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Full-Length Current Affairs Mock
Test Series Month-wise

September
MockDrill100
PDF No. 1

(PDF in English)



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Test Launch Date: 1st October 2021

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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

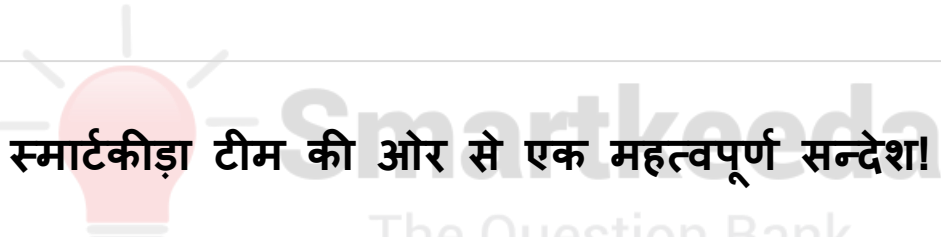
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of September 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial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

1. On September 2, Ladakh has adopted two endangered species, Snow Leopard (Panther unica) and Black-Necked Crane (Grus nicricollis), as State animal and State bird, two years after it was carved out as a separate Union Territory (UT) from the erstwhile State of J&K. Black-necked crane, only found in Ladakh region, was the State bird of J&K before August 5, 2019. Snow leopard, whose numbers are dwindling worldwide, has been categorised as “vulnerable” in the IUCN Red List. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ladakh – adopted ‘Snow Leopard’ & ‘Black-Necked Crane’ as State animal & State bird
- ‘Snow Leopard’ – categorised as ‘Vulnerable’ in the IUCN Red List
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

2. On September 1, Union minister of Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal, along with six other Union ministers, has launched the “Yoga-Break” mobile application at Vigyan Bhawan as part of the ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ celebrations. The concept of Yoga Break (Y-Break) is relevant to working professionals across the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – launched “Yoga-Break” (Y-Break) mobile app for working professionals
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

3. Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in India to administer the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine to 100% of its adult population. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – the 1st state to administer the 1st dose of Covid-19 vaccine to 100% of its Adult population
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

4. On September 2, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a special commemorative coin of Rs 125 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the founder of ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) commonly known as the ‘Hare Krishna movement’. Meanwhile, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee also inaugurated the “lotus feet” of Prabhupada on his 125th birth anniversary. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – released a special commemorative coin of Rs 125 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada (founder of ISKCON)
- Mamata Banerjee – inaugurated the “Lotus Feet” of Prabhupada on his 125th birth anniversary
- HQs of ISKCON – Mayapur, West Bengal | Founder – Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

5. IndianOil has launched its official brand mascot ‘IndianOil Rhino’ on 1st September 2021 during the 62nd IndianOil Day celebrations. One Horned Rhino is made the Brand Mascot of Indian Oil Corporation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “One Horned Rhino” is made the Brand Mascot of Indian Oil Corporation
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959

6. Amongst the districts with over 10 lakh population, Indore district of Madhya Pradesh has become the first district in India to have vaccinated its entire targeted population for the first dose of Covid19 vaccine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indore – became the first district in India to have vaccinated its entire population for the first dose of Covid vaccine
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

7. President Ram Nath Kovind has awarded the President’s Colour to the Indian Naval Aviation at a ceremonial parade held at the INS Hansa base near Panaji in Goa. Shri Ram Nath Kovind, who is on a 3-day visit to Goa, presented the President’s Colour to the Naval Aviation in the presence of Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind awarded the President’s Colour to Indian Naval Aviation at INS Hansa, in Goa
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

8. On September 3, Assam government has decided to rename “Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park” as “Orang National Park”, taking cognisance of the Adivasi and the tea tribe community’s demands. Located on the north bank of the Brahmaputra in Darrang and Sonitpur districts, the national park is home to tigers, rhinos and wild elephants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam government – decided to rename “Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park” as “Orang National Park”
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



9. On September 2, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched Rural Enterprises Acceleration Programme titled “Saath” for Self Help Group (SHG) women. “Saath” is aimed at accelerating livelihoods of rural women associated with SHGs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – launched Rural Enterprises Acceleration Programme titled “Saath” for SHG women
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)

10. On September 1, World’s highest motorable road at 18,600 feet has been opened for the general public in Ladakh. The road passes through Kela Pass and connects Leh to the Pangong Lake. The road is constructed by the 58 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army. Till now, the Khardungla Pass in Ladakh was the world’s highest motorable road for the general public at a height of 18,380 feet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World’s highest motorable road at 18,600 feet is opened for general public in Ladakh
- The road passes through ‘Kela Pass’ & connects Leh to Pangong Lake
- The road is constructed by – 58 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army
- ‘Kela Pass’ & ‘Khardungla Pass’ – located in Ladakh
- [Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur](#)

11. On September 3, National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) Ltd has indigenously renovated & modernized its 180 MW (MegaWatt) Baira Siul Power Station located in Chamba in Himachal Pradesh. The life of Baira Siul Power Station has now been extended by another 25 years. Globally, India stands at 5th position for installed Hydroelectric Power capacity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHPC Ltd – renovated & modernized its 180 MW Baira Siul Power Station – in Chamba, Himachal Pradesh
- India – 5th position globally for installed Hydroelectric Power capacity
- [HQs of NHPC – Faridabad, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Abhay Kumar Singh](#)

12. On September 2, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has virtually launched the “e-ILP platform” for effective regulation of the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system in the state. The ILP system came into effect in Manipur on January 1, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manipur – launched the “e-ILP platform” for effective regulation of ‘ILP’ system in the state
- [Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – La. Ganesan](#)



13. On September 2, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has constituted a 10-member Committee to review the existing guidelines of “Journalists Welfare Scheme” of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The committee is headed by Shri Ashok Kumar Tandon, a renowned Journalist and Member of Prasar Bharati. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of I&B constituted a 10-member Committee to review the existing guidelines of “Journalists Welfare Scheme”
- The committee is headed by – Ashok Kumar Tandon
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: Anurag Singh Thakur | Constituency – Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Information & Broadcasting: L. Murugan

