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**Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test**  
**Series Month-wise**

**October**  
**MockDrill**  
**PDF No.4**  
**(PDF in English)**



**Smartkeeda**

**Test Launch Date: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

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## An important message from Team Smartkeeda

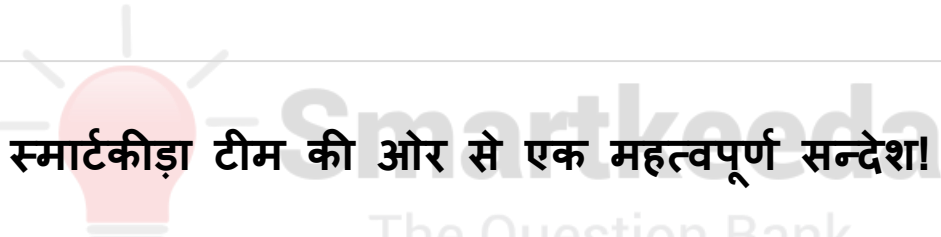
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of October 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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



# INDEX

National & States Affairs.....	5
International Affairs.....	8
Banking & Economic Affairs.....	8
Schemes & Initiatives.....	9
Sports & Games.....	10
Important Days & Dates.....	10
Meetings, Conferences and Summits.....	12
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes.....	13
Appointments & Resignations.....	14
Amount & Agreements.....	15
Ranks, Reports & Surveys.....	16
Acquisitions & Mergers.....	16
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships.....	16
Obituaries.....	17
Science & Technology.....	17
Ordinance, Bills and Acts.....	18



## National & States Affairs

**151.** On October 2, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has flagged off the all-India car rally “Sudarshan Bharat Parikrama” of National Security Guard (NSG) from the Red Fort in Delhi as part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> year of India’s Independence. As many as 12 NSG officers and 35 commandos will be participating in the car rally. Tokyo Olympics medalist Bajrang Punia was present on the occasion as a Guest of honour. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Amit Shah – flagged off the all-India car rally “Sudarshan Bharat Parikrama” of NSG from the Red Fort in Delhi
- HQs of NSG – New Delhi | DG – M. A. Ganapathy | Founded in – 1950

**152.** On October 2, As a part of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports organized ‘Clean India’ Programme across India from October 1 to 31, 2021 for collecting and removing garbage mainly single use plastic waste. In continuation of the same, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and the National Service Scheme (NSS) conducted ‘Clean India’ drive at Golconda Fort, Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports – organized ‘Clean India’ Programme across India
- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports: Nisith Pramanik

**153.** On October 1, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE) organised “VAYO NAMAN” Programme on the occasion of International Day of Older Persons at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. In this programme, the Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu presented a national award “Vayoshreshtha Samman-2021” to senior citizens. Apart from dedicating an Elderly Line 14567 to the Nation, Shri M. Venkaiah also launched two portals - “SAGE” (Seniorcare Aging Growth Engine) and “SACRED” (Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity) on this occasion. According to the “LASI report-2020”, more than 50% of senior citizens are active. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- MoSJE – organised “VAYO NAMAN” Programme in New Delhi
- M. Venkaiah Naidu – presented “Vayoshreshtha Samman-2021” in New Delhi
- M. Venkaiah Naidu – launched “SAGE” & “SACRED” portals
- M. Venkaiah Naidu – launched a National Helpline called “Elder Line” (14567)

**154.** On October 2, The world's largest “Khadi National Flag” has been unveiled in Leh, Ladakh on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary. The flag was inaugurated by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur. It has a length of 225 feet with a width of 150 feet and weighs 1000 kg. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- The world’s largest “Khadi National Flag” is unveiled – in Leh, Ladakh (length - 225 feet | weight - 1000 kg)
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

