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## **Testzone presents**

Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test Series Month-wise

# September MockDrill100 PDF No.5

(PDF in English)



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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 100 of September 2020 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

## स्म<mark>ार्टकीड़ा</mark> 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 सितम्बर माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill 100 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 प्रश्नPDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इसPDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test मेंबेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा

#### 401. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Facebook owned messaging giant WhatsApp has partnered with Common Services Centers (CSC) for a WhatsApp chatbot for citizens to receive digital literacy services and resources with an aim to bridge the digital divide and spur rural entrepreneurship. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- WhatsApp + CSC = partnership for a digital literacy service chatbot
- HQs of Whatsapp California, USA | CEO Jan Koum

#### 402. National & States Affairs

Tata Projects has won the contract to build India's new Parliament building at Rs 861.9 crore as a part of the government's Central Vista redevelopment plans . {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Tata Projects - won the contract to build India's new Parliament building - at Rs 861.9 crore

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• HQs of Tata Projects Ltd – Secunderabad, Telangana | MD – Mr. Vinayak K Deshpande

#### 403. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

India has been ranked at the 116<sup>th</sup> position in the latest edition of the World Bank's annual "Human Capital Index-2020" that benchmarks key components of human capital across countries. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- World Bank's annual "Human Capital Index-2020": India 116<sup>th</sup> | Topped by Singapore
- World Bank HQs Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant
- Singapore Singapore Dollar | PM Lee Hsien Loong | President Halimah Yacob

#### 404. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

Lok Sabha has passed a bill to reduce the salaries of MPs by 30% for one year to meet the exigencies arising out of Covid-19 pandemic. {Read more}

- Lok Sabha passed a bill to reduce the salaries of MPs by 30% for 1 year
- Speaker of Lok Sabha Om Prakash Birla



#### 405. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Barcelona's star forward Lionel Messi has topped as the "World's Highest-Earning Footballer in 2020" according to a Forbes report. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Lionel Messi – topped the Forbes List of "World's Highest-Earning Footballer in 2020"

#### 406. National & States Affairs

The Union Cabinet has approved the 122-km Haryana 'Orbital Rail Corridor project' connecting Palwal to Sonipat via Sohna, Manesar and Kharkhauda. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the 122-km 'Orbital Rail Corridor project' in Haryana
- Haryana: Capital Chandigarh | CM Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya

#### **407. International Affairs**

New Zealand has become the first country to pass legislation requiring Financial Firms to declare their climate-related risks. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- New Zealand become the first country to pass legislation requiring Financial Firms
- New Zealand Wellington Dollar (NZD)

#### 408. National & States Affairs

The month of September is observed every year as the 'Month of Nutrition' under the Nutrition Campaign. In the same series, Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has inaugurated the 'Poshan Sarkar' programme to ensure participation and leadership of local bodies-Gram Panchayats and Urban Bodies in the nutrition campaign. {Read more}

- September observed every year as the 'Month of Nutrition'
- Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan inauguralted the 'Poshan Sarkar' programme
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Anandiben Patel



#### 409. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The Institute for Management Development (IMD) in collaboration with Singapore University for Technology and Design (SUTD) has released the "2020 Smart City Index". In the 2020 Smart City Index, Hyderabad was placed at the 85<sup>th</sup> position (down from 67 in 2019), New Delhi at 86<sup>th</sup> rank (down from 68 in 2019), Mumbai was at 93<sup>rd</sup> place (in 2019 it was at 78) and Bengaluru at 95<sup>th</sup> (79 in 2019). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "2020 Smart City Index" released by IMD + Singapore University for Technology and Design
- Overall topped by Singapore | Hyderabad 85<sup>th</sup>, New Delhi 86<sup>th</sup>, Mumbai 93<sup>rd</sup>

#### 410. Important Days & Dates

A customized My Stamp on India's First Anti Satellite Missile (A-SAT) test "Mission Shakti" was launched on the occasion of "Engineers Day" on September 15 in the presence of Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor (NSA). The stamp was released by Department of Posts. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

 September 15 – "Engineers Day" – a postage stamp on India's First Anti Satellite Missile "Mission Shakti" launched

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The stamp – released by 'Department of Posts'

#### 411. Current GK

Madhya Pradesh cops have recently arrested Bastar Maoist near 'Kanha National Park'. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Kanha National Park" Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Anandiben Patel

