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October MockDrill100 PDF No.9

(PDF in English)



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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill 100 of October 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

स्म<mark>ार्टकीड़ा</mark> 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 अक्टूबर माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill 100 में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा

801. Appointments & Resignations

Jishnu Barua was appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Assam by replacing Kumar Sanjay Krishna who retires on October 31. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Jishnu Barua appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Assam (replacing Kumar Sanjay Krishna)
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

802. Current GK

Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) will have Women Nature Guides for the first time in its history. These selected women will be registered as guides and given responsibilities after a training and orientation programme. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Corbett Tiger Reserve (Uttarakhand) will have Women Nature Guides for the first time in its history
- Uttarakhand: Capital Dehradun & Gairsain | CM Trivndra Singh Rawat | Governor Baby Rani Maurya

803. Acquisitions & Mergers

Axis Bank with its subsidiaries Axis Securities will acquire 19% stake in Max Life insurance. The revised agreements will supersede the previous agreements entered into between the parties for acquiring 17% stake in Max life. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Axis Bank will acquire 19% stake in Max Life insurance (instead of 17%)
- HQs of Axis Bank Mumbai | MD & CEO Amitabh Chaudhry
- HQs of Max Life Ins. New Delhi | MD & CEO Prashant Tripathy

804. Banking & Economic Affairs

State Bank of India (SBI) has entered into a partnership with global non-profit education platform "edX" to offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on the platform from November 2020 onwards. {Read more}

Key Points:

- SBI + edX (USA) = partnership to offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- 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



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805. Appointments & Resignations

Former diplomat and Central Information Commissioner Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha is set to be appointed as the country's next Chief Information Commissioner (CIC). {Read more}

Key Points:

• Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha – to be appointed as India's next Chief Information Commissioner (CIC)

806. Important Days & Dates

The 10th annual global celebration of "Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week" took place from 24 to 31 October 2020, under the theme "Resisting Disinfodemic: Media and Information Literacy for everyone and, by everyone". The event was led by the UNESCO & joined by the WHO. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 24-31 = 10th "Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week" by UNESCO + WHO
- Theme "Resisting Disinfodemic: Media and Information Literacy for everyone and, by everyone"

807. Defence Affairs

The first phase of the "Malabar" Naval exercise including Australia along with Japan and the U.S., is scheduled to be held next week off the Visakhapatnam coast. This is the first time Australia will be joining the exercise after 2007. {Read more}

Key Points:

- The 1st phase of the "Malabar" Naval exercise scheduled to be held off the Visakhapatnam coast
- Exercise to be held among India + Japan + USA + Australia
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan

808. Defence Affairs

The Indian Army has launched a messaging app called "SAI" that will provide secure voice, text and video calling services to its soldiers. {Read more}

- Indian Army launched a messaging app called "SAI" (Secure Application for Internet)
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief S K Saini



809. National & States Affairs

Indian IT major Infosys has turned carbon neutral 30 years ahead of 2050, the timeline set by the Paris Agreement. In 2011, Infosys made a pledge to become carbon neutral by 2020. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Infosys took a pledge to become Carbon Neutral by 2050 (Earlier 2020)
- HQs of Infosys Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Salil Parekh

810. National & States Affairs

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has launched the "Green Delhi" mobile application using which citizens can bring pollution causing activities to the government's notice. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Arvind Kejriwal launched the "Green Delhi" mobile application
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

811. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The United Kingdom has entered into a strategic partnership to develop India's fledgling international financial services centre GIFT City, and agreed to set up a new Fund of Funds to be managed by the State Bank of India group in order to route U.K.'s future capital investments into India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- UK + India = partnership to develop International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) GIFT City
- HQs of IFSCA Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman Injeti Srinivas
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM of UK Boris Johnson

812. Appointments & Resignations

The Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI) has announced appointment of PVG Menon as its Chief Executive Officer. ESSCI works with industry, the National Skill Development Corporation, and the Ministry of Electronics and IT to provide both skilling and re-skilling services to the industry. {Read more}

- PVG Menon appointed as the CEO of ESSCI
- HQs of ESSCI New Delhi | CEO of PVG Menon

813. Sports & Games

Chris Gayle has become the first batsman to get to 1,000 sixes in T20 cricket history during his belligerent 99 against Kings XI Punjab in an Indian Premier League match. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Chris Gayle (Jamaica) became the first batsman to get to 1,000 sixes in T20 cricket history
- Jamaica Kingston Jamaican dollar

814. National & States Affairs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated "Sardar Patel Zoological Park", popularly known as Jungle Safari, in Kevadia, Narmada district, Gujarat. The park has been set up near the 182-metre Statue of Unity. PM Modi has also inaugurated the 'Arogya Van' in Kevadia. Besides, PM Modi also inaugurated 'Ekta Mall' and 'Children Nutrition Park' and took a ride in 'nutri train' at the park. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated:

