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Kriti Advani
IBPS PO 2020, Clerk, RRB Clerk



Kola Murali Krishna Sai
SBI PO & IBPS PO 2020



Abhishek Raj
IBPS PO & RRB PO 2020



Rahul Jha
All IBPS 2020 Exams



Nimish Mishra
IBPS RRB PO & IBPS Clerk 2020



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Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test
Series Month-wise

October
MockDrill
PDF No. 11
(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 27th November 2021

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

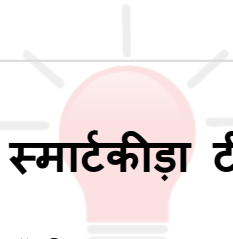
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of October 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF अक्टूबर 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

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

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

501. In October 2021, The government has notified Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules, 2021 to incorporate the provisions related to nominal one-time compensation & uniform procedure for establishment of overground telegraph line in the Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016. Earlier the RoW Rules had covered only underground optical fibre cable (OFC) & mobile towers. The amount of one-time compensation for establishment of overground telegraph line has been fixed at maximum ₹1,000 per km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government notified “Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules, 2021”
- One-time compensation for establishment of overground telegraph line – maximum ₹1,000 per km
- Ministry of Communications: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Communications: Devusinh Chauhan

502. In October 2021, ‘Percept Live’ has officially announced the 15th Edition of the Sunburn Festival. This festival is Asia’s biggest electronic dance music festival. The festival will be held on 28, 29 & 30 December 2021 at Vagator, Goa & the theme for the same is “#Life is Calling”. Only Double Vaccinated guests will be permitted to attend the event. “Your Safety, Our Priority” will be the guiding principle for Percept Live. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 15th Edition of Sunburn Festival – to be held at Vagator, Goa on December 28, 29 & 30 by – ‘Percept Live’
- 2021’s Theme – “#Life is Calling”
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

503. In October 2021, Road Transport & Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has launched knowledge App & platform ‘CUNSLT’. This app is a forum for mentors to share their life experiences. The app is the 1st such global facility by which people who need information, advice, counsel, & guidance can contact & call up experts in multiple sectors on-the-go. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari – launched ‘CUNSLT’ App & platform for mentors to share their life experiences

504. In October 2021, The Uttar Pradesh government has renamed the Faizabad railway junction to Ayodhya Cantt. The railway station comes under the Northern Railway zone. Earlier, Mughalsarai railway junction was also renamed as Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay junction. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Faizabad Railway Junction” (UP) – renamed as “Ayodhya Cantt” (under Northern Railway zone)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

505. On October 20, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport. On this occasion, Uttar Pradesh organised a 2-day conference titled “Tourism in Buddhist Circuit - A way forward” on 20th & 21st October, 2021 at Kushinagar. The conference was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Tourism, Culture & DoNER Shri G. Kishan Reddy. During his address Shri G Kishan Reddy highlighted the Buddhist circuit and Kapilvastu that is being developed as a part of



the SWADESH Darshan scheme of Ministry of Tourism. Shri Narendra Modi also participated in an event marking the “Buddhist Abhidhamma Day” at the Mahaparinirvana Temple in Kushinagar on October 20. He also laid the foundation stone of Rajkiya Medical College in Kushinagar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated “Kushinagar International Airport” – in Uttar Pradesh
- PM Narendra Modi – laid the foundation stone of ‘Rajkiya Medical College’ in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh
- 2-day conference titled “Tourism in Buddhist Circuit - A way forward” – organised in Uttar Pradesh
- ‘SWADESH Darshan’ scheme – launched by Ministry of Tourism (in 2015)
- October 20 – “Buddhist Abhidhamma Day”

506. On October 26, The Union Cabinet has approved a 3% hike in dearness allowance (DA) for central government employees and dearness relief (DR) for pensioners from existing 28% to 31%. The new rates of DA and DR will be effective from July 1, 2021. The decision will benefit about 47.14 lakh central government employees and 68.62 lakh pensioners. In July 2021, DA rate was increased from 17% to 28%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved a 3% hike in DA & DR to 31% from existing 28% (effective from July 1, 2021)

