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Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test
Series Month-wise

October
MockDrill
PDF No. 6
(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 18th November 2021

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

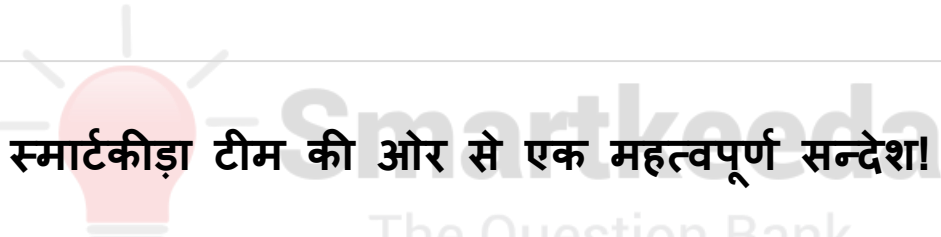
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of October 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

251. On October 5, In an effort to promote indigenous & Geographical Identification (GI) tagged products, first consignment of GI tagged sweet dish “Mihidana” sourced from Bardhaman, West Bengal has been exported to the Kingdom of Bahrain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal’s GI tagged sweet dish “Mihidana” – exported to Bahrain
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar | PM – Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa | King – Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

252. On October 6, The Union Cabinet has approved the setting up of 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) parks with a total outlay of ₹4,445 Cr in the next 5 years. The ‘PM MITRA’ will be developed by a special purpose vehicle owned by state governments and the central government in PPP mode. The park will get Development Capital Support which will provide 30% of the estimated project cost of ₹1,700 Cr for each park with a cap of ₹500 Cr to Greenfield sites. For Brownfield sites, the support will be capped at ₹200 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the setting up of 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region & Apparel (PM MITRA)
- Total outlay of ₹4,445 Cr in the next 5 years
- Maximum Development Capital Support: ₹500 Cr to Greenfield sites & ₹200 Cr to Brownfield sites

253. On October 5, Actor Rana Daggubati has flagged off the first ‘Seedcopter’ drone to deliver seed balls under the ‘Hara Bhara’ initiative in Hyderabad. The first payload of 1.5 lakh seed balls was delivered in the ‘KBR National Park’ in Hyderabad. ‘Seedcopter’ for this campaign is developed by Hyderabad-based startup Marut Drones. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rana Daggubati flagged off the 1st ‘Seedcopter’ drone to deliver seed balls under ‘Hara Bhara’ initiative in Hyderabad
- ‘Seedcopter’ for this campaign is developed – by Marut Drones (based in Hyderabad, Telangana)
- KBR National Park – located in Hyderabad, Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

254. On October 6, Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu has inaugurated the “Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre” on Barphukan’s Hillock in Assam. It is a British-era bungalow on a hillock that used to be the 17th century military office of the Ahom rulers and now has been converted into a heritage centre depicting life along the Brahmaputra River. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – inaugurated the “Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre” in Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

255. On October 7, The Central Government, for the first time, has released the guidelines for Cybersecurity in the Power Sector with the aim to create a secure power cyber ecosystem. The guidelines were issued under the “Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Connectivity to the Grid) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019” by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central Government released the guidelines for Cybersecurity in the ‘Power Sector’ for the first time

256. In October 2021, National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) approved the Chhattisgarh government’s proposal to declare the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve. The proposal was considered by the 11th Technical Committee of the NTCA and approval was granted under ‘Section 38V (1)’ of “The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 11th Technical Committee of NTCA approved Chhattisgarh’s proposal to declare the combined areas of the ‘Guru Ghasidas NP’ & ‘Tamor Pingla WC’ as a Tiger Reserve (4th TR in Chhattisgarh)
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

257. In October 2021, Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a 4-member High Powered Advisory Committee on settlement orders & compounding of offences. The committee will be chaired by Vijay C Daga, retired judge of High Court of Bombay. The panel will work as per the ‘Settlement Proceedings Regulations, 2018’ specified by SEBI. At present, entities are provided with a window of 180 days to apply for settlement after receipt of the show-cause notice. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – constituted a 4-member High Powered Advisory Committee on settlement orders
- The committee will be chaired by – Vijay C. Daga
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