14. On September 2, Maharashtra Cabinet has decided to set up a Science City known as “Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Science City” in Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation in Pune. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Bharat Ratna Rajiv Gandhi Science City” – to be set up in Pune, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

15. On September 3, AYUSH Ministry has launched the campaign “AYUSH AAPKE DWAR” from more than 45 locations across India. Total 21 states are participating in the launch activities in which more than 2 lakh saplings will be distributed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AYUSH Ministry – launched the campaign “AYUSH AAPKE DWAR” from more than 45 locations across India
- Ministry of AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal | Constituency – Majuli, Assam
- MoS in Ministry of AYUSH: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

16. On September 2, NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (NTPC REL) has received a Letter of Award (LoA) from Madhya Pradesh government for developing 325 MW of solar projects in Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Ltd at Shajapur Solar Park in Madhya Pradesh. With this, NTPC has achieved 4.4. GW capacity through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC REL – received a Letter of Award from Madhya Pradesh for developing 325 MW Solar Power Project
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel



17. On September 1, Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani has urged all aspirational districts of India to make a commitment to establish “Poshan Vatika” (Nutrition Garden) during the Nutrition Month starting from September 1 for the protection of Severe Actual Malnourished (SAM) children. She also inaugurated “Poshan 2.0”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Smriti Irani – inaugurated “Poshan 2.0”
- Smriti Irani – urged all aspirational districts to establish “Poshan Vatika” (Nutrition Garden) during Nutrition Month
- “Nutri Garden” – inaugurated at All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi
- Ministry of Women and Child Development: Smriti Irani | Constituency – Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Women and Child Development: Munjapara Mahendrabhai

18. Sai Life Sciences has become a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), the world's largest sustainability initiative. As a signatory, Sai Life Sciences has committed itself to adopting the Ten Principles of the UNGC on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sai Life Sciences – became a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)
- HQs of Sai Life Sciences Ltd – Hyderabad, Telangana | MD & CEO – Krishna Kanumuri
- HQs of UNGC – New York, US | CEO & Executive Director – Sanda Ojiambo

19. On September 3, World-Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have jointly developed a platform called “India Plastic Pact” to promote a circular system for plastics. The platform was launched by British High Commissioner to India, Alexander Ellis. With this, India becomes the first Asian Country to launch a plastics pact. India generates 9.46 million tonnes of plastic waste annually, of which 40% is not collected. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WWF India + CII = jointly developed a platform called “India Plastic Pact”
- India generates 9.46 million tonnes of plastic waste annually
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895
- HQs of WWF India – New Delhi, India | President – Jamshyd N. Godrej | Founded in – 1961



International Affairs

20. On September 1, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and World Health Organization Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus have inaugurated “WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence” in Berlin, Germany. Germany will invest \$100 million initially in the hub. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Angela Merkel + Tedros Adhanom = inaugurated “WHO Hub for Pandemic & Epidemic Intelligence” in Berlin, Germany
- Germany will invest \$100 million initially in the ‘WHO Hub’
- [Germany – Berlin – Euro | President – Frank-Walter Steinmeier](#)

21. On September 2, WHO has warned against the new variant of COVID-19 named “Mu”. According to the WHO, the new variant shows signs of possible resistance to vaccines. Mu, also known by its scientific name as ‘B.1.621’, was first identified in Colombia in January 2021. The cases of the Mu variant have also been reported in the U.K., Europe, the U.S. and Hong Kong. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- WHO has warned against the new variant of COVID-19 named “Mu”
- Scientific name of “Mu” variant – ‘B.1.621’ | First identified in January 2021 – in Colombia
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948](#)

22. On September 2, South Korea’s National Assembly has become the first country to approve a legislation that bans app store operators such as Google and Apple from forcing developers to use their in-app payment systems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Korea – 1st country to ban Google & Apple from forcing developers to use their in-app payment systems
- [South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in](#)

23. Sri Lanka has declared a state of emergency over food shortages as private banks ran out of foreign exchange to finance imports. Sri Lanka’s foreign reserves fell to \$2.8 billion at the end of July. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sri Lanka – declared a state of emergency over Food Shortages as private banks ran out of foreign exchange
- [Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee](#)
- [PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa](#)



24. On September 1, The High Commission of India in association with the ICT Ministry of Bangladesh and Women & E-commerce and Silk Oak Global limited have launched a year-long Soft Skills Training programme in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The soft skills training program is part of the '50 years of Bangladesh' celebrations as well as the '75 years of Indian independence' celebrations, 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – launched “Soft Skills Training Programme” for women entrepreneurs in Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Seikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

25. On September 2, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore and South Africa have launched “Project Dunbar” to jointly test multiple central bank digital currencies that facilitate cross-border transactions. The project will be led by the BIS Innovation Hub Singapore Centre. The results will be published by 2022, but the platform prototypes will debut at the ‘Singapore FinTech Festival’ in November this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia, Malaysia, Singapore & South Africa – launched “Project Dunbar” to test Central Bank Digital Currencies
- The project will be led by – BIS Innovation Hub Singapore Centre
- The results will be published – by 2022



26. On September 2, The Mizoram government in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) and State Bank of India (SBI) has launched an Online Payment System in Transport department offices in the state. The online payment system is broadly divided into two components called ‘Vahan’ & ‘Sarathi’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mizoram + NIC + SBI – launched an Online Payment System in Transport department offices in the state
- Two components of this Online Payment System: ‘Vahan’ & ‘Sarathi’
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – B. D. Mishra (addi. charge)
- HQs of NIC – New Delhi | Director General – Neeta Verma