507. On October 21, The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved “PM GatiShakti National Master Plan” including institutional framework for rolling out, implementation, monitoring and support mechanism for providing multi-modal connectivity. It was launched by PM Narendra Modi on 13th October, 2021. PM GatiShakti NMP will be monitored in a three-tier system. Implementation framework includes Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGOS), Network Planning Group (NPG) and Technical Support Unit (TSU) with required technical competencies. EGOS will be headed by Cabinet Secretary and will consist of Secretaries of 18 Ministries as members and Head of Logistics Division as Member Convenor. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA approved “PM GatiShakti National Master Plan” – launched by PM Narendra Modi
- ‘PM GatiShakti NMP’ will be monitored in a three-tier system
- Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGOS) set up to monitor ‘PM GatiShakti NMP’ – headed by Cabinet Secretary

508. Union minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated “Ayush Van”, a dedicated forest for Ayurvedic plants, at the Deendayal Port Trust (DPT) - Rotary Forest in Gujarat's Gandhidham city. The 'Ayush Van' was set up in 30 acres of land allotted by DPT in green-belt area. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – inaugurated a dedicated forest for Ayurvedic plants “Ayush Van” – in Gandhidham, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai



509. On October 19, Bhaskarabda, an era counted from the date of the ascension of a 7th-century local ruler, will be added to the Saka and Gregorian in the official calendar of the Assam government. The local calendar is counted from the date of the ascension of Bhaskaravarman, the 7th-century ruler of Kamrup and contemporary of Harshavardhana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – decided to add 'Bhaskarabda' to the Saka & Gregorian in its official government calendar
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

International Affairs

510. On October 21, Former US president Donald Trump announced plans to launch his own social networking platform called "TRUTH Social". The long-awaited platform will be owned by Trump Media & Technology Group (TMTG). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Donald Trump – announced plans to launch his own social networking platform called "TRUTH Social"

511. On October 18, During the 5 day official visit of External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar to Israel, he paid homage to the victims of the Holocaust in Jerusalem, Israel. India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United States decided to launch a new Quadrilateral Economic Forum (New QUAD). India and Israel agreed to resume negotiations on a "Free Trade Agreement (FTA)" from November, 2021 & conclude it by June, 2022. S. Jaishankar visited Israel's 'Ovda Airbase' to meet the Indian contingent participating in the biennial "Blue Flag 2021" exercise involving Air Force missions from 8 countries. He also released a book titled "Bombay/Mumbai: City Heritage Walks" by an India born scholar Prof. Shaul Sapir. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Israel + UAE + US = to launch a new Quadrilateral Economic Forum (New QUAD)
- India + Israel = to resume negotiations on "Free Trade Agreement (FTA)" from Nov, 2021 & conclude it by June, 2022
- Biennial exercise "Blue Flag 2021" – held between India & Israel
- S. Jaishankar released – "Bombay/Mumbai: City Heritage Walks" book – written by Prof. Shaul Sapir

512. On October 21, Pakistan will continue to be on the 'Grey List' of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) as it needs to further demonstrate that action is being taken against UN-designated terrorists like Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar. Three new countries - Turkey, Jordan, and Mali have also been added in the 'Grey List'. While Mauritius and Botswana were removed from the list. In June 2018, Pakistan was placed on the 'Grey List' of jurisdictions under increased monitoring. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FATF – retained Pakistan on the 'Grey List' as on October 21, 2021
- Last time, Pakistan was 'Grey Listed' in June, 2018
- Three new countries added in the 'Grey List': Turkey, Jordan & Mali
- Two countries removed from the 'Grey List': Mauritius & Botswana
- HQs of FATF – Paris, France | President – Marcus Pleyer | Member Countries – 39