258. In October 2021, Rajasthan has launched a campaign ‘Prashasan Gaon ke Sang’ to enable access to 22 departments of the local administration for the people of remote villages of Rajasthan. Under the campaign, the departments would hold camps at every gram panchayat to offer on-spot solutions to the applicants. The camps in villages would be held under the observation of respective District Collectors on weekdays. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – launched a campaign “Prashasan Gaon ke Sang” for people of remote villages
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra



259. In October 2021, Tata AIG General Insurance Co. Ltd has announced to launch the Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) insurance. It has made TropoGo as its distribution partner for RPAS insurance. Tata AIG's RPAS insurance covers both Hull & Third-Party Liability risks faced by them. It also provides optional coverage for BVLOS operations, night flying, data loss liability, etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata AIG General Insurance – to launch the Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) insurance
- Tata AIG General Insurance made 'TropoGo' as distribution partner for RPAS insurance
- HQs of Tata AIG Gen Ins – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Neelesh Garg

260. In October 2021, IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited, promoted by Bank of Baroda & Union Bank of India, has introduced "IndiaFirst Life Saral Bachat Bima Plan", a savings & protection cover for the entire family. This policy provides a shorter pay commitment of 5 or 7 years while keeping entire family protected for 12 or 15 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IndiaFirst Life Insurance – introduced "IndiaFirst Life Saral Bachat Bima Plan"
- HQs of IndiaFirst Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – R. M. Vishakha | Chairman – Mr. Sanjiv Chadha



International Affairs

261. On October 7, India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect 30x30. The group is co-chaired by Costa Rica & France and by the UK as Ocean co-chair. India is the 1st country from the BRICS nations to join this group. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – officially joined the "High Ambition Coalition for Nature & People" (1st country from the BRICS)
- The group is co-chaired by Costa Rica & France | Ocean co-chair – UK

262. On October 5, Denmark approved a plan to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) in Agriculture and Forestry sectors by 55% and 65% respectively by 2030. The emission target reduction is based on the GHGs emission level of 1990. Under this plan, Denmark has committed to reduce GHGs emission by 70% by 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Denmark approved a plan to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG): 55% in Agriculture & 65% in Forestry by 2030
- Denmark committed to reduce GHGs emission by 70% by 2030
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone | PM – Mette Frederiksen



263. On October 6, World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended the first anti-malarial vaccine named “RTS, S” or “Mosquirix”. “RTS, S” was first authorised in 2015 by the European Medicines Agency for use in Africa in infants and children. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO recommended the first anti-malarial vaccine named “RTS, S” or “Mosquirix’
- “RTS, S” was first authorised in 2015 by the European Medicines Agency for use in Africa
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948

Banking & Economic Affairs

264. On October 5, BSE Technologies Private Limited (BSE Tech) has received an in-principle approval from RBI for setting up and operating Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) under the “Payments and Settlement Systems Act, 2007”. TReDS is an electronic platform for facilitating the financing/discounting of trade receivables of MSMEs through multiple financiers. The minimum paid-up equity capital to set up and operate the TReDS is Rs 25 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE Technologies – received an in-principle approval from RBI to set up & operate ‘TReDS’ under “Payments & Settlement Systems Act, 2007”
- TReDS – Trade Receivables Discounting System | Minimum paid-up equity capital to set up TReDS – Rs 25 Cr
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

265. In October 2021, The SEBI has directed mutual funds (MFs) to undertake minimum 25% and 10% of their monthly secondary market trades in Corporate Bonds and Commercial Paper respectively on the Request for Quote (RFQ) platform of stock exchanges. The higher limits will come into force with effect from December 1, 2021. Besides, the SEBI also modified REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts) & InvITs (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) regulations with respect to Exit Options. In such cases, the Exit Option Price would be enhanced by an amount equal to a sum determined at the rate of 10% per annum for the period between the first notice date and second notice date. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – directed MFs to undertake minimum 25% of their monthly secondary market trades in Corporate Bonds & 10% in Commercial Paper
- SEBI – also modified REITs & InvITs regulations with respect to Exit Options
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992



266. On October 5, PNB Housing Finance has joined hands with CSC e-Governance Services India to provide last-mile home loan facilities to individuals living in smaller cities i.e. tier 2 and 3 cities. CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle, has been set up by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) under the “Companies Act, 1956” to oversee the implementation of the CSC scheme. [{Read more}](#)

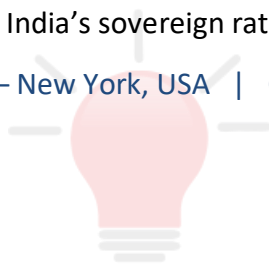
Key Points:

- PNB Housing Finance + CSC e-Governance Services India = to provide home loan facilities in tier-2 & tier-3 cities
- HQs of PNBHF – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Hardayal Prasad | Tagline – “Ghar Ki Baat”
- HQs of CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd – New Delhi | CEO – Sanjay Kumar Rakesh | MD – Dinesh Tyagi
- CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd – set up by MeitY under the “Companies Act, 1956”

267. On October 6, Moody’s Investors Service has changed its outlook on India’s sovereign ratings from Negative to Stable. Now, Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s have a stable outlook on their ratings on India, while Fitch still has a negative outlook. All three rating agencies have given India the lowest investment grade. In Moody’s lexicon, India has ‘Baa3’ ratings. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Moody’s changed its outlook on India’s sovereign ratings from Negative to Stable
- Now, Outlook on India’s sovereign ratings: Moody’s – Stable | S&P – Stable | Fitch Ratings – Negative
- HQs of Moody’s – New York, USA | CEO – Robert Fauber



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Defence Affairs

268. On October 7, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has delivered the heaviest Semi-Cryogenic propellant tank named “SC120-LOX” to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). This Semi Cryo-liquid Oxygen (LOX) tank will be a part of ‘SC120’ stage of ISRO’s GSLV Mark III launch vehicle. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HAL – delivered the heaviest Semi-Cryogenic propellant tank named “SC120-LOX” to ISRO
- This Semi Cryo-liquid Oxygen (LOX) tank will be a part of ‘SC120’ stage of ISRO’s GSLV Mark III launch vehicle
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt | Chairma & MD – R. Madhavan
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969

269. In October 2021, A team from 4/5 Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force) which represented the Indian Army at the prestigious “Cambrian Patrol Exercise” at Brecon, Wales, UK has been awarded Gold medal. This exercise is also referred as the “Olympics of Military Patrolling” among militaries in the world. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- A team from 4/5 Gorkha Rifles – Gold medal at the prestigious “Cambrian Patrol Exercise” held in UK
- Cambrian Patrol Exercise – also referred as “Olympics of Military Patrolling”
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

Schemes & Initiatives

270. On October 6, The Union Cabinet approved the Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for the financial year 2020-21 for all eligible non-gazetted Railway employees (excluding RPF/RPSF personnel). The maximum amount payable per eligible railway employee is Rs 17,951 for 78 days with a ceiling of Rs 7000/month. The PLB Scheme for the Railways came into force from the year 1979-80. The scheme envisages a review every 3 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cabinet approved the “Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) Scheme” for FY 2020-21
- Maximum amount payable per eligible railway employee is Rs 17,951 for 78 days with a ceiling of Rs 7000/month
- PLB Scheme envisages a review every 3 years

271. On October 5, The National Health Authority (NHA) has revised the Health Benefit Package (HBP) Master under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY). In the revised version of Health Benefit Package (HBP 2.2), rates of some health packages have been increased by 20% to 400% under ‘PM-JAY’. In 2018, Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY was launched with the HBP 1.0 with a total of 1,393 packages. The scheme aims to provide free and cashless healthcare services up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHA revised the Health Benefit Package (HBP) under the “AB PM-JAY”
- In the revised version of ‘HBP 2.2’: rates of some health packages increased by 20% to 400% under ‘PM-JAY’
- ‘AB PM-JAY’ was launched in 2018 | Annual cashless health cover per family – Rs 5 lakhs

Sports & Games

272. On October 6, For the first time ever, India has won all 8 International Hockey Federation (FIH) ‘Hockey Star Awards’ with drag-flickers Harmanpreet Singh and Gurjit Kaur claiming the “Player of the Year” honours in men and women. PR Sreejesh and Savita Punia won the “Goalkeeper of the Year” award in men’s and women’s section. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- India – won all 8 “FIH Hockey Star Awards” for the first time
- Harmanpreet Singh – named as the “Player of the Year” award in Men
- Gurjit Kaur – named as the “Player of the Year” award in Women
- PR Sreejesh – named as the “Goalkeeper of the Year” award in Men
- Savita Punia – named as the “Goalkeeper of the Year” award in Women
- HQs of FIH – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Narinder Batra | CEO – Thierry Weil | Founded in – 1924

273. In October 2021, Indian Grandmaster P Iniyar has won “La Nucia International Open Chess Tournament 2021” by defeating Jony Wilson Leon Valdes of Cuba in the final round. The tournament was held in Valencia, Spain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- P Iniyar (Tamil Nadu) – won “La Nucia Open Chess Tournament” | by defeating - Jony Wilson Leon Valdes (Cuba)
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President /Chairman – Arkady Dvorkovich
- Managing Director – Dana Reizniece-Ozola | Founded on – July 20, 1924



Important Days & Dates

274. “National Voluntary Blood Donation Day” is celebrated on 1st October of every year across the country to raise awareness about Blood donation and promote voluntary Blood donation in India. In 2021, the theme is “Give Blood and keep the world beating”. The day was first observed in 1975. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 1 – National Voluntary Blood Donation Day (since - 1975)
- 2021’s Theme – “Give Blood and keep the World Beating”

275. In 2021, India celebrates the 89th Air Force Day on October 8 to raise awareness about the Indian Air Force (IAF) as an organisation that strives to strengthen national security and authority. The Indian Air Force is the fourth largest air force in the world. Its Hindon Air Force Station located in UP's Ghaziabad is the largest in Asia. The motto of the IAF is “Nabha Sparsham Deeptham”, which means “Touch the Sky with Glory”. 2021’s Indian Air Force Day is celebrated as “Swarnim Vijay Varsh” to commemorate the victory of 1971 war. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 8 – 89th “Indian Air Force Day” (“Swarnim Vijay Varsh”)
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- Motto of IAF – “Nabha Sparsham Deeptham” or “Touch the Sky with Glory”



276. On 16 October 2021, the National Security Guard (NSG) also known as the 'Black Cats' celebrated 37th Raising Day. The NSG was formed in 1984 & its motto is "Sarvatra Sarvottam Suraksha". Black Cats conducted "Operation Black Tornado" in 2008 & killed all terrorists who had laid siege to the sites during the 26/11 Mumbai attacks. NSG works under Ministry of Home Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16 – 37th raising day of NSG (also known as 'Black Cats')
- HQs of NSG – New Delhi | DG – M. A. Ganapathy | Founded on – Sep 22, 1986
- Motto of NSG – Sarvatra Sarvottam Suraksha (Omnipresent Omnipotent Security)

277. In October 2021, International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on October 17 & aims to raise awareness about people living in poverty. On 22 December 1992, UNGA declared October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. This year's theme is "Building forward together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People & our Planet". The 1st International Day for the Eradication of Poverty was observed in 1993. Also, 2018-2027 was declared as 3rd decade for Eradication of poverty by UN with a theme "accelerating global actions for a world without poverty". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 17 – International Day for the Eradication of Poverty by – UN (Since 1993)
- 2021's Theme – "Building forward together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People & our Planet"
- Theme of 3rd decade for Eradication of poverty (2018-2027) – "Accelerating Global Actions for a World without Poverty"
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Secretary-General – Antonio Guterres
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

278. On October 8, The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the "Nobel Peace Prize" for 2021 to Maria Ressa (Journalist from Philippines) and Dmitry Andreyevich Muratov (Journalist from Russia) for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression. Pakistan's Malala Yousafzai is the youngest Nobel Peace Prize laureate till date. She was awarded Nobel peace prize in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "2021 Nobel Peace Prize" – conferred 'for their efforts to safeguard freedom of Expression'
 - Maria Ressa (Journalist from Philippines)
 - Dmitry Andreyevich Muratov (Journalist from Russia)



279. In October 2021, Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has conferred Assam Government's biennial "Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award" for National Integration & National Contribution to 3 recipients - eminent writer & scholar, 'Shri Nirode Kumar Barooah', Members of 'Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust' & Members of the 'Shillong Chamber Choir'. Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi was the 1st Chief Minister of Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M Venkaiah Naidu presented – Assam Government's biennial "Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award" to 3 recipients
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

280. In October 2021, Vidyut Mohan, CEO & co-founder of 'Takachar' was named among the 5 winners of Prince William's inaugural Earthshot Prize, dubbed the "Eco Oscars", at a gala ceremony in London. He has won this prize for his cheap technology innovation to convert crop residues into sellable bio-products in the "Clean Our Air" category. The prize was created by Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge, to reward people trying to save the planet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vidyut Mohan (CEO of Takachar) – won "Earthshot Prize" also known as "Eco Oscars" (in "Clean Our Air" category)



281. In October 2021, Alok Sahay has been appointed as new Secretary-General and Executive Head of Indian Steel Association (ISA). Alok succeeded Bhaskar Chatterjee. Sahay has represented India at the Global Forum on Steel Excess Capacity (GFSEC) held in Paris in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alok Sahay – appointed as new Secretary-General of Indian Steel Association (succeeding - Bhaskar Chatterjee)
- HQs of ISA – New Delhi | Secretary-General – Alok Sahay

282. In October 2021, Sahdev Yadav has been elected as the president of the 'Indian Weightlifting Federation' (IWLF) unanimously. Earlier, he was holding the post of Secretary General. Also, Anande Gowda has been appointed as Secretary General. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sahdev Yadav – elected as the President of 'Indian Weightlifting Federation'
- Anande Gowda – appointed as Secretary General of 'Indian Weightlifting Federation'
- HQs of IWFL – New Delhi | President – Sahdev Yadav | Secretary General – Anande Gowda

283. In October 2021, Karnataka Bank Ltd has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India to appoint Pradeep Kumar Panja as part-time non-executive Chairman for a period of three years. He will succeed P Jayarama Bhat. Currently he is an Independent Director of the Karnataka Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pradeep Kumar Panja – appointed as Non-executive Chairman of Karnataka Bank for 3 years
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S.

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

284. On October 7, Reliance chairman Mukesh Ambani retained the title of richest Indian as he added \$4 billion to his net worth (which has now reached \$92.7 billion), according to Forbes magazine’s “100 Richest Indians List”. It is the 14th year in a row since 2008 that Mukesh Ambani has been named the wealthiest man in India. On number two is Gautam Adani who is now a close second with a \$74.8 billion net worth. Shiv Nadar (Founder and Chairman of HCL technologies) retained his third spot with net worth of \$31 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Forbes magazine’s “100 Richest Indians List” (as on October 7, 2021)
- 1st - Mukesh Ambani (\$92.7 billion) | 2nd - Gautam Adani (\$74.8 billion) | 3rd - Shiv Nadar (\$31 billion)
- Mukesh Ambani – named the wealthiest man in India for the 14th year in a row since 2008

285. On October 7, The World Bank’s latest South Asia Economic Focus titled “Shifting Gears: Digitization and Services-Led Development” projects the region to grow by 7.1% in 2021 and 2022. India’s economy, which South Asia’s largest, is expected to grow by 8.3% in the fiscal year 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Shifting Gears: Digitization and Services-Led Development” report – released by World Bank
- South Asia region’s GDP – to grow by 7.1% in 2021-22 [{Dynamic News}](#)
- India’s GDP – to grow by 8.3% in 2021-22 [{Dynamic News}](#)
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

286. In October 2021, According to a report titled “The State of Climate Services 2021: Water” released by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), 3.6 billion people had inadequate access to water at least one month per year in 2018. And more than 5 billion people globally are expected to face a shortage of water by 2050. Climate Change increases the global risk of water-related hazards like floods and droughts. According to the report, the biggest losses are occurring in Antarctica and Greenland. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “The State of Climate Services 2021: Water” report – released by World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- 3.6 billion people had inadequate access to water at least one month per year in 2018
- Globally, 5 billion people are expected to face a shortage of water by 2050
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Petteri Taalas | Established in – 1950

287. On October 8, The UNESCO has released “State of the Education Report (SOER)-2021 for India: No Teachers, No Class”. This year, the report has focused on the theme of “Teachers, Teaching and Teacher Education”. For this report, UNESCO analysed two data sets: Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE+) 2018-19 round and the Periodic Labour Force Survey 2018-19. In 2018-19, the overall Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) at senior secondary schools has improved to 26:1 from 31:1. While in elementary schools, Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) increased from 81.6 in 2001 to 102.1 in FY20. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “State of the Education Report (SOER)-2021 for India: No Teachers, No Class” report – released by UNESCO
- Theme – “Teachers, Teaching and Teacher Education”
- Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) improved to 26:1 in 2018-19 (from 31:1)
- Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) increased to 102.1 in FY20 (from 81.6 in 2001)

288. On October 6, Union ministers Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Jitendra Singh jointly launched a “Heli-borne Survey” for water management in arid areas of India. The survey is the outcome of an agreement between the Central Groundwater Board, Jal Shakti Ministry and the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat & Jitendra Singh – launched a “Heli-borne Survey” for water management

289. In October 2021, As per the “Global TB report” released by the World Health Organization (WHO), the COVID-19 pandemic has reversed years of global progress in reducing the number of people who die from TB & India has been the worst-hit. TB was ranked the 13th leading cause of death globally till 2019. It is now estimated to be the 2nd leading cause after COVID-19. From 2016-2019, the number of new cases rose continuously, but fell dramatically to 20% in 2020. 41% of the total number of cases that dropped in 2020, as compared to 2019, came from India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global TB report” – released by the WHO
- 41% of the total number of cases that dropped in 2020 – came from India
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948



Arts & Cultural Affairs

290. On October 4, The 40th edition of India International Trade Fair (IITF) will be held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi from November 14-27, with 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' as its theme. The India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) organizes this mega event, which was first held in 1979. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 40th edition of India International Trade Fair (IITF) – to be held in New Delhi from November 14-27
- The IITF is organised by – India Trade Promotion Organisation (First held in - 1979)
- HQs of ITPO – New Delhi | MD & Chairman – L. C. Goyal

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

291. On October 7, An MoU was signed between Germany's Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Ministry of Textiles, supported by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoAFW), on Implementation Agreement of Indo German Technical Cooperation Project on 'Sustainability and Value Added in the Cotton Economy'. It is focusing on 4 majorly cotton producing states- Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. India is the largest cotton producer in the world and also the 2nd largest consumer of cotton in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Germany + Mini. of Textiles = an MoU to implement projects on 'Sustainability & Value Added in Cotton Economy'
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh

292. In October 2021, The BSE has signed a pact with Business Leadership League (BLL) for the benefit of small & medium enterprises by providing them with adequate knowledge & educating them on a wide range of topics. BLL is a membership forum for SMEs to discuss business challenges, ideate & strategize about innovative solutions & to get prepared for listing on BSE SME platform. BSE SME will serve as a knowledge partner to BLL. BLL will help in spreading awareness about the benefits of listing. BSE launched the SME Platform in March 2012 & the Startup Platform in December 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE + BLL = to provide SMEs with adequate knowledge & to prepare them for listing on BSE SME platform
- BSE launched – SME Platform in March 2012 & the Startup Platform in December 2018
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Justice Vikramajit Sen | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan
- BSE is Asia's 1st Stock Exchange Company



293. In October 2021, Union Minister of Steel, Ram Chandra Prasad Singh has signed an MoU with Russia for collaboration in the mining & steel sectors, with special focus on coking coal. Coking coal accounts for 40% of total cost of production of steel. This MoU is part of India's "National Steel Policy 2017" under which the country is aiming to reach 300 million tonne steel production by 2030. India imports its coking coal largely from Australia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Russia = for collaboration in the mining & steel sectors, with special focus on coking coal
- India's aim to reach 300 million tonne steel production – by 2030 (as per India's 'National Steel Policy 2017')
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

294. In October 2021, RailTel Corporation has signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) to work together in diverse areas of telecom for boosting modernisation & expansion of communication networks in India. It will help in providing affordable broadband services to the masses in the rural areas by lowering the cost of equipment. C-DOT is a premier research centre under the Department of Telecommunications whereas RailTel works under the Ministry of Railways. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RailTel + C-DOT = an MoU for modernisation & expansion of communication networks in India
- HQs of RailTel – New Delhi | CMD of RailTel – Puneet Chawla
- HQs of C-DoT – New Delhi | Executive Director – Rajkumar Upadhyay
- Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnav | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh
- Ministry of Communications: Ashwini Vaishnav | Constituency – Odisha
- MoS in Ministry of Communications: Devusinh Chauhan

295. In October 2021, The J&K government has signed an MoU with Dubai for real estate development, industrial parks & super-speciality hospitals. The investment will pour in from the entire globe & different entities from Dubai have shown keen interest in investment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J&K + Dubai = an MoU for real estate development, industrial parks & super-speciality hospitals
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

296. In October 2021, Vodafone Idea (VIL) has joined hands with Larsen & Toubro (L&T) for a pilot project to test 5G-based smart city solutions. The pilot project would be set up in Pune to visualise & analyse smart city applications. VIL has been allocated 26 GHz & 3.5 GHz spectrum in the mmWave band by the Telecom Department. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Vodafone Idea + L&T = partnership to test 5G-based Smart City Solutions
- VIL has been allocated – 26 GHz & 3.5 GHz spectrum for 5G
- HQs of Vi Ltd – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Ravinder Takkar | Non-Executive Chairman – Himanshu Kapania

Books & Authors

297. In October 2021, A new book “Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Reason, Religion & Nation” has been authored by ‘Professor Shafey Kidwai’ who won Sahitya Academy Award for Urdu in 2019 for his book “Sawaneh-e-Sir Syed: Ek Bazadeed” which is a biography of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. The book is published by ‘Routledge India’. Professor Shafey Kidwai is a professor at ‘Aligarh Muslim University’ (AMU). Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was the founder of Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College that later grew into Aligarh Muslim University. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Reason, Religion & Nation” book – authored by Professor Shafey Kidwai
- Publisher – ‘Routledge India’
- Sir Syed Ahmad Khan – founder of Aligarh Muslim University
- Chancellor of AMU – Dr Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin

298. In October 2021, Defence minister Rajnath Singh has recently launched a book titled “Veer Savarkar: The Man Who Could Have Prevented Partition” which is authored by Veteran journalist & political analyst Uday Mahurkar along with co-author Chirayu Pandit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Veer Savarkar: The Man Who Could Have Prevented Partition” book – authored by Uday Mahurkar & Chirayu Pandit
- Book launched by – Rajnath Singh

Obituaries

299. On October 6, Cartoonist Chackalethu John Yesudass passed away due to a heart attack. He was 83. He was one of the leading cartoonists in Kerala. He is also the author of a few books including ‘Pradhmadrishtya’, ‘Aniyara’, ‘Post-Mortem’, ‘Varayile Nayanar’ and ‘Varayile Leader’. The Indian Institute of Cartoonists had bestowed him with the “LifeTime Award” in 2001. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chackalethu John Yesudass (Kerala) – a Cartoonist – passed away (“LifeTime Award” in 2001)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan



300. On October 6, Veteran actor Arvind Trivedi passed away recently due to heart attack. He was 82. He was best known for playing the role of 'Raavan' on the popular 1986 mythological show "Ramayan". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arvind Trivedi – a Actor – passed away





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