• Sardar Patel Zoological Park (Jungle Safari) + Arogya Van + Ekta Mall + Children Nutrition Park = at Kevadia, Gujarat

- 182-metre "Statue of Unity" located in Kevadia, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat

815. Banking & Economic Affairs

RBL Bank in partnership with Visa has launched "Visa Direct" which facilitates instant, real-time and secure fund settlement on debit and credit cards. The platform will help RBL Bank build advanced tech-led banking solutions to address evolving needs of its partners and merchants. {Read more}

Key Points:

- RBL Bank + Visa = launched "Visa Direct"
- HQs of RBL Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Vishwavir Ahuja
- HQs of Visa Foster City, California | CEO Alfred F. Kelly

816. Important Days & Dates

"National Unity Day" or "Rashtriya Ekta Diwas" is celebrated on October 31 every year. The day was introduced by the Government of India in 2014 to mark the birth anniversary of Iron Man of India - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. This year marks his 145th birth anniversary. {Read more}

- October 31 "National Unity Day" or "Rashtriya Ekta Diwas" since 2014
- 145th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.



817. National & States Affairs

Durg district of Chhattisgarh has recently launched "Nanhi Durga" mascot to spread awareness about Covid19 among people. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Durg, Chhattisgarh launched "Nanhi Durga" mascot to spread awareness about Covid19
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey

818. Current GK

The Border Security Force Brass and Jazz Band, Guwahati Frontier has displayed a symphony of martial music organized at Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport, in Assam. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport" located in Assam
- Assam: Capital Dispur | CM Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor Jagdish Mukhi

819. Obituaries

Daniel Menaker, Book Editor & Author has passed away recently in October. He was 79. After 26 years at The New Yorker, he became chief editor at Random House, overseeing works by a raft of luminaries. He wrote a half-dozen well-received books of his own. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Daniel Menaker (USA) an Author & Book Editor passed away
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

820. National & States Affairs

A unique Plastic Premier League (PPL) tournament is being played in Indore, Madhya Pradesh to free the city from single use plastic. Indore has been awarded as the cleanest city in the country four times so far. {Read more}

- A unique Plastic Premier League (PPL) tournament is being played in Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Anandiben Patel



821. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurated the 4th Edition of India Energy Forum by CERAWeek (Cambridge Energy Research Associates). It was organised by NITI Aayog in association with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The India Energy Forum by CERAWeek was started in 2017. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi Inaugurated 4th Edition of India Energy Forum by CERAWeek (started in 2017)
- It was organised by NITI Aayog + Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- NITI Aayog HQs New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar

822. Important Days & Dates

The 7th edition of "World Cities Day" was observed recently on October 31. This year, the theme was "Valuing our communities and cities." {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 31 7th edition of "World Cities Day"
- Theme "Valuing our communities and cities"

823. Defence Affairs

The Indian Air Force has successfully test-fired an air-launched version of the "BrahMos" supersonic cruise missile from a Sukhoi fighter aircraft in the Bay of Bengal. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Indian Air Force test-fired an air-launched version of the "BrahMos" supersonic cruise missile
- From Sukhoi fighter aircraft | In the Bay of Bengal
- HQs of IAF New Delhi | Chief Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

824. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Niti Aayog has released a 'Draft Model Act and Rules' for states on conclusive land titling with an aim to reduce litigations and ease the land acquisition process for infrastructure projects. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Niti Aayog released 'Draft Model Act and Rules' on land titles
- NITI Aayog HQs New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar



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825. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

President Ram Nath Kovind has promulgated an ordinance to constitute a Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and adjoining areas. The new central body will replace the over 2-decade old Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA). {Read more}

Key Points:

• Ram Nath Kovind promulgated an ordinance to constitute a Commission for Air Quality Management in – New Delhi

• Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

826. Obituaries

The Scottish actor Sean Connery has passed away recently in October. He was best known for playing role in James Bond movie. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Sean Connery (Scotland) an Actor passed away
- Scotland Edinburgh Pound sterling

827. National & States Affairs

The Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) has launched the facility of filing 'NIL statement' for Composition Taxpayers. With this, composition taxpayers can now file NIL statement in 'Form GST CMP-08' through SMS and without logging in to the GST portal. {Read more}

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Key Points:

- GSTN launched the facility of filing 'NIL statement' for Composition Taxpayers in 'Form GST CMP-08'
- HQs of GSTN New Delhi | CEO Prakash Kumar | Founded in 2013

828. National & States Affairs

To give an impetus to the diversification of the jute industry, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has extended the norms for mandatory packaging of 100% food grains and 20% sugar in diversified jute bags. {Read more}