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

513. In October 2021, Private sector general insurer Future Generali India Insurance (FGII) has entered into a bancassurance tie-up with the Bank of India (BoI) for further penetration of its general insurance products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FGII + BoI = bancassurance agreement to promote General Insurance Products
- HQs of BoI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline – “Relationship Beyond Banking”
- HQs of FGII – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Anup Rau

514. On October 20, The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹1 Cr on Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) over certain specified violations. The central bank also imposed a fine of over ₹27 lakh on cross-border in-bound service operator Western Union Financial Services Inc (WUFSI) for non-compliance with certain provisions of the directions contained in the Master Direction on Money Transfer Service Scheme (MTSS Directions) dated February 22, 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – imposed a monetary penalty of ₹1 Cr on Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL)
- RBI – imposed a fine of over ₹27 lakh on Western Union Financial Services Inc (WUFSI)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935
- HQs of PPBL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO – Satish Kumar Gupta
- HQs of WUFSI – Colorado, US

515. On October 20, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has announced the launch of the NPCI Tokenization System (NTS) that will support tokenization of cards as an alternative to storing card details with merchants. The NPCI’s Token Reference On File (TROF) service will help millions of RuPay cardholders maintain the security of their financial data. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NPCI – launched the “NTS Platform” (NPCI Tokenization System) to support tokenization of cards
- NPCI’s Token Reference On File (TROF) service will help millions of RuPay cardholders maintain data security
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe | Established in – 2008

Schemes & Initiatives

516. In October 2021, Gujarat government launched ‘Go-Green’ scheme & its portal to provide electric two-wheelers at subsidised rates to construction & industrial workers of the state. Under the scheme, a worker of the organised sector would get a subsidy of 30% on the vehicle’s price or Rs 30,000, whichever is less, on the purchase of battery-powered two-wheelers. For workers in the construction sector, the criteria is 50% subsidy or Rs 30,000, whichever is less. Only government-approved ‘Made in India’ vehicles that are capable of covering a distance of 50 kilometers in one charge are covered under the scheme. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Gujarat – launched ‘Go-Green’ scheme to provide ‘Made in India’ electric 2-wheelers at subsidised rates
- Subsidy for Organised sector: 30% of the vehicle cost or Rs 30,000, whichever is less
- Subsidy for Construction sector: 50% of the vehicle cost or Rs 30,000, whichever is less
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

Sports & Games

517. In October 2021, Fabio Quartararo has become the 1st Frenchman to win the MotoGP world championship at the “Emilia Romagna Grand Prix-2021”. He is a Yamaha rider. Emilia-Romagna is a region in northern Italy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fabio Quartararo (France - Yamaha) – won MotoGP “Emilia Romagna Grand Prix-2021” (1st French Person to win)
- Italy – Rome – Euro | President – Sergio Mattarella | PM – Mario Draghi

518. In October 2021, Red Bull driver Max Verstappen has won the Formula One (F1) “US Grand Prix-2021”. Max Verstappen & Red Bull won on a track where Lewis Hamilton & Mercedes have been dominant for years. The victory doubled Verstappen's lead over Hamilton to 12 points. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Max Verstappen (Belgium - Red Bull) – won “US Grand Prix-2021”
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

519. On October 18, China has defeated Japan with 3-1 in the Uber Cup final held in Aarhus, Denmark, to reclaim “Uber Cup 2021” title. This is China's 15th Uber Cup title win in 19 finals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – won its 15th “Uber Cup 2021” title (defeating - Japan)
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

520. The 72nd “Inter-Services Football Championship” was held at Maharaja Stadium, Kochi between 15 – 20 Oct 21. Indian Navy, Army Red, Army Green and Indian Air Force teams participated in the 4-day long championship conducted by Signal School under the aegis of the Southern Naval Command at Naval base, Kochi. The finals were played between Army Red and Air Force. The Chief Guest Rear Admiral Antony George presented the “Services Football Trophy for the Year 2021-22” to the Indian Air Force. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 72nd “Inter-Services Football Championship” – held at Maharaja Stadium, Kochi, Kerala
- Winner team ‘IAF’ – received the “Services Football Trophy for the Year 2021-22”