**155.** The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) has developed an immunity boosting “Bal Raksha Kit” to protect the children up to the age of 16 from the viral infection till the time a vaccine is available. As many as 10,000 kits will be distributed free-of-cost on National Ayurveda Day on November 2. Apart from the ‘Bal Raksha Kit’, AIIA has previously been known for preparing ‘Swasthya Raksha Kit’, ‘Arogya Raksha Kit’ and ‘Ayu Raksha Kit’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIIA – developed an immunity boosting “Bal Raksha Kit” to protect children up to the age of 16 from viral infection
- HQs of AIIA – New Delhi | Director – Tanuja Manoj Nesari

**156.** On October 3, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched “Mission Basundhara” at a programme organised by the Revenue and Disaster Management department in Guwahati. Securing land rights of indigenous populations is the prime objective of the mission. The mission also aims to eliminate the middleman from the system and reduce unnecessary visits to government offices. A total of Rs 225 Cr will be spent on the implementation of the programme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam – launched “Mission Basundhara” to secure land rights of indigenous populations | Cost – Rs 225 Cr
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**157.** On October 2, On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, a web portal called “Wetlands of India Portal” was launched by the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav. The portal is a single point access to all information relating to wetlands. The portal has been developed under a Technical Cooperation project “Wetlands Management for Biodiversity and Climate Protection” (Wetlands Project) of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in partnership with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. Moreover, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change released the “Guidelines for sustainable Ecotourism in forest and wildlife areas” to promote a better understanding of nature and wildlife conservation. Besides, in order to monitor Ganges river dolphins, “Project Dolphin” will be implemented in 8 states - Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand & Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bhupender Yadav (MoEFCC) – launched a web portal called “Wetlands of India Portal”
- MoEFCC – released the “Guidelines for sustainable Ecotourism in forest and wildlife areas”
- “Project Dolphin” will be implemented in 8 states

**158.** On October 1, The Coal Ministry has constituted a panel to review and benchmark the timelines in project execution, including tendering process by examining tenders having a value of more than Rs 300 Cr of CIL, its subsidiaries and other PSUs. Coal India accounts for over 80% of domestic coal output. The committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Coal Ministry – constituted a panel to review and benchmark the timelines in project execution
- The committee will also examine the tenders having a value of more than Rs 300 Cr of CIL



**159.** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has set up a committee to review the “IRDAI (Appointed Actuary) Regulations, 2017”, to make the system tuned to the evolving business dynamics. The IRDAI panel will be led by D. Sai Srinivas. The committee will study global practices on appointment of actuaries and its functions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IRDAI set up a committee to review the “IRDAI (Appointed Actuary) Regulations, 2017”
- The panel will be led by – D. Sai Srinivas
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur

**160.** The CSIR’s Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) has introduced ‘True Cinnamon’ (popularly known as True Dalchini) cultivation in Himachal Pradesh on pilot basis. True cinnamon or Cinnamomum verum is grown mainly in Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IHBT-CSIR – introduced ‘True Cinnamon’ (True Dalchini) cultivation in Himachal Pradesh
- Location of IHBT-CSIR – Palampur, Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

**161.** Karnataka’s 31<sup>st</sup> district of Vijayanagara has officially been unveiled by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. It is named after the capital of the erstwhile Vijayanagar empire. The new district will get Rs 400 Cr for creating necessary infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Vijayanagara’ - Karnataka’s 31<sup>st</sup> district – officially been unveiled by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

**162.** In October 2021, Union Minister of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Shri Giriraj Singh jointly launched “Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M)” tool for integration of climate information in Geographic Information System (GIS) based watershed planning under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA along with Lord Tariq Ahmad, Minister of State for South Asia and the Commonwealth in the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). This tool will be used in 7 states where in the FCDO, Government of UK and Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India are jointly working towards climate resilience. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Giriraj Singh – launched “CRISP-M” tool for integration of climate information under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA
- FCDO + UK + Ministry of Rural Development = are using this tool
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson
- Ministry of Rural Development: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti



## International Affairs

**163.** ONGC Videsh Limited has started its first exploratory drilling campaign in Bangladesh for finding oil and gas. The Production Sharing Contract (PSC) was signed between ONGC Videsh, OIL and Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Company Limited (BAPEX) in February, 2014. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- ONGC Videsh – started its first exploratory drilling campaign in Bangladesh for finding oil & gas
- HQs of ONGC Videsh Ltd – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Alok Kumar Gupta | Chairman – Subhash Kumar
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

## Banking & Economic Affairs

**164.** In October 2021, State Bank of India and Indian Navy launched SBI's "NAV-eCash" card onboard India's largest naval aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya. The card will obviate the difficulties faced by personnel onboard in handling physical cash during deployment of the ship at high seas. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Indian Navy + SBI = launched "NAV-eCash" card onboard INS Vikramaditya
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral Karambir Singh | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 1950
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

**165.** On October 5, Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), sponsored by Canara Bank, has bagged two national awards ('APY Big Believers' and 'Leadership capital') from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY). KVGB Chairman P. Gopi Krishna received the awards from PFRDA Chairman Supratim Bandyopadhyay at Chennai. So far, the bank has enrolled (cumulative) 2,30,432 accounts under APY. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank – received "APY Big Believers" & "Leadership capital" from PFRDA
- HQs of KVGB – Dharwad, Karnataka | Chairman – P. Gopi Krishna | Sponsored by – Canara Bank
- HQs of PFRDA – New Delhi | Chairperson – Supratim Bandyopadhyay | Founded in – 2003
- APY was launched by PM Narendra Modi – in 2015





**166.** On October 4, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gave licence to the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL) to start operations as the bad bank with a corpus of Rs 6,000 Cr. The license was issued under Section 3 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002. Recently, the Cabinet cleared a proposal to provide government guarantee worth ₹30,600 Cr to security receipts issued by NARCL. It will be 51% owned by PSBs and the remaining by private sector lenders. NARCL will pay up to 15% of the agreed value for the bad loans in cash and the remaining 85% would be government-guaranteed security receipts. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI gave licence to the NARCL to start operations as the 'Bad Bank' with a corpus of Rs 6000 Cr
- Government approved the ₹30,600 Cr as a guarantee to back Security Receipts (SRs)
- Share of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in NARCL – 51%
- NARCL will pay agreed value for the bad loans through: 15% in cash & 85% via security receipts
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>) | Established in – 1<sup>st</sup> April 1935

**167.** In October 2021, Government recently announced to fund infusion of Rs 1,650 Cr in the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) to boost project exports. The NEIA Trust was set up by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in March 2006. It provides export credit insurance cover for promoting medium and long-term project exports from India. With this announcement, Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has targeted to achieve financing of USD 7 billion of project exports over the next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government announced to fund infusion of Rs 1,650 Cr in NEIA to boost project exports
- Exim Bank – targeted to achieve financing of \$7 billion of project exports over the next 5 years
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD – Harsha Bangari | Founded in – 1982

## **Schemes & Initiatives**

**168.** In October 2021, Manipur Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh launched the “Chief Minister’s Health for All”. Door-to-door health screening will be conducted across the State and Jan Aushadhi medicines will be provided to patients free of cost for primary health care under the scheme. The ‘Chief Minister Gi Hakchel Gi Tengbal (CM Health Care Scheme)’ and ‘Ayushman Bharat Health Cards’ will also be issued to the patients having severe and chronic illness, if eligible. During the campaign Screening will be done using a hand-held device known as “ASHA Plus” for 10 non-communicable diseases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manipur – launched the “Chief Minister’s Health for All”
- A hand-held device “ASHA Plus” will be used for screening of 10 non-communicable diseases
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan



## Sports & Games

**169.** On October 2, 'FC Goa' has won their maiden "Durand Cup Football Tournament" after defeating Mohammedan Sporting Club with 1-0 in the final at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (VYBK) in Kolkata. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- FC Goa – won their maiden "Durand Cup Football Tournament"