27. Fiscal deficit for the April-July period of FY22 touched 21.3% of budget estimate (BE), hitting the lowest level in 9 years at ₹3.21 lakh Cr at end-July 2021. India’s GDP in Q1 of FY22 increased by 20.1% compared to contraction of 24.4% in Q1 of FY21. While Gross Value Added (GVA) grew by 18.8% at Constant Prices in Q1 of FY22. Net Tax Collection touched close to the ₹5.30 lakh Cr mark, which is 34.2% of the budget estimate, according to the monthly account data prepared by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Fiscal deficit for April-July period of FY22 – at ₹3.21 lakh Cr (21.3% of Budget Estimate & lowest level in 9 years)
- India's GDP in Q1 of FY22 increased – by 20.1% (compared to -24.4% in Q1 of FY21)
- Gross Value Added (GVA) grew by 18.8% at Constant Prices in Q1 of FY22
- According to CGA: Net Tax Collection – ₹5.30 lakh Cr (34.2% of the Budget Estimate)

28. Exim Bank of India has extended a line of credit of \$100 million (Rs 730 Cr) on behalf of the Indian government to the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) to develop infrastructure in the continent and boost economic revival of African countries. The tenure of the soft loan is 10 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Exim Bank – extended a line of credit of \$100 million (Rs 730 Cr) to Africa Finance Corporation – for 10 year tenure
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Harsha Bangari | Founded in – 1982
- HQs of AFC – Lagos, Nigeria | President & CEO – Samaila Zubairu

29. BharatPe has announced a strategic partnership with Axis Bank under which Axis Bank will act as the acquiring bank for BharatPe's point of sale (PoS) business "BharatSwipe". In 2020, BharatPe launched its PoS machine, BharatSwipe, as India's first zero rental and zero merchant discount rate (MDR) PoS machine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BharatPe + Axis Bank = a strategic partnership to acquire BharatPe's point of sale (PoS) business "BharatSwipe"
- BharatSwipe – India's first zero rental & zero merchant discount rate (MDR) PoS machine
- HQs of BharatPe – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Ashneer Grover
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – "Badhti ka Naam Zindagi"

30. India's FDI equity inflow grew by 168% in Q1 (April-June) of 2021-22 (\$17.57 billion) compared to previous year (\$6.56 billion). The data showed that the Automobile industry has emerged as the top sector during the period under review with 27% share of the total FDI equity inflows. Besides, Karnataka is the top recipient state during April-June 2021, with 48% share, followed by Maharashtra (23%) and Delhi (11%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's FDI equity inflow grew by 168% in Q1 FY22 – to \$17.57 billion
- Top recipient sector – Automobile Industry (27%) | Top recipient state – Karnataka (48%)



31. On September 2, Zerodha Broking Ltd has received a licence from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to set up an Asset Management Company (AMC). The in-principle approval from Sebi will allow the Bengaluru-based startup to launch its own mutual funds (MFs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Zerodha – received a licence from the SEBI to set up its own Mutual Fund (MF) Business
- HQs of Zerodha – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Nithin Kamath | Established in – 2010

32. On September 1, EarlySalary, a consumer lending platform for working professionals, has tied up with non-bank financier HDB Financial Services Ltd to enhance digital lending. The partnership aims to build momentum in impact categories of skill upgradation, education loans and healthcare finance. HDB Financial Services is a subsidiary of India's largest private lender HDFC Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- EarlySalary + HDB Financial Services = to enhance digital lending
- HQs of EarlySalary – Pune, Maharashtra | Co-founder & CEO – Akshay Mehrotra
- HQs of HDB Financial Services – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Ramesh G.

33. On September 1, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to set up a 5-member committee to scrutinise applications and give recommendations on New Umbrella Entity (NUE) licences. The committee will be headed by RBI chief general manager P. Vasudevan. NUEs will establish their own payment infrastructure to compete with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI will set up a 5-member committee to scrutinize applications & give recommendations on “NUE” licences
- The committee will be headed by – P. Vasudevan | NUEs will compete with NPCI
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

34. On September 2, The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has made an allocation of special drawing rights (SDR) 12.57 billion (around \$17.86 billion at the latest exchange rate) to India. The total SDR holdings of India now stand at SDR 13.66 billion (around \$19.41 billion at the latest exchange rate). SDR in the RBI's forex reserves was \$1.54 billion as on August 20, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMF allocated SDR 12.57 billion (around \$17.86 billion) to – India
- Total SDR holdings of India – SDR 13.66 billion (around \$19.41 billion)
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., US | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190



35. HDFC Bank has become the first Indian lender to list its \$1 billion foreign currency additional tier-I (AI-1) bonds, priced at 3.7%, on the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) of the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT). India INX, BSE's international arm, started trading activities on January 16, 2017, and is India's first international exchange set up at the GIFT IFSC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank – became 1st Indian lender to list its \$1 billion foreign currency additional tier-I (AI-1) bonds on IFSC GIFT
- India INX – India's first international exchange set up at the GIFT IFSC
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

36. On September 2, PhonePe has launched “PhonePe Pulse”, India's first interactive geospatial platform with data, insights and trends on digital payments in India. PhonePe also launched the “Pulse Report”, an in-depth study on the evolution of digital payments over the past 5 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PhonePe – launched India's first interactive geospatial platform “PhonePe Pulse”
- PhonePe also launched “Pulse Report” - an in-depth study on the evolution of digital payments over the past 5 year
- HQs of PhonePe – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

37. On September 3, Federal Bank has launched its credit card in association with Visa in a bid to improve unsecured, high-yielding book and complete the suite of banking products it offers. The bank has launched 3 variants of the card - Celesta (for high net worth individuals), Imperio (for family oriented customers) and Signet (targeted at young, early professionals). The bank is also planning to launch variants of the RuPay credit card in association with the NPCI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Federal Bank + Visa = launched three variants of its Credit Card
- 3 variants of the card: Celesta, Imperio & Signet
- HQs of Federal Bank – Aluva, Kerala | MD & CEO – Shyam Srinivasan | Tagline – “Your Perfect Banking Partner”
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly | Founded in – 1958

38. On September 2, iSPIRT Foundation has launched the industry-wide Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem. Eight Major Indian banks have joined the AA ecosystem as financial information providers (FIPs). Besides, the company seeking for registration with the RBI as NBFC - AA should have a net owned fund of Rs 2 Cr or more. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- iSPIRT Foundation – launched the industry-wide Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem
- 8 Major Indian banks joined the AA ecosystem as Financial Information Providers (FIPs)
- Any Company seeking for registration with the RBI as NBFC - AA should have a net owned fund of Rs 2 Cr or more
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935

