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Testzone presents

Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test Series Month-wise

October MockDrill PDF No. 2

(PDF in English)



Test Launch Date: 10th November 2021

Attempt Test No. 2 Here!



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 स्मार्टकीडा



INDEX

National & States Affairs	5
International Affairs	7
Banking & Economic Affairs	7
Defence Affairs	8
Sports & Games	9
Important Days & Dates	10
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes	14
Appointments & Resignations	14
Ranks, Reports & Surveys	15
Acquisitions & Mergers	16
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships	16
Books & Authors	18
Obituaries	18
Science & Technology	10

The Question Bank



National & States Affairs

51. In October 2021, On his 2-day visit to West Bengal, Sarbananda Sonowal launched "MyPortApp" for digital monitoring of port operations & promoting transparency. The app has various information like vessel berthing, rake & indent, rake receipt, container status, tariff, bills, Port holidays & can be accessed anywhere 24x7. He also inaugurated a 1 MW solar plant in Haldia port to produce renewable energy for port operations. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal launched "MyPortApp" & inaugurated 1 MW solar plant in Haldia port (West Bengal)
- West Bengal: Capital Kolkata | CM Mamta Banerjee | Governor Jagdeep Dhankar
- **52.** In October 2021, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the 'Swechha programme'. Girl students will be taught about proper disposal of used sanitary pads, besides creating awareness on menstrual hygiene. The State government will provide sanitary napkins free of cost to over 10 lakh girls studying class 7 to 12. Each girl will be given 120 napkins a year. The programme will be implemented at a cost of Rs 32 Cr. Awareness on 'Disha App' & 'Disha Act' will also be created among girls. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh launched 'Swechha programme' (Cost Rs 32 Cr)
- Sanitary Napkins will be provided free of cost to girls of class 7-12 (120 napkins a year)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan
- **53.** In October 2021, 'Bharti AXA Life Insurance' announced a new savings product "Bharti AXA Life Unnati" to provide long term financial stability to individuals with the benefits of savings & protection in a single plan. The 4 plan options are offered under "Bharti AXA Life Unnati": Whole Life Income option, Endowment option, Moneyback Option & Immediate Income Option. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Bharti AXA Life Insurance" announced new savings product "Bharti AXA Life Unnati"
- HQs of Bharti AXA Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO Sanjeev Srinivasan
- **54.** In October 2021, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) levied a penalty on 'PMP Infratech' (₹25 lakh) & 'Rati Engineering' (₹2.5 lakh) & ₹ 1 lakh & ₹ 50,000 respectively on the individuals who managed & controlled the firms. The penalty was for rigging a tender floated by GAIL in 2017-18. {Read more}

- CCI levied penalties on 'PMP Infratech' (₹25 lakh) & 'Rati Engineering' (₹2.5 lakh)
- The penalty was for rigging a tender floated by GAIL in 2017-18
- HQs of CCI New Delhi | Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in 2003



55. In October 2021, 'Welspun Corp Ltd' (WCL) has become the 1st company from India to join the 'H2Pipe Joint Industry Project' on Hydrogen Pipelines launched by 'DNV AS Energy Systems' Pipeline Technology. It will collaborate with global oil & gas majors to develop the "World's 1st Guideline" for transportation of hydrogen gas in pipelines. As a Steering Committee Member, 'Welspun Corp' will collaborate with world's 24 premier energy companies to provide technical expertise in the project. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Welspun Corp Ltd became India's 1st company to join 'H2Pipe Joint Industry Project'
- 'H2Pipe Joint Industry Project' launched by DNV AS Energy Systems
- WCL will launch 'World's 1st Guideline' for transportation of Hydrogen Gas
- HQs of Wellspun corp Mumbai | MD & CEO Vipul Mathur
- HQs of DNV Energy Systems Pennsylvania, USA | CEO Ditlev Engel