**170.** Veteran India men's hockey team striker S. V. Sunil announced his international retirement. The 32-year-old Sunil, hailing from Karnataka, was part of the 2014 Asian Games gold-winning side. Sunil's decision came after Rupinder Pal Singh and defender Birendra Lakra announced their international retirements. The Arjuna awardee has won gold and bronze medals in the 2014 and 2018 Asian Games respectively besides a gold in the Asia Cup 2017. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- S. V. Sunil – retired from Hockey (Arjuna awardee)
- Rupinder Pal Singh + Birendra Lakra = also retired from Hockey

## Important Days & Dates

**171.** October 2 was World Farm Animals Day or World Day for Farmed Animals (WDFA). It was launched in 1983 by Farm Animal Rights Movement (FARM), and is a non-violent protest against factory farms and slaughterhouses. The day is celebrated by the International Animal Welfare Organization on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhiji as he was an animal lover.

### **Key Points:**

- October 2 – "World Farm Animals Day" or "World Day for Farmed Animals (WDFA)" (since 1983)

**172.** Every year, from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October, India celebrates "Wildlife Week" with an aim to protect the preserve country's fauna. Wildlife Week 2021 marks the 67<sup>th</sup> Wildlife Week which was celebrated under the theme "Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet". The first Wildlife Week was observed in 1957. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- October 2 to 8 – 67<sup>th</sup> "Wildlife Week" (since - 1957)
- 2021's Theme – "Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet"



**173.** “World Animal Day” is observed every year on October 4. The World Animal Day was initiated by Heinrich Zimmermann to address the plight of animals and initiate work towards their protection. This day is also known as “Animal Lovers Day”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 4 – “World Animal Day” or “Animal Lovers Day”
- The day was initiated by – Heinrich Zimmermann (Animal Protection Activist)

**174.** On October 2, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti celebrated the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as “Swachh Bharat Diwas” under ‘Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Phase 2’ as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 2 – “Swachh Bharat Diwas” – celebrated by Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation

**175.** In October 2021, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the 28<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) through Video Conferencing. The NHRC is an embodiment of India’s concern for the promotion and protection of human rights. It was established on 12 October, 1993. The statute under which it is established is the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993 as amended by the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 12 – 28<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of NHRC – addressed by Narendra Modi
- NHRC is established under – ‘PHRA 1993’ & amended by the ‘Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006’
- HQs of NHRC – New Delhi | Chairperson – Arun Kumar Mishra | Established in – 1993

**176.** Global Handwashing Day is observed on October 15 to raise awareness and better understand the importance of hand hygiene. The theme for the Global handwashing Day 2021 is “Our Future is at Hand – Let’s Move Forward Together.” Last year Lifebuoy launched its ‘H for Handwashing’ initiative. This year, Lifebuoy launched its first-ever H for Handwashing Alphabet Book which is written by the world-renowned author Mr. Ruskin Bond. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- October 15 – Global Handwashing Day
- 2021’s Theme – “Our Future is at Hand - Let’s Move Forward Together”
- Lifebuoy – launched Alphabet Book titled ‘H’ for ‘Handwashing’ – written by Ruskin Bond

**177.** International Day of Rural Women is observed on October 15. The theme for this year is “Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All”. Recently, UN Women released a report titled “Beyond COVID-19: A feminist plan for sustainability and social justice”. [{Read more}](#)



### Key Points:

- October 15 – International Day of Rural Women
- 2021's Theme – “Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All”
- “Beyond COVID-19: A feminist plan for sustainability and social justice” report – released by UN Women
- HQs of UN Women – New York, USA | Executive Director – Ms. Sima Bahous