39. The New Development Bank (NDB) set up by the BRICS group of nations has initiated its membership expansion and started formal negotiations with prospective members in late 2020. After a round of successful negotiations, the NDB has admitted the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Bangladesh as the first batch of new members as part of its expansion drive. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NDB admitted UAE, Uruguay & Bangladesh as the first batch of its New Members
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Prado Troyjo (established by BRICS Countries - in 2014)



Defence Affairs

40. On September 2, A contingent of 200 Army personnel from India will participate in the multinational “Exercise ZAPAD 2021” being held at Nizhny, Russia from September 3 to 16. In all, 17 countries have been invited by Russia for the exercise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A contingent of 200 Army personnel from India will participate in the multinational “Exercise ZAPAD 2021”
- This exercise is being hosted by – Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

41. Ministry of Defence, India and the U.S. Department of Defence have signed a Project Agreement (PA) for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (ALUAV) under the ambit of the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). The DTTI was announced in 2012 as an ambitious initiative for co-production and co-development of military systems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + US = a Project Agreement for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (ALUAV) under the “DTTI”
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris



42. On September 3, The Indian Army has signed a contract worth Rs 100 Cr with Alpha Design-led joint venture (JV) with Israeli firm Elbit Security Systems (ELSEC) to procure more than 100 explosive-laden drones or 'SkyStrikers' under its emergency procurement powers. 'SkyStrikers' is also referred to as a 'Suicide Drone'. Another IAF contract, for 60 Identification of "Friend-or-Foe" or "IFF systems" was procured by Alpha, BEL and Data Patterns. The technology was developed by DRDO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army + Alpha Design + Elbit Security Systems = a contract worth Rs 100 Cr to procure over 100 'SkyStrikers'
- 'SkyStrikers' is also referred to as a 'Suicide Drone'
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- HQs of Alpha Design – Bangalore, Karnataka | HQs of Elbit Security Systems – Israel

Schemes & Initiatives

43. On September 1, Goa has launched the "Save Water to Get Free Water" scheme under which households in the state will not be charged for consumption up to 16,000 litres. With this, Goa will become the first state in India to supply water free of cost to its citizens. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – launched the "Save Water to Get Free Water" scheme
- Households in the state will not be charged for consumption up to 16,000 litres
- Goa – became the first state in India to supply water free of cost to its citizens
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

44. Chhattisgarh government will provide a financial assistance of Rs 9,000 per acre to drought-hit farmers on the basis of survey (for assessment of damage) under the "Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana (RGKNY)". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – to provide a financial assistance of Rs 9,000 per acre to drought-hit farmers under "RGKNY"
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

45. 1,565 artisans have been benefitted by training in 63 Samarth Training Centres as per the “SAMARTH” scheme established under the Ministry of Textiles. Ministry of Textiles has adopted 65 clusters for overall development of artisans in a time bound manner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1,565 artisans are benefitted by training in 63 Samarth Training Centres as per the “SAMARTH” scheme
- “SAMARTH” scheme – established under Ministry of Textiles
- Ministry of Textiles – adopted 65 clusters for overall development of Artisans
- Ministry of Textiles: Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra
- MoS in Ministry of Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh

Sports & Games

46. On September 2, Kimi Raikkonen also known as ‘The Iceman’ has announced his retirement at the end of the Formula One (F1) season, concluding a career that spanned two decades and included the 2007 world championship. Raikkonen is in the final year of his contract with Alfa Romeo. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kimi Raikkonen (Finland) – retirement from Racing (Nickname - ‘The Iceman’ | Team - Alfa Romeo)

47. On September 2, Cristiano Ronaldo surpassed Iran’s Ali Daei to become the leading goal-scorer in international football in the world, with 111 goals to his name. The 36-year-old has taken 180 matches to get to the tally of 111 goals. He is now a ‘Guinness World Record’ holder of most international goals of all time with 111 goals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cristiano Ronaldo – surpassed Ali Daei to become highest-ever International Goalscorer (with 111 goals)
- Cristiano Ronaldo – ‘Guinness World Record’ holder of most international goals of all time with 111 goals
- Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal) & Ali Daei (Iran) – Football Players

48. In the ASBC Junior Boxing Championship 2021, India’s juniors finished 3rd with 19 medals including 8 gold, 5 silver, and 6 bronze medals behind Uzbekistan (22 medals) and Kazakhstan (25 medals). While in the Asian Youth Boxing Championship 2021, India won a total of 6 Gold medals. The 2021 Asian Youth & Junior Boxing Championships both were held together in Dubai, UAE. Indian boxer Mahi Raghav has been named as the ‘Best Boxer’ in the Junior Girls Category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “2021 Asian Youth & Junior Boxing Championships” – held in Dubai, UAE
- India – won 8 Gold medals in the “ASBC Junior Boxing Championship 2021” (India finished 3rd with 19 medals)
- India – won 6 Gold medals in the “ASBC Asian Youth Boxing Championship 2021”
- Mahi Raghav (Boxer) – named as the ‘Best Boxer’ in ‘Junior Girls’ category



49. On September 4, India's Manish Narwal and Singhraj Adana have claimed Gold & Silver medal respectively for India in men's P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 event at the Tokyo Paralympics. The two shooters took India's tally to 15 medals at the Tokyo Paralympics. Manish scored a total of 218.2 in the final, creating a Paralympic record in the process of winning the gold medal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manish Narwal (**Shooter**) – won Gold medal in men's P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 event at the Tokyo Paralympics
- Singhraj Adana (**Shooter**) – won Silver medal in men's P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 event at the Tokyo Paralympics

Important Days & Dates

50. The "National Nutrition Week" is observed in India from September 1 to September 7 to create awareness about good nutrition and healthy eating habits since 1982. The theme of the 2021 National Nutrition Week is "Feeding Smart right from start". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 1 to 7 – "National Nutrition Week" (since 1982)
- Theme – "Feeding Smart right from Start"

51. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has celebrated its 65th Foundation Day on September 1, 2021. In 2006, the LIC had set up a public trust "LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation" with an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr and Rs 10 Cr being added every year to it, bringing the corpus to Rs 100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 1 – 65th Foundation Day LIC
- LIC had set up a public trust "LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation" in 2006 with an initial corpus of Rs 50 Cr
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham"

52. Every year, World Coconut Day is observed on September 2 to emphasize and raise awareness about the importance as well as benefits of coconuts. This day started in 2009, on the day when the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) was founded. This year, the theme is "Building a Safe Inclusive Resilient and Sustainable Coconut Community Amid COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond". India is the 3rd largest producer of coconut in the world after Indonesia and Philippines respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 2 – World Coconut Day (since 2009)



- Theme – “Building a Safe Inclusive Resilient & Sustainable Coconut Community Amid COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond”
- Top 3 largest producer of coconut in the world: 1st - Indonesia, 2nd - Philippines, 3rd - India
- HQs of APCC – Jakarta, Indonesia

53. On September 3, Burnaby, a city in Canada, has declared September 5 as “Gauri Lankesh Day”, commemorating the slain activist’s life on her death anniversary. Gauri Lankesh, a journalist-turned-activist, was shot dead outside her home in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru, by unidentified men on September 5, 2017. In April 2020, the city of Burnaby proclaimed April 14 as “Dr BR Ambedkar Day of Equality”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Burnaby city ([Canada](#)) – declared September 5 as “Gauri Lankesh Day”
- Gauri Lankesh – a journalist-turned-activist was shot dead on September 5, 2017
- Burnaby city ([Canada](#)) – declared April 14 as “Dr BR Ambedkar Day of Equality” in 2020

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

54. On September 2, the Chancellor Rishi Sunak and Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held the 11th UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue which saw ambitious agreements on tackling climate change and boosting investment through economic cooperation, financial services and trade. Both the countries signed a \$1.2-Billion package of public and private investment in Green Projects & Renewable Energy. \$200 million was added as additional investment into the joint Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rishi Sunak ([UK](#)) + Nirmala Sitharaman ([India](#)) = held the 11th UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue
- India & UK agreed on \$1.2 billion package of Public & Private Investment in Green Projects & Renewable Energy
- 200 million – added as additional investment into the joint Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF)
- [UK – London – Pound Sterling](#) | [PM – Boris Johnson](#)

55. Minister of State for Power and Heavy Industries Krishan Pal Gurjar has chaired the 6th “Meeting of BRICS Energy Ministers 2021”, under the Chairship of India. He also launched the BRICS Energy Report 2021, BRICS Energy Technology Report 2021 and BRICS Energy Research Directory 2021. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Krishan Pal Gurjar – chaired the 6th “Meeting of BRICS Energy Ministers 2021” – hosted by India
- Krishan Pal Gurjar launched:
 - BRICS Energy Report 2021
 - BRICS Energy Technology Report 2021
 - BRICS Energy Research Directory 2021
- BRICS Member Countries: 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa | Chairmanship in 2021 – India
- Ministry of Power and Ministry New & Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh | Constituency – Arrah, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Power: Krishan Pal

56. In August 2021, PM Narendra Modi has chaired the 37th PRAGATI meeting where he reviewed the functioning of 8 projects worth Rs 1,26,000 Cr. He also reviewed the progress of the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme. “PRAGATI” is a communications platform that stands for “Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – chaired the 37th PRAGATI meeting & reviewed 8 projects worth Rs 1,26,000 Cr
- PRAGATI – **Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation**
- ONORC scheme – launched in 2019

57. On September 3, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has delivered a video-address during the 6th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) held in Vladivostok, Russia. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has attended the “India-Russia Business Dialogue” within the framework of Eastern Economic Forum 2021. The theme of the Forum was “Opportunities for the Far East in a World under Transformation”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – delivered a speech at the 6th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) held in Vladivostok, Russia
- Hardeep Singh Puri – attended the “India-Russia Business Dialogue” within the framework of EEF
- Theme of the Forum – “Opportunities for the Far East in a World under Transformation”
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

58. On September 3, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has addressed the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021 of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) as the Chief Guest. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs 1 lakh Cr has been created, through which projects are being sanctioned. Under the “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi”, so far about Rs 1,57,000 Cr have been deposited in the bank accounts of more than 11 Cr farmers of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – addressed the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021 of the CII
- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs 1 lakh Cr has been created
- Rs 1,57,000 Cr – deposited in the bank accounts of more than 11 Cr farmers of India
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – T. V. Narendran | DG – Chandrajit Banerjee | Founded in – 1895



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

59. Dr. Firdausi Qadri from Bangladesh and Muhammad Amjad Saqib from Pakistan are among the five recipients of this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award - regarded as the Asian version of the Nobel Prize. Firdausi Qadri has developed a cheap oral vaccine against cholera while Muhammad Amjad Saqib has developed the first interest free Microfinance Program - 'Akhawat'. Ramon Magsaysay Award is annually awarded by Philippines since 1957. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5 recipients of "Ramon Magsaysay Award 2021":
 - Firdausi Qadri – Vaccine scientist from Bangladesh
 - Muhammad Amjad Saqib - Microfinance pioneer from Pakistan
 - Roberto Ballon - Filipino fisher and community Environmentalist
 - Steven Muncy - Humanitarian worker from the United States
 - Watchdoc - Indonesian torch bearer for investigative journalism
- [Ramon Magsaysay Award is annually awarded by – Philippines \(since 1957\)](#)

60. On September 3, The Odisha-born specialist Dr. Basant Kumar Misra has become the first Indian to receive the "International Lifetime Achievement Award" in Neurosurgery conferred by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. He was awarded India's highest medical honour, "Dr BC Roy National Award" in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Basant Kumar Misra ([Odisha](#)) – first Indian to receive the "International Lifetime Achievement Award" in 'Neurosurgery' – conferred by American Association of Neurological Surgeons