#### 412. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Michelin-star chef Vikas Khanna will be honoured with the prestigious "2020 Asia Game Changer Award" for feeding millions across India amid the COVID-19 pandemic through a massive food distribution drive. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Vikas Khanna – honoured with the prestigious "2020 Asia Game Changer Award"

Byju's has unveiled 'Education for All' to empower 5 million children by 2025. It aims to make digital learning accessible to millions of children from underserved and economically deprived communities. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Byju's unveiled 'Education for All' to empower 5 million children by 2025
- HQs of Byju's Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Byju Raveendran

#### 414. International Affairs

Mexico has issued the World's 1<sup>st</sup> Sovereign Bond linked to the sustainability development goals set by the United Nations, raising 750 million Euros (\$889.73 million). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Mexico issued the World's 1<sup>st</sup> Sovereign Bond linked to the SDGs set by UN (raised 750 million Euros)
- Mexico Mexico City Peso

#### 415. Banking & Economic Affairs

DBS Bank India has launched its online credit solutions platform – "DBS Digital Business Loans for SMEs". It is driven by its constant focus on building simple, intuitive and hassle-free banking solutions for customers. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- DBS Bank India launched its online credit solutions platform "DBS Digital Business Loans for SMEs"
- HQs of DBS Bank Singapore | CEO Piyush Gupta
- HQs of DBS Bank India Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO Surojit Shome

#### 416. National & States Affairs

Vi, the unified brand of Vodafone Idea announced the launch of "GIGAnet", the largest 4G network integration done through spectrum refarming exercise. {Read more}

- Vi announced the launch of "GIGAnet" the largest 4G network integration
- HQs of Vodafone Idea Gandhinagar | CEO Ravinder Takkar



#### 417. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

In a first, "India Happiness Report-2020" has been released. As per the report, Mizoram has been ranked the happiest state, followed by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Punjab. The survey was conducted between March 2020 and July 2020 by Niti Aayog. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• "India Happiness Report-2020": 1<sup>st</sup> – Mizoram | 2<sup>nd</sup> – Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 3<sup>rd</sup> – Punjab

#### 418. Current GK

In Tamil Nadu, a massive afforestation exercise is going on in the popular "Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary" in Ariyalur district, near Trichy. {Read more}

#### Key Points:

- "Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary" Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital Chennai | CM Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor Banwarilal Purohit

#### 419. Books & Authors

Former U. S. President Barack Obama has announced the publication in November of the first half of his memoirs, "A Promised Land". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• "A Promised Land" book – authored by Barack Obama

#### **420.** International Affairs

India has joined the 'Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment' as Observer after the "High level meeting of the Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment" (DCOC/JA) held virtually on August 26 to boost its Indian Ocean Region outreach. {Read more}

- India joined the 'Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment' as Observer
- Djibouti Djibouti Franc



NABARD has organized 'Awareness Cum Sensitization Programme' for newly proposed FPO (Farmer Producer Organizations) in Jammu and Kashmir. The programme was organised to promote sustainable and equitable agriculture and rural prosperity. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- NABARD organized 'Awareness Cum Sensitization Programme' for newly proposed FPO in J & K
- HQs of NABARD Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Chintala Govinda Rajulu
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

#### 422. Important Days & Dates

The "World Patient Safety Day" was established in May 2019 by the World Health Assembly, and the day itself is celebrated on 17 September. This year, the theme was "Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 17 "World Patient Safety Day"
- Theme "Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety"

#### 423. Obituaries

P R Krishnakumar has passed away recently due to Covid-19. He was Chairman and Managing Director of the Arya Vaidya Pharmacy (AVP) Coimbatore Limited and had devoted his entire life to creating awareness on Ayurveda. He was 68. He was awarded with Padma Shri in 'Medicine'. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

- P R Krishnakumar Indian physician passed away (He was awarded Padma Shri in 'Medicine')
- He was Chairman and MD of Arya Vaidya Pharmacy (AVP) Coimbatore Ltd

#### 424. Schemes & Initiatives

The Maharashtra government has launched a new Road Accident Insurance Scheme named after late Shiv Sena chief Balasaheb Thackeray, to provide timely treatment up to Rs 30,000 free of charge to victims that could help to reduce the fatality rate. <u>{Read more}</u>

#### **Key Points:**

Maharashtra launched – "Balasaheb Thackeray Accidental Insurance Scheme" (Free treatment up to – Rs 30,000)

• Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



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#### 425. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

