (FPI) limits. A listed company enters the list when the available legroom for overseas investment is less than 3% of the permissible limit. FPIs can invest up to 74% in both HDFC Bank and IndusInd Bank. The current FPI shareholding in case of HDFC Bank is 71.3%, while that of IndusInd Bank is 73.1%. {Read more}

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank & IndusInd Bank – have been put in the ‘Red Flag’ list (a system for monitoring FPI limits)
- Current FPI shareholding in HDFC Bank – 71.3%
- Current FPI shareholding in IndusInd Bank – 73.1%
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & MD – Aditya Puri (Sashidhar Jagdishan – from Nov.)
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”

20. The RBI had announced opening of the first cohort under regulatory sandbox, with “Retail Payments” as its theme, in November last year. It had received applications from 32 entities, of which 6 were selected for the 'Test Phase'. Testing of products under the RBI's regulatory sandbox has commenced with 2 entities starting the 'Test Phase' with their products from November 16, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI had announced opening of the first cohort under Regulatory Sandbox | Theme – “Retail Payments”
- 2 entities/out of 6 – commenced the 'Test Phase' with their products under the RBI's regulatory sandbox
- [RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das \(25th\)](#)

21. Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company has launched “Kotak ESG Opportunities Fund”. The fund will focus on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors and the Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI). Kotak ESG Opportunities Fund will be managed by Harsha Upadhyaya. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra AMC – launched “Kotak ESG Opportunities Fund”
- Focused on 3 Factors – Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG)
- Fund will be managed by – Harsha Upadhyaya
- [HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Uday Kotak](#)

22. ICICI Bank in a tie-up with Pine Labs has launched a “Cardless EMI facility” for its customers to use at retail stores. With this, ICICI Bank becomes India’s first bank to launch a Cardless EMI facility at retail stores. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank + Pine Labs = launched a “Cardless EMI facility” (India’s first bank to launch Cardless EMI facility)
- [ICCI Bank: HQs – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”](#)
- [HQs of Pine Labs – Noida, UP | CEO – B Amrish Rau](#)

23. Moody's has revised our real, inflation-adjusted GDP forecast for fiscal 2020 (April 2020-March 2021) to a 10.6% contraction, from a 11.5% drop previously. For next fiscal 2021-22, Moody's projected India to grow at 10.8%, as against the previous estimate of 10.6%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Moody's projected India’s GDP = (-10.6%) – for 2020-21
- Moody's projected India’s GDP = (10.8%) – for 2021-22
- [HQs of Moody’s – New York, USA | CEO – Raymond W. McDaniel](#)

24. An Internal Working Group set up by the RBI has proposed to raise the cap on promoters' stake in Private Banks from the current 15% to 26% in 15 years. The RBI had constituted the internal working group (IWG) on June 12, 2020, to review extant ownership guidelines and corporate structure for Indian private sector banks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI's Internal Working Group proposed to raise the cap on promoters' stake in Private Banks to – 26%
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

25. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a total fine of over Rs 5.78 Cr on 6 entities - Punjab National Bank, Sodexo, PhonePe, QwikCilver Solutions, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd and Muthoot finance for violating regulatory guidelines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI imposed a total fine of over Rs 5.78 Cr on 6 entities1. PNB (Rs 1 Cr) 2. Sodexo (Rs 2 Cr) 3. PhonePe (Rs 1.39 Cr)4. QwikCilver (Rs 1 Cr) 5. DMRC – (Rs 5 lakh) 6. Muthoot finance (Rs 34.55 Lakh)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

26. The RBI has imposed restrictions on withdrawals from Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank for 6 months from the close of business on November 17, 2020. The RBI also imposed a penalty of Rs 1 lakh on the Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank for contravention of the directions issued by it. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI imposed restrictions on withdrawals from – Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank (for 6 months)
- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 1 lakh on – Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

27. In a first among central banks, the Reserve Bank of India has become the first monetary authority in the world to have more than 1 million followers on its official Twitter handle. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – became the first monetary authority in the world to have more than 1 million followers on Twitter
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, USA | CEO – Jack Dorsey



28. ICCI (Inventivepreneur Chamber of Commerce and Industries) has signed an MoU with HDFC Bank in its endeavour to support SMEs and start-ups in India. To make this a success, ICCI and HDFC Bank will jointly conduct various networking activities, awareness camps, interactive sessions and business events. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICCI + HDFC Bank = an MoU to support SMEs and start-ups in India
- HQs of ICCI – New Delhi | President – Ritika Yadav
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

29. State Bank of India (SBI) has reported a 51.9% Year-on-Year (YoY) rise in net profit for the quarter ended September at Rs 4,574.16 Cr. The bank had reported a net profit of Rs 3,011.73 Cr in the same quarter a year ago. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI – reported 51.9% year-on-year (YoY) rise in net profit for the quarter ended September – at Rs 4,574.16 Cr
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia

30. YES Bank in collaboration with French payment services company Worldline has launched an “SMS Pay” functionality on POS terminals, which enables merchants to accept contactless payments from customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- YES Bank + Worldline = launched an “SMS Pay” functionality on POS terminals
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”
- HQs of Worldline – Bezons, France | CEO – Gilles Grapinet

31. Luxury car manufacturer Mercedes-Benz has partnered with State Bank of India for car finance at 'attractive' interest rate besides many other benefits. Besides, all customers booking a Mercedes-Benz car online through SBI's digital platform YONO will get an additional benefit of Rs 25,000 at the dealerships. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mercedes-Benz + SBI = partnership for car finance at 'attractive' interest rate besides many other benefits

- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia

32. India's GDP has contracted 7.5% in the Q2 of 2020-21, following the record 23.9% decline recorded in the Q1, as per estimates released by the National Statistical Office (NSO). India has now entered a 'Technical Recession' with 2 successive quarters of negative growth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's GDP contracted 7.5% in the Q2 of 2020-21 – according to NSF
- India has now entered a 'Technical Recession'
- NSO comes under – Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoS I/C – Rao Inderjit Singh)
- HQs of NSO – New Delhi | Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy

33. The RBI has set a precedent to Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) to write-off of Rs 318 Cr tier-II bonds before its amalgamation with DBS Bank India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – set a precedent to Lakshmi Vilas Bank to write-off of Rs 318 Cr tier-II bonds
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- HQs of LVB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Subramanian Sundar

34. For the first time, Receivables Exchange of India Ltd. (RXIL) has initiated a Trade Credit Insurance (TCI) backed transaction with Tata AIG as the insurer and ICICI Bank, YES Bank as the financiers in Sandbox environment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RXIL initiated a Trade Credit Insurance (TCI) | Insurer – Tata AIG | Financiers - ICICI Bank & YES Bank
- HQs of RXIL – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ketan Gaikwad

35. Indian Bank has entered into an agreement with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to use the latter's asset restructuring module for MSME borrowers. The SIDBI has come out with "Asset Restructuring Module for MSMEs - Do it Yourself (ARM-MSME DIY)" for supporting these MSMEs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank + SIDBI = an agreement for asset restructuring module for MSMEs borrowers



- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa



Defence Affairs

1. An enhanced version of the “Pinaka Mk-1” missile, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was successfully flight-tested from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha. It can fire a salvo of 12 rockets over a period of 44 seconds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO flight tested the enhanced version of “Pinaka Mk-1” missile in Chandipur, Odisha
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

2. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Airavat has reached Sudan on November 2 with 100 tonnes of food aid as a part of “Mission Sagar-II”. Under “Mission Sagar-II”, INS Airavat will deliver food aid to Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti and Eritrea amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Mission Sagar-II follows the first Mission Sagar undertaken in May-June 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Airavat reached Sudan on November 2 with 100 tonnes of food aid as a part of “Mission Sagar-II”
- INS Airavat – will deliver food aid to Sudan, South Sudan, Djibouti and Eritrea
- South Sudan – Khartoum – Sudanese Pound

3. Rajan Bargotra, Additional Director General (Western Seaboard), has commissioned Indian Coast Guard's (ICG) ship “C-452” through video conference in Ratnagiri, Maharashtra. The ship was indigenously designed and built by Larsen & Toubro, Surat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “ICG C-452” – commissioned in Ratnagiri, Maharashtra – built by Larsen & Toubro, Surat (Gujarat)
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CMD – SN Subrahmanyam

4. The second batch of 3 Rafale aircraft landed at Jamnagar Air Base in Gujarat recently on November 4. The aircrafts got airborne from Istres airbase in France and flew non-stop for over eight hours. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The second batch of 3 Rafale aircraft landed at – Jamnagar Air Base, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat



5. 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 Teresa Island. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

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

6. 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

7. 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)

8. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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



9. A model of Anti-Satellite (A-SAT) Missile was unveiled by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on November 9, 2020. It is developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). 'Mission Shakti' was the India's first ever Anti-Satellite (A-SAT) Missile Test successfully conducted on 27th March 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh unveiled – “A-SAT” Missile (developed by – DRDO)
- India's first ever Anti-Satellite (A-SAT) Missile Test – ‘Mission Shakti’
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

10. Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) launched its 5th Scorpene-class submarine “INS Vagir” at Mazagon at the Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of the Mazagon Dock, Mumbai. Built as a part of its Project-75, the submarine, Vagir, is the fifth of six Scorpene-class submarines built by the MDL. It was launched by Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MDL launched its 5th Scorpene-class submarine “INS Vagir” – at Mazagon Dock, Mumbai, MH
- HQs of MDL – Mumbai, MH

11. Indian Army has gifted 20 fully trained military horses and 10 mine detection dogs to Bangladesh Army. The presentation ceremony was held at Petrapole- Benapole Integrated Check Post (ICP) on the India - Bangladesh Border. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army gifted 20 fully trained military horses and 10 mine detection dogs to – Bangladesh Army
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

12. India has successfully test-fired the Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) air defence system from the Balasore flight test range (Chandipur), Odisha. The missile system is designed to protect moving armoured columns from aerial attacks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – test-fired the “QRSAM” air defence system – from Balasore, Odisha
- QRSAM – Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile | Range – 25 to 30 Km
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

13. On August 26, China had test fired 2 of its most capable conventional missiles – “DF-26B” intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) and “DF-21D” anti-ship ballistic missile (ASBM) - into the South China Sea from bases in mainland China. Now, nearly three months later, a Chinese source is claiming that these missiles hit a moving ship target near the Paracel Islands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “DF-26B” intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) & “DF-21D” anti-ship ballistic missile (ASBM) – fired by China
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

14. Egypt and Sudan have started their first joint military drills which are set to last till late November, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Egypt & Sudan – started their 1st Joint Military Drills (to conclude on November 26)
- Egypt – Cairo – Egyptian Pound | President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi
- Sudan – Khartoum – Sudanese Pound

15. Japan and Australia have signed a landmark Defence Pact - the “Reciprocal Access Agreement” (RAA) in a bid to counter China's growing influence in the South China Sea and over the Pacific island nations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan & Australia – signed the “Reciprocal Access Agreement” (RAA) - a landmark Defence Pact
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

16. The navies of India, the US, Australia and Japan have begun the second phase of the “Malabar” naval exercise in the Northern Arabian Sea on November 17. The first phase of the Malabar exercise took place in the Bay of Bengal from November 3 to 6. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 2nd Phase of “Malabar” naval exercise – began in the Northern Arabian Sea
- The 1st Phase of “Malabar” naval exercise – was held in the Bay of Bengal
- Exercise being held among – India + Japan + USA + Australia

17. The Indian Navy has received the 9th Poseidon 8I Maritime Reconnaissance and Anti-Submarine warfare Aircraft from the US under a USD 1.1 billion deal. India was Boeing's first international customer for this aircraft. The first P-8I aircraft was inducted into the Indian Navy in 2013. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy – 9th Poseidon 8I Maritime Reconnaissance and Anti-Submarine warfare Aircraft – from the USA
- [USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden](#)

18. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched a portal for defence Land Management System (LMS) that is expected to bring greater transparency, efficiency and speed in dealing with land management matters. For the first time, an LMS has been developed by the Department of Defence (DoD) in conjunction with the Directorate General Defence Estates (DGDE) and Armed forces. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – launched a portal for defence Land Management System (LMS)
- Developed by = Department of Defence + DGDE
- [HQs of DGDE – New Delhi | Director General – Deepa Bajwa](#)

19. In a first, Indian Army has accorded project sanction order to 'OshoCorp Global' for development and supply of specialised ammunition for its T-72 and T-90 main battle tanks. OshoCorp Global's project cost is over ₹2300 Cr, with potential for future domestic and export orders. The 125mm APFSDS (Armour Piercing Fin Stabilised Discarding-Sabot) ammunition is the primary tank ammunition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – accorded project sanction order to 'OshoCorp Global' – for "T-72" & "T-90" main Battle Tanks
- OshoCorp Global's project cost – over ₹2300 Cr
- [HQs of OshoCorp Global – New Delhi | CEO – Ashutosh Khate](#)
- [HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – S K Saini](#)

20. The 30th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy was conducted from 18 – 20 November 2020 in Andaman Sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 30th edition of Indo-Thai CORPAT – between Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy – in Andaman Sea
- [Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht](#)



21. The U.S. Navy has shot down an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) over the Pacific Ocean with a Raytheon Standard Missile (SM)-3 Block IIA missile in a milestone test. The missile test was conducted in an area of Open Ocean near Hawaii, United States (US). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USA – shot down an ICBM over the Pacific Ocean with a Raytheon Standard Missile (SM)-3 Block IIA missile
- ICBM – Intercontinental Ballistic Missile
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden

22. The 2nd edition of the India, Thailand and Singapore trilateral Naval exercise “SITMEX-20” is concluded in the Andaman Sea on November 22 and the 27th edition of India-Singapore Bilateral Maritime Exercise “SIMBEX-20” was held in the same area from November 23 to 25. “The exercise, being conducted as a ‘non-contact, at sea only’ exercise in view of COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd edition of “SITMEX-20” in the Andaman Sea on November 22 (India + Thailand + Singapore)
- 27th edition of “SIMBEX-20” in the Andaman Sea from November 23 to 25 (India + Singapore)
- Thailand – Bangkok – Thai Baht
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

23. Secretary of Department of Defence R&D and Chairman of DRDO, G. Satheesh Reddy has flagged off the first “Varunastra”, the heavy weight Anti-submarine Torpedo. It was delivered to the Indian Navy, at a ceremony held at BDL (Bharat Dynamics Limited), Visakhapatnam unit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G. Satheesh Reddy – flagged off the first heavy weight Anti-submarine Torpedo - “Varunastra”
- It is designed & developed by – DRDO
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

24. The Indian Navy has inducted two “MQ-9B Sea Guardian Unarmed Drones” procured from the U.S. on lease for one year. The recently released Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 has introduced an option for leasing military platforms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy – inducted two “MQ-9B Sea Guardian Unarmed Drones” procured from the U.S.
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden

- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar



Schemes & Initiatives

1. Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has launched two key schemes related to distribution of fortified rice and setting up of Swami Atmanand Government English medium schools during 'Rajyotsav' statehood celebrations. Chhattisgarh came into existence on November 1, 2000 after the bifurcation of Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – launched fortified rice distribution & Swami Atmanand Government English Medium School Scheme
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

2. Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has inaugurated the "Rythu Vedika" initiative to address the issues faced by farmers in Jangaon district of Telangana. Rythu Vedika is an initiative to bring farmers under one platform and help them attain higher returns. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – launched the "Rythu Vedika" initiative – to address the issues faced by farmers
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

3. The government has extended the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) by one month till 30 November 2020 or till the amount of Rs 3 lakh crore is sanctioned under the scheme, whichever is earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government has extended the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme – till 30th Nov. / Rs 3 lakh Cr sanctioned

4. 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



- [MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri](#)

5. 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

6. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Plastic Lao, Mask Le Jao' campaign – initiated by Dehradun Municipal Corporation
- [Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya](#)

7. Manipur has introduced "Scheme for Chief Minister's Award for Good Governance" to recognise and reward innovative and extraordinary work done by government officials that promotes good governance. The award will include a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh for the individual category and Rs 2 lakh for group category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur introduced – "Scheme for Chief Minister's Award for Good Governance"
- [Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla](#)

8. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has issued an order for the scale-up and expansion of the 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan' (PM-KUSUM) Scheme for farmers. The target now is to achieve enhanced solar capacity of 30.8 gigawatt (GW) by 2022 with revised Central financial support of Rs 34,035 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy – issued an order for the scale-up and expansion of “PM-KUSUM” Scheme
- Target – 30.8 GW by 2022 | Central financial support – Rs 34,035 Cr
- [Raj Kumar Singh – Minister of New and Renewable Energy \(MNRE\)](#)

9. The Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced the ‘Aatmanirbhar Package 3.0’ in New Delhi to help boost growth in India. It will cover 12 schemes as a stimulus measure of additional Rs 2,65,080 Cr to boost economic growth. The FM had announced ₹900 crore for research and development of Covid-19 vaccine under the ‘Covid Suraksha Mission’. Till now (as of November 12, 2020), the government and RBI together have announced a relief package amounting to Rs 29,87,641 Cr which is 15% of the GDP. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman announced the ‘Aatmanirbhar Package 3.0’ in New Delhi – covering 12 schemes
- Additional stimulus measure – Rs 2,65,080 Cr
- A relief package of Rs 29,87,641 Cr – provided by “Government + RBI” till now (as of November 12, 2020)
- ₹900 crore funding announced for development of Covid-19 vaccine under – ‘Covid Suraksha Mission’

10. In her press conference on November 12, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced the “Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana” for the benefit of the members of employees provident fund Organization (EPFO). It will benefit any new employee joining employment in the EPFO registered establishments with monthly wages less than ₹15,000. It will also benefit the EPFO members drawing monthly wages of less than ₹15,000 and exited employment during COVID pandemic from March 1 to September 30 and had been hired on or after October 1, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman announced the “Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana” for the benefit of the EPFO employees
- Criteria to get benefit: 1. Monthly wages less than ₹15,000 2. Exited job from March 1 to September 30 and are employed on or after October 1, 2020

11. Union Food Processing Industries Ministry has announced a scheme – “Operation Green Scheme TOP to TOTAL” under which 50% subsidy will be provided for air transportation of 41 notified fruits and vegetables from North East and Himalayan states to any place in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Food Processing Industries Ministry – announced a scheme – “Operation Green Scheme TOP to TOTAL”

- 50% subsidy will be provided for air transportation of 41 notified fruits and vegetables
- [Narendra Singh Tomar – Ministry of Food Processing Industries \(Morena, MP\)](#)

12. The Puducherry government has launched a free breakfast scheme – “Kalaingar Karunanidhi” named after former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK president Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi for government and government aided school students. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Puducherry launched – “Kalaingar Karunanidhi” a free breakfast scheme for school students
- [Puducherry: CM – Velu Narayanasamy | Governor – Dr. Kiran Bedi](#)

13. Karnataka has launched a new initiative called “Beyond Bengaluru” aiming to take its deep-rooted technology ecosystem beyond India’s tech capital taking advantage of ‘Work from Home’ or ‘Work from Anywhere’ work culture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka launched a new initiative called “Beyond Bengaluru”
- [Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala](#)

14. The Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) has launched a 3 month campaign “SAANS” (Social Action and Awareness to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully) to reduce childhood pneumonia deaths. The initiative targets to reduce less than five pneumonia deaths, per a 1000 live births, to less than three deaths by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHFW – launched a 3 month campaign “SAANS”
- Target: To reduce less than 3 deaths per 1000 live births – by 2025
- SAANS – Social Action and Awareness to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully
- [Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan \(Chandni Chowk, Delhi\)](#)

15. Two new schemes - “Vaatsalya Yojana” and “Samarth Yojana” have been launched by Rajasthan Government for orphan and destitute children during “Child Rights Week” from November 14 to 20, 2020. Rajasthan Chief Minister (CM) Ashok Gehlot has also inaugurated a Skill Development and Counselling Centre for children in Jodhpur. The initiatives were taken in accordance with the announcement for creation of the Nehru Child Protection Fund in the 2020-21 State Budget. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Rajasthan launched – “Vaatsalya Yojana” and “Samarth Yojana” – for Orphans and Destitute Children
- November 14 to 20 – “Child Rights Week”
- Skill Development and Counselling Centre for children is inaugurated – in Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)

16. CM Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has transferred an interest free amount of Rs. 10 thousand in bank account of each rural street vendor in a virtual programme organized at Minto Hall. The amount will be transferred in the accounts of the beneficiaries of “Mukhya Mantri Rural Street Vendor Scheme” launched by Madhya Pradesh government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- An interest free amount of Rs. 10 thousand transferred in bank a/c of Rural Street Vendors – in Madhya Pradesh
- Under – “Mukhya Mantri Rural Street Vendor Scheme” – launched by Madhya Pradesh
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

17. In a bid to empower persons with disabilities, the Punjab Cabinet has approved a new scheme “Punjab Divyangjan Shaktikaran Yojna” (PDSY) which will be implemented in a phased manner across the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab Cabinet – approved a new scheme “Punjab Divyangjan Shaktikaran Yojna” (PDSY)
- [Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore](#)

18. Union Food Processing Industries Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the capacity building component of a central scheme “Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises” (PM-FME) that seeks to promote micro-enterprises. He also launched the GIS “One District One Product” (ODOP) digital map of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – inaugurated the capacity building component of “PM-FME” scheme
- Narendra Singh Tomar – launched the GIS “One District One Product” (ODOP) digital map
- [Ministry of Food Processing Industries – Narendra Singh Tomar \(Constituency – Morena, MP\)](#)

- Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT) – located in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu

19. The United Nations has collaborated with The Vaccine Confidence Project at the University of London's School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to undertake "Team Halo", an initiative which aims to counter the misinformation around Covid-19 vaccines. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- United Nations + The Vaccine Confidence Project = collaboration to undertake "Team Halo" initiative
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres
- HQs of Vaccine Confidence Project – UK | Director – Heidi Larson

20. On the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Rajasthan government has launched "Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana". Rs 6,000 will be given to women becoming mothers for the second time under a new government scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – launched "Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana"
- Rs 6,000 will be given to women becoming mothers for the second time
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

21. Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray has launched a new rural housing project named "Maha Awas Yojana", under which 8.82 lakh (8,82,135) rural houses will be built in 100 days period (by the end of February, 2021). Currently, the cost of the project has been estimated to be around Rs 4,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – launched "Maha Awas Yojana" - a new rural housing project
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

22. West Bengal has launched two schemes "Duare Duare Paschim Banga Sarkar" (West Bengal government at every doorstep) for redressing grievances of people at the block level & "Karmai Dharma" (Work is worship) for providing motorbikes to youths to help them run small businesses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – launched two schemes "Duare Duare Paschim Banga Sarkar" & "Karmai Dharma"
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar



23. The Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has relaxed conditions for seeking claims for unemployment benefits, doing away with requirement to submit affidavit form by claimants under “Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana” (ABVKY) of the ESIC. The ESIC in its meeting held on August 20, 2020 had extended the scheme ‘Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana’ from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. It was also decided to enhance the rate of relief under the scheme from present 25% of the average daily earning to 50% of average daily earning. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ESIC relaxed conditions for seeking claims for unemployment benefits
- No requirement to submit affidavit form by claimants under – “Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana” of ESIC
- The scheme ‘Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana’ was extended – to June 30, 2021 (from July 1, 2020 earlier)
- ESIC had increased the rate of unemployment relief – to 50% of average daily earning (from 25% earlier)
- [HQs of ESIC – New Delhi](#) | [Director General – Ms. Anuradha Prasad](#)

24. Himachal Pradesh has launched “Him Suraksha Abhiyan” door to door campaign to sensitize the people regarding Covid-19 pandemic and also to collect information regarding symptoms of diseases like TB, Leprosy, sugar and blood pressure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – launched “Him Suraksha Abhiyan” door to door campaign
- [Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala](#) | [CM – Jai Ram Thakur](#) | [Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya](#)

25. Andhra Pradesh CM Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the “Jagananna Thodu” scheme under which an amount of ₹905 Cr was deposited into the bank accounts of 9.05 lakh small traders towards provision of interest-free loan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – launched the “Jagananna Thodu” scheme to provide interest-free loan to small traders and artisans
- [Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati \(LC\), Visakhapatnam \(EC\) & Kurnool \(JC\)](#)
- [CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy](#) | [Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan](#)

26. Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has unveiled a new initiative “Sahakar Pragya”. The 45 new training modules of “Sahakar Pragya” of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) will impart training to primary cooperative societies in rural areas. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – unveiled a new initiative “Sahakar Pragya” of NCDC – to impart training in rural areas
- NCDC works under – Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (Narendra Singh Tomar – Morena, MP)
- HQs of NCDC – New Delhi | MD – Sundeep Kumar Nayak

27. West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee has expanded the state-run ‘Swasthya Sathi’ health scheme to cover the entire population of the state with an insurance coverage of Rs. 5 lakhs. The decision will be applicable from December 1, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – expanded the state-run ‘Swasthya Sathi’ health scheme to cover the entire population
- An insurance coverage of – Rs. 5 lakhs.
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

28. The Assam government has launched “Orunodoi” scheme in 29 districts to benefit women-headed households and specially-abled persons in the state. A subsidy amount of Rs 830 per month will be transferred directly into the account of the nominated female head of the household. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – launched “Orunodoi” scheme for women-headed households and specially-abled persons
- A subsidy amount of Rs 830 per month
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

Sports & Games

1. Amit Panghal has made an impressive return to international boxing, winning the Gold medal in the Alexis Vastine tournament in Nantes, France. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Panghal – won the Gold medal in “Alexis Vastine Tournament” – in Nantes, France
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

2. Lewis Hamilton has won the “Emilia Romagna Grand Prix-2020” for a record-extending 93rd Formula One (F1) victory. Hamilton beat Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas by 5.7 seconds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton – won “Emilia Romagna Grand Prix-2020” (his 93rd F1 victory)
- Lewis Hamilton (UK) – drives ‘Mercedes’

3. Marlon Samuels, the West Indies batsman who top-scored in both of their T20 World Cup final victories, has announced his retirement from professional cricket on November 4, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Marlon Samuels (Jamaica) – retirement – from Cricket (Played for - West Indies)
- Jamaica – Kingston – Jamaican dollar

4. Shane Watson, the former Australia all-rounder and Chennai Super Kings (CSK) opener, formally announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shane Watson (Australia) – retirement – from Cricket
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

5. Lewis Hamilton has secured a record-equalling 7th Formula One (F1) world title after winning the “Turkish Grand Prix”. Lewis Hamilton had sealed his first title in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton (UK - Mercedes) – won the “Turkish Grand Prix-2020” (His 7th F1 title)



- Turkey – Ankara – Lira | President – Recep Tayyip Erdogan

6. Mumbai Indians team has won the final cricket match of the 13th Edition of Indian Premier League (IPL) T20 held at UAE & sponsored by Dream11. This time, 28% increase was noticed in viewership compared to the last edition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai Indians – won 13th Edition of men's IPL 2020 (its 5th title) – sponsored by 'Dream11'
- 28% increase in viewership

7. Rafael Nadal has become the 4th player to earn 1,000 Open Era singles victories. He achieved this feat by beating Feliciano Lopez. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rafael Nadal (Spain – Tennis) – become the 4th player to earn 1,000 Open Era singles victories
- Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez

8. Russian Daniil Medvedev has claimed his first "Paris Masters" title also known as "Rolex Paris Masters-2020" at Bercy Arena by battling back from a set down to beat Germany's Alexander Zverev. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Daniil Medvedev (Tennis - Russia) – won "Paris Masters" title or "Rolex Paris Masters-2020" (his first)
- Alexander Zverev (Tennis - Germany)
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier

9. The Sports Ministry has approved 6 centres as the Khelo India Centre of Excellence (KISCE) and they will now be upgraded at a consolidated budget estimate of Rs 67.32 crore for FY 2020-21 and subsequent 4 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sports Ministry – approved 6 centres as the Khelo India Centre of Excellence (KISCE)
- Sports Ministry – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West

10. Trailblazers beats Supernovas by 16 runs to win the Women's IPL T20 Challenge held at Sharjah Cricket Stadium, UAE. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Trailblazers – won the 3rd Edition of Women's IPL T20 Challenge (its 5th title) – sponsored by 'Jio'

11. World number one Chen Meng has defeated Chinese compatriot Sun Yingsha to win her maiden ITTF Women's World Cup title in Weihai, China. Japan's Mima Ito took the bronze medal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chen Meng (China) – won ITTF Women's World Cup title – in Weihai, China
- [China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping](#)

12. Former Barcelona FC and Argentina great 'Javier Mascherano' has announced his retirement from football, drawing curtains on his illustrious career spanning 17 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Javier Mascherano (Argentina) – retirement – from Football (Barcelona FC)
- [Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso](#)

13. Aryna Sabalenka has beaten Elise Mertens to win women's single title at "Linz Open 2020" for her third title of the season. The 11th ranked Sabalenka from Belarus joined Simona Halep as the only players with three tournament wins in the shortened 2020 season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus) – won women's single title at "Linz Open 2020"
- [Belarus – Minsk – Ruble | PM – Siarhiej Rumas](#)

14. Sudeep Tyagi has announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket. He has played for the Indian national cricket team in 4 ODIs and a lone T20I as a fast bowler. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sudeep Tyagi – retirement – from Cricket

15. FIFA has approved India as the host of the U-17 Women's World Cup in 2022 after the cancellation of the rescheduled 2021 edition due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- FIFA approved India as the host of the U-17 Women's World Cup in 2022
- [HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland](#) | [President – Gianni Infantino](#)

16. Tennis star Novak Djokovic has equalled Pete Sampra's record of winning 6 year-end number one trophies. The Serbian player achieved the feat as he was given the ATP Tour Number One trophy for finishing as the year-end number one. Before this, Djokovic had finished as world number one in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2018. With this, Djokovic has become only the second player in tennis history to do it 6 times. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Novak Djokovic ([Serbia - Tennis](#)) – equalled Pete Sampra's record of winning 6 year-end No. 1 trophies
- Novak Djokovic – the second player in Tennis History to do it 6 times
- [Pete Sampra \(USA\) – Tennis Player](#)

17. International Cricket Council (ICC) Board has introduced a minimum age policy for players to play international cricket and according to that, the cricketer must be 15-year-old to play the game globally. Earlier, there was no bar on the age of a cricketer to play any form of international cricket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICC introduced minimum age policy for players to play international cricket – 15 years
- [HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE](#) | [Interim Chairman – Imran Khwaja](#) | [CEO – Manu Sawhney](#)

18. The ICC has announced that the next Women's T20 World Cup will now be held in February 2023 in South Africa, instead of November 2022 as it was earlier scheduled. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Women's T20 World Cup – 2023” – to be held in South Africa
- [South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand](#) | [President – Cyril Ramaphosa](#)

19. Young Indian International master Leon Luke Mendonca has won a “Grand Master Tournament” in Hungary. The 14-year old player from Goa won his second Grand Master title in Budapest, Hungary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Leon Luke Mendonca (Goa) – won a “Grand Master Tournament” – in Budapest, Hungary
- [Goa: Capital – Panaji](#) | [CM – Pramod Sawant](#) | [Governor – Satya Pal Malik](#)
- [Hungary – Budapest – Forint](#)



20. Australian swimmer Shayna Jack was found guilty of accidental doping and was given a 2-year ban. The 22-year-old swimmer is a 4-time medalist in relays at the 2017 world championships. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shayna Jack (Australia-Swimming) – banned for 2 years due to accidental doping
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

21. Daniil Medvedev of Russia has defeated Dominic Thiem to lift the 51st Edition of “ATP Tour Finals-2020” trophy officially known as “2020 Nitto ATP Finals” and became the 5th player to win this tournament for the first time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Daniil Medvedev (Russia-Tennis) – won the 51st Edition of “ATP Tour Finals-2020” trophy
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

22. Former 1,500 metres world champion Elijah Manangoi of Kenya has been handed a 2-year ban by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) after missing 3 tests under whereabouts rules. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elijah Manangoi (Kenya) – a Middle Distance Runner – handed a 2-year ban by Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU)
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling
- HQs of World Athletics – Monaco | President – Sebastian Coe

23. FIFA has drafted Rules to protect maternity rights of its female football players under new employment rules. The governing body of soccer is preparing to mandate clubs to allow at least 14 weeks of maternity leave paid at a minimum two-thirds of a player's full salary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FIFA – drafted Rules to protect maternity rights of its female football players
- HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

24. Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU) has banned professional tennis player Aleksandrina Naydenova from Bulgaria for life and fined her \$150,000. The player, whose highest career ranking had been 218, was suspended in December 2019 and now has been banned. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aleksandrina Naydenova (Bulgaria-Tennis) – banned for lifetime & fined \$150,000 – by TIU
- HQs of TIU – London, UK | CEO – Jonny Gray
- Bulgaria – Sofia – Lev | President – Rumen Radev

25. Sports Ministry has restored the government recognition to Archery Association of India (AAI) as a Nation Sports Federation (NSF) after 8 years. It was withdrawn 8 years back on account of failure to conduct its elections in accordance with the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011. Government recognition of AAI will be valid for one year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sports Ministry restored the government recognition to 'Archery Association of India' as NSF – for 1 year
- Sports Ministry – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | President – Arjun Munda

26. India all-rounder Hardik Pandya has broken Kedar Jadhav's record and became the fastest Indian batsman to score 1000 ODI runs against Australia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hardik Pandya – became the fastest Indian batsman to score 1000 runs in ODI Cricket

27. Lewis Hamilton has taken his 11th victory of the season in a "Bahrain Grand Prix - 2020" (Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton – won "Bahrain Grand Prix - 2020" (his 11th victory)
- Lewis Hamilton (UK) – drives 'Mercedes'

28. Virat Kohli has achieved yet another record and became the quickest batsman to score 22,000 international runs. He scored 89 in the second ODI against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – became the quickest batsman to score 22,000 international runs

29. Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has launched the 2nd edition of the “Fit India School Week” program on November 25. The virtual event was conducted with the aim to encourage kids to inculcate physical activity and sports in their daily routine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kiren Rijiju – launched the 2nd edition of the “Fit India School Week” program
- Sports Ministry – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West



Important Days & Dates

1. Ahead of the “International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists” on November 2, the Vienna-based International Press Institute (IPI) said in a statement that 52 journalists, including two in India, had died due to their work since October 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 2 – “International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists”
- HQs of IPI – Vienna, Austria | Executive Director – Barbara Trionfi

2. Science and Technology Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Minister of State for Posts Sanjay Dhotre have released the Special Cover of Department of Posts for commemorating the Golden Jubilee (50 years) of Department of Science and Technology at a function in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Department of Posts released the Special Cover to commemorate ‘Golden Jubilee’ of – Dept. of S & T
- Department of Science and Technology was founded in – May, 1971

3. The second largest State of India, Madhya Pradesh has celebrated its 65th foundation day on November 1. Chhattisgarh and 4 other states - Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, and Haryana have also celebrated their foundation day on November 1. Called as 'the heart of India', Madhya Pradesh was founded on November 1, 1956 and it was reorganised on November 1, 2000, to create a new Chhattisgarh state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 1 – 65th foundation day of Madhya Pradesh
- November 1 – Foundation day of Chhattisgarh + Karnataka + Kerala + Punjab + Haryana

4. The World Tsunami Awareness Day 2020 is observed every year on 5 November with an aim to create ways to save lives in view of future disasters. “Strengthening disaster risk governance” is the theme of this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 5 – World Tsunami Awareness Day
- Theme – “Strengthening disaster risk governance”

5. World Vegan Day is celebrated on November 1 annually by vegans across the globe. It is observed to motivate people to follow a vegan lifestyle, which is beneficial for animal welfare and the environment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 1 – “World Vegan Day”

6. “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”

7. “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”

8. “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

9. “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)



10. “Public Service Broadcasting Day” is celebrated every year on November 12 to commemorate the first and last visit of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi to the studio of All India Radio, Delhi in 1947. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 12 – “Public Service Broadcasting Day” – since 2000

11. “World Pneumonia day” is observed every year on November 12 to raise awareness on the disease, to promote interventions to protect against, prevent, and to treat pneumonia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 12 – “World Pneumonia day” – since 2009

12. “World Science Day for Peace and Development” is observed on November 10 every year to raise the importance and relevance of science in our daily lives. This year, the theme is “Science for and with Society in dealing with Covid-19”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 10 – World Science Day for Peace and Development
- Theme – “Science for and with Society in dealing with Covid-19”

13. Every year since 2008, November 11 is celebrated as “National Education Day” to commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Azad was independent India's first education minister from 1947 to 1958. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 11 – “National Education Day” – since 2008
- Birth anniversary of – Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

14. The 25th edition of National Legal Services Day (NLSD) was celebrated on 9th November across India. It commemorates the enactment of the Indian Legal Services Authorities Act 1987. This act entitles women, children, SCs & STs and Persons with Disabilities with free legal aid, irrespective of their income. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 9 – 25th edition of National Legal Services Day



- The day commemorates the enactment of – “Indian Legal Services Authorities Act 1987”

15. The 71st anniversary of “World Town Planning Day” or “World Urbanism Day” was celebrated on November 8, 2020. The notion was presented in 1949, by late Professor Carlos Merla Della Paolera at University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 8 – 71st “World Town Planning Day” or “World Urbanism Day”

16. The International Day of Radiology (IDoR) is celebrated on November 8 and coincides with the anniversary of the discovery of X-rays. The IDoR was first introduced in 2012. The theme for the current year is “Radiologists and radiographers supporting patients during COVID-19”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 8 – International Day of Radiology – since 2012
- Theme – “Radiologists and radiographers supporting patients during COVID-19”

17. The “Ayurveda Day” is being observed every year from 2016, on the day of Dhanwantri Jayanti. This year it falls on 13th November 2020. This year the theme is “Ayurveda for Covid-19”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 13 – 5th “Ayurveda Day” – since 2016
- Theme – “Ayurveda for Covid-19”

18. “World Kindness Day” is celebrated across the globe on November 13 every year to promote the virtue of kindness. World Kindness Day was first launched in 1998 by the World Kindness Movement. This year, the theme was “The World We Make - Inspire Kindness”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 13 – World Kindness Day – since 1998
- Theme – “The World We Make - Inspire Kindness”

19. November 14 has marked the celebration of “World Diabetes Day”. This day is observed every year across the globe to raise awareness about the treatment and prevention of diabetes. This year, the theme was “The Nurse and Diabetes”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 14 – World Diabetes Day | Theme – “The Nurse and Diabetes”

20. “National Press Day” is observed on November 16th every year to commemorate the institution of the Press Council of India. The PCI was instituted on November 16, 1966. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 16 – “National Press Day”
- HQs of PCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Chandramauli Kumar Prasad | Established in – 1966

21. “International Day for Tolerance” is observed every year on November 16 to build tolerance among the cultures and people. In 1996, the UN General Assembly (by resolution 51/95) invited the UN Member States to observe the International Day for Tolerance on 16 November. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 16 – “International Day for Tolerance”
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Volkan Bozkır

22. In 2005, the United Nations had announced “World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims” to be observed every 3rd Sunday in November each year. The WDoR 2020 falls on 15th November. According to WHO's 2018 Global status report on road safety, the number of annual road traffic deaths has reached 1.35 million worldwide. In India alone, 1.5 lakh people die annually in over 500,000 traffic accidents. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 15 – “World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims” – since 2005 by UN (adopted)
- 25th anniversary of WDoR observation & 15th anniversary of being adopted by the UN

23. “Children's Day” also known as ‘Bal Diwas’ is celebrated in India annually on the 14th of November. It mostly focuses on increasing the awareness in children about their rights, care and education. It is celebrated on 14th November as a tribute to India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. This year marks the 131st birth anniversary of Chacha Nehru. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 14 – “Children's Day in India” (131st birth anniversary of 1st PM of India - Jawaharlal Nehru)
- November 20 – “World Children’s Day” or “International Children’s Day”



24. “Lung Cancer Awareness Month” is observed every year during the month of November to raise awareness about this menacing disease and to provide aid to those who are suffering from it. With over 2 million new cases detected every year, Lung cancer is the most common cancer worldwide. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November – “Lung Cancer Awareness Month”

25. The “International Students’ Day” is celebrated every year on November 17 to focus on availing education for all students. The day aims to ensure that every student has access to education around the globe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 17 – “International Students’ Day”

26. In India, November 17 is observed every year as “National Epilepsy Day” to create awareness about epilepsy. It is celebrated by the Epilepsy Foundation to educate people about the epilepsy disease and its treatment methods. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 17 – “National Epilepsy Day”

27. The World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) is celebrated from November 18 to November 24 every year by the World Health Organization (WHO). The slogan for this year is ‘Antimicrobials: handle with care’ and the theme for the human health sector is “United to preserve antimicrobials”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 18-24 – “World Antimicrobial Awareness Week” – by the WHO
- Theme – “United to preserve antimicrobials”

28. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has greeted the people of Jharkhand on the state's formation day on November 15. He also paid tributes to tribal leader Birsa Munda on his birth anniversary on the same day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 15 – 21st Formation day of Jharkhand
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

29. On November 19, “International Men’s Day” is celebrated across the world to acknowledge the struggles of men and the importance of their well-being. The theme of International Men’s Day is “Better health for Men and Boys”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 – “International Men’s Day”
- Theme – “Better health for Men and Boys”

30. On November 19, Women’s Entrepreneurship Day was marked to support women in business worldwide and to support and remove barriers to women’s economic recovery and empowerment, and entrepreneurship. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 – “Women’s Entrepreneurship Day”

31. The United Nations has marked November 19 as “World Toilet Day” to raise awareness about access to hygienic toilets and the human costs of unsafe sanitation. The annual event was adopted by the UN in 2013. This year, World Toilet Day focuses on sustainable sanitation and climate change. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 – UN’s “World Toilet Day” – since 2013
- Theme – “Sustainable sanitation and climate change”

32. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has paid tribute to former Prime Minister and his grandmother Indira Gandhi on the occasion of her 103rd birth anniversary on November 19, 2020. He visited ‘Shakti Sthala’, the memorial of Indira Gandhi in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rahul Gandhi – paid tribute to former PM Indira Gandhi on her 103rd birth anniversary – on November 19
- ‘Shakti Sthala’ – the memorial of Indira Gandhi in New Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

33. Every year, the third Wednesday of November is observed as “World COPD Day” to raise awareness about the chronic inflammatory lung condition. This year, the day falls on November 18. The theme for this year is “Living well with COPD - Everybody, Everywhere”. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- November 18 – World COPD Day (3rd Wednesday)
- Theme – “Living well with COPD - Everybody, Everywhere”
- COPD – Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

34. World Philosophy Day is celebrated each year on the third Thursday of November. The 2020 edition of World Philosophy Day was celebrated on November 19 & 20. This year, the theme is “The importance of philosophy in times of crisis”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 & 20 – World Philosophy Day (3rd Thursday of November)
- Theme – “The importance of philosophy in times of crisis”

35. The United Nations General Assembly, in 1989, has proclaimed 20th November as “Africa Industrialization Day”. Since then, the United Nations System has held events on that day throughout the world to raise awareness about the importance of Africa’s industrialization and the challenges faced by the continent. This year, the theme was “Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the AfCFTA era”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 20 – “Africa Industrialization Day” – by the UN since 1989
- Theme – “Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the AfCFTA era”

36. Indian Army has celebrated the 240th Corps of Engineers Day on November 18. In a solemn ceremony organized at ‘National War Memorial’, Lt Gen SK Shrivastava, Engineer-in-Chief along with other serving officers, has laid wreaths and paid homage to the brave soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 18 – 240th “Corps of Engineers Day” – celebrated by Indian Army
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – SK Saini

37. Every year, the world celebrates “World Television Day” on November 21 to acknowledge the importance of visual media. The first World Television Forum was celebrated on November 21 in 1996 and the day later came to be known as World Television Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 21 – “World Television Day” – since 1996



38. Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has chaired an event to mark “National Newborn Week 2020”, being observed from November 15-21. The theme of National Newborn Week this year is “Quality, Equity, Dignity for every newborn at every health facility and everywhere”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 15-21 – “National Newborn Week 2020”
- Theme – “Quality, Equity, Dignity for every newborn at every health facility and everywhere”

39. “World Fisheries Day” is observed every year on 21st of November to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher-folk communities, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 21 – “World Fisheries Day”

40. World Children's Day (Universal Children's Day) is observed on November 20 every year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide and improving children's welfare. This year, the theme was “Investing in our future means investing in our children”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 20 – “World Children's Day”
- Theme – “Investing in our future means investing in our children”

41. National Cadet Corps (NCC), the largest uniformed youth organisation in the world, has celebrated its 72nd Raising Day on November 22. The Defence Secretary Dr. Ajay Kumar and DG NCC Lt Gen Rajeev Chopra laid wreaths on behalf of the entire NCC fraternity. Unity and discipline is the motto of NCC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 22 – 72nd Raising Day of National Cadet Corps (NCC)
- Motto – “Unity & Discipline”