Important Days & Dates

521. In October 2021, International Day of Diplomats is annually observed across the globe on October 24 to acknowledge the role of the diplomats in making the world a better place. In 2021, it was the 5th anniversary of the day. Idea of celebrating this day was given by Indian diplomat Abhay Kumar, who first hosted the day in Brasilia on October 24, 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – International Day of Diplomats (since - 2017)
- 1st International Day of Diplomats – hosted by Abhay kumar – in Brasalia

522. “UN Disarmament Week” is celebrated from October 24 to October 30 to promote awareness & better understanding of disarmament issues. United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) provides substantive & organizational support for norm-setting in the area of disarmament through the work of the General Assembly. UNODA was established in January 1998 as the Department for Disarmament Affairs. It was originally established in 1982 upon the recommendation of the General Assembly’s 2nd special session on disarmament. In 2007, it became the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 to 30 – UN Disarmament Week
- HQs of UNODA – New York | Under SG – Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu

523. In October 2021, World Polio Day is observed on October 24 every year to raise awareness for polio vaccination & eradication of polio. Polio is caused by an RNA virus. The theme of World Polio Day is “One Day. One Focus: Ending Polio - delivering on our promise of a Polio-free world!”. The World Polio Day was established by ‘Rotary International’ to commemorate the birth anniversary of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – World Polio Day (Birth anniversary of Jonas Salk)
- 2021’s Theme – “One Day. One Focus: Ending Polio - delivering on our promise of a Polio-free world!”
- HQs of Rotary International – Illinois, United States | President – Shekhar Mehta

524. In October 2021, World Development Information Day is celebrated annually on October 24. The day focuses on improving the dissemination of information & mobilizing public opinion. The theme for this year is “Action for Sustainable Development Goal”. In 1972, the United Nations General Assembly decided to institute World Development Information Day to draw the attention of world public opinion each year to development problems & the necessity of strengthening international cooperation to solve them. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – World Development Information Day – by UNGA (since - 1972)
- 2021’s Theme – “Action for Sustainable Development Goal”
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193



525. United Nations Day is observed every year on 24 October. The United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945, A concert is held to mark UN Day in the General Assembly Hall of the Organization. This year, the concert was held under the theme “Building Back Together for Peace & Prosperity”. In 2021, it is 76th anniversary of the United Nations. On 24 October 2021, Expo (in Dubai) celebrated the United Nations Day as an Honor Day. The term ‘United Nations’ was coined by the USA President Franklin D. Roosevelt. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – United Nations Day
- 2021’s Theme – “Building Back Together for Peace & Prosperity”
- The term ‘United Nations’ coined by – Franklin D. Roosevelt
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres | Formed in – October 24, 1945

526. ‘Global Media & Information Literacy Week’ is observed annually from October 24 to 31 to review & celebrate the progress achieved towards “Media & Information Literacy for All”. In 2021, the week is hosted by South Africa & Co-organised by UNESCO. This year marks the 10th anniversary of Global Media & Information Literacy Week. This year’s theme is “Media & Information Literacy for the Public Good”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 to 31 – ‘Global Media & Information Literacy Week’
- Hosted by – South Africa & Co-organised by – UNESCO
- 2021’s Theme – “Media & Information Literacy for the Public Good”
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945

527. ‘The Vigilance Awareness Week’ for this year was observed from October 26 to November 1 as per the guidelines of Central Vigilance Commission. The theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 was “Independent India at 75; self-reliance with integrity”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 26 to November 1 – ‘Vigilance Awareness Week’
- 2021’s Theme – “Independent India at 75; Self-reliance with integrity”
- Present Central Vigilance Commissioner – Suresh N. Patel | CVC is appointed by – The President of India