**178.** October 15 of every year is celebrated as World Students' Day in honor of former Indian president APJ Abdul Kalam, who was born on the same day in 1931. The day aims to acknowledge the efforts of Kalam towards education and students. The United Nations declared October 15 as World Students' Day in 2010. This year, on his 90<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, the theme for World Students' day is “Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace”. In 2002, he became the 11<sup>th</sup> president of India & served the office till 2007. He was also awarded India's highest civilian honor or the Bharat Ratna. 22 teachers from various states have been selected for the “Dr Kalam Memorial Teacher's Award” by Dr Vikhe Patel Foundation & Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Centre. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- October 15 – World Students' Day (since - 2010) | 90<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of – Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam
- 2021's Theme – “Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace”
- Dr Vikhe Patel Foundation & Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Centre selected – 22 teachers for Dr Kalam Memorial Teacher's Award
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres

**179.** World Sight Day is observed annually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of October to draw attention on blindness and vision impairment. It was originally initiated by the Sight First Campaign of Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) in 2000. This year, World Sight Day was observed on October 14. The theme for World Sight Day 2021 is “Love Your Eyes”. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- October 14 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) – World Sight Day – by Lions Club International Foundation (since - 2000)
- 2021's Theme – “Love Your Eyes”
- HQs of LCIF – Illinois, United States | International President – Douglas X. Alexander | Founded in – 1968

## Meetings, Conferences and Summits

**180.** PM Narendra Modi chaired the 38<sup>th</sup> PRAGATI meeting and reviewed 8 projects worth Rs 50,000 Cr. The meeting is the ICT (Information and Communication Technology) based multi-modal platform for pro-active governance and timely implementation, involving Centre and State governments. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – chaired the 38<sup>th</sup> PRAGATI meeting & reviewed 8 projects worth Rs 50,000 Cr

**181.** Union minister Piyush Goyal has inaugurated India Pavilion at the “Dubai Expo 2020”. Among the 192 participating countries, India will have the biggest pavilion in the expo. 11 key themes will be represented at the India Pavilion. 15 states and 9 central ministries from India are participating in this 6-month-long expo, which will be ending on March 31, 2022. Moreover, EaseMyTrip has partnered with Indian Pavilion to send 50,000 Indians to “Dubai Expo 2020”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Piyush Goyal – inaugurated India Pavilion at the “Dubai Expo 2020”
- 11 key themes will be represented at the India Pavilion | 6-month-long Expo will end on – March 31, 2022
- EaseMyTrip – partnered with Indian Pavilion to send 50,000 Indians to “Dubai Expo 2020”

## **Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes**

**182.** Prominent Indian industrialists Shiv Nadar (Founder & Chairman Emeritus of HCL Technologies) and Mallika Srinivasan (MD & Chairman of Tractors and Farm Equipment Ltd) have been chosen by the US India Business Council (USIBC) as the recipients of its “2021 Global Leadership Award”. The two top leaders were honoured at the “2021 India Ideas Summit” held on October 6-7. While, “2021 Global Leadership Humanitarian Awards” was presented to Julie Sweet (CEO of Accenture), Arvind Krishna (Chairman and CEO of IBM) & Brad Smith (President and Vice-Chair of Microsoft) by the USIBC. Given annually since 2007, the Global Leadership Awards recognise top corporate executives from the United States and India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shiv Nadar + Mallika Srinivasan = winners of “2021 Global Leadership Award” – by USIBC
- Julie Sweet + Arvind Krishna + Brad Smith = received “2021 Global Leadership Humanitarian Awards” – by USIBC
- ‘Global Leadership Award’ – given by USIBC since 2007 to top Corporate Executives in India & the US
- HQs of USIBC – Washington, D.C., US | President – Nisha Desai Biswal

**183.** In October 2021, The “2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine” was jointly awarded to David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch. The two researchers discovered the molecular mechanism by which our body senses temperature and touch. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- David Julius & Ardem Patapoutian – received the “2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine”

**184.** On October 5, The “2021 Nobel Prize in Physics” was awarded ‘for groundbreaking contributions to their understanding of complex physical systems’ with one half jointly to Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann ‘for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming’ and the other half to Giorgio Parisi ‘for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales’. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “2021 Nobel Prize in Physics” – conferred ‘for contributions to their understanding of complex physical systems’
- Syukuro Manabe ([Japanese-American](#))
- Klaus Hasselmann ([Germany](#))
- Giorgio Parisi ([Italy](#))