56. In October 2021, Indian Technology Congress Association (ITCA) has launched "75 Student Satellites' Mission 2022" to commemorate the 75 years of India's Independence. Under the mission, a consortium of 75 students will build satellites to be launched by ISRO. ITCA has collaborated with various organisations such as TMISAT (Israel), CSPD (Serbia) & UNISEC (Japan) to design & launch the student built satellite by 2022. {Read more}

Key Points:

- ITCA launched "75 Students' Satellites Consortium: Mission 2022"
- 75 students will build satellites to be launched by ISRO
- ITCA has collaborated with TMISAT (Israel) + CSPD (Serbia) + UNISEC (Japan)
- HQs of ITCA Bengaluru | President DR. L V Muralikrishna Reddy
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969

57. In October 2021, A report, titled "NITI Aayog-UNDP Handbook on Sustainable Urban Plastic Waste Management", was released recently for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). The handbook will play a major role in fulfilling the goal of reducing the use of plastic & increasing plastic waste recycling. The handbook is a repository of 18 case studies/best practices from India, including 4 from south Asian countries divided into four major components. The four components are Technical models for recycling, Material Recovery Facilities (MRF), Governance for effective plastic waste management, & IEC & Digitization. {Read more}

- NITI Aayog + UNDP India = launched a handbook to promote sustainable management of plastic waste for ULBs
- Title of Handbook "NITI Aayog-UNDP Handbook on Sustainable Urban Plastic Waste Management"
- HQs of NITI Aayog New Delhi | CEO Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of UNDP New York, USA | Administrator Achim Steiner | Founded in 1965
- UNDP India's Resident Representative Shoko Noda



58. In October 2021, The Department of Posts (DoP) launched a digital version of the postal life insurance policy – "ePLI bond", which subscribers can access through Digilocker. The Postal Life Insurance (PLI) and Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) policy bonds are available in the electronic form and all of the policies can be downloaded immediately after the issue of the policy bond. The facility is available for all new and old policyholders. ePLI bond is made available in collaboration with 'Digilocker', developed by the 'National eGovernance Division' (NeGD) of the Ministry of Electronics & IT (Meity). {Read more}

Key Points:

- DoP launched digital version of the postal life insurance policy "ePLI bond" (It can be accessed through Digilocker)
- Digilocker + NeGD (Division of Meity) = developed "ePLI bond"
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- HQs of NeGD New Delhi | President & CEO Shri Abhishek Singh | Created in 2009 (By Meity)
- Director of DigiLocker & UMANG Debabrata Nayak

International Affairs

59. In October 2021, Siemens & German rail operator "Deutsche Bahn" has unveiled world's 1st automated & driverless train in the 'Hamburg city'. The train will be sharing tracks with other regular trains. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Siemens + Deutsche Bahn (Germany) = unveiled world's 1st automated & driverless train in 'Hamburg city'
- HQs of Siemens Limited Munich, Germany | President & CEO Roland Busch
- HQs of Deutsche Bahn Berlin, Germany | CEO Richard Lutz
- Germany Berlin Euro | President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Banking & Economic Affairs

60. In October 2021, IIFL Finance has launched instant business loan on WhatsApp to avail loan up to ₹10 lakh with minimum documentation & approval in five minutes. This is powered by an Al-bot that matches the users' inputs to the loan offer & complete the procedure. Technological services will be provided by Setu. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- IIFL Finance launched 'instant business loan on WhatsApp' to avail loan up to ₹10 lakh
- Technological services will be provided by Setu
- HQs of IIFL Finance Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Nirmal jain | MD Venkataraman Rajamani