42. The Indian Pharmaceutical Association-Delhi State Branch (IPADSB) in collaboration with Delhi Pharmaceutical Trust (DPT) celebrated the inaugural function of the 59th National Pharmacy Week (NPW) on November 15, 2020. The theme of the NPW this year is “Pharmacists: Frontline Health Professionals” and will be celebrated throughout the country from November 16-22, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 16-22 – 59th National Pharmacy Week



- Theme – “Pharmacists: Frontline Health Professionals”

43. PM Narendra Modi has attended the 100th Centennial Foundation Day celebration of the University of Lucknow and released a centennial commemorative coin of Rs.100 and a special commemorative postal stamp on the occasion via video conferencing on November 25. The Lucknow University was established in 1920. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – attended the 100th Centennial Foundation Day celebration of the ‘University of Lucknow’
- He also released a centennial commemorative coin of Rs.100 and a special commemorative postal stamp

44. The UNESCO's “World Heritage Week” is celebrated every year from November 19th to 25th in order to raise awareness about values, recognise the richness in our culture and promote conservation of our heritage. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 19 to 25 – UNESCO's World Heritage Week
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

45. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has commenced “Aviation Safety Awareness Week 2020” from November 23 to 27. The week-long celebration was observed at all airports and ANS locations managed by AAI across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 23 to 27 – “Aviation Safety Awareness Week 2020” – by AAI
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Arvind Singh

46. Martyrdom Day of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Guru of Sikhs, was observed on 24 November across the country. The martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur is remembered as Shaheedi Divas every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 24 – “Martyrdom Day of Guru Tegh Bahadur” or “Shaheedi Divas”
- Guru Tegh Bahadur – 9th Guru of Sikhs

47. “International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women” is observed every year across the globe on November 25 to bring attention to this serious concern and bring an end to persistent violence against women and girls. The day was designated by the United Nations General Assembly. This year the theme is “Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 25 – International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- Theme – “Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect”

48. On November 26, 1949, the Constituent Assembly adopted the Constitution of India, and it came into effect on January 26, 1950. Therefore, January 26 is celebrated as “Republic Day” and November 26 has been observed as the “Constitution Day” or “Samvidhan Divas” or “National Law Day” since 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 26 – 71st “Constitution Day” or “Samvidhan Divas” or “National Law Day” – since 2015
- On November 26, 1949 – the Constitution of India was adopted (Effective from – January 26, 1950)

49. Every year India celebrates the “National Milk Day” on November 26. India is the largest producer of milk and this day celebrates the importance the calcium-rich drink holds in our life. The day is basically dedicated to honour Dr Verghese Kurien, who is known as the father of India's White Revolution. This year marks his 99th Birth Anniversary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 26 – “National Milk Day”
- Dedicated to – 99th Birth Anniversary of ‘Dr Verghese Kurien’ (The father of India's White Revolution)
- India – the largest producer of milk in the world

50. Every year, the World Investor Week (WIW) is celebrated from November 23-29 by IOSCO (International Organization of Securities Commissions). The SEBI has been participating in the celebrations as the national coordinator since 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 23-29 – “World Investor Week” - by IOSCO (SEBI participating as national coordinator since 2017)
- HQs of IOSCO – Madrid, Spain | Secretary General – Paul P. Andrews
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | ED – G P Garg

51. “The Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare” is observed each year on 30 November. The Day urges countries to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons through the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The Chemical Weapons Convention was adopted in 1993 and it came into effect on 29th April 1997. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 30 – “The Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare”
- The Chemical Weapons Convention was adopted in 1993 (effective from 1997)

52. “The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People” is observed each year on 29 November. Established in 1977, it marks the day in 1947 when the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution partitioning Palestine into an Arab State and a Jewish State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 29 – “The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People” (since – 1977)
- HQs of UNGA – NewYork, USA | President – Volkan Bozkır

53. Every year on November 24, “Lachit Divas” is celebrated across Assam to remember the valor of ‘Chao Lachit Borphukan’ an army general of Ahom Kingdom. During the Battle of Saraighat in 1671, the legendary Ahom general had defeated the mighty Mughal forces led by Ramsingh and overcome all challenges. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 24 – “Lachit Divas” – across Assam (to remember ‘Chao Lachit Borphukan’)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

1. BRICS Business Forum was held via video conference on October 20-28, 2020 under the slogan "BRICS Business Partnership: Common Vision for Sustainable Inclusive Development". It was held under the chairmanship of Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BRICS Business Forum – held under the chairmanship of 'Russia'
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS – Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021

2. India and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Troika have held their "Annual Political Dialogue" in virtual mode to explore newer areas of cooperation across sectors including sustainable development, climate change and countering pandemic. External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, led the Indian delegation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + GCC = held "Annual Political Dialogue" – led by 'S. Jaishankar'
- HQs of GCC – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | Secretary-General – Abdullatif Bin Rashid Al Zayani

3. The 8th "India - UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments" hosted by India. It has decided among other things to prioritise normalisation of air transport operations between the two countries. The Joint Task Force meeting held in a virtual format was led by Piyush Goyal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India hosted the 8th "India - UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments" – led by Piyush Goyal
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra

4. The RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and other central bank governors in the South East Asian nations vowed to work in tandem to fight against the Coronavirus pandemic at the 40th meeting of the SAARC FINANCE Governors' Group chaired by Shaktikanta Das. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shaktikanta Das (India) – chaired the 40th meeting of the SAARC FINANCE Governors' Group
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- HQs of SAARC – Kathmandu, Nepal | Secretary Generals – Amjad Hussain B Sial



5. 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

6. 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)

7. 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"

8. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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



9. 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](#)

10. 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 \(Constituency – Maharashtra\)](#)

11. 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](#)

12. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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](#)

13. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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

14. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has attended the 1st BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting under the Chairmanship of Russia. The BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors also discussed expansion of the membership of the New Development Bank (NDB). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – attended the 1st BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting
- The Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of – Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS – Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021

15. Foreign Secretary Dr. Harshvardhan Shringla has concluded a visit to Male, Maldives held from November 8-10, 2020. It is the first high-level bilateral visit from India to the Maldives this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harshvardhan Shringla – concluded the 2-day & first High-Level Bilateral visit to – Male, Maldives
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- Foreign Secretary of India – Dr. Harshvardhan Shringla

16. Hardeep Singh Puri has inaugurated the 13th “Urban Mobility India Conference 2020” organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on 9th November 2020. The main theme of this year’s event is “Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility”. It is aimed to keep cities up-to-date with best urban transport practices. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hardeep Singh Puri – inaugurated the 13th “Urban Mobility India Conference 2020” – organised by MoHUA
- Theme – “Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility”

17. PM Narendra Modi has addressed the 20th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Council of Heads of State (SCO-CHS) meeting which was chaired by Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – addressed the 20th SCO Council of Heads of State meeting chaired by – Russia
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

18. The Second World Health Expo is held in Hubei's capital city Wuhan from November 11 to 14. It features 12 different venues for audiences to experience the most frontier health technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Second World Health Expo – held in Wuhan, China – from November 11 to 14
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

19. Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with Vietnamese counterpart HE Nguyen Xuan Phuc, has co-chaired the 17th ASEAN-India Summit on November 12. The leaders of all ten ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) member states will participate in the virtual summit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi (India) + Nguyen Xuan Phuc (Vietnam) = co-chaired the 17th ASEAN-India Summit
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 – Vietnam | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia | MC – 10 countries
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese Dong | PM – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

20. India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador T S Tirumurti has addressed the 44th Annual Meeting of the G-77 Foreign Ministers. India has pledged 15 million dollars for GAVI (the Vaccine Alliance) and operationalised the COVID-19 Emergency Fund for India's neighbours with an initial contribution of 10 million dollars. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- T S Tirumurti – addressed the 44th Annual Meeting of the G-77 Foreign Ministers
- India – pledged 15 million dollars for GAVI (the Vaccine Alliance)
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador – T S Tirumurti
- HQs of Gavi – Geneva, Switzerland | CEO – Dr Seth Berkley

21. Apple Inc has hosted a virtual event called “One More Thing” on November 10 where the American technology giant is expected to unveil a new line-up of Apple Silicon-powered Mac notebooks and computers. The event was hosted virtually from the Apple Park. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Apple Inc – hosted a virtual event called “One More Thing”
- Apple Park – located in California, USA
- HQs of Apple – California, United States | CEO – Tim Cook

22. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has represented India at the 15th East Asia Summit (EAS). The virtual summit meeting was chaired by the Prime Minister of Vietnam, Nguyen Xuan Phuc. The 14th East Asia Summit was held in Bangkok on November 4, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Jaishankar – represented India at the 15th East Asia Summit (EAS) – under ASEAN | Chaired by – Vietnam
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 – Vietnam | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia | MC – 10 countries
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

23. The Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Russia organized the 8th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting to discuss S & T cooperation among the member countries. Dr Harsh Vardhan has represented India in this Meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan participated in – the 8th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting
- The meeting was organised by – Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS – Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021

24. Prime minister Narendra Modi has attended the 12th BRICS Summit hosted by Russia on November 17. The theme for this year’s summit has been decided as “Global stability, shared security and innovative growth”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Narendra Modi – attended the 12th BRICS Summit – hosted by Russia
- Theme – “Global stability, shared security and innovative growth”

25. The UK government has announced the first principal partners for the UN climate conference - “COP26” scheduled for November 1-12, 2021 in Glasgow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The UN climate conference “COP26” – will be held in Glasgow, UK – in 2021
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM of UK – Boris Johnson](#)

26. India and Kazakhstan have held the 7th round of Foreign Office Consultations (FoC) via digital video-conference and reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral cooperation within the framework of their Strategic Partnership. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India and Kazakhstan – held the 7th round of Foreign Office Consultations (FoC)
- [Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge](#)

27. PM Narendra Modi has addressed the 3rd Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum on 17th November 2020. The Bloomberg New Economy Forum was established in 2018 by Michael Bloomberg. The inaugural Forum was held in Singapore (1st) and the second annual Forum was hosted in Beijing (2nd). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – addressed the 3rd “Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum” virtually
- [Bloomberg New Economy Forum established in – 2018 – by Michael Bloomberg](#)

28. Dr. Harsh Vardhan has addressed a ministerial meeting of the Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention hosted by UNAIDS (United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) and UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund). The conference this year holds significance in achieving the 2016 UNGA commitment to end AIDS by 2030. Member states of GPC had agreed to reduce new adult HIV infections by 75% at the end of 2020 from 2010 levels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – addressed a ministerial meeting of the Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention
- It was hosted by – UNAIDS & UNFPA

- Member states of GPC agreed to reduce new adult HIV infections by 75% – at the end of 2020

29. The 23rd edition of the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 19. He will be the second Prime minister to inaugurate the summit after his predecessor Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared the summit open 22 years ago. The theme of the summit was “Next is Now”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 23rd edition of the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS)
- Theme – “Next is Now”

30. PM Narendra Modi has held a virtual “India-Luxembourg Bilateral Summit” with his Luxembourg counterpart Xavier Bettel. India and Luxembourg signed 3 bilateral agreements mainly in the financial sector, even as both countries reaffirmed the need to finalise an India-EU FTA at the earliest. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Luxembourg = held a virtual India-Luxembourg Bilateral Summit
- [Luxembourg – Luxembourg – Euro | PM – Xavier Bettel](#)

31. The 12th Counter Terrorism Dialogue was held virtually between India and the European Union (EU). It will be the first time that India and EU will designate certain terror groups and individuals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 12th Counter Terrorism Dialogue held virtually between – India & European Union (EU)
- [HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | President – Ursula von der Leyen | Member Countries – 27](#)

32. The 15th G20 Leaders’ Summit is chaired by Saudi Arabia and is attended by heads of state and government of the 19 member countries and representatives of the European Union and international organisations. From India, PM Narendra Modi has addressed the Summit. The theme of the summit was “Realising the opportunities of 21st Century for all”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi addressed – the 15th G20 Leaders’ Summit – chaired by Saudi Arabia
- Theme – “Realising the opportunities of 21st Century for all”
- [Saudi Arab – Riyadh – Saudi Riyal](#)



33. India will now host the Group of 20 Summit in 2023, a year later than what was decided earlier. G20 Riyadh Summit leaders stated that next meetings of G20 are supposed to be held in Italy in 2021, Indonesia in 2022, India in 2023 and Brazil in 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Presidency of G20 (Group of 20) Summit: 2020 – Saudi Arabia | 2021 – Italy | 2022 – Indonesia | 2023 – India | 2024 – Brazil

34. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 3rd Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo (RE-INVEST 2020) on November 26 to woo investors for investing in clean energy in India. India has set an ambitious target of having 175GW of renewable energy by 2022 and 450GW by 2030. During the last 6 years, over Rs 4.7 lakh Cr were invested. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 3rd Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo (RE-INVEST 2020)
- Targets of renewable Energy: 175GW by 2022 & 450GW by 2030

35. Over 2,000 representatives from 132 countries attended the virtual 4th “Global Conference on Criminal Finances and Cryptocurrencies” organised by the Interpol, Europol and the Basel Institute on Governance (Switzerland) from November 18 to 19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 4th “Global Conference on Criminal Finances and Cryptocurrencies” – from November 18 to 19
- The Conference was organised by = Interpol, Europol & Basel Institute on Governance (Switzerland)
- HQs of Interpol – Lyon, France | President – Kim Jong Yang
- HQs of Europol – The Hague, Netherlands | Executive Director – Catherine De Bolle

36. The 27th “Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Meeting - 2020” was held virtually on November 20 under the Chairmanship of Malaysia. The Meeting was held with a theme “Optimising Human Potential towards a Resilient Future of Shared Prosperity Pivot Prioritise Progress”. The 2020 Kuala Lumpur Declaration and APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 were issued afterward, marking the result of the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Malaysia – hosted the 27th “APEC Leaders' Meeting - 2020” on November 20
- Theme – “Optimising Human Potential towards a Resilient Future of Shared Prosperity Pivot Prioritise Progress”
- HQs of APEC – Singapore | Chairperson – Muhyiddin Yassin | Founded in – 1989 | Countries – 21

37. The 7th Joint Trade Committee Meeting between India and Myanmar was held virtually. The Meeting was co-chaired by Union Minister for Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar Dr. Than Myint and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 7th Joint Trade Committee Meeting between India and Myanmar – co-chaired by ‘Piyush Goyal’
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint

38. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has chaired the “PRAGATI” meeting. It marked Prime Minister’s 33rd interaction through PRAGATI - the ICT based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Central and State government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – chaired the 33rd “PRAGATI” meeting

39. President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the two-day 80th All India Presiding Officers’ Conference at Kevadiya, Gujarat. The conference was organised on the theme “Harmonious coordination between Legislature, Executive and Judiciary - Key to a vibrant democracy”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – inaugurated the two-day 80th All India Presiding Officers’ Conference – at Kevadiya, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

40. Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has chaired & addressed a virtual National Conference on “Empowering through Zero-Shunya Se Sashaktikaran” organised by Sri Aurobindo Society on 24th November, 2020. He has also launched “Innovation and Leadership Casebook - Covid Edition”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal – addressed a National Conference on “Empowering through Zero-Shunya Se Sashaktikaran”
- The Conference was organised by – Sri Aurobindo Society
- Ramesh Pokhriyal – launched “Innovation and Leadership Casebook - Covid Edition”
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

41. India has hosted the 19th Heads of Government (HoG) Council Meeting of the eight-nation Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) which will be chaired by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – hosted the 19th SCO Heads of Government Council Meeting – chaired by M. Venkaiah Naidu
- [HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | Member Countries – 8](#)

42. The 4th “NSA (National Security Advisor) Level Meeting on Trilateral Maritime Security Cooperation” was recently held between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives. India was represented by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval. The meeting was hosted by Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 4th NSA Level Meeting on Trilateral Maritime Security Cooperation – held between India, Sri Lanka & Maldives
- India was represented by – Ajit Doval | The meeting was hosted by – Sri Lanka
- [Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee](#)
- [PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa](#)

43. The 1st edition of “Healthcare Future Summit” is set to take place virtually from 6-8 December 2020 in Dubai under the theme “Bringing Healthcare Communities Together”. It will bring together the world’s most prominent healthcare specialists, to discuss the most pressing topics in the healthcare field. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The first edition of “Healthcare Future Summit” – to take place virtually from 6-8 December 2020 – in Dubai, UAE
- Theme – “Bringing Healthcare Communities Together”



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

1. “The Emmett Leahy Award-2020” was conferred on Dinesh Katre from the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune. Katre, who heads the Human-Centered Design and Computing Group at C-DAC, is the first Indian to bag this award. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dinesh Katre – won “The Emmett Leahy Award-2020”
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director & HoD – Dinesh Katre

2. Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar's drama “Gully Boy” has won the “Best Original Music Award” for musician Karsh Kale and the Salvage Audio Collective at the 14th Annual Asian Film Awards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Gully Boy” movie – won “Best Original Music Award” – for musician ‘Karsh Kale’ & ‘Salvage Audio Collective’
- “Gully Boy” movie – directed by Zoya Akhtar

3. HDFC Bank Ltd has been voted “Most Outstanding Company - Financial Sector” in India, in a poll conducted by the well-known publication Asiamoney. Over 824 fund managers, buy-side analysts, bankers and research analysts voted across 12 markets in Asia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – voted “Most Outstanding Company - Financial Sector” in India – in a poll conducted by ‘Asiamoney’
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

4. Indian Army Chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane was conferred the honorary rank of General of the Nepali Army by President Bidya Devi Bhandari at a special ceremony. He was accompanied by Indian Ambassador Kwatra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane – conferred the honorary rank of General of the Nepali Army
- Vinay M Kwatra – Indian Ambassador to Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari



5. Writer Paul Zacharia has been selected for the 28th “Ezhuthachan Puraskaram”, the highest literary honour of the Kerala government. He was chosen for the award for his contributions to Malayalam literature and thought for the past fifty years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paul Zacharia – selected for the 28th “Ezhuthachan Puraskaram” - the highest literary honour of the ‘Kerala’
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

6. “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

7. 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

8. “Natkhat”, starring and co-produced by Vidya Balan & directed by Shaan Vyas, has won the top prize at the third edition of “Best of India Short Film Festival 2020”, which makes it eligible for Oscar nomination. The film has been showcased at the 2020 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne, London Indian Film Festival. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Natkhat” movie – won the 3rd edition of “Best of India Short Film Festival 2020”
- The movie became eligible for Oscar nomination
- Directed by Shaan Vyas | Co-produced by Vidya Balan

9. A professor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) Dr K S Subramanian has been chosen for the “Fertiliser Association of India Golden Jubilee Award” for his contribution to the field of nano-fertilisers and its role in improved use while ensuring environmental safety. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr K S Subramanian chosen for – “Fertiliser Association of India Golden Jubilee Award”

10. The “Emporis’ Skyscraper Award-2020”, one of the world's most renowned prizes for high-rise architecture, has been given to a 462-metre-high Lakhta Center in St. Petersburg, Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lakhta Center (Russia) – “Emporis’ Skyscraper Award-2020” (Height of the building - 462-metre)
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin](#)

11. HelpAge India has been chosen as laureate in the ‘institutional category’ for the 2020 United Nations Population Award. The virtual award ceremony will take place on 10 December 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HelpAge India – won the “UN Population Award-2020” – in the institutional category
- [HQs of HelpAge India – New Delhi | CEO – Rohit Prasad](#)

12. A Bangladeshi teen Sadat Rahman has been awarded the “International Children’s Peace Prize” for his work to stop cyber bullying of teens. The award was given away by the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai during a ceremony in the Netherlands. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sadat Rahman (Bangladesh) – awarded “International Children’s Peace Prize”
- Award given for – His work to stop cyber bullying of teens
- [Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid](#)

13. Society of Biological Chemists (India) has chosen Dr Susanta Kar (Senior Scientist at Molecular Parasitology and Immunology, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow) for this year's “Prof. A N Bhaduri Memorial Lecture Award” for his significant contributions towards defining the survival tactics of Leishmania donovani. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Dr Susanta Kar – awarded with “Prof. A N Bhaduri Memorial Lecture Award” – by Society of Biological Chemists
- HQs of Society of Biological Chemists – Bengaluru, Karnataka

14. A girl named Abhijita Gupta has been recognized as the ‘World's Youngest Writer’ by the International Book of Records. At the tender age of 7, she has also been awarded with the title 'Grandmaster of Writing' by the Asia Book of Records for her poetry and prose writing prowess. The young girl belongs to the 3rd generation of the renowned poet, Maithilisharan Gupt. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abhijita Gupta (Uttar Pradesh) – recognized as the ‘World's Youngest Writer’ by International Book of Records
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

15. Kerala Tourism has been bestowed the “Highly Commended” Award by ‘World Travel Mart’, London, as a recognition for its remarkable activities aimed at promoting Responsible Tourism (RT) during the challenging times of COVID-19 pandemic. Kerala's Responsible Tourism (RT) Mission received this recognition in the category of “Meaningful Connections”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala's Responsible Tourism (RT) Mission – received “Highly Commended” Award by ‘World Travel Mart’
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

16. Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President Narinder Batra was conferred with the “Capital Foundation National Award” for his contribution to sports. He was honoured with the award at the “Capital Foundation Annual Lecture and Awards 2020” which was held online to commemorate the 106th birth anniversary of renowned jurist, Justice Krishna Iyer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narinder Batra – conferred with the “Capital Foundation National Award” – for his contribution to sports
- HQs of IOA – New Delhi | President – Narinder Dhruv Batra | Secretary General – Rajeev Mehta

17. Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ has launched “Lilavati Awards 2020” on November 17. It is an initiative by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). The theme of the award was “Women Empowerment” and this award intends to recognize the efforts being made by AICTE approved institutions to treat women with ‘equality and fairness’ in all spheres of their lives. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' – launched “Lilavati Awards 2020” – by AICTE
- Theme – “Women Empowerment”
- HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairman – Anil D. Sahasrabudhe

18. Bish Agrawal (Chairman of Accord Group India) has been awarded the Association for Executive Search and Leadership Consulting (AESC) Lifetime Achievement Award. He is the first Asian to receive this recognition in AESC history. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bish Agrawal – awarded the AESC Lifetime Achievement Award (first Asian)
- HQs of AESC – New York, USA
- HQs of Accord Group India – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Bish Agrawal

19. New York-based Scottish writer Douglas Stuart has won the “2020 Booker Prize” for his debut novel ‘Shuggie Bain’, a coming of age story set in Glasgow, beating Indian-origin author Avni Doshi, who was shortlisted among the final 6 authors for her debut novel ‘Burnt Sugar’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Douglas Stuart (Scotland) – won the “2020 Booker Prize” – for his ‘Shuggie Bain’ novel
- Debut novel ‘Burnt Sugar’ – by Avni Doshi (lost in final)

