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Full-Length Current Affairs Mock
Test Series Month-wise

October
MockDrill
PDF No. 1
(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 5th November 2021

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

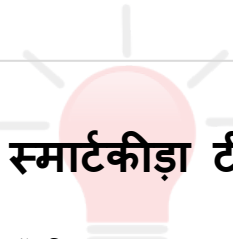
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of October 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

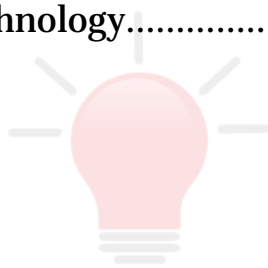
आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

1. In October 2021, Indian comic book character 'Chacha Chaudhary' was declared as the mascot of the Union government's 'Namami Gange Programme' at an executive committee meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG). NMCG, operated under Ministry of Jal Shakti, has tied up with 'Diamond Toons' to develop and distribute comics, e-comics and animated videos. Chacha Chaudhary was created by Cartoonist Pran Kumar Sharma. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chacha Chaudhary – declared as the mascot of 'Namami Gange Programme' by NMCG
- NMCG – operated under Ministry of Jal Shakti
- Chacha Chaudhary was created by – Cartoonist Pran Kumar Sharma
- Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS for Jal Shakti & Food Processing Industries – Prahlad Singh Patel
- DG of NMCG – Rajiv Ranjan Mishra

2. In October 2021, Payback India, which was recently acquired by BharatPe, has launched the Pay feature on its mobile app that integrates QR-based UPI payments and loyalty in single app. App users will be able to make payments by scanning the UPI QR and earn loyalty points on every transaction. Payback will soon add the feature of redemption of points at BharatPe's QRs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Payback India – launched "Pay feature" on its mobile app to integrate QR–UPI payments & loyalty in single app
- HQs of BharatPe – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Ashneer Grover
- HQs of Payback India – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Rijish Raghavan

3. In October 2021, Assam launched the app 'Fishwaale', India's first e-fish market. It will help the fish farming community to get reasonable price for their produce & elimination of middlemen. Through the App one can not only sell as well as buy fish but also quality fish seed & fish feed. Aquaculture equipment & medicine will also be available on the app. The app is developed by Aqua Blue Global Aquaculture Solutions Pvt. Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – launched India's first e-fish market app "Fishwaale" | developed by – Aqua Blue Global Aquaculture Solutions
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

4. In October 2021, Telangana has developed the India's first smartphone-based eVoting solution which uses technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain technology. The solution has been successfully developed and tested and its dry run in the form of a dummy election was conducted in Khammam district. The initiative has been driven by the Telangana State Election Commission (TSEC) with the implementation support of the Technologies Wing of the IT Department of the State and the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Telangana developed – India's first smartphone-based eVoting solution using AI & Blockchain technology
- Testing in the form of a dummy election – conducted in Khammam district
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni

5. In October 2021, International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) & GIFT City launched “I-Sprint’21”, the global FinTech Hackathon series of IFSCA. The aim of the Hackathon is to connect IFSCA & GIFT IFSC with FinTech Ecosystem, to solve Business Problems for the Banking Units & to promote retail business for the Banking Units at GIFT IFSC. The first Sprint of the series “Sprint01: BankTech” is focused on FinTechs for the Banking sector. This sprint is hosted jointly by IFSCA & GIFT city in collaboration with NITI Aayog. It shall be conducted virtually & is open to eligible FinTechs from across the Globe. The finalists of this Hackathon shall be allowed direct entry into IFSCA Regulatory/Innovation Sandbox. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IFSCA & GIFT City – launched “I-Sprint’21” - a virtual global FinTech Hackathon series of IFSCA
- 1st Sprint of the series – “Sprint01: BankTech” – hosted jointly by IFSCA + GIFT city + NITI Aayog
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas



6. In October 2021, The Reserve Bank of India has granted permission to Emirates NBD, the government-owned bank of UAE, to open two more branches in India. Emirates NBD has maintained a representative office in India since 2000 and got permission from RBI to open its first bank branch in Mumbai in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – granted permission to Emirates NBD (UAE) to open two more branches in India
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

7. In October 2021, ESAF Small Finance Bank has launched ‘Supreme’ a Current account product for Non-Resident Indians to provide various features such as enhanced ATM cash withdrawal limit of Rs 50,000 per day in India, point of sale (POS) transaction limit of Rs 80,000 per day in India and e-commerce transaction limit of Rs 20,000 per day in India. The bank began offering NRIs savings bank in June 2018 and current accounts in May 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ESAF Small Finance Bank – launched ‘Supreme’ a Current account product for NRIs
- HQs of ESAF SFB – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – K. Paul Thomas | Chairman – P R Ravi Mohan



8. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed a penalty of ₹1.02 Cr on Aditya Birla Money Ltd (ABML) for the violation of various regulations. It was found that AMBL is misleading the clients by understating losses and overstating profits. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – imposed a penalty of ₹1.02 Cr on Aditya Birla Money Ltd
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

9. In October 2021, State Bank of India (SBI) has extended its partnership with TCS for another 5 years. This will support the bank's ability to launch newer offerings & respond to business & regulatory changes. SBI has been using 'TCS BaNCS' for over two decades. In the most recent such engagement, TCS is helping build "Bharat Craft" - an omnichannel, online B2B e-commerce platform which would serve as a marketplace for MSMEs, jointly driven by SBI & the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + TCS = extended the partnership for 5 years | SBI is using 'TCS BaNCS' for over two decades
- TCS – helping to build "Bharat Craft" - a B2B e-commerce platform for MSMEs | Platform is driven by – SBI & Gol
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in – 1968
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

10. In October 2021, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched "6S Campaign" with focal theme of "Janta Se Jodna" to drive a special awareness campaign for the development of financial services in India. The campaign encapsulates six schemes such as - Swabhiman, Samruddhi, Sampark & Shikhar, Sankalp & Swagat under customer outreach programme. Through 'Swabhimaan', the bank aims to push the financial inclusion agenda by penetration of the three social security schemes namely 'Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana'(PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana'(PMJJBY), & 'Atal Pension Yojana'(APY). Through 'Samruddhi', the bank aims to drive credit outreach for the agricultural sector & cover all agricultural credit products like KCC, gold loans & investment credit etc. 'Shikhar', 'Sankalp' & 'Swagat' schemes will help MSME sectors. 'Sampark' scheme will focus on bank's mobile app "PNB One". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB – launched "6S Campaign" with Focal Theme – "Janta Se Jodna"
- "6S Campaign" encapsulates 6 schemes: Swabhiman, Samruddhi, Sampark, Shikhar, Sankalp & Swagat
- 'Swabhimaan' – for financial inclusion – by penetration of the three social security schemes
- 'Samruddhi' – for the agricultural sector & to cover all agricultural credit products
- 'Shikhar', 'Sankalp' & 'Swagat' – for MSME sectors
- 'Sampark' – for PNB mobile app "PNB One"
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao | Tagline – "The Name You Can Bank Upon"



Defence Affairs

11. In October 2021, The 8th edition of India-Sri Lanka bilateral Joint Exercise, “Mitra Shakti”, conducted at Combat Training School, Ampara, in Sri Lanka from October 4 to October 15. Mitra Shakti, which translates to ‘Power of friendship’, is carried out under a United Nations (UN) mandate as both the armies contribute to the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces. The exercise aims to promote close relations between the armies of both countries and enhance inter-operability and sharing best practices in counter-terrorism operations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 8th edition of “Mitra Shakti” bilateral Joint Exercise – between India & Sri Lanka – conducted in Ampara, in Sri Lanka
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

