



**Bipin Nambiar**  
(SBI PO 2018)



**Shiraz Khan**  
(SBI Clerk 2018)



**Kuldeep Yadav**  
(SBI PO 2018)



**Rajat Saxena**  
(IBPS Clerk 2018)



**Anupam Tyagi**  
(IBPS PO 2018)

FRIENDS!  
WE USED **TESTZONE**  
AND CRACKED BANK EXAMS  
बैंक परीक्षाओं के लिए निश्चित  
रूप से सर्वश्रेष्ठ मॉक  
टेस्ट सीरीज

IT'S YOUR TURN NOW  
TAKE A **FREE** MOCK TEST



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



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

**June**  
**CA MockDrill**  
**Combo**

**(PDF in English)**



**Smartkeeda**

[Click Here to Attempt FREE Mock Tests](#)  
[based on this PDF](#)



# **INDEX**

National & States Affairs.....	4
International Affairs.....	32
Banking & Economic Affairs.....	43
Defence Affairs.....	50
Schemes & Initiatives.....	53
Sports & Games.....	62
Important Days & Dates.....	67
Meetings, Conferences and Summits.....	77
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes.....	80
Appointments & Resignations.....	87
Amount & Agreements.....	97
Ranks, Reports & Surveys.....	107
Acquisitions & Mergers.....	118
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships.....	122
Books & Authors.....	134
Obituaries.....	136
Persons in News.....	144
Science & Technology.....	154
Ordinance, Bills and Acts.....	161
Current GK.....	163



# National & States Affairs

1. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu launched a salary tracker mobile app "MeraVetan" aimed at providing salary-related information to government employees. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Girish Chandra Murmu – launched – "MeraVetan" a salary tracker mobile app
- J & K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu

2. The Election Commission has announced the polls for pending 18 Rajya Sabha seats from seven states on 19th June. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Election Commission – announced the polls for pending “18 Rajya Sabha seats” – from “7 states”
- Chief Election Commissioner – Sunil Arora (23rd)
- Two Election Commissioners – Ashok Lavasa & Sushil Chandra

3. India has ordered its internet service providers (ISPs) to block file-sharing website WeTransfer in the interest of national security or public interest. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India blocked – “WeTransfer” a file-sharing website
- HQs – Amsterdam, Netherlands | CEO – Gordon Willoughby

4. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) at a level of at least 1.5 times of the All-India weighted average Cost of Production (CoP), for all mandated Kharif crops for marketing season 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- CCEA – approved increase in MSPs at level of – at least 1.5 times
- MSPs – Minimum Support Prices
- CCEA chaired by – PM Narendra Modi



5. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 01 launched the silver jubilee celebrations of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences in Karnataka via video conferencing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prime Minister – launched “Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences”
- The university location – Bengaluru, Karnataka

6. The government has given the approval to rename Kolkata Port as Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port. Kolkata Port has traversed 150 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kolkata Port – renaming as – Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port
- Kolkata Port – 150 years old

7. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched technology platform 'CHAMPIONS' to help micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) facing difficulties, and to handhold them to become national and international champions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'CHAMPIONS' technology platform – launched by PM Modi – to help MSMEs
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSME
- Constituency – Nagpur, Maharashtra

8. Minister of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the “Electronics Manufacturing Scheme 2.0” which includes three sub-schemes and has a combined outlay of Rs 50,000, to promote production. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Electronics Manufacturing Scheme 2.0” – launched by MeitY – outlay – “Rs 50,000 Cr”
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice
- Constituency – Patna Sahib, Bihar

9. India’s longest expressway, the “Purvanchal Expressway” in Uttar Pradesh is likely to be completed by 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Purvanchal Expressway” (UP) – India’s longest expressway – to be completed by 2021



**10.** The Delhi government launched a mobile application called "Delhi Corona" to help residents track the availability of hospital beds and ventilators for Covid-19 patients. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi government – launched "Delhi Corona" app – to track the availability of hospital beds
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**11.** The Union cabinet has approved further changes to the definition of micro, small and medium enterprises, a Rs 20,000-crore fund to provide equity support to stressed entities in the sector, and equity infusion of Rs 50,000 crore into MSMEs through a fund of funds. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The revised turnover & investment limit of MSMEs:
- Micro: Investments - Rs 1 Cr & Turnover - Rs 5 Cr
- Small: Investments - Rs 10 Cr & Turnover - Rs 50 Cr
- Medium: Investments - Rs 50 Cr & Turnover - Rs 250 Cr

**12.** The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and the Ministry of Human Resource Development have launched internships under the The Urban Learning Internship Programme - "TULIP" for college students and graduates. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoHUA + MoHRD = launched "TULIP" Internship Programme for students
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri
- MoHRD Minister – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

**13.** In Himachal Pradesh, the State Government launched an online portal "Skill Register" to create a sound database of migrants, who have recently entered the state during the lockdown in the wake of the Corona pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Himachal Pradesh – launched an online portal "Skill Register"
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

**14.** Power Minister R K Singh formally launched pan-India Real-Time Market (RTM) in electricity, which allows consumers to buy power just one hour before delivery. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- R K Singh – Real-Time Market (RTM) in electricity

**15.** Odisha, Sikkim and Mizoram have been included under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) through "one nation, one ration card" plan, according to Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Ram Vilas Paswan. The facility will now be available in 20 states/UTs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha + Sikkim + Mizoram = included under "one nation, one ration card" plan
- Now, the Total is – 20 States/UTs
- Ram Vilas Paswan – Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- Constituency – Hajipur, Bihar

**16.** Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao inaugurated “Kondapochamma Reservoir” in Siddipet district of Telangana. A pump house will lift Godavari water to this reservoir which is at a height of 618 meters from the source Godavari river. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Kondapochamma Reservoir” – Siddipet district, Telangana (Water source – Godavari river)
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**17.** Indian Energy Exchange has launched the much-awaited Real-Time Electricity Market (RTM) on its platform effective 01 June 2020 which allows consumers to buy power just 1 hour before delivery. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IEX – launched RTM – “Real-Time Electricity Market” – to buy power just “1 hour” before delivery
- HQs of IEX – New Delhi | CMD – Rajiv Srivastava

**18.** The government will provide Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to 1.5 Crore dairy farmers belonging to milk unions and milk producing companies within the next two months (1st June-31st July 2020) under a special drive. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GoI – to provide ‘KCC’ – to 1.5 Crore Dairy Farmers

**19.** The 92-page booklet 'One Year of Modi 2.0 - Towards A Self-Reliant India' has been released by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “One Year of Modi 2.0 - Towards A Self-Reliant India” booklet
- Released by – Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (Prakash Javadekar – Maharashtra)

**20.** Karnataka has invited chip major Intel to set up a manufacturing unit in Mangaluru or Belagavi in the State. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – invited – “Intel” – to set up a manufacturing unit in Mangaluru or Belagavi
- Karnataka Capital – Bangalore | CM – B S Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- HQs of Intel – California, USA | CEO – Bob Swan

**21.** The Annual Action Plan of Arunachal Pradesh to achieve 100% household tap connections in the State was approved by National Jal Jeevan Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti. The State proposed to provide 100% tap connections to all the households by March, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arunachal Pradesh – to achieve 100% household tap connections – by 2023
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

**22.** In a move to facilitate easy availability of the masks made by self-help groups (SHGs) in Tiruvallur, the district administration is planning to install mask vending machines in important places in the district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘Mask Vending Machines’ – to be installed in Tiruvallur, Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai
- CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**23.** Chhattisgarh Police has launched a campaign 'Spandan' to protect the jawans from depression and stress. This campaign was initiated from a Maoist affected Kanker district of Bastar division. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh Police – launched – “Spandan” campaign to protect the jawans from depression
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**24.** Uttar Pradesh has introduced a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Monitoring Mechanism in a move that aims at better implementation of investment proposals & will be launching a new MoU tracking portal that will be integrated with its single window system “Nivesh Mitra”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – to launch a new MoU tracking Portal named – “Nivesh Mitra”
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel





**25.** Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa said government employees and owners of tractors and other vehicles must return the BPL ration cards immediately, failing which stringent legal action would be initiated against them. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – ordered government employees, owners of tractors to return BPL ration cards
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**26.** The Tamil Nadu government issued orders to cap the charges for Covid-19 treatment in private hospitals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – to cap the charges – for Covid-19 treatment in private hospitals
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai
- CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**27.** To fulfill the long-standing demand of the people of Punjab, the Modi government has announced new connectivity to Amritsar from Nakodar, as part of the Delhi-Amritsar Expressway which is part of Bharatmala Pariyojana. An amount of Rs 25,000 Cr would be invested for the construction of the first phase of the expressway. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A new connectivity to “Amritsar” – as part of the Delhi-Amritsar Expressway
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**28.** Human Resource Development Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched the information booklet titled “Safe online learning in the times of COVID-19” to raise awareness in students and teachers. The booklet is developed by The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HRD Minister launched – “Safe online learning in the times of COVID-19”
- The booklet is developed by – NCERT (HQs – New Delhi | Director – Hrushikesh Senapaty)
- MoHRD Minister

**29.** Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot recently launched the Raj Kaushal Portal and Online Shramik Employment Exchange through video conferencing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan – launched “Raj Kaushal Portal” & “Online Shramik Employment Exchange”
- Rajasthan: Capital

**30.** On World Environment Day, Andhra Pradesh launched an online waste management platform to handle liquid waste, hazardous, and non-hazardous solid waste and air pollutants. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh – launched an “Online Waste Management Platform”
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**31.** The Karnataka government along with Varunamitra web portal launched “Meghasandesha” App that would provide real-time information as well as forecast on rains, flooding and thunderstorm alerts in Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka + Varunamitra web portal = launched “Meghasandesha” App
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**32.** Coal India arm Western Coalfields Ltd (WCL) has set an ambitious target of 100 million tonnes (MT) production by 2026-27 and plans to set up 20 more mines in the next four years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WCL – target of 100 MT production – by 2026-27 | 20 more mines in next – 4 years
- HQs – Nagpur, Maharashtra | CMD – Rajiv Ranjan Mishra

**33.** In Madhya Pradesh, a plantation drive named "Thank Mom" has been started on the premises of Social Justice and Disabled Welfare Directorate from on World Environment Day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – started by "Thank Mom"
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**34.** The Government has issued Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order 2017 vide the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Order and subsequent revisions vide Order to encourage ‘Make in India’ and to promote manufacturing and production of goods, services and works in India with a view to enhancing income and employment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – issued Public Procurement Order 2017 vide the DPIIT
- DPIIT works under – Ministry of Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra



**35.** Gairsain in Chamoli district was declared as the summer capital of Uttarakhand. A notification in this regard was issued by Chief Secretary Utpal Kumar Singh after Governor Baby Rani Maurya gave her assent to the move. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gairsain – declared as the Summer capital of Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain
- CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**36.** Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bikram Keshari Arukh said that the Cabinet headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik accorded state anthem status to "Bande Utkala Janani" for Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha Cabinet – approved a proposal – to give state anthem status to "Bande Utkala Janani"
- Odisha: Capital - Bhubaneswar | CM - Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**37.** The finance ministry has asked all ministries and departments not to initiate any new scheme till March 31, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- No new schemes – till March 31, 2021
- Announced by Nirmala Sitharaman (FM Minister – Karnataka)

**38.** The government has modified public procurement norms to give maximum preference to companies whose goods and services have 50% or more local content, a move aimed at promoting 'Make in India' and making the country self-reliant. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government modified – Public Procurement Norms – preference to “50% or more local content”

**39.** Ministry of Shipping has approved the Revised Cost estimate of an amount of Rs. 123.95 Cr for augmenting Ship Repair facilities in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Shipping – approved – Revised Cost estimate of Rs. 123.95 Cr
- For Ship Repair facilities in – Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- Andaman & Nicobar: Capital – Port Blair | Governor – Devendra Kumar Joshi
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Shipping – Mansukh L. Mandaviya

**40.** The diversion of forest land for other purposes continued throughout India. A total 11,467.83 hectares (114.68 square kilometre) forest lands were diverted in 22 states between January 1 and November 6, 2019, according to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Annual Report 2019-20. The most number of projects - 251 were in Haryana, which led to the diversion of 519.53 ha. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Total 11,467.83 hectares forest lands – diverted in 22 states
- Haryana – The most number of projects (251)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**41.** With an aim to boost economic growth of Manipur through agriculture and horticulture, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh inaugurated a Plant Health Clinic at the Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Imphal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manipur – a Plant Health Clinic
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**42.** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has asked insurers not to grant loan renewals or enhancements if the borrowers do not get the LEI code from the Legal Entity Identifier India Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IRDAI – directed insurers not to grant loans to the borrowers without – LEI code
- LEI – Legal Entity Identifier
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash C. Khuntia

**43.** Madhya Pradesh has emerged the top state in the country in wheat procurement on support price by purchasing more than one crore metric tonnes from farmers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – top state in the country – in wheat procurement on support price
- MP: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**44.** The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) constituted a three-member high-level committee to inquire about the circumstances that led to the blowout incident at Baghjan in Assam. The three-member committee comprising SCL Das (head of the committee), BC Bora and TK Sengupta. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoPNG – constituted – 3-member high-level committee – related to blowout at Baghjan gas well (Assam)
- 3 members = SCL Das (head) + BC Bora + TK Sengupta
- HQs of OIL – Noida, UP | MD & Chairman – Sushil Chandra Mishra
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**45.** In a ground-breaking shift this year, Madhya Pradesh dethroned Punjab to become India's top wheat producer. The central Indian state had already picked up more than 12.9 million tonnes by June 8, ahead of Punjab's 12.8 million tonnes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – became India's top wheat producer
- MP: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**46.** Odisha became the first state in the country where ISO certification has been given to tribal hostels under "Mission Suvidya" project which was earlier launched by ST&SC Welfare Department. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Odisha – first state to receive ISO certification for tribal hostels
- Under – "Mission Suvidya" (Launched by ST&SC Welfare Department)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**47.** As part of the Tribal Comprehensive Development Programme in Kerala the "Food Forest" project is being implemented in cooperation with the "Mahila Kissan Saktheekaran Pariyojana" of the Central Government. The project aims to provide food security to 192 tribal villages in Attapadi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala + Mahila Kissan Saktheekaran Pariyojana = implemented "Food Forest" project
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram
- CM – Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**48.** Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) has won the first of its kind manufacturing-linked solar agreement worth \$6 billion from the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AGEL – won solar agreement worth \$6 billion – from SECI
- HQs of AGEL – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | Founder – Gautam Adani

**49.** A new world benchmark has been created by Indian Railways recently by running the first Double Stack Container Train in high rise Over Head Equipment (OHE) electrified sections of the Western Railway zone. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – sets benchmark in the world – to run 1st Double-stack container train
- In high rise OHE electrified sections of – Western Railway Zone
- HQs of Western Railways – Mumbai | General Manager – Shri Alok Kansal

**50.** Maharashtra has renamed its Environment Ministry as "Environment and Climate Change Ministry". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – renamed Environment Ministry as "Environment and Climate Change Ministry"
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**51.** Uttarakhand forest department opened the first biodiversity park in Haldwani district, on World Environment Day. The park is spread across 18 acres and has around 500 species of plants. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand – opened the first biodiversity park in – Haldwani district
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain
- CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**52.** To impress upon the significance of Tamil phonetics, Tamil Nadu has issued an order amending the English spelling of 1,018 cities and places. The government has changed the name of the Coimbatore city to "Koyampuththoor", Tuticorin or Thoothukudi to "Thooththukkudi", Triplicane to "Thiruvallikkeni" & Egmore to "Ezhumboor". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – issued an order amending the English spelling of – 1,018 cities and places
- Coimbatore – Koyampuththoor | Tuticorin – Thooththukkudi
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**53.** In view of the novel coronavirus outbreak, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has gone fully digital with cloud-based 'Data Lake Software', becoming the first such construction sector organisation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NHAI – has gone fully digital with cloud-based “Data Lake Software”
- HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

**54.** In a major development, the Karnataka government has decided to extend the ban on holding virtual classes for students up to standard seven. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – decided to extend the ban on holding virtual classes up to standard 7
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**55.** India is reportedly planning to launch its first coal trading platform named "Coal Exchange" on the lines of commodity or energy exchanges. Such an exchange would turn the coal sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to launch its 1st Coal trading platform – "Coal Exchange"
- Pralhad Joshi – Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Minister of Coal, Minister of Mines
- Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka

**56.** Increase in import duty on bamboo sticks from 10% to 25% is likely to create at least 1 lakh jobs in eight-10 months in the agarbatti (incense sticks) industry, according to Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC). The hike in import duty was to boost usage of domestic bamboo for Atmanirbhar Bharat. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Increase in import duty on bamboo sticks – to 25% (from 10%)
- KVIC works under – Ministry of MSME (Nitin Gadkari – Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena

**57.** An ancient temple believed to be 500 years old has reportedly been found in Mahanadi River in Odisha. The 60-feet temple, believed to be built in the late 15th or early 16th century. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 500 years old ancient temple – Mahanadi River – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



**58.** The Uttar Pradesh government has engaged 57.13 lakh workers under the MGNREGS, thereby emerging as the top state in the country to give employment under the rural employment guarantee scheme. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – Topped – by engaging 57.13 lakh workers – under MGNREGS
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**59.** Two youngsters have been arrested from Bikaner and Jhunjhunu districts of Rajasthan allegedly for working as spies for Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI. The operation that nabbed the culprits was jointly carried out by the Army, UP ATS, and Rajasthan Police, and was named Operation “Desert Chase”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Operation “Desert Chase” – conducted in Rajasthan
- Two youngsters arrested from – “Bikaner” & “Jhunjhunu” districts of Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**60.** Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray & Dr. Harsh Vardhan jointly inaugurated the new Integrated Flood Warning System "IFLOWS" developed for Mumbai, calling it "boon" for the city. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uddhav Thackeray + Dr. Harsh Vardhan = inaugurated "IFLOWS" in Mumbai
- IFLOWS – Integrated Flood Warning System
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Sci. & Tech, Ministry of Earth Science
- Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi

**61.** The Agriculture Ministry proposed to ban 27 pesticide formulations, several of which are highly toxic and have been linked to farmer deaths, and have also been banned in other countries. It includes Malathion that was extensively used by the government during the recent locust attack. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Malathion” – a Pesticide – used by India during the recent locust attack

**62.** In Uttar Pradesh, the State Government has successfully installed “Tru NAAT” machines in all 75 districts for rapid coronavirus testing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – installed “Tru NAAT” machines in all 75 districts
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel





**63.** A new species of fish named "Schizothorax sikusirumensis" has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh recently. This fish was collected from the junction of River Siku and Sirum near Gakang area of East Siang District. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Schizothorax sikusirumensis" fish – discovered – in Arunachal Pradesh
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

**64.** The Indian state, Uttarakhand would produce the high-quality Australian sheep wool in the hills and cater to the country's textile industry. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand – to produce the high-quality Australian sheep wool
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain
- CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**65.** The Madhya Pradesh government has given status of "Corona Warriors" to the Anganwadi workers. They are playing an important role in the state during the ongoing Corona crisis by distributing nutritious food from house to house of the beneficiaries. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – given status of "Corona Warriors" – to the "Anganwadi workers"
- MP: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**66.** The Karnataka government's plan to establish a monkey park, on the uninhabited islands in the Sharavathi backwaters region, has been opposed by environmentalists. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – to establish a "Monkey Park" – in Sharavathi backwaters region
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**67.** The NCLT has allowed Jet Airways to sell its premises in Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) to settle Rs 360 crore dues of mortgage lender HDFC, clear overseas debt and cover corporate insolvency resolution process costs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NCLT – allowed "Jet Airways" – to sell its premises in "Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC)"
- HQs of NCLT – New Delhi | Chairman – Bansi Lal Bhat



**68.** To scan passengers for COVID-19 symptoms and to ensure contactless entry, body-screening facility "FebriEye thermal cameras" have been set up at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus and Lokmanya Tilak Terminus in Mumbai, Maharashtra, Central Railway Zone. It is developed by Vehant Technologies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "FebriEye" thermal cameras– set up at Central Railway Zone (Mumbai)
- Developed by – Vehant Technologies (Noida, UP)

**69.** In Manipur, State Chief Minister N. Biren Singh inaugurated three projects undertaken by State Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) through video conferencing from the Chief Minister's Secretariat Imphal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- N. Biren Singh – inaugurated – 3 projects undertaken by PHED
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**70.** The EPFO has launched a "Multi-Location Claim Settlement Facility" to expedite member claims, moving away from the existing system of geographical jurisdiction for claim processing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EPFO – launched – "Multi-Location Claim Settlement Facility"
- EPFO works under – Ministry of Labour and Employment
- EPFO HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Shri Sunil Barthwal

**71.** Shri M. Ajit Kumar, Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) launched the "e-Office" application in over 500 CGST and Customs offices across India. It is developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC). The "e-Office" is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National e-Governance of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CBIC – launched – "e-Office" application – developed by NIC
- MMP – Mission Mode Project
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar

**72.** "Aarogyapath", a CSIR National Healthcare Supply Chain Portal that aims to provide real-time availability of critical healthcare supplies has been launched by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recently. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Aarogyapath" – a CSIR National Healthcare Supply Chain Portal
- Launched by – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. Harsh Vardhan – Chandni Chowk, Delhi)