Key Points:

• CCEA – extended the norms for mandatory packaging of 100% food grains and 20% sugar in diversified jute bags



829. Important Days & Dates

"World Savings Day" is observed every year on October 31 all over the world. Previously known as "World Thrift Day", this day is celebrated in India on October 30. This day is dedicated to promote the importance of savings and learn more about the same. World Savings Day was first introduced in 1924 as World Thrift Day at the first International Thrift Congress held in Milan, Italy. {Read more}

Key Points:

• October 31 – "World Savings Day" or "World Thrift Day" – since 1924 (in India on October 30)

830. National & States Affairs

Chief Justice of India, Sharad Arvind Bobde inaugurated India's first-ever E-resource centre "Nyay Kaushal" on October 31. The centre was inaugurated at Judicial Officers Training Institute in Maharashtra's Nagpur. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Sharad Arvind Bobde inaugurated India's first-ever E-resource centre "Nyay Kaushal" in Nagpur, MH
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

831. Sports & Games

World silver-medallist Amit Panghal (52kg), Sanjeet (91kg) & Ashish Kumar (75kg) struck Gold in their first competition after a coronavirus-forced break, claiming the top honours at the "Alexis Vastine International Boxing Tournament" in Nantes, France. In that event, 9 Indians - five men and four women - qualified for the Tokyo Olympics, postponed to next year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Alexis Vastine International Boxing Tournament" in Nantes, France
- 3 Boxers Amit Panghal + Sanjeet + Ashish Kumar = won Gold medal
- 9 Indians (5 male + 4 female) = qualified for the "Tokyo Olympics-2021"

832. Important Days & Dates

Union Territory of Ladakh has celebrated its first Raising Day or Union Territory Foundation Day on October 31, 2020. It was on this day in 2019, Ladakh became a union territory. A series of foundation or dedication of programmes is planned in Leh and Kargil districts. {Read more}

- On October 31 Ladakh has celebrated its 1st "Raising Day" or "Union Territory Foundation Day"
- Ladakh: Capital Leh | Lt. Governor R K Mathur



833. Important Days & Dates

"World Psoriasis Day" was recently observed on October 29. This year, the theme was "INFORMED". Psoriasis is a skin disorder that causes skin cells to multiply up to 10 times faster than normal. {Read more}

Key Points:

• October 29 – World Psoriasis Day | Theme – "INFORMED"

834. National & States Affairs

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has banned exports of onion seeds with immediate effect due to shortage in the domestic market. Earlier, the export of onion seeds was in the restricted category, which means an exporter was required to obtain a licence or permission from the government for shipments. {Read more}

Key Points:

- DGFT banned exports of 'Onion seeds' with immediate effect
- DGFT comes under "Ministry of Commerce & Industry" (Piyush Goyal Maharashtra)
- DGFT HQs New Delhi | Director General Amit Yadav

835. Current GK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently visited Gujarat & inaugurated Sardar Sarovar Dam, Unity Glow Garden, Cactus Garden, Ekta Cruise, a website of 'Statue of Unity' and also launched 'Kevadia app'. {Read more}

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Key Points:

- Sardar Sarovar Dam + Unity Glow Garden + Cactus Garden + Ekta Cruise = inaugurated by PM Modi in Gujarat
- PM Modi also unveiled = a website of 'Statue of Unity' & 'Kevadia app'
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat

836. National & States Affairs

In order to offer more safety to female passengers, Indian Railways has launched "Meri Saheli" initiative which aims for focused action on the security of women across all zones. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Indian Railways launched "Meri Saheli" initiative for the security of women
- Chairman of Indian Railways Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs New Delhi



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837. National & States Affairs

Kerala has become the first state to fix the floor price for vegetables, which would be 20% above the production cost. The scheme would come into effect from November 1. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Kerala the first state to fix the floor price for vegetables (20% above the production cost)
- Kerala: Capital Thiruvananthapuram | CM Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor Arif Mohammad Khan

838. Important Days & Dates

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid tribute to former prime minister Indira Gandhi on her 36th death anniversary on October 31. The then prime minister was assassinated by her bodyguards here in 1984. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 31– 36th death anniversary of Indira Gandhi
- "Peoples and Problems" book authored by 'Indira Gandhi'

839. Amount & Agreements

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the second and third phase of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project to be implemented with financial assistance of the World Bank and AIIB. The project cost is ₹ 10,211 crore and it will be implemented over 10 years in two phases. {Read more}

Key Points:

- CCEA approved the 2nd & 3rd phase of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project
- Financial assistance of World Bank + AIIB | Cost of the Project ₹ 10,211 crore
- HQs of World Bank Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant
- HQs of AIIB Beijing, China | President Jin Liqun