12. The fifth edition of India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise, “JIMEX” held in Arabian Sea from 6 to 8 October 2021. JIMEX series of exercises commenced in January 2012 with special focus on maritime security cooperation. The Indian Navy was represented by INS Kochi & INS Teg. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th edition of “JIMEX” - India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise – held in Arabian Sea
- INS Kochi & INS Teg – participated in the exercise
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Fumio Kishida

13. In October 2021, 6th Edition of India - UK Joint Company Level Military Training “Exercise Ajeya Warrior” has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand. The exercise is part of an initiative to develop inter-operability & sharing expertise with friendly foreign nations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Exercise Ajeya Warrior” – between India & UK – commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

Sports & Games

14. In October 2021, Hockey India (HI) has pulled out of “2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games’ Hockey Competition”, citing COVID-19 concerns & UK's discriminatory quarantine rules for travellers from India. HI's move came a day after England pulled out of the “FIH Men's Junior World Cup” to be held in Bhubaneswar. Hockey India President ‘Gyanandro Ningombam’ communicated the federation's decision to Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President ‘Narinder Batra’. Hangzhou Asian Games is the Continental qualification event for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games & keeping the priority of the Asian Games in mind, Hockey India has taken this decision. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Hockey India – pulled out of “2022 Birmingham CWG”
- Earlier, England pulled out of “FIH Men’s Junior World Cup” (to be held in Bhubaneswar)
- Hangzhou Asian Games – Continental qualification event for “2024 Paris Olympic”
- HQs of FIH – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Narinder Batra | CEO – Thierry Weil | Founded in – 1924
- HQs of Hockey India – New Delhi | President – Gyanendro Ningombam
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

Important Days & Dates

15. International Coffee Day is celebrated on October 1 to identify the plight of the farmers of coffee beans. It was officially declared as International Coffee Day in 2015 by the International Coffee Organisation (ICO), set up in 1963 in London. ICO has announced that the theme of International Coffee Day 2021 will be “Coffee’s Next Generation”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 1 – International Coffee Day – by International Coffee Organisation (Since 2015)
- 2021’s Theme – “Coffee’s Next Generation”
- HQs of ICO – London, UK | ED – Jose Dauster Sette | Established in – 1963 | Member Countries – 49

16. World Vegetarian Day is celebrated on October 1 to raise awareness about the health and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle. October 1 also kick starts the “Month of Vegetarian Food”. The day was founded by the North American Vegetarian Society (NAVS) in 1977 and endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union (IVU) in 1978. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 1 – World Vegetarian Day – by International Vegetarian Union (Since 1978)
- October – “Month of Vegetarian Food”
- IVU Chairman – Marly Winckler | Founded – 1908 in Dresden, Germany

17. In the year 1999, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) announced that ‘World Space Week’ would be celebrated annually from 4 to 10 October to celebrate two occasions - the launch of the ‘Sputnik I’ on 4 October 1957, and the anniversary of the signing of the ‘Outer Space Treaty’ on 10 October 1967. World Space Week is considered the largest space event on the planet and commemorates the contributions and achievements of thousands of people in the fields of space science and technology. This year, the theme for World Space Week is “Women in Space”. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- October 4 to 10 – World Space Week – by UNGA (Since 1999)
- 2021's Theme – “Women in Space”
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

18. World Habitat Day is observed on the first Monday of October every year. This year, it is being observed on October 4 across the world. World Habitat Day was first observed in 1986 with its theme as “Shelter is my Right”. It was hosted by Nairobi, Kenya that year. The day is recognised by the United Nations and observed to address the problems of rapid urbanisation and its impact on the environment and human poverty. The theme of this year's World Habitat Day is “Accelerating Urban Action for a Carbon-free World”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 4 (first Monday of October) – World Habitat Day – by UN (since 1986)
- 2021's Theme – “Accelerating Urban Action for a Carbon-free World”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