61. In October 2021, Ezetap has partnered with Axis Bank to introduce "My Vyappar" for retail businesses in India. Through My Vyappar, Axis Bank will introduce a host of services for digital payments management for the merchants & incentivize them for using digital payments. "My Vyappar" offers various facilities like Buy Now Pay Later, EMI facilities & multilingual capability etc. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Ezetap + Axis Bank = to introduce "My Vyappar" for retail businesses
- HQs of Ezetap Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO Byas Nambisan
- HQs of Axis Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline "Badhti ka Naam Zindagi"
- **62.** In October 2021, The RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 30 lakh on 'Janata Sahakari Bank Ltd', Pune for non-compliance with specific directions issued by RBI under the Supervisory Action Framework (SAF) and RBI directions on 'Frauds in UCBs: Changes in Monitoring and Reporting mechanism'. {Read more}

Key Points:

- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 30 lakh on Janata Sahakari Bank (Pune)
- HQs of RBI Mumbai, MH | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in 1st April, 1935
- HQs of Janata Sahakari Bank Pune, MH | Chairman Shri. Madhav Ramkrishna Mate | Established in 1949
- **63.** In October 2021, 'Sh<mark>ivalik Sma</mark>ll Finance Bank' (SSFB) has announced a strategic partnership with 'Go Digit General Insurance' to provide an array of instant, easy-to-understand insurance products through the bank's network of branches. This will include health insurance plans, motor insurance, & home & shop insurance. {Read more}

Key Points:

- SSFB + Go Digit General Insurance = signed a partnership to provide insurance products through the bank's network
- HQs of SSFB Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh | MD & CEO Suveer Kumar Gupta
- HQs of Go Digit General Insurance Bengaluru | CEO Vijay Kumar

Defence Affairs

64. In October 2021, Indian Naval Fast Attack Craft (IN FAC) 'T 80' was decommissioned at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai on 7 October 2021 after 23 years of service. Rear Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, Western Naval Command, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The Israel built ship was the first of the 'Super Dvora Mk II Class' which was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 24th June 1998 by then Vice Admiral 'Madhvendra Singh'. {Read more}



- 1st of 'Super Dvora Mk II Class' Indian Naval Fast Attack Craft (IN FAC) "T 80" decommissioned at Mumbai
- IN FAC "T 80" was built by Israel | It was decommissioned after 23 year of service
- It was commissioned in the Indian Navy on 24th June 1998
- HQs of Indian Navy Delhi | Chief Admiral Karambir Singh | VC S. N. Ghormade | Founded in 26th Jan, 1950
- Israel Jerusalem Israeli Shekel | President Isaac Herzog | PM Naftali Bennett
- **65.** India will host its largest biennial naval exercise, "Ex Milan" in February 2022 & invites have been sent to 46 countries. All Quad countries are participating in it. Ex Milan began in 1995. It has so far been held at Port Blair but is now being shifted to Visakhapatnam which offers more space & infrastructure. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Ex Milan" India's largest biennial Naval exercise to be held in February 2022 (Began in 1995)
- Location is shifted from Port Blair to Visakhapatnam
- HQs of Indian Navy Delhi | Chief Admiral Karambir Singh | VC S. N. Ghormade | Founded in 26^{th} Jan, 1950

Sports & Games

66. In October 2021, World Chess Champion 'Magnus Carlsen' has won the inaugural "Meltwater Champions Chess Tour" which is an online chess championship held on chess24.com. Magnus Carlsen is from Norway. Teimour Radjabov of Azerbaijan was the runner up of this championship. This tour was started in November 2020 & concluded in October 2021. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Magnus Carlsen (Norway) won 'Meltwater Champions Chess Tour' (held online on chess24.com)
- Runner up Teimour Radjabov (Azerbaijan)
- **67.** In October 2021, India clinched a silver medal after going down 0-2 to Russia in the final of the "FIDE World Women's Team Chess Championship". It was India's first ever medal in the world team chess championship. India came into the final after a win over a strong Georgian team. {Read more}

- India won silver medal in the "FIDE World Women's Team Chess Championship" | Gold medal won by Russia
- HQs of FIDE Lausanne, Switzerland | CEO Geoffrey D. Borg | Founded on July 20, 1924