20. Dr. Adam Yao Liu (a political scientist trained at Stanford University) was declared the winner of “EXIM Bank's BRICS Economic Research Award 2020” during the 10th Annual BRICS Financial Forum, hosted virtually by the Russia's State Development Corporation on November 16, 2020. It was given for his Ph.D. dissertation, “Building Markets within Authoritarian Institutions: The Political Economy of Banking Development in China.” [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Adam Yao Liu – won the “EXIM Bank's BRICS Economic Research Award 2020”
- 10th Annual BRICS Financial Forum – hosted Russia
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS – Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021

21. On the occasion of World Toilet Day on November 19, Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has conferred the “Swachhata Award-2020” (Swachhata Puraskar) on Siang district for being one of the 20 best-performing



districts of the country. The awards were given via a virtual ceremony organized by the Jal Shakti Ministry's drinking water & sanitation department. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jal Shakti Ministry – conferred “Swachhata Award-2020” (Swachhata Puraskar) – on Siang, Arunachal Pradesh
- Jal Shakti Minister – Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

22. Actor Richa Chadha has been awarded the “Bharat Ratna Ambedkar Award-2020”. The award was given for her significant contribution to Indian cinema. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Richa Chadha (Actor) – awarded the “Bharat Ratna Ambedkar Award-2020”

23. Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ has conferred with the “Vatayan Lifetime Achievement Award” for his exemplary contribution in the field of literature. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ – conferred with the “Vatayan Lifetime Achievement Award”
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

24. Vinisha Umashankar, a 14-year-old studying in 9th grade in Tiruvannamalai, has won the prestigious “Children's Climate Prize-2020” under the ‘2020 Clear Air Category’ at the 5th edition of Children’s Climate Prize. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinisha Umashankar (Tamil Nadu) – won the prestigious “Children's Climate Prize-2020”
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

25. North Police Station located in Kohima, Nagaland has been awarded an ISO certification (ISO 9001:2015 certification). This police station was the first established police station under Naga Hills district by the British Regime in the year 1933. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- North Police Station (Kohima, Nagaland) – awarded an ISO certification
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi



26. Veteran Bollywood actor Naseeruddin Shah was recently honoured with the “Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikhar Puraskar” at Sangit Kala Kendra Awards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naseeruddin Shah – honoured with the “Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikhar Puraskar”

27. Ruskin Bond was conferred with the “Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2020”, while the poet and screenwriter Javed Akhtar was honoured with the “Poet Laureate Award” for his sustained and outstanding contribution to poetry in India. The publisher of the year award was presented to Penguin Random House. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ruskin Bond – conferred with the “Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2020”
- Javed Akhtar – honoured with the “Poet Laureate Award”
- Publisher of the award – Penguin Random House

28. Netflix's India Original series “Delhi Crime”, directed by Indian-Canadian director Richie Mehta, has won the best ‘Drama Series’ honour at the 48th International Emmy Awards. The rest of the awards were given category wise as mentioned below. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 48th International Emmy Awards:
- Best Drama Series – “Delhi Crime” (India) (directed by – Richie Mehta)
- Best Actress – Glenda Jackson (UK)
- Best Actor – Billy Barratt (UK)
- Best Documentary – “For Sama” (UK)

29. “Transboundary Manas Conservation Area” has received the “TX2” Conservation Excellence Award for 2020 for efforts to increase the big cat population. TX2 stands for “Tigers times two”, signaling the goal to double the population of wild tigers by 2022. The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR) has won the first-ever international award “TX2” for doubling the number of tigers (from 25 to 65) in 4 years against a target of 10 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pilibhit Tiger Reserve ([UP](#)) – won the first-ever international award “TX2” for doubling the number of tigers
- Transboundary Manas Conservation Area ([Assam & Bhutan](#)) – received “TX2” Conservation Excellence Award
- [UP: Capital – Lucknow](#) | [CM – Yogi Adityanath](#) | [Governor – Anandiben Patel](#)

30. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan have been nominated for the “Nobel Peace Prize-2021” for their roles in establishing diplomatic ties between their countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Benjamin Netanyahu & Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan = nominated for the “Nobel Peace Prize-2021”
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

31. Malayalam film “Jallikattu”, directed by Lijo Jose Pellissery, has been selected as India’s official entry for the Best International Feature Film category for the 93rd Academy Awards. Jallikattu is the third Malayalam film after Guru (1997) and Adaminte Makan Abu (2011) to be chosen as the country’s official entry for the Oscars. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Jallikattu” (a Malayalam film) – selected as India’s official entry for the 93rd Academy Awards (Oscars-2021)
- The film is directed by – Lijo Jose Pellissery

32. Indo-Japan cooperation has won the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Mutual Agreement Procedure 2019 Award for highest agreement ratio for a pair of jurisdictions for transfer pricing cases. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indo-Japan cooperation – won the “OECD Mutual Agreement Procedure 2019 Award”
- HQs of OECD – Paris, France | Secretary-General – Angel Gurría | Member countries in OECD – 37
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

33. The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) has been selected as an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) ‘Milestone’ facility on November 23. This is the third such IEEE Milestone recognition for an Indian contribution. It is operated by the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), Pune. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (Maharashtra) – selected as the third IEEE ‘Milestone’ facility
- HQs of IEEE – New Jersey, USA | President – James A. Jefferies
- HQs of NCRA – Pune, Maharashtra | Director – Yashwant Gupta

34. Writer-director Keith Gomes' short film titled "Shameless", which released in April last year, is eligible for qualification from India at the 93rd Oscars in the 'Live Action Short Film' category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A short film titled "Shameless" – became eligible for qualification from India at the 93rd Oscars
- Category: 'Live Action Short Film' | Director – Keith Gomes



Appointments & Resignations

1. A well known Indian comic book character, Chacha Chaudhary has been named the brand ambassador for the Namami Gange project. Further, 'NamamiGange' movie on India Science Channel was launched. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chacha Chaudhary – named the Brand Ambassador for the 'Namami Gange project'

2. Additional Chief Secretary of Home Department Sangeeta Singh has been appointed as Vigilance Commissioner of Gujarat following her retirement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sangeeta Singh – appointed as Vigilance Commissioner of Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

3. Chairman, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Dilip Rath has been unanimously elected to the Board of International Dairy Federation (IDF) during the General Assembly of IDF. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dilip Rath – elected to the Board of International Dairy Federation (IDF)
- HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujara | Chairman – Dilip Rath

4. Duarte Pacheco is elected as the President of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) for a 3-year term defeating candidates from Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Canada. The outgoing president is a Mexican MP Gabriela Cuevas Barron, who was elected in October 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Duarte Pacheco – elected as the President of – Inter Parliamentary Union (for a 3-year term)
- HQs of IPU – Geneva, Switzerland | President – Duarte Pacheco

5. Ivory Coast's President Alassane Ouattara has won a controversial third term in office in an election boycotted by the opposition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alassane Ouattara – appointed as the President of – "Ivory Coast" or "Cote d'Ivoire" (3rd term)
- Cote d'Ivoire – Yamoussoukro – CFA franc | President – Alassane Ouattara



6. Maharashtra cadre 1988 batch Indian Administrative Services (IAS) officer Rajiv Jalota has been appointed as the chairman of Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT) under the Union ministry of shipping. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajiv Jalota – appointed as the Chairman of Mumbai Port Trust

7. National carrier Air India's regional subsidiary Alliance Air has announced Harpreet A De Singh as its chief executive officer, making her the first woman head to lead an Indian Airline. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harpreet A De Singh – appointed as the 1st woman CEO of – Alliance Air
- [HQs of Alliance Air – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Harpreet A De Singh](#)

8. Nutrition brand Wellversed has roped in cricketer Yuvraj Singh as brand ambassador for three years. The company also closed its Pre-Series a funding round from Singh's YWC Ventures. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yuvraj Singh – appointed as brand ambassador of – “Wellversed” - a Nutrition brand (for 3 years)
- [HQs of Wellversed – Gurugram, Haryana | Co-Founder & CEO – Aanan Khurma](#)

9. ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), the overseas arm of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has announced A K Gupta has taken over as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A K Gupta – appointed as MD & CEO of – ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL)
- [HQs of ONGC Videsh Ltd – New Delhi | MD & CEO – A K Gupta](#)
- [HQs of ONGC – New Delhi | CMD – Sashi Shanker](#)

10. Plant-based nutrition brand, Oziva has roped in south cine star Samantha Prabhu Akkineni to represent the brand in South India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Samantha Prabhu Akkineni – appointed as Brand Ambassador of – “Oziva” a Plant-based Nutrition Brand

11. Priyanka Radhakrishnan has become the first-ever Indian-origin Minister of New Zealand. She was elected first as a Member of Parliament belonging to the Labour Party in September 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Priyanka Radhakrishnan – became the first-ever Indian-origin Minister of New Zealand
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | PM – Jacinda Ardern

12. Syska Group, the fast moving electrical goods (FMEG) company, has roped in Bollywood actor Rajkummar Rao as its new Brand Ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajkummar Rao – appointed as Brand Ambassador of – Syska Group

13. Tanzania's President John Magufuli has won re-election with a landslide victory in a poll that the opposition has described as fraudulent. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- John Magufuli – re-elected as the President of – Tanzania
- Tanzania – Dodoma – Tanzanian shilling | President – John Magufuli

14. The Board of Cricket Control in India (BCCI) has announced Jio as the Title sponsor for the 3rd season of the Twenty20 tournament, starting November 4 in Sharjah. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Jio – announced as the Title sponsor for the 3rd season of the “T20 Tournament” – in Sharjah, UAE
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Ethics Officer – D K Jain

15. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched a special 10-day campaign to identify people suffering from tuberculosis (TB) in the state. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has pledged to make India TB-free by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched a special 10-day campaign to identify people suffering from tuberculosis (TB)
- India's pledge to make India TB-free by – 2025
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

16. 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](#)

17. 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](#)

18. 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 – Volkan Bozkır | Member Countries – 193](#)

19. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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

20. 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

21. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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

22. FMCG brand Priyagold has announced the appointment of actor Kiara Advani as its brand ambassador and celebrity endorser across their varied range of products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kiara Advani – appointed as Brand Ambassador of – ‘Priyagold’ FMCG brand
- HQs of Priyagold – Noida, Uttar Pradesh

23. Indian Oil Corp (IOC) director Akshay Kumar Singh will be the new Managing Director and CEO of India's biggest gas importer, Petronet LNG Ltd. He has replaced Prabhat Singh who completed his five-year term on September 13. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akshay Kumar Singh – appointed as MD and CEO of – Petronet LNG Ltd (by replacing - Prabhat Singh)
- HQs of Petronet LNG Ltd – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Akshay Kumar Singh

24. West Indies pace legend Michael Holding has been appointed as a patron of the MCC Foundation, the charitable arm of the Marylebone Cricket Club. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Michael Holding – appointed as a patron of the MCC Foundation
- HQs of MCC – London, UK | CEO – Derek Brewer

25. The Aung San Suu Kyi-led National League for Democracy (NLD) has confirmed its majority in the just concluded national elections of Myanmar and elected as State Counsellor of Myanmar. Myanmar was liberated from Military rule in 2011. This will be her second term as State Counsellor and second victory for her party NLD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aung San Suu Kyi – elected as State Counsellor of – Myanmar (her 2nd term)
- Party – National League for Democracy (NLD)
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint

26. Indian-American Kash Patel has been named as the Chief of Staff to the Acting US Defence Secretary Chris Miller. Kashyap Pramod Patel, or popularly known as Kash Patel, had previously served as senior counsel for Counterterrorism at the House Permanent Select Committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kash Patel (Kashyap Pramod Patel) – appointed as the Chief of Staff to the Acting US Defence Secretary
- Chris Miller – Acting US Defence Secretary
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden

27. Math learning Edtech platform, Cuemath has roped in Bollywood actress Vidya Balan as its Brand Ambassador. The campaign slogan aptly backs it up - “Math Karo, Aage Badho”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vidya Balan – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of – Cuemath
- HQs of Cuemath – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Manan Khurma

28. Actor Sonu Sood has been appointed as the Punjab state icon by the Election Commission of India. Belonging to Moga district of Punjab, Sonu Sood has catapulted to the national spotlight for his work in helping migrants reach their homes during the coronavirus-triggered lockdown. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sonu Sood – appointed as the Punjab state icon by the Election Commission of India

- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

29. Nitish Kumar has taken oath as the 37th chief minister of Bihar in November. Two BJP leaders, Tarkishore Prasad and Renu Devi, were sworn in as Deputy Chief Ministers and 14 other ministers took oath. This is Kumar's 4th consecutive term as chief minister and he is associated with Janata Dal (United) (JD). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitish Kumar (JD) – taken oath as the 37th chief minister of Bihar (his 4th consecutive term)
- Tarkishore Prasad & Renu Devi (1st female DCM) – sworn in as Deputy CMs of Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

30. Navneet Munot is set to join HDFC Mutual Fund as its MD & CEO. HDFC Mutual Fund is India's second largest asset manager handling Rs 3.75 lakh Cr of investor money. Currently, he is the Chief Investment Officer of SBI Mutual Fund and will take over the reins of HDFC Mutual Fund after Milind Barve retires in January. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Navneet Munot – to be appointed as the MD & CEO of – HDFC Mutual Fund (in January-2021)
- Currently, he is the Chief Investment Officer of – SBI Mutual Fund
- HQs of HDFC Mutual Fund or AMC – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Milind Barve (From January - Navneet Munot)

31. Moldovan opposition candidate Maia Sandu is set to become the eastern European nation's first female president after a scoring a landslide victory presidential election. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maia Sandu – to become the first female President of – Moldova
- Moldova – Chisinau – Leu

32. Senapathy (Kris) Gopalakrishnan (Co-founder & former Co-Chairman of Infosys) has been appointed as the 1st Chairperson of the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH). In August, the central bank had announced that it will set up the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) to promote innovation across the financial sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kris Gopalakrishnan – appointed as the 1st Chairperson of – Reserve Bank Innovation Hub



- He is Co-founder & former Co-Chairman of 'Infosys'
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh

33. Financepeer, a leader in education fee financing segment in India, has appointed star cricketer Rohit Sharma as its Brand Ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohit Sharma – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of – Financepeer
- HQs of Financepeer – Mumbai, MH | Founder & CEO – Rohit Gajbhiye | Established in – 2017

34. Manuel Merino, interim President of Peru, has resigned following the days of street protests against him. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manuel Merino – resigned from the post of President of – Peru
- Peru – Lima – Sol

35. Vize Health and Hygiene has roped in Indian cricket team captain Virat Kohli as Brand Ambassador for its new personal hygiene and sanitation brand 'Vize'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – appointed as Brand Ambassador of – Vize Health and Hygiene
- HQs of Vize Health and Hygiene – Gurgaon, Haryana | Founder – Akshat Jain

36. Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas has been appointed as the Ambassador of 'Positive Change' by British Fashion Council (BFC). The actress plans to use fashion to inspire future generations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Priyanka Chopra Jonas – appointed as the Ambassador of 'Positive Change' – by British Fashion Council (BFC)
- HQs of BFC – London, UK | Chief Executive – Caroline Rush

37. A. Ajay Kumar (IFS of 2001), presently High Commissioner of India to Uganda, has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to Burundi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- A. Ajay Kumar – appointed as the Ambassador of India to – Burundi
- Burundi – Gitega – Franc

38. According to a Personnel Ministry order, S N Rajeswari, Chairman and MD of Oriental Insurance Company Limited, has been appointed as a whole-time member (distribution) of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for a period of 3 years or till attaining the age of 62 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S N Rajeswari – appointed as a whole-time member (distribution) of the IRDAI – for 3 years
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash C. Khuntia
- HQs of OICL – New Delhi | CMD – S N Rajeswari

39. Francisco Sagasti has been sworn-in as Peru's interim President in a ceremony witnessed by members of the country's Parliament on November 9. The Congress of the Republic of Peru impeached the previous president Martin Vizcarra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Francisco Sagasti – sworn-in as interim President of – Peru
- Peru – Lima – Sol | President – Martin Vizcarra

40. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Girish Chandra Murmu, has been elected as External Auditor of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), Geneva, for a 3-year term. He will take charge of this position from the Supreme Audit Institution of Switzerland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Girish Chandra Murmu – appointed as External Auditor of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) – for 3 years
- The 14th Comptroller Auditor General (CAG) – Girish Chandra Murmu (G. C. Murmu)

41. Haeal, a personal wellness brand from Kerala, has signed Indian cricketer Sanju Samson as its Brand Ambassador. Launched in 2015, Haeal offers a wide range of natural health supplements, household and personal care products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanju Samson – appointed as Brand Ambassador of – Haeal (Kerala)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

42. India's only individual Olympic gold-medallist shooter Abhinav Bindra was named event Ambassador of the 16th "Airtel Delhi Half Marathon" held on November 29. Bindra had won the gold medal in the 10m air rifle event at the Beijing Olympics in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abhinav Bindra – named event Ambassador of the 16th "Airtel Delhi Half Marathon"

43. Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary has been appointed as the new Director-General of the Border Roads Organisation. And Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh who is presently the Director-General of Border Roads Organisation, has been appointed as the new Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajeev Chaudhary – appointed as Director-General of the Border Roads Organisation
- Harpal Singh – appointed as Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary

44. PagarBook, a staff management solutions provider company, has signed Bollywood star Akshay Kumar as its Brand Ambassador till 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Akshay Kumar – appointed as Brand Ambassador of 'PagarBook' till 2022
- HQs of PagarBook – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Co Founder – Rupesh Kumar Mishra

45. New Zealand's Greg Barclay has been elected as the International Cricket Council's new independent Chairman. He will replace Interim Chairman Imran Khwaja. He was also a director of the men's World Cup that was jointly held by Australia and New Zealand in 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Greg Barclay (New Zealand) – elected as the new Chairman of – International Cricket Council (ICC)
- HQs of ICC – Dubai, UAE | Chairman – Greg Barclay | CEO – Manu Sawhney

46. President Roch Marc Christian Kabore has won the 2nd term for another five years as Burkina Faso's President. Kabore has won with nearly 58% of the vote, beating 12 opponents and claiming victory in the first round. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Roch Marc Christian Kabore – won the 2nd term as President of – Burkina Faso



- Burkina Faso – Ouagadougou – CFA franc | President – Roch Marc Christian Kabore

47. Prof. Achyuta Samanta of Odisha has been elected unopposed as the President of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI). Raj Kumar of Punjab has been elected as Executive Vice President, while nine others were elected as Vice Presidents of VFI. Anil Choudhury of Rajasthan has been elected unopposed as Secretary General of VFI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Achyuta Samanta (Odisha) – elected as the President of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI)
- Raj Kumar (Punjab) – elected as Executive Vice President of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI)
- HQs of VFI – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | President – Achyuta Samanta

48. Academy Award-winning Music Composer A R Rahman was appointed as the Ambassador for the “British Academy of Film and Television Arts” (BAFTA) ‘Breakthrough Initiative’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A R Rahman – appointed as the Ambassador for the “British Academy of Film and Television Arts” (BAFTA)

49. Hissein Brahim Taha has been elected as the 47th Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). He will replace Youssef Al-Othaimeen. He will take over the post in November 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hissein Brahim Taha – elected as the 47th Secretary-General of the OIC (from November 2021)
- HQs of OIC – Jeddah, Saudi Arabia | Secretary-General – Youssef Al-Othaimeen (till Nov 2021)

50. Amitabh Jain, an IAS officer of 1989 batch, has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Chhattisgarh. He has succeeded Rajendra Prasad Mandal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amitabh Jain – appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Chhattisgarh (by replacing Rajendra Prasad Mandal)
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

51. The Government of India has appointed Varsha Joshi as the new Chairperson of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). She has replaced Dilip Rath on November 30. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Varsha Joshi – appointed as the new Chairperson of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
- HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujarat | Chairman – Varsha Joshi

52. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has appointed senior IAS officer Utpal Kumar Singh as Secretary General of the Lok Sabha. A 1986 batch IAS officer of Uttarakhand Cadre has succeeded Snehlata Shrivastava on December 1. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Utpal Kumar Singh – appointed as Secretary General of the Lok Sabha (by replacing - Snehlata Shrivastava)
- The 17th Speaker of Lok Sabha – Om Prakash Birla

53. Footwear major Bata Shoe Organisation has announced the appointment of Sandeep Kataria as its global CEO, effective immediately. Kataria is the first Indian to be elevated to this global role at the company. He takes over from Alexis Nasard. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sandeep Kataria (1st Indian) – appointed as the Global CEO of – Bata (by replacing - Alexis Nasard)
- HQs of Bata – Lausanne, Switzerland | CEO – Alexis Nasard



Amount & Agreements

1. AU Small Finance Bank has entered into agreement with Care Health Insurance Company for health insurance products as Corporate Agent. AU Small Finance Bank is a scheduled commercial bank which transited from an Asset Financing NBFC to an SFB; started in 1996; commenced banking operations in 19 April 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AU Small Finance Bank + Care Health Insurance = signed an agreement for health insurance products
- HQs of AU Small Finance Bank – Jaipur, Rajasthan | MD & CEO – Sanjay Agarwal

2. India has handed over another NPR 1 billion tranche of Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project. Government of India (GoI) has partnered with UNDP and United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) for providing Socio-Technical Facilitation to the house owners in Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – handed over NPR 1 billion tranche of Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project – to Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

3. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved USD 132.8 million loan to improve and upgrade the power distribution network in Meghalaya. The project fully supports Meghalaya's initiative in improving the distribution system & financial sustainability of the Department. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – approved USD 132.8 million loan to improve and upgrade the power distribution network – in Meghalaya
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

4. The Union Government has provided Rs 670 crore to Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to meet regulatory capital requirement during these difficult times by considering their importance in agriculture finance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Government provided Rs 670 crore to RRBs to meet regulatory capital requirement
- Capital Support to the RRBs – Central Gov : State Gov : Sponsor Banks = 50:15:35



5. United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has provided USD 3 million over 2 years to support the COVID Action Collaborative (CAC) partnership to mitigate effects of pandemic in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USAID – provided \$3 million over 2 years to support ‘CAC partnership’
- HQs of USAID – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Mark Green

6. 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

7. 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

8. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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



9. Antrix Corporation, the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), has been directed to pay \$1.2 billion to Bengaluru-based Devas Multimedia as compensation for cancelling a satellite deal in 2005. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Antrix Corporation – directed to pay \$1.2 billion to ‘Devas Multimedia’ for cancelling a satellite deal in 2005
- Antrix Corporation – the commercial arm of ISRO
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan
- HQs of Antrix Corporation – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CMD – Rakesh Sasibhushan