61. On September 3, The Chandigarh Railway Station has become the fifth station in India to get 5-star "Eat Right Station" certification by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers. The certification is part of the 'Eat Right India' movement - a large-scale effort by FSSAI to transform India's food system to ensure safe, healthy and sustainable food for all Indians . [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandigarh Railway Station – became 5th station in India to get 5-star "Eat Right Station" certification by FSSAI
- [HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatota | CEO – Shri Arun Singhal](#)

62. On September 3, Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd (SJVN Ltd) has been conferred with prestigious "Dun & Bradstreet - Corporate Award 2021" in the category of Best Growth Performance-Power during a virtual conference titled India's "Top 500 Companies 2021". The event was held with the central theme "Laying the Foundations for an ESG-Ready Corporate India". [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- SJVN Ltd – conferred with prestigious “Dun & Bradstreet - Corporate Award 2021”
- HQs of SJVN – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh | MD & Chairman – Nand Lal Sharma

63. On September 2, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) has been awarded the “Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award” securing 8th rank among the 71 organizations from around the globe. Thus, it became the only PSU to win this award and one of the only two companies of India in Top 20. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- POWERGRID – awarded the “Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award”
- HQs of POWERGRID – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Kandikuppa Sreekant
- HQs of ATD – Virginia, US

Appointments & Resignations

64. Avani Lekhara, who won gold medal in shooting competition at Tokyo Paralympics, is nominated as the Brand Ambassador of “Beti Bachao Beti Padhao” scheme in Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Avani Lekhara – nominated as the Brand Ambassador of “Beti Bachao Beti Padhao” scheme in Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

65. Estonia’s parliament has elected the Chief of a major National Museum Alar Karis as the country’s new President. He secured support from 72 members of the 101-seat Riigikogu legislature. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alar Karis – elected as the new President of Estonia (replacing - Kaja Kallas)
- Estonia – Tallinn – Euro | President – Kersti Kaljulaid | New PM – Alar Karis

66. German footwear and accessories major Adidas has roped in Tokyo Olympic Silver-medalist Mirabai Chanu as the brand ambassador of its “Stay in Play” campaign for its latest product innovation designed to keep more menstruating women in sports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mirabai Chanu (Indian weightlifter) – appointed as the Brand Ambassador of “Stay in Play” campaign of Adidas
- HQs of Adidas – Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO – Kasper Rorsted



67. On September 1, Vartika Shukla has assumed charge as the first woman Chairperson & Managing Director of Engineers India Ltd (EIL). She has been spearheading the company's initiatives in new energy areas including Bio Fuels, Coal Gasification, Waste to Fuel and Hydrogen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vartika Shukla – assumed charge as the first woman Chairperson & MD of Engineers India Ltd (EIL)
- HQs of EIL – Gurugram, Haryana | Chairperson & MD – Vartika Shukla

68. Former State Bank of India (SBI) chairman Rajnish Kumar has been appointed as independent Non-Executive Director in Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)'s board in Asia. Kumar is currently a director of India's Lighthouse Communities Foundation, an independent director of Larsen & Toubro Infotech Limited, a senior advisor of Baring Private Equity Asia Pte Ltd in Singapore and an advisor of Kotak Investment Advisors Ltd in Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnish Kumar – appointed as independent Non-Executive Director of HSBC's board in Asia
- HQs of HSBC – London, UK | CEO – Noel Quinn
- HQs of HSBC India – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Hitendra Dave | Founded in – 1853

69. Ashish Singhal has taken charge as Managing Director of SVC Bank (SVC Co-operative Bank or Shamrao Vithal Co-operative Bank). His appointment follows the retirement of Ajit Venugopalan. Prior to joining this, Singhal was the MD of Experian CIC in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashish Singhal – took charge as MD of SVC Co-operative Bank
- HQs of SVC Co-operative Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Ashish Singhal

70. On September 2, Atul Bhatt has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL). P K Rath had retired as CMD of RINL on May 31, 2021. On January 27, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) had given in-principle approval for 100% disinvestment of government stake in RINL. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Atul Bhatt – appointed as Chairman & MD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL)
- HQs of RINL – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | CMD – Atul Bhatt

71. Equitas Small Finance Bank has announced women hockey player, Rani Rampal and cricketer Smriti Mandhana as the company's brand ambassadors. This announcement comes at a time when the bank is celebrating their 5th year anniversary on September 5, 2021. Smriti Mandhana was recognized as the "Best Women's International Cricketer" by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in 2018. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Rani Rampal + Smriti Mandhana = appointed as Brand Ambassadors of Equitas Small Finance Bank
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, TN | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan

Amount & Agreements

72. On September 3, Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended \$40 million (around Rs 292 Cr) worth of line of credit (LOC) to the Maldives government to provide finance for the development of sports infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Exim Bank extended \$40 million (Rs 292 Cr) line of credit to Maldives to develop Sports Infrastructure
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

73. On September 2, A disaster related to a weather, climate or water hazard occurred every day has increased by a factor of five over the 50-year period - killing 115 people and causing US\$ 202 million in losses daily, according to a new report from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) titled “Atlas of Mortality and Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water Extremes (1970 – 2019)”. As per the report, there were more than 11,000 reported disasters attributed to these hazards globally, with just over 2 million deaths and US\$ 3.64 trillion in losses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Atlas of Mortality & Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water Extremes (1970 – 2019)” report – by WMO
- Disaster related to a weather, climate or water hazard increased by a factor of five over the 50-year period
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Petteri Taalas | Established in – 1950

74. The RBI has released a quarterly “House Price Index (HPI)” based on transaction-level data received from housing registration authorities in ten major cities. All-India HPI recorded 2.0% annual growth (y-o-y) in Q1:2021-22 as compared with 2.7% growth in the previous quarter and 2.8% a year ago. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “House Price Index (HPI)” – released by the RBI
- “All-India HPI” recorded 2% annual growth (y-o-y) in Q1 of FY22 (compared to 2.8% in Q1 of FY21)