19. On 5 October every year, “International Teachers’ Day” or “World Teachers’ Day” is observed to highlight the key responsibilities, rights and value of teachers and issues related to teachers and teaching. This year the theme of World Teachers’ Day is “Teachers at the Heart of Education Recovery”. In 1994, UNESCO introduced the International Teachers’ Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 5 – International Teachers’ Day – by UNESCO (since 1994)
- Theme – “Teachers at the Heart of Education Recovery”
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945

20. “National Voluntary Blood Donation Day” is celebrated on October 1 every year to promote voluntary Blood donation. The theme for this year is “Give Blood & keep the world beating”. A Voluntary Blood Donation Camp was inaugurated at Nirman Bhawan on this occasion. India needs approximately 1.45 Cr units of blood every year. Earlier a large percentage of blood collected was through professional donors but the landmark Supreme Court judgement in 1996 banned the professional blood donation in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 1 – “National Voluntary Blood Donation Day”
- 2021's Theme – “Give Blood & keep the world beating”
- A Voluntary Blood Donation Camp – inaugurated at Nirman Bhawan



21. “World Cotton Day” is celebrated annually on 7 October. The ‘World Trade Organization’ (WTO) & the ‘International Cotton Advisory Committee’ (ICAC) established the ‘World Cotton Day’ on 7 October 2019. This year, the theme for ‘World Cotton Day’ is “Cotton for Good”. India is the largest consumer & the 2nd-largest producer of fibre. On the 2nd ‘World Cotton Day’, India introduced its very first logo & label “Kasturi Cotton”. The ‘Cotton Corporation of India’ has also built the “Cott-Ally” smartphone app to provide most recent information to the farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 7 – 3rd “World Cotton Day” – By WTO (since 2019)
- 2021’s Theme – “Cotton for Good”
- Cotton Corporation of India – launched mobile app “Cott-Ally” for farmers
- On 2nd ‘World Cotton Day’ – India introduced its very first logo & label “Kasturi Cotton”
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7th DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Countries – 164

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

22. In October 2021, Tanzanian Novelist ‘Abdulrazak Gurnah’ has won 2021 Nobel Prize in literature. He was born in 1948 & grew up on the island of Zanzibar in the Indian Ocean but arrived in England as a refugee at the end of the 1960’s. His debut novel titled “Memory of Departure” was published in 1987. The Nobel Prize in literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2021 Nobel Prize in literature – given to Novelist ‘Abdulrazak Gurnah’ (Tanzania)
- His debut novel – “Memory of Departure” (published in 1987)
- Nobel Prize in literature – awarded by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden
- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona | PM – Kjell Stefan Lofven
- Tanzania – Dodoma – Tanzanian shilling | President – Samia Suluhu Hassan | PM – Kassim Majaliwa

Appointments & Resignations

23. In October 2021, Kangana Ranaut was named brand ambassador 'One District One Product' (ODOP) programme which was launched with the aim to create product-specific traditional industrial hubs across 75 districts of the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kangana Ranaut – named as Brand Ambassador of UP's 'One District One Product' (ODOP) programme
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



24. President Kais Saied has appointed a 63-year-old professor, Najla Bouden Romdhane as the Tunisia's first woman Prime Minister. She has replaced Hichem Mechichi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Najla Bouden Romdhane – appointed as the PM of Tunisia (succeeding - Hichem Mechichi)
- Tunisia – Tunis – Dinar | President – Kais Saied | PM – Najla Bouden Romdhane

25. In October 2021, The 1989 batch IAS officer of the Assam-Meghalaya cadre, Rebecca Vanessa Suchiang is appointed as the new chief secretary of Meghalaya. She has become the first Khasi woman to be appointed as chief secretary of any state. She will succeed M S Rao who after his retirement will serve as the Chief Commissioner of the State Public Service Delivery Commission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vanessa Suchiang – appointed as the Chief Secretary of Meghalaya (first Khasi woman)
- She will replace – M. S. Rao
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

26. In October 2021, Cryptocurrency exchange CoinDCX has roped in actor Amitabh Bachchan as its first-ever brand ambassador. CoinDCX, established in 2018, is India's first crypto unicorn. CoinDCX wants to educate people about crypto and highlight the safety aspect and how the exchange complies with all regulations. CoinDCX also recently launched an awareness campaign and 'Happy Day Rewards' campaign. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amitabh Bachchan – roped in as the first ever brand ambassador of CoinDCX
- CoinDCX – also launched an Awareness Campaign & 'Happy Day Rewards' campaign
- HQs of CoinDCX – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Sumit Gupta | Established in 2018

27. In October 2021, The International Finance Corporation (IFC), an arm of World Bank Group, has appointed Wendy Werner as the new country head for India. She will focus on growth and diversification of the India portfolio, helping maximise IFC's impact in the region. She will succeed Jun Zhang. India is the largest client country globally for the IFC with a commitment of \$1.7 billion for the fiscal year ending June 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wendy Werner – appointed as the country head for India by International Finance Corporation (succeeding Jun Zhang)
- HQs of IFC – Washington D.C., US | MD – Makhtar Diop | Established in – 1956 (an arm of World Bank)

28. Amrutanjan Healthcare has roped in weightlifter Mirabai Chanu and wrestler Bajrang Punia as brand ambassadors for its advanced body pain management products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mirabai Chanu & Bajrang Punia – appointed as brand ambassadors of Amrutanjan Healthcare
- HQs of Amrutanjan Healthcare – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Chairman & MD – S Sambhu Prasad



29. 'The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet' has extended the additional charge of 'PK Purwar' as Chairman & Managing Director of telecom firm MTNL for a period of one year. Purwar also holds the position of Chairman & Managing Director of BSNL. The government has announced the merger of BSNL & MTNL, which is yet to be firmed up. MTNL reported a total loss of Rs 2,554 Cr for 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PK Purwar – extended as Chairman & MD of MTNL for 1 year (addi. charge) | He is also CMD of BSNL
- HQs of MTNL – New Delhi | CMD – PK Purwar (additional charge) | Established in –1986

30. In October 2021, Indian smart wearable brand Fire-Boltt has roped in cricketer Virat Kohli as its brand ambassador. Fire-Boltt had recently brought on board Bollywood star Vicky Kaushal as its first brand ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – roped in as brand ambassador of Indian smart wearable brand Fire-Boltt
- Vicky Kaushal – was appointed as 1st brand ambassador

31. Chairman of Competition Commission of India, Ashok Kumar Gupta has been given additional charge of the post of Chairperson of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) for a period of 3 months from October 1 by Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) because Rangachari Sridharan's three year term as NFRA Chief has ended. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashok Kumar Gupta – appointed as the Chairperson of NFRA for 3 months (addi. charge)
- Nirmala Sitharaman – Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs | Constituency – Karnataka
- HQs of NFRA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Founded in – 2018

32. In October 2021, Guinea's military junta named 'Mohamed Beavogui', a former civil servant as Prime Minister. He has served as the first Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity. Also, 'Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya' has been sworn in as Guinea's interim President replacing Alpha Conde. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mohamed Beavogui – named as Guinea's Prime Minister
- Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya – sworn in as Guinea's interim President
- Guinea – Conakry – Guinean franc | PM – Mohamed Beavogui | President – Colonel Mamadi Doumbouya (Interim)



Amount & Agreements

33. In October 2021, NABARD has sanctioned Rs 303 Cr for construction of 24 bridges in Odisha. These projects have been approved under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF). The cumulative sanction under the RIDF 2021-22 has reached Rs 1,796 Cr so far. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD – has sanctioned Rs 303 Cr for construction of 24 bridges in Odisha (Under RIDF)
- The cumulative sanction under the RIDF – reached Rs 1,796 Cr (For 2021-22)
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

Acquisitions & Mergers

34. In October 2021, 'Metlife International Holdings' is looking to acquire the combined 15.27% shareholding of 'IGE (India) Private Limited' & 'Elpro International Limited' in 'PNB Metlife India Insurance company' for a cash consideration of Rs 1,906 Cr. Upon the completion of this transaction, Metlife's shareholding in 'PNM Metlife Life Insurance Company' will increase to 47.325%, making it the largest shareholder. In FY21, PNB Met Life had a solvency ratio of 190%, against the regulatory requirement of 150%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Metlife International Holdings – to acquire 15.27% stake in PNB Metlife India Insurance (for Rs 1,906 Cr)
- HQs of PNB Metlife – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Ashish Kumar Srivastava | Established – 2001
- HQs of Metlife – New York, USA | President & CEO – Michel A. Khalaf | Established – 1868

35. In October 2021, 'Tata Sons' have won the bid to acquire 100% shareholding in Air India by offering Rs 18,000 Cr. Tata Sons' bid for Air India which was higher than reserve price of Rs 12,906 Cr set by government. Tata Sons beat SpiceJet to bag Air India. The transaction does not include non-core assets including land and building, valued at Rs 14,718 Cr, which are to be transferred to GoI's Air India Asset Holding Limited (AIAHL). Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy (JRD) Tata founded the airline in 1932. Air India was nationalised in 1953. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Tata Sons' – beat 'SpiceJet' to win a bid to acquire 'Air India' by offering Rs 18,000 Cr
- JRD Tata – founded the airline in 1932
- HQs of Tata Sons – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- HQs of Air India – New Delhi | CMD – Rajiv Bansal



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

36. On October 1, NITI Aayog, Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Intel have come together to establish a new experience studio at the NITI Aayog Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Centre (CIC). The Studio will help showcase the potential of technologies such as AI, ML, IoT, AR and VR, blockchain, and robotics to accelerate their application. NITI Aayog Frontier Technologies CIC was established in October 2020 as part of the AWS Cloud Innovation Centers Global Program. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + AWS + Intel = to establish a new experience studio at the NITI Aayog Frontier Technologies CIC
- HQs of Intel – California, USA | CEO – Patrick P. Gelsinger | Founded on – July 18, 1968
- HQs of AWS – Seattle, Washington, US | CEO – Adam N. Selipsky
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

37. In October 2021, U GRO Capital has signed a co-lending agreement with IDBI Bank, on the occasion of the bank's 58th Foundation Day. The agreement will work towards providing formal credit to underserved MSMEs at affordable rates. U GRO Capital is building its "GRO - Xstream" platform, which integrates with banks on one side and with FinTechs, Payments platforms, NBFCs and other digital platforms on the other. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- U GRO + IDBI Bank = Co-lending agreement to provide formal credit to underserved MSMEs
- U GRO Capital platform – building its "GRO - Xstream" platform
- HQs of U GRO Capital – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Abhijit Ghosh
- HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD CEO – Rakesh Sharma | Chairman – M R Kumar | Established in – 1964

38. In October 2021, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has inked an MoU with North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) to assist in developing renewable projects and raising funds. IREDA will undertake techno-financial due diligence of renewable energy and energy efficiency & conservation projects for NEEPCO. The MoU will contribute in achieving the government's target of reducing carbon emission to 33% by 2030. IREDA and NEEPCO are under Ministry of New & Renewable Energy and Ministry of Power, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IREDA + NEEPCO = MoU to assist NEEPCO in developing renewable projects and raising funds
- HQs of IREDA – New Delhi | CMD – Pradip Kumar Das
- HQs of NEEPCO – Shillong, Meghalaya | MD & Chairman – Vinod Kumar Singh
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal



39. In October 2021, The Maharashtra government has signed an MoU with Causis E-Mobility Pvt Ltd, a UK-based automobile firm, for setting up of a zero-emission electric vehicle-manufacturing facility under the recently announced “Maharashtra Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy 2021” which aims to electrify 10% of all the vehicles by 2025. The facility will come up at Talegaon, Pune. The firm will make an investment of ₹2,823 Cr and is expected to generate 1,250 jobs. The MoU was signed for phase-1 to manufacture three-wheelers for passenger transport. In phase-2, the automobile firm will set up its battery Gigafactory. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra + Causis E-Mobility Pvt Ltd (UK based) = to set up of a zero-emission electric vehicle-manufacturing facility
- The facility will come up at Talegaon, Pune
- Maharashtra EV Policy 2021 – aims to electrify 10% of all the vehicles by 2025
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

40. In October 2021, FSSAI has signed an MoU with Ministry of Food Processing Industries to support micro-level food entrepreneurs and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). The MoU aims to support Self Help Groups (SHGs) and producers cooperatives to improve the standard of their food businesses. There will be two areas of collaboration - food safety training and registration of micro enterprises. Micro enterprises will be provided support to obtain FSSAI licence and registration and training on understanding of good hygiene, food testing process and other regulatory requirements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FSSAI + Ministry of Food Processing Industries = an MoU to support FPOs, SHGs & micro-level food entrepreneurs
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatota | CEO – Shri Arun Singhal
- Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Pashu Pati Kumar Paras | Constituency – Hajipur, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Prahalad Singh Patel

41. In October 2021, Regional Ayurveda Research Institute (RARI) has signed an MoU with Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) to promote relations and mutual understanding between the two institutions to recognise their strengths in research and education in one or more disciplines of science, medical and allied health sciences. Also, RARI will open a unit at Central Reference Hospital of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences in Gangtok. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RARI + SMU = to promote relations & mutual understanding in research & education
- SMU Vice Chancellor – Dr. (Lt Gen) Rajan S Grewal

42. In October 2021, AirAsia India partnered with KSU Aviation, the exclusive operator of the Taxibot in India & has become the first Airbus operator in the world to start TaxiBot services with passengers onboard with a modified Airbus fleet. The aircraft engineering modifications were done by AirAsia India's engineering team. Taxibot is used for towing an aircraft from the terminal gate to the take-off point & return it to the gate after landing without utilising the aircraft engines. GMR-run Delhi Airport was the first aviation facility in the world to introduce Taxibot operations way back in 2019. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- AirAsia India – became the first Airbus operator in the world to start TaxiBot services with passengers onboard
- AirAsia India + KSU Aviation = partnership for the same
- HQs of AirAsia India – Bengaluru | MD & CEO – Sunil Bhaskaran | Established in –2013
- MD of KSU Aviation – Ashwani Khanna

43. In October 2021, Electricite de France S.A. (EDF), headquartered in Paris, & NTPC Ltd have signed an MoU to explore potential power project development opportunities in the Middle East, Asia, Europe & Africa. NTPC was ranked as the number 2 Independent Power Producer in Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company Rankings. The MoU was signed by Ujjwal Kanti Bhattacharya, Director (Projects) from NTPC in the presence of Jawed Ashraf (Ambassador of India to France) & Emmanuel Lenain (Ambassador of France to India). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EDF (France) + NTPC = an MoU to explore potential power project development opportunities
- Ambassador of India to France – Jawed Ashraf | Ambassador of France to India – Emmanuel Lenain
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

44. In October 2021, Federal Bank tied up with CredAvenue for portfolio management of its securitisation book. This arrangement will help digitally monitor its asset-backed securities (ABS) & mortgage-backed securities (MBS) pool assets more efficiently through the technology platform. Federal Bank, with this partnership, has implemented 'CredPool' & effectively automated the end-to-end processes for direct assignments of retail portfolio. 'CredPool' is an institutional debt platform of CredAvenue. The platform helps banks & non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) meet existing & new regulatory guidelines pertaining to securitisation & direct assignment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank + CredAvenue = for portfolio management of bank's securitisation book by using 'CredPool' platform
- 'CredPool' – an institutional debt platform of CredAvenue
- HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”
- HQs of CredAvenue – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Gaurav Kumar

45. In October 2021, Visa, in partnership with Juspay, has launched India's first “Card-on-File (CoF) tokenization service” in line with the recently issued RBI guidelines. The RBI's recent CoF tokenization guidelines mandate replacing the actual card data with encrypted digital tokens, which are then used to facilitate & authenticate transactions. This will make card-based digital payments more secure & frictionless. CoF tokenization provides two key benefits - Consumer & Ecosystem Security & an Enhanced Checkout Experience. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Visa + Juspay = launched India's first "CoF tokenization service"
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in – 1958
- HQs of Juspay – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Vimal Kumar

46. In October 2021, Bangalore-based solar module manufacturer 'Emmvee' has signed a MoU with Karnataka government to set up a 3 GW manufacturing facility in Dobaspet, Karnataka. The MoU for latest addition by the company follows last year's announcement about expansion of annual manufacturing capacity to 3 GW from 0.5 GW, with a production capacity of 9 MW per day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Emmvee + Karnataka = to set up a 3 GW manufacturing facility in Dobaspet, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thawarchand Gehlot
- HQs of Emmvee – Bangalore | MD – D V Manjunatha

47. In October 2021, Tata Power has signed a three-year commercial agreement with BluWave-ai, the world's first renewable energy AI company. India recently put measures in place to mandate accurate energy scheduling. Electricity distribution companies now face strict penalties for deviation from planned energy usage. The leadership demonstrated by Tata Power and BluWave-ai was recognised with an India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) top-level "Diamond Trophy" in the Utility Distribution category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Power + BluWave-ai = a commercial agreement to use AI in power scheduling
- BluWave-ai – world's first renewable energy AI company
- This initiative was recognised with an ISGF top-level "Diamond Trophy" in the Utility Distribution category
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Praveer Sinha | Established – 1915
- HQs of BluWave-ai – Ottawa, Canada | CEO – Devashish Paul | Founded – 2017

Books & Authors

48. In October 2021, Entrepreneur and writer Jaithirth Rao's book "Economist Gandhi: The Roots and the Relevance of the Political Economy of the Mahatma" examines Mahatma Gandhi's economic philosophy, shedding light on why he needs to be looked at as a management guru and explains his positive approach toward business. This book is published by Penguin Random House India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Economist Gandhi: The Roots and the Relevance of the Political Economy of the Mahatma" book – by Jaithirth Rao
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India



Science & Technology

49. In October 2021, Russia has successfully test launched “Tsirkon” (Zircon) hypersonic cruise missile from a submarine for the first time. Severodvinsk submarine had fired the missile in the Barents Sea, successfully hitting its chosen target. Russia tested firing the Tsirkon missile from a warship in July. [{Read more}](#)

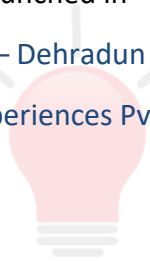
Key Points:

- Russia – launched “Tsirkon” (Zircon) a hypersonic cruise missile for the first time from a submarine – in the Barents Sea
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

50. In October 2021, India’s first & only chain of observatories, “Starscapes Experiences Pvt Ltd” has launched its second public observatory in Bhimtal, Uttarakhand. The tourists will witness a holistic astronomical experience in the observatory followed by a number of activities that will take place all day & night. The first observatory was launched in Kausani, Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Starscapes Experiences Pvt Ltd – launched its 2nd public observatory in Bhimtal, Uttarakhand
- 1st observatory was launched in – Kausani, Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Pushkar Singh Dhami | Governor – Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
- HQs of Starscapes Experiences Pvt Ltd – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Paul Savio | Founded – 2015



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