# Appointments & Resignations

**185.** The government has appointed Captain Alok Mishra as the managing director of India Ports Global Ltd which is the state-owned entity tasked with developing and running the strategically important and India-funded Chabahar port in Iran. Mishra will have a 5-year tenure in the role. Chabahar is also being built as a gateway to the East and West of the Caspian Sea as part of the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) which is a 7,200-km-long Multi-Modal Network of sea, rail and road route for moving freight. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Alok Mishra – appointed as the MD of India Ports Global Ltd – for 5 years
- Chabahar port – located in Iran
- HQs of India Ports Global Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Alok Mishra

**186.** Parle Agro has launched a new TV campaign for 'B Fizz' and appointed Arjun Kapoor as its brand ambassador. The brand has launched a 360-degree campaign for its malt flavoured fruit drink. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Arjun Kapoor – appointed as brand ambassador of Parle Agro flavored fruit drink 'B Fizz'
- HQs of Parle Agro – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Schauna Chauhan

**187.** On October 1, Air Marshal B. R. Krishna assumed charge of Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC). He was awarded Shaurya Chakra for gallantry in 1986 and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal for distinguished service in 1987. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- B. R. Krishna – assumed charge as Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, CISC

**188.** In October 2021, UCO Bank CEO Atul Kumar Goel has been appointed as chairman of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) for 2021-22 succeeding Union Bank of India CEO Rajkiran Rai. He will also take over as Punjab National Bank (PNB) CEO from January 2022. IBA members also elected SBI chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara, Canara Bank CEO L V Prabhakar & IDBI Bank CEO Rakesh Sharma as deputy chairmen of the IBA. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Atul Kumar Goel – appointed Chairman of IBA for 2021-22 (succeeding - Rajkiran Rai)
- Elected Deputy Chairmen – Dinesh Kumar Khara, L V Prabhakar & Rakesh Sharma
- HQs of IBA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Atul Kumar Goel | Established in – 1946



## Amount & Agreements

**189.** In October 2021, The Government of India, Meghalaya and the World Bank signed a \$40 million health project for the north-east state of Meghalaya. The project will improve the quality of health services and strengthen capacity of the state to handle future health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic. The \$40 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), has a maturity of 14.5 years, including a grace period of 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- World Bank – approved \$40 million loan to improve the quality of health services in Meghalaya
- Maturity period – 14.5 years | Grace period – 5 years
- IBRD – a lending arm of World Bank
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

**190.** On October 2, On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the government launched “Waste to Wealth” portal to bring together technology providers, government stakeholders and urban local bodies to find solutions to India's waste problems. This Mission is one of the 9 scientific missions of the “Prime Minister’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PMSTIAC)”. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Government launched “Waste to Wealth” portal to find solutions to India's waste problems
- PMSTIAC – Prime Minister’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council

**191.** On October 1, The World Bank will give \$150 million loan to support the Government of Tamil Nadu’s “Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Programme”. This programme will support the Tamil Nadu Government in its efforts to transform the city into a ‘world-class city’. The \$150 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) is a variable spread loan that has a final maturity of 16.5 years, including a grace period of 5.5 years. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- World Bank – to provide \$150 million loan to support Tamil Nadu’s “Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Programme”
- Maturity period – 16.5 years | Grace period – 5.5 years
- IBRD – a lending arm of World Bank
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant



## Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**192.** On October 5, The World Trade Organization (WTO) has upgraded its forecast for Global Merchandise Trade Volume to an increase of 10.8% in 2021 from the 8% increase projected in March, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- WTO's forecast for 'Global Merchandise Trade Volume' – 10.8% in 2021 [{Dynamic News}](#)
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7<sup>th</sup> DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Countries – 164