840. National & States Affairs

The Centre has proposed a double-decker flyover in Chennai in an effort to decongest parts of the city. The project, if approved by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami, will be built at a cost of ₹5,000 crore. Currently, India's largest double Decker flyover is being built in Chapra, Bihar. {Read more}

Key Points:

- The Centre has proposed a double-decker flyover in Chennai, TN (at a cost of ₹5,000 crore)
- India's largest double Decker flyover being built in Chapra, Bihar



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841. Amount & Agreements

NABARD has sanctioned loans worth ₹ 8504.30 lakh under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to the Government of Goa for various Social Infrastructure Projects in the State. With this, NABARD achieved 100% of the target fixed for sanction to the State Government during 2020-21. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NABARD sanctioned loans worth ₹ 8504.30 lakh under "RIDF" to the Government of Goa
- HQs of NABARD Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Chintala Govinda Rajulu
- Goa: Capital Panaji | CM Pramod Sawant | Governor Satya Pal Malik

842. National & States Affairs

Dairy production in India began as far back as in the 3rd millennium BCE and may have been a factor behind sustaining the Indus Valley Civilisation, according to findings from a team of Canadian and Indian researchers. The study is published in the journal Nature. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Indus valley Civilisation" had dairy production way back in 3rd millennium BCE
- Evidence of dairy production found in Kotada Bhadli, Gujarat

843. Current GK

Divisional commissioner Raj Shekhar has visited "Panki Thermal Power Plant" and directed the officials to ensure timely completion of the upgradation work of the thermal plant and make it functional by January 2022. The upgraded plant would have a capacity of 660 MW thermal power production. The project was started in 2018. {Read more}

reed

Key Points:

- Panki Thermal Power Plant located in Uttar Pradesh functional by January 2022
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

844. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Chhattisgarh assembly has approved the Chhattisgarh Krishi Upaj Mandi (Amendment) Bill 2020 that declared the entire state as a market for selling agriculture produce to negate the Centre's farm laws that allowed private players to directly buy produce from farmers. {Read more}

- Chhattisgarh approved "Krishi Upaj Mandi (Amendment) Bill 2020"
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey



845. Schemes & Initiatives

The Department of Pharmaceuticals has revised guidelines of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes for promoting domestic manufacturing of bulk drugs and medical devices. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Department of Pharmaceuticals revised guidelines of the "PLI" schemes (Production Linked Incentive)
- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers D. V. Sadananda Gowda (Bangalore, Karnataka)

846. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has signed a contract worth Rs 400 crore with Tech Mahindra for implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to support its project 'Parivartan'. {Read more}

Key Points:

- HAL + Tech Mahindra = contract worth Rs 400 crore for project 'Parivartan'
- HQs of HAL Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Amitabh Bhatt
- HQs of Tech Mahindra Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Chander Prakash Gurnani

847. National & States Affairs

Keeping in view the Diwali festival, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched a Limited Edition of two-layered "Happy Diwali" printed face masks made of pure Muslin fabric. It is a high quality and ultra-fine cotton fabric handmade by traditional Khadi artisans of West Bengal. {Read more}

Key Points:

- KVIC launched a Limited Edition of two-layered "Happy Diwali" printed face masks
- Made of Muslin fabric | handmade by traditional Khadi artisans of West Bengal
- HQs of KVIC Mumbai, Mahrashtra | Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar

848. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The 5th edition of Public Affairs Index 2020 (PAI 2020) is released by Public Affairs Centre (PAC) on October 30, 2020. The states were ranked on governance performance based on a composite index in the context of sustainable development. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 5th edition of Public Affairs Index 2020 released by Public Affairs Centre
- Large States: 1st Kerala | 2nd Tamil Nadu | 3rd Andhra Pradesh
- Small States: 1st Goa | 2nd Meghalaya | 3rd Himachal Pradesh
- Union Territory: 1st Chandigarh | 2nd Puducherry | 3rd Lakshadweep

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849. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

West Bengal has occupied the top position in the decline of dropout rate among school students during 2018-2020, according to the Annual State of Education Report (ASER) 2020. The school dropout rate in the state declined from 3.3% to 1.5%. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Annual State of Education Report (ASER) 2020" by the Pratham Education Foundation
- Topped by West Bengal 1.5% (from 3.3%)
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar

850. Science & Technology

BharatPe has introduced Digital Gold Product on its platform for merchants in association with Safegold. Safegold is a digital platform that allows customers to buy, sell and take delivery of 24k physical gold, at low ticket sizes, around the clock. {Read more}

Key Points:

- BharatPe + Safegold = introduced Digital Gold Product on its platform
- HQs of BharatPe New Delhi | Founder & CEO Ashneer Grover

851. International Affairs

New tropical storm "Hurricane Zeta" has recently hit the USA. The system was centered about 260 miles (420 kilometers) southeast of Cozumel Island. Zeta was the earliest named 27th Atlantic storm recorded in an already historic hurricane season. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Hurricane "Zeta" recently hit the USA
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

852. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

In another significant step towards ensuring ease of doing business by simplification, digitization and decriminalization of compliances, Punjab Government has signed an MoU with the Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME) to support MSMEs. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Punjab + GAME = signed an MoU to support MSMEs
- Punjab: Capital Chandigarh | CM Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor V. P. Singh Badnore

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853. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The Orations & Awards Committee of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), has selected Dr Satish Mishra for "Dr.Tulsi Das Chugh Award" for the year 2020 in recognition of his research work on Malaria parasite's life cycle. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Dr Satish Mishra – conferred "Dr.Tulsi Das Chugh Award-2020" – for Malaria parasite's life cycle

854. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Remittances to India would fall this year by 9% to \$76 billion due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and global economic recession, according to the latest estimates published in the World Bank's "Migration and Development Brief". {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Migration and Development Brief" report released by World Bank
- Remittances to India would fall this year by 9% to \$76 billion
- HQs World Bank Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant

855. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The 3rd India International Film Festival of Boston (IIFFB) 2020 was recently held in Boston, United States. Late actor Om Puri was honoured there with a "Lifetime Achievement Award". Malayalam film "Kaanthi" has won the Best Feature Film Award. The Best Actor Male was won by Victor Bannerjee for playing a priest in Josef: Born In Grace. {Read more}

Key Points:

- 3rd India International Film Festival of Boston (IIFFB) 2020 in Boston, USA
- "Lifetime Achievement Award" Om Puri
- "Best Feature Film Award" "Kaanthi" (Malayalam film)
- Best Actor Award (male) Victor Bannerjee
- Best Actor Award (female) Shylaja Ambu

856. National & States Affairs

The Labour and Employment Ministry has revised the base year of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) from 2001 to 2016 to reflect the changing consumption pattern. It also gave more weightage to spending on health, education, recreation and other miscellaneous expenses, while reducing the weight of food and beverages. {Read more}



- Labour and Employment Ministry revised the base year of the CPI-IW from 2001 to 2016
- MoS in Ministry of Labour and Employment Santosh Gangwar

857. Books & Authors

Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel has released the world's first scientoon book (a cartoon book on science) titled "Bye Bye Corona". The book is written by Pradeep Kumar Srivastava. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Bye Bye Corona" the world's first scientoon book written by 'Pradeep Kumar Srivastava'
- The book released by Anandiben Patel

858. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

DBS Bank has been named the 'Safest Bank in Asia' for the 12th consecutive year by New York-based trade publication Global Finance. DBS' rankings as the fourth-safest commercial bank in the world and 14th safest bank globally remain unchanged from 2019 and 2018. {Read more}

Key Points:

• DBS Bank – named as the 'Safest Bank in Asia' for the 12th consecutive year by Global Finance (14th in the world)

- KfW bank named as the 'World's Safest Bank' by Global Finance
- SBI named as the 'Safest Bank In India' by Global Finance
- HQs of DBS Bank Singapore | CEO Piyush Gupta

859. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit has given his assent to a Bill envisaging 7.5% reservation to government school students who have cleared the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test in admission to medical courses. {Read more}

Key Points:

 \bullet Tamil Nadu – to provide 7.5% reservation to students who cleared NEET Test admission to medical courses

• Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

860. Acquisitions & Mergers

Reserve Bank of India has granted approval to Maple II B.V., for acquiring more than 5% but up to 9.99% of the paid up share capital of RBL Bank. RBL Bank's net profit surged 165% to Rs 144 crore in Q2 September 2020. {Read more}



- RBI granted approval to Maple II B.V. to acquire up to 9.99% stake in RBL Bank
- HQs of RBL Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Vishwavir Ahuja

861. National & States Affairs

Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has completed work towards creation of a Unified Procurement System by integrating GeM with the Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) and consolidating the entire public buying of goods and services onto a single platform. {Read more}

Key Points:

- GeM integrated with the Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP)
- CEO of GeM Talleen Kumar | GeM portal launched by Ministry of Commerce (in 2016)

862. National & States Affairs

The Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC) has named one of its stations as "Pride Station" and dedicated the station to the transgender community. Earlier known as "Sector 50" metro station, the station will now be known as the Pride station. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Noida Metro Rail Corp renamed "Sector 50" metro station as "Pride Station"
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

863. Defence Affairs

The Indian Navy has successfully test-fired an Anti-Ship Missile (AShM) from its missile corvette INS Kora off the eastern coast. The test-firing conducted as part of a practice drill mimicking a war-like situation. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Indian Navy test-fired an Anti-Ship Missile (AShM) from its missile corvette "INS Kora"
- Chief of Indian Navy Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief G. Ashok Kumar

864. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

NTPC has signed an agreement with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) for JPY 50 billion (approximately USD 480 million or ₹3,500 crore) under JBIC's GREEN operations in India. Besides NTPC, State Bank of India (SBI) has also signed a loan agreement worth \$1 billion with JBIC. {Read more}



- NTPC + JBIC = an agreement for JPY 50 billion (\$480 million or ₹3,500 Cr)
- SBI + JBIC = an agreement for \$1 billion
- HQs of NTPC New Delhi | CMD Gurdeep Singh
- HQs of JBIC Tokyo, Japan | President & CEO Tadashi Maeda
- 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

865. Defence Affairs

A Defense Logistics Production Centre and Atal Innovation Park has started functioning at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. This is part of the second defence corridor project. The first defence corridor was inaugurated in Uttar Pradesh in 2018. {Read more}

Key Points:

- A Defense Logistics Production Centre and Atal Innovation Park started functioning at Coimbatore, TN
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

he Question Bank

866. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The 10th round of Ministerial the United Kingdom (UK)-India Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) was held virtually On October 28, 2020. Nirmala Sitharaman represented India at the Dialogue. India and the United Kingdom have agreed to establish a bilateral Sustainable Finance Forum. {Read more}

Key Points:

- \bullet Nirmala Sitharaman attended the $10^{th}\,round$ of Ministerial the UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue
- India + UK = agreed to establish a bilateral Sustainable Finance Forum
- UK London Pound Sterling | PM of UK Boris Johnson

867. Banking & Economic Affairs

As a part of the Vigilance Awareness Week (VAW), Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched the "PNB Tracking & Monitoring Staff Accountability Cases (TMSAC) portal" and PNB's 2020 Vigilance Manual. {Read more}



• PNB – launched the "PNB Tracking & Monitoring Staff Accountability Cases (TMSAC) portal" and Vigilance Manual

- HQs of PNB New Delhi | MD & CEO S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao
- Vigilance Commissioner Suresh N Patel

868. Schemes & Initiatives

In Tamil Nadu, the "Young Advocates Welfare Fund" has been launched. It provides a monthly financial assistance of Rs. 3000 each for 2 years to the lawyers who just come out of law colleges. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu launched "Young Advocates Welfare Fund"
- Financial assistance of Rs. 3000 each for 2 years
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

869. Current GK

International Coordinating Council (ICC) of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme has included 3 new Biosphere Reserves - Panna Biosphere Reserve (Madhya Pradesh), Fuvahmulah Biosphere Reserve (Maldives) and Addu Atoll Biosphere Reserve (Maldives) to UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ICC UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere programme included 3 new Biosphere Reserves to the list
- Panna Biosphere Reserve (Madhya Pradesh) declared as 12th Biosphere Reserve of India
- Fuvahmulah Biosphere Reserve (Maldives)
- Addu Atoll Biosphere Reserve (Maldives)

870. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Tech giant IBM has collaborated with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) to transform the latter's customer experience using digital tools. The IndianOil One mobile app and portal are part of Indian Oil's Project ePIC, an integrated platform for Customer Relationship Management (CRM) and Distribution Management System (DMS). {Read more}

- IBM + IOCL = collaboration to transform the latter's customer experience using digital tools
- IBM HQs Armonk, New York, United States | CEO Arvind Krishna
- HQs of IOCL New Delhi | Chairperson Shrikant Madhav Vaidya



871. National & States Affairs

Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has launched 'Dharani' Portal for land and property registrations at Mudu Chinatalapalli village of Medchal-Malkajgiri district. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Telangana launched 'Dharani' Portal for land and property registrations
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan

872. National & States Affairs

NITI Aayog and Quality Council of India (QCI) have launched the 'National Program and Project Management Policy Framework' (NPMPF), with the aim of bringing radical reforms in the way infrastructure projects are executed in India. {Read more}

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + QCI = launched the 'National Program and Project Management Policy Framework' (NPMPF)
- NITI Aayog HQs New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of QCI New Delhi | Chairman Adil Zainulbhai | Secretary General Dr Ravi P Singh

873. Current GK

The tigers of Chhattisgarh's "Indravati National Park" seem to prefer the forests of Mancherial and Kumrambheem-Asifabad districts when it comes to hunting and breeding. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Indravati National Park" located in Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital Raipur | CM Bhupesh Baghel | Governor Anusuiya Uikey

874. Current GK

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has launched the virtual festival of "Parampara Series 2020 - National Festival of Music & Dance" which is organised by Natya Tarangini in partnership with the United Nations. {Read more}

- M. Venkaiah Naidu "Parampara Series 2020 National Festival of Music & Dance"
- It is organised = by Natya Tarangini + United Nations



875. Important Days & Dates

"International Internet Day" is celebrated globally on October 29 every year to commemorate a momentous day in the history of telecommunications and technology. Charley Kline, a student programmer at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), transmitted the first-ever electronic message on October 29, 1969. {Read more}

Key Points:

• October 29 – "International Internet Day"

876. National & States Affairs

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) board has approved "Bullion Exchange Regulations-2020" to set up the entire ecosystem for bullion trading. The board also approved International Financial Services Centres Authority (Global In-House Centres) Regulations, 2020 to provide services relating to financial products and financial services. {Read more}

Key Points:

• IFSCA board approved – "Bullion Exchange Regulations-2020" & "Global In-House Centres Regulations-2020"

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• HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

877. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

ICICI Lombard General Insurance in partnership with Freepaycard has launched Group Safeguard Insurance. The plan will be offered to the members of Freepaycard, allowing them to receive an assured amount in case of any injury or hospitalization for treatment. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ICICI Lombard + Freepaycard = launched Group Safeguard Insurance
- HQs of ICICI Lombard Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of Freepaycard Gurgaon, Haryana

878. National & States Affairs

Indian Army has introduced a software named "Infrastructure Management System (IMS)" software which was inaugurated by Manoj Mukund Narvane for automation of functions related to infrastructure development and management on the sidelines of the Army Commanders Conference on 28 October 2020. {Read more}



- Indian Army launched the "Infrastructure Management System (IMS)" software
- HQs of Indian Army New Delhi | Chief Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief S K Saini

879. National & States Affairs

While inaugurating the CII's "Green Building Congress 2020", the Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has launched a coffee table book and Rating systems on Healthcare, Logistics and Net Zero Water. He also congratulated CII for its 125th anniversary. According to the World Green Building Council, buildings and construction account for 39% of energy related CO₂ emissions in the world. {Read more}

Key Points:

• M. Venkaiah Naidu launched – a coffee table book and Rating systems on Healthcare, Logistics and Net Zero Water

- M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated "Green Building Congress 2020"
- 125th anniversary of CII (Confederation of Indian Industry)
- HQs of CII New Delhi | President Uday Kotak | Director General Chandrajit Banerjee

880. Schemes & Initiatives

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Science & Technology has launched a Scheme titled "SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research)", designed exclusively for women scientists. SERB - POWER Scheme will have 2 components namely (i) SERB-POWER Fellowship (ii) SERB- POWER Research Grants. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ministry of Science & Technology launched a Scheme titled "SERB-POWER"
- SERB A statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- HQs of SERB New Delhi | Secretary Prof Sandeep Verma

881. Current GK

Bathukamma, a floral festival was celebrated on a grand note recently in October amid Covid-19 scare. Bathukamma celebrated for nine-days during Dasara navaratri festival was started on October 16 and concluded as 'Saddula Bathukamma'. {Read more}

- "Bathukamma" a floral dance festival celebrated in Telangana
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan



882. Banking & Economic Affairs

IndusInd Bank has gone live on the RBI's account aggregator (AA) framework making it the first bank in the country to go live. It has gone live as 'Financial Information Provider' (FIP) with DigiSahamati. {Read more}

Key Points:

• IndusInd Bank – 1st bank in India to become a FIP under the new Account Aggregator (AA) Framework of RBI

• HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – "We Make You Feel Richer"

883. Obituaries

Mesut Yilmaz, a former Turkish prime minister, and veteran politician has passed away recently in October. He was 72. He served as Prime Minister 3 times in the 1990s. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Mesut Yilmaz a former Turkish PM passed away
- Turkey Ankara Lira

884. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The European Commission and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) have signed a new implementing arrangement to enhance scientific cooperation. {Read more}

ceeda

Key Points:

- European Commission + ICSSR = a new implementing arrangement to enhance scientific cooperation
- HQs of European Commission Brussels, Belgium | President Ursula von der Leyen

885. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

India and Mexico have held the 8th edition of "Joint Commission Meeting" and reviewed cooperation in several areas including trade, investment, agriculture, health and education. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar co-chaired the meeting. {Read more}

- India and Mexico held the 8th edition of "Joint Commission Meeting" co-chaired by 'S. Jaishankar'
- Mexico Mexico city Mexican Peso



886. Science & Technology

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch an Earth Observation (Surveillance) Satellite of Risat series code named 'EOS-01' from Sriharikota on November 7 with PSLV-C49 rocket. {Read more}

Key Points:

• ISRO – to launch an Earth Observation (Surveillance) Satellite named 'EOS-01' from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh

- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan

887. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

India has hosted the 19th Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Ministers of Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade. Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Hardeep Singh Puri had participated in the meeting. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India has hosted the 19th Meeting of the SCO Ministers of Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade
- Piyush Goyal + Hardeep Singh Puri = participated in the meeting
- HQs of SCO Beijing, China

888. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and Japan in the field of Information and Communication Technologies. The MoC is aimed at cooperation in areas such as 5G network, telecom security, submarine cable, certification of communication equipment, utilisation of latest wireless technologies and Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). {Read more}

iartkeeda

Key Points:

- India + Japan = signed an MoC in the field of Information and Communication Technologies
- Japan Tokyo Yen | PM Yoshihide Suga

889. Important Days & Dates

"World Stroke Day" was recently observed on October 29. This day tries to create awareness about the prevention of stroke. This year, the theme is "Get ready to join the Movement". {Read more}

- October 29 World Stroke Day
- Theme "Get ready to join the Movement"



890. Appointments & Resignations

The Centre has extended till December 31 the term of Justice (retd) Bansi Lal Bhat as the officiating Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). {Read more}

Key Points:

• Bansi Lal Bhat - extended as Chairperson of NCLAT till December 31

891. Persons in News

Delhi University Vice Chancellor Yogesh Tyagi was suspended on the orders of President Ram Nath Kovind who has directed an inquiry against him over allegations of dereliction of duty. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Yogesh Tyagi (VC of Delhi University) suspended on the orders of President Ram Nath Kovind
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

892. Defence Affairs

The American Government has offered to provide its "F-18 Naval Fighter Jets" along with the unmanned aircraft "Sea Guardian" for the Indian Navy's requirements of combat jets for its aircraft carriers under a government proposal at the meeting between defence delegations of both countries during the 2+2 meetings. {Read more}

Key Points:

- USA offered to provide "F-18 Naval Fighter Jets" + "Sea Guardian" for the Indian Navy's requirement
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump
- Chief of Indian Navy Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief G. Ashok Kumar

893. Amount & Agreements

India has extended a \$1-billion line of credit to Central Asian countries for priority projects in connectivity, energy, IT and health care as part of New Delhi's efforts to boost its role as a transparent development partner. {Read more}

Key Points:

• India – extended a \$1-billion line of credit to Central Asian countries

894. Obituaries

Former Gujarat chief minister and veteran BJP leader Keshubhai Savdas Patel has passed away recently. He was 92. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Keshubhai Patel (Gujarat) a Politician passed away (Former Gujarat CM | Party: BJP)
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat



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895. National & States Affairs

Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to establish anti-human trafficking Police Stations in each and every district in a major step towards the security of women and children. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh decided to establish anti-human trafficking Police Stations in each and every district
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

896. Schemes & Initiatives

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) to facilitate the stakeholders by providing valuable marketing platform and ensuring optimum prices to the apple growers. The Market Intervention Scheme will make way for the procurement of 12 lakh metric tonnes of apples. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Manoj Sinha launched a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) to facilitate farmers growing Apples
- J &K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

897. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Cambodia for cooperation in the field of health and medicine. {Read more}

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Key Points:

- India + Cambodia = signed an MoU for cooperation in the field of health and medicine
- Cambodia Phnom Penh Riel

898. National & States Affairs

Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of 9 National Highway projects in Tripura and announced that the 1.8 kilometre long Feni bridge connecting Sabrum in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh will be completed by December, 2020 at the cost of Rs. 129 crore. {Read more}

- Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of 9 National Highway projects in Tripura
- 1.8 km long "Feni bridge" connecting Sabrum (Tripura) with Ramgarh (Bangladesh) to be completed by December
- Tripura: Capital Agartala | CM Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor Ramesh Bais





899. Banking & Economic Affairs

The RBI has put out the final guidelines for housing finance companies (HFC) in which all such non-banking finance companies (NBFC) should have at least 60% of their net assets deployed in the business of providing finance for housing, and those who still don't have that ratio, must do so in a phased manner by March 31, 2024. {Read more}

Key Points:

- RBI put out the final guidelines for HFC to have 60% of their Net Assets by March 31, 2024
- RBI: HQs Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25th)

900. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Arunachal Pradesh government has inked an MoU with Sports Authority of India (SAI) for development of infrastructures at National Centre of Excellence (NCoE). {Read more}

- Arunachal Pradesh + SAI = an MoU for development of infrastructures at National Centre of Excellence
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital Itanagar | CM Pema Khandu | Governor B D Mishra
- HQs of SAI New Delhi | Director General Sandip Pradhan