The State Bank of India (SBI) and Titan Company have partnered to launch contactless payment services through watches, called Titan Pay. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SBI + Titan = partnership to launch "Titan Pay" a Contactless Payment Services
- SBI Bank HQs Mumbai, Maharashtra | SBI Bank Chairman Rajnish Kumar
- SBI Bank MD & CEO Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO Chalasani Venkat Nageswar
- HQs of Titan Company Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Saumen Bhaumik

#### 426. Science & Technology

Using data from NASA missions, an international team of astronomers has found the 1<sup>st</sup> intact planet called "WD 1856 b" orbiting a white dwarf. It is 40% larger than Earth or Jupiter-size object and about 80 light-years away in the northern constellation Draco. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> intact planet called "WD 1856 b" orbiting a 'white dwarf' is found recently
- 40% larger than Earth | 80 light-years away in the northern constellation Draco

#### 427. National & States Affairs

The Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) has launched a health and nutrition helpline "Sehat evam Poshan Saathinwas" to ensure children under 6 years of age get nutritional supplements and regular immunisation doses. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Delhi launched a health and nutrition helpline "Sehat evam Poshan Saathinwas" for children under 6 years
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

#### 428. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

India & the USA have virtually signed an agreement to further strengthen Defence Technology Cooperation at the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Group Meeting. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 10<sup>th</sup> Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Group Meeting held between 'India & USA'
- India & USA signed an agreement to further strengthen Defence Technology Cooperation
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump

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#### 429. Sports & Games

'The Thomas and Uber Cup' in Denmark have postponed to next year by the Badminton World Federation following a wave of withdrawals by top teams due to the raging COVID-19 pandemic. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- The Thomas and Uber Cup (Denmark) postponed to next year by the 'Badminton World Federation'
- Denmark Copenhagen Danish krone
- HQs of BWF Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen

#### 430. Obituaries

Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) MP and YSRCP (Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party) leader 'Balli Durga Prasad Rao' has passed away recently. He was 64. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Balli Durga Prasad Rao Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) MP & YSRCP leader passed away
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan

#### 431. Obituaries

Ashok Gasti, who became a member of the Rajya Sabha just 2 months ago in a surprise nomination by BJP, has passed away in Bengaluru. He was 55. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

•shok Gasti – a Politician (BJP) – passed away

#### 432. Appointments & Resignations

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has appointed 'Takeo Konishi' as its new Country Director for India. He will succeed Kenichi Yokoyama. {Read more}

- Takeo Konishi appointed as Country Director for India by ADB (by replacing Kenichi Yokoyama)
- ADB: HQs Mandaluyong, Philippines | President Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries 68

#### 433. Appointments & Resignations

President Ram Nath Kovind has accepted the resignation of Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal from the Union Council of Ministers. Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar is given additional charge of Food Processing Industries Ministry. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Harsimrat Kaur Badal resigned from Food Processing Industries Ministry (Constituency Bathinda, Punjab)
- Narendra Singh Tomar given additional charge of Food Processing Industries Ministry (Morena, MP)

#### 434. International Affairs

India has walked out of a virtual meeting of the SCO NSAs (National Security Advisers) after Pakistan sought to project. The Indian delegation led by NSA Ajit Doval strongly has objected to the use of this illegal map by Pakistan. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India walked out of a virtual meeting of the SCO NSAs (National Security Advisers)
- HQs of SCO Beijing, China

#### 435. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes The Objection Bank

Margaret Atwood has been honored with "Dayton Literary Peace Prize-2020" lifetime achievement award. The Dayton lifetime achievement award carries a \$10,000 prize. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

• Margaret Atwood (Canadian Poet) – honored with "Dayton Literary Peace Prize-2020" (\$10,000 prize)

#### 436. National & States Affairs

Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has launched the "Arthika Spandana" programme of disbursing loans to the tune of ₹ 39,300 Cr through various cooperative institutions. {Read more}

- Karnataka "Arthika Spandana" programme of disbursing loans to the tune of ₹ 39,300 Cr
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM BS Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala

#### 437. Curren GK

After a 5 month Covid pandemic hiatus, the historic "Golconda Fort" was thrown open on September 1, by Archeological Survey of India (ASI) with new norms including online ticketing. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Golconda Fort" located in Hyderabad, Telangana made open on September 1 by ASI
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan
- HQs of ASI New Delhi | Director General V. Vidyavathi

#### 438. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Rome's Fiumicino International Airport has received the 1<sup>st</sup> "COVID-19 5-Star Airport Rating" from Skytrax. Skytrax is an international airport industry rating body that releases annual rankings of the world's best airports. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