68. In October 2021, At the 2021 Turkish GP which took place at Istanbul Park, Valtteri Bottas took his first win since Russian Grand Prix last year. Hamilton finished fifth. After this race, Valtteri Bottas was leading the championship. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Valtteri Bottas (Finland Mercedes) won "Turkish Grand Prix-2021"
- Turkey Ankara Lira | President Recep Tayyip Erdogan
- **69.** In October 2021, Australia beat India by 14 runs in the 3rd & fin al T20 Women's International to seal the multi-format series by 11-5 points. All three formats have been clubbed together & India after losing 'WODI series' by 1-2 margin, lost the WT20I 0-2. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Australia beat India by 14 runs in the 3rd & final T20 Women's International
- Australia Canberra Australian Dollar | PM Scott Morrison
- **70.** In October 2021, Indian women's cricket team opener 'Smriti Mandhana' has become the 1st Indian woman to score a century in a 'Pink-ball Test' (against Australia). This is also the first century by an Indian woman on Australian soil. {Read more}

Key Points:

• Smriti Mandhana – became the 1st Indian woman to score a century in a 'Pink-ball Test' (against Australia)

The Question Bank

Important Days & Dates

71. 'World Hospice & Palliative Care Day' (WHPCD) takes place on the 2nd Saturday of October every year by "Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance" (WHPCA) to celebrate & support hospice & palliative care around the world. In 2021, it was observed on October 9 with theme, "Leave no one behind - equity in access to palliative care". On WHPCD this year, a new report on 'Equity in Access to Palliative Care' was published by WHPCA. {Read more}

- October 9 (2nd Saturday of October) World Hospice & Palliative Care Day
- 2021's Theme "Leave No One Behind Equity in Access to Palliative Care"
- **72.** 'World Post Day' is observed every year on October 9 to mark the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland. This day recognizes the invaluable contributions of postal workers to our societies & economies. It was first declared as the World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan, in 1969. The theme for 2021 is "Innovate to Recover". In India, 'National Postal week' is celebrated from October 9 to October 15. {Read more}



- October 9 World Post Day by Universal Postal Union (since 1969)
- 2021's Theme "Innovate to Recover"
- October 9 to 15 National Postal week
- HQs of UPU Bern, Switzerland | Director General Bishar Hussein | Established 1874
- **73.** The "International Day of the Girls" is celebrated annually on October 11 by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to promote the progress & safety of girls. The theme for International Day of Girl Child 2021 is "Digital Generation. Our Generation". A resolution to declare October 11 as the International Day of the Girls Child was adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 19, 2011 and the day was first celebrated in 2012. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 11 "International Day of the Girls" by UNICEF (since 2012)
- 2021's theme "Digital Generation, Our Generation"
- HQs of UNICEF New York, US | Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore | Established in 1946
- 74. "World Mental Health Day", celebrated every year on October 10, is aimed at raising awareness & spreading education about mental health issues across the globe. It was first observed on October 10, 1992 as an annual activity of 'World Federation for Mental Health'. The theme of this year is "Mental health in an unequal world". WHO also conducted a 'World Mental Health Day campaign' with slogan "Mental health care for all: let's make it a reality". Also, "Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week" was observed from Oct 5-10 by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. {Read more}

- October 10 "World Mental Health Day" by World Federation for Mental Health (since 1992)
- 2021's theme "Mental health in an unequal world"
- WHO World Mental Health Day campaign slogan "Mental health care for all: let's make it a reality"
- October 5 to 10 "Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week" observed by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- HQs of WHO Geneva, Switzerland | DG Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries 194 | Founded in 1948
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar
- **75.** In October 2021, The Territorial Army celebrated its 72nd Raising Day on October 9, 2021. On this occasion, Director General Territorial Army, Lt Gen Preet Mohindera Singh paid tributes to the fallen brave hearts at the National War Memorial. The Territorial Army Act was enacted on Aug 18, 1948. The Territorial Army was formally raised by the first Governor General Shri C Rajagopalachari on 09 Oct 1949. {Read more}