10. NASA’s Hubble Space Telescope has discovered a metal-rich asteroid '16 Psyche' which is orbiting the Sun, in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. It is located roughly 370 million kilometres (230 million miles) from the Earth and measures 226 kilometres across (140 miles) roughly about the size of West Virginia. This discovery was published on October 26 in The Planetary Science Journal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA’s Hubble Space Telescope – discovered a metal-rich asteroid ‘16 Psyche’ – orbits between Mars & Jupiter
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

11. Scientists associated with the National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR) have discovered two shrimp species from the coral reefs in Agatti island. One is named ‘Periclimenella agatti’ after the Agatti island and another as ‘Urocaridella arabianesis’ after the Arabian Sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists from NBFGR – discovered 2 shrimp species from the coral reefs in Agatti island
- Agatti island – situated in Union Territory of Lakshadweep, India
- Lakshadweep: Kavaratti | Administrator – Dineshwar Sharma

12. Students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras have developed a digital game to create awareness, particularly among children, on the importance of following government-announced precautions to protect themselves against COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Students of IIT Madras – developed a digital game to create awareness about COVID-19

13. Twitter has introduced “ArtHouse” feature - a suite of services in India to assist brands in creating and optimising Twitter-first content. ArtHouse is a 'fully integrated' service that connects brands with the 'creative capital' of influencers, artists and editors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Twitter – introduced “ArtHouse” feature - a suite of services in India
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, USA | CEO – Jack Dorsey

14. Union Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre has launched a self-help website “Bandhu” for students of IIT Bombay to support emotional wellbeing of students. The website is supported by the alumni of Class of 1992. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Dhotre – launched a self-help website “Bandhu” for students of IIT Bombay
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)
- MoS for Ministry of Education – Sanjay Dhotre

15. Based on the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission, the central government has released Rs 2,200 crore as the first installment to 15 states for the improvement of air quality measures in their million-plus cities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government released Rs 2,200 Cr as the 1st installment to 15 states for the improvement of air quality measures
- Present Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission – Nand Kishore Singh (N K Singh)

16. The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) has sanctioned loans worth Rs 12,696 Cr and has disbursed Rs 8,785 Cr, supporting capacity addition of 5,673 MW during 2019-20. It was announced at the 33rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of IREDA held on November 11. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 33rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of IREDA held on November 11
- IREDA – sanctioned loans worth Rs 12,696 Cr & disbursed Rs 8,785 Cr | Capacity addition of – 5,673 MW
- HQs of IREDA – New Delhi | Director – Girish Kumar
- Raj Kumar Singh – Minister of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

17. Fifteen Asia-Pacific nations, including 10 members of the ASEAN and their 5 Free Trade Agreement (FTA) partner nations, have signed the world's biggest trade agreement - the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) during the 37th ASEAN Summit in Hanoi, Vietnam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 15 Asia-Pacific Nations (10 ASEAN Nations + 5 FTA Nations) – signed “RCEP” Trade Agreement
- RCEP – Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
- 37th ASEAN Summit – held in Hanoi, Vietnam
- [Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 – Vietnam](#) | [Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia](#) | [MC – 10 countries](#)

18. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced \$1 million aid to ASEAN Covid-19 Response Fund at the 17th ASEAN-India Summit held virtually. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi (India) – announced \$1 million aid to “ASEAN Covid-19 Response Fund”
- [Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 – Vietnam](#) | [Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia](#) | [MC – 10 countries](#)

19. A crucial tripartite agreement has been recently signed between the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), BSNL and Andaman and Nicobar Administration recently for Operation and Management of Chennai-Andaman & Nicobar Islands Submarine Cable Project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A crucial Tripartite Agreement signed among = USOF + BSNL + Andaman and Nicobar
- [HQs of BSNL – New Delhi](#) | [CMD – Pravin Kumar Purwar](#)
- [Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Capital – Port Blair](#) | [Lieut. Governor– Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi](#)

20. The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), which mainly handles government's disinvestment programme, has signed an agreement with the World Bank for providing advisory services for asset monetization of non-core assets of government CPSEs (Central Public Sector Enterprises). The government has set a target of raising Rs 2.10 lakh Cr from disinvestment in FY 20-21. Of this, Rs 1.20 lakh Cr is to be raised through CPSE disinvestment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DIPAM + World Bank = an agreement for advising on CPSEs asset monetization

- Government's Target to raise Rs 2.10 lakh Cr from disinvestment (Rs 1.20 lakh Cr through CPSE disinvestment)
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

21. The Finance Ministry has approved the allocation of Rs 39,097 Cr under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) for the exports made during FY 2019-20. The ministry has also directed the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to limit issuance of MEIS scrips to Rs 16,000 Cr during the current financial year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Finance Ministry – approved the allocation of Rs 39,097 Cr – under 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme'
- Finance Ministry – directed the DGFT to limit issuance of MEIS scrips to Rs 16,000 Cr
- Finance Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency – Karnataka)
- DGFT comes under – "Ministry of Commerce & Industry" (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)
- HQs of DGFT – New Delhi | Director General – Amit Yadav

22. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has allocated USD 20.3 million aid to its developing member countries to access coronavirus vaccine and establish systems to enable equitable and efficient vaccine distribution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – allocated USD 20.3 million aid to its developing member countries to access coronavirus vaccine
- ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

23. The Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, Finance Ministry, National Capital Region Transport Corp. Ltd (NCRTC) and New Development Bank (NDB) have signed the loan agreement to lend \$500 million for funding the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut regional rapid transit system (RRTS) project. The loan from the NDB has a tenor of 25 years with an 8-year grace period. The total project cost is estimated at \$3,749 million. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA + Finance Ministry + NCRTC + NDB = loan agreement to lend \$500 million
- NDB – to lend \$500 million loan for funding the 'Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS' project
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Troyjo

24. The Government of Meghalaya and the World Bank have signed a \$120 million project to improve and modernise the transport sector of state of Meghalaya. This will help Meghalaya to harness its vast growth potential for high-value agriculture and tourism. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank + Meghalaya = signed a \$120 million project to improve and modernise the transport sector
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

25. The Asian Development Bank has approved a USD 50 million (about Rs 370 Cr) loan to improve operational efficiencies and resource planning and management in West Bengal. The loan will support the integration of financial and information system and the expansion of automation reforms in the operations of the state government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – approved a USD 50 million (about Rs 370 Cr) loan to “West Bengal” to improve resource planning
- ADB: HQs – [Mandaluyong, Philippines](#) | President – [Masatsugu Asakawa](#) | Member countries – 68

26. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 74.31 Cr under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)-Tranche-XXVI for the construction of 6 new roads and improvement of 24 existing roads in Meghalaya. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD sanctioned Rs 74.31 Cr to Meghalaya – under RIDF-Tranche-XXVI
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

27. The Government of Himachal Pradesh in partnership with Asian Development Bank (ADB) has decided to improve the infrastructure in Mandi district. The estimated cost of the construction is Rs. 15 Cr out of which Rs. 9 Cr is being paid by ADB and the rest by the government of Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh (Rs. 6 Cr) + ADB (Rs. 9 Cr) = to improve the infrastructure in Mandi district (Rs. 15 Cr)
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya
- ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68



28. The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has approved subsidised loans worth Rs 3,971.31 Cr for implementing micro-irrigation projects, and maximum loan worth Rs 1,357.93 Cr has been approved for Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agriculture Ministry approved loans worth Rs 3,971.31 Cr for implementing micro-irrigation projects
- Maximum loan worth Rs 1,357.93 Cr has been approved for – Tamil Nadu
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – Narendra Singh Tomar (Constituency – Morena, MP)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

29. India has unveiled new development initiatives for Afghanistan, including a dam to supply water to Kabul and 150 community projects worth \$80 million. India has signed an agreement with Afghanistan to build 'Shahtoot Dam' on Maidan River. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Afghanistan = an agreement to build 'Shahtoot Dam' – on Maidan River – in Kabul City
- Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | President – Ashraf Ghani

30. Ircon International Ltd has received a Rs 723 Cr work order from the National Capital Region Transport Corporation Limited (NCRTC). The accepted contract amount for the "Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor" is approximately Rs 405 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ircon International Ltd – received a Rs 723 Cr work order from NCRTC
- The accepted contract amount for the "Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor" – Rs 405 Cr
- HQs of Ircon Int. – New Delhi | CMD – S K Chaudhary

31. The Union Cabinet has approved equity infusion of Rs 6,000 Cr by Government in NIIF debt platform sponsored by National Investment and Infrastructure Fund, comprising of Aseem Infrastructure Finance Limited and NIIF Infrastructure Finance Limited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Union Cabinet – approved equity infusion of Rs 6,000 Cr in NIIF debt platform
- HQs of NIIFL – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Sujoy Bose



32. India and Vietnam has signed an Implementation Agreement (IA) for cooperation in the field of “Hydrography”. The agreement was signed during a virtual bilateral meeting between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Vietnamese counterpart General Ngo Xuan Lich. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India & Vietnam – signed an Implementation Agreement (IA) for cooperation in the field of “Hydrography”
- [Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong](#) | [PM – Nguyen Xuan Phuc](#)

33. The government has launched “Mission Covid Suraksha” to help accelerate the development of approximately 5-6 Covid-19 vaccine candidates. Under this mission, the government has announced a package of Rs 900 Cr for Covid-19 vaccine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government announced a package of Rs 900 Cr for Covid-19 vaccine – under “Mission Covid Suraksha”



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

1. A recent study on the Himalayan brown bear (*Ursus arctos isabellinus*) by the Zoological Survey of India, has predicted a significant reduction in suitable habitat and biological corridors of the species in the climate change scenario. The Himalayan brown bear is one of the largest carnivores in the highlands of Himalayas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A recent study on “Himalayan brown bear” predicted a significant reduction in suitable habitat of the species
- HQs of ZSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director – K Venkatraman

2. According to the study by the World Wide Fund (WWF) Water Risk Filter, 100 cities are expected to suffer the greatest due to rise in water risk by 2050 in which 30 of them are Indian cities. And the list of Indian cities was topped by Jaipur in Rajasthan. Globally, populations in areas of high-water risk could rise from 17% in 2020 to 51% by 2050. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to WWF Water Risk Filter – 100 cities are expected to suffer water risk by 2050 (30 Indian cities)
- Jaipur (Rajasthan) – topped the list of 30 Indian cities
- Global population is expected to rise in high-water risk to – 51% by 2050
- HQs of WWF – Gland, Switzerland | President & CEO – Carter Roberts

3. Dr. Harsh Vardhan has released the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) Report on “Estimating the economic benefits of Investment in Monsoon Mission and High Performance Computing (HPC) Facilities” at a function at Prithvi Bhavan in New Delhi. According to the report, India’s investment of nearly 1,000 Cr in these facilities would provide benefits worth rupees 50,000 Cr to nearly 1 Crore 7 lakh below poverty line (BPL) agricultural households and 53 lakh BPL fisher-folk households in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – released NCAER Report on “Estimating the economic benefits of Investment in Monsoon Mission and High Performance Computing (HPC) Facilities”
- HQs of NCAER – New Delhi | DG – Shekhar Shah
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Sci. & Tech., Ministry of Earth Science
- Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi



4. India has retained its 34th position among 50 nations in the “Nation Brand Index (NBI) 2020” in market research conducted by Ipsos in collaboration with Simon Anholt. Germany again ranks 1 out of 50 nations, marking the sixth time Germany tops the NBI list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Nation Brand Index (NBI) 2020” – conducted by “Ipsos” + “Simon Anholt”
- India – 34th | 1st – Germany | 2nd – UK | 3rd – Canada

5. 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

6. Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh has topped the rankings of aspirational districts by government think-tank 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

7. 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

8. Over 2.5 crore rural households have been provided tap connections under the ‘Jal Jeevan Mission’ (JMM) 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}](#)



Key Points:

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

9. A global analysis of data spanning 34 years from 200 countries has ranked India at the 196th place with respect to BMI (body mass index). The normal BMI ranges between 20 and 25. The country's 19-year-old boys and girls have a BMI of 20.1, published in the international medical journal 'The Lancet'. The Netherlands is the nation with the tallest boys and girls of age 19 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India ranked at the 196th place in BMI Ranking 2019 | Topped by – Netherlands
- The study was published in – "The Lancet" - an international medical journal

10. According to the Interstate Migrant Policy Index (IMPEX), Kerala (57), Goa (51) and Rajasthan (51) are the only 3 states to score over 50 in the index. Delhi was at the bottom. India's average IMPEX 2019 score for 28 states and the Union Territory of NCT Delhi is 37 out of 100. The index has been developed by Mumbai-based research non-profit India Migration Now (IMN). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to the IMPEX: Top – Kerala | Bottom – Delhi
- [HQs of IMN – Mumbai, MH | Founder & Head – Varun Aggarwal](#)

11. Hurun India and EdelGive have released the 7th edition of EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2020. Azim Premji (the Founder-Chairman of Wipro) has topped the 2020 list, while Shiv Nadar (Founder-Chairman of HCL Technologies) has ranked second followed by richest Indian Mukesh Ambani (Chairman of Reliance Industries) at the third spot. Azim Premji has become India's Most Generous man with a donation of Rs.7904 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 7th edition of EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2020 = released by Hurun India + EdelGive
- 1st – Azim Premji | 2nd – Shiv Nadar | 3rd – Mukesh Ambani



12. In its “Global Macro Outlook 2021-22”, Moody's has raised India's GDP forecast for the calendar year 2020 upwards to -8.9% contraction from -9.6% contraction forecast earlier. Similarly, India's GDP forecast for the calendar year 2021 has been revised upwards to 8.6% from 8.1% projected earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Macro Outlook 2021-22” report – released by Moody’s
- Moody’s projected India’s GDP – to -8.9% for 2020 (from -9.6%) [{Flexible News}](#)
- Moody’s projected India’s GDP – to 8.6% for 2021 (from 8.1%) [{Flexible News}](#)
- HQs of Moody’s – New York, USA | CEO – Raymond W. McDaniel

13. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Secretary (Economic Relations) Rahul Chhabra has launched the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) report on ‘Deepening Cooperation in IBSA: Perspectives from Key Sectors’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MEA Secretary (Economic Relations) – launched the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) report
- [Ministry of External Affairs \(MEA\) Secretary \(Economic Relations\) – Rahul Chhabra](#)
- [Ministry of External Affairs – Subrahmanyam Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat](#)

14. Stanford University has recently released a list that represents the top 2% of the most-cited scientists in various disciplines. The exhaustive list has 1,59,683 persons with 1,492 Indians in it where a majority of them being from IITs and IISc and other top institutes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Stanford University – released a list representing the top 2% of the most-cited scientists with 1,492 Indians/1,59,683
- [Stanford University – located in California, USA](#)

15. Tamil Nadu has won the best State award for water management for the year 2019. The State has secured the first place under the ‘Normal Category’ in the National Water Awards. In all 98 awards in 16 different categories presented for various States, Tamil Nadu won 11 prizes under five key categories. Under the category 'Revival of River', Vellore and Karur districts have been chosen for the first and second position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – won the Best State award under ‘Normal Category’ – at 2nd National Water Awards



- TN won – 11 prizes under 5 categories | 2nd – Maharashtra & 3rd – Rajasthan
- Mizoram – won the Best State Award under ‘Special Category’ – at 2nd National Water Awards
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

16. The 15th Finance Commission has submitted its report titled “Finance Commission in Covid Times” to President Ram Nath Kovind for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26. A panel has been constituted with State-specific considerations to address the key challenges that individual States face. The Centre has targeted to spend at least 2.1% of GDP on health in the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 15th Finance Commission’s report titled “Finance Commission in Covid Times” submitted to the President
- The Centre targeted to spend at least 2.1% of GDP on ‘health’ – in next 5 years
- Present Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission – Nand Kishore Singh (N K Singh)

17. The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in the second phase of its survey of the entire main stem of the Ganga river (the main river without its tributaries), has found that 49% of the river has high biodiversity. The first phase of the survey was carried out between 2017-2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to the second phase of survey of the Ganga river by ‘WII’ – 49% of the river has high biodiversity
- HQs of WII – Dehradun, Uttarakhand | Director – Dhananjai Mohan

18. The Yogi Adityanath government has claimed that Uttar Pradesh has been ranked 5th on the list of states that have generated most jobs in the MSME sector during Corona pandemic according to a recent report of the RBI. Maharashtra has been ranked the top followed by Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “List of states that have generated most jobs in the MSME sector during Corona pandemic” – by RBI
- 1st – Maharashtra | 2nd – Tamil Nadu | 3rd – Gujarat | 4th – Madhya Pradesh | 5th – UP
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

19. United Kingdom India Business Council’s (UKIBC) has released the 6th edition of Doing Business in India Report 2020 titled “Doing Business in India: The UK Perspective”. This year's report is based on an in-depth

survey of 106 UK organisations operating in India. Maharashtra has emerged as the state with the maximum incremental improvement, followed by Karnataka, Delhi, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 6th edition of Doing Business in India Report 2020 titled “Doing Business in India: The UK Perspective”
- The report is released by – UKIBC
- Maharashtra – emerged as the state with the maximum incremental improvement
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of UKIBC – London, UK | New CEO – Jayant Krishna

20. India will double its Green Energy Capacity in the next year, according to the International Energy Agency’s (IEA) new report, “Renewables 2020 - Analysis and forecast to 2025”. The report predicted a decline in global renewable capacity addition in 2022 due to the expiry of incentives and ensuing policy uncertainties. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Renewables 2020 - Analysis and forecast to 2025” report – released by IEA
- India will double its Green Energy Capacity in – 2021
- HQs of IEA – Paris, France | Executive Director – Dr. Fatih Birol

21. Arunachal Pradesh has recorded the Best sex ratio in India while Manipur recorded the worst sex ratio, according to the 2018 report on “vital statistics of India based on the Civil Registration System”. Arunachal Pradesh recorded 1,084 females born per thousand males, followed by Nagaland (965) Mizoram (964), Kerala (963) and Karnataka (957). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh (1,084) – recorded the Best sex ratio in India | 2nd – Nagaland | 3rd – Mizoram
- Manipur – recorded the worst sex ratio in India | 2nd – Lakshadweep | 3rd – Daman & Diu
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

22. Four Indian cities - Indore, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Faridabad - featured in a list of 36 cities across 22 countries and six continents selected by the World Economic Forum (WEF) to pioneer a new roadmap for smart cities as part of the G20 Global Smart Cities Alliance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indore, Bengaluru, Hyderabad & Faridabad – featured in a list of 36 cities to pioneer smart cities roadmap
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab

23. The annual report and ranking titled “World’s Best Cities for 2021” was released by Resonance Consultancy Ltd, London, UK. Delhi has been placed at the 62nd position in this list of the world’s best cities for 2021. Delhi is the only Indian city to rank among the 100 best cities across the world. Last year, Delhi was at the 81st position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “World’s Best Cities for 2021” – released by Resonance Consultancy Ltd ([London, UK](#))
- Delhi (62nd) – the only Indian city to rank among the 100 best cities | 1st – London | 2nd – New York

24. The UN report “Geospatial Practices for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific 2020” has cited the role being played by ‘BHUVAN’, the national geo-portal developed and hosted by ISRO comprising of geo spatial data, services and tools for analysis, in combating COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Geospatial Practices for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific 2020” report – by the UN
- “BHUVAN” – the national Geo-portal developed and hosted by – ISRO
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan

25. The report titled “Stop the virus of disinformation: the malicious use of social media by terrorist, violent extremist and criminal groups during the COVID-19 pandemic” was released by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) on November 18. It said that criminals and violent extremists are exploiting the pandemic to build their support networks, undermine trust in government and even weaponise the virus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The report titled “Stop the virus of disinformation: the malicious use of social media by terrorist, violent extremist and criminal groups during the COVID-19 pandemic” – released by UNICRI
- HQs of UNICRI – Turin, Italy | Director – Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas

26. India has ranked the 5th among the countries with the highest number of infants who had not received the vaccine against measles, according to a new report titled “Progress Towards Regional Measles Elimination

Worldwide 2000-2019”, released by the World Health Organisation and US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A total of 1.2 million children did not receive the first dose of measles-containing-vaccine (MCV1) in 2019 in India. Nigeria has topped the list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Progress Towards Regional Measles Elimination Worldwide 2000-2019” – released by WHO + US CDC
- Nigeria – the highest number of infants who had not received the vaccine against measles | India – 5th
- 1.2 million children – did not receive the first dose of MCV1 in 2019 in India
- Nigeria – Abuja – Naira | President – Muhammadu Buhari
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

27. Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi Airport) has become the first airport in Asia Pacific Region to achieve Level 4+ accredited airport under Airport Council International’s (ACI) Airport Carbon Accreditation program. With this, the airport has been adjudged as the best airport in carbon emission reduction management in the Asia Pacific region. Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) aims to become Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indira Gandhi International Airport – the 1st airport in Asia Pacific Region to achieve Level 4+ accredited Airport
- Under – ACI’s Airport Carbon Accreditation program
- DIAL aims to become Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport – by 2030
- HQs of ACI – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Luis Felipe de Oliveira

28. Param Siddhi, the high performance computing-artificial intelligence (HPC-AI) supercomputer, has achieved global ranking of 63 in top 500 most powerful non-distributed computer systems in the world. It is established under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) at C-DAC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Param Siddhi – ranked 63rd in the Top 500 list of the world’s most powerful supercomputer

29. India is at 77th position with a risk score of 45 in a global list of measuring business bribery risks - “The 2020 TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix” released by TRACE, an anti-bribery standard setting organisation. Denmark has topped the list this year and the North Korea was at the bottom. In 2019, India's rank stood 78th position with a score of 48. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The 2020 TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix” – released by TRACE
- India – 77th | Top – Denmark | Bottom – North Korea

30. India is the 15th most employable country in the world, as per the “Employability Ranking 2020” published by the Times Higher Education (THE). The most employable institute in India is IIT-Delhi which has attained the 27th rank worldwide. The report termed IIT-Delhi as “a microcosm of India’s success story in the past 10 years”. California Institute of Technology is the most Employable Institutes in the World. And the USA is the most employable country in the world. The ranking was last published in 2010. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Employability Ranking 2020” – published by the Times Higher Education (THE)
- Most employable country: 1st – USA | India – 15th
- Most employable institute: 1st – California Institute of Technology | IIT Delhi – 27th (1st in India)