 Fiumicino International Airport (Italy) – received the 1<sup>st</sup> "COVID-19 5-Star Airport Rating" – from Skytrax (UK)

• Italy – Rome – Euro | UK – London – Pound Sterling

#### 439. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

State Bank of Mauritius (SBM) India and Mastercard have partnered to launch a 'Unique Debit Card' customized for the refined needs of high net worth customers. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SBM Bank + Mastercard = partnership to launch a 'Unique Debit Card'
- HQs of SBM Bank India Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Sidharth Rath
- HQs of Mastercard New York, USA | CEO Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 Michael Miebach)

#### 440. Amount & Agreements

Finance Ministry has sought Parliament's nod for meeting additional expenditure of Rs 20,000 Crore towards recapitalisation of public sector banks (PSBs) through issue of government securities. {Read more}

- Government will infuse Rs 20,000 Cr in Public Sector Banks (PSBs)
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency Karnataka)



ICICI Home Finance has launched a new loan scheme 'Apna Ghar Dreamz', with credit amount in the range of Rs 2 lakh to 50 lakh, for skilled workers employed in the informal sector in Delhi. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- ICICI Home Finance launched a new loan scheme 'Apna Ghar Dreamz' in Delhi
- Credit amount range Rs 2 lakh to 50 lakh
- HQs of ICICI HFC Mumbai, MH

#### 442. Current GK

To conduct a feasibility study for a proposed Hyperloop corridor from Bengaluru Airport, a first-of-its-kind MoU has been signed between the Virgin Hyperloop and Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), operator of Kempegowda International Airport. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- "Kempegowda International Airport" Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital Bangalore | CM BS Yediyurappa | Governor Vajubhai Vala

#### 443. Obituaries

Veteran Congress leader and former Chhattisgarh minister Chanesh Ram Rathiya has passed away recently due to COVID-19. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

• Chanesh Ram Rathiya – a Politician – passed away (Party: Congress | From: Chhattisgarh)

#### 444. Schemes & Initiatives

The central government has extended the "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme" for health workers fighting COVID-19 for another 180 days or 6 months. This Central Sector Scheme provides an insurance cover of Rs 50 lakh to health care providers. {Read more}

- "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme" extended for 6 months (180 days)
- The Scheme provides an insurance cover of Rs 50 lakh



#### 445. International Affairs

Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef program is launched at "G20 Environment Ministers Meet". Shri Prakash Javadekar has represented India in the Environment Ministerial Meeting (EMM) of the G20 countries that was held under the presidency of Saudi Arabia. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- G20 group launched Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef program
- Prakash Javadekar represented India in the "G20 Environment Ministerial Meeting"
- Under the Presidency of Saudi Arabia

#### 446. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in its September 2020 'Interim Economic Outlook' has projected a contraction of (-) 10.2% in FY21 for India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- OECD predicted India's GDP (-10.2%) in FY21 in its 'Interim Economic Outlook' report
- HQs of OECD Paris, France | Secretary-General Angel Gurria | Member countries in OECD 37

#### 447. Important Days & Dates

"International Equal Pay Day" is observed for the first time on this 18 September under an initiative by the UN, aims at highlighting the importance of achieving equal pay for work of equal value. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

• September 18 – "International Equal Pay Day" – under an initiative by the UN

#### 448. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

The Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital and Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University will jointly organise 3-day online international conference on "Aerosol Air Quality, Climate Change and its Impact on Water Resources and Livelihoods in the Greater Himalayas" will be held from September 14 to 16. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- •RIES + Nainital and Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University will jointly organise the Conference
- HQs of ARIES Beluwakhan, Nainital, Uttarakhand | Director Dr. Dipankar Banerjee
- HQs of NHNBGU Srinagar, Uttarakhand



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#### 449. Important Days & Dates

Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has launched 'Bamboo Cookies' on September 18 to mark World Bamboo Day. This year the theme is "Bamboo Now". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- September 18 World Bamboo Day | Theme "Bamboo Now"
- Tripura launched 'Bamboo Cookies'
- Tripura: Capital Agartala | CM Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor Ramesh Bais

#### 450. Amount & Agreements

The USA has signed a framework agreement for Defence Cooperation with the Maldives to deepen engagement in support of maintaining peace and security in the strategic Indian Ocean. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- USA + Maldives = signed a framework agreement for Defence Cooperation
- USA Washington, D.C. US Dollar | President Donald Trump
- Maldives Male Maldivian rufiyaa | President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