**73.** Jammu and Kashmir has launched J&K Poultry Policy 2020. The Policy is expected to create employment avenues for youth and shall be a big step for making the UT self-sufficient in poultry production besides supplementing income of farmers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jammu and Kashmir – launched “J&K Poultry Policy 2020” – to create employment + poultry production
- J &K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu

**74.** In a first, Indian Railways’ Central Railway zone has installed a newly innovated “ATMA - Automated Ticket Checking & Managing Access” machine at the Nagpur railway station. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Central Railway zone – installed – “ATMA” machine
- ATMA – Automated Ticket checking & Managing Access
- HQ of Central Railway Zone – Mumbai, MH

**75.** Punjab launched mobile app "Ghar Ghar Nigrani" to undertake house-to-house surveillance in the state as an ongoing process, till the elimination of the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab – launched mobile app "Ghar Ghar Nigrani"
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**76.** Airtel Payments Bank has recently launched “Suraksha Salary Account” designed specifically for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Airtel Payments Bank – launched – “Suraksha Salary Account”
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas

**77.** Central Railway Zone, Railway Protection Force, Pune launched "CAPTAIN ARJUN" (Always be Responsible and Just Use to be Nice) a robot to screen passengers while they board trains. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RPF (Pune) – at Central Railway Zone – launched - "CAPTAIN ARJUN" robot to screen passengers
- ARJUN – Always be Responsible and Just Use to be Nice
- HQ of Central Railway Zone – Mumbai, MH



**78.** According to the payroll data of EPFO, the formal employment in India grew by a robust 28.6% in 2019-20 on the back of major policy reforms of the government. The data of EPFO shows that net additions to EPFO stood at 78.58 lakh in 2019-20 compared to 61.12 lakh added in 2018-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to data of EPFO – Employment in India grew by a robust 28.6% in 2019-20
- EPFO works under – Ministry of Labour and Employment
- EPFO HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Shri Sunil Barthwal

**79.** The first patient to be successfully cured of COVID-19 infection through Plasma therapy discharged from Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) in Hubballi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The first patient to be successfully cured of COVID-19 through Plasma therapy discharged – in Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**80.** The SEBI has amended the takeover norms to allow promoters to increase their stake. The amendment in the regulations allows a promoter owning 25% or more voting rights in a company to increase shareholding by up to 10% in a year versus the earlier limit of 5%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI – amended the takeover norms to allow promoters to increase their stake – by 10% (owning 25% or more voting rights)
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

**81.** Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL) has received a letter of award from Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co Ltd. (MSEDCL) to develop a 100 MW solar project in Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata Power – to develop a 100 MW solar project – in Maharashtra
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**82.** A one-stop centre for skilling and rehabilitation for differently abled-persons debuted in Ranchi. The Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development, Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (CRC-Ranchi), is a centrally sponsored project by the union ministry of social justice and empowerment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Composite Regional Centre for Persons with Disabilities” launched in – Ranchi, Jharkhand
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

**83.** By the end of this year, Piyush Goyal-led Indian Railways will offer passengers two airport-like Swanky Railway Stations. One is Gandhinagar railway station and the other is Habibganj railway station. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways – will construct airport-like Swanky Railway Stations – by December 2020
- 1. Gandhinagar (Gujarat) 2. Habibganj (MP)
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra

**84.** Shri Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister for Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs launched SATYABHAMA (Science and Technology Yojana for Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement) Portal for Science and Technology Programme Scheme of Ministry of Mines on 15th June 2020. The portal was developed by National Informatics Centre. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs – launched “SATYABHAMA”
- SATYABHAMA – Science and Technology Yojana for Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement
- The portal developed by – NIC

**85.** In contrast to its global plan to let go of 10,000 employees, British Petroleum is planning to set up a Global Business Service Centre in Pune and hire employees in the next few months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- British Petroleum – to set up “Global Business Service Centre” – in Pune
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**86.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi kicked-off the auction process of 41 coal blocks for commercial mining with an aim to achieve self-sufficiency in meeting energy needs and boost industrial development. The process is open for domestic as well as global firms under the 100% FDI (foreign direct investment) route. The e-auction was initiated by Coal ministry in association with FICCI. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi – kicked off the auction process of 41 coal blocks for commercial mining
- The e-auction Initiated by = Coal Ministry + FICCI
- The process is under – 100% FDI route

**87.** In Madhya Pradesh, the state government has imposed a complete ban on online classes for pre-primary and primary classes. The government has fixed the time period for conducting online classes for other classes as well. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – imposed a complete ban on online classes for Pre-Primary + Primary classes
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**88.** Mumbai Mayor Kishori Pednekar announced the launch of the 'Air-Venti' app that will tell citizens how many intensive care unit (ICU) beds and ventilators are available in hospitals across the city. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mumbai – launched 'Air-Venti' app to provide information about ICU beds and ventilators
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**89.** The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) rolled out a unique project to produce "Neera and Palmgur (Jaggery)" which it expects has a huge potential to create employment in the country. The project was launched at Dahanu in Palghar district of Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- KVIC – a new project – to produce – "Neera and Palmgur (Jaggery)" – launched at Dahanu, Palghar, MH
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**90.** Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched an initiative "YUKTI 2.0" to help systematically assimilate technologies having commercial potential and information related to incubated startups in our higher education institutions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of HRD – launched – "YUKTI 2.0" platform
- HRD Minister – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' | Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand

**91.** Patanjali Ayurved Ltd launched "Coronil" and "Swasari" claiming that it has successfully cured scores of under-trial Covid-19 patients with 100% results except for those on life support systems. But the ministry of AYUSH has ordered Patanjali to stop advertising the products until the results are verified. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Patanjali Ayurved – launched "Coronil" and "Swasari" ayurvedic medicines
- HQs of Patanjali – Haridwar, Uttarakhand | CEO – Acharya Balkrishna

**92.** The Telangana government launched a mobile application - “TS Weather” that enables people to access information about weather conditions. It will be useful for both farmers and the general public in planning their activities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – launched “TS Weather” app to access information about weather conditions
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**93.** Bengaluru’s Kempegowda International Airport got Aviation Weather Monitoring System (AWMS) for the first time in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kempegowda International Airport (Karnataka) – 1st to get AWMS in India
- AWMS – Aviation Weather Monitoring System

**94.** The government of India has developed an indigenous vehicle-mounted ultra-low volume (ULV) sprayer for locust control, and approvals for its commercial launch are underway. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – developed an indigenous vehicle-mounted Ultra-Low Volume (ULV) sprayer – for locust control

**95.** IIT Kanpur started the production of N95 and N99 masks on its campus along with its Startup Innovation and Incubation Centre (SIIC) in wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The institute has set a manufacturing target of 25,000 masks per day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Kanpur – started the production of “N95 and N99 masks”
- Target – 25,000 masks/day

**96.** A meteorite-like object weighing around 2.78 kg fell from the sky in Sanchoe town in Jalore district of Rajasthan. The object has metallic properties of Germanium, Platinum, Nickel and Iron with the major share. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “A meteorite-like object – 2.78 kg weight – fell from sky in Sanchoe, Jalore, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**97.** Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh sanctioned 300 ad hoc posts for 3 state-run medical colleges at Patiala, Faridkot and Amritsar to handle critical coronavirus patients. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Punjab – sanctioned – 300 ad hoc posts – for 3 state-run medical colleges
- Colleges: at Patiala, Faridkot & Amritsar
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**98.** The Telangana High Court has issued notices to social networking site Twitter, the Centre and the state government seeking explanation as to why some of the posts allegedly linking COVID-19 to the Muslim community and their religious event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana High Court – issued notices – to “Twitter” for communal tweets
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor - Tamilisai Soundararajan

**99.** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami inaugurated a Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant at Namakkal through video conferencing. The 15 Tonnes per Day (TPD) CBG plant of Namakkal is set up by the IOT Infrastructure and Energy Services, a joint venture between Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and Germany's Oiltanking GmbH at an expense of Rs. 25 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu CM – inaugurated a Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant – at Namakkal
- Set up by – IOCL (New Delhi) + GmbH (Germany)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**100.** The Central government has launched a Product Application and Development Centre (PADC) setup by Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL) at Paradip in Odisha to promote Eastern India-led national growth. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – launched – “PADC” – Product Application And Development Centre
- Set up by – Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL) – in Odisha
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya



**101.** Telangana CM K Chandrashekhar Rao launched the phase-VI of "Haritha Haram" programme aimed at increasing greenery in the state. As part of the programme, the CM planted a sapling of black plum (neredu) in the Narsapur forest area of Medak district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Telangana – launched – "Haritha Haram" programme – to increase greenery in the state
- Narsapur forest area – Medak, Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**102.** Madhya Pradesh has formed a State Migrant Labour Commission to provide employment to migrant labourers who have returned to the state from all over India during the nationwide lockdown. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – formed "State Migrant Labour Commission"
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**103.** The commerce ministry's foreign trade arm DGFT (Directorate General of Foreign Trade) is launching a digital platform for delivery of services like issuance of Import-Export Code (IEC), a move aimed at promoting ease of doing business for traders. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DGFT – is launching a digital platform for delivery of services like issuance of IEC
- ICE – Import-Export Code
- DGFT comes under – "Ministry of Commerce & Industry"
- DGFT HQs – New Delhi | Director General – Amit Yadav

**104.** Uttar Pradesh government has decided to form a dedicated force for security of courts, metro rail, airports, industrial establishments, banks and other organizations in the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – to form a dedicated Special Security Force for – Industrial Security
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**105.** The Madhya Pradesh government decided to promote first and second year students of graduation courses along with students in the second semester of post-graduation without conducting exams in view of the coronavirus situation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – to promote first and second year university (college) students – to next semester
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon



**106.** IIT Bombay has become the first major institute to start online lectures from next semester amid a spike in COVID-19 cases across the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Bombay – 1st institute to start Online Lectures from the next semester

**107.** The 'SATAT' (Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation) scheme is launched on 1st October, 2018, to target production of 15 million tonnes of CBG per annum from 5,000 plants by the year 2023. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “SATAT” scheme – launched on 1st October, 2018
- SATAT – Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation
- Target production of – 15 million tonnes of CBG by – 2023

**108.** V P Singh Badnore, Governor of Punjab along with the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Dharmendra Pradhan, inaugurated Battery Swapping Facility Quick Interchange Service (QIS) at Chandigarh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Battery Swapping Facility Quick Interchange Service (QIS) – inaugurated – at Chandigarh, Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**109.** The National Green Tribunal has imposed an interim penalty of Rs 25 Cr on PSU major Oil India over its failure to stop fire in Assam's Baghjan oil well resulting in damage to the environment. A committee is constituted which is headed by former high court judge B P Katakey to look into the matter and submit a report in 30 days. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NGT – imposed penalty of Rs 25 Cr – on Oil India Ltd – for its failure to stop fire in Baghjan oil well (Assam)
- A committee constituted for this – headed by – B P Katakey
- HQs of OIL – Noida, UP | CMD – Sushil Chandra Mishra



**110.** “Nasha Mukht Bharat: Annual Action Plan” (2020-21) for 272 Most Affected Districts, was e-launched by Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment on the occasion of “International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Nasha Mukht Bharat: Annual Action Plan” – launched in 272 districts by MoSJE
- Social Justice and Empowerment Minister – Thawar Chand Gehlot (Constituency – Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)
- MoS – Shri Rattan Lal Kataria

**111.** Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has set up “Swavalamban Crisis Responsive Fund” to support free onboarding for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) on Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SIDBI – set up “Swavalamban Crisis Responsive Fund” – to support free onboarding for MSMEs on TReDS
- TReDS – Trade Receivables Discounting System
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa

**112.** In a bid to attract fresh industrial investments in Maharashtra, the state government announced a new plan called “Maha Parwana”, which will offer several incentives and offer a Single-Window Clearance System (SWCS) for project execution. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – announced “Maha Parwana” initiative to attract fresh investment & offer SWCS
- SWCS – Single-Window Clearance System
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**113.** The government has decided to launch Floating Rate Savings Bonds 2020 (Taxable) with an interest rate of 7.15% from July 1, in place of 7.75% Savings (Taxable) Bonds, 2018, which was withdrawn from the close of banking business on May 28, 2020. The Reserve Bank of India will be issuing the bonds on behalf of the government. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

The government – to launch Floating Rate Savings Bonds 2020 (Taxable) from July 1 – with an interest rate of 7.15% – in place of 7.75% Savings (Taxable) Bonds, 2018

RBI – will issue the bonds

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

**114.** IIT Madras launched an online BSc degree course on Programming and Data Science which is the world's first such programme. With this, you can study at IIT Madras completely online! [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Madras – launched world's 1<sup>st</sup> online BSc degree course on Programming and Data Science

**115.** Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath has launched the "Har Ghar Jal" (piped water to every house) campaign at Bundelkhand. The project is linked to the "Jal Jeevan Mission", estimated to cost Rs 10,131 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – launched the "Har Ghar Jal" campaign – at Bundelkhand
- Estimated Project cost – Rs 10,131 Cr
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**116.** Assam Government has passed the MSME Ordinance which puts an end to the process of taking multiple permissions for setting up MSMEs in the state for next 3 years. It is a major decision to boost Aatma Nirbhar Assam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Assam – passed – MSME Ordinance
- For next 3 years – no more need to take multiple permissions for setting up MSMEs in the state
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**117.** Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched a "Kill Corona" campaign under which a door-to-door survey will be conducted across the state to detect Covid-19 patients. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – launched "Kill Corona" campaign
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**118.** The new process for registration of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) came into effect in the name of "Udyam" Registration from July 1, 2020. Udyam Registration can be filed online based on self-declaration with no requirement for documents of proof, barring Aadhar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- New registration process for MSMEs – namely "Udyam"
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSME (Constituency – Nagpur, MH)

**119.** The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has ordered Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and telecom operators in India to block access to 59 apps “under the Emergency Clause 69A of the IT Act 2000.” [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MeitY – ordered – ISPs & telecom operators to block access to 59 Chinese apps
- Under – Emergency clause 69A of the IT Act 2000

**120.** Haryana will recruit 1000 AYUSH assistants and 22 AYUSH coaches on contract basis in various 'Yogshalas' to popularize yoga across the State. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana – to recruit 1000 AYUSH assistants and 22 AYUSH coaches in 'Yogshalas'
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**121.** The government has increased the budget for Ladakh four-times recently amid the India-China face-off in the region. The plans are underway to develop Leh and Ladakh into a smart region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – increased the budget for “Ladakh” four-times
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

**122.** TRIFED organised "TRIFED Goes Digital" and “Be Vocal for Local” “#GoTribal ” and was attended by over 200 participants. The main highlight was the launch of the “TRIBES India” products Store on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TRIFED organized – "TRIFED Goes Digital" + “Be Vocal for Local” + “#GoTribal ” – attended by 200 participants
- Store on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) – “TRIBES India” products
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | Managing Director – Pravir Krishna

**123.** The Centre announced that farmers and processors can now get the benefit of 50% subsidy on storage and transportation of 18 more fruits and vegetables from surplus production areas to major consumption centres under the existing “Operation Greens”. The minister announced that a free skill training programme will be launched in the next two months for SC & ST food processors in collaboration with National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) and Food Industry Capacity & Skill Initiative (FICSI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 10 Fruits and 8 Vegetables (Total 18) = newly included under “Operation Greens”
- Centre announced – 50% subsidy on storage and transportation of these fruits and vegetables
- HQs of NIFTEM – Sonapat, Haryana | HQs of FICSI – New Delhi



**124.** Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Giriraj Singh launched the first edition of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Newsletter "Matsya Sampada" and the Operational Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Giriraj Singh – launched 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Newsletter "Matsya Sampada"
- Shri Giriraj Singh – Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Begusarai, Bihar)

**125.** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched a web portal for issuing no objection certificates (NOCs) to entities that are undertaking power projects and activities related to research, survey, exploration and exploitation in the Indian territorial waters and exclusive economic zones. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Defence Minister – launched a web portal for issuing NOCs – For power, oil and gas exploration project
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

**126.** Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated the first-ever "Plasma Bank" for treatment of coronavirus patients in the national capital, after receiving positive results on multiple clinical trials. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhi – inaugurated the first-ever "Plasma Bank" for treatment of coronavirus patients
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**127.** Karnataka government has launched "Skill Connect", an online portal to bridge the gap between the unemployed and recruiters. Karnataka Skill Development Corporation also organised an "Online Job Fair" on July 7, to help people who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – launched "Skill Connect" portal to help unemployed people
- Karnataka – organised an "Online Job Fair" – to help people who have lost their
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**128.** Uttarakhand forest department has developed country's first Lichen Park in Munsyari, Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand. Munsyari has been identified as the hotspot where 150 species (approximately) of lichens are found. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttarakhand – country's first Lichen Park – with 150 species of Lichens (approx)
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**129.** International Zinc Association (IZA), in collaboration with Madhav KRG Group launched Asia's first-ever Continuous Galvanized Rebar (CGR) manufacturing facility in Punjab. The new plant was virtually inaugurated by Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Steel, Petroleum & Natural Gas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IZA + Madhav KRG Group = launched 1<sup>st</sup> ever Continuous Galvanized Rebar manufacturing facility – in Punjab
- Inaugurated by – Dharmendra Pradhan (Minister of Steel, Petroleum & Natural Gas – Madhya Pradesh)
- HQs of IZA – Brussels, Belgium

**130.** The Goa government has allotted land to the consortium of 49 MSME units for setting up Goa Maritime Cluster with an aim to create world class facilities for ship building. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Goa – allotted land – to 49 MSME units – to set up 'Goa Maritime Cluster'
- Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSME (Constituency – Nagpur, MH)

**131.** Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announced a new road project 280-km-long "Chambal Expressway" at a cost of Rs 6,000 Cr to facilitate traffic between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 280-km-long "Chambal Expressway" – between Rajasthan & Madhya Pradesh – at cost of Rs 6,000 Cr
- Announced by – Minister of MSME (Nitin Gadkari – Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- Chambal River – a tributary of the Yamuna River – in Madhya Pradesh

**132.** "Project PLATINA" world's largest convalescent plasma therapy-trial-cum treatment of severe COVID 19 patients is launched by Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – launched "Project PLATINA" world's largest convalescent plasma therapy
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**133.** On the call of Prime Minister, Culture Ministry celebrated "Sankalp Parva" to plant trees from 28<sup>th</sup> June to 12 July 2020. Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (Independent charge) Shri Prahlad Singh urged all to participate in the Sankalp Parv and plant trees to create healthy environment in our country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Culture Ministry – celebrated "Sankalp Parva" to plant trees
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture (Constituency – Damoh, Madhya Pradesh)

# International Affairs

**1.** India is set to be re-elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council during the elections in June 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India – to be re-elected as a non-permanent member of the UNSC
- UNSC HQs – New York, United States | Presidency – Estonia (in May), France (in June)

**2.** A Chinese survey team became the first and perhaps only group to climb Mt Everest this year as a part of a project to re-measure the exact height of the world's tallest mountain. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Chinese survey team – the 1st & only group to climb Mt Everest this year

**3.** Torrential rains at the weekend caused by Tropical Storm Amanda have killed at least 20 people in Central America. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Tropical Storm “Amanda” – killed 20 people in Central America

**4.** A cyclonic storm has developed off the eastern coast of India over the east-central Arabian Sea and Lakshadweep area, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The IMD has released a new list of 169 cyclone names adopted by the WMD. The name Nisarga is the first in the list proposed by Bangladesh. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “Nisarga” cyclone – developed over the east-central Arabian Sea and Lakshadweep area
- IMD has released a new list of – 169 cyclone names (HQs – New Delhi | DG – Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra)
- ‘Nisarga’ name proposed by – Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**5.** The United States and the United Kingdom both have announced the expansion of the G7 grouping. While the United States has proposed G7+4, the United Kingdom wants a G7+3, calling it '10 Democracies (D10)'. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Expansion of the G7 grouping – calling it '10 Democracies (D10)'
- The idea of G7+4 – proposed by – USA
- The idea of G7+3 – proposed by – UK
- G7 Countries – Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, USA & UK





**6.** The Archeological Survey of India (ASI) recently discovered a 1100-year-old monolithic sandstone Shiva linga from the 9th century CE in Vietnam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1100-year-old monolithic sandstone Shiva linga – in Vietnam
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

**7.** Russia's President Vladimir Putin has declared a state of emergency after 20,000 tonnes of diesel oil leaked into Ambarnaya river (Siberia) within the Arctic Circle. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Russia – declared a State Of Emergency – after 20,000 tonnes of diesel oil leaked into Arctic Circle
- Ambarnaya river – Siberia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**8.** Former vice president Joe Biden, a votary for strong US-India relations, has formally become the Democratic presidential nominee to run for the White House against President Donald Trump in the elections in November. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Joe Biden – has formally become the presidential nominee to run for the White House against Trump
- He belongs to – Democratic Party
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

**9.** OPEC and allied nations have agreed to extend a production cut of nearly 10 million barrels of oil a day through the end of July, hoping to encourage stability in energy markets hard hit by the coronavirus-induced global economic crisis. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- OPEC and allied nations – to extend a production cut of nearly “10 million barrels”
- HQs of OPEC – Vienna, Austria | Secretary general – Mohammed Barkindo

**10.** Tropical Storm Cristobal formed in the southern Gulf of Mexico threatening to bring deadly flooding in parts of southern Mexico and Central America. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Cristobal” storm – formed in “southern Gulf of Mexico”

**11.** India will reconstruct a total of 56 higher secondary schools in seven districts of Nepal as part of post-earthquake reconstruction in the Himalayan nation with a grant of 2.95 billion Nepali rupees. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to reconstruct 56 higher secondary schools – in Nepal (a grant of 2.95 billion)
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

**12.** Even as the world continues to grapple with the novel coronavirus, New Zealand announced it has eliminated the disease. It has been 17 days since the last new case was reported in New Zealand, during which time an additional 40,000 people have been tested, and Monday also marked the first time since February when there has been no active cases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- New Zealand – eliminated the novel coronavirus
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | PM – Jacinda Ardern

**13.** North Korea will completely cut off and shut down the liaison line (communications) between the authorities of the North and the South Korea. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- North Korea – will completely cut off communications – with South Korea
- North Korea – Pyongyang – North Korean won | President – Kim Jong-un
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Moon Jae-in

**14.** A group of senior lawmakers from eight democracies including the U.S. have launched a new Cross-Parliamentary Alliance to counter China. Those 8 countries are the U.S., Germany, U.K., Japan, Australia, Canada, Sweden, Norway. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A new Cross-Parliamentary Alliance to counter – China
- Launched by – A group of senior lawmakers from 8 democracies
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President - Xi Jinping

**15.** The new government commission in UK on racial inequalities is being set up by a No 10 adviser who has cast doubt on the existence of institutional racism. Munira Mirza, the head of the No 10 policy unit. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A new government commission on Racial Inequalities – to be set up in UK
- Munira Mirza – the head of the No 10 policy unit
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

**16.** India has joined leading nations of the world including USA, UK, EU, Australia among others as a founding member of a league of nations which has launched a Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI or Gee-Pay). GPAI will be supported by a Secretariat, to be hosted by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – joined as a founding member of a league of nations which has launched “GPAI or Gee-Pay”
- Secretariat of GPAI – to be hosted by OECD
- HQs of OECD – Paris, France | Secretary-General – Angel Gurría | Member countries in OECD – 37

**17.** The European Union’s powerful competition authority (antitrust authority) opened a series of cases against Apple, in a sign that Brussels was not backing down in its efforts to rein in US-based tech giants. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- European Union’s antitrust authority – opened a series of cases against – Apple
- Apple HQs – California, United States | CEO – Tim Cook

**18.** The government of Myanmar has decided to scrutinize the Muse-Mandalay railway project connecting Mandalay with the capital city of Yunnan province in China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Myanmar – to scrutinize the “Muse-Mandalay railway project”
- It connects – Mandalay with Yunnan (China)
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**19.** Syrian President Bashar Al Assad dismissed Imad Khamis as prime minister and appointed Water Minister Hussein Arnous in his place. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bashar Al Assad (Syrian President) – dismissed Imad Khamis (Syrian PM)
- Syria – Damascus – Syrian Pound | President – Bashar al-Assad | PM – Hussein Arnous

**20.** India rejected a 2019 “International Religious Freedom Report” of US government that raised concerns over alleged attacks and discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – rejected “International Religious Freedom Report” of – US Government
- US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) – Washington DC, USA
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

**21.** The Trump administration has launched an economic and legal offensive on the International Criminal Court in response to the court’s decision to open an investigation into war crimes in Afghanistan carried out by all sides, including the US. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The US Administration – targeted – the ICC with sanctions
- HQs of ICC – Hague, Netherlands

**22.** The Government of Bangladesh has launched an online network named ‘Shohojodha’ to facilitate plasma exchange between recovered patients of COVID-19 and those undergoing treatment for Corona infection in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bangladesh – launched “Shohojodha” an online initiative to facilitate Plasma Exchange
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**23.** The UK announced "Jet Zero" plan to drive down aviation emissions. The U.K. is chasing a target to make the country a net-zero economy by 2050, and transport emissions are proving among the toughest to get down. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UK – launched "Jet Zero" plan to reduce aviation emissions
- UK’s plan to make the country a net-zero economy – by 2050
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

**24.** Twenty Indian soldiers, including a Colonel, were killed and several others grievously injured in a violent physical skirmish with Chinese troops in the “Galwan Valley” region of eastern Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A violent physical skirmish with Chinese troops – killed 20 Indian Soldiers in - “Galwan Valley” (Eastern Ladakh)
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur



**25.** China's unmanned submersible namely "Haidou-1" has dived to a depth of 10,907 metres at the world's deepest ocean point, setting a new record for the country during which samples from the deep sea and high-definition images of the geological environment were collected. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Haidou-1" – unmanned submersible of China – dived to a depth of 10,907m – a new record for
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President - Xi Jinping

**26.** India was elected unopposed for an 8th term as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) by winning 184 votes out of 192 valid votes cast. India's overall objective during this tenure in the UN Security Council will be the achievement of N.O.R.M.S: a New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to enter non-permanent category of the UNSC – won by 184/192 votes (8th Term)
- India's overall objective – N.O.R.M.S – New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System
- Ireland + Mexico + Norway = also elected as Non-Permanent members of UNSC
- UNSC HQs – New York, United States | Presidency – France (in June), Germany (in July)
- No. of Permanent Countries in UNSC – 5

**27.** India, which has been elected as a non-permanent member of the Security Council, will serve as the president of the powerful 15-nation UN body for the month of August, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to serve as the President of UNSC – in August 2021
- UNSC HQs – New York, United States | Presidency – France (June-2020), Germany (July-2020)
- No. of Permanent Countries in UNSC – 5

**28.** India sent a contingent of 75 personnel from its three armed forces to Moscow to participate in Russia's 75th World War II Victory Day parade. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – sent 75 Army personnel – to Moscow, Russia to participate 75th World War II Victory Day parade
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- Military Exercise with Russia: (Indra, AVIA INDRA)

**29.** Kenya has defeated Djibouti for an African seat on the powerful U.N. Security Council in a second round of voting held under dramatically different procedures because of the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kenya – defeated “Djibouti” for an African seat on the UNSC
- UNSC HQs – New York, United States | Presidency – France (in June), Germany (in July)
- No. of Permanent Countries in UNSC – 5
- Kenya – Nairobi – Kenyan Shilling | Djibouti – Djibouti – Franc

**30.** US President Donald Trump signed legislation that calls for him to impose sanctions on Chinese officials for Beijing's crackdown on the minority Muslim Uighur ethnic group. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USA – to impose sanctions on Chinese officials for crackdown on the minority “Muslim Uyghur Ethnic Group”
- USA: Capital – Washington, D.C. | President – Donald Trump

**31.** The Ishigaki Municipal Assembly, in southern Japan, changed the name of the area containing the Senkaku Islands from “Tonoshiro” to “Tonoshiro Senkaku.” The islands are disputed with China and Taiwan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ishigaki Municipal Assembly (Japan) – renamed “Tonoshiro” to “Tonoshiro Senkaku”
- Senkaku Islands disputed with – China and Taiwan

**32.** Pakistan has suffered a setback after the United States reportedly blocked its efforts to proscribe an Indian national as a global terrorist by the UN Security Council (UNSC) 1267 sanctions committee. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USA – blocked Pakistan’s efforts to proscribe an Indian national as a global terrorist
- By – UNSC 1267 sanctions committee
- UNSC HQs – New York, United States | Presidency – France (in June), Germany (in July)
- No. of Permanent Countries in UNSC – 5

**33.** Some Nepalese FM radio stations close to India-Nepal border in Uttarakhand’s Pithoragarh have started giving weather bulletins of Lipulekh, Kalapani and Limpiyadhura. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nepalese FM radio stations – started giving weather bulletins of – “Lipulekh, Kalapani & Limpiyadhura”
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari



**34.** Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) announced that it plans to set up a permanent base in the Indian Ocean in order to expand its presence in the international waters by March 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Iran – to set up a permanent base in the Indian Ocean – by March 2021
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Hassan Rouhani

**35.** India has become a founding member of an Alliance for Poverty Eradication at the UN, launched by the President of the General Assembly. It is aimed at focussing on efforts to boost the global economy. Approximately 2.1 billion people are classified as poor across the globe. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – become – a founding member of an Alliance for Poverty Eradication
- Approximately 2.1 billion people – classified as poor globally

**36.** As part of the 6th International Yoga Day commemorations, the world's first yoga university - "Vivekananda Yoga University (VaYU)" outside India has been launched in Los Angeles. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World's first Yoga University – "Vivekananda Yoga University (VaYU)" – in Los Angeles

**37.** The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced that they have launched an app to check on the health and mental well-being of players during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bangladesh Cricket Board – launched an app to check on the health and mental well-being of players
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**38.** Republic of Mali has awarded Project Management Consultancy (PMC) contract to NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation) for development of 500 MW Solar Park. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mali – awarded PMC Contract to "NTPC" – for development of 500 MW Solar Park
- Mali – Bamako – CFA franc
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh



**39.** Russia will take the first tourist on a space walk in 2023, under the terms of a new contract with a US partner. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Russia – will take the first tourist on a space walk – in 2023
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**40.** China will join "UN arms trade treaty", a global pact to regulate arms sales that has been rejected by the United States. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China – to join "UN arms trade treaty" – a global pact to regulate arms sales
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President - Xi Jinping

**41.** Pakistan is likely to remain on the grey list of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for failing to comply with the global terrorist financing watchdog's deadline. As a result of travel restrictions caused by Covid-19, the FATF is meeting virtually. Germany took over presidency of the FATF in July for a year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Germany – took over presidency of the FATF – for July-2020
- HQs of FATF – Paris, France | President – Xiangmin Liu | Member Countries – 39
- Germany – Berlin – Euro

**42.** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh witnessed the 75-member Tri-service contingent of the Indian Armed Forces participating in the 75th anniversary of the Victory Day Parade at the iconic Red Square in Moscow on June 24. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajnath Singh – 75-member Tri-service contingent of Indian Army at Victory Day Parade in Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- Military Exercise with Russia: (Indra, AVIA INDRA)

**43.** Iran has issued an arrest warrant against US President Donald Trump and it believes that Trump carried out the drone strike that killed a top Iranian general in Baghdad. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Iran – issued an arrest warrant against US President "Donald Trump"
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Ali Khamenei
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump





**44.** Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan will agree a deal to fill the giant Blue Nile dam in two to three weeks to end a decade-long dispute over water supplies. The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) is being built about 15 km (nine miles) from the border with Sudan on the Blue Nile. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Egypt + Ethiopia + Sudan = will fill – Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD)
- The Dam located on – river “Nile” (a river in Africa)

**45.** Mississippi Governor ‘Tate Reeves’ signed a bill into law that will change the state flag by removing the Confederate battle emblem, first included 126 years ago. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mississippi (USA) – passed a bill to remove the Confederate battle emblem from the State Flag
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

**46.** US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order to prosecute those who damage national monuments, making it a punishable offence with up to 10 years in jail. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USA – will punish those who damage national monuments – punishment up to 10 years in Jail
- USA: Capital – Washington, D.C. | President – Donald Trump
- Military Exercises with USA: (Yudh Abhyas, Tiger Triumph, Vajra Prahar, Cope India, Indo-USCG)

**47.** World Trade Organisation (WTO) Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) will examine the requests made by the EU and Taiwan for setting up dispute panels against import duties on ICT products, including mobile phones, imposed by India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WTO-DSB = will examine the requests made by the EU and Taiwan for setting up dispute panels against “India”
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | Director-General – Roberto Azevedo

**48.** Uganda has become the first African country to submit results for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). REDD+ is a mechanism developed by the parties to the UNFCCC to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uganda – first African country – to submit results to UNFCCC – for reducing emissions from deforestation
- “REDD+” – a mechanism developed by UNFCCC to reduce emissions from deforestation
- Uganda – Kampala – shilling | President – Yoweri Museveni | PM – Ruhakana Rugunda

**49.** India figures among the top-three countries along with France and Germany getting detailed information from Switzerland about bank accounts and beneficiary ownership of entities established by their residents in the Alpine nation, according to the latest study by OECD's Global Forum on transparency and exchange of information for tax purposes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + France + Germany = will get detailed information from Switzerland about bank accounts & beneficiary ownership of entities
- HQs of OECD – Paris, France | Secretary-General – Angel Gurría | Member countries in OECD – 37



# **Banking & Economic Affairs**

**1.** Moody's Investors Service downgraded India's sovereign credit rating for the first time in more than two decades to 'Baa3' from 'Baa2'. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Moody's Investors Service – downgraded India's sovereign credit rating to – “Baa3”
- HQs of Moody's – New York, USA | CEO – Raymond W. McDaniel

**2.** IndusInd Bank has launched India's first mobile app-based facility for opening current accounts in a paperless manner & digitally. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- IndusInd Bank = launched India's first Online app-based facility to open current a/c
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia
- Tagline – "We Make You Feel Richer"

**3.** The State Bank of India has created a separate business vertical to focus on financial inclusion and micro-markets (FI&MM) in semi-urban and rural areas. Under FI&MM, the Bank will offer loans predominantly for agriculture & allied activities, and micro/small enterprises. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SBI – created a separate business vertical to focus on FI&MM
- SBI Bank HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | SBI Bank Chairman – Rajnish Kumar
- SBI Bank MD & CEO – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty
- SBI Bank Deputy MD & CFO – Chalasani Venkat Nageswar
- SBI Life CEO – Sanjeev Nautiyal

**4.** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has joined the central banks and supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) as an observer. NGFS was launched at the Paris One Planet Summit on December 12, 2017. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ADB – joined the Central Banks and Supervisors NGFS – as an observer
- NGFS – Network for Greening the Financial System (launched in – 2017)



**5.** HDFC Bank launched a special campaign 'Summer Treats', which has exciting offers to meet the changing needs of merchants as well as salaried and self-employed customers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank – launched “Summer Treats” campaign
- HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- CEO & Chairman of HDFC Bank – Aditya Puri
- Chairman of HDFC Ltd. – Deepak Parekh

**6.** Standard Chartered Bank's local unit has started operations from the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), becoming the first global bank to commence operations from the special economic zone in Gandhinagar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Standard Chartered Bank – 1<sup>st</sup> foreign bank to start operations at IFSC GIFT City (Gandhinagar)
- HQs of SCB – London, UK | CEO – Bill Winters

**7.** As per Fitch Ratings, India's economy is forecast to bounce back with a sharp growth rate of 9.5% next year provided it avoids further deterioration in financial sector health. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- As per Fitch Ratings – India's GDP forecast – 9.5% for next year (Flexible news)
- HQs of Fitch Solutions – New York, USA | President – Brian Filanowski

**8.** Country's largest lender State Bank of India has re-launched 'SBI Insta Saving Bank Account' an Aadhaar-based instant digital savings account, for customers who would like to open an account online through bank's integrated banking and lifestyle platform – YONO. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI – re-launched – “SBI Insta Saving Bank Account” an Aadhaar-based instant digital savings a/c
- YONO digital platform – SBI
- SBI Bank HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | SBI Bank Chairman – Rajnish Kumar
- SBI Bank MD & CEO – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO – Chalasani Venkat Nageswar
- SBI Life CEO – Sanjeev Nautiyal

**9.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has barred Kanpur-based People's Co-operative Bank from granting fresh loans and accepting deposits for six months, due to its weak financial position. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – barred – “People's Co-operative Bank” from granting fresh loans and accepting deposits for 6 months
- HQs of PCB – Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh



**10.** The RBI has proposed an upper age limit of 70 years for CEOs and whole-time directors of banks and a maximum term of 10 years for those belonging to the promoter group, as part of the exercise to improve governance in the banking sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – proposed – upper age limit of 70 years – for CEOs and whole-time directors
- Maximum Term of – 10 years
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**11.** India's third largest lender Bank of Baroda is set to completely digitise its lending operations including home, agriculture, MSME, personal and auto loans. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BOB – to completely digitise its Lending Operations
- BOB HQs – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha

**12.** The RBI came up with some changes to the monitoring structure of Financial Markets Infrastructure (FMI) and Retail Payment Systems (RPSs) with the aim to ensure the security and stability of the payment structure. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the umbrella organisation for RPSs in the country, has emerged as a System Wide Important Payment System (SWIPS). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – made some changes in – FMI (Financial Markets Infrastructure) & RPSs (Retail Payment Systems)
- NPCI – emerged as the SWIPS (System Wide Important Payment System)
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25<sup>th</sup>)

**13.** ICICI Bank launched of a facility called 'Insta Flexicash' enabling its salary account customers to get approvals for overdraft (OD) instantaneously and in a paperless manner. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Bank – launched – 'Insta Flexicash' facility
- ICCI Bank: HQs – Mumbai | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#)

**14.** In a relief to the depositors of the scam-hit Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank, the RBI enhanced the withdrawal limit to Rs 1 lakh from earlier Rs 50,000 to mitigate their difficulties during COVID pandemic but extended the regulatory restrictions on the cooperative bank by another six months till December 22. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – enhanced the withdrawal limit of PMC Bank – to Rs 1 lakh (earlier - Rs 50,000)
- Extended the regulatory restrictions by – 6 months (till December)
- HQs of PMC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Joy Thomas
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**15.** According to Asian Development Bank, India's economy is forecast to contract by 4% this fiscal due to the adverse effect of the coronavirus pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB – India's economy is forecast to contract by 4% (Flexible news)
- ADB: HQs – [Mandaluyong, Philippines](#) | President – [Masatsugu Asakawa](#)

**16.** The Reserve Bank proposed to increase the minimum Net Owned Fund size of Housing Finance Companies (HFCs). The Bank proposes to increase the minimum NOF for HFCs from the current requirement of Rs 10 Cr to Rs 20 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – to increase minimum NOF of HFCs from Rs. 10 Cr to “Rs. 20 Cr”
- NOF – Net Owned Fund
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**17.** In a proposed review of the existing norms for Housing Finance Companies (HFCs), the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) clearly defined the 'Housing Finance' business. The regulator defined HFCs as those that have 50% assets as housing loans and 75% of which should be for individual homebuyers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HFCs – as those that have 50% assets as housing loans – 75% of that should be for individual homebuyers
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**18.** India's economy is likely to shrink by 5.3% this fiscal, the lowest GDP growth in the Indian history and the sixth instance of economic contraction, India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to “Ind-Ra” – India's GDP projection – (-5.3%) – lowest in the Indian History
- HQs of Ind-Ra – Mumbai, Maharashtra

**19.** Moody's Investors Service projected the Indian economy to shrink 3.1% in 2020. Moody's has also forecast that China would be the only G-20 country to post growth this year by 1%. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- As per Moody's projection – Indian Economy to shrink – by 3.1% - In 2020 {Flexible News}
- China – the only G-20 country – to post growth this year (by 1%)
- HQs of Moody's – New York, USA | CEO – Raymond W. McDaniel

**20.** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) projected a sharp contraction of 4.5% for the Indian economy in 2020, a "historic low". And it projected the global growth at –4.9% in 2020, 1.9 percentage points below the April 2020 World Economic Outlook forecast. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- IMF – projected India's GDP – a sharp contraction of 4.5% {Flexible News}
- IMF – Projected Global Growth – (-4.9%)
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 189

**21.** President Ram Nath Kovind has promulgated the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 to bring all urban cooperative banks and multi-state cooperative banks under the supervision of the RBI in order to protect the interest of depositors. The Ordinance also amends Section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act 1949. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – promulgated – the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020
- To bring all urban cooperative banks and multi-state cooperative banks under – RBI's supervision
- Ordinance – amends Section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act 1949

**22.** Yes Bank launched "Yuva Pay" digital wallet in partnership with UDMA Technologies to enable contactless payments. The wallet is issued under minimum Know Your Client (KYC) regulations. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yes Bank + UDMA = launched "Yuva Pay" digital wallet - under minimum KYC regulations
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar
- Tagline – "Experience our Expertise"
- HQs of UDMA – Karnataka | CEO – Prashanth B

**23.** According to S&P Global Ratings, Indian economy is in deep trouble with growth expected to contract by 5% this fiscal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to S&P Global Ratings – India's GDP to shrink by 5% this year {Flexible News}
- HQs of S&P Global Ratings – New York, USA

**24.** HDFC Bank launched "e-Kisaan Dhan" app for farmers across India to access a bouquet of agricultural and banking services on their mobile. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC Bank – launched "e-Kisaan Dhan" app – For Farmers
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Aditya Puri
- HDFC Tagline – "We understand your world"

**25.** State Bank of India is working on setting up an e-commerce portal called "Bharat Craft" for marketing of products manufactured by MSMEs in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SBI – setting up an e-commerce portal called "Bharat Craft" – For MSMEs
- SBI Bank HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | SBI Bank Chairman – Rajnish Kumar
- SBI Bank MD & CEO – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO – Chalasani Venkat Nageswar
- SBI Life CEO – Sanjeev Nautiyal

**26.** RBI stated that keeping in view the continuing of hardships faced by banks, it has now been decided to extend the relaxation of the minimum daily maintenance of the Cash Reserve Ratio of 80% for a further period of three months, i.e., up to September 25, 2020 under Section 42(1) of RBI act 1934. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – extended the minimum maintenance of CRR of 80% – for further 3 months
- Under Section 42(1) – of RBI Act 1934
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor - Shaktikanta Das(25<sup>th</sup>)

**27.** Fitch Ratings cut India's growth forecast for 2021-22 fiscal to 8% in June from 9.5% projected in May. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Fitch Ratings – projected India's GDP – to 8% - in June {Flexible News}
- HQs of Fitch Solutions – New York, USA | President – Brian Filanowski





**28.** Amid the ongoing economic woes created by the coronavirus pandemic, the Reserve Bank has decided to extend the enhanced borrowing facility provided to the banks to meet their liquidity shortages till September 30. The RBI, as a temporary measure, had increased the borrowing limit of scheduled banks under the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) scheme from 2% to 3% of their Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) with effect from March 27, 2020. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – extended enhanced borrowing limit – till September 30
- RBI – increased borrowing limit of scheduled banks under MSF – to 3% (from 2%)
- MSF – Marginal Standing Facility | NDTL – Net Demand and Time Liabilities



# **Defence Affairs**

**1.** The defence ministry placed an order with the state-run Ordnance Factory Board for supply of 156 Infantry Combat Vehicles (ICVs) for the Indian army worth Rs 1,094 crore. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Defence Ministry – ordered Ordnance Factory Board – to supply 156 Infantry Combat Vehicles (ICVs)
- For 'Indian Army' (Chief – General Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Satinder Kumar Saini)
- Rajnath Singh – Minister of Defence Ministry | Constituency – Lucknow, UP
- HQs of OFB – Kolkata, West Bengal | Chairman – Hari Mohan

**2.** The Defence Ministry placed an order with the state-run Ordnance Factory Board for supply of 156 Infantry Combat Vehicles (ICVs) worth Rs 1,094 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Defence Ministry – placed order with OFB – for supply of “156” ICVs – worth Rs. 1,094 Cr
- ICV – Infantry Combat Vehicle
- Rajnath Singh – Minister of Defence Ministry | Constituency – Lucknow, UP
- Shripad Yesso Naik – MoS of Defence Ministry

**3.** The Indian Air Force inducted an indigenously designed and manufactured pod called ARPIT, which will be used for evacuation of critical patients suffering from infectious diseases like COVID-19 from isolated and remote areas. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- IAF – inducted “ARPIT” an indigenously designed and manufactured pod
- IAF Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

**4.** A Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) complex was inaugurated at Visakhapatnam by Vice-Admiral Atul Kumar Jain, flag officer commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Naval Command (ENC). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- DSRV complex – Rs 572 Crore – inaugurated at Visakhapatnam
- HQs of ENC – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | FOC-in-C – Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain



**5.** Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE) delivered ICGS Kanaklata Barua, the fifth and final ship in the series of Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV) for the Indian Coast Guard. This is the 105th vessel delivered by the Defence PSU. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GRSE – delivered “ICGS Kanaklata Barua” – 5th ship in the series of FPVs
- FPVs – Fast Patrol Vessels
- HQs of GRSE – Kolkata, India | CMD – Rear Admiral Vipin Kumar Saxena

**6.** The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has operationalised its newly sanctioned twin commands in Chandigarh and Guwahati that supervise the deployment of its troops along the 3,488 km-long Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ITBP – operationalised – newly sanctioned twin commands – Chandigarh + Guwahati
- LAC – Line of Actual Control
- HQs – New Delhi | Director General – Surjeet Singh Deswal

**7.** India has decided to strengthen its aerial might with the purchase of 12 new Sukhoi and 21 new MiG-29s from Russia. The project worth an estimated Rs 5,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to purchase 33 New Aircrafts from “Russia” (12 new Sukhoi + 21 new MiG-29s)
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

**8.** German ministers have criticised Donald Trump’s plans to withdraw about 9,500 US troops from German soil. The move is likely to weaken America’s own security architecture as well as European security. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USA – to withdraw about 9,500 US troops – from Germany
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | Germany – Berlin – Euro

**9.** The government has granted the three services emergency financial powers of up to Rs 500 Cr per procurement project to buy ammunition and weapons in view of the escalating border standoff with China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – granted the 3 services Emergency Financial Powers of up to – Rs 500 Cr

**10.** The Indian Navy has inducted an Advanced Anti-Torpedo Decoy System called “Maareech” that is capable of being fired from all frontline ships. Maareech’ has been designed and developed indigenously by DRDO and it is capable of detecting, locating and neutralizing incoming torpedo. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Navy – inducted an advanced Anti-Torpedo Decoy System (ATDS) called – “Maareech”
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

**11.** Indian and Japanese warships held a small Naval Exercise PASSEX (Passing Exercise) for tactical and communications training towards the Malacca Strait in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Japan = held a Naval Exercise PASSEX (Passing Exercise)
- Chief of Naval Staff – Admiral Karmabir Singh | Commander-in-Chief – President Ram Nath Kovind
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Shinzo Abe



# Schemes & Initiatives

**1.** Union Minister for Electronics and IT Ravi Shankar Prasad launched 3 major schemes namely 'Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)', 'Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS)' & 'Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme' to boost manufacture of electronics in the country. The three schemes would entail an outlay of about Rs 48,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ravi Shankar Prasad – launched 3 major schemes – namely “PLI + SPECS + EMC 2.0”
- PLI – Production Linked Incentive
- SPECS – Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors
- EMC 2.0 – Modified Electronics Manufacturing Cluster

**2.** The Skill Development and Entrepreneurship ministry has launched a new initiative 'SWADES' to conduct a skill mapping exercise of the Indian citizens returning from overseas under the 'Vande Bharat Mission' along with Civil Aviation Ministry and External Affairs Ministry. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- MSDE + MCA + MEA = launched a new initiative “SWADES”
- MSDE Minister – Mahendra Nath Pandey (Constituency – Chandauli, UP)
- MCA MoS – Hardeep Singh Puri
- MEA Minister – Subrahmanyam Jaishankar (Constituency – Gujarat)

**3.** Union Government launched PM SVANIDHI - Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi, a special micro-credit facility scheme for providing affordable loan to street vendors. The IT platform will also help in integrating the vendors into the formal financial system by integrating a web portal with UdyamiMitra portal of SIDBI for credit management and PAiSA portal of MoHUA to administer interest subsidy automatically. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “PM SVANIDHI” scheme – for “Street Vendors”
- UdyamiMitra portal – SIDBI
- PAiSA portal – MoHUA (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs – Hardeep Singh Puri)

**4.** On the occasion of World Environment Day, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change announced implementation of the “Nagar Van” scheme to develop 200 Urban Forests across the country in next five years. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- MoEFCC – launched “Nagar Van” scheme - to develop “200 Urban Forests” – in next “5 years”
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ministry of Info. & Broadcasting
- Constituency – Maharashtra

**5.** On World Environment Day, Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) in partnership with USAID MAITREE program, launched the 'Healthy and Energy Efficient Buildings' initiative that will pioneer ways to make workplaces healthier and greener. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- EESL + US Agency's MAITREE program = launched 'Healthy and Energy Efficient Buildings' initiative
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | Chairman – Rajeev Sharma

**6.** Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched Street Vendor Registration Portal and “Mukhyamantri Shahri Path Vyavsayi Utthan Yojana” and transferred Rs 300 crore to urban local bodies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – launched “Street Vendor Registration Portal” & “Mukhyamantri Shahri Path Vyavsayi Utthan Yojana”
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**7.** Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways and MSME Shri Nitin Gadkari has launched UNDP's national awareness campaign on "Prevention of Human and Animal Mortality on Highways" for the masses at large towards reducing or eliminating mortality on the roads of both human beings and animals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UNDP's – "Prevention of Human and Animal Mortality on Highways" a national awareness campaign
- Launched by – Minister for Road Transport & Highways (Nitin Gadkari – Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner

**8.** Shri R. K. Singh, the Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, initiated the ‘#iCommit’ campaign, on the occasion of World Environment Day. The ‘#iCommit’ initiative is driven by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ‘#iCommit’ initiative – initiated by Ministry of Power and New & Renewable Energy (R. K. Singh)
- Driven by – “EESL” (HQs of EESL – New Delhi | Chairman – Rajeev Sharma)

**9.** A provision of Rs 1,01,500 Cr has been made under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the current financial year 2020-2021. A total of 10 lakh works have been completed so far during the current Financial Year 2020-2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A provision of Rs 1,01,500 Cr – made under MGNREG Scheme for 2020-21



**10.** With an aim of empowering women and supporting the victims of domestic violence and abuse, the Hyderabad City Police in association with Hyderabad City Security Council (HCSC) launched a programme STREE (She Triumph's through Respect, Equality and Empowerment). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hyderabad Police – launched “STREE” programme
- STREE – She Triumph's through Respect, Equality and Empowerment
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**11.** Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar launched "Sahakar Mitra" Scheme on Internship Programme, an initiative by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Sahakar Mitra" Scheme – an initiative by NCDC
- launched by – Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (Narendra Singh Tomar – Morena, MP)
- HQs of NCDC – New Delhi | MD – Sundeep Kumar Nayak

**12.** Himachal Pradesh launched “Panchvati Yojna” for senior citizens of rural areas of the state under which parks and gardens would be developed in every development block with necessary facilities. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Himachal Pradesh – launched – “Panchvati Yojna” – for Senior Citizens
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

**13.** Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) launched its flagship programme “Turant Customs” at Bengaluru and Chennai. This is a giant leap forward to leverage technology for faster Customs clearance of imported goods. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CBIC – launched its flagship programme – “Turant Customs” – at “Bengaluru and Chennai”
- HQs of CBIC – New Delhi | Chairperson – M. Ajit Kumar

**14.** The Union government extended its flagship health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to migrant workers across states, in the wake of coronavirus outbreak. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – extended – flagship health insurance scheme named “AB-PMJAY”
- CEO of AB-PMJAY & NHA – Indu Bhushan

**15.** Chief minister Vijay Rupani instructed the state water resources department to complete the phase-2 works of the “Saurashtra-Narmada Avataran Irrigation Yojana” (Sauni Yojana). The phase 2 & 3 of SAUNI scheme will fill 115 dams in Gujarat state by water from Narmada. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Saurashtra-Narmada Avataran Irrigation Yojana” (Sauni Yojana) – Gujarat
- Under this scheme – 115 dams in Gujarat to be filled by – Narmada river
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**16.** The scheme, christened as "Jagananna Chedodu (Handholding by Jagan)" was launched by Andhra Pradesh chief minister to provide financial assistance to barbers, dhobis (washermen) and tailors in the state. It involves direct cash transfer of Rs 10,000 into the bank accounts of each of 2,47,040 beneficiaries every year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Jagananna Chedodu" – launched by Andhra Pradesh CM
- Direct cash transfer of – Rs 10,000 to beneficiaries every year
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**17.** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the 'Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana', a scheme to educate child labourers in the state. The scheme's launch coincides with the 'World Day Against Child Labour'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – launched the “Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana” a scheme to educate child labourers
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**18.** In Uttar Pradesh, the State Government has decided to adopt the scheme of “Flatted Factory Model” which will ensure easy availability of land for industries, and in turn, generate employment also. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – adopted – the scheme of “Flatted Factory Model”
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



**19.** India, along with 12 other countries, has led an initiative called "VERIFIED" aimed at spreading fact-based content to counter misinformation on the coronavirus. The initiative is launched by United Nations to provide information on three themes: Science, Solidarity, Solution. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India +12 countries = led "VERIFIED" initiative – to spread fact-based content
- launched by UN | The themes: Science, Solidarity, Solution
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

**20.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a massive employment-cum-rural public works Campaign named "Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan" to empower and provide livelihood opportunities in areas/ villages witnessing large number of returnee migrant workers affected by the devastating COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM launched – "Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan" – to provide livelihood opportunities in rural areas

**21.** Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated "First Bell", an online initiative to impart televised lessons through Victors Channel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – inaugurated "First Bell" an online initiative to impart televised lessons
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram
- CM – Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**22.** First ever distribution of assistive aids & devices to Divyangjan was recently held through virtual platform under ADIP (Assistance to Disabled persons) Scheme of M/O Social Justice & Empowerment in Firozpur, Punjab. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1st distribution of assistive aids & devices to Divyangjan – held under ADIP Scheme
- ADIP Scheme comes under – MoSJE (Thawar Chand Gehlot – Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)

**23.** ICICI Home Finance has launched a special affordable housing loan scheme, with special rates for women, lower and middle income groups. Called "SARAL", it aims to fund homes in urban and rural areas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Home Finance Co. – launched "SARAL" a special affordable housing loan scheme
- HQs of ICICI HFC – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Anup Bagchi
- ICICI bank HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi



**24.** Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced that meals (twice a day) will soon be made available to the poor at a concessional rate under the state government's "Indira Rasoi Yojana". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan – to launch "Indira Rasoi Yojana" – to provide meals to the poor at a concessional rate
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**25.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the "Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan", a Rs 50,000 Cr dedicated programme to create jobs for millions of migrant workers who returned home during the coronavirus-induced lockdown across the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi launched – Rs 50,000 Cr programme – "Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan"
- This programme comes under – Ministry of Rural Development (Narendra Singh Tomar – Morena, MP)
- The programme will run in – "mission mode"
- 12 different ministries or departments – to participate in the programme
- Recently the campaign will be launched in – 6 states (Bihar, UP, MP, Rajasthan, Jharkhand & Odisha)

**26.** Jharkhand is set to launch a 100-day employment scheme known as "Mukhyamantri SHRAMIK (Shahri Rozgar Manjuri For Kamgar) Yojna", which is aimed at enhancing livelihood security for urban poor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jharkhand – to launch a "100-day" employment scheme "Mukhyamantri SHRAMIK (Shahri Rozgar Manjuri For Kamgar) Yojna"
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

**27.** With uncertainty prevailing over reopening of schools due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Tripura government has decided to start a scheme called "Ektu Khelo, Ektu Padho" that means "Play little, Study little". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tripura – decided to start a scheme "Ektu Khelo, Ektu Padho" (Play little, Study little) for students
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Ramesh Bais

**28.** The Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company has started the "Nishtha Vidyut Mitra" Scheme for women empowerment in one of its kind of initiatives. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company – started "Nishtha Vidyut Mitra" Scheme – for women
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**29.** Minister of MSME, Shri Nitin Gadkari launched the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Sub-ordinate Debt (CGSSD) which is also called “Distressed Assets Fund–Sub-ordinate Debt for MSMEs”. The Scheme will provide Rs. 20,000 Cr of guarantee cover to two lakh MSMEs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shri Nitin Gadkari – launched – “Credit Guarantee Scheme for Sub-ordinate Debt” (CGSSD)
- The scheme is also called – “Distressed Assets Fund–Sub-ordinate Debt for MSMEs”
- Rs. 20,000 Cr of guarantee cover – to two lakh MSMEs
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)

**30.** Chhattisgarh government is going to launch “Adarsh Police Station” scheme from July 1. The efforts will be made to develop all police stations in the state as Ideal police stations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh = to launch “Adarsh Police Station” scheme
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**31.** The government approved a 2% interest subsidy scheme for Shishu loan account holders under the Mudra Yojana to help small businesses tide over difficulties created by the lockdown. The scheme will be implemented through SIDBI and will be in operation for 12 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government approved – 2% Interest Subsidy Scheme – for Shishu loan account holders – under ‘Mudra Yojana’
- The scheme to be implemented through – SIDBI – for 12 months
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa

**32.** Andhra Pradesh government has launched "Kapu Nestham Scheme" intended to provide financial assistance of Rs 15,000 per annum each to women members of the Kapu community. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh – launched "Kapu Nestham Scheme" – financial assistance of Rs 15,000 per annum
- Kapu Community – Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**33.** The Chhattisgarh government will buy cow dung from livestock owners and convert it to fertiliser. The initiative is part of the "Godhan Nyay Yojana". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chhattisgarh – to buy cow dung from livestock owners and convert it to fertilizer – under "Godhan Nyay Yojana"
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**34.** The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) launched its flagship "Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana" in Pokhran - a small town in the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan where India conducted its first nuclear test. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- KVIC – launched its flagship "Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana" – in Pokhran, Rajasthan
- KVIC works under – Ministry of MSME (Nitin Gadkari – Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena

**35.** Tripura launched "Mukhyamantri Matru Pushti Uphaar", an ambitious scheme to provide nutrition kits to pregnant and lactating women. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tripura – launched "Mukhyamantri Matru Pushti Uphaar"
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Ramesh Bais

**36.** Announcing an aid of Rs 1,369 Cr for MSMEs and textile industries, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani started the online cash aid initiative "At One Click" for around 13,000 MSMEs in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gujarat – started online cash aid initiative "At One Click" for – 13000 MSMEs
- Announced aid of – Rs 1369 Cr – for MSMEs and textile industries
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**37.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced extension of the "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana" (PMGKAY) till November 2020. It is a programme to provide free ration for over 80 Cr people, mostly poor, by 5 more months with an outlay of Rs 90,000 Cr for this extension. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM Modi – extended – PMGKAY – till November, 2020 (for 5 months)
- Extension outlay – Rs 90,000 Cr
- Programme provided Free Ration to – over 80 Cr people

**38.** The Union Housing and Urban Affairs minister was addressing a webinar to mark the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PMAY-Urban, Smart Cities Mission (SCM) & Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). 35 lakh houses have so far been delivered to beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY-Urban). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoHUA – marked 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of = PMAY-U + SCM + AMRUT
- 35 lakh houses – are delivered under PMAY-U
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri

**39.** Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal launched the PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM FME) scheme named “Sapnoki Udaan” as a part of “Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan”. Under PM FME Scheme, Micro Enterprises will get 35% subsidy on project cost with a ceiling of Rs 10 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Minister for Food Processing Industries – launched PM FME scheme named “Sapnoki Udaan”
- Under PM FME – Micro Enterprises will get 35% subsidy on project cost with a ceiling of Rs 10 lakh
- FPI Minister – Harsimrat Kaur Badal (Constituency – Bathinda, Punjab)

**40.** Madhya Pradesh has launched a "Hamara Ghar-Hamara Vidyalaya" scheme means "My Home-My school scheme", in which children will be taught at home in a school-like environment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhya Pradesh – launched a "Hamara Ghar-Hamara Vidyalaya" scheme
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

# Sports & Games

**1.** Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju and Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda inaugurated Khelo India e-Pathshala programme with a webinar, attended by young archers, archery coaches and experts of the discipline from across the country. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Kiren Rijiju + Arjun Munda = inaugurated "Khelo India e-Pathshala programme" – a webinar for Archery
- Sports Minister – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)
- Tribal Affairs Minister – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand)

**2.** Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Kiren Rijiju has inaugurated 25-day "Khelo India Community Coach Development programme" for 15,000 physical education teachers and coaches around the country. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Kiren Rijiju – inaugurated – 25-day "Khelo India Community Coach Development programme"
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)

**3.** Women's 400 metres world champion Salwa Eid Naser of Bahrain has been handed a provisional suspension for failing to make herself available for anti-doping tests, the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Salwa Eid Naser (Bahrain) – 400m runner – provisional suspension – by AIU
- World Athletics HQs – Monaco | President – Sebastian Coe

**4.** Asian Champion middle distance runner Gomathi Marimuthu was suspended for 4 years by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for doping and stripped of her Asian Athletics Championships 800-meter title. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Gomathi Marimuthu (800m runner) – banned for 4 years – by AIU
- World Athletics HQs – Monaco | President – Sebastian Coe

**5.** The 2020 World Archery Field Championships in Yankton, USA, have been postponed until 2022 in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- World Archery Field Championships-2020 – postponed until 2022 (Old venue - Yankton, USA)
- HQs of World Archery Federation – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Ugur Erdener



**6.** The Asian Football Confederation has awarded the hosting rights of the 2022 Women's Asian Cup to India for the first time since 1979. The decision was taken at the AFC Women's Football Committee meeting. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – to host AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022
- HQs of AFC – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President – Salman Bin Ibrahim Al-Khalifa

**7.** Qatar is set to inaugurate a third football stadium completed for the 2022 FIFA World Cup. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Qatar – set to inaugurate 3rd football stadium
- It will host – “2022 FIFA World Cup”
- Qatar – Doha – Riyal | PM – Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al Thani

**8.** Former WBC light heavyweight Boxing champion Oleksandr Gvozdyk of Ukraine has announced his retirement from boxing at the age of 33. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Oleksandr Gvozdyk (Ukraine) – retirement – Boxing
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky

**9.** Former European high jump champion Alexander Shustov has been banned for four years for doping in the latest case from previous years to hit the Russian team. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Alexander Shustov (Russia) – banned for 4 years – Athlete (High Jump)
- By CAS - Court of Arbitration for Sport (HQs – Lausanne, Switzerland)

**10.** The International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) has dropped the doping charge against Indian weightlifter K Sanjita Chanu due to “non-conformities” in the handling of her sample. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IWF – dropped – the doping charge against K Sanjita Chanu (weightlifter)
- IWF HQs – Budapest, Hungary | President – Tamas AJAN

**11.** The Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) announced that Bahrain will host the fourth edition of the “Asian Youth Para Games” from December 1 to 10 next year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bahrain – to host the 4<sup>th</sup> “Asian Youth Para Games” in 2021
- Bahrain – Manama – Dinar
- HQs of APC – Abu Dhabi, UAE | President – Majid Rashed

**12.** Christian Coleman, the reigning world champion in the 100-meter dash, was suspended by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for missing drug tests. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Christian Coleman (USA) – 100-meter Runner – suspended by AIU
- HQs AIU – Monaco
- World Athletics HQs – Monaco | President – Sebastian Coe

**13.** Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Azerbaijan) became the winner of the “World Stars Sharjah Online Chess Championship 2020”, a double round-robin tournament with 10 min +3 sec time control organized by the Sharjah Cultural & Chess Club. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Azerbaijan) – won – “World Stars Sharjah Online Chess Championship 2020”
- Azerbaijan – Baku – Manat

**14.** The Sports ministry will be establishing Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) under the Khelo India Scheme. One KISCE will be identified in each state and union territory as an effort to create a robust sporting ecosystem in the entire country. In the first leg, the ministry had identified state-owned sports facilities in eight states of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sports ministry – Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) – in 8 states – under “Khelo India Scheme”
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)

**15.** Napoli wins its sixth Italian Cup title, beats Juventus in penalty shootout. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Napoli Football Club – won “Sixth Italian Cup title” (beats Juventus)
- Both football club located in – Italy (Italy – Rome – Euro)



**16.** Undertaker, real name Mark Calaway, announced retirement from WWE recently. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mark Calaway / Undertaker (USA) – retirement – Wrestling

**17.** The Sports Ministry has decided to establish 1000 Khelo India Centres (KIC) at the district level across the country in a move to tap into the expertise of past sporting champions for grassroot-level training of athletes and also to ensure a sustained source of income for them in the sports ecosystem. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sports Ministry – to establish 1000 Khelo India Centres (KIC)
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)

**18.** The World Karate Federation (WKF) has provisionally de-recognised the Karate Association of India with immediate effect for infighting and violating the world body's statutes during its elections last year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Karate Federation – provisionally de-recognised – Karate Association of India
- HQs of WKF – Madrid, Spain | President – Antonio Espinos

**19.** New Zealand wicketkeeper-batswoman Rachel Priest has announced her retirement from international cricket. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rachel Priest (New Zealand) – retirement – Cricket
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD)

**20.** Indian Grandmaster Pentala Harikrishna bowed out of contention for a quarterfinal spot in the USD 150,000 Chessable Masters online tournament, with a defeat at the hands of Alexander Grischuk of Russia in the 10th and final round. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- P Harikrishna (Chess) – 1st Indian to participate in USD 150,000 Chessable Masters tournament
- He debuted the “Magnus Carlsen Chess (MCC) Tour 2020”

**21.** Liverpool football club of England has won the English Premier League Title for 2019-20 in 30 years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Liverpool football club (England) – won – “English Premier League” Title for 2019-20

**22.** Australia and New Zealand will serve as co-hosts for the 2023 Women's World Cup, as per the announcement of FIFA. The joint hosting arrangement would be the first for women's soccer's biggest championship, which will expand to 32 teams for the event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Australia + New Zealand = co-hosts for the "FIFA Women's World Cup" Football tournament – in 2023
- FIFA HQs – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

**23.** World Athletics has launched "Road to Tokyo", an online tool to track the qualification process for next year's Olympic Games. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Athletics – launched "Road to Tokyo", an online tool to track the qualification process
- World Athletics HQs – Monaco | President – Sebastian Coe

**24.** Former Germany striker Mario Gomez (35) retired from Soccer (Football) after scoring in his last game for Stuttgart. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mario Gomez (Germany) – retirement – Soccer (Football)
- Germany – Berlin – Euro

**25.** Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju launched National Anti-Doping Agency's first mobile app - "NADA INDIA" to provide information about prohibited substances and their inadvertent use. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kiren Rijiju – launched "NADA INDIA" app – to provide information about prohibited substances
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)
- HQs of NADA – New Delhi | DG – Navin Agarwal | Ambassador of NADA – Suniel Shetty

# Important Days & Dates

**1.** Every year on June 3, the “World Bicycle Day” is celebrated across the globe to recognise the versatility and environment-friendly nature of bicycles as a means of transport. In April 2018, the U.N General Assembly declared June 3 as International World Bicycle Day. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- June 3 – “World Bicycle Day” – by UN General Assembly (since 2018)
- UNGA HQs – NewYork, USA | President – Tijjani Muhammad Bande

**2.** “Global Parents Day” is celebrated on June 1 every year to honour all the parents around the world for their selfless commitment and lifelong sacrifice they do for their children. The day was declared as the Global Day of Parents by the UN General Assembly in 2012. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- June 1 – “Global Parents Day”
- Declared by – UN General Assembly – in 2012
- HQs of UNGA – NewYork, USA | President – Tijjani Muhammad Bande

**3.** International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression” is observed on June 4. The main aim behind observing this day is to acknowledge the pain suffered by children across the world, which is caused due to any kind of abuse including physical, mental and emotional. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- June 4 – “International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression”

**4.** “World Dugong Day” was observed on May 28, 2020. Dugongs are ‘endangered’ marine species. They are protected in India under Schedule I of the Wild (Life) Protection Act, 1972. There were just 250 dugongs in the Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat according to the 2013 survey report of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- May 28 – launched – “World Dugong Day” (Dugong – ‘Endangered’ marine species)
- Protected under Schedule I of – Wild (Life) Protection Act, 1972.
- Gulf of Mannar (TN) + Andaman and Nicobar Islands + Gulf of Kutch (Guj.) = 250 dugongs
- HQs of ZSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director – K Venkatraman



5. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations observes June 1 every year as “World Milk Day” to recognize the importance of milk as a global food and to promote its benefits. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 1 – World Milk Day – observed by FAO
- Theme – "The 20th Anniversary of World Milk Day"
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu

6. June 5th of every year is celebrated as the “World Environment Day” since 1974. This year, Colombia & Germany have been chosen as the country to host the World Environment Day 2020 event. This year, the theme was "Biodiversity". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 5 – “World Environment Day” – event hosted by Colombia & Germany
- The day is celebrated since – 1974
- Theme – “Biodiversity”

7. June 2 is observed as “International Sex Workers Day” to bring to the fore the miserable living conditions under which this community works. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 2 – “International Sex Workers Day”

8. June 2 is celebrated every year as “Telangana Formation Day” as this is the day when the Telangana state officially came into existence under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act of Parliament in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 2 – “Telangana Formation Day”
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor - Tamilisai Soundararajan

9. “World Brain Tumour Day” is observed on 8th June, every year. Brain tumour is the tenth leading cause of morbidity in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 8 – “World Brain Tumour Day”



**10.** “World Food Safety Day” was observed on June 7 to draw global attention to the health consequences of contaminated food and water. This year, the theme was “Food safety, everyone's business”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 7 – “World Food Safety Day”
- Theme – “Food safety, everyone's business”

**11.** The United Nations General Assembly designated June 8 as "World Oceans Day". The first World Oceans Day was declared in Rio de Janeiro at the Global Forum on June 8, 1992. The theme of World Oceans Day 2020 is “Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 8 – World Oceans Day
- Theme – “Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean”

**12.** "World Pest Day", also known as "World Pest Awareness Day" is celebrated on June 6 every year to create awareness of how pest management helps preserve the quality of life for us and our loved ones. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 6 – "World Pest Day" or "World Pest Awareness Day"

**13.** “UN Russian Language Day” coincides with the birthday of Aleksandr Pushkin on June 6, a Russian poet considered the father of modern Russian literature. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 6 – “UN Russian Language Day”
- On the birthday of – Aleksandr Pushkin (the father of modern Russian literature)

**14.** The Committee on Fisheries endorsed the proposal for the declaration of 5 June as the “International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing”. This day has been observed since 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 5 – International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (since 2018)

**15.** “Green Mizoram Day” was observed in Mizoram on June 11. The state government has been observing the day on June 11 since 1999 and 38,46,043 trees have been planted across the state till last year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 11 – “Green Mizoram Day” – since 1999
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

**16.** “World Accreditation Day” was celebrated on June 9 to highlight as well as promote the role of accreditation in trade and economy. The theme this year was “Accreditation: Improving Food Safety”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 9 – “World Accreditation Day”
- Theme – “Accreditation: Improving Food Safety”

**17.** “The World Day against Child Labour”, is held every year on June 12. The theme of the year is "Covid-19: Protect Children from Child Labour, now more than ever." According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), there are about 152 million children globally who are engaged in child labour, 72 million of whom are in hazardous work. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 12 – The World Day against Child Labour
- Theme – "Covid-19: Protect Children from Child Labour, now more than ever"
- According to ILO – 152 million children – globally engaged in child labour
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder

**18.** “Global Wind Day” was recently observed on 15th June. It was inaugurated in 2007 as Wind Day and it only came to be known by the current name in 2009. It was organised by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 15 – “Global Wind Day”
- Inaugurated in – 2007 | organised by – EWEA

**19.** “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day” observed every year on June 15, was started by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) in 2006. In 2011, the United Nations adopted it as a designated day for prevention of abuse of the older people. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 15 – “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day”
- Started by – INPEA – in 2006 | Adopted by UN – in 2011

**20.** Marking the “International Day of Family Remittances” which falls on June 16 annually, the UN chief released a message appealing for people everywhere to support migrants. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 16 – “International Day of Family Remittances”
- Theme – “Building resilience in times of crisis”



**21.** “World Blood Donor Day” is observed on every 14 June worldwide to create awareness about the need for safe blood and blood products. The theme for the Blood donor day 2020 is “Safe Blood Saves Lives”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 14 – World Blood Donor Day
- Theme – “Safe Blood Saves Lives”

**22.** “World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought” is a United Nations observance day held on June 17 each year. This year, the theme was "Food. Feed. Fibre." [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 17 – World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
- Theme – "Food. Feed. Fibre."

**23.** June 13 marked “International Albinism Awareness Day” around the globe to educate everyone about the rights of people with albinism and celebrate them. The theme of the 5th anniversary of International Albinism Awareness Day is "Made To Shine." [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 13 – “International Albinism Awareness Day” (5th anniversary)
- Theme – "Made To Shine"

**24.** In 2015, the United Nations adopted June 19 every year as the "International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict" to raise awareness of the need to put an end to conflict-related sexual violence. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 19 – "International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict"
- Adopted by UN in – 2015
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

**25.** The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN General Assembly work to facilitate the observance of “Sustainable Gastronomy Day” on June 18 every year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 18 – “Sustainable Gastronomy Day” by = UNESCO + FAO + UNGA



**26.** June 17 is celebrated as “World Crocodile day” or “World Croc day”. It is a global awareness campaign to highlight the plight of endangered crocodiles and alligators around the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 17 – “World Crocodile day”

**27.** “World Sickle Cell Day” is observed on 19th June each year to raise awareness of sickle cell at a national and international level. The UN General Assembly recognised sickle cell disease as a public health problem and “one of the world’s foremost genetic diseases.” [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 19 – “World Sickle Cell Day”
- UN General Assembly – recognised Sickle Cell Disease – as a public health problem

**28.** “World Refugee Day”, international observance is observed on June 20 each year, is dedicated to raising awareness of the situation of refugees throughout the world. The theme of World Refugee Day this year is “every action counts.” [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 20 – “World Refugee Day”
- Theme – “Every Action Counts”

**29.** Manipur Congress spokesperson Ningombam Bupenda Meitei marked the 19th June as “Great June Uprising Day” when 18 persons laid down their lives protecting the territorial integrity of Manipur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 19 – “Great June Uprising Day” – observed by Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**30.** The Karnataka government has decided to observe June 18 as “Mask Day” to spread awareness about the use of masks, sanitisers, washing hands with soap, and maintaining social distancing among other things aimed at controlling the spread of Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 18 – “Mask Day” – observed by “Karnataka”
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala



**31.** The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) released a notice stating that it will be celebrating the “25th National Reading Day” on June 19, 2020, with a special focus on technology-enabled reading. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 19 – “25th National Reading Day” – celebrated by CBSE
- HQs of CBSE – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shri Manoj Ahuja

**32.** "Autistic Pride Day" was observed on June 18. The main aim of marking this day is to create awareness about autism among people. The day is represented by a Rainbow infinity symbol. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 18 – "Autistic Pride Day"
- Symbol: “Rainbow infinity”

**33.** “World Vitiligo Day” was observed on June 25. Vitiligo is a long-term condition in which pale patches develop on the skin. People with vitiligo can benefit by avoiding alcohol and caffeine. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 25 – “World Vitiligo Day”

**34.** Every year the “United Nations Public Service Day” is observed on June 23 as a mark of respect and gratitude to people in public service. The UN General Assembly, on 20 December 2002, designated June 23 as Public Service Day by adopting resolution 57/277. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 23 – “United Nations Public Service Day”
- Designated by UNGA – in 2002 | by adopting resolution – 57/277

**35.** “World Olympic Day” or “International Olympic Day” is celebrated all around the world on June 23. World Olympic Day was introduced in 1948. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 23 – “International Olympic Day” – Since 1948

**36.** “The World Music Day” celebrated on June 21 is also known as “Fete de la Musique” was a music festival, which began in France in 1982. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – “The World Music Day” or “Fete de la Musique”
- began in – France – In 1982



**37.** “International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice” was globally observed on 21st June to create awareness about the solstices and equinoxes and their cultural and religious significance. June 21 also marked the longest day of the year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – “International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice” – since 2019
- June 21 – marked as the longest day of 2020

**38.** The 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the “International Yoga Day” was observed on June 21. This year, the theme is "Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family". And the theme set by the United Nations for this year is “Yoga for Health - Yoga at Home”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – 6th Edition of the “International Yoga Day”
- Ministry of AYUSH’s theme– "Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family"
- Theme set by UN – “Yoga for Health - Yoga at Home”

**39.** The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and its members celebrate “World Hydrography Day” every year on June 21. This year’s theme is "Hydrography - enabling autonomous technologies”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 21 – “World Hydrography Day”
- Theme – "Hydrography - enabling autonomous technologies”

**39.** "International Widows' Day" was observed on June 23. The United Nations General Assembly formally adopted June 23 as International Widows’ Day on December 21, 2010, and it began to observe it from 2011. There are an estimated 258 million widows around the world, and nearly one in ten live in extreme poverty. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 23 – "International Widows' Day" – Since 2011 by UNGA
- Report – “258 million widows” around the world at present

**40.** The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "International Day of the Seafarer" was celebrated on June 25. The International Maritime Organization decided in 2010 to designate June 25 as International Day of the Seafarer. This year the theme is “Seafarers are Key Workers”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 25 – 10th anniversary of "International Day of the Seafarer"
- Theme – “Seafarers are Key Workers”

**41.** “National Statistics Day” is celebrated on June 29 across the country on the birth anniversary of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, a world-renowned statistician whose invaluable contributions led to the establishment of National Statistical System in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 29 – “National Statistics Day” – the birth anniversary of “Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis” (statistician)

**42.** The “International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”, also known as “World Drug Day”, is celebrated annually on June 26. This year, the theme was "Better Knowledge for Better Care". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 26 – International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking or World Drug Day
- Theme – "Better Knowledge for Better Care"

**43.** The UN General Assembly observed June 26 as the United Nations “International Day in Support of Victims of Torture” by resolution 52/149 since December 12, 1997. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 26 – “International Day in Support of Victims of Torture”

**44.** “International Day of the Tropics” was marked on June 29. On this day, we take a look at the importance of the tropical regions, which cover approximately 40% of the land area on the Earth. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared June 29<sup>th</sup> as the International Day of the Tropics in its resolution A/RES/70/267 adopted in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 29 – “International Day of the Tropics”
- Tropical regions cover – approx 40% of the Land area on the Earth

**45.** “World Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) Day” was celebrated recently on June 27. On April 6, 2017, the United Nations General Assembly declared June 27 as Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 27 – “World Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) Day”
- Declared by UNGA – in 2017



**46.** The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) celebrated "Passport Seva Divas" (PSD) on 24 June, 2020, to commemorate the enactment of the Passports Act on 24 June, 1967. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 24 – "Passport Seva Divas " – by Ministry of External Affairs
- Ministry of External Affairs – Subrahmanyam Jaishankar (Constituency – Gujarat)

**47.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 28, remembered P V Narasimha Rao on his 99<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, and released a commemorative stamp to honour him. P V Narasimha Rao was the 9<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of India. He is popularly known as 'Father of Indian Economic Reforms'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 28 – 99<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of P V Narasimha Rao (the 9<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of India)
- Popularly known as – 'Father of Indian Economic Reforms'

**48.** "World Asteroid Day" or "International Asteroid Day" was observed its 6<sup>th</sup> year globally on June 30. Asteroid Day aims to raise public awareness about asteroid impact hazard. It is observed globally each year at the anniversary of the Tunguska impact over Siberia, Russian Federation, on June 30, 1908. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 30 – 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of "World Asteroid Day" or "International Asteroid Day"
- Observed at the anniversary of – Tunguska impact over Siberia, Russian Federation
- Tunguska – the largest asteroid in history to impact the earth

**49.** The Mizo peace accord was signed on June 30, 1986. The anniversary of the signing of the historic Mizo peace accord between the central government and the erstwhile underground MNF, is celebrated on June 30. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 30 – Anniversary of the signing of the historic "Mizo Peace Accord"
- It was signed on – June 30, 1986

**50.** The United Nations General Assembly designated June 30 as the day to celebrate "International Day of Parliamentarism" in 2018. The date also marks the day in 1889 when the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the global organization of parliaments, was established. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- June 30 – "International Day of Parliamentarism" – since 2018 – by UN
- Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) – established in 1889

# Meetings, Conferences and Summits

**1.** The World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual gathering of the rich and the powerful in Davos will focus on a post-pandemic world in January 2021. The theme of the 51st annual Davos Meeting is 'The Great Reset'. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 51st annual Davos Meeting – an annual gathering of WEF
- Theme – “The Great Reset”
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab

**2.** India & Australia are taking part in the first-ever virtual bilateral summit. The event signifies “the strengthening of ties with Australia and its upward trajectory. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India + Australia = first-ever virtual bilateral summit
- Indian Counterpart – Narendra Modi | Australian Counterpart – Scott Morrison
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

**3.** The 3rd India-ASEAN youth dialogue 2020 took place online on June 8-10, 2020, revolving around the fight against Covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 3rd Edition – India-ASEAN youth dialogue 2020 – took place online
- Presidency of ASEAN-2020 – Vietnam
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

**4.** The 40th meeting of the GST Council, headed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising state counterparts, was held via video conferencing. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 40th meeting – of the GST Council – headed by Nirmala Sitharaman (FM Minister – Karnataka)
- GST council formed under – “Article 279A” of Indian Constitution

5. Indian officials attended the virtual 32nd special Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) plenary meeting, under the aegis of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). [Read more](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian officials – attended – 32nd special Eurasian Group on EAG plenary meeting – led by FATF
- HQs of FATF – Paris, France | President – Xiangmin Liu | Member Countries – 39

6. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will join his Chinese and Russian counterparts at a virtual conference of the Russia-India-China (RIC) trilateral against the backdrop of New Delhi's frayed ties with Beijing over the Galwan Valley clashes. Russia has hosted this RIC Foreign Minister-level virtual conference. [Read more](#)

**Key Points:**

- S Jaishankar – joined virtual conference of the Russia-India-China (RIC) trilateral
- The conference hosted by – Russia
- MEA Minister – Subrahmanyam Jaishankar (Constituency – Gujarat)

7. The Information and Broadcasting minister, Prakash Javadekar, has unveiled the poster and the booklet for the 51st edition of "The International Film Festival of India 2020" (IFFI 2020) that will take place in between November 20-28 in Goa. [Read more](#)

**Key Points:**

- 51st Edition of IFFI 2020 – in Goa
- Poster and the Booklet unveiled by – Prakash Javadekar (I & B Minister – Maharashtra)

8. The 36<sup>th</sup> summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was held at Hanoi in Vietnam where the member nations discussed measures to deal with the crises induced by the novel coronavirus pandemic. The theme of this summit was "Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN". [Read more](#)

**Key Points:**

- 36<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit – held – at Hanoi, Vietnam
- Theme – "Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN"
- Secretariat of ASEAN - Jakarta, Indonesia
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Nguyen Xuan Phu

**9.** Union Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik inaugurated two-day "Defence Conclave 2020" in Gujarat via video conferencing. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shripad Naik – inaugurated – 2-day "Defence Conclave 2020" – in Gujarat
- Defence Minister – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)
- MoS of Defence Ministry – Shripad Yesso Naik

**10.** India's first virtual exhibition and conference, "Virtual Healthcare and Hygiene Expo 2020" (VHHE) is organised by FICCI and supported by Ministry of AYUSH. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FICCI – organized "Virtual Healthcare and Hygiene Expo 2020" (VHHE)
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangita Reddy
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa

**11.** Union HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal virtually participated in "G-20 Extraordinary Virtual Education Ministers' Meeting". This special session has been convened to discuss the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the education sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ramesh Pokhriyal – participated in "G-20 Extraordinary Virtual Education Ministers' Meeting"
- Ministry of Human Resource & Development – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

**12.** The 49<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting of National Productivity Council (NPC), an autonomous body under Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, was held through video conferencing. It was chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 49<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting of NPC – chaired by Piyush Goyal
- NPC – comes under DPIIT – Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)

**13.** New Zealand cancelled its plans to host 2021 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC Summit) in Auckland because of the coronavirus, opting instead to lead a virtual summit. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- New Zealand – cancelled to host – "APEC Summit-2021"
- HQs of APEC – Singapore | Executive Director – Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD)



# Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

**1.** Hockey India has nominated national women's team captain Rani Rampal for the 'Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award' & Vandana Kataria, Monika and Harmanpreet Singh were recommended for the Arjuna Award. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Rani Rampal (Hockey) – nominated for 'Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award'
- 3 Hockey Players – Vandana Kataria + Monika + Harmanpreet Singh = nominated for 'Arjuna Award'
- HQs of Hockey India – New Delhi | President – Mohd. Mushtaque Ahmad

**2.** Government of Andhra Pradesh has recommended the name of 24-year-old archer V. Jyothi Surekha for the prestigious 'Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award' for the year 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- V. Jyothi Surekha (Andhra Pradesh) – 'Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award-2020'
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**3.** India's table tennis star Manika Batra was recommended for the prestigious "Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award" by Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Manika Batra (Table Tennis) – recommended for the "Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award"
- HQs of TTFI – New Delhi | President – Dushyant Chautala

**4.** The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has nominated Mr Rohit Sharma for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2020 while Mr Ishant Sharma, Mr Shikhar Dhawan and Ms Deepti Sharma have been nominated for Arjuna Awards. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Mr Rohit Sharma – Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award – nominated by BCCI
- Ishant Sharma + Shikhar Dhawan + Deepti Sharma = Arjuna Awards
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly





5. Kritika Pandey, a writer from Ranchi, was announced as the regional winner for Asia in the "2020 Commonwealth Short Story Prize" for her story "The Great Indian Tee and Snakes". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kritika Pandey – won "2020 Commonwealth Short Story Prize"
- For her short story – "The Great Indian Tee and Snakes"

6. The Athletics Federation of India confirmed recommending star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award. Dutee Chand, Arpinder Singh, Manjit Singh & PU Chitra were recommended for the Arjuna Award. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Neeraj Chopra (Javelin throw) – recommended for the "Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award"
- 3 Runners – Dutee Chand + Manjit Singh + PU Chitra + Arpinder Singh (triple jump) = "Arjuna Award"

7. The WHO has conferred the 'World No Tobacco Day Award 2020' to the Socio-Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS), an NGO, for its efforts to ban pan masala, gutkha, e-cigarettes and hookah in Bihar and Jharkhand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WHO – conferred the 'World No Tobacco Day Award 2020' – to 'SEEDS' NGO (based in Delhi)
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

8. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Executive Chairperson of Biocon, has been named "EY World Entrepreneur of The Year 2020" for her contribution in improving universal access to affordable life-saving medicine and transforming the world in one of its kind virtual entrepreneurship award ceremony. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kiran Mazumdar Shaw – "EY World Entrepreneur of The Year 2020"
- She is the chairperson of – Biocon Ltd (Bengaluru)

9. World silver-medallist Amit Panghal and the seasoned Vikas Krishan were nominated for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award by the Boxing Federation of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amit Panghal + Vikas Krishan (Boxing) = nominated for – "Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award"
- HQs of Boxing Federation of India (BFI) – New Delhi | President – Ajay Singh



**10.** Lyricist Javed Akhtar is a recipient of the prestigious Richard Dawkins award. He is also the only Indian to receive the honour. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Javed Akhtar (Lyricist) – the only recipient of – “Richard Dawkins award”

**11.** GMR-led Rajiv Gandhi Hyderabad International Airport received the highest Platinum Recognition in the Airports Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific Green Airports Recognition 2020 in the 15-35 million passengers per annum (MPPA) category. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajiv Gandhi Hyderabad International Airport – Asia-Pacific Green Airports Recognition 2020
- Category – 15-35 million passengers per annum (MPPA)

**12.** Eminent Indian-American soil scientist Rattan Lal was named this year's recipient of \$250,000 World Food Prize, with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo lauding his research in soil science. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rattan Lal (Soil Scientist) – received – “World Food Prize” (\$250,000)
- US Secretary – Mike Pompeo

**13.** Renjith Kumar, 57, an aerospace entrepreneur hailing from India, has been bestowed with “NASA Distinguished Service Medal”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Renjith Kumar – bestowed with – “NASA Distinguished Service Medal”
- NASA HQs – Washington, D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

**14.** Shobha Sekhar is founder of Kalakruthi, music organisation in Australia. The Melbourne-based artiste and lecturer, University of Melbourne, figures her in the Queen's Birthday 2020 Honours List and will be conferred the Medal of the Order of Australia. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shobha Sekhar – founder of “Kalakruthi” – a music organisation in Australia
- Conferred with – the “Medal of the Order of Australia”
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

**15.** A Philippine peace award named "Ramon Magsaysay awards" has been cancelled this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, marking only the third disruption in six decades for the annual prize regarded as an Asian Nobel. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Philippine peace award – named "Ramon Magsaysay awards" – cancelled due to Covid-19
- It's also known as – Asian Nobel

**16.** Hyderabad-based Deccan Development Society has won the "Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Award" (Grant of 40000 Euros), one of the most coveted environmental awards in the world for the contribution of DDS women in rehabilitation of degraded lands and to promote biodiversity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Deccan Development Society – won "Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Award"
- HQs of DDS – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – PV Satheesh

**17.** Cricket legend and Chennai Super Kings Coach Stephen Fleming announced "Chef Angad Singh Rana" as the winner of New Zealand's first 'Virtual' Chef competition – the "Quality NZ Culinary Cup" held in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chef Angad Singh Rana – won "Quality NZ Culinary Cup" (New Zealand's first 'Virtual' Chef competition)
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD)

**18.** Sprinter Hima Das, who had a stellar 2018, has been nominated for the prestigious "Khel Ratna" by the state government of Assam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hima Das (Sprinter) – nominated for "Khel Ratna" award – by Assam Government
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**19.** For the fourth time in its history, the Oscars are being postponed. The 93rd Academy Awards will now be held April 25, 2021, eight weeks later than originally planned because of the pandemic's effects on the movie industry. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 93<sup>rd</sup> Academy Awards – postponed to April, 2021 (postponed for the 4th time in the history)

**20.** The All India Football Federation recommended former captain Ilivalappil Mani Vijayan for Padma Shri, the country's fourth highest civilian award. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ilivalappil Mani Vijayan (Football) – has been recommended for “Padma Shri” – by AIFF
- HQs of AIFF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel

**21.** The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has recommended former Football player I. M. Vijayan for Padma Shri, the country's fourth-highest civilian award. The 51-year-old former India striker, who has scored 40 goals in 79 matches for India since making his debut in early 90s. He was awarded the Arjuna award in 2003. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- I. M. Vijayan (Football) – has been recommended for Padma Shri – by AIFF
- Arjuna award in – 2003
- HQs of AIFF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel

**22.** Nobel-laureate Indian economist Amartya Sen has won the prestigious “Peace Prize of the German Book Trade” for his decades-long work on “Questions Of Global Justice”. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- Amartya Sen (Economist) – won “Peace Prize of the German Book Trade”
- For his work – “Questions Of Global Justice”

**23.** The Maharashtra government announced the "Vithabai Narayangaokar lifetime achievement Award" to folk artist Gulabbai Sangamnerkar. And "Sangeetacharya Annasaheb Kirloskar musical theatre lifetime achievement Award" will be conferred upon veteran theatre Actress-Singer Madhuvanti Dandekar. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gulabbai Sangamnerkar (Folk Artist) – “Vithabai Narayangaokar lifetime achievement Award”
- Madhuvanti Dandekar (Actress-Singer) – "Sangeetacharya Annasaheb Kirloskar musical theatre lifetime achievement Award"
- Awards given by – Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**24.** Two-time Commonwealth Games gold-winning weightlifter K. Sanjita Chanu, who was recently exonerated of doping charges, will receive the Arjuna Award for 2018, said Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF) secretary Sahdev Yadav. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K. Sanjita Chanu (Weightlifting) – will receive the “Arjuna Award” – for 2018
- HQs of IWLF – New Delhi, India | President – Birendra Prasad Baishya | Secretary – Sahdev Yadav
- HQs of IWF – Lausanne, Switzerland

**25.** In a significant achievement in the health sector, 6 district Hospitals of Jammu and Kashmir have won “Kayakalap Award” claiming notable positions in the best hospitals category 2019-20. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 6 District Hospitals of J & K – won “Kayakalap Award”
- J & K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu

**26.** The U.S. National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences announced the winners of the 47th Annual Daytime Emmy Awards. The Talk co-hosts Sharon Osbourne, Sheryl Underwood, Eve, Carrie Ann Inaba and Marie Osmond announced the winners via livestream on CBS. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “U.S. NATAS – announced the winners of 47th Annual Daytime Emmy Awards
- Co-hosts = Sharon Osbourne + Sheryl Underwood + Eve + Carrie Ann Inaba + Marie Osmond

**27.** The Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Department has won first prize under the “e-Panchayat Puraskars-2020” to be given by the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Department – won 1st prize under the “e-Panchayat Puraskars-2020”
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya
- Narendra Singh Tomar – Minister of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj
- Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh

**28.** India all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has been named as country's 'Most Valuable Player' of the 21<sup>st</sup> century by Wisden, In the last two years. As per the tool, Jadeja emerged as the second most valuable player, behind Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 'Most Valuable Player' of the 21<sup>st</sup> century – by Wisden
- Top in India – Ravindra Jadeja (2<sup>nd</sup> in the world) | Top in the world – Muttiah Muralitharan (Sri Lanka)

**29.** Beyonce received "Humanitarian Award" at 20<sup>th</sup> edition of "Annual BET Awards 2020". Musician Beyonce encouraged Black Lives Matter protesters to continue fighting for equality. She is 24-time Grammy winner Popstar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Beyonce (Musician) – received "Humanitarian Award" – at 20<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Annual BET Awards 2020'

**30.** Dr Arvind Pandey, former Director National Institute of Medical Statistics (NIMS) and Dr. Akhilesh Chandra Kulshreshtha, Ex-Add. Director General, MoSPI, Government of India, were jointly given the "Prof. P.V. Sukhatme National Award" in Statistics 2020 for their life time contribution in the field of Statistics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Arvind Pandey + Dr Akhilesh Chandra Kulshreshtha = Prof. P V Sukhatme National Award-2020 – in Statistics

**31.** Former RBI Governor Chakravarthi Rangarajan has been conferred the "P. C. Mahalanobis Lifetime Achievement Award" in recognition of his contribution to official statistics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chakravarthi Rangarajan – "P. C. Mahalanobis Lifetime Achievement Award" – in Statistics



# Appointments & Resignations

**1.** The RBI has extended the tenure of appointment of Shri Subramanian Sundar as Managing Director & CEO (Interim) of Lakshmi Vilas Bank till November 30, 2020 or till regular MD & CEO takes charge, whichever is earlier. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Shri Subramanian Sundar – tenure extended as the MD & CEO of – Lakshmi Vilas Bank
- HQs – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Subramanian Sundar
- Tagline – "The changing face of prosperity"

**2.** Pradip Kumar Tripathi, IAS has taken over as Secretary, Ministry of Steel. Tripathi will succeed Binoy Kumar, who superannuated on May 31, 2020. He is an IAS officer of 1987 batch of Jammu and Kashmir (JK) cadre. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Pradip Kumar Tripathi – appointed as the Secretary in the – Ministry of Steel
- He will succeed – Binoy Kumar
- Dharmendra Pradhan – Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Minister of Steel (RS MP – Madhya Pradesh)

**3.** Ms. Gaitri I. Kumar (IFS: 1986), presently Ambassador of India to Belgium, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ms. Gaitri I. Kumar – appointed as the next High Commissioner – to the UK
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK - Boris Johnson

**4.** Seasoned diplomat and former spokesperson of the External Affairs Ministry Raveesh Kumar has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to Finland. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Raveesh Kumar – appointed as the next Ambassador – to Finland
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin

**5.** Seasoned diplomat and former spokesperson of the External Affairs Ministry Raveesh Kumar has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to Finland. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Raveesh Kumar – appointed as the next Ambassador – to Finland
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin



**6.** Adesh Kumar Gupta has been appointed as the Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) chief by replacing Manoj Tiwari. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adesh Kumar Gupta – appointed as the Delhi BJP Chief
- He replaced – Manoj Tiwari
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**7.** Virendra Nath Datt has taken over the additional charge of Chairman & Managing Director of National Fertilizers Limited (NFL). Datt is associated with Company as Director (Marketing) since October 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Virendra Nath Datt – appointed as the CMD of – NFL (HQs – Noida, UP)

**8.** The Indian arm of German sports brand Adidas announced the appointment of former Miss World Manushi Chillar as its new brand ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manushi Chillar – appointed as the brand ambassador of – “Adidas”
- HQs of Adidas – Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO – Kasper Rorsted

**9.** The Indian arm of German sports brand Adidas announced the appointment of former Miss World Manushi Chillar as its new brand ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Manushi Chillar – appointed as the brand ambassador of – “Adidas”
- HQs of Adidas – Herzogenaurach, Germany | CEO – Kasper Rorsted

**10.** The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) announced that Uday Kotak, MD and CEO, Kotak Mahindra Bank, has assumed office as President of CII for 2020-21. He takes over from Vikram Kirloskar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uday Kotak – appointed as the President of – CII
- He will replace – Vikram Kirloskar
- CII HQs – New Delhi | President – Uday Kotak | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee



**11.** Mr. Sibi George (IFS: 1993), presently Ambassador of India to Switzerland, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the State of Kuwait. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sibi George – appointed as the next Ambassador – to Kuwait
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Kuwaiti Dinar | PM – Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah

**12.** Shri Sushil Kumar Singhal appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shri Sushil Kumar Singhal – appointed as the next High Commissioner – to Papua New Guinea
- Papua New Guinea – Port Moresby – Kina

**13.** India opener and limited-over vice-captain Rohit Sharma has signed with IIFL Finance as its first-ever brand ambassador. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rohit Sharma – signed as the first-ever brand ambassador of “IIFL Finance”
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – V. K. Chopra

**14.** Shri Rahul Shrivastava (IFS: 1999), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Romania. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rahul Shrivastava – appointed as the Ambassador to – Romania
- Romania – Bucharest – leu

**15.** Real estate major DLF (Delhi Land & Finance Ltd) reported a consolidated net loss of Rs 1,860.13 Cr for the January-March quarter of FY20. The real estate developer also announced its board decision of change in chairmanship of the company with Vice-president Rajiv Singh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DLF reported – Rs 1,860 Cr net loss in Q4
- Rajiv Singh – appointed as the Chairman of DLF (HQs – Gurgaon, Haryana)

**16.** Diplomat Monika Kapil Mohta has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Switzerland, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced. Presently, Mohta, an Indian Foreign Service officer of 1985 batch, is India's Ambassador to Sweden. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Monika Kapil Mohta – appointed as the Ambassador to – Switzerland
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Simonetta Sommaruga

**17.** International recognition came calling the 13-year-old girl, M Nethra as she was appointed as 'Goodwill Ambassador (GWA) for the Poor' by the United Nations Association for Development and Peace (UNADAP). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- M Nethra – appointed as 'Goodwill Ambassador (GWA) for the Poor' – by UNADAP
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

**18.** The government has cleared appointments of senior IAS officers Rajiv Topno, a 1996-batch bureaucrat of the Gujarat cadre who is the private secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be a senior advisor at the Washington-based World Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajiv Topno – appointed as the Senior Advisor at – World Bank
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**19.** Brajendra Navnit, a 1999-batch IAS officer, has been appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India (PRI) to the World Trade Organisation for a period of three years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Brajendra Navnit – Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India – to WTO
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Pascal Lamy

**20.** Google has appointed Anil Valluri as the Senior Director for Google Cloud India. Before joining Google Cloud, Valluri was the President of India & SAARC operations at NetApp. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anil Valluri – appointed as the Senior Director – for Google Cloud India
- Earlier he was – the President of – India & SAARC operations at NetApp
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai



**21.** UTI Asset Management Company (AMC) has appointed Imtaiyazur Rahman as the company's chief executive officer (CEO), after the position remained vacant for nearly two years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Imtaiyazur Rahman – appointed as the CEO of – UTI AMC
- HQs of UTI AMC – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Imtaiyazur Rahman

**22.** Diplomat Shambhu S Kumaran has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Philippines. Kumaran is presently Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Morocco. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shambhu S Kumaran – appointed as the next Ambassador of India to – Philippines (Manila – Peso)
- Presently Ambassador of India to – Morocco (Rabat – Dirham)

**23.** Prime minister of Kyrgyzstan, Mukhammedkalyi Abylgaziev has resigned, citing an ongoing criminal investigation into the assignment of national radio frequencies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mukhammedkalyi Abylgaziev – PM of Kyrgyzstan – resigned
- Kyrgyzstan – Bishkek – Som

**24.** Trustees of the PM CARES Fund have appointed "SARC & Associates" as auditor of the fund for three years. The firm, headed by Sunil Kumar Gupta, was appointed auditors of the PM's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SARC & Associates – appointed as the Auditor of – PM CARES Fund
- HQs of S & A – New Delhi | Chairman – Sunil Kumar Gupta

**25.** Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta took charge as the Chief of Staff of Eastern Naval Command (ENC), Visakhapatnam recently. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Biswajit Dasgupta – took charge as the Chief of Staff of – ENC
- HQs of ENC – Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh | FOC-in-C – Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain

**26.** In a bid to encourage the consumption of khadi products, the Bihar government recently appointed Pankaj Tripathi as the brand ambassador of the Bihar's Khadi (Khadi Mall) in Patna. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pankaj Tripathi – appointed as the brand ambassador of – Bihar's Khadi (Khadi Mall)
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

**27.** Former Supreme Court judge D K Jain will continue as BCCI's ethics officer and ombudsman after getting a one-year extension from the cricket Board. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- D K Jain – got an extension of 1 year as the – BCCI's Ethics Officer and Ombudsman
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly

**28.** The UN General Assembly elected Turkish diplomat “Volkan Bozkir” to be its president ahead of the 75th UN General Assembly. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Volkan Bozkir (Turkey) – appointed as the president of – 75th UN General Assembly
- UNGA HQs – NewYork, USA | President – Volkan Bozkir (Turkey)

**29.** Reigning national champion Niki Kalyanda Poonacha has been elected to the International Tennis Federation (ITF) men's player panel and will represent the Asia-Oceania zone along with Ti Chen of Chinese Taipei. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Niki Kalyanda Poonacha – elected as a member to the ITF men's player panel
- HQs of ITF – London, UK | CEO – David Haggerty

**30.** Kubatbek Boronov was appointed new Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan. At a parliament meeting, he was supported by a majority coalition: SDPK, Respublika-Ata-Zhurt, Kyrgyzstan and Bir Bol. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kubatbek Boronov – appointed as the New PM of – Kyrgyzstan
- Kyrgyzstan – Bishkek – Som



**31.** Former Reserve Bank of India Governor Urjit Patel has been appointed as the next Chairperson of National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) for a 4-year tenure, starting from June 22, 2020. He will succeed Vijay Kelkar. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Urjit Patel – appointed as the next chairman of NIPFP – for 4 years
- He will succeed – Vijay Kelkar | HQs of NIPFP – New Delhi

**32.** Cement brand, JSW Cement has roped in former cricketer and current president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Sourav Ganguly as well as captain of the Indian national football team and Bengaluru FC, Sunil Chhetri as its Brand Ambassadors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- JSW Cement – roped in = Sourav Ganguly + Sunil Chhetri – as its Brand Ambassadors
- HQs of JSW Group – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sajjan Jindal
- HQs of JSW Cement – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Nilesh Narwekar

**33.** German luxury car maker BMW appointed Vikram Pawah as the president of BMW Group India effective August 1, 2020, in addition to his current role as chief executive officer of BMW Group Australia and New Zealand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vikram Pawah – has been appointed as the president of BMW Group India
- HQs of BMW – Munich, Germany

**34.** The Professional Risk Managers' International Association (PRMIA) has appointed Dr Nirakar Pradhan, as the Chief Executive Officer of its new India office. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Nirakar Pradhan – appointed as the CEO of – PRMIA
- HQs of PRMIA – Delaware, USA

**35.** The US Senate has confirmed eminent Indian-American scientist Dr. Sethuraman Panchanathan as the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Sethuraman Panchanathan – appointed as the Director of the – NSF
- HQs of NSF – Virginia, USA | Director – Dr. Sethuraman Panchanathan



**36.** Burundi's newly elected president, Evariste Ndayishimiye, has been sworn in two months earlier than planned. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Evariste Ndayishimiye – sworn in as the new President of Burundi
- Burundi – Gitega – Franc

**37.** IFTAS, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India announced the appointments of Shri. T Rabi Sankar as the Chairman and Dr N Rajendran as the CEO of the organization effective May 15, 2020, and May 27, 2020, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- T Rabi Sankar – appointed as the Chairman – of IFTAS
- Dr N Rajendran – appointed as the CEO – of IFTAS
- HQs of IFTAS – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – T Rabi Sankar | CEO – Dr N Rajendran

**38.** The Central government has re-nominated Natarajan Chandrasekaran as a part-time non-official director on the Reserve Bank of India's central board, for a further period of two years beyond March 3, 2020, or until further orders, whichever is earlier. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Natarajan Chandrasekaran – re-nominated – as a part-time Non-Official Director – for 2 years
- No. of Members in RBI's central board – 21
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**39.** Vijay Khanduja, presently Director in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to Zimbabwe. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vijay Khanduja – appointed as India's next Ambassador to – Zimbabwe
- Zimbabwe – Harare – Dollar

**40.** Former India Test opener and domestic stalwart Wasim Jaffer was appointed as the head Coach of the Uttarakhand Ranji Trophy Team for the forthcoming season. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Wasim Jaffer – appointed as the head Coach of the – Uttarakhand Ranji Trophy Team

**41.** The Maharashtra government appointed senior bureaucrat Sanjay Kumar as the new Chief Secretary. Kumar will succeed Ajoy Mehta, who, post retirement on June 30, will take over as principal advisor to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, a new position created in the backdrop of the coronavirus crisis. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – appointed senior bureaucrat “Sanjay Kumar” – as the new Chief Secretary
- He will succeed – Ajoy Mehta
- Ajoy Mehta to take over as Principal Advisor to Maharashtra CM

**42.** Former England captain Clare Connor is set to become the first female president of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), guardian of the laws of the game, in its 233-year history. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Clare Connor – to become the first female president – of MCC in 233-year history
- HQs of MCC – London, UK

**43.** A 1987-batch IAS officer, Vini Mahajan has become the first woman Chief Secretary in the history of Punjab. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vini Mahajan – first woman Chief Secretary of Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**44.** The former History Professor, Gudni Johannesson has been re-elected as the President of Iceland for his second four-year term. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Gudni Johannesson – re-elected as the President of – Iceland
- Iceland – Reykjavik – Krona

**45.** Shri Ravinder Bhakar has taken over as the CEO of Central Board of Films Certification (CBFC). Earlier, he was posted as the Secretary & Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railways. He succeeded Anurag Srivastava. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shri Ravinder Bhakar – appointed as the CEO of – CBFC
- He succeeded – Anurag Srivastava
- HQs of CBFC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairperson – Prasoon Josh



**46.** The government has extended Union Bank of India (UBI) CEO Rajkiran Rai's term by another two years until his retirement on May 31 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajkiran Rai – extended as the CEO of – UBI – for another 2 years
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G.
- Tagline of UBI – “Good People to Bank With”

**47.** President Ram Nath Kovind has given Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel additional charge of Madhya Pradesh, in view of MP Governor Lalji Tandon's poor health condition. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ram Nath Kovind – gave additional charge as the Governor of “Madhya Pradesh” – to Anandiben Patel
- She is already the Governor of – Uttar Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**48.** The President of India reappointed senior advocate K K Venugopal as Attorney General of India (AG) a period of one year. Solicitor General, Tushar Mehta is also reappointed for a three-year term. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K K Venugopal – extension as the Attorney General of India (AG) – for 1 year
- Tushar Mehta – extension as the Solicitor General of India – for 3 years

**49.** Micheal Martin has become the new Irish Prime Minister after historic coalition deal. He has been the leader of the Fianna Fail party since 2011. He will lead a three-party coalition consisting of Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and the Green Party. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Micheal Martin – become the new Prime Minister of – Ireland
- Ireland – Dublin – Euro | PM – Micheal Martin

**50.** Indian umpire Nitin Menon was included in the ICC's Elite Panel of Umpires for the upcoming 2020-21 season, replacing England's Nigel Llong. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nitin Menon (India) – included in the ICC's Elite Panel of Umpires – for the upcoming 2020-21 season
- He replaced – Nigel Llong (England)





# Amount & Agreements

**1.** A 1500 Cr interest subvention for small business and cottage industries has been announced under Mudra Shishu loan. Under this scheme, one lakh beneficiaries can avail interest benefit of 2% for a year. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “1500 Cr” Interest subvention – for small business and cottage industries
- Under – Mudra Shishu loan Scheme

**2.** The Centre has approved Rs 812 Cr for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Odisha during 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Government – approved “Rs 812 Cr” – for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in “Odisha”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**3.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi pledged USD 15-million as India's contribution to the vaccines alliance GAVI at the Global Vaccine Summit hosted by the UK. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- USD 15-million – pledged by India - to the vaccines alliance GAVI
- Global Vaccine Summit – hosted by United Kingdom
- Organised by – GAVI (Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization)
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK - Boris Johnson

**4.** India and Australia unveiled a “shared vision for maritime cooperation in the Indo- Pacific” and signed 7 agreements focused on crucial areas such as defence and rare earth minerals including Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India + Australia = signed “Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA)”
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

**5.** Member countries of the Group of 20 (G-20) pledged more than \$21 billion to fight the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- G-20 countries – pledged – \$21 billion – to fight the coronavirus
- G-20 Presidency – Saudi Arabia (Riyadh – Saudi Riyal)



**6.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced the creation of Rs 500 Cr payments infrastructure development fund (PIDF) to encourage acquirers to deploy points of sale (PoS) infrastructure, both physical and digital modes in tier-3 to tier-6 centres. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – created – Rs 500 Cr PIDF to boost digitalization
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**7.** National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has made available a Special Liquidity Facility (SLF) of Rs 270 crore to Assam Gramin Vikash Bank for supporting the agricultural activities of the farmers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NABARD – SLF of Rs 270 Cr – to Assam Gramin Vikash Bank
- SLF – Special Liquidity Facility
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu

**8.** The US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) is looking to invest \$350 million in India to support multiple projects in the country's financial services sector, health infrastructure, renewable energy and food security space. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- USDFC – to invest \$350 million in India
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

**9.** Of the funds allocated for FY21, Rs 11,500 crore has been provided in the budget for Jal Jeevan Mission for the year 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rs 11,500 Cr – provided in the budget for “Jal Jeevan Mission”

**10.** Union Government approved Rs 572 Crore for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Jharkhand in 2020-21. The state is planning to have 100% household coverage by 2023-24. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government approved – Rs 572 Crore – for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in “Jharkhand”
- Jharkhand – plan to have 100% household coverage – by 2023-24
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

**11.** The World Bank has given Rs. 1,950 Cr loans to the West Bengal Government for tackling COVID situation and developmental work in the State. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank – Rs. 1,950 Cr loan – to West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamata Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankhar

**12.** Annual allotment of Rs. 4000 Cr is made by the Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW) to State Governments under 'Per Drop More Crop' component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY- PDMC) for the year 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DAC&FW – allotted Rs. 4000 Cr – to State Governments
- Under – 'Per Drop More Crop' component of "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana" (PMKSY-PDMC)

**13.** PepsiCo Foundation will invest USD 3 million to provide safe water access to agricultural communities, and help women in high water-risk areas in West Bengal and Maharashtra in association with WaterAid. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PepsiCo + WaterAid = to invest USD 3 million – to provide safe water access in West Bengal + Maharashtra
- PepsiCo HQs – Harrison, New York, USA | CEO – Ramon Laguarta
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**14.** The country's Foreign Exchange Reserves crossed the \$500 billion mark for the first time ever. The reserves expanded by \$8.2 billion in the week ended June 5. In the nine-month period between September 20, 2019 and June 5, 2020, foreign exchange reserves have grown \$73 billion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's FER – crossed the \$500 billion (for the first time)
- Expanded by – \$8.2 billion in the week & have grown – \$73 billion in last 9 months

**15.** Exim Bank of India has extended a nearly \$216-million (1,640 crore) line of credit to Malawi to execute drinking-water-supply schemes and other development projects. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Exim Bank – extended \$216-million (1,640 crore) LoC to – Malawi
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai | Chairman & MD – TC Venkat Subramanian
- Malawi – Lilongwe – Malawian kwacha



**16.** The government infused equity share capital of Rs 5,297.60 Cr in India Infrastructure Finance Company (IIFCL). This infusion has increased the paid-up equity share capital of IIFCL to Rs 9,999.92 Cr against the authorized share capital of Rs 10,000 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – infused Equity Share Capital of Rs 5,297.60 Cr – in IIFCL (HQs – Chennai, TN)

**17.** Jai Kisan, a Mumbai-based fintech platform has raised Rs 30 Cr funding from Arkam Ventures with the participation of a fund backed by NABARD. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NABARD – invested Rs 30 Cr – in “Jai Kishan” fintech platform (Mumbai)
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu

**18.** Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended a line of credit (LOC) of USD 20.10 million to the government of Nicaragua for reconstruction of Aldo Chavarria Hospital. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Exim Bank – extended a LOC of USD 20.10 million to – Nicaragua
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai | Chairman & MD – TC Venkat Subramanian
- Nicaragua – Managua – Cordoba

**19.** The Union government has approved funding of Rs 1,829 Cr for the effective implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission in Maharashtra for 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – Rs 1,829 Cr – to Maharashtra – for “Jal Jeevan Mission”
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari

**20.** France and India signed an agreement with Paris committing 200 million Euros to support Delhi's Covid response. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- France + India = an agreement – to provide “200 million Euros” to aid India’s COVID-19 response
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron

**21.** Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a second loan of USD 750 million (around Rs 5,714 crore) to India to help the government strengthen its battle against the adverse impact of COVID-19 on poor and vulnerable households. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- AIIB – approved a “USD 750 million” loan – to India – to help Gov. battle against Covid-19
- HQs of AIIB – Beijing, China | President – Jin Lique

**22.** India has pledged to construct a Rs 2.33 Cr sanitation facility at the iconic Pashupatinath Temple complex in Nepal to improve the infrastructure in the holy shrine for the pilgrims. The project would be constructed under the Nepal-Bharat Maitri: Development Partnership. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – pledged Rs 2.33 Cr – to construct sanitation facility at the iconic “Pashupatinath Temple” (Nepal)
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari

**23.** The YS Jagan Mohan Reddy government presented its second budget. Andhra Pradesh became the first Indian state to convene its Legislative Assembly and Council - which will adopt a Rs 2.24 lakh crore budget for 2020-21 amid the Covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh – presented its second budget of – Rs 2.24 lakh Cr for 2020-21
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**24.** Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited will invest Rs 60,000 Cr in Odisha by 2025-26. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MCL – will invest Rs 60,000 Cr – in Odisha – by 2025-26
- HQs of MCL – Sambalpur, Odisha

**25.** The World Bank has approved \$1.05 billion for three projects in Bangladesh to create quality jobs and accelerate economic recovery in the wake of the Corona pandemic. The first project worth \$500 million is called Private Investment and Digital Entrepreneurship (PRIDE). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank – \$1.05 billion – to Bangladesh – for 3 Projects
- 1st Project – PRIDE – Private Investment and Digital Entrepreneurship
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**26.** The government announced allocating Rs 3,000 Cr from the PM CARES Fund for supply of ventilators to combat Covid-19 and for the welfare of migrant labourers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – allocated Rs 3,000 Cr from the PM CARES Fund – for the supply of ventilators & for migrants

**27.** Ministry of DoNER has decided to sanction Rs 190 Cr for augmentation of healthcare facility in the eight North Eastern States, particularly for developing infrastructure for management of infectious diseases. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ministry of DoNER – to sanction “Rs 190 Cr” for augmentation of healthcare facility in 8 North Eastern States
- Union DoNER Minister of State (I/C) – Dr Jitendra Singh

**28.** Karnataka Bank has launched a new product “KBL Micro Mitra”, wherein financial assistance up to Rs. 10 lakhs can be provided to the Micro manufacturing and service enterprises either for working capital or for investment purposes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka Bank – launched – a new product “KBL Micro Mitra”
- Financial Assistance up to – Rs.10 lakhs – to the Micro manufacturing and service enterprises
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S

**29.** The PM CARES Fund Trust has allocated Rs 2,000 Cr for supply of 50,000 ‘Made-in-India’ ventilators to government-run Covid hospitals in all states/union territories. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM CARES Fund Trust – allocated Rs 2,000 Cr – for supply of 50,000 ‘Made-in-India’ ventilators

**30.** Based on the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission, the finance ministry released Rs 15,187 Cr to 28 states as grants to Rural Local Bodies (RLB) to help them restart economic activity. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Finance Ministry – released Rs 15,187 Cr to 28 states – as grants to RLBs
- Based on the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission (Chairman – N. K. Singh)
- FM Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency – Karnataka)



**31.** The Centre Government has allocated Rs. 412.19 Cr for Telangana under Jal Jeevan Mission in 2020-21. Telangana is yet to finalize Annual Action Plan for JJM. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Centre – allocated Rs. 412.19 Cr – for “Telangana” under Jal Jeevan Mission
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**32.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has agreed to extend the Special Liquidity Facility (SLF) of Rs. 50,000 Cr to Yes Bank for another 3 months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI to extend the SLF – of Rs. 50,000 Cr – to Yes Bank – for another 3 months
- SLF – Special Liquidity Facility
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**33.** India will contribute \$10 million over the next two years to United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) working for Palestinian refugees as part of efforts to ensure sustainable and predictable funding for the body. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – will contribute – \$10 million – to UNRWA working for – Palestinian refugees
- HQs of UNRWA – Amman, Jordan + Gaza, Israel | Commissioner-General – Pierre Krahenbuhl
- Palestine – Ramallah & East Jerusalem – Israeli new shekel & Jordanian dinar

**34.** Adani Power Limited (APL) signed an agreement to buy 49% stake in Odisha Power Generation Corporation (OPGC) from US-based AES Corporation (AES). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Adani Power Limited (APL) – to buy 49% stake – in OPGC
- From – AES Corporation (HQs – Virginia, USA)
- HQs of APL – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Vneet Jaain
- HQs of OPGC – Bhubaneswar, Odisha | Chairman – Nikunja Bihari Dhal

**35.** The Uttar Pradesh government will raise Rs 1,500 Cr from commercial banks to expedite the work on its flagship 340-km ‘Purvanchal Expressway Project’ post lockdown. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – to raise Rs 1,500 Cr – from commercial banks – for 340-km ‘Purvanchal Expressway Project’
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



**36.** Sachin Bansal's Navi Technologies has launched "Navi Lending" app for instant and contactless personal loans up to Rs 5 lakh for 36 months targeted towards middle-income customers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Navi Lending" app – is launched – for instant & contactless personal loans – up to Rs 5 lakh – For 36 months
- HQs of Navi Tech – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Sachin Bansal

**37.** Amid the ongoing border tensions with China, the government has granted Rs 500 Cr as emergency funds to armed forces for war preparedness. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – granted – Rs 500 Cr – as emergency funds to Armed Forces – for war preparedness

**38.** The government announced a Rs 15,000 Cr Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) with an interest subsidy scheme to promote investment by private players and MSMEs in dairy, meat processing and animal feed plants, a move which is expected to create 35 lakh jobs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – to set up – Rs 15,000 Cr "AHIDF"
- AHIDF – Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund
- Shri Giriraj Singh – Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Begusarai, Bihar)

**39.** The World Bank approved \$500 million to help Bangladesh improve road connectivity along the Jashore-Jhenaidah corridor covering four western districts. The Western Economic Corridor and Regional Enhancement (WeCARE) Phase I project is the first of a multi-phased \$1.4 billion World Bank program. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank – approved \$500 million – to help "Bangladesh" improve road connectivity
- WeCARE – the first of a multi-phased \$1.4 billion World Bank program
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

**40.** Instamojo, has launched "InstaCash" to enable merchants to gain access to working capital. Merchants can avail loans for up-to Rs 1 lakh, for a period of 7–14 days. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Instamojo – launched "InstaCash" to enable merchants to gain access to working capital
- Merchants can avail loans – up-to Rs 1 lakh
- HQs of Instamojo – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Co-founder and CEO – Sampad Swain





**41.** The Central government has allocated Rs. 4125 Cr for rejuvenating the Small, Medium and Tiny Industries sector in Tamil Nadu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – allocated Rs. 4125 Cr – to Tamil Nadu – for rejuvenating the Small, Medium & Tiny Industries
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**42.** An agreement was signed between the governments of Pakistan and China for construction of a 1,124-megawatt hydropower project at Kohala on the Jhelum River at a cost of \$2.4 billion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China + Pakistan = construction of a 1,124-megawatt hydropower project – on “Jhelum River”
- The project worth – \$2.4 billion
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

**43.** FIFA has approved the Covid-19 relief fund giving a total of \$1.5 billion to help the global football community due to the coronavirus pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FIFA – approved \$1.5 billion – as the Covid-19 relief fund – to help the global football community
- FIFA HQs – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

**44.** The government has approved an additional Rs 1,691 Cr for highway works by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand for 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Government – approved an additional Rs 1,691 Cr – for highway works in – J & K + Uttarakhand – by BRO
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya
- J & K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu

**45.** The World Bank’s Board of Executive Directors approved a \$750 million (about Rs.5600 Cr) MSME Emergency Response program to support increased flow of finance into the hands of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), severely impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank – approved a \$750 million – for “MSME Emergency Response program”
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant



**46.** The World Bank has enhanced its support for Government of India's program through Second National Ganga River Basin Project (SNGRBP) to rejuvenate Ganga river with a USD 400 million (about Rs 3,000 Cr) assistance that will help stem pollution in the river. [{Read more}](#)

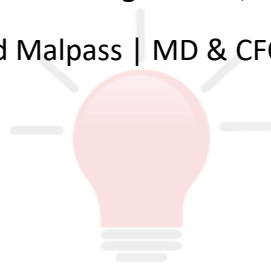
**Key Points:**

- World Bank – allocated USD 400 million (about Rs 3,000 Cr) assistance – to rejuvenate Ganga river
- Under – Second National Ganga River Basin Project (SNGRBP)
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**47.** The World Bank has approved a \$500 million (about Rs 3,700 Cr) loan to improve quality and governance of school education in 6 Indian states under project "STARS – Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Program". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank – approved a \$500 million (about Rs 3,700 Cr) – for education improvement in 6 Indian States
- Under Project – "STARS – Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Program"
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



# Ranks, Reports & Surveys

**1.** According to the global innovation mapping and Research Company StartupBlink, India has moved down from 17th position in 2019 to 23rd this year out of 100 countries for startup ecosystem. The ranking has been led by the US, the UK, and Israel. Moreover, among the top 100 startup cities, only four India cities were captured Bengaluru (14th) has topped among Indian cities. And other cities were New Delhi, Hyderabad & Mumbai. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “Global innovation mapping and Research Company StartupBlink” – a Startup Ecosystem Survey
- India – 23rd (topped by USA)
- Four Indian cities in top 100 [Bengaluru(14th), New Delhi(15th), Mumbai(22nd), Hyderabad(96th) ]

**2.** India secured 168th rank in the 12th edition of the biennial "Environment Performance Index (EPI Index 2020)" that measured the environmental performance of 180 countries and was released by the Yale University and Columbia University. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- India – 168th – in the 12th edition of "Environment Performance Index (EPI Index 2020)"
- Released by – Yale University & Columbia University jointly

**3.** Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra have topped an index that ranked states ensuring food safety in 2019-20 by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Gujarat(1st) + Tamil Nadu(2nd) + Maharashtra(3rd) = topped food safety index – by FSSAI
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatonia

**4.** Akshay Kumar is the only Indian celebrity on the Forbes annual list of 100 Highest-Paid Celebrities. However, Akshay's rank has dropped to #52 (his earnings are estimated at \$48.5 million). The 2020 Forbes 100 list is topped by model-entrepreneur Kylie Jenner with \$590 million. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- “Forbes annual list of 100 Highest-Paid Celebrities-2020” – topped by Kylie Jenner - \$590 million (USA)
- Akshya Kumar (52nd) – \$48.5 million
- HQs of FORBES – Jersey City, New Jersey, US



5. As many as 750 tigers have died in the country in the last eight years due to poaching and other causes, with Madhya Pradesh reporting the highest casualties at 173, according to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of 526 tigers in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 750 tigers – died in the last 8 years (173 death in Madhya Pradesh) – as per NTCA
- NTCA founded in – 2005 | Chairperson – Prakash Javadekar
- Madhya Pradesh – the highest number of 526 tigers
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

6. The IISc, Bangalore got the best rank among the Indian institutes at 36th spot, Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar was ranked 47th in the Times Higher Education Asian University list. This is for the first time that IIT-Ropar has entered in the list the top 50. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Times Higher Education Asian University List”
- IISc Bangalore – 36th (topped in India) | IIT Ropar – 47th (first time in top 50)
- Tsinghua University (China) – topped the overall List

7. Fifteen bird species, including Banasura and Ashambu laughingthrushes, of Kerala have been flagged as key species of concern in the State of India's Birds report released by the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 15 Birds Species of “Kerala” – flagged as key species of concern
- India's Birds report released by – National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)
- HQs of NBA – Chennai, TN | Dr. V. B. Mathur
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram
- CM – Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

8. India's unemployment rate fell between July 2018 and June 2019 to 5.8% from 6.1% during the same period of 2017-18, even as the labour force participation rate rose to 37.5% from 36.9%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's unemployment rate – fell to 5.8% (from 6.1%)
- Labour force participation rate – rose to 37.5% (from 36.9%)



**9.** Three of the autonomous institutions of the Department of S & T, have found their place among top 30 Indian Institutions as per Nature Index 2020 ratings. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) stood at the 160th position, IISc Bangalore at the 184th & Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) at the 260th. The Nature Index 2020 ratings has been globally topped by Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Nature Index 2020 ratings” – globally topped by Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
- In India: CSIR (160th) | IISc Bangalore (184th) | TIFR (260th)

**10.** According to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the value of international trade in goods declined around 5% in the first quarter of 2020 and is expected to decline further by 27% in the second quarter. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to UNCTAD – international trade declined around 5% in Q1
- Expected to decline by 27% in Q2
- UNCTAD HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | UNCTAD Secretary-General – Mukhisa Kituyi

**11.** According to Mercer's '2020 Cost of Living Survey', Mumbai is the 60th most expensive city for expatriates globally, while it ranks 19th in Asia. Mumbai is followed by New Delhi (101st globally) and Chennai (143rd globally). The global list was topped by Hong Kong. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mercer's “2020 Cost of Living Survey” – globally topped by – Hong Kong
- In India: Mumbai (60th) | New Delhi (101st) | Chennai (143rd)

**12.** Switzerland is the safest country in the world, as per the report of Deep Knowledge Group’s safest country in the world from COVID-19. While Switzerland is at the top position with a score of 752, India ranked 56th in the comprehensive report. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The report of Deep Knowledge Group’s safest country in the world from COVID- 19”
- India – 56th | Topped by – Switzerland
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Simonetta Sommaruga



**13.** IIT Madras has been ranked number one in India in both 'Overall' and 'Engineering' Categories in NIRF Rankings 2020. This is the second year when IIT Madras has bagged the Top Rank in 'Overall' Category and fifth year for 'Engineering' category. The rankings were released by HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “NIRF Rankings 2020” – topped by IIT Madras (rankings released by HRD Ministry)
- Categories – both 'Engineering' & 'Overall'

**14.** The latest FIFA rankings released on June 11, 2020. Belgium remained at the top ahead of France and Brazil, who share the top three positions. India has retained the 108th spot with 1187 points. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The latest FIFA rankings” released on June 11, 2020 – topped by Belgium
- 2nd – France & 3rd – Brazil | India – 108th
- FIFA World Cup 2022 – Qatar
- FIFA HQs – Zürich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

**15.** As per the “QS World University Ranking 2021”, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay is at 172nd position; Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore is at 185th spot, while IIT Delhi is at 193rd. Massachusetts Institute for Technology (MIT) USA continues to be at number one spot for the ninth consecutive year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “QS World University Ranking 2021” – topped by Massachusetts Institute for Technology (MIT) USA
- In India: IIT Bombay (172nd) | IISc Bangalore (185th) | IIT Delhi (193rd)

**16.** As per the World Bank’s Global Economic Prospects (GEP) report, India's economy to contract 3.2% in the current fiscal year, a sharp downgrade from its April projection of 1.5%-2.8% growth, citing stringent lockdown and spill overs from weaker global growth. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank’s report – “Global Economic Prospects”
- India's GDP: -3.2% for current year
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**17.** The global economy is on track to shrink by 5.2% this year amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the deepest recession since the Second World War, the World Bank Group said in its latest Global Economic Prospects. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank's report – "Global Economic Prospects"
- Global Economy – to shrink by 5.2%
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

**18.** The "Poonam Avlokan (full-moon night estimation exercise)" showed that the number of Asiatic lions in the Gir forest region has increased by 29% to reach 674 lions in last 5 years. The area inhabited by lions has also increased by 36%. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- As per "Poonam Avlokan" – the number of Asiatic lions in increased by 29% - Gir forest region
- At present – 674 lions in Gir National Park (Gujarat)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

**19.** India became the world's 9th largest recipient of the foreign direct investment in 2019 scoring deals worth \$51 billion, according to the "World Investment Report 2020" by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The ranking was topped by the USA. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – 9th largest recipient of FDI – according to UNCTAD (topped by – USA)
- UNCTAD HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | UNCTAD Secretary-General – Mukhisa Kituyi

**20.** Two Indian startups – Stellapps and Zestmoney are in the list of "Technology Pioneers of 2020" by the World Economic Forum. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Stellapps + Zestmoney = in the list of "Technology Pioneers of 2020" by WEF
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab

**21.** India continued to remain ranked 43rd on an annual "World Competitiveness Index" compiled by Institute for Management Development (IMD). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "World Competitiveness Index-2020" – compiled by IMD
- India – 43rd | Topped by – Singapore

**22.** The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) launched the findings of “SIPRI Yearbook 2020”, which assesses the current state of armaments, disarmament and international security. The nine nuclear-armed states - US, Russia, UK, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea - together possessed an estimated 13,400 nuclear weapons at the start of 2020. India stood at the 6th spot with 150 nuclear warheads. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “SIPRI Yearbook 2020” related to armaments, disarmament and international security
- Ranks based on number of nuclear warheads present – topped by USA (5800)
- 2nd – Russia (6375) | 3rd – UK (215) | 6th – India (150)

**23.** The population of forcibly displaced people around the world due to war, conflict, persecution, human rights violations and events seriously disturbing public order reached 79.5 million in 2019, according to the latest Global Trends report by UNHCR. This is an increase of 8.7 million from 2018. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Global Trends- Forced Displacement in 2019” report – by UNHCR
- The population of forcibly displaced people – reached 79.5 million in 2019
- HQs of UNHCR – Geneva, Switzerland | High Commissioner – Filippo Grandi

**24.** Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries has become the first domestic company to reach Rs 11 trillion in market capitalisation (m-cap). Shares of the oil-to-telecom soared 6.2%, most in two months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Reliance Industries – 1st Indian company – to reach “11 trillion m-cap” (\$150-billion)
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

**25.** The net worth of Mukesh Ambani, chairman of Reliance Industries Ltd., has jumped to \$64.5 billion, making him the only Asian tycoon in the exclusive club of the world’s top 10 richest people, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. He reached the 9th Spot. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mukesh Ambani – the only Asian to appear in the exclusive club of world’s top 10 richest people
- Net worth – \$64.5 billion



**26.** Half of the world's children, or approximately 1 billion, are affected annually by physical, sexual or psychological violence, suffering injuries, disabilities and death, according to the “Global Status Report on Preventing Violence Against Children 2020”. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Global Status Report on Preventing Violence Against Children 2020” – by UN
- 1 billion Children – suffer physical, sexual or psychological violence
- HQs of UN – New York, USA | Director – Antonio Guterres

**27.** According to the 69th edition of “Statistical Review of World Energy 2020”, India was the 2nd major market after China to increase primary energy consumption in the year 2019. On the other hand, India’s energy consumption in 2019 was the 3rd largest (34.06 EJ-an increase of 2.3%) only after China (141.70 EJ) and United States (94.65 EJ). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 69th edition of “Statistical Review of World Energy 2020”
- India – 2nd to increase primary energy consumption in 2019 | China – 1st
- India – 3rd in Energy Consumption in 2019 | China – 1st | USA – 2nd

**28.** The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates Covid-19 to have pushed nearly 45 million across the globe into acute food insecurity. More than two-thirds of the 45 million are from South and South East Asia, while the remainder is from sub-Saharan Africa. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- According to FAO – Covid-19 pushed nearly 45 million people into acute food insecurity
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu

**29.** The average temperature over India is projected to rise by 4.4 degrees Celsius, while the intensity of heat waves is likely to increase by 3-4 times by the end of the century, according to a government report on the impact of climate change on the country prepared by the Centre for Climate Change Research, a cell under MoES’ Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune. India’s average temperature has risen by around 0.7 degree Celsius during 1901–2018, largely on account of Green House Gases-induced warming. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1st report on climate crisis titled “Assessment of climate change over the Indian region”
- The report prepared by – Ministry of Earth Science (MoES)
- Average temperature of India – projected – to rise by 4.4 degrees
- Intensity of heat waves – projected – to rise by 3-4 times
- India’s average temperature – has risen – by 0.7 degrees Celsius during 1901-2018



**30.** According to official data from the US Treasury Department, India became the 12th largest holder of US government securities at the end of April, with holding worth \$157.4 billion. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – 12th largest holder of US government securities – worth \$157.4 billion
- 1st – Japan (\$1.266 trillion) | 2nd – China (\$1.073 trillion) | 3rd – UK (\$368.5 billion)

**31.** As per the World Bank Data under the International Comparison Program (ICP), which was revealed by NSO of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), India has retained its position as the third-largest economy for 2017 in the world in terms of Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), behind the US and China. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoSPI report– India – 3rd largest Economy in terms of PPP (1st – US | 2nd – China) – for 2017
- PPP – Purchasing Power Parity
- NSO comes under – Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoS I/C - Rao Inderjit Singh)

**32.** The Supreme Court refused to entertain a plea seeking a direction to the Centre, states and UTs to set up expert committees to improve India's "pathetic" 69th global ranking on the Rule of Law Index (RLI) - 2020, compiled by World Justice Project. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Rule of Law Index (RLI)-2020” – compiled by World Justice Project
- India – 69th | Topped by – Denmark

**33.** As per the latest data from the World Federation of Exchanges, BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange) is at the tenth place in the top-10 list, with a market capitalisation of \$1.7 trillion in terms of cumulative market capitalisation of all companies listed on its platform. The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) tops the chart. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BSE – 10th place – in market capitalization – with \$1.7 trillion
- NYSE – topped – with \$19.3 trillion

**34.** An estimated 120 million children living in South Asian countries, including India, could slip into poverty within the next 6 months due to the COVID-19 crisis, taking the total number of such kids in the region to 360 million, according to a new UNICEF report. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A new UNICEF report – Children to fall into poverty and food insecurity in South Asian countries
- New – estimated 120 million | Total – 360 million | in next – 6 months
- UNICEF HQs – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore

**35.** IIT Ropar has emerged as the only Indian institution to appear in the Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2020. Among the top 70 young universities, IIT Ropar has been ranked 62nd in the world. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Ropar – only Indian institution to appear in the “Times Higher Education Young University Rankings-2020”
- IIT Ropar – Topped in India | 62nd – in the world
- Hong Kong University of Science and Technology – topped in the world

**36.** Covid-19 pandemic is likely to bring down India’s per capita income (PCI) by 5.4% in the financial year 2020-21 (FY21) to Rs 1.43 lakh from Rs 1.52 lakh in FY20, suggests the latest report by the economic wing of State Bank of India (SBI). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Covid-19 – to bring down India’s PCI – by 5.4% – to Rs 1.43 lakh (from Rs 1.52) – as per SBI wing’s report
- SBI Bank HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | SBI Bank Chairman – Rajnish Kumar
- SBI Bank MD & CEO – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Deputy MD & CFO – Chalasani Venkat Nageswar
- SBI Life CEO – Sanjeev Nautiyal

**37.** More than 3 lakh people living with HIV (PLHIV) were provided with tuberculosis (TB) preventive therapy in 2019, and HIV testing for all notified TB patients increased to 81% in 2019 from 67% in 2018, noted that annual TB Report-2020 released by the Health Ministry. There was 14% rise in TB patients in 2019. The report release also saw unveiling of a Joint Monitoring Mission (JMM) report, a manual on Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to TB patients under “NIKSHAY” system. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 3 lakh+ people with HIV – provided with TB preventive therapy – in 2019
- HIV testing for TB Patients – increased to 81% in 2019 (from 67%)
- The rise was – 14% – in TB patients in 2019
- DBT-Direct Benefit Transfer – to TB patients under – “NIKSHAY” system

**38.** Two Indian cities ranked among top 40 of the world’s most favourable ecosystems to build a globally successful startup, topped by the Silicon Valley in California. Bangalore was ranked 26th and Delhi 36th in “The Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2020”. Bangalore stood out for high access to funding and Delhi ranked well for the volume and complexity of patent creation in the analysis. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “The Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2020”
- Topped by – Silicon Valley | Bangalore – 26th | Delhi – 36th

**39.** India has moved down three places to 77th rank in terms of money parked by its citizens and enterprises with Swiss banks at the end of 2019, while the UK has retained its top position, as per the latest data from Switzerland's central bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Latest data from Switzerland's central bank – in terms of money parked by citizen & enterprises
- India – 77th | Topped by – UK
- HQs of Swiss National Bank (SNB) – Zurich, Switzerland | Chairman– Thomas Jordan

**40.** As per UNESCO's 2020 Global Education Monitoring Report titled - “Inclusion and Education: All means All”, all over the world, children face different forms of discrimination that hinder them from accessing education. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Inclusion and Education: All means All” report – launched by UNESCO
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

**41.** India notified the highest number of 24.04 lakh tuberculosis cases last year. On the basis of the score in State TB Index, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh were the top three best-performing states for tuberculosis control under the category of states with 50 lakh population. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India – 24.04 lakh TB cases – last year
- Increase in TB patients – 14% in 2019 (compared to 2018)
- Best Performing States in TB control = 1st – Gujarat | 2nd – Andhra Pradesh | 3rd – Himachal Pradesh

**42.** The output of Eight Core Infrastructure Industries shrank by 23.4% in May due to the coronavirus-induced lockdown, according to the official data. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The output of Eight Core Infrastructure Industries – shrank by 23.4% – in May

**43.** The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has released a report titled “Money Laundering and the Illegal Wildlife Trade”. In its first global report on the illegal wildlife trade, it has described it as a “global threat”. The illegal trade is estimated to generate revenues of up to \$23 billion a year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FATF – released a report titled “Money Laundering and the Illegal Wildlife Trade”
- Illegal Wildlife Trade is estimated to generate revenues of – up to \$23 billion a year
- HQs of FATF – Paris, France | President – Xiangmin Liu | Member Countries – 39



**44.** A new report titled "Towards a Clean Energy Economy" by NITI Aayog and Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) identifies how COVID-19 is beginning to influence the clean energy transition in India, specifically for the transport and power sectors. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- A new report titled "Towards a Clean Energy Economy" released by = NITI Aayog + RMI
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi
- CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of RMI – New Delhi

**45.** According to the data on the International Investment Position (IIP) released by the Reserve Bank, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India rose by \$19 billion while portfolio investment declined by \$13.7 billion during 2019-20. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- FDI in India – rose by \$19 billion – according to the data on the IIP – released by RBI
- Portfolio Investment declined – by \$13.7 billion
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor - Shaktikanta Das(25<sup>th</sup>)

**46.** As per the State of World Population 2020 report released by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), India accounts for 45.8 million of the world's 142.6 million "missing females" over the past 50 years. [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- "The State of World Population 2020" report – released by 'UNFPA'
- Missing Females over the past 50 years: India – 45.8 million | World – 142.6 million
- HQs of UNFPA – New York, USA



# Acquisitions & Mergers

**1.** Amazon is in early-stage talks to buy 5% stake worth at least \$2 billion in mobile operator Bharti Airtel, three people with knowledge of the discussions told Reuters, in a move that could turbocharge India's digital economy. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Amazon – to buy 5% stake (\$2 billion) – in Bharti Airtel
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal

**2.** Tata Power has completed the acquisition of 51% stake in TP Central Odisha Distribution Ltd (TPCODL) for Rs 178.5 crore. TPCODL was incorporated on April 6, 2020 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of GRIDCO to carry out the business of Central Electricity Supply Utility (CESU). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Tata Power – 51% stake (Rs 178.5 Cr) in – TPCODL
- HQs of Tata Power – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – N. Chandrasekaran
- HQs of GRIDCO – Bhubaneswar, Odisha | CMD – Dr. Saurabh Garg

**3.** Facebook Inc. completed its acquisition of 9.9% stake in Jio Platforms via a new entity Jaadhu Holdings LLC, according to regulatory documents. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Facebook – acquired – 9.9% stake in “Jio Platforms” – via “Jaadhu Holdings LLC”
- Facebook: HQs – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

**4.** Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) invested Rs 5,683.50 crore for a 1.16% equity stake in Jio Platforms. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ADIA – acquired 1.16% stake (Rs 5683 Cr) – in Jio Platforms
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

**5.** Abu Dhabi-based sovereign investor Mubadala Investment Company will buy 1.85% stake in Jio Platforms for Rs 9,093.6 crore. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Mubadala Investment Company – to buy 1.85% stake (Rs. 9,093.6 Cr) in – Jio Platforms
- HQs of Mubadala – Abu Dhabi, UAE | CEO – Khaldoon Al Mubarak
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani



**6.** The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed merger between Peugeot S.A. and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles N.V. PSA is a publicly listed limited liability company incorporated in France. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Peugeot S.A. (France) + Fiat Chrysler Automobiles N.V (UK) = Merger approved by CCI
- CCI HQs - New Delhi | Chairman - Ashok Kumar Gupta

**7.** Reliance raised another Rs 4,546.80 Cr from sale of further 0.93% stake to Silver Lake. Silver Lake had previously taken 1.15% stake in Jio Platforms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Silver Lake – acquired 0.93% stake (Rs 4546 Cr) – in Reliance Jio
- HQs of Silver Lake – California, USA | CEO – Egon Durban
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

**8.** Bharti International (Singapore) Pte Ltd, a wholly owned arm of Bharti Airtel, has acquired Japanese telco, NTT DoCoMo's 6.3% stake in Robi Axiata for an undisclosed sum in an all-cash deal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bharti International (Singapore) Pte Ltd – acquired 6.3% stake – Robi Axiata (of NTT DoCoMo)
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal
- HQs of Robi Axiata – Dhaka, Bangladesh | MD & CEO – Mahtab Uddin Ahmed
- HQs of NTT Docomo Inc. – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Kazuhiro Yoshizawa

**9.** Jio Platforms is set to raise another Rs 6441.3 Cr by selling a combined 1.32% to US private equity firms TPG and L Catterton where TPG is set to invest Rs 4,546.80 Cr in Jio Platforms for a 0.93% stake, L Catterton will invest another Rs 1,894.50 Cr to pick up 0.39%. These are the eighth and ninth investors, respectively. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jio Platforms – sold 1.32% stake – worth Rs 6441.3 Cr
- TPG (USA) – acquired 0.93% stake – worth Rs 4,546.80 Cr
- L Catterton (USA) – acquired 0.39% stake – worth Rs 1,894.50 Cr
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

**10.** The Competition Commission of India has approved the acquisition of certain stakes in 91Streets Media Technologies, Ascent Health and Wellness Solutions, and API Holdings by MacRitchie Investments. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MacRitchie Investments (Singapore) – acquired some stake in = 91Streets Media Technologies + Ascent Health and Wellness Solutions + API Holdings
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta

**11.** Jio Platforms, owned by Reliance Industries announced that Saudi Arabia-based Public Investment Fund (PIF) will invest Rs 11,367 Cr for 2.32% stake in the company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Saudi Arabia-based PIF – acquired 2.32% stake (Rs 11,367 Cr) – in Jio Platforms
- HQs of PIF – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

**12.** The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of Metso Oyj's (Metso) minerals business by Outotec Oyj (Outotec) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Outotec Oyj (Outotec) – acquired – Metso Oyj (Metso)
- Approved by CCI – under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002
- HQs of Metso – Espoo, Finland | HQs of Outotec – Helsinki, Finland

**13.** Facebook has acquired Swedish mapping start-up Mapillary as part of an effort to take on Apple and Google at mapping the world at ground level. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Facebook – acquired – “Mapillary” (Sweden)
- Facebook: HQs – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

**14.** ICICI Bank sold its 3.96% stake in its general insurance arm ICICI Lombard for nearly Rs 2,250 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ICICI Bank – sold its 3.96% stake – in ICICI Lombard
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta
- ICICI Bank: HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#)





**15.** US-based Carlyle Group Inc will buy 20% stake in Piramal Pharma for around USD 490 million (over Rs 3,700 Cr). [\[Read more\]](#)

**Key Points:**

- Carlyle Group Inc – will buy 20% stake – in “Piramal Pharma” – for USD 490 million (over Rs 3,700 Cr)
- HQs of Carlyle Group Inc – Washington, D.C., USA | CEO – Kewsong Lee
- HQs of Piramal Group – Mumbai, MH | Executive Director – Anand Piramal



# MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

**1.** Ircon International Ltd (formerly Indian Railway Construction Ltd) has signed a pact with the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIFL) and Ayana Renewable Power for exploring opportunities in the solar energy segment. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Ircon Int. Ltd + NIIFL + ARP = exploring opportunities in the solar energy segment
- HQs of Ircon Int. Ltd – New Delhi | CMD – S K Chaudhary
- HQs of NIIFL – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Sujoy Bose
- HQs of ARP – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Shivanand Nimbargi

**2.** South African National Space Agency (SANSA) of South Africa has partnered with NASA to host a deep-space ground station, which will support human spaceflight missions to the Moon, Mars and beyond. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- SANSA + NASA = to host a “Deep-Space Ground Station”
- SANSA – a space agency of South Africa (South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand)
- NASA HQs – Washington, D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

**3.** Yes Bank has partnered with Chalo to launch of a co-branded contactless travel card in Mangalore and Udupi, which would enable users to load money on the card to make 'tap to pay' payments across buses. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Yes Bank + Chalo = to launch of a co-branded ‘Contactless Travel Card’
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar
- Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

**4.** Saregama, a music label of India, has entered into a global deal with Facebook to license its music for video and other social experiences across products offered by the social media giant. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Saregama + Facebook = to license its music for video and other social experiences across
- Facebook: HQs – California, USA | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

**5.** GAIL (India) and Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi for cooperation in development of Trigenation projects in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- GAIL + EESL = for cooperation in development of Trigenation projects
- HQs of GAIL – New Delhi | CMD – Manoj Jain
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | Chairman – Rajeev Sharma

**6.** Mastercard, Axis Bank and Worldline launched Soft POS to become the first financial payments service in India to transform everyday smartphones into merchant Point of Sale terminals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mastercard + Axis Bank + Worldline = launched Soft POS
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry
- HQs of Worldline – France | CEO – Gilles Grapinet

**7.** The DBS (Development Bank of Singapore) has partnered with Transport Corporation of India Limited (TCIL) for empowering truck drivers by facilitating real-time payments through the DBS RAPID (Real Time APIs by DBS) solution. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DBS + TCIL = for DBS RAPID (Real Time APIs by DBS) solution
- HQs of DBS Group – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta
- HQs of DBS bank India – Mumbai | CEO – Surojit Shome
- HQs of TCIL – Gurgaon, Haryana | CMD – D P Agarwal

**8.** The Union Cabinet approved the signing of an MoU with Bhutan for cooperation in the field of environment protection and management of natural resources. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Bhutan = MoU for cooperation in the field of environment protection
- Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum



**9.** Tech Mahindra Ltd has signed a joint declaration with the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), urging governments to align their Covid-19 recovery efforts with the latest climate science & to reduce Co2 emissions. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tech Mahindra – signed a joint declaration with UNGC – to reduce Co2 emissions
- HQs of Tech Mahindra – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Chander