## Acquisitions & Mergers

**193.** Paytm has acquired 100% stake in digital lending startup 'CreditMate' for an undisclosed amount. Founded by Jonathan Bill, Ashish Doshi, Swati Lad and Aditya Singh in 2016, the Mumbai-based startup is a collection platform that helps lenders to collect overdue payments from borrowers. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Paytm – acquired 100% stake in digital lending startup 'CreditMate'
- HQs of CreditMate – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Founded in – 2016
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma | Founded in – 2010

## MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**194.** On October 2, The Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI) signed an MoU with the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) to facilitation investments from France into Maharashtra. The agreement was signed at IFCCI's 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- IFCCI + Maharashtra = an MoU to facilitation investments from France into Maharashtra
- Ambassador of France to India – Emmanuel Lenain | Ambassador of India to France – Jawed Ashraf
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex

**195.** In October 2021, The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, IISc-incubated startup L2MRail and the Society for Innovation & Development (SID) have signed an MoU with Kerala Rail aimed at enhancing rail safety, especially in vulnerable terrains. The L2M Rail team and IISc have pioneered 'Fibre Bragg Grating (FBG)' sensing technology, to develop a Structural Health Monitoring System (SHMS) which will monitor civil engineering structures of Kerala Rail's Silverline project. Through this FBG-sensor driven monitoring system, rail corporations will be able to embed or attach sensors in rail structures, enabling both on-demand and continuous data, as well as 24/7 warning alerts in case of damage detection. [{Read more}](#)





### Key Points:

- IISc + L2MRail + SID + Kerala Rail = signed an MoU to enhance rail safety
- L2M Rail + IISc = pioneered 'FBG sensing technology' to develop SHMS
- Director of IISc, Bangalore – Govindan Rangarajan | Established in – 1909
- HQs of L2M Rail – Bangalore | Chairman – Prof. S. K. Sinha | MD & CEO – Sreenivasa Rao Ganapa | Founded in – 2016

## Obituaries

**196.** On October 4, Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah's Nattu Kaka actor Ghanshyam Nayak passed away following a long battle with cancer. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Ghanshyam Nayak (Nattu Kaka) – Indian Film Actor – passed away

## Science & Technology

**197.** NASA has launched a first-of-its kind mission by sending "Lucy" spacecraft to study Jupiter's Trojan asteroids. Lucy's mission is a 12-year expedition to study a record number of asteroids. It will be the first to explore the Trojans. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- NASA – launched a first-of-its kind space probe named "Lucy" to study Trojan asteroids of Jupiter
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded on – July 29, 1958

**198.** On October 1, A new species of the blind swamp eel belonging to the genus *Rakthamichthys* has been discovered from a well in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The new species is named 'Hypogean Freshwater eel'. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- 'Hypogean Freshwater eel' a new species of the blind swamp eel – discovered in Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**199.** Amazon has launched its first household robot named "Astro", powered by its Alexa smart home technology. It can be remote-controlled when not at home, to check on pets, people, or home security. It can also patrol a home automatically and send owners a notification if it detects something unusual. [{Read more}](#)

### Key Points:

- Amazon – launched its first household robot named "Astro" – powered by its 'Alexa' smart home technology
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, USA | CEO – Andy Jassy | Incorporated in – 1994



## Ordinance, Bills and Acts

**200.** On October 3, The Union Ministry of Power has promulgated the “Electricity (Transmission System Planning, Development and Recovery of Inter-State Transmission Charges) Rules 2021”. The rules underpin a system of transmission access which is termed as a “General Network Access” in the inter-state transmission system. The rules will also empower state power distribution and transmission companies to determine their transmission requirements and build them. Central Electricity Authority, Central Transmission Utility and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission are the agencies involved in Plan Preparing and to bring out detailed regulations on GNA in interstate transmission system. [{Read more}](#)

### **Key Points:**

- Union Ministry of Power – promulgated the “Electricity Rules 2021”
- The rules underpin a system of transmission access termed as a “General Network Access” (GNA)
- Agencies involved: Central Electricity Authority, Central Transmission Utility & Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal



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