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Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test
Series Month-wise

October
MockDrill
PDF No. 7
(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 20th November 2021

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

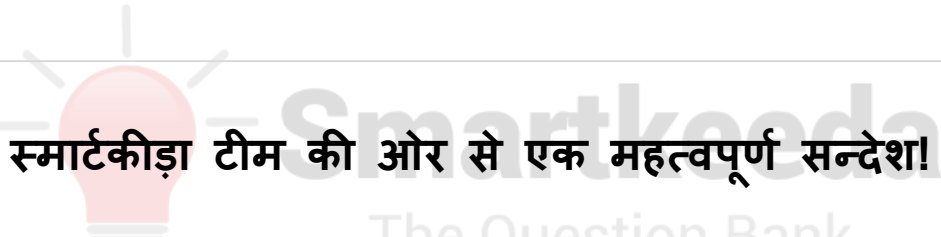
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of October 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

301. On October 7, “National Mission on Edible Oil - Oil Palm Business Summit for North Eastern States” was held at Guwahati, Assam. The Mission with a total outlay of Rs 11,040 Cr will bring additional area of 6.5 lakh hectares under Oil Palm plantation with 3.28 lakh hectares in North Eastern states and 3.22 in Rest of India in next 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “National Mission on Edible Oil - Oil Palm Business Summit for North Eastern States” – held at Guwahati, Assam
- Total outlay of the mission – Rs 11,040 Cr
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

302. On October 6, The Delhi Cabinet has approved its ambitious Health Information Management System (HIMS) project. As part of the project, each citizen will have a Unique Health Card, which will be a repository of their medical information. All citizens between 1 and 18 years would be issued a health card linked to their parent’s health card. In a related development, the Cabinet approved ₹48.14 Cr for procurement, distribution and transportation of foodgrains for citizens without ration cards residing in New Delhi. An MoU between IIT Kanpur and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) was also approved by the Cabinet for the technology that will allow accurate information about the real-time source of air pollution in Delhi to be made available. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- New Delhi – provided Unique Health Cards under its Health Information Management System (HIMS) project
- IIT Kanpur + DPCC = an MoU for the accurate information about the real-time source of air pollution in Delhi
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

303. On October 9, India's Power Ministry has set a revised policy to use Biomass Pellets in coal-burning Thermal Power Plants. It encourages use of Agricultural Waste which is otherwise burnt by farmers, causing air pollution. The decision makes it mandatory for 3 categories of Thermal Power Plants to use a 5% blend of biomass pellets along with coal. The policy will come into force in October 2022, with a requirement to increase the proportion of biomass to 7% within two years for two categories of power plants. The policy for co-firing of biomass would be in force for 25 years or until the useful life of the thermal power plant, whichever is earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Power Ministry – set a revised policy to use Biomass Pellets in coal-burning Thermal Power Plants
- It is mandatory for 3 categories of Thermal Power Plants to use a 5% blend of biomass pellets along with coal
- The policy will come into force in October 2022 & would be in force for 25 years
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal



304. On October 8, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Parshottam Rupala launched the River Ranching Programme at Brijghat in Uttar Pradesh. Other 4 states - Uttarakhand, Orissa, Tripura and Chhattisgarh also participated in the programme. In UP, 3 lakhs fingerlings were ranched at 3 sites namely, Brijghat, Garhmukteshwar, Tigri, Meerut and Bijnor. National Digital Livestock Mission (NFDB) has sanctioned a total budget of Rs 2.81 Cr to ranch 97.16 lakh fingerlings to different states as a part of Action plan 2020-21 of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Parshottam Rupala – launched the “River Ranching Programme” at Brijghat, Uttar Pradesh
- NFDB sanctioned Rs 2.81 Cr to ranch 97.16 lakh fingerlings as a part of Action plan 2020-21 of ‘PMMSY’
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

305. On October 5, The Ministry of Tourism in association with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has organised the “Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour” as part of the Union government’s “Dekho Apna Desh” initiative. It aims to tap the potential of Buddhist tourism in India. Ajay Bhatt, Minister of State for Tourism and Defence, flagged off the journey for “Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour and Conference” at Delhi Safdarjung Railway Station. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism + IRCTC = organised the “Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour” as part of “Dekho Apna Desh” initiative
- Ministry of Tourism: G. Kishan Reddy | Constituency – Secunderabad, Telangana
- MoS in Ministry of Tourism: Shripad Yesso Naik & Ajay Bhatt
- HQs of IRCTC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Mahendra Pratap Mall

306. On October 9, Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope has launched “Mission Kavach Kundal”, a seven-day special campaign to boost its Covid-19 vaccination drive, starting from October 8. It has set a target of vaccinating minimum 1.5 million (15 lakh) people a day. He also declared to provide monetary assistance of ₹50,000 each to the kin of those who died due to Covid-19 infection during the pandemic. The state government has made a provision of ₹700 Cr for the same. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – launched a 7-day special campaign “Mission Kavach Kundal” to boost its Covid-19 vaccination drive
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

307. On October 13, The Ministry of Coal has amended “Mineral Concession Rules, 1960” with a view to allow 50% sale of Coal from Captive Mines. While, by amending “National Tariff Policy, 2016”, the government authorized ‘Imported Coal-based Plants’ to operate and sell the un-requisitioned power in the Power Exchange. To boost production, the government has introduced a provision to grant the lease of coal mines for 50 years. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of Coal – amended “Mineral Concession Rules, 1960” to allow 50% sale of Coal from Captive Mines
- Government introduced a provision to grant the lease of coal mines for 50 years
- Ministry of Coal: Pralhad Joshi | Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka
- MoS in Ministry of Coal: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao

308. In October 2021, NABARD subsidiary NABSanrakshan has signed a trust deed for Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Farmer Producer Organisations (CGFTFPO). The credit guarantee fund of Rs 1,000 Cr will be housed in CGFTFPO. The government has launched a Central sector scheme titled “Formation & Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)” to form & promote 10,000 new FPOs in India. Under this scheme a dedicated fund for providing credit guarantees to FPOs has been set up. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABSanrakshan (subsidiary of NABARD) – signed a trust deed for CGFTFPO
- Rs 1,000 Cr credit guarantee fund – will be housed in CGFTFPO
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Govinda Rajulu Chintala | Founded in – 1982

309. In October 2021, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has launched “UFill” which is an automated fueling technology. With UFill, the invitation to customers is to “Fast forward your fill” because this digital technology obviates the need for looking at zero or final reading & the customers are given complete control over time, technology, & transparency in the fueling process. Also, it does not need any app download & it offers real time QR & voucher code through SMS. Customer can use any payment app like GPay, PayTM, PhonePe etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BPCL – launched an automated fueling technology - “UFill”
- HQs of BPCL – Mumbai, MH | Chairman & MD – Arun Kumar Singh | Founded in – 1952

310. In October 2021, Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation Ltd (TANFINET) has signed the Master Service Agreement for the implementation of “BharatNet Project” in Tamil Nadu. TANFINET is a special purpose vehicle implementing the BharatNet project in Tamil Nadu at a total cost of ₹1,815 Cr. “National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)” which was launched in October 2011 was renamed as “Bharat Net Project” in 2015. The project aims at providing 1 Gbps bandwidth connectivity to all Gram Panchayats through optical fibre cable. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu FibreNet – implementing the “BharatNet Project” in the state (total cost – ₹1,815 Cr)
- BharatNet project – to provide 1 Gbps bandwidth connectivity to all Gram Panchayats through optical fibre cable
- National Optical Fibre Network – launched in 2011 & renamed as – “BharatNet Project” in 2015
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi



311. In October 2021, Haryana health minister Anil Vij has launched the “Swasth Haryana” mobile app. Patients can get themselves registered in advance before going to the hospital through the app. The app is developed by Haryana State Health Systems Resource Centre (HSRRC). There are many other facilities in this app such as information about the nearest blood bank, information pertaining to mother-child care & vaccination etc. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

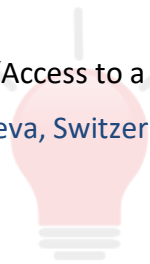
- Haryana – launched “Swasth Haryana” mobile app
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

International Affairs

312. On October 9, The UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) has recognised access to a Clean & Healthy Environment as a fundamental right, formally adding its weight to the global fight against climate change and its devastating consequences. The World Health Organization estimates that some 13.7 million deaths a year, or around 24.3% of the global total, are due to environmental risks such as air pollution and chemical exposure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNHRC – recognised ‘Access to a Clean & Healthy Environment as a Fundamental Right’
- HQs of UNHRC – Geneva, Switzerland | President – Nazahat Shameen Khan



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Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

313. On October 7, BharatPe has announced its entry into the ‘Buy Now Pay Later’ (BNPL) category with the launch of its product - ‘Postpe’. Postpe provides credit to customers to buy now and pay later, for anything, and from anywhere. Customers can avail interest-free credit limit of up to Rs 10 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BharatPe – launched “Postpe” & entered into the ‘Buy Now Pay Later’ (BNPL) category
- HQs of BharatPe – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Ashneer Grover | Chairman – Rajnish Kumar

314. On October 8, In a bid to promote digital transactions, the RBI proposed to increase per transaction limit from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh through Immediate Payment Service (IMPS). In addition, the RBI also proposed to introduce a framework for Retail Digital Payments in offline mode across India. It is also proposed to introduce a framework for leveraging Geo-tagging technology for capturing exact location information on all existing and new PA infrastructure viz., Point of Sale (PoS) terminals, Quick Response (QR) Codes, etc. Moreover, the RBI's Regulatory Sandbox (RS) has announced 4th cohort with the theme of ‘Prevention & Mitigation of Financial Frauds’. The RBI also introduced “Internal Ombudsman Scheme” for the NBFCs, while Priority Sector Lending (PSL) facility by Banks to NBFCs was extended till March 31, 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced:
 - to increase per transaction limit from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh through IMPS
 - to introduce a framework for 'Retail Digital Payments' in offline mode across India
 - to introduce a framework for leveraging 'Geo-tagging Technology' for capturing exact location information
 - 4th cohort under the 'Regulatory Sandbox' initiative | Theme – "Prevention & Mitigation of Financial Frauds"
 - introduced "Internal Ombudsman Scheme" for the NBFCs
 - extended PSL facility by Banks to NBFCs – till March 31, 2022
- Themes of cohorts under the 'Regulatory Sandbox' initiative:
 - 1st - "Retail Payments" | 2nd - "Cross-Border Payments" | 3rd - "Prevention & Mitigation of Financial Frauds"
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

315. On October 8, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced to extend the tap on Special Long-Term Repo Operations (SLTRO) for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) till December 31, 2021. A 3-year SLTRO facility of ₹10,000 Cr at the repo rate was made available to SFBs in May 2021 to be deployed for fresh lending of up to ₹10 lakh per borrower. This facility was made available till October 31, 2021. Besides, in its 4th Bi-monthly monetary policy statement, the RBI retained India's GDP for FY22 at 9.5% & India's Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation in FY22 at 5.3%. While, other rates (RR, RRR, BR, MSF, CRR, SLR) were kept unchanged for the 8th consecutive time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI extended the tap on SLTRO for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) – till December 31, 2021
- 3-year SLTRO facility of ₹10,000 Cr at the repo rate was made available to SFBs in May 2021 (till October 31, 2021)
- Under SLTRO facility: Fresh lending of up to ₹10 lakh per borrower
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

316. On October 8, Based on the recommendation of Controller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance, Federal Bank has been authorized by Reserve Bank of India for collection of Direct and Indirect Taxes, on behalf of CBDT and CBIC. Federal Bank customers will soon be able to pay their Direct and Indirect taxes through the Bank's various digital platforms like FedMobile (Mobile Banking app), FedNet (Net Banking), Fedebiz (Corporate Digital Banking), and through wide branch network. The bank also upgraded its mobile banking app - 'FedMobile'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank – authored by the RBI for collection of Direct & Indirect Taxes on behalf of CBDT & CBIC
- 'FedMobile' – a mobile banking app of Federal Bank
- HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – "Your Perfect Banking Partner"
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra | Formed in – 1944
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar | Founded in – 1964



317. On October 8, IndusInd Bank has been authorised by the Reserve Bank of India for collection of direct and indirect taxes on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC). The authorization has been awarded on the basis of recommendation from the Controller General of Account (CGA) as well as the Ministry of Finance. With this, IndusInd Bank customers will soon be able to pay their Direct and Indirect taxes through the Bank's state-of-the-art digital platforms such as 'Indusnet' - its net banking platform and 'IndusMobile' - its mobile banking application. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IndusInd Bank – authored by the RBI for collection of Direct & Indirect Taxes on behalf of CBDT & CBIC
- Other two banks previously authored for the same: Federal Bank & Karur Vysya Bank
- 'IndusMobile' – a mobile banking app of IndusInd Bank
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra | Formed in – 1944
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar | Founded in – 1964

318. In October 2021, Agri-fintech firm 'Dvara E-Dairy Solutions Pvt Ltd' has entered into a partnership with Jana Small Finance Bank (Jana SFB) to service small dairy farmers. Dvara E-Dairy will empower small & medium dairy farmers with financial & cattle management solutions using digital technologies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jana SFB + Dvara E-Dairy Solutions = entered a partnership to service small dairy farmers
- HQs of Jana SFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Ajay Kanwal
- HQs of Dvara E-Dairy Solutions – Chennai | CEO – Ravi KA

Defence Affairs

319. In October 2021, The 17th edition of the Indo-US joint training exercise “Ex Yudh Abhyas 21” commenced at “Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson” in Alaska. 350 soldiers of the 7 Madras infantry battalion group of the Indian Army participated in the exercise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + USA = commenced 17th edition of joint training exercise “Ex Yudh Abhyas 21” in Alaska, US
- 350 soldiers of the 7 Madras infantry battalion group of the Indian Army participated in it
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris



Schemes & Initiatives

320. In October 2021, Madhya Pradesh government has implemented “Mukhyamantri Ration Aapke Dwar Yojana”. Under the scheme, ration will be transported by vehicles in those villages where there are no fair price shops. The objective of this scheme is to provide ration material to Divyanga & senior citizens near their homes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhya Pradesh – implemented “Mukhyamantri Ration Aapke Dwar Yojana”
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

Sports & Games

321. On October 5, India won 43 medals, including 17 Gold, 16 Silver and 10 Bronze, to finish on top in the ISSF Junior World Championship in Lima. Vijayveer Sidhu, Rhythm Sangwan, Arjun Singh Cheema and Shikha Narwal were India's gold medallists on the final day. Hyderabad teenager Dhanush Srikanth created history by clinching 10m air rifle men's team gold at the ISSF Junior World Championships. He became the first Indian and the only shooter in the world with hearing and speech impairment to win a Gold medal in the regular ISSF World Championships. Moreover, India's Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar has won Gold in 50m Rifle three positions men's event with a new junior world record at the ISSF Junior World Championships in Lima, Peru. He finished with a record score of 463.4. Earlier in the day, 14-year-old Naamya Kapoor clinched Gold in the women's 25m pistol event while her compatriot Manu Bhaker won bronze. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – topped the medal tally at “ISSF Junior World Championships” at Lima, Peru (17 Gold, 16 Silver & 10 Bronze = 43)
- Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar – won Gold in men's 50m Rifle event
- In Women's 25m Pistol event: Naamya Kapoor – Gold | Manu Bhaker – Bronze
- Dhanush Srikanth – 1st Indian & only shooter in the world with hearing & speech impairment to win a Gold medal at IISF World Championships
- Other Gold medalists on the final day: Vijayveer Sidhu, Rhythm Sangwan, Arjun Singh Cheema & Shikha Narwal

322. On October 5, Germany has unveiled the logo for Soccer's 2024 European Championship. Germany hosted the World Cup in 2006. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Germany – unveiled the logo for Soccer's 2024 European Championship
- Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier



323. In October 2021, For the first time, Indian Table Tennis contingent won 3 Bronze medals in the IITF's Asian Table Tennis Championship held this year. Indian Men's Team - Sharath Kamal, Sathiyar Gnanasekaran and Harmeet Desai won a bronze after losing to South Korea. While the two Indian pairs of Sharath Kamal Achanta & G. Sathiyar, and Harmeet Desai & Manav Thakkar, won bronze medals in the men's doubles of the "2021 ITTF-ATTU Asian Championships". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Table Tennis – won 3 Bronze medals in the "IITF's Asian Table Tennis Championship 2021" (first time)
- 1st Bronze: Sharath Kamal, Sathiyar Gnanasekaran & Harmeet Desai
- 2nd Bronze: Sharath Kamal Achanta & G. Sathiyar
- 3rd Bronze: Harmeet Desai & Manav Thakkar

324. In October 2021, Kenya's Joyciline Jepkosgei has won women's London Marathon in two hours, 17.43 minutes as world record holder. Also, Ethiopia's Sisay Lemma won the men's London Marathon. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Joyciline Jepkosgei ([Kenya](#)) – won women's "London Marathon 2021"
- Sisay Lemma ([Ethiopia](#)) – won men's "London Marathon 2021"

325. In October 2021, Indian Grandmaster Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa has won the 'Julius Baer Challengers Chess Tour' Finals after defeating Christopher Yoo of the USA by 3-0. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. Praggnanandhaa ([Chess](#)) – won 'Julius Baer Challengers Chess Tour' after defeating Christopher Yoo ([USA](#))
- HQs of FIDE – Lausanne, Switzerland | President /Chairman – Arkady Dvorkovich
- Managing Director – Dana Rezniece-Ozola | Founded on – July 20, 1924

Important Days & Dates

326. In October 2021, World Osteoporosis Day is celebrated on October 20 to raise awareness about osteoporosis. Osteoporosis is a disease in which the bones become weak & brittle because of the loss of mineral density. The day was first celebrated by United Kingdom's National Osteoporosis Society in 1996. The theme for 2021 is "Serve Up Bone Strength". This day is organised by the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) which is the world's largest non-governmental organisation dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis, & treatment of osteoporosis. IOF was formed in 1998. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 20 – World Osteoporosis Day – by IOF
- 2021's theme – "Serve Up Bone Strength"
- HQs of IOF – Nyon, Switzerland | President – Cyrus Cooper | CEO – Philippe Halbout



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

327. On October 6, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal has addressed the Inaugural Session of the ICRIER's (Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations) 13th Annual International G-20 Conference. During his address, he stated that India is now world's second largest manufacturer of Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) after China. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – addressed the Inaugural Session of the ICRIER's 13th Annual International G-20 Conference
- India – world's 2nd largest manufacturer of PPEs | 1st – China
- HQs of ICRIER – New Delhi | Chairman – Pramod Bhasin | Director & Chief Executive – Deepak Mishra

328. With the support of the Ministry of AYUSH, the Indian Embassy in Croatia organized the 1st International Conference on Yoga and Ayurveda in Zagreb, Croatia during 3-5 October, 2021. Theme of the Conference was "Ayurveda for Health and Wellness". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1st International Conference on Yoga & Ayurveda – organised in Zagreb, Croatia
- Theme – "Ayurveda for Health & Wellness"
- Croatia – Zagreb – Kuna | PM – Andrej Plenkovic | President – Zoran Milanovic

329. On October 8, The 16th meeting of the "India-US Defence Policy Group (DPG)" took place in Washington to review the progress on various defence cooperation issues between the two countries. The DPG meeting was co-chaired by Indian Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 16th meeting of the "India-US Defence Policy Group (DPG)" – took place in Washington, US
- The DPG meeting was co-chaired by – Ajay Kumar (Defence Secretary)
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

330. In October 2021, India & UK held inaugural maritime dialogue in a virtual format which involved exchanges on cooperation in the maritime domain & the Indo-Pacific & regional or multilateral cooperation. India & UK agreed for this dialogue in the India-UK Roadmap 2030 in May 2021. In the dialogue, the consultations were led by the Foreign Ministries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India & UK – held 'Inaugural Maritime Dialogue' in a virtual format for cooperation in the maritime domain
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson



331. In October 2021, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav participated virtually in the Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) ministerial meeting titled “Preparations for COP 26 on Climate Change - Expectations & Challenges”. In the meeting, he called for rapid reduction in emissions by developed countries. The meeting was hosted by Bolivia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhupender Yadav – participated in LMDC meeting titled “Preparations for COP 26 on Climate Change - Expectations & Challenges” – hosted by Bolivia
- Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav | Constituency – Rajasthan
- MoS in Ministry for Environment, Forest & Climate Change: Ashwini Kumar Choubey

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

332. On October 11, The “2021 Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences” has been awarded in one half to Canadian-born David Card for his empirical contributions to labour economics and the other half jointly to Israeli-American Joshua D. Angrist and Dutch-American Guido W. Imbens for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences”:
 - David Card ([Canada](#)) – for his empirical contributions to Labour Economics
 - Joshua D. Angrist & Guido W. Imbens – for their methodological contributions to the analysis of Causal Relationships

333. On October 8, Pranshu Singhal has announced as the winner of the 12th Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award by the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. He has been awarded for having founded ‘Karo Sambhav’, an organisation that works on improving recycling and waste management by helping a mostly informal workforce engaged in it have access to more formal mechanisms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pranshu Singhal – winner of the 12th Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award – for having founded ‘Karo Sambhav’

Appointments & Resignations

334. On October 8, Leading crypto asset trading platform CoinSwitch Kuber has roped in Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh as its first ever brand ambassador. The move is aimed to connect with millennials and Gen-Z users by featuring Ranveer Singh in its 'Kuch Toh Badlega' campaign. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ranveer Singh – appointed as the first ever Brand Ambassador of CoinSwitch Kuber
- HQs of CoinSwitch Kuber – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Ashish Singhal



335. On October 8, Home care and surface hygiene brand ‘MaxKleen’ has appointed Amitabh Bachchan as its brand ambassador. With this campaign, the brand highlights the key message of “keeping floors protected with MaxKleen”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amitabh Bachchan – appointed as Brand Ambassador of MaxKleen

336. On October 7, Anshu Malik won the Silver medal at the World Wrestling Championships in Oslo, Norway and became the first Indian woman to silver at World Championships. Anshu was the third Indian to reach the final of the World championships after 2010 champion Sushil Kumar and 2018 silver medallist Bajrang Punia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anshu Malik ([Wrestler](#)) – won the Silver medal at the World Wrestling Championships in Oslo, Norway
- With this, she became the first Indian woman to win a silver medal at World Championships

337. On October 9, President Ram Nath Kovind has approved the appointment of chief justices to 8 High Courts in India. The President also approved transfer of 5 Chief Justices to different high courts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind approved the appointment of chief justices to 8 High Courts:

Name	From	To
New Appointments		
Prakash Shrivastava	-	Calcutta HC
Ranjit V. More	-	Meghalaya HC
Ritu Raj Awasthi	-	Karnataka HC
Rajesh Bindal	-	Allahabad HC
Satish Chandra Sharma	-	Telangana HC
R. V. Malimath	-	Madhya Pradesh HC
Aravind Kumar	-	Gujarat HC
Prashant Kumar Mishra	-	Andhra Pradesh HC
Transfer		
A. A. Kureshi	Tripura HC	Rajasthan HC
Indrajit Mahanty	Rajasthan HC	Tripura HC
Mohammad Rafiq	Himachal Pradesh HC	Madhya Pradesh HC
Biswanath Somadder	Meghalaya HC	Sikkim HC
A. K. Goswami	Andhra Pradesh HC	Chhattisgarh HC

338. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the proposal of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways for appointment of Polamraju Lakshmi Haranadh as Chairperson of Paradip Port Trust under Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways for a tenure up to his superannuation on August 31, 2026. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Polamraju Lakshmi Haranadh – appointed as Chairperson of Paradip Port Trust – till August 31, 2026
- Location of Paradip Port Trust – Odisha | Chairperson – Polamraju Lakshmi Haranadh



339. On October 13, Yardley recently announced the launch of their new campaign ‘Nature Like Freshness,’ with Kriti Sanon as its new brand ambassador. Yardley is one of the world’s oldest living brands in the personal care category. It was founded in 1770 in the UK. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kriti Sanon – appointed as Brand Ambassador of ‘Yardley’ - a personal care brand

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

340. On October 6, The “2021 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)” report was released digitally and it was produced by the UNDP and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI). The report examined the level and composition of multidimensional poverty across 109 countries covering 5.9 billion people. 1.3 billion People are multidimensionally poor and half (644 million) of them are children under age 18. Nearly 85% of multidimensionally poor live in Sub-Saharan Africa (556 million) or South Asia (532 million). The report highlighted that India has a maximum number of people (381 million) living in multidimensional poverty. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)” report – prepared by UNDP + OPHI
- 1.3 billion People are multidimensionally poor (half are Children - 644 million)
- India has a maximum number of people living in multidimensional poverty – 381 million
- HQs of UNDP – New York, US | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

341. On October 13, The Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP) has released the 2nd edition of the “Ecological Threat Report 2021: Understanding Ecological Threats, Resilience and Peace”, recently. As per the report, around 1.26 billion people across 30 countries are suffering from both extreme ecological risk and low levels of resilience. The number of people displaced by conflict has been steadily rising with 23.1 million people from hotspot countries living outside their home country in 2020. Europe was hosting the largest number of displaced people. Since 2014, the number of people without access to adequate food globally has risen every year, increasing by 44%. By 2050, the global demand for food is expected to increase by 50%. As a region, South Asia is the worst-placed with water and food risks. The report reveals that by 2040 over 5.4 billion people will live in countries facing extreme water stress. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd edition of the “Ecological Threat Report 2021: Understanding Ecological Threats, Resilience and Peace” – by IEP
- Around 1.26 billion people across 30 countries are suffering from extreme ecological risk & low levels of resilience
- Global demand for food is expected to increase by 50% by 2050
- South Asia – the worst-placed region with water & food risks
- 5.4 billion people will live in countries facing extreme water stress by 2040
- HQs of IEP – Sydney, Australia



342. In October 2021, Reliance Industries Ltd has topped Indian corporates in the World's Best Employers rankings 2021 published by Forbes. Reliance was placed at 52 in the overall ranking of 750 global corporates. The global ranking was topped by South Korean giant Samsung Electronics. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance – topped Indian corporates in the Forbes' "World's Best Employers Rankings 2021" (Overall rank – 52)
- List is topped by – Samsung Electronics (South Korea)
- HQs of FORBES – Jersey City, New Jersey

Acquisitions & Mergers

343. In October 2021, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of Global Content Alpha Partners Holdco (GCAPH) by Starnmeer B.V. (Starnmeer). Starnmeer is owned & controlled by funds affiliated with Baring Private Equity Asia (BPEA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved acquisition of GCAPH – by Starnmeer B.V.
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

344. In October 2021, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of worldwide healthcare BPO services business of Hinduja Global Solutions by Betaine B.V. Betaine has been recently incorporated in the Netherlands & it is owned & controlled by funds affiliated with Baring Private Equity Asia Pte. Ltd. (BPEA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved acquisition of worldwide healthcare BPO services business of Hinduja Global Solutions – by Betaine B.V.
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003

345. In October 2021, Ola has acquired GeoSpoc, a geospatial services provider without disclosing the cost of acquisition. GeoSpoc provides niche location-based solutions, services & products to verticals such as BFSI, retail, precision agriculture & consumer goods/FMCG. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ola – acquired geospatial services provider "GeoSpoc"
- HQs of Ola – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Bhavish Aggarwal
- HQs of GeoSpoc – Pune | CEO – Dhruva Rajan



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

346. In October 2021, National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) in collaboration with Bengaluru-based startup Chainflux has launched “NSE-Shine”, a blockchain platform for gold bullion to provide a data framework for bullion bar integrity for settlement of Gold derivatives contracts. The India Gold Policy Centre (IGPC) at the Indian Institute of Management - Ahmedabad (IIM-A) & the Indian Bullion & Jewellers’ Association (IBJA) have worked with the NSE & Chainflux to develop this blockchain-based platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSE + Chainflux = launched a blockchain platform “NSE-Shine”
- NSE-Shine Developed by = NSE + Chainflux + IGPC + IBJA
- HQs of Chainflux – Bengaluru | CEO – Abhinav Ramesh
- HQs of NSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Girish Chandra Chaturvedi | MD & CEO – Vikram Limaye

347. In October 2021, NITI Aayog has launched the Geospatial Energy Map of India. NITI Aayog, in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a broad Geographical Information System (GIS) Energy Map of India with support from Energy Ministers of the Indian Government. The map identifies & locates all primary & secondary sources of energy & provides a complete image of all resources of the country through 27 thematic layers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + ISRO = developed a “GIS Energy Map of India”
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | VC – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed on – August 15, 1969

Books & Authors

348. In October 2021, Recently a book titled “The Stars in My Sky: Those Who Brightened My Film Journey” has been authored by Divya Dutta. The book is published by Penguin Random House India. It is her 2nd book. Her debut book was “Me & Ma” which was released in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Stars in My Sky: Those Who Brightened My Film Journey” book – authored by Divya Dutta
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India

349. In October 2021, A new book “The Origin Story of India’s States” has been written by author Venkataraghavan Subha Srinivasan. The book presents the incredible origin stories of each of India’s 28 states & eight union territories. The book is published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Origin Story of India’s States” book – authored by Venkataraghavan Subha Srinivasan
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India



Obituaries

350. On October 8, Vallilath Madhathil Madhavan Nair, the oldest living former diplomat of India, passed away. Mr. Nair joined the Indian Civil Service or the ICS in 1942 and was allotted to the Bihar Cadre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vallilath Madhathil Madhavan Nair – Oldest living former diplomat of India (Bureaucrat) – passed away





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