75. Rabobank has published its annual “Global Dairy Top 20 Report - 2021”. In terms of market capital, Lactalis has topped the list while India’s AMUL has dropped two places to rank at 18th position. India is the World’s largest Milk producing country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Dairy Top 20 Report - 2021” – published by Rabobank
- AMUL’s rank – 18th | Top – Lactalis (Laval, France)
- HQs of AMUL – Anand, Gujarat | MD – Rupinder Singh Sodhi

76. The world has officially eradicated toxic leaded Petrol, according to the United Nations Programme on Environment (UNEP). Algeria was the last country to eradicate leaded petrol. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNEP: The world has officially eradicated toxic leaded Petrol
- Algeria – the last country to eradicate leaded petrol
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972

77. On September 3, The Hurun Research Institute has released the “Hurun India Future Unicorn List 2021”, a ranking of India’s start-ups founded in the 2000s, worth at least \$200mn, not yet listed on a public exchange and most likely to ‘go unicorn’ within 2 years (Gazelles) or 4 years (Cheetahs). As per the report, India is the third largest Unicorn ecosystem in the world after US and China. Number of Unicorns in USA and China is at 396 and 277 respectively while India follows at number three with 51 unicorns. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Hurun India Future Unicorn List 2021” – released by Hurun Research Institute
- Largest Unicorn Ecosystem in the world: 1st – US (396), 2nd – China (277), 3rd – India (51)

78. On September 3, The “Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022” was released. The UK’s University of Oxford successfully defended its first position and ranked as the Best University in the world for the 6th consecutive year. It was followed by the USA’s California Institute of Technology and Harvard University in the second and third positions, respectively. The Times World University Rankings 2022 include over 1600 universities across 99 countries. IISc Bengaluru ranked at 301-350 position. A total of 89 Indian universities were featured in the World University Rankings 2022 by Times Higher Education. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022”
- 1st – University of Oxford (UK) | 2nd – California Institute of Technology (US) | 3rd – Harvard University (US)
- University of Oxford – ranked as the Best University in the world for the 6th consecutive year
- IISc Bengaluru ranked at 301-350 position
- Total 89 Indian Universities were featured in the “Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022”



79. Over half of the global population lacks any form of social protection, according to a report titled “World Social Protection Report 2020-22” released on September 1 by the International Labour Organization (ILO). In 2020, only 47% of the world population had effective access to at least one social protection benefit. The remaining 53% (up to 4.1 billion people) had no protection at all. Only 26.4% of children worldwide receive a social protection benefit and only 45% of women with newborns get a cash maternity benefit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “World Social Protection Report 2020-22” – released by the ILO
- 47% of the world population had effective access to at least one social protection benefit in 2020
- 26.4% of children worldwide receive a social protection benefit
- 45% of women with newborns get a cash maternity benefit
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder | Founded in – 1919

80. More than 500 million people in India and more than 80% of the populations of Turkmenistan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Iran are exposed to medium and high levels of poor air quality due to sand and dust storms, according to a report titled “Sand and Dust Storms Risk Assessment in Asia and the Pacific” released by the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) and United Nations Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). The report identified ‘east and northeast Asia’, ‘south and southwest Asia’, ‘central Asia’ and the ‘Pacific’ as the four main sand and dust storm corridors of Asia-Pacific. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Sand and Dust Storms Risk Assessment in Asia and the Pacific” report released by = APDIM + UNESCAP
- Over 500 million people in India are exposed to poor air quality due to sand & dust storms
- HQs of UNESCAP – Bangkok, Thailand | Executive Secretary – Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana

Acquisitions & Mergers

81. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of additional shareholding in TVS Supply Chain Solutions Pvt Ltd by TS Rajam Rubbers Pvt Ltd and Dhinrama Mobility Solution Pvt Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI – approved the acquisition of TVS Supply Chain Solutions – by TS Rajam Rubbers & Dhinrama Mobility Solution
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of TVS Supply Chain Solutions – Chorley, UK | MD – R. Dinesh



82. On September 3, HDFC Life Insurance has decided to acquire 100% stake in Exide Life Insurance for total cash consideration of Rs 6,687 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Life Insurance – to acquire 100% stake in Exide Life Insurance – for Rs 6,687 Cr
- HQs of HDFC Life – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Vibha Padalkar
- HQs of Exide Life Insurance – Bangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Kshitij Jain

83. On September 3, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has picked up 3.9% equity shares of Bank of India through Open Market Acquisition. LIC's stake in Bank of India has now increased to 7.05%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC picked up 3.9% equity shares in Bank of India through Open Market Acquisition
- HQs of LIC – Mumbai | Chairman – M. R. Kumar | Founded in – 1956 | Tagline – “Yogakshemam Vahamyaham”
- HQs of BoI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Shri Atanu Kumar Das | Tagline – “Relationship Beyond Banking”

84. On September 5, India's largest private sector general insurer ICICI Lombard has received the final in-principle approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for the acquisition of Bharti Axa General Insurance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Lombard – received the final approval from the IRDAI to acquire “Bharti Axa General Insurance”
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of Bharti AXA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjeev Srinivasan

85. On September 4, Reliance Strategic Business Ventures (RSBVL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries (RIL), has acquired a 57.06% stake in Strand Life Sciences for Rs 393 Cr in cash. The company would also make a further investment of up to Rs 160 Cr by March 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Strategic Business Ventures – acquired a 57.06% stake in “Strand Life Sciences” for Rs 393 Cr
- HQs of RSBVL – Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- HQs of Strand Life Sciences – Bangalore, Karnataka | Founder & CEO – Ramesh Hariharan



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

86. A. V. Zhirmunsky National Scientific Center of Marine Biology, Russian Academy of Sciences (NSCMB RAS), Russia and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - National Institute of Oceanography (CSIR-NIO), Goa have signed an MoU in the field of Marine Biology, Marine Ecology & Blue Economy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CSIR-NIO (Goa) + NSCMB RAS (Russia) = an MoU in the field of Marine Biology, Marine Ecology & Blue Economy
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | Director General – Shekhar C. Mande
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