31. India has added 438 MW of solar in the Q3 of 2020, a 114% rise over last quarter’s 205 MW, according to Mercom India Research’s newly released “Q3 2020 India Solar Market Update”. The report showed that solar installations were still about 80% lower from the same quarter in 2019, which saw 2,177 MW of solar capacity additions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – added 438 MW of solar in the Q3 of 2020 – according to Mercom Communications India
- Addition of solar capacity: In Q3 2019 – 2,177 MW | In Q3 2020 – 438 MW (80% lower than Q3 2019)
- HQs of Mercom Communications India – Bangalore, India | MD – Priyadarshini Sanjay

32. According to the report titled “FDI in India: Now, Next and Beyond” by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Ernst & Young Global Ltd (EY), India can expect to attract \$120-160 billion of foreign direct investment (FDI) annually by 2025 if it manages to increase the FDI to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio between 3-4% from less than 2% now. In States-wise, Maharashtra remains the most attractive destination (28%), followed by Karnataka (19%), Delhi (16%) and Gujarat (10%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “FDI in India: Now, Next and Beyond” report – released by CII + EY
- India may attract \$120-160 billion of FDI annually by 2025 – if FDI to GDP ratio remains between 3-4%
- Maharashtra – the most attractive destination for FDI
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – Uday Kotak | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee
- HQs of EY – London, UK | CEO – Carmine Di Sibio

33. The Indian government has sent the highest ever user data requests to Facebook, second only to the US, in the first 6 months of 2020, according to Facebook's biannual transparency report released on November 19. Facebook has provided data in 50% of the total requests received from the Indian government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India (35,560) – ranked 2nd in terms of requesting 'Facebook User Data' during the first half of 2020
- 1st – USA (61,528) | Total request globally – 1,73,592 (increase of 23%)
- HQs of Facebook – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

34. Uttar Pradesh was awarded as best performing state in inland fisheries sector while Odisha got the award of the Best Marine state on the occasion of 'World Fisheries Day' by the Department of Fisheries. The rest of the awards were given category wise which are mentioned below. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- States: Uttar Pradesh – Best Inland state | Odisha – Best Marine state | Assam – Best Hilly and NE state
- Districts: Kalahandi – Best Inland District | Krishna – Best Marine District | Nagaon – Best Hilly and NE District

35. Elon Musk, the Tesla Inc co-founder, has passed Bill Gates to become the world's second-richest person. His net worth soared \$7.2 billion to \$127.9 billion. He has added \$100.3 billion to his net worth this year, the most of anyone on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, a ranking of the world's 500 richest people. In January he ranked 35th. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "The Bloomberg Billionaires Index" as on November 24
- 1st – Jeff Bezos (\$187 Billion) | 2nd – Elon Musk (\$140 Billion) | 3rd – Bill Gates (\$129 Billion)

36. HDFC Bank has crossed a new milestone as its market capitalisation hit ₹8 lakh Cr (\$108 billion) on November 25, strengthening in place as India's third most valuable company. Reliance Industries Ltd is India's most valued company with a market value of ₹13.17 Trillion followed by TCS at ₹10.13 Trillion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – became India's third most valuable company with m-cap of ₹8 lakh Cr or ₹8 Trillion (\$108 billion)
- 1st – RIL (₹13.17 Trillion) | 2nd – TCS (₹10.13 Trillion)
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your world"



37. Shanghai has dethroned London to become the world's most connected city as the coronavirus shakes up international travel. London has seen a 67% decline in connectivity via air travel, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shanghai (China) – became the world's most connected city amid Covid-19 – according to IATA
- [China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping](#)

38. India was the 4th major host of Greenfield Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) projects and 8 major host of cross-border M&A deals between 2004 to 2015, according to the paper titled 'Future of Regional Cooperation in Asia and Pacific' released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Future of Regional Cooperation in Asia and Pacific' a book – released by ADB
- India – 4th major host of Greenfield FDI projects between 2004 to 2015 (1st – USA | 2nd – China | 3rd – UK)
- [ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68](#)

39. A flagship report titled "The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2020" is released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The report stated that available freshwater resources have declined globally by more than 20% per person over the past 2 decades. Around 1.2 billion people across the globe are under high levels of water stress. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A flagship report titled "The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2020" – released by the FAO
- 1.2 billion people across the globe are under high levels of water stress
- [HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu](#)

40. OECD data has revealed that there are around 120 million migrants living in OECD member countries. 30 to 35% of these migrants are considered Highly Educated. For India has topped the list as of 2015-16 data with 3.12 million Highly Educated migrants in the OECD. China with 2.25 Million stood next to India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Around 120 million migrants living in OECD member countries (30 to 35% are Highly Educated)
- India topped the list as of 2015-16 data with 3.12 million Highly Educated migrants in the OECD countries

41. Singapore has been the biggest contributor towards FDI equity inflows to India as per the data published by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DIPP). The data shows that Singapore has invested Rs 62,084 Cr into India between April and September 2020 followed by the USA with Rs 53,266 Cr of inflows. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Singapore – the biggest contributor towards FDI equity inflows to India (between April to Sep) – as per DIPP
- 1st – Singapore (Rs 62,084 Cr) | 2nd – USA (Rs 53,266 Cr)

42. The UNCTAD's report titled "Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Trade and Development: Transitioning to a New Normal" has projected that the Global Economy would contract 4.3% this year due to the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Trade and Development: Transitioning to a New Normal" – by UNCTAD
- UNCTAD projected India's GDP = (-4.3%)
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | UNCTAD Secretary-General – Mukhisa Kituyi

43. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the virtual 3rd "Global RE-Invest Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo 2020". The Theme of RE-INVEST 2020 is "Innovations for Sustainable Energy Transition". India has emerged as the 4th largest producer of renewable energy in world. The renewable energy capacity in India is currently 136 Giga Watts, which is about 36% of the country's total capacity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi inaugurated the virtual 3rd "Global RE-Invest Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo 2020"
- Theme – "Innovations for Sustainable Energy Transition"
- India – the 4th largest producer of renewable energy in world
- Current renewable energy capacity in India – 136 GW (36% of India's total capacity)

44. "The QS Asia University Rankings 2021" have been released by the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) in association with King Abdulaziz University and a total of 107 Indian institutes have been selected among the total 650 universities ranked. The National University of Singapore has come up as Asia's best university for the

third consecutive year. The top-10 list doesn't feature any Indian university. The top 3 Indian universities to feature on the Asia Rankings are IIT Bombay (Rank 47), IIT Delhi (Rank 50), and IIT Madras (Rank 56). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The QS Asia University Rankings 2021” – released by the QS + King Abdulaziz University
- The National University of Singapore – Asia's best university for the third consecutive year
- 107 Indian institutes selected among the total 650 universities ranked
- IIT Bombay (47th) | IIT Delhi (50th) | IIT Madras (56th)

45. India has the highest bribery rate in Asia which is 39% and the most number of people who use personal connections to access public services which is 46%, according to the 10th edition of a report titled “Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) Asia-2020” by corruption watchdog ‘Transparency International’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 10th edition of “Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) Asia-2020” report – by ‘Transparency International’
- India has the highest bribery rate in Asia (39%)
- India – has the most number of people who use personal connections to access public services (46%)

46. Pakistan's cultural capital Lahore has ranked the most polluted city in the world, according to air pollution data released by the US Air Quality Index. According to the index, Lahore reported a particulate matter (PM) rating of 423. New Delhi came in second with a PM of 229, while Nepal's capital Kathmandu ranked the third-worst city with a PM of 178. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Air Pollution Data as per “US Air Quality Index-2020”
- 1st – Lahore (423 PM) | 2nd – Delhi (229 PM) | 3rd – Kathmandu (178PM)

Acquisitions & Mergers

1. ICICI Lombard has gained the Competition Commission of India (CCI) nod for acquiring Bharti AXA general insurance biz. On 21 August 2020, the ICICI Group company announced that its board and the board of Bharti AXA General Insurance Company had approved entering into definitive agreements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Lombard – gained CCI nod for acquiring – Bharti AXA general insurance
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of Bharti AXA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjeev Srinivasan

2. 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)

3. 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 – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal
- HQs of Mech Mocha – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Arpita Kapoor

4. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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

5. Tata Consultancy Services Netherlands BV, and Deutsche Bank AG have entered into an agreement under which the TCS subsidiary will acquire 100% of the shares of Postbank Systems AG (PBS) from Deutsche Bank AG for a symbolic cash payment of €1. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TCS – will acquire 100% stake of Postbank Systems AG (PBS) – from Deutsche Bank AG
- HQs of TCS India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan
- HQs of PBS – Bonn, Germany | CEO – Thomas Mangel
- HQs of Deutsche Bank – Frankfurt, Germany | CEO – Christian Sewing | President – Karl von Rohr

6. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of 7.73% equity share capital of Jio Platforms Limited (JPL) by Google International LLC (GIL) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved acquisition of 7.73% stake of Jio Platforms Ltd by Google International LLC
- Under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002
- Reliance's hold in shares of Jio Platforms – 67.03 %

7. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of Orix Wind SPVs by Greenko Energy Holdings (GEH) from Orix Corporation (Orix) and equity stake in GEH by Orix under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the acquisition of 'Orix Wind SPVs' – by Greenko Energy Holdings
- Under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta
- HQs of Orix – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Makoto Inoue
- HQs of Greenko Energy Holdings – Hyderabad, Telangana | MD & CEO – Anil Chalamalasetty

8. IRDAI has approved the merger of HDFC ERGO Health Insurance (formerly Apollo Munich Health Insurance Co Ltd) with HDFC ERGO General Insurance. Under this, share exchange ratio of 100:385 has been finalised by the board. Post completion of the merger, HDFC will hold 50.58 per cent stake in HDFC ERGO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI approved the merger of 'HDFC ERGO Health Insurance' – with 'HDFC ERGO General Insurance'
- [HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Ritesh Kumar](#)

9. Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL) has acquired 96% equity shares of Urban Ladder Home Decor Solutions Private Limited (Urban Ladder) for a cash consideration of Rs 182.12 Cr. RRVL has also proposed to make a further investment of up to Rs 75 crore to acquire the balance stake. The further investment is expected to be completed by December 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Retail – acquired 96% equity shares (Rs 182.12 Cr) of "Urban Ladder"
- [HQs of RRVL – Mumbai, MH | CEO – V. Subramaniam](#)

10. Max Financial Services Ltd has received an approval from the Department of Economic Affairs for swap of Mitsui Sumitomo's Max Life stake of 20.57% with 21.87% stake in Max Financial Services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Swap of Mitsui Sumitomo's Max Life stake of 20.57% with 21.87% stake in Max Financial Services – is approved
- [HQs of Mitsui Sumitomo – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Noriyuki Hara](#)
- [HQs of Max Life Ins. – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Prashant Tripathy](#)

11. Four banks - Canara Bank, Axis Bank, Indian Bank & South Indian Bank have acquired 6.67% stake each in financial technology firm IBBIC. All these banks have acquired 6.67% stake each (representing 50,000 equity shares) in IBBIC for a cash consideration of Rs 5 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Canara Bank, Axis Bank, Indian Bank & South Indian Bank = acquired 6.67% stake in IBBIC
- Cash consideration – Rs 5 lakh

12. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of the Future Group by Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL) & Reliance Retail and Fashion Lifestyle Limited (RRVL WOS) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved acquisition of the “Future Group” – by RRVL + RRVL WOS
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani
- HQs of Future Group Business – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Kishore Biyani

13. Bharti Airtel has acquired 5.2% stake in solar power company Avaada MHBuldhana, a subsidiary of Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL) for Rs 4.55 Cr. AEPL has developed a portfolio of over 1 GW solar and wind projects across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel – acquired 5.2% stake in Avaada MHBuldhana – for Rs 4.55 Cr
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal
- HQs of AEPL – Mumbai, MH | General Manager – Deepesh Gupta

14. Union Cabinet has approved merger of Lakshmi Vilas Bank with DBS Bank India. Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) was put under a 30-day moratorium by the RBI and it was lifted on November 27. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved merger of – Lakshmi Vilas Bank with DBS Bank India
- HQs of LVB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Subramanian Sundar
- HQs of DBS bank India – Mumbai | MD & National Head – Prashant Joshi | CEO – Surojit Shome

15. Bengaluru-based hospital chain Manipal Hospitals has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Columbia Asia Hospitals for an undisclosed sum. According to sources, the deal size may be around Rs 2,100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipal Hospitals ([Bengaluru](#)) – to acquire Columbia Asia Hospitals (for around Rs 2,100 Cr)

16. AU Small Finance Bank Ltd has sold 35 lakh shares of Aavas Financiers Ltd worth Rs 530 Cr through an open market transaction. AU Small Finance Bank and Nomura India Investment Fund Mother Fund held 4.57% and 1.53% stake, respectively, in Aavas Financiers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AU Small Finance Bank Ltd – sold 35 lakh shares (worth Rs 530 Cr) – of Aavas Financiers Ltd
- HQs of AU Small Finance Bank – Jaipur, Rajasthan | MD & CEO – Sanjay Agarwal
- HQs of Aavas Financiers Ltd – Jaipur, Rajasthan | CEO – Sushil Kumar Agarwal

17. Mortgage lender HDFC Ltd will acquire nearly 19.95% stake in Renaissance Investment Solutions ARC (Asset Reconstruction Company) Private Ltd for Rs 49,87,500. Renaissance Investment was incorporated as a private limited company under the Companies Act, 2013. [{Read more}](#)

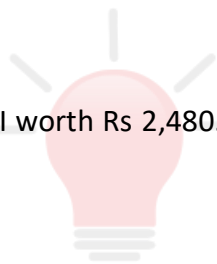
Key Points:

- HDFC Ltd will acquire nearly 19.95% stake (Rs 49,87,500) – in Renaissance Investment Solutions ARC
- HQs of HDFC Ltd – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Deepak Parekh | CEO – Keki Mistry

18. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved FDI worth Rs 2,480.92 Cr into ATC Telecom Infrastructure Pvt Ltd by ATC Asia Pacific PTE limited (ATC Singapore) for a stake of 12.31%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA approved FDI worth Rs 2,480.92 Cr in ATC Telecom Infrastructure – by ATC Asia Pacific PTE for 12.31% stake



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19. India Grid Trust (IndiGrid) has inked an agreement to acquire 74% stake in Parbati Koldam Transmission Company Ltd (PKTCL) from Reliance Infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India Grid Trust – to acquire 74% stake in Parbati Koldam Transmission Company – from Reliance Infra.
- HQs of IndiGrid – New Delhi | CEO – Harsh Shah
- HQs of PKTCL – Gurugram, Haryana



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

1. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the MoUs worth Rs 35,000 crore (34,850 Cr) were signed between the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) and the 15 companies at the "Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0" event and they are expected to create 23,182 jobs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra + 15 companies = inked MoUs worth around Rs 35,000 crore at "Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0" event
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

2. Dynamatic Technologies Ltd and Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO) have signed an MoU for jointly designing, developing and manufacturing futuristic solutions for the Defence and Aerospace, healthcare and agriculture industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dynamatic Technologies + CSIR-CSIO = an MoU for joint development of Futuristic Solutions
- HQs of Dynamatic Technologies Ltd – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Udayant Malhoutra
- HQs of CSIO – Chandigarh | Director – S. Anantha Ramakrishna

3. India's public broadcaster Prasar Bharati has signed an MoU with Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics (BISAG-N) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to launch 51 direct-to-home (DTH) education TV channels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prasar Bharati + (BISAG-N) = an MoU to launch 51 DTH education TV channels
- HQs of Prasar Bharati – New Delhi | CEO – Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- HQs of BISAG-N – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | BISAG-N – functions under MeitY

4. Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the Research and Development Centre of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop and demonstrate Biomass Gasification-based Hydrogen Generation Technology for producing fuel cell-grade hydrogen at an affordable price. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IISc Bengaluru + IOCL = an MoU to develop Biomass Gasification-based Hydrogen Generation Technology
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya



5. Indian Railways has decided to go big with Artificial Intelligence and data analytics to improve its operational efficiency and has tied up with the Indian School of Business (ISB) in Hyderabad to analyze the data generated by the national transporter. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways + ISB = partnership to improve its operational efficiency using Digital Tools
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman – Vinod Kumar Yadav
- ISB located at – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Harish Manwani

6. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) has signed an MoU with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and has set a revenue target of Rs. 2,406 crore under 'Excellent' rating for the year 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IREDA + Ministry of New and Renewable Energy = signed an MoU
- IREDA set a revenue target of Rs. 2,406 crore for the year 2020-21
- Raj Kumar Singh – Minister of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
- HQs of IREDA – New Delhi | Director – Girish Kumar

7. Rajasthan government will soon sign an MoU with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to establish "8000 MW Ultra Mega Renewal Energy Power Park" near borders areas of c in Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan + NTPC + SECI = to establish "8000 MW Ultra Mega Renewal Energy Power Park"
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Praveen Kumar

8. The International Centre for Clean Water (ICCW) has signed an agreement with Japanese firm DG Takano to develop innovative products to solve environmental challenges in providing clean and safe drinking water across the globe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICCW + DG Takano (Japan) = an agreement for clean water technology
- ICCW – an initiative of IIT Madras



- HQs of ICCW – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Nandakumar E

9. The MoU was signed between Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru and Spain for scientific and technical collaborations in the field of astronomy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIA (India) + Spain = an MoU for scientific and technical collaborations in the field of Astronomy
- HQs of IIA – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Annapurni Subramaniam
- Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez

10. The Union Cabinet has approved signing of an MoU between India and United Kingdom for co-operation in telecommunications and ICT. The MoU will contribute towards strengthening bilateral cooperation and mutual understanding between the two sides, in the field of Telecommunications, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + UK = an MoU in the field of telecommunications and ICT
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

11. To facilitate planned and systematic growth of the Ayush sector, Ministry of Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) has collaborated with Invest India to set up a 'Strategic Policy Unit' that will help it reach its full potential. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Ayush + Invest India = to set up a 'Strategic Policy Unit'
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa

12. TransUnion CIBIL in partnership with Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has launched "MSME Credit Health Index" in order to provide a measure of the growth and strength of the MSME sector in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TransUnion CIBIL + MoSPI = launched "MSME Credit Health Index"
- HQs of TransUnion CIBIL – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Kumar
- MoS I/C for Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation – Rao Inderjit Singh



13. TRIFED and JD Centre of Arts (JDCA) have signed an MoU for collaborating on joint socio-cultural research work and anthropological study of tribal art and tradition in tribal dominated regions of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TRIFED + JDCA = signed an MoU for collaborating on joint socio-cultural research work
- TRIFED works under – Ministry of Tribal Affairs (Arjun Munda – Khunti, Jharkhand)
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna
- HQs of JDCA – Bhubaneswar, Odisha | Founder and Chairman – Jatin Das

14. Visa has recently announced the world's first successful live deployment of a PCI certified Tap to Phone card acceptance solution, in partnership with DigitSecure and HDFC Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Visa + DigitSecure + HDFC Bank = deployed the world's 1st live PCI certified Tap to Phone card acceptance solution
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly
- HQs of DigitSecure – Madhapur, Telangana | CEO – Seshadri Kulkarni
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline – "We understand your world"

15. '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

16. 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

17. 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 – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

- HQs of SII – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Adar C. Poonawalla

- HQs of Bexmico – Dhaka, Bangladesh | MD – Nazmul Hassan Papon

18. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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

19. 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



20. 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

21. 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

22. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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

23. 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



24. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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

25. Airtel Payments Bank has tied up with Bharti AXA General Insurance to offer “Smart Drive Private Car Insurance” - comprehensive car insurance to its customers. Notably, Airtel Payments Bank in association with Bharti AXA General Insurance is also providing ‘Smart Plan Shop Package Policy’ to its retailers and merchants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Airtel Payments Bank + Bharti AXA = partnership to offer “Smart Drive Private Car Insurance”
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas
- HQs of Bharti AXA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjeev Srinivasan

26. Bharti AXA General Insurance has launched #CancerSendsNoNotifications campaign - a special initiative to increase awareness and spread knowledge on detecting the disease early among people in India. As per the recent WHO report, 1 in every 10 Indians will develop cancer and 1 in every 15 will succumb to the disease. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti AXA – launched #CancerSendsNoNotifications campaign
- HQs of Bharti AXA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjeev Srinivasan

27. Embassy Group has signed an MoU with the Government of Karnataka, Department of Education for the all-around improvement of Government Schools in Bangalore. The MoU will be signed for a period of 2 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka + Embassy Group = an MoU for the all-around improvement of Government Schools in Bangalore
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- HQs of Embassy Group – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairman & MD – Jitu Virwani



28. Marg ERP and Paytm have partnered to resolve MSMEs payment issue digitally. Under this joint venture, the duo empowers MSME using this new integrated payments solution called “MargPay” developed by Marg ERP Limited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Marg ERP + Paytm = partnered to resolve MSMEs payment issue digitally
- HQs of Marg ERP – New Delhi | CEO – Krishnam Raju D
- Paytm HQs – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Paytm CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- Paytm Payment Bank CEO – Satish Kumar Gupta | Paytm General Ins. CEO – Vineet Arora

29. MobiKwik has entered into a strategic partnership with American Express to launch “MobiKwik Blue American Express Card”, a digital prepaid Card. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MobiKwik + American Express = partnership to launch “MobiKwik Blue American Express Card” digital prepaid Card
- HQs of MobiKwik – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder, CEO & Director – Bipin Preet Singh
- HQs of American Express – New York, USA | CEO – Stephen Squeri

30. Mumbai-based AGS Transact Technologies Ltd (AGSTTL) and Utimaco have entered into a partnership to provide cyber-defense technology for digital payments to organisations across Banking, Retail & Petroleum sectors in India & South East Asia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AGSTTL + Utimaco = partnership to provide Cyber-Defense Technology – to Banking, Retail & Petroleum sectors
- HQs of AGSTTL – Mumbai, MH | Chairman & MD – Ravi B Goyal
- HQs of Utimaco – Aachen, Germany | CEO – Stefan Auerbach

31. Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA Life) has partnered with PayBima, the digital arm of Mahindra Insurance Brokers Ltd., to distribute its industry-leading life insurance solutions. The association is in line with Tata AIA Life’s mission to provide Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) to its customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata AIA Life Insurance + PayBima = to distribute its industry-leading life insurance solutions



- HQs of Tata AIA Life – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Naveen Tahilyani

32. Indian Railways has collaborated with the Indian School of Business (ISB) for establishing Centre of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Analytics on South Central Railway. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways + ISB = collaboration to establish Centre of Excellence – at South Central Railway
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman – Vinod Kumar Yadav
- ISB located at – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Harish Manwani