528. In October 2021, On October 9, 1946, the Indian Foreign Service was established & In 1948, the first group of IFS officers was recruited. The IFS day is celebrated on October 9 every year since 2011. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 9 – Indian Foreign Service day (since - 2011)
- HQs of IFS – New Delhi | Established on – October 9, 1946
- Ministry of External Affairs: S. Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of External Affairs: Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, V. Muraleedharan & Meenakshi Lekhi



529. In October 2021, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) celebrated its 60th Raising Day on October 24. On this day, gallantry medals were awarded at a ceremony in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh to 20 personnel of the force guarding the India-China LAC by Nityanand Rai, Minister of State for Home Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – 60th Raising Day of ITBP
- HQs of ITBP – New Delhi | DG – Sanjay Arora | ADG – Manoj Singh Rawat | Established on – October 24, 1962

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

530. On October 20, Minister of State for Electronics and IT, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Rajeev Chandrasekhar attended the inaugural session of the International Conference and Exhibition on Digital technologies “Future Tech 2021” organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) virtually from 19-27 October, 2021. The event will revolve around 5 theme pillars: Strategy, Growth, Resilience, Inclusiveness & Trust with a focused theme “Driving technologies for building the future, we all can trust”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajeev Chandrasekhar – attended the “Future Tech 2021” organised by the CII
- 5 Theme Pillars: Strategy, Growth, Resilience, Inclusiveness & Trust
- Focused theme – “Driving technologies for building the future, we all can trust”
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

531. On October 19, The UNCTAD has awarded investment promotion agencies (IPAs) from Costa Rica, the Netherlands and the Republic of Korea for excellence in promoting investment in health sectors. The winners of the “United Nations Investment Promotion Awards” were announced at a special ceremony during UNCTAD’s 7th World Investment Forum (WIF), held virtually from 18 to 22 October. During the ceremony, special awards were also given to the Mauritius Economic Development Board and the Seychelles Investment Bureau for their work promoting investment in the Blue Economy. The UNCTAD Awards on Investment Promotion has been given since 2002. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNCTAD’s “United Nations Investment Promotion Awards” – awarded to IPAs from Costa Rica, Netherlands & Korea
- UNCTAD’s 7th World Investment Forum – held virtually from October 18 to 22
- Special awards for the ‘Blue Economy’ to: Mauritius Economic Development Board & Seychelles Investment Bureau
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Rebecca Grynspan



532. On October 20, The European Parliament’s “2021 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought” has been awarded to Russian opposition politician and anti-corruption activist Alexei Navalny. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alexei Navalny (Russia) – awarded with European Parliament’s “2021 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought”
- HQs of European Parliament – Brussels, Belgium | President – David Maria Sassoli

533. On October 20, The world-renowned Kung Fu Nuns of the Drukpa order of Buddhism have won the prestigious “Martial Arts Education Prize 2021” from the UNESCO International Centre for Martial Arts for their brave acts of service. Their efforts were honoured with several prestigious international awards. The nuns are recipients of the Atlantic Council’s prestigious Unsung Heroes Award 2020 and the Asia Society’s Game Changer Award 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kung Fu Nuns of the Drukpa order of Buddhism – won the prestigious “Martial Arts Education Prize 2021”
- The award was given by the UNESCO International Centre for Martial Arts
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945

Appointments & Resignations

534. On October 19, Amit Rastogi took over as Chairman & Managing Director of National Research Development Corporation (NRDC). He was earlier, Director, Electrical Engineering at Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence for five years and Additional General Manager Tech Services at Naval Dockyard for two years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Rastogi – took over as Chairman & MD of National Research Development Corporation
- HQs of NRDC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Amit Rastogi