#### 451. Current GK

Preliminary figures from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, based on satellite images, indicate that nearly 5,800 square miles (1.5 million hectares) have burned in the Pantanal region since the start of August. The 'Pantanal region' is the largest tropical wetland in the world, located mostly within Brazil. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- 'Pantanal region' located in Brazil
- Brazil Brasilia Brazilian real | President Jair Bolsonaro

#### 452. Obituaries

Former India player Sadashiv Raoji Patil, who represented the country in one Test match, has passed away recently. He was 86. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Sadashiv Raoji Patil – a Former Cricketer – passed away



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 7 urban infrastructure projects worth Rs 541 crore in poll-bound Bihar. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• PM Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 7 urban infrastructure projects – in Bihar (worth Rs 541 Cr)

• Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

#### **454. Defence Affairs**

The Defence Ministry has cancelled 2 arms import contracts for the army worth over \$2.5 billion. The Centre has planned to procure close quarter carbines from "Caracal" and a program to import Self Propelled Air Defence systems from South Korea. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Defence Ministry cancelled 2 arms import contracts for the army worth over \$2.5 billion
- Ministry of Defence Rajnath Singh (Constituency Lucknow, UP)

#### 455. Important Days & Dates

"Nation celebrates Engineer's Day" on September 15 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the greatest Indian Engineer Bharat Ratna Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

• September 15 – "Nation celebrates Engineer's Day" (Birth anniversary of – Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya)

#### 456. National & States Affairs

In Jammu and Kashmir, the Horticulture Department has launched the Flagship programme "Backyard Horticulture" under CAPEX scheme at Panchyat Jaswan in Jammu district. {Read more}

- Horticulture Department of J & K launched "Backyard Horticulture" Flagship programme
- J & K: Capital Srinagar | Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha

Telangana IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao (KTR) launched the Primary Agricultural Co-Operative Society (PACS), 'Pothgal' web portal. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Telangana launched PACS 'Pothgal' web portal
- Telangana: Capital Hyderabad | CM K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan

#### 458. Appointments & Resignations

Subhash Kamath has been elected chairman of the board of governors of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI). He was serving as ASCI Vice-Chairman and will replace Rohit Gupta. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Subhash Kamath elected Chairman of the board of governors of ASCI
- HQs of ASCI Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman Subhash Kamath

#### 459. Persons in News

The Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) has set up 3 committees that will submit detailed recommendations to the government to boost exports of food, chemicals, food processing and beverages. Laxman Singh Rathore was elected chairman of the sector specific committee on food and beverages. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- TPCI set up 3 committees to boost exports of food, chemicals, food processing and beverages
- Chairman of the sector specific committee Laxman Singh Rathore
- HQs of TPCI New Delhi

#### 460. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Electricite de France (EDF), International Institute of Nuclear Energy (I2EN) and Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI) have signed an MoU to conduct a pre-feasibility test for the establishment of a Centre Of Excellence in the civil nuclear sector in Jaitapur district of Maharashtra. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- EDF + I2EN + VJTI = an MoU to set up Centre Of Excellence in the civil nuclear sector in Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of EDF Paris, France | Chairman and CEO Jean-Bernard Levy
- HQs of I2EN Vienna, Austria | Director Henri Safa

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In Maharashtra, the State Government has accorded ambulance status to the vehicles carrying medical oxygen for one year. The decision was taken in view of the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and the necessity of uninterrupted oxygen supply to various hospitals in the state. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Maharashtra accorded ambulance status to the vehicles carrying medical oxygen for 1 year
- Maharashtra: CM Uddhav Thackeray | Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari

#### 462. Current GK

Saran MP Rajiv Pratap Rudy has proposed in Lok Sabha that "Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary" should either be developed as a National Park or as the second tiger reserve in Bihar. Tiger count has increased from 2,000 to 3,000 in the country, including 41 in Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary + Valmiki Tiger Reserve/National Park = located in Bihar
- Bihar: Capital Patna | CM Nitish Kumar | Governor Phagu Chauhan

#### 463. Important Days & Dates

"World Ozone Day" is observed on September 16 every year to spread awareness among people about the depletion of Ozone Layer and find possible solutions to preserve it. This year, the theme was "Ozone for life: 35 years of ozone layer protection". {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

- September 16 World Ozone Day
- Theme "Ozone for life: 35 years of ozone layer protection"