- October 9, 2021 Territorial Army celebrated its 72nd Raising Day
- Territorial Army Act enacted on Aug 18, 1948
- Territorial Army was formally raised on October 9, 1949 (by C Rajagopalachari)
- Director General of Territorial Army Lt Gen Preet Mohindera Singh
- **76.** "World Migratory Bird Day" is celebrated on 2nd Saturday in May & in October each year. This year 2nd Saturday of October fell on October 9. This day is celebrated to raise awareness of migratory birds & the need for international cooperation to conserve them. This year's theme was "Sing, Fly, Soar Like A Bird!". World Migratory Bird Day was initiated in 2006. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 9 World Migratory Bird Day (2nd Saturday of May & October) | Since 2006
- 2021's Theme "Sing, Fly, Soar Like A Bird!"
- 77. 'World Arthritis Day' (WAD) is celebrated on October 12 every year. The purpose of World Arthritis Day is to bring awareness about Arthritis which is a disease that affects the joints. The theme of World arthritis day 2021 is "Don't delay, connect today: time2work". The first celebration of 'World Arthritis Day' began in 1996. {Read more} Key Points:
- October 12 World Arthritis Day (since 1996)
- 2021's Theme "Don't delay, connect today: time2work"
- **78.** "World Day Against the Death Penalty" is observed every 10 October. This day encourages & consolidates the political & general awareness of the world-wide movement against the death penalty. The theme for 2021 is "Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality." The day was 1st organised by the "World Coalition Against the Death Penalty" in 2003. This year 19th edition was observed. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 10 "World Day Against the Death Penalty" by World Coalition Against the Death Penalty(since 2003)
- 2021's Theme "Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality"
- **79.** Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, celebrated the 'Banking Day' on October 11 as part of the 'National Postal Week' & 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' (AKAM) celebrations. India Post celebrates National Postal Week from 9 to 16 October every year. The main theme for 'Banking Day' is promotion of 'Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana' which was launched in January, 2015. Assam Postal Circle released today a special cover on GI Tagged 'Muga silk'. {Read more}

- October 11 Banking Day by Department of Posts | as part of National Postal Week & AKAM celebrations
- Main theme for 'Banking Day' "Promotion of Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana" (Launched in January, 2015)



- 9 to 16 October National Postal Week
- Assam Postal Circle released a special cover on GI Tagged 'Muga silk'
- Ministry of Communications: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Communications: Devusinh Chauhan
- Secretary in Department of Posts Vineet Pandey

80. October 2, 2021 marks the 117th birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri, who was born in 1904, in Uttar Pradesh's Mughalsarai. He became India's 2nd Prime Minister in 1964. Sandeep Sashtri authored a book on his life, "Lal Bahadur Shastri: Politics & Beyond". {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 2 117th birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri (became India's 2nd Prime Minister in 1964)
- "Lal Bahadur Shastri: Politics & Beyond" book authored by Sandeep Sashtri

81. In October 2021, 25th anniversary of World Egg Day was celebrated across the globe on 8 October 2021 by "International Egg Commission" (IEC) to celebrate the power of the egg & all its nutritional & environmental benefits. It is celebrated on the 2nd Friday of October every year. The theme for this year is "Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package". World Egg Day was established in 1996. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 8 (2nd Friday) World Egg Day by International Egg Commission (since 1996)
- 2021's Theme "Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package"
- HQs of IEC UK | Chairman Suresh Chitturi | Established 1964

82. The "World Thrombosis Day" (WTD) takes place every year on 13 October, the birthday of "Rudolf Virchow" who was a pioneer in the pathophysiology of thrombosis. This day is observed to increase global awareness of thrombosis, & reduce unnecessary deaths & disabilities caused by the condition. "Eyes open to Thrombosis" is the theme for World Thrombosis Day 2021. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 13 "World Thrombosis Day" (birthday of "Rudolf Virchow")
- 2021's Theme "Eyes open to Thrombosis"