33. Singapore-based neo-banking startup Stashfin has partnered with Visa to launch co-branded prepaid cards with credit lines, amid a growing propensity towards digital payments. The prepaid card acts like a personal overdraft facility, allowing customers to take loans with ticket-size between Rs 25,000 and Rs 3 lakh, based on their credit profile. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Stashfin + Visa = to launch 'Co-branded Prepaid Cards' with credit lines (between Rs 25,000 and Rs 3 lakh)
- HQs of Stashfin – Singapore | CEO – Tushar Aggarwal
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly

34. The Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC) signed MoUs with 4 industry/academic partners - IBM India, Singapore Polytechnic International (SPI), India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) and LV Prasad Film & TV Academy (LVPA) for promoting Skill Development among Youth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – signed MoUs with 4 industry/academic partners to promote Skill Development among Youth
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- HQs of IBM India – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD – Sandip Patel

35. Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) and Goa have signed an MoU to discuss the implementation of India's first 100 MW Convergence Project in the State. Goa is the first state to adopt the concept of amortising the cost of pumps and LED lights into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Goa + EESL = an MoU to discuss the implementation of India's first 100 MW Convergence Project
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | MD – Rajat Sud | Chairman – Rajeesh Sharma

36. Indian Railways has assigned RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RailTel) to implement Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) across its health facilities with an objective of bringing hospital management on a single architecture to prevent pilferage and making operations seamless. RailTel and Ministry of Railways have signed an MOU with regard to the modalities for execution of the work. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways + RailTel = to implement Hospital Management Information System (HMIS)
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman – Vinod Kumar Yadav
- HQs of RailTel – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Puneet Chawla

37. Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd (BFIL) - a subsidiary firm of IndusInd Bank has signed a pact with Maharashtra government to launch a joint initiative "Maha Pashudhan Sanjeevani" to enhance doorstep delivery of livestock care to farmers in the state under the 'Mukhyamantri Pashu Swasthya Yojana'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BFIL + Maharashtra = an MoU to launch a joint initiative "Maha Pashudhan Sanjeevani"
- Under – 'Mukhyamantri Pashu Swasthya Yojana'
- BFIL – a subsidiary firm of IndusInd Bank
- HQs of BFIL – Hyderabad, Telangana | CEO – Shalabh Saxena
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – "We Make You Feel Richer"
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

38. The Indian School of Business (ISB) and Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) have signed an MoU to promote and support activities that contribute to better understanding and relations between India and global partners. ISB and ICWA will soon set up a 'learning table' involving experts and stakeholders from industry, government and academia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISB + ICWA = an MoU to promote and support research activities in the areas of International Relations



- ISB located at – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Harish Manwani
- HQs of ICWA – New Delhi | Director General – TCA Raghavan

39. Delhi government signed an MoU with “YuWaah” initiative of UNICEF to connect 10 million youth of Delhi with jobs. The partnership will make Delhi government’s ‘Rozgaar Bazaar’ portal a robust one-stop solution for young people seeking jobs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi + YuWaah (UNICEF) = an MoU to help youth find jobs via government’s ‘Rozgaar Bazaar’ portal
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

40. The Delhi government and the Centre for Effective Governance of Indian States (CEGIS) have signed an MoUs for carrying out a detailed study of measures for state revenue. It is an important step in the Delhi government's resolve to bring in tax reforms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi + CEGIS = an MoU for carrying out a detailed study of measures for state revenue
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev
- HQs of CEGIS – Dhaka, Bangladesh | MD – Smita Mathur Jha

586. Infosys and the ATP (the governing body of the men’s professional tennis circuits) have announced the renewal of their partnership for another 3 years. As the technology partner of the ATP since 2015, Infosys has been supporting ATP’s development of key digital assets and infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Infosys + ATP = announced the renewal of their partnership for another 3 years
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh

41. Mastercard and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have announced their partnership to launch “Project Kirana” to enable women entrepreneurs to launch, grow and thrive under the Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP) Initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mastercard + USAID = partnership to launch “Project Kirana”
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)
- HQs of USAID – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Mark Green

42. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) and 8 leading oil & gas marketing companies & technology providers have signed MoUs to establish 900 Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plants across India under the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative with an outlay of Rs 30,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoPNG + 8 leading oil & Gas marketing companies = signed MoUs to establish 900 Compressed Bio-Gas plants
- Under – “SATAT” Initiative | Outlay of the project – Rs 30,000 Cr
- SATAT – Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation
- [Dharmendra Pradhan – Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Minister of Steel \(Madhya Pradesh\)](#)

43. The UNICEF, International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India, Alive and Thrive, Nutrition International and ARTIST For Her & Pregnancy and Obesity Nutrition Initiative (PONI) have partnered to strengthen the implementation of the revolutionary “POSHAN Abhiyaan” or “National Nutrition Mission” (NNM) - a flagship programme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 6 International Organisations = partnered to strengthen the implementation of “POSHAN Abhiyaan”
- “POSHAN Abhiyaan” or “NNM” – a flagship programme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development
- [Smriti Zubin Irani – Minister of Women and Child Development, Minister of Textiles \(Constituency – Amethi, UP\)](#)

44. The Odisha government has signed an MoU with Prasanti Medical Services and Research Foundation (PMSRF) for extension of free cardiac treatment services to the poor children. The agreement will remain in force for the next 2 years at Satya Sai Heart Hospital in Ahmedabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha + PMSRF = an MoU for extension of free cardiac treatment services to the poor children
- [Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal](#)

45. Three MoUs were signed on the occasion of the first ever “India-Luxembourg Virtual Summit”. State Bank of India has signed an MoU with the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (LuxSe). India International Exchange (India INX) and Luxembourg Stock Exchange signed MoU for cooperation in financial services industry. Invest India and Luxinnovation also signed an MoU on this occasion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + Luxembourg Stock Exchange = an MoU
- India INX + Luxembourg Stock Exchange = an MoU

- Invest India + Luxinnovation = an MoU
- Luxembourg – Luxembourg – Euro
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia

46. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has signed an MoU with the Tamil Nadu government to develop MSMEs Eco System by setting up Project Management Unit (PMU) for training and capacity-building programmes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI + Tamil Nadu = to develop MSMEs Eco System by setting up PMU for training programmes
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

47. BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange Ltd) has signed 4 MoUs with Mission Youth, Government of Jammu & Kashmir to spread financial awareness, support economic development, and encourage sustainable livelihood in the Union Territory. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE – signed 4 MoUs with Mission Youth and Government of J & K to spread financial awareness
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sethurathnam Ravi | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

48. Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC) and REC Ltd. have signed an MoU with SJVN Thermal (P) Ltd. (STPL) for Extending Term Loan of Rs. 8520.46 Cr for 2x660 MW Buxar Thermal Power Project on 26th November 2020 at New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PFC Ltd + REC Ltd – an MoU with SJVN Thermal for Extending Term Loan for 'Buxar Thermal Power Project' (Bihar)
- HQs of PFC Ltd – New Delhi | CMD – Ravinder Singh Dhillon
- HQs of REC Ltd – New Delhi | CMD – Sanjeev Kumar Gupta

49. Tech giant IBM has collaborated with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to create a robust education and skilling ecosystem in areas including Cloud and Artificial Intelligence (AI) through the Common Services Centre (CSC) Academy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IBM + MeitY – to create a robust education and skilling ecosystem in Cloud and A.I. through CSC
- HQs of IBM India – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD – Sandip Patel
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Constituency – Patna Sahib, Bihar)

50. The Punjab Government and International Digital Health & Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR) have signed an MoU in Geneva, Switzerland for deployment of Digital Technologies in the health sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab + I-DAIR = an MoU in Geneva, Switzerland – for deployment of Digital Technologies in health sector
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Simonetta Sommaruga

51. Consulting firm HexGn and AFC India have joined hands to promote agriculture-related entrepreneurship in India and aim to promote 1,000 agritech start-ups in the country over the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HexGn + AFC India = partnership to promote agriculture-related entrepreneurship in India
- HQs of AFC India – Mumbai, MH | Executive Director – Jay Prakash

52. FLO (the women wing of the FICCI) has signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Shillong and Incubation and Enterprise Support Centre (IESC) to mentor women entrepreneurs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FLO FICCI + IIM Shillong = an MoU to mentor women entrepreneurs
- IESC – functions under the aegis of IIM Shillong
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangita Reddy



53. Muthoot Finance has tied up with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance to provide insurance on Gold jewellery as part of their new initiative – “Muthoot Gold Shield”, which is backed and powered by Group Affinity All Risk policy of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Muthoot Finance + Bajaj Allianz General Insurance = partnership to provide insurance on Gold jewellery
- HQs of Muthoot Finance – Kochi, Kerala | MD & CEO – George Alexander Muthoot
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Gen. Ins.– Pune, MH | CEO – Tapan Singhel

54. HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company and NSDL Payments Bank Limited have announced their partnership to offer a whole range of general insurance products to the bank's customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC ERGO + NSDL Payments Bank = partnership to offer a whole range of general insurance products
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Ritesh Kumar
- HQs of NSDL – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – G.V. Nageswara Rao

55. Indian Railways has collaborated with the Indian School of Business (ISB) for a study on ‘An Integrated Coal-Freight Optimisation Model’ to increase Network throughput. A letter of acceptance was exchanged between the SCR’s principal chief operations manager Shiva Prasad and ISB deputy dean Milind Sohoni. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways + ISB = collaboration for a study on ‘An Integrated Coal-Freight Optimisation Model’
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman – Vinod Kumar Yadav
- ISB located at – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Harish Manwani

56. India and the USA have extended the MoU for cooperation on Nuclear Energy for 10 more years at the Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP). This MoU was signed on November 7, 2010 in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + USA = extended the MoU for cooperation on Nuclear Energy for 10 more years – at GCNEP
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden



57. India Post Payments bank (IPPB) has tied-up with PNB MetLife India Insurance, for its customers availing the 'Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana' (PMJJBY). This scheme provides protection and financial security to the poor and underprivileged since 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IPPB + PNB MetLife India = tie up to launch 'Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana'
- PMJJBY: Launched in – 2015 | Age group – 18 to 50 years | Life cover of – Rs. 2 Lakh
- HQs of IPPB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – J Venkatramu
- HQs of PNB MetLife India – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Ashish K Srivastava

58. HDFC Life insurance and HDFC Ergo General Insurance have joined hands to launch a combi product "Click 2 Protect Corona Kavach" - a single policy with term & COVID-19 health cover, with HDFC Life's Click 2 Protect 3D Plus (C2P3D Plus) and HDFC Ergo's Corona Kavach. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Life Insurance + HDFC Ergo General Insurance = partnership to launch "Click 2 Protect Corona Kavach"
- HQs of HDFC Life Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Vibha Padalkar
- HQs of HDFC ERGO General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Ritesh Kumar

59. The Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council has signed an MoU with the Suresh Raina Cricket Academy to develop budding cricketers of J&K for the national and international level with comprehensive training programme at a professional level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council + Suresh Raina Cricket Academy = an MoU to develop budding cricketers
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

60. JBM Renewables has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) for setting up 500 compressed biogas (CBG) projects across India. It will work jointly with MoPNG on the SATAT (Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation) programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- JBM Renewables + MoPNG = an MoU for setting up 500 CBG projects across India
- It will work as a part of SATAT initiative which aims to set up 900 CBG plants now & 5000 CBG plants by FY24
- HQs of JBM Group – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & Chairman – S K Arya

61. A Letter of Understanding (LoU) has been signed between the Rajasthan government and United Nation's World Food Programme (WFP) for proposed participation to achieve food and nutritional security goals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan + UNWFP = an LoU to achieve food and nutritional security goals
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra
- HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36

62. The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and the Netherlands-based Vereniging van Register controllers (VRC) for the Knowledge Base improvement of Accounting, Financial and Audit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Netherlands + ICAI = an MoU for the Knowledge Base improvement of Accounting, Financial and Audit
- HQs of ICAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Atul Kumar Gupta
- HQs of VRC – Netherlands
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro

63. The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved an MoU signed between BRICS countries on cooperation in the field of physical culture and sports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + BRICS = an MoU for cooperation in the field of Physical Culture and Sports
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 (Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa)
- Chairmanship of BRICS – Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021

64. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has committed his partnership with India in its quest for a future with low carbon and pollution levels at a digital conference of the India-led International Solar Alliance (ISA) that was held on November 27. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israel committed his partnership with India in its quest for a future with low carbon and pollution levels
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

65. India has signed an MoU with Finland to develop cooperation in the field of environment protection and biodiversity conservation. The MoU was signed virtually by Prakash Javadekar and Finland's Environment Minister Krista Mikkonen. Prakash Javadekar stated that India will achieve its target of reducing 35% emissions intensity of its GDP well before the year 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Finland = to develop cooperation in the field of environment protection and biodiversity conservation
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin

66. Razorpay has joined hands with Visa to launch “RazorpayX Corporate Cards” to help SMEs in India. RazorpayX Corporate Cards will help entrepreneurs set up recurring & non-recurring online payments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Razorpay + Visa = to launch “RazorpayX Corporate Cards”
- HQs of Razorpay – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Harshil Mathur
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly



Books & Authors

1. A new book titled “Till We Win” by AIIMS Director Randeep Guleria and two other doctors - Chandrakant Lahariya and Gagandeep Kang will give a definitive account of India’s fight against Covid-19 and how to deal with the pandemic in the days to come. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Till We Win” book is authored by = Randeep Guleria + Chandrakant Lahariya + Gagandeep Kang

2. Chinmay Tumbe has authored a book titled “The Age of Pandemics (1817-1920): How They Shaped India and the World”. It is an effort towards correcting this imbalance as it focuses primarily on how the 19th century cholera, plague and influenza pandemics affected the Indian subcontinent. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Age of Pandemics (1817-1920): How They Shaped India and the World” book – authored by ‘Chinmay Tumbe’

3. Senior journalist Tamal Bandyopadhyay has authored a book titled “Pandemonium: The Great Indian Banking Tragedy”. The author has interviewed the four former governors for the book that will soon be launched by Roli Books. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Pandemonium: The Great Indian Banking Tragedy” book – authored by ‘Tamal Bandyopadhyay’
- To be launched by – Roli Books

89. The book, “Jugalbandi: The BJP Before Modi”, is written by political scientist Vinay Sitapati. It will be released under Penguin’s ‘Viking’ imprint on November 23. The book describes the partnership of BJP’s founding leaders Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Lal Krishna Advani. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Jugalbandi: The BJP Before Modi” book – written by ‘Vinay Sitapati’
- About – Atal Bihari Vajpayee & Lal Krishna Advani

4. 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”

5. 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 derring-do in the nation’s many wars. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Insomnia: Army Stories” – Rachna Bisht Rawat

6. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- “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’

7. “Boskiyana”, a new book in Hindi, brings out the personality of the veteran poet-lyricist Gulzar. The book is published by Radhakrishna Prakashan and edited by Yashwant Vyas. ‘Boskiyana’ is the name of the house of Gulzar in Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Boskiyana” book – dedicated to the veteran poet-lyricist ‘Gulzar’
- Published by – Radhakrishna Prakashan | Edited by – Yashwant Vyas

8. “Rasaathi: The Other Side of a Transgender” is Sasindran Kallinkeel’s debut novel. The book is published by BookMitra. The main character in the novel is a transgender named Rasaathi born in a well-to-do family in South India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Rasaathi: The Other Side of a Transgender” debut novel – authored by ‘Sasindran Kallinkeel’

9. A new book titled “Archaeology and the Public Purpose: Writings on and by M N Deshpande” will document the life and times of former director general of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) Madhusudan Narhar Deshpande. The book is written by history professor Nayanjot Lahiri. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Archaeology and the Public Purpose: Writings on and by M N Deshpande” book – written by ‘Nayanjot Lahiri’

10. A pictorial anthology on Mahatma Gandhi in the Nepali language titled “Maile Bujheko Gandhi” or “Gandhi as I understood” (My understanding about Gandhi) was released in Nepal by President Bidya Devi Bhandari to mark his 151st birth anniversary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Maile Bujheko Gandhi” or “Gandhi as I understood” – released by Nepal
- Vinay M Kwatra – Indian Ambassador to Nepal
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

282. Actor Sonu Sood, is often dubbed as the ‘Messiah of migrants’ for his philanthropic work during the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, is all set to pen his autobiography titled “I Am No Messiah”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sonu Sood – is all set to pen his autobiography titled “I Am No Messiah”

11. Chhattisgarh Chief minister Bhupesh Baghel has launched ‘Nritya Shastra Mythological’ coffee table book depicting the philosophical concept behind the dancing statutes of temple walls. Published by Directorate of Culture and Archeology Raipur, this coffee table book is written by Purnashree Raut. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – launched ‘Nritya Shastra Mythological’ coffee table book
- The book is written by – Purnashree Raut
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

12. Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari on November 9, 2020 has released the book “Majhi Bhint” (My Wall) authored by former Maharashtra Education Minister Rajendra Darda at Raj Bhavan in Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhagat Singh Koshyari – released “Majhi Bhint” (My Wall) book – authored by Rajendra Dard
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

13. New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern’s biography titled “Jacinda Ardern: Leading with Empathy” will be released in 2021. The book will be authored by Supriya Vani and Carl A Harte. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A biography titled “Jacinda Ardern: Leading with Empathy” – to release in 2021
- The book will be authored by – Supriya Vani & Carl A Harte
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | Prime Minister – Jacinda Ardern

14. Ruskin Bond has come out with another book “How To Be A Writer” which gives a glimpse into the writing credo of the man who has had an incredibly successful writing career. The book was published by HarperCollins India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “How To Be A Writer” book – by Ruskin Bond
- Published by – HarperCollins India

15. Arundhati Roy’s book was prescribed for the third semester of M.A. English, under Commonwealth Writing. “Walking with the Comrades” is based on Ms. Roy’s visit to Maoist hideouts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Walking with the Comrades” book – authored by ‘Arundhati Roy’

16. The book “Reporting India: My Seventy-Year Journey as a Journalist” by veteran journalist Prem Prakash, says that Nehru had ignored the modernisation of India's armed forces at the outset of his term in office. The book was published by Penguin Random House India. Prem Prakash is currently serving as the Chairman of ANI (Asian News International). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Reporting India: My Seventy-Year Journey as a Journalist” book – authored by ‘Prem Prakash’

17. The book “Balochistan: Bruised, Battered and Bloodied”, published by Bloomsbury India, was released on November 28. The book is authored by an Italian journalist Francesca Marino. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Balochistan: Bruised, Battered and Bloodied” book – authored by ‘Francesca Marino’ (Italian journalist)

18. Union ministers Rajnath Singh and Prakash Javadekar have unveiled 2 books “The Republican Ethic Volume III” and “Loktantra Ke Swar” on November 19. The books are the collection of President Ram Nath Kovind's selected speeches, including the one on the country's efforts to fight COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh & Prakash Javadekar released books – “The Republican Ethic Volume III” & “Loktantra Ke Swar”
- The books are the collection of selected speeches of – President Ram Nath Kovind

19. The much-loved Bhojpuri historical novel “Phoolsunghi”, written by veteran Bhojpuri writer Pandey Kapil, has now been translated into English by academic-writer Gautam Choubey. It will be published under Penguin Random House. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Phoolsunghi” Bhojpuri historical novel – written by ‘Pandey Kapil’ & translated into English by ‘Gautam Choubey’

20. “Simply Fly: A Deccan Odyssey” is an autobiography authored by Captain G R Gopinath. In the book, Gopinath wrote about the struggles that he faced in his pursuit to launch a low-cost airline service. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Simply Fly: A Deccan Odyssey” autobiography – authored by ‘G R Gopinath’ (his own autobiography)

21. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a book on the life and ideals of Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism and first of its 10 gurus. The book has been penned by Kirpal Singh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – released a book on the life and ideals of Guru Nanak Dev (The founder of Sikhism)
- The book is authored by – ‘Kirpal Singh’

22. In a new book titled “Indian Icon - A Cult called Royal Enfield” authored by Amrit Raj maps the story of the brand 'Royal Enfield', the company and the individuals who have made it what it is. The book is also the story of the clash of Royal Enfield’s old guard with the new. The book is published by Westland Books. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Indian Icon - A Cult called Royal Enfield” book – authored by Amrit Raj
- The book maps the story of the brand 'Royal Enfield'

23. Prakash Javadekar along with Hardeep Singh Puri has released a booklet titled “PM Modi and his government's special relations with Sikhs” on the occasion of Guru Nanak Jayanti. It was released in three languages - Hindi, English and Gurmukhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prakash Javadekar + Hardeep Singh Puri = released “PM Modi and his government's special relations with Sikhs”



Obituaries

1. A Violinist Tripunithura Narayanaier (TN) Krishnan has passed away recently in Chennai. He was 92. A child prodigy, born in Tripunithura, Kerala, was mentored initially by his father A Narayana Iyer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tripunithura Narayanaier (TN) Krishnan – a Violinist – passed away

2. Bihar's shortest-serving CM Satish Prasad Singh (87) died of Covid-19. He became Bihar's sixth chief minister in 1968 for only five days. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Satish Prasad Singh – a Politician – passed away (Bihar's shortest-serving CM – for 5 days)
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

3. Don Talbot, the foundation director of the Australian Institute of Sport and one of the country's greatest Swimming coaches, has died. He was 87. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Don Talbot (Australia) – Swimming coaches – passed away
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

4. Tamil Nadu Agriculture Minister R Doraikannu, who was battling Covid-19 has passed away recently. He was 72. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R Doraikannu – a Politician – passed away (Tamil Nadu Agriculture Minister)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

5. Sanchaman Limboo, former and 4th Chief Minister of Sikkim has passed away after prolonged illness. He was 73. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanchaman Limboo (Sikkim) – a Politician – passed away (former and 4th Chief Minister of Sikkim)
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad



6. Father Carlos Gonzalez Valles, a Spaniard who was Gujarati by heart, passed away in Madrid, Spain. He was 95. He was born in Logrono on November 4, 1925 and had come to India and settled in Gujarat in 1949. The veteran author wrote extensively in Gujarati, English and Spanish. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Father Carlos Gonzalez Valles (Spain) – an Author – passed away (Gujarati)
- [Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez](#)

7. Former India and Mohun Bagan defender Satyajit Ghosh has passed away recently. He was 62. He represented India in the 1985 Nehru Cup in then Cochin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Satyajit Ghosh – a Football Player – passed away (associated with - Mohun Bagan FC)

8. Ken Spears, known best as the co-creator of the animated series 'Scooby-Doo', has passed away recently in November. He was 82. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ken Spears (USA) – Television Writer – passed away (co-creator of 'Scooby-Doo' animated series)
- [USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden](#)