#### 464. Appointments & Resignations

Paytm First Games (PFG), a fantasy sports gaming platform, has roped in global sporting legend and Indian cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar as its Brand Ambassador. {Read more}

- Sachin Tendulkar appointed as Brand Ambassador of Paytm First Games
- Paytm HQs Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Paytm CEO Vijay Sekhar Sharma



#### 465. Acquisitions & Mergers

IT services major Infosys will acquire Czech Republic-based GuideVision for up to 30 million Euros (about Rs 260.4 crore). {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Infosys will acquire 'GuideVision' for up to 30 million Euros
- HQs of Infosys Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO Salil Parekh
- HQs of GuideVision Czech Republic | CEO Nobert Nagy

#### 466. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked banks to complete the automation of bad-loan recognition and provisioning calculation processes by 30 June, 2021. The System-Based Asset Classification will improve efficiency and transparency. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

 RBI asked banks to complete automation of bad-loan recognition & provisioning calculation processes – by 30 June

• RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

#### 467. Appointments & Resignations

Rajesh Khullar has been appointed as Executive Director of the World Bank for 3 years. As executive director, Khullar will represent India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka in the World Bank. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajesh Khullar appointed as Executive Director of World Bank For 3 years
- World Bank HQs Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries 189
- President David Malpass | MD & CFO Anshula Kant

#### 468. National & States Affairs

The Chhattisgarh government has decided to set up a specialised police unit called the 'Bastar Special Force' in which only local young men of the Bastar region will be recruited to counter Maoists. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Chhattisgarh set up – 'Bastar Special Force' - a specialised police unit to recruit local young men to counter Maoists

• Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

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#### **469. International Affairs**

The Commerce Ministry of Bangladesh has given special permission for traders to export Hilsa fish to India on a limited scale in view of the forthcoming Durga Puja. Bangladesh imposed a ban on the export of Hilsa in 2012. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Bangladesh gave special permission for traders to export Hilsa fish to India
- Bangladesh imposed a ban on the export of Hilsa in 2012
- Bangladesh Dhaka Taka | PM Seikh Hasina | President Abdul Hamid

#### 470. Science & Technology

An international team of astronomers led by Jane S. Greaves of Cardiff University and University of Cambridge, U.K., has announced the discovery of traces of a molecule known as 'Phosphine' on Venus. It shows potential signs of extraterrestrial life on that planet. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Cardiff University (UK) & University of Cambridge (UK) – announced the discovery of 'Phosphine' on – Venus

• UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

#### 471. Science & Technology

In Madhya Pradesh, a Research lab of DRDO at a cost of Rs 2000 Cr will be opened in Kailaras-Jaura region of Morena district. 350 hectares of land has been acquired for the research lab of DRDO in Kailaras. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Research lab of DRDO to be opened in 'Kailaras-Jaura' at Morena, Madhya Pradesh (Cost: Rs 2000 Cr)
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital Bhopal | CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor Anandiben Patel
- DRDO: HQs New Delhi | Chairman G. Satheesh Reddy

#### 472. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB) report titled as "A World in Disorder" was released recently on September 14, 2020. According to the report, the cost of COVID-19 is over US \$11 trillion to fund the response resulting in the future loss. The world might take 500 years in preparing for pandemics like COVID-19. {Read more}



#### **Key Points:**

• 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Preparedness Monitoring Board report titled as "A World in Disorder" – released on September 14, 2020

- GPMB a joint arm of the WHO & World Bank
- •s per the report the cost of COVID-19 over US \$11 trillion

#### 473. National & States Affairs

Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitran Company, Bhopal is the first such power distribution company in India, in which "e-office system" is being operated from corporate office to local circle offices level. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitran Company – the 1<sup>st</sup> power distribution company in India to adopt "e-office system"

• Location of MKVVC – Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

#### 474. International Affairs

TikTok has chosen Oracle over Microsoft as United States technology partner for its American operations. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- TikTok chose Oracle as United States technology partner
- HQs of TikTok Beijing, China | CEO Vanessa Pappas
- HQs of Oracle California, USA | Chairman Larry Ellison

#### 475. Schemes & Initiatives

The Gujarat government will launch "Mukhyamantri Mahila Kalyan Scheme" (MMKS) to provide interestfree loans to promote self-employment among women in the time of COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 1 lakh such SHGs - 50,000 each in rural and urban areas - will be granted loans under the scheme. {Read more}