83. "International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction" is held every 13 October. The day was adopted in 1989 after the United Nations General Assembly's (UNGA) call for a day to promote a global culture of risk-awareness & disaster reduction. The 2021 edition focuses on "International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk & disaster losses". {Read more}

Key Points:

October 13 – "International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction"



84. During October 4-10, "International Organization of Securities Commissions" (IOSCO) organized its 5th "World Investor Week" with the support of the Italian G20 Presidency to promote investor education & protection. {Read more}

Key Points:

- October 4 to 10, 2021 5th edition of "World Investor Week" by IOSCO
- HQs of IOSCO Madrid, Spain | Secretary General Paul P. Andrews

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

85. In October 2021, Microsoft CEO, 'Satya Nadella' along with Microsoft's other top leaders received this year's prestigious 'C K Prahlad award' for Global Business Sustainability Leadership. The award is given for their collaborative leadership aimed at transforming Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030 & to remove all its historical emissions by 2050. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Satya Nadella + Microsoft's other top leaders = received "C K Prahlad Award"
- Microsoft aiming to be a carbon negative company by 2030 & to remove all its historical emissions by 2050
- HQs of Microsoft Washington, USA | Chairman & CEO Satya Nadella | Founded in 1975

Appointments & Resignations

86. In October 2021, Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal launched the "Desh Ke Mentors" programme under which 9 lakh students of classes 9 to 12 in Delhi government schools will be connected with noteworthy citizens who will offer them career & general guidance. Actor Sonu Sood had been appointed as the brand ambassador for the programme. Desh ke Mentors App was developed by a team from Delhi Technological University (DTU) for this programme. {Read more}

Key Points:

- Arvind Kejriwal launched "Desh Ke Mentors" programme (for students of classes 9 to 12)
- Desh ke Mentors App developed by a team from DTU
- Sonu Sood appointed as the brand ambassador for the programme
- New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

87. In October 2021, Arun Kumar Mishra has been appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL). EESL, which works under the Ministry of Power, is a joint venture between NTPC Ltd, Power Finance Corporation, REC & PowerGrid. {Read more}



- Arun Kumar Mishra appointed as the CEO of EESL
- EESL works under Ministry of Power
- HQs of EESL New Delhi | CEO Arun Kumar Mishra | Chairman K. Sreekant
- Ministry of Power and Ministry of New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal

88. In October 2021, Rajnish Kumar, former chairman of SBI, has been appointed as chairman of BharatPe. BharatPe & Centrum Capital have received an in-principle nod from the Reserve Bank of India to set up a small finance bank. Recently, Rajnish Kumar wrote his memoir "The Custodian of Trust". {Read more}

Key Points:

- Rajnish Kumar appointed as the Chairman of BharatPe
- BharatPe + Centrum Capital = received approval from RBI to set up an SFB
- Rajnish Kumar's memoir "The Custodian of Trust"
- HQs of BharatPe New Delhi | Founder & CEO Ashneer Grover
- HQs of Centrum Capital Mumbai, MH | Executive Chairman Jaspal Singh Bindra

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Ranks, Reports & Surveys

89. In October 2021, 'Henley Passport Index' ranks the passports of countries according to the number of destinations their holders can visit without a prior visa. India's rank has slipped by six places from last year to 90th position with its passport holders allow to travel visa-free to 58 countries. India shares the rank with Tajikistan & Burkina Faso. Japan & Singapore hold the 1st rank on the index with a score of 192. 2nd position is shared by South Korea & Germany with a score of 190. Finland, Italy, Luxembourg & Spain are at the 3rd position with a Score of 189. Afghanistan's passport is least powerful & got a score of 26. The index is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) & enhanced by Henley & Partners' research team. {Read more}