9. Prince Khalifa bin Salman al Khalifa, the world's longest serving prime minister has passed away recently. He was 84. King Hamad has appointed Crown Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa as the small Gulf state's new prime minister. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prince Khalifa bin Salman al Khalifa – PM of Bahrain – passed away (world's longest serving PM)
- [Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa](#)

10. Padma Shri awardee Sculptor Arjun Prajapati has passed away recently. Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra and Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot have condoled the demise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arjun Prajapati (Rajasthan) – a Sculptor – passed away (Padma Shri awardee)
- [Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra](#)



11. The former president of Ghana (from 2012 to 2017), Jerry John Rawlings, has passed away recently. He was 73. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jerry John Rawlings (Ghana) – a Politician – passed away (Former President of - Ghana)
- [Ghana – Accra – Cedi | President – Nana Akufo-Addo](#)

12. Bollywood Actor Asif Basra has allegedly died by suicide at a private guest house in McLeod Ganj, Himachal Pradesh. He was 53. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Asif Basra – an Actor – passed away (suicide)

13. Actor Soumitra Chatterjee has passed away recently in November. He was 85. He was known for his collaborations with Satyajit Ray and was a recipient of the Padma Bhushan, Dadasaheb Phalke Award, Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, besides winning 3 National Film Awards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Soumitra Chatterjee – an Actor – passed away
- He was the recipient of the Padma Bhushan, Dadasaheb Phalke Award, Sangeet Natak Akademi Award

14. Former chairman of State Bank of India (SBI) P G Kakodkar has passed away in Panaji, Goa. He was 83. He was also on the Managing Committee of Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industries (GCCCI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- P G Kakodkar (Goa) – Former chairman of 'SBI' – passed away
- [Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari](#)

15. Japanese Astrophysicist Masatoshi Koshihara has passed away. He was 94 and was a co-winner of the 2002 Nobel Prize in physics for confirming the existence of elementary particles called neutrinos. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Masatoshi Koshihara (Japan) – an Astrophysicist – passed away (2002 Nobel Prize winner in Physics)
- [Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga](#)



16. Former England, Liverpool and Tottenham Hotspur goalkeeper Ray Clemence has passed away recently. He was 72. He played 61 times for England. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ray Clemence (England) – a Football Player – passed away
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

17. Haryana's first woman MP and former Puducherry Lt. Governor Chandrawati has passed away on November 15. She was 92. She became the first-ever woman MP from Haryana in 1977. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandrawati – a Politician – passed away (First woman MP of Haryana & Former Lt. Governor of Puducherry)

18. Vice admiral John Thomas Goslin Pereira (1923–2020), one of our last surviving officers who served during the World War II, has passed away after a brief illness in Mumbai. He was 97. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- John Thomas Goslin Pereira – Indian Navy Vice admiral (1923–2020) – passed away
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

19. Senior Rajasthan Minister Bhanwar Lal Meghwal has passed away recently in November. He was 72. He was a 5-time MLA. He represented Sujangarh assembly constituency of Churu district of Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhanwar Lal Meghwal – a Politician – passed away (Constituency – Churu, Rajasthan)
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

20. Former Goa Governor and BJP leader Mridula Sinha has passed away. President Ram Nath Kovind and PM Narendra Modi were among the prominent personalities to pay tribute to the first woman Governor of Goa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mridula Sinha – a Politician – passed away (Party – BJP & 1st woman Governor of – Goa)
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

21. Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has condoled the demise of senior Congress leader and former state agriculture minister Mohinder Singh Gill, who passed away. He was 85. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mohinder Singh Gill – a Politician – passed away (Former Agriculture minister of Punjab)
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

23. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has expressed grief over the demise of Sahitya Akademi-recipient Bengali poet Alokranjan Dasgupta, who died on November 17 in Germany. He was 87. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alokranjan Dasgupta – a Bengali poet – passed away (recipient of - Sahitya Akademi)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

24. Veteran Congress leader and a 3-term former Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi has passed away recently in November. He was 84. He was chief minister of the state from 2001 to 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tarun Gogoi – a Politician – passed away (3-term former Assam Chief Minister)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

25. Noted Telugu poet, journalist, scriptwriter, and Kendra Sahitya Academy award winner Shaik Khaja Hussain (70) popularly known as Devi Priya, passed away on November 21. Devi Priya bagged the Sahitya Akademi Award 2017, for his book Gaali Rangu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shaik Khaja Hussain – Telugu Poet, Journalist & Scriptwriter – passed away (Sahitya Academy Award-2017)

26. The co-creator of “Ice Bucket challenge” - a viral social media campaign, Patrick Quinn (Pat Quinn) has passed away recently in November. The campaign raised more than \$220 million for medical research into ALS. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pat Quinn (USA) – passed away (Co-creator of “Ice Bucket challenge”)

27. Renowned thespian Vishwa Mohan Badola has passed away due to age-related illness. The 84-year-old was a popular theatre actor before he started doing TV series and advertisements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vishwa Mohan Badola – an Actor – passed away

28. Actor Ashiesh Roy has passed away recently in November. He was 55. Ashiesh Roy is known for appearing in television shows like Remix, Baa Bahu Aur Baby, Sasural Simar Ka, Mere Angne Mein and Aarambh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashiesh Roy – an Actor – passed away

29. Argentina football legend Diego Maradona has passed away recently in November. He was 60. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Diego Maradona (Argentina) – a Football Player – passed away
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso

30. Anele Ngcongca has passed away recently in November. He was 33. He was a former South Africa defender who played for the host team at the 2010 World Cup. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anele Ngcongca (South Africa) – a Football Player – passed away
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa

31. Faqir Chand Kohli, regarded as the father of Software (IT) Industry in India, has passed away recently. He was 96. Kohli was the founder and first chief executive officer of Indian software bellwether Tata Consultancy Services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Faqir Chand Kohli – Founder and first CEO of TCS – passed away (The father of Software (IT) Industry in India)
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan

32. Senior Congress leader and party treasurer Ahmed Patel (71) has passed away recently in November due to multiple organ failure more than a month after he was tested positive for COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ahmed Patel – a Politician – passed away (Party – Congress)

33. Leading Sudanese politician and former Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi has passed away recently due to coronavirus infection. He was 84. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sadiq al-Mahdi – former PM of Sudan – passed away
- [Sudan – Khartoum – Sudanese Pound](#)

34. James Wolfensohn, a former investment banker has passed away recently. He was 86. He was former President of the World Bank from June 1995 to May 2005. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- James Wolfensohn – a Former Investment Banker – passed away (former President of the World Bank)
- [World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189](#)
- [President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant](#)

35. Former Senegal midfielder Papa Bouba Diop, who scored the first goal of the 2002 World Cup against reigning champions France, has passed away recently. He was 42. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Papa Bouba Diop (Senegal) – a Football Player – passed away
- [Senegal – Dakar – CFA franc](#)

36. Dave Prowse (David Prowse) has passed away recently. He was 85. He was a former body-builder turned actor. He had represented England at the Commonwealth Games in the early 1960s before forging a career in Hollywood. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dave Prowse (UK) – Bodybuilder, Weightlifter & Actor – passed away
- He represented England at the Commonwealth Games - 1960s – in Weightlifting
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson](#)



Persons in News

1. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has constituted a 4 member committee to review “Guidelines on Television Rating Agencies in India” notified by the Ministry in 2014. The committee will be headed by Shri Shashi S. Vempati (CEO of Prasar Bharti). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of I & B constituted a 4 member committee to review “Guidelines on Television Rating Agencies in India”
- It was notified by the Ministry in 2014 | The committee headed by – Shashi S. Vempati
- [Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Information and Broadcasting \(Constituency – Maharashtra\)](#)

2. 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](#)

3. 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](#)

4. 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

5. Insurance sector regulator IRDAI has set up a 9-member working group to revisit product structures of engineering tariffs relevant for the retail category in the wake of continuous advancement in technology. The group is headed by R Chandrasekaran, former secretary general of GI Council. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – set up a 9-member working group to revisit product structures of engineering tariffs
- The group is headed by – R Chandrasekaran
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash C. Khuntia

6. The government has set up a 22-member Inter-Ministerial Committee to strengthen the Capital Goods (CG) Sector through interventions that help the CG Sector in contributing more actively in the national goal of achieving a USD 5 trillion economy and a USD 1 trillion manufacturing sector. The Committee is headed by Arun Goel. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The government set up a 22-member Inter-Ministerial Committee – to strengthen the Capital Goods (CG) Sector
- The committee is headed by – Arun Goel (Secretary of Department of Heavy Industries)

7. The SEBI has set up an expert group to review the framework of share-based employee benefit and issue of sweat equity. The 7-member Expert Group would be chaired by Sandip Bhagat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – set up 7-member expert group to review the framework of share-based employee benefit
- The Expert Group is headed by – Sandip Bhagat

8. East Delhi MP Gautam Gambhir has inaugurated a first-of-its-kind giant Air purifier in Gandhi Nagar market, Delhi. The air purifier is 12-foot-tall, covering an area of 1,000 square metres and delivers 2 lakh cubic metre of clean air every day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gautam Gambhir – inaugurated a first-of-its-kind giant Air purifier – in Gandhi Nagar market, Delhi

9. Government think-tank NITI Aayog has formed a high-level panel to explore the technological and commercial viability of the Virgin Hyperloop technology for ultrahigh speed travel in India. The committee has V. K. Saraswat as its Chairman and Sudhendu Jyoti Sinha as its convener. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – formed a high-level panel to explore the Virgin Hyperloop technology for ultrahigh speed travel
- The committee is headed by – V. K. Saraswat
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

10. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has undertaken a five-day visit to Bahrain, UAE & Seychelles from November 24-29, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Jaishankar – undertook a 5-day visit to Bahrain, UAE & Seychelles from November 24-29
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- Seychelles – Victoria – Seychellois Rupee | President – Wavel Ramkalawan



Science & Technology

1. 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'

2. 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

3. 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

4. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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



5. 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)

6. 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

7. 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

8. 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}](#)

Key Points:

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



9. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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

10. 2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Andrea Ghez had worked closely with Indian astronomers on the design of back-end instruments and possible science prospects of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project being installed at Maunakea in Hawaii. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andrea Ghez + Indian astronomers = collaborated for the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project
- The project is being installed at – Maunakea, Hawaii
- Hawaii – Honolulu – U. S. Dollar

11. China has become the world's first country to have successfully sent the 6G communications test satellite into the orbit from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in the Shanxi Province. As per the reports, the technology is expected to be over 100 times faster than 5G. It was launched into the orbit along with 12 other satellites. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – became the world's first country to launch the 6G communications test satellite into the orbit
- Expected to be over 100 times faster than 5G | It was launched along with 12 other satellites
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

12. China has successfully sent 13 satellites, including 10 from Argentina, into the orbit. This launch was the 351st by the Long March-6 carrier rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in north China's Shanxi Province. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – sent 13 satellites into the orbit (including 10 from Argentina)

- It was 351st launch by the Long March-6 carrier rocket
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

13. Fintech major Paytm has launched “Payout Links” for businesses, enabling them to instantly process payouts to customers, employees and vendors without collecting their bank details. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm – launched “Payout Links” for businesses
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO of Paytm – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar
- CEO of Paytm Payment Bank– Satish Kumar Gupta | CEO of Paytm General Ins. Ltd. – Vineet Arora

14. A team of Indian, Chinese, Indonesian and Thai researchers have found a new Genus of frogs in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and India’s northeast, according to an international animal taxonomy journal. The genus has been named “Rohanixalus” after Sri Lankan taxonomist Rohan Pethiyagoda. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A team of researchers found a new Genus of ‘Frogs’ named “Rohanixalus” – in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- The study published in – an International Animal Taxonomy Journal

15. Indian Institute of Management Udaipur (IIM-U) has virtually launched its “Consumer Culture Lab” to foster consumer culture research in India on November 7, 2020. The Lab aims to bring together perspectives from anthropology, sociology and psychology into consumer research in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIM Udaipur (Rajasthan) – launched its “Consumer Culture Lab” to foster consumer culture research in India
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

16. Google Photos will end its free unlimited storage from June 1, 2021 and start charging once users upload more than 15GB onto their accounts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google Photos will end its free unlimited storage – from June 1, 2021 (Chargeable after 15 GB is used)
- HQs of Google – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai

17. SpaceX has launched 4 astronauts to the International Space Station on the first full-fledged taxi flight for NASA by a private company. The 'Falcon rocket' thundered from Kennedy Space Center with 3 Americans and 1 Japanese astronaut. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SpaceX – launched 4 astronauts to the International Space Station (launched by – 'Falcon Rocket' - the 2nd Crew)
- SpaceX Crew Dragon 1 spacecraft – 'Resilience'
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk

18. Researchers from the Centre for Ecological Sciences (CES), IISc, have discovered 5 new species of Vine Snakes, 4 from the Western Ghats alone. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CES-IISc Researchers – discovered 5 new species of 'Vine Snakes'
- 4 from Western Ghat & 1 from lower, drier part of peninsular India
- Location of CES-IISc – Bengaluru, Karnataka

19. Amazon has launched a performance-based benefits programme called "STEP", designed to help about 700,000 sellers accelerate their growth on the marketplace. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon – launched a performance-based benefits programme called "STEP"
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos

20. Larsen & Toubro has delivered the first hardware, a booster segment "S-200" for the Gaganyaan Launch Vehicle to ISRO ahead of schedule, despite COVID-19 restrictions. The critical booster segment, with a diameter of 3.2 metres, 8.5 metres in length and weighing 5.5 tonnes, was jointly flagged off in a virtual event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Larsen & Toubro – delivered the first hardware, a booster segment "S-200" for the Gaganyaan Launch Vehicle
- HQs of L&T – Mumbai, MH | CMD – SN Subrahmanyam



21. Twitter has launched a new feature of tweets that disappear in 24 hours called “Fleets” globally. Twitter tested the feature in Brazil, Italy, India, and South Korea, before rolling it out globally. Fleets are a lower pressure way to communicate fleeting thoughts as opposed to permanent tweets. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Twitter launched a new feature called “Fleets” | Tweets disappear in 24 hours
- [HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, USA | CEO – Jack Dorsey](#)

22. Pfizer and BioNTech have completed the trial of their coronavirus vaccine called “BNT162b2” with 95% effectiveness in preventing Covid-19. It becomes highly effective against the virus 28 days after the first dose, and its effectiveness was consistent across all ages, races and ethnicities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pfizer & BioNTech – completed the trial of their coronavirus vaccine - “BNT162b2” with 95% effectiveness
- [HQs of Pfizer – New York, USA | CEO – Albert Bourla](#)
- [HQs of BioNTech – Germany | CEO – Ugur Sahin](#)

23. A Hindu temple, believed to have been constructed 1,300 years ago, has been discovered by Pakistani and Italian archaeological experts at a mountain in northwest Pakistan’s Swat district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1,300 years old Hindu temple – discovered in Swat district of Pakistan
- [Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi](#)

24. The US Food and Drug Administration has approved the first Covid-19 self-testing kit for home use that provides results within 30 minutes. It is made by Lucira Health. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USA – approved the first Covid-19 self-testing kit for home use (result within 30 minutes)
- It is made by – Lucira Health
- [USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Joe Biden](#)

25. A new species of mushroom named “Roridomyces phyllostachydis” was discovered in Meghalaya’s Jaintia Hills district. It is a new species of mushroom that emits bright green light in the dark. It is now one among the 97 known species of bioluminescent fungi in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- “Roridomyces phyllostachydis” a new species of mushroom – discovered in Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

26. The Copernicus “Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich” satellite, designed to monitor oceans, was launched from the Vandenberg Air Force base in California aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket on November 21. It has been developed jointly by the European Space Agency (ESA) & the NASA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich” satellite – launched in California, USA (with SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket)
- Developed by – ESA + NASA
- HQs of ESA – Paris, France | CEO – Johann-Dietrich Worner
- HQs NASA – Washington, D.C., United States | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

27. Ravi Shankar Prasad in collaboration with Ministry of External Affairs, has launched the International version of “UMANG app” its 3rd anniversary on 23rd November, 2020. It was launched by PM Narendra Modi in November 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ravi Shankar Prasad – launched the International version of “UMANG app” on its 3rd anniversary
- UMANG – Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)

28. China has successfully launched its first unmanned space mission “Chang'e-5” to collect samples from the moon's surface and return to earth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – launched “Chang'e-5” lunar probe to collect samples from the moon's surface
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

29. Snap Inc has launched a new feature “Spotlight” that would allow users to share short-form videos publicly in its Snapchat app, adding a service that would compete with ByteDance-owned TikTok and Instagram Reels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Snapchat – launched a new feature “Spotlight” to share short-form videos publicly

- [HQs of Snapchat – USA](#) | [CEO – Evan Spiegel](#)

30. Google has launched a new chat feature in its Messages service (SMS) based on the open Rich Communication Services (RCS) standard. Chat features upgrade SMS text messaging so that people can send and receive better quality photos and videos. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google launched a new chat feature on its SMS – based on RCS (Rich Communications Services)
- [HQs of Google – California, United States](#) | [CEO – Sundar Pichai](#)

31. Google has launched a new application called “Task Mate” in India. Through the new application, the company will provide small random tasks to users and once the task is complete, the application will pay a certain amount to the user. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Google – launched a new application called “Task Mate” in India
- [HQs of Google – California, United States](#) | [CEO – Sundar Pichai](#)

32. For the 2nd time, Russia has successfully test-fired a “Tsirkon” Hypersonic Cruise Missile in the Arctic recently in November. It has successfully hit a naval target at a distance of 450 km. In early January, the same frigate test-fired a Tsirkon missile for the first time, striking a ground target over 500 km away. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia – test-fired a “Tsirkon” Hypersonic Cruise Missile in the Arctic ocean (2nd time) (distance of 450 km)
- [Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble](#) | [PM – Mikhail Mishustin](#) | [President – Vladimir Putin](#)

33. Australia will temporarily host ISRO's Satellite Tracking Facilities. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has embarked on an ambitious plan to put an Indian in space by 2022 under ‘Gaganyaan mission’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – will temporarily host Satellite Tracking Facilities for ISRO's ‘Gaganyaan mission’
- [Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar](#) | [PM – Scott Morrison](#)
- [HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka](#) | [Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan](#) | [Formed in – 1969](#)

34. UNDP Accelerator Lab India has launched the “Grassroot Innovation Database” (GRID) to foster inclusive development at the community-level. It contains 1,500 solutions, ranging from simple to complex in design. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNDP Accelerator Lab India – launched the “Grassroot Innovation Database” (GRID)
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner

35. India has successfully test fired the surface-to-surface supersonic cruise missile “BrahMos” in the Andaman and Nicobar as part of a series of planned trials of the weapon, known for its precision strike capabilities. The range of the new land-attack version of the missile has been extended to 400 km from the original 290 km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – test fired the surface-to-surface supersonic cruise missile “BrahMos” in the Andaman and Nicobar
- Missile range – extended to 400 km (from the original 290 km)

36. Around 23 rare medicinal plants in various forests of Karnataka are on the verge of extinction and listed as 'endangered' on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) list. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Around 23 rare medicinal plants in various forests of Karnataka are on the verge of extinction
- These are listed as 'endangered' on the IUCN list
- HQs of IUCN – Gland, Switzerland | President – Xinsheng Zhang

37. The newly discovered dwarf gecko - “Cnemaspis Avasabinae” is the 12th species to be discovered outside the Western Ghats and also the first species reported from the Velikonda Range in Andhra Pradesh. It is a new species of lizard, the smallest known Indian gekkonid, has been discovered in the Eastern Ghats. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A new dwarf gecko (lizard) - “Cnemaspis Avasabinae” – discovered in Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan



38. Scientists have started a project of Radio-Tagging Vultures in Madhya Pradesh's "Panna Tiger Reserve" to study the movements and habits of these birds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists started a project of Radio-Tagging Vultures in "Panna Tiger Reserve" – located in MP
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

39. "Sphaerotheca Bengaluru" - a type of burrowing frog discovered outside its natural habitat has been named after Bengaluru city. The frog was found in a barren tract of land near Rajankunte, on the outskirts of Bengaluru. The findings of newly discovered frog species were published in the international journal Zootaxa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Sphaerotheca Bengaluru" a type of Frog – discovered in Rajankunte, Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala



Ordinance, Bills and Acts

1. 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”

2. 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}](#)

Key Points:

- 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](#)

3. The Haryana Assembly has passed a Bill which provides the right to recall members of Panchayati Raj institutions to those who elected them and gives women 50% reservation in these rural bodies. The Bill also proposed 8% reservation to the “more disadvantaged” among the Backward Classes. Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala tabled the Haryana Panchayati Raj (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana Assembly – passed a Bill on right to recall members of Panchayati Raj institutions
- It also gives women 50% reservation in these rural bodies
- [Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya](#)

4. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has relaxed norms for farmers, students, religious and other groups who are not directly aligned to any political party to receive foreign funds if the groups are not involved in “active politics”. The Ministry notified new rules under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010 by amending the FCRA Rules, 2011. Any organisation that wants to register itself under FCRA shall be in existence for 3 years and should have spent a minimum amount of ₹15 lakh on its core activities for the benefit of society during the last three financial years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MHA – amended the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) Rules, 2011
- MHA – notified new rules under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010

- Criterion for The NGOs: Existed for at least 3 years & spent Rs 15 lakh in voluntary activities

• Ministry of Home Affairs – Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

5. The Jharkhand Assembly has unanimously passed a resolution seeking the inclusion of 'Sarna' as a separate religion in Census, 2021. The bill will now be sent to the Central Government for approval. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jharkhand Assembly – passed a resolution to include 'Sarna' as a separate religion in Census, 2021
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

6. Under Section 6 of the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, the Central government has powers to extend CBI investigation when the state gives its consent. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Under Section 6 of the DSPE Act – the Central government has powers to extend CBI investigation

7. Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit has promulgated an ordinance to ban online gaming in the State, providing for the levy of a ₹5,000 fine and 6 months' imprisonment for those found to be engaging in it. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – promulgated an ordinance to ban online gaming (₹5,000 fine & 6 months' imprisonment)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

8. Indian Army has launched "Operation 500" in Jammu and Kashmir against Pakistan's terrorists. It has been revealed that 500 terrorists are being trained by Pakistan to infiltrate in Jammu and Kashmir from different launchpads across the LoC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – launched "Operation 500" in Jammu and Kashmir against Pakistan's terrorists
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – S K Saini
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



9. "The Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance - 2020" was passed by the State Cabinet and was promulgated on November 27. Violation of the provisions of the law would invite a jail term of not less than one year, extendable to five years, with a fine of ₹15,000. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh passed – "Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance - 2020"
- In case of the Violation of the provisions: Jail of 1 to 5 years | Fine of ₹15,000
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel





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