- Gujarat will launch "Mukhyamantri Mahila Kalyan Scheme"
- Gujarat: Capital Gandhinagar | CM Vijay Rupani | Governor Acharya Devvrat

#### 476. Banking & Economic Affairs

The RBI has proposed allowing FPIs to undertake Exchange-traded Rupee Interest Rate Derivatives transactions subject to an overall ceiling of Rs 5,000 Crore. RBI has issued Draft Rupee Interest Rate Derivatives under 'Section 45 W' of the RBI Act, 1934. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- RBI issued Draft Rupee Interest Rate Derivatives under 'Section 45 W' of the RBI Act, 1934
- RBI proposed allowing FPIs to undertake Exchange-traded Rupee Interest Rate Derivatives transactions overall ceiling of Rs 5,000 Cr
- RBI: HQs Mumbai | Governor Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

#### 477. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Rajasthan's Department of Industries and SIDBI have signed an MoU to work together to provide financial, technical, marketing and export support to MSMEs in the state. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Rajasthan + SIDBI = signed an MoU to develop MSME ecosystem
- HQs of SIDBI Lucknow, UP | Chairman Mohammad Mustafa

#### 478. Appointments & Resignations

Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga has been chosen as new prime minister at the Lower House of Parliament in Tokyo, Japan. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

- Yoshihide Suga elected as New Prime Minister of Japan
- Japan Tokyo Yen | PM Yoshihide Suga

#### 479. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

SBI General Insurance Companies and Yes Bank have signed a Corporate Agency Agreement for the distribution of retail products of SBI General Insurance Company for its corporate and retail customers. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- SBI General Insurance + Yes Bank = signed a Corporate Agency Agreement
- HQs of SBI General Insurance Mumbai, MH | MD&CEO Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- Tagline 'Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono'
- HQs of Yes Bank Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO Prashant Kumar | Tagline "Experience our Expertise"

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#### 480. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SwissRapide AG to develop Maglev Train projects in India. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- BHEL + SwissRapide AG = an MoU to develop Maglev Train projects in India
- HQs of BHEL New Delhi | Chairman & MD Nalin Shinghal
- HQs of SwissRapide AG Zurich, Switzerland

#### **481. International Affairs**

India, Afghanistan and China had contested the elections to the UN's Commission on Status of Women, a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). India and Afghanistan have won the ballot among the 54 members for 4 years. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India & Afghanistan elected as the Members of the UN's Commission on Status of Women for 4 years
- UN's Commission on Status of Women a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres
- Afghanistan Kabul Afghani | President Ashraf Ghani

#### 482. Banking & Economic Affairs

India's GDP will shrink by 9% this fiscal, according the Asian Development Bank (ADB) prediction. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

•ccording to ADB – India's GDP will shrink by 9% this fiscal {Flexible News}

• ADB: HQs – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Member countries – 68

#### 483. National & States Affairs

The Indian government has banned the export of all varieties of onion with immediate effect to increase availability of the commodity in the domestic market and contain rising prices. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

Government – banned the export of all varieties of 'Onion'



#### 484. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

In a first-of-its kind recognition for an Indian corporate leader, Aditya Puri was conferred the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020. He is the only Indian corporate leader to be honoured with this recognition. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

•ditya Puri – conferred the "Lifetime Achievement Award" – by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020

- HQs of HDFC Bank Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO & MD Aditya Puri (Sashidhar Jagdishan from November)
- Chairman of HDFC Ltd Deepak Parekh

#### 485. Obituaries

Scholar, author and connoisseur of the arts Kapila Vatsyayan has passed away recently. She was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2011 in Arts. She was 92. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Kapila Vatsyayan – Scholar, Author & connoisseur – passed away (Padma Vibhushan – 2011 – in Arts)

#### 486. Books & Authors

The coffee-table book, tentatively titled "My Life In Design", written by Gauri Khan, will be released in 2021 under Penguin's 'Ebury Press' imprint. {Read more}

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#### **Key Points:**

• "My Life In Design" coffee-table book – written by Gauri Khan – will be released in 2021

#### 487. Important Days & Dates

"International Day of Democracy" is observed by all UN member states on 15 September since 2007. It allows everyone to review the state of democracy in the world. {Read more}

- September 15 "International Day of Democracy" observed by all UN member states since 2007
- HQs of UN New York, United States | Director Antonio Guterres

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has taken a major step towards development of an indigenouslybuilt communication-based train control with the launch of "i-ATS" - the first Made-in-India signaling system. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Delhi Metro Rail Corporation launched "i-ATS" the first Made-in-India signaling system
- Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal | Governor Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary Vijay Dev

#### 489. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

According to Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers D. V. Sadananda Gowda, India will be self-reliant in the production of fertilizers by 2023 as new fertilizer manufacturing units are being setup under 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat programme' with an investment of Rs 40,000 Cr in the country to reduce dependency on import. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- India will be self-reliant in the production of fertilizers by 2023
- Minster of Chemicals and Fertilizers D. V. Sadananda Gowda Bangalore, Karnataka

#### 490. Obituaries

Mali's former President Moussa Traore, who ruled the West Africa nation for more than 22 years, has passed away recently. He was 83. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Moussa Traore former President of Mali passed away
- Mali Bamako CFA franc

#### 491. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

IIT Roorkee has signed an MoU with Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT), Bhubaneshwar to generate frontier technologies and produce quality manpower in the field of agricultural research. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- IIT Roorkee + Odisha = signed an MoU for cooperation in agricultural research and education
- Odisha: Capital Bhubaneswar | CM Naveen Patnaik | Governor Ganeshi Lal



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Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Minister Anil Kumar has met Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and urged him to release the "Polavaram Project's" reimbursement funds at the earliest. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Polavaram project belongs to Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan
- Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency Jodhpur, Rajasthan

#### 493. Appointments & Resignations

Great Learning, one of India's leading Edtech companies for professional and higher education has announced the appointment of Virat Kohli, as its brand ambassador. He will lead the brand's latest 'Power Ahead' campaign. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Virat Kohli appointed as Brand Ambassador of Great Learning
- Location of Great Learning Hyderabad, Telangana

#### 494. National & States Affairs

The Uttar Pradesh government has planned to launch "Special Security Force" within the next 3 months that can search and arrest without a warrant. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh planned to launch "Special Security Force" that can search and arrest without a warrant
- UP: Capital Lucknow | CM Yogi Adityanath | Governor Anandiben Patel

#### 495. National & States Affairs

The Union Cabinet has approved establishment of a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Bihar's Darbhanga. The institute will come up under the 'Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana' (PMSSY) at a total cost of Rs 1,264 crore. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Union Cabinet approved the establishment of AIIMS at Bihar's Darbhanga
- Under 'Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana'
- Bihar: Capital Patna | CM Nitish Kumar | Governor Phagu Chauhan



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#### 496. Appointments & Resignations

Online poker platform "9stacks" has signed Suresh Raina as its Brand Ambassador. Raina has announced retirement from the international cricket in August. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- Suresh Raina appointed as Brand Ambassador of "9stacks" an Online poker platform
- Location of 9stacks New Delhi

#### **497. International Affairs**

South Korean shipbuilder Hyundai Samho Heavy Industries Co Ltd has delivered the world's first very large container ship powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to Singapore's Eastern Pacific Shipping Pte Ltd. {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• Hyundai Samho Heavy Industries – delivered world's 1<sup>st</sup> very large container ship – to Eastern Pacific Shipping Pte

- It is powered by LNG
- HQs of Hyundai Samho Heavy Industries South Korea | President & CEO Kim Hyun-kwan
- HQs of Eastern Pacific Shipping Pte Singapore | CEO Cyril Ducau

#### 498. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The Union Health Ministry's telemedicine service platform "eSanjeevani" has completed 3 lakh teleconsultations till now. "eSanjeevani" has been implemented by 23 states so far and others are in the process of rolling it out. {Read more}

- Health Ministry's "eSanjeevani" platform completed 3 lakh tele-consultations
- "eSanjeevani" has been implemented by 23 states till now
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)



#### 499. Meetings, Conferences and Summits

Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Honourable Vice President, has virtually inaugurated the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of "Global Ayurveda Summit" from New Delhi on 15 September 2020. It was organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The theme of the summit was "Emerging Opportunities for Ayurveda during Pandemic". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

- M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of "Global Ayurveda Summit" (organised by CII)
- Theme "Emerging Opportunities for Ayurveda during Pandemic"

#### 500. Science & Technology

China has successfully launched 9 satellites belong to the "Jilin-1 Gaofen 03-1 group" into orbit from ship. Each of the satellites was developed by Changguang Satellite Technology in Changchun and was launched by using "Long March 11-HY2". {Read more}

#### **Key Points:**

• China – launched 9 satellites belong to the "Jilin-1 Gaofen 03-1 group" (by using – "Long March 11-HY2")