- "Henley Passport Index" by IATA & Henley & Partners
- India's rank 90th (Tajikistan & Burkina Faso also ranked the same)
- Countries: 1st Japan & Singapore | 2nd South Korea & Germany | 3rd Finland, Italy, Luxembourg & Spain
- HQs of IATA Montreal, Canada | DG & CEO Alexandre de Juniac
- Japan Tokyo Yen | PM Fumio Kishida
- Singapore Singapore Dollar | PM Lee Hsien Loong | President Halimah Yacob
- HQs of Henley & Partners London, UK | CEO Dr. Juerg Steffen



Acquisitions & Mergers

90. In October 2021, The Adani Group has acquired 10% stake in the 'CSC Grameen eStore' through its financial services arm, Adani Finserve. CSC Grameen eStore which was launched in April 2020, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of 'CSC e-Governance Services'. This investment of Adani Group is after similar investments from HDFC Bank & Tata Digital which bought a 1.5% & 5% holding respectively in CSC Grameen eStore. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- Adani Group acquired 10% stake in the CSC Grameen eStore through Adani Finserve
- CSC Grameen eStore wholly-owned subsidiary of CSC e-Governance Services
- In CSC Grameen eStore: HDFC Bank acquired 1.5% & Tata Digital acquired 5%
- HQs of Adani Group Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Chairman Gautam Adani | Managing Director Rajesh Adani
- MD of CSC Grameen eStore Dinesh Tyagi

91. In October 2021, Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNESL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) executed definitive agreements with Shapoorji Pallonji & Company Private Ltd (SPCPL), Khurshed Daruvala & Sterling & Wilson Solar Ltd (SWSL) to acquire 40% stake post-money in SWSL through a series of transactions. RNESL will also make public announcement to public shareholders of SWSL to acquire up to 4.91 Cr equity shares (25.9%) of SWSL. {Read more}

Key Points:

- RNESL to acquire 40% stake in Sterling & Wilson Solar Ltd (SWSL)
- HQs of RNESL Mumbai, Maharashtra
- HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Mukesh Ambani | Founded in 1973

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

92. In October 2021, India & Croatia have signed an agreement for academic collaboration in traditional medicine systems, especially in the field of ayurveda. The MoU was signed between the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) & Croatia's Kvarner Health Tourism Cluster. AIIA is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ayush. {Read more} **Key Points:**

- India+Croatia = an agreement for academic collaboration in traditional medicine systems, especially in Ayurveda
- MoU was signed between AIIA & Croatia's Kvarner Health Tourism Cluster
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency Majuli, Asssam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai
- HQs of AlIA New Delhi | Director Tanuja Nesari
- Croatia Zagreb Kuna | PM Andrej Plenkovic | President Zoran Milanovic
- India's Ambassador to Croatia Raj Shrivastava



93. In October 2021, Bharti Group backed 'OneWeb' has entered an arrangement with New Space India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of ISRO, to launch its satellite in India from 2022. The arrangement is made to use Indian-built PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) & the heavier GSLV-MkIII (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle) as potential platforms to launch OneWeb's satellites. {Read more}

Key Points:

- OneWeb + NSIL = an arrangement to use Indian-built PSLV & GSLV & to launch OneWeb's satellites
- HQs of OneWeb London, UK | CEO Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal
- HQs of NewSpace India Bangalore, Karnataka | CMD G. Narayanan | ED Radhakrishnan Durairaj
- **94.** In October 2021, India & Nepal signed two agreements aimed at boosting cross-border train services & reviewed ongoing railway projects. The signing of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for starting passenger train services on the Jaynagar-Kurtha section will help finalise the technical aspects of running passenger trains in this region. The officials of the two countries reviewed progress on the Raxaul-Kathmandu railway link & discussed several phase-II railway link projects. An MoU was also signed for a final location survey (FLS) for a proposed broad gauge railway line between Raxaul & Kathmandu. {Read more}