87. On September 1, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has signed an MoU with South Asian Institute for Advanced Research and Development (SAIARD) for capacity building on Integrated River Basin Management with a focus on Geospatial Technology in Riverine Ecosystem. An MoU was also signed between National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and SAIARD to develop river sensitive master plans and urban river management plans. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMCG (New Delhi) + SAIARD = an MoU for capacity building on Integrated River Basin Management
- NIUA (New Delhi) + SAIARD = an MoU to develop river sensitive master plans & urban river management plans

88. On September 1, As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahostav, Department of Animal husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) & Department of Rural Development (DoRD) have signed an MoU for rural economic growth. As per the MoU, it has also decided to use the services of the members of the SHGs as livestock resource persons and primary service provider through a new accredited model named “A-HELP” (Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dept. of Animal husbandry & Dairying + Dept. of Rural Development = an MoU for rural economic growth
- A new accredited model named “A-HELP” is introduced
- “A-HELP” – Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production

89. On September 2, NASSCOM Centre of Excellence for Internet of Things (CoE-IoT) has signed an intent of cooperation with Taiwan-India Artificial Intelligence Technology Innovation Research Centre. The collaboration will help Indian tech startups to source hardware components from Taiwan during their prototyping or production phases. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NASSCOM CoE-IoT + Taiwan-India AI Technology Innovation Research Centre = an MoU to support Indian tech startups
- HQs of NASSCOM – New Delhi | President – Debjani Ghosh
- Chairman – Rekha M. Menon | Vice-Chairman – Krishnan Ramanujam
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen

90. On September 4, The Ladakh administration and the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) have signed an MoU for upgradation and improvement of road network in the Union Territory. UT administration also assigned 7 projects to the BRO considering their expertise in hilly areas to construct tunnels and roads. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ladakh + BRO = an MoU for upgradation and improvement of road network in the UT
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Major Gen Rajeev Chaudhary | Founded on – May 7, 1960

91. On September 3, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has signed an MoU with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millet Research (IIMR) for increasing exports through quality production and processing. The objective of the MoU is to build the export-centric ecosystem. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APEDA + ICAR-IIMR = an MoU to increase exports through quality production & processing
- HQs of APEDA – New Delhi | Chairman – M. Angamuthu | Established in – 1986
- HQs of ICAR-IIMR – Hyderabad, Telangana

Books & Authors

92. Angelina Jolie and Amnesty International have joined forces to create a resource for children and young people to learn about their rights, with the publication of a new book titled “Know Your Rights and Claim Them: Guide for Youth” which empowers teenagers to speak out against injustice. It was written in collaboration with Professor Geraldine Van Bueren. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Know Your Rights and Claim Them: Guide for Youth” book – authored by Angelina Jolie
- Co-authors – Geraldine Van Bueren + Amnesty International



93. A new book titled “The Murderer, the Monarch and the Fakir” based on previously unseen intelligence reports and police records of Mahatma Gandhi’s assassination will be released on October 1 by publisher HarperCollins India. The book is written by investigative journalist Appu Esthose Suresh and Gates Cambridge scholar Priyanka Kotamraju. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Murderer, the Monarch and the Fakir” book – authored by Appu Esthose Suresh & Priyanka Kotamraju
- The book is about Mahatma Gandhi’s assassination | Publisher – HarperCollins India

94. On September 2, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has released the book “Haryana Environment and Pollution Code”, compiled by former IAS officer (retired) and famous poet Dheera Khandelwal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manohar Lal Khattar – released “Haryana Environment and Pollution Code” book – compiled by Dheera Khandelwal
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya



Obituaries

95. Former Rajya Sabha MP and Senior Journalist Chandan Mitra passed away in Delhi. He was 65. He was nominated as a member of the Rajya Sabha from August 2003 to 2009 and had resigned from the BJP on July 18, 2018. He then joined the All India Trinamool Congress. He was the Editor and Managing Director of “The Pioneer” newspaper. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandan Mitra – a Politician & Senior Journalist – passed away
- He was the Editor & MD of “The Pioneer” newspaper

96. Former IOC President Jacques Rogge passed away. He was 79. He was the Olympic sailor and orthopedic surgeon from Belgium who led the International Olympic Committee as president for 12 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jacques Rogge ([Belgium](#)) – Former IOC President & Orthopedic Surgeon – passed away



Person in News

97. A Ladakh-based engineer Dorje Angchuk has become the only Indian Honorary Member of the International Astronomical Union, along with ten others from around the world. He is the Engineer in charge of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics' Indian Astronomical Observatory in Hanle, Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dorje Angchuk ([Ladakh](#)) – became the only Indian Honorary Member of the International Astronomical Union
- [Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur](#)

Science & Technology

98. On September 1, Urban Air Laboratory, a startup company of IIT Ropar has developed the world's first plant-based smart air-purifier called "Ubreathe Life". The product is being claimed as world's first, state-of-the-art 'Smart Bio-Filter' which can make breathing fresh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Urban Air Laboratory (IIT Ropar) – developed the world's first plant-based smart air-purifier called "Ubreathe Life"
- [Director of IIT Ropar – Sarit Kumar Das](#)



99. Science & Technology On September 3, Hansa New Generation (NG) aircraft, designed and developed by CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bangalore has successfully made its maiden flight. Mr. Abbani Rinku is the Project Director of HANSA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hansa New Generation (NG) aircraft – designed & developed by CSIR-NAL ([Bangalore](#))
- Project Director of HANSA – Abbani Rinku

Ordinance, Bills and Acts

100. According to the "Income-tax (25th Amendment) Rules, 2021", the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has notified the Income Tax Rules in which interest income accrued in the provident fund (PF) above a specified limit will be taxed. The new rule shall come into force on April 1, 2022. Interest accrued in PF account on contribution above Rs 2.5 lakh a year is taxable for Non-government employees. For government employees, the PF threshold is Rs 5 lakh. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- CBDT notified the Income Tax Rules in which 'interest income' accrued in PF above a specified limit will be taxed
- The new rule shall come into force – on April 1, 2022
- Threshold for Non-government employees: above Rs 2.5 lakh a year
- Threshold for government employees: Rs 5 lakh a year
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Jagannath Bidyadhar Mohapatra | Formed in – 1944





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