535. On October 18, Cryptocurrency exchange CoinDCX has roped in actor Ayushmann Khurrana for its ‘Future Yahi Hai’ campaign which is designed to spread awareness and information about crypto investments. India’s first crypto unicorn CoinDCX was established in 2018 and its products include CoinDCX, CoinDCX Pro, DCX Learn, Cosmex. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CoinDCX – roped in Ayushmann Khurrana for its ‘Future Yahi Hai’ campaign
- HQs of CoinDCX – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Sumit Gupta | Established in 2018

536. On October 20, The 49-year-old prominent Indian-American economist and Gita Gopinath has announced to leave the Chief Economist Post at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in January, 2021 and return to the prestigious Harvard University’s Economics Department. She made history as the first female Chief Economist of the IMF. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gita Gopinath – announced to leave the Chief Economist Post at the IMF in January, 2021
- She will return to the prestigious Harvard University’s Economics Department
- She made history as the first female Chief Economist of the IMF



537. On October 20, OnePlus has announced the appointment of Navnit Nakra as its India CEO and Head of the OnePlus India region. Since 2020, the company has been actively investing in its India workforce. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Navnit Nakra – appointed as the Head of the OnePlus India region
- [HQs of OnePlus – Shenzhen, China](#) | [CEO – Pete Lau](#)

538. On October 20, Director-producer Imtiaz Ali has been roped in as the ambassador of the Russian Film Festival in India. As part of the festival, ten notable Russian films of various genres will be premiered for Indian audiences. Sarfaraz Alam is the festival director of Russian Film Festival. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Imtiaz Ali (Indian film director) – roped in as the ambassador of the “Russian Film Festival in India”

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

539. On October 20, According to the “Production Gap Report 2021” released by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the world’s governments plan to produce around 110% more fossil fuels (more than double the requirement of the fossil fuels globally) in 2030 than would be consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C, and 45% more than consistent with 2°C. The production gap to achieve the Climate Goal is the widest for coal. Global gas production is projected to increase the most between 2020 and 2040 based on governments’ plans . Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that the world must be Net Zero by 2050 and halve the Emissions by 2030 over its 2010 levels to stay below 1.5°C. Moreover, Countries have directed over \$300 billion in new funds towards fossil fuel activities since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. While, India plans to expand coal production by nearly 60% from 730 million tonnes in 2019 to 1,149 million tonnes in 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Production Gap Report 2021” – released by UNEP
- World’s governments plan to produce around 110% more fossil fuels in 2030 to limit global temperature to 1.5°C
- India plans to expand Coal production by nearly 60% from 730 million tonnes in 2019 to 1,149 million tonnes in 2024
- [HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya](#) | [Executive Director – Inger Andersen](#) | [Founded in – 1972](#)

Acquisitions & Mergers

540. In October 2021, Tech Mahindra Ltd has acquired two companies – US-based Infostar LLC (Lodestone) & London-based We Make Websites Ltd (WMW), for \$105 million & 9.4 million pounds (approx. \$13 million) respectively. The acquisition will bolster Tech Mahindra’s digital engineering capabilities to effectively utilize data strategy & address machine learning challenges. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tech Mahindra Ltd – acquired Lodestone (US) for \$105 million
- Tech Mahindra Ltd – acquired We Make Websites Ltd (London) for 9.4 million pounds (approx. \$13 million)
- [HQs of Tech Mahindra – Pune, Maharashtra](#) | [MD & CEO – Chander Prakash Gurnani](#)



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

541. In October 2021, VEM Technologies has signed an MoU with the Telangana government to set up an integrated defence systems facility at Yelgoi in Telangana. An investment of around Rs 1,000 Cr will be done for the same. VEM supplies 'Centre Fuselages' to India's Tejas production programme. Also, VEM is one of the largest production partners for Akash, Astra & BrahMos missile programmes. [{Read more}](#)

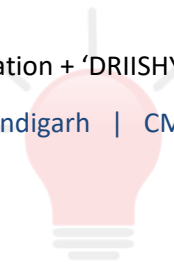
Key Points:

- VEM Technologies + Telangana = an MoU to set up an Integrated Defence Systems Facility at Yelgoi, Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of VEM Technologies – Hyderabad | CMD – V Venkata Raju

542. In October 2021, Uttar Pradesh's Amethi-based Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) & New Delhi-based Drone Destination have jointly signed an initial pact with the Haryana Government's initiative 'DRIISHYA' to commence drone training in Haryana. Also, IGRUA will provide professional drone training in Haryana. The Drone Imaging & Information Service of Haryana Ltd (DRIISHYA) initiative aims at speedy implementation of various types of surveys and imaging work using drones as manual surveys which are conducted at regular intervals are very time consuming, costly & require more manpower. The efficiency of surveys gets increased exponentially with the help of drones. IGRUA is an autonomous body which works under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IGRUA + Drone Destination + 'DRIISHYA' initiative = to commence drone training in Haryana
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya



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Books & Authors

543. In October 2021, Chidanand Rajghatta, journalist & author has recently written a book titled "Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman". The book is published by HarperCollins India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman" book – authored by Chidanand Rajghatta
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

544. On October 19, A new book titled "Hitler and India: The Untold Story of his hatred for the Country and its People" has been authored by Vaibhav Purandare and published by Westland Publication. He points out bluntly how Hitler considered Indians as an inferior race. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Hitler and India: The Untold Story of his hatred for the Country and its People" book – authored by Vaibhav Purandare
- Publisher – Westland Publication



Obituaries

545. In October 2021, South Korean former president Roh Tae-woo, a decorated war veteran who played a pivotal but controversial role in the transition to democratic elections from rule by authoritarian leaders, has passed away. He was 88. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Roh Tae-woo – South Korean former President & war veteran – passed away
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in

546. On October 18, Bandula Warnapura passed away at the age of 68. He played in two World Cups and led Sri Lanka in its first cricket test in 1982 but later received a ban for participating in a rebel tour to South Africa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bandula Warnapura – a Sri Lankan Cricketer – passed away

Person in News

547. On October 22, Kumar Mangalam Birla is set to partner with Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and invest in 'Zand', the UAE's first digital only independent bank. Zand will be led by Olivier Crespin, former Citi head of operations private bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kumar Mangalam Birla + Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan = to invest in "Zand" UAE's first digital only independent bank
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Science & Technology

548. In October 2021, China has successfully launched a new satellite named 'Shijian-21' to test & verify space debris mitigation technologies. It was launched from the 'Xichang Satellite Launch Centre' by a Long March-3B carrier rocket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – launched a satellite 'Shijian-21' – to test space debris mitigation technologies
- Satellite 'Shijian-21' – launched by 'Long March-3B' carrier rocket
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping



549. In October 2021, France has successfully launched a state-of-the-art satellite named Syracuse 4A that is designed to allow all of France's armed forces across the globe to communicate swiftly & securely. Also, the satellite is designed to resist military aggression from the ground & in space, as well as interference. The satellite can survey its close surroundings & move itself to escape an attack. The satellite was launched by the 'Ariane 5' rocket from French Guiana. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- France – launched satellite 'Syracuse 4A' to allow its armed forces across the globe to communicate securely
- Satellite 'Syracuse 4A' – launched by 'Ariane 5' rocket from French Guiana
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

550. In October 2021, The U.S. Navy & Army has successfully conducted three tests for Hypersonic Weapon Component Prototypes. The Sandia National Laboratory ran the tests from NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia. The Navy & Army will conduct a flight test of the common hypersonic missile in fiscal 2022. Hypersonic weapons travel in the upper atmosphere at more than five times the speed of sound, or about 3,853 miles per hour (6,200 kph). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- U.S. Navy & Army – successfully conducted 3 tests for Hypersonic Weapon Component Prototypes
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46thPresident – Joe Biden | 49thVP – Kamala Harris





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