Key Points:

- India + Nepal = signed two agreements to boost cross-border train services
- MoU was signed for FLS for a broad gauge railway line between Raxaul & Kathmandu (Raxaul in Bihar)
- SOPs were signed to start passenger train services on the Jaynagar-Kurtha section
- Nepal Kathmandu Nepalese Rupee | President Bidhya Devi Bhandari | PM Sher Bahadur Deuba
- **95.** In October 2021, National Mission of Clean Ganga (NMCG) has signed an MoU with Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) Institute to conduct a series of trainings to enhance the quality of service of officials in Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). This MoU will efficiently address Faecal Sludge & Septage Management (FSSM) issues in towns & cities of the Ganga basin. The project will be funded by USAID & supported by 'The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation'. {Read more}

- NMCG + WASH Institute = an MoU to enhance the quality of service of officials in ULBs & address FSSM issues
- Project funded by USAID | Supported by The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- HQs of USAID Washington D.C., US | Administrator Samantha Power | Founded in 1961
- DG of NMCG Rajiv Ranjan Mishra
- **96.** In October 2021, 'Software Technology Parks of India' (STPI), an organisation under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), 'AIC STPINEXT Initiatives' (STPINEXT) have signed a tripartite non-financial MoU with 'SINE-IIT Bombay' for fostering entrepreneurship & nurturing tech start-ups. STPI MOTION is a domain specific state-of-the-art facility for startups working in Autonomous, Connected, Electric & Shared (ACES) mobility at Pune. SINE-IIT Bombay is an umbrella organization at IIT Bombay. {Read more}



- STPI + STPINEXT + SINE (IIT Bombay) = signed an MoU for fostering entrepreneurship & nurturing tech start-ups
- HQs of STPI New Delhi | Director General Dr. Omkar Rai
- Director of IIT Bombay Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri
- Chairman of SINE-IIT Bombay Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Ashwini Vaishnaw | Constituency Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology: Rajeev Chandrasekhar

Books & Authors

97. In October 2021, Memoir of former SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar "The Custodian of Trust" was published. The book was published by 'Penguin Random House India'. He served as the chairman of the SBI from October 2017-October 2020. He currently works as a director on the boards of HSBC Asia Pacific, L&T InfoTech Ltd & Lighthouse Communities Foundation. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "The Custodian of Trust" memoir of 'Rajnish Kumar' (Former SBI Chairman)
- Publisher Penguin Random House India
- HQs of SBI Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

98. In October 2021, Sujeet Sarkar has recently authored a book named "Quest for a Stable Afghanistan: A View from Ground Zero". The book is published by Rupa. {Read more}

Key Points:

- "Quest for a Stable Afghanistan: A View from Ground Zero" book authored by Sujeet Sarkar
- Publisher Rupa Publications

Obituaries

99. In October 2021, Abolhassan Banisadr, Iran's first president after 1979 revolution, died at a hospital in Paris after a long illness. He was 88. {Read more}

- Abolhassan Banisadr 1st President of Iran passed away
- Iran Tehran Rial | President Ali Khamenei



Science & Technology

100. In October 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Indian Space Association' (ISpA) to boost space technology in India. Jayant Patil is appointed as the first Chairman of the newly set up IspA. ISpA is a private industry body focused on space policy & growth. ISpA will act as a single-window & independent agency on matters related to space technology. Its founding members include OneWeb, Bharti Airtel, Mapmyindia, Walchandnagar, Skyroot Aerospace, Astrome Technologies & Pixxel etc. These companies will work with ISRO on capacity building & to create space economic hubs. {Read more}

- Narendra Modi launched "Indian Space Association (ISpA)" to boost space technology in India
- First Chairman of ISpA Jayant Patil | ISpA members will work with ISRO
- HQs of ISRO Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on August 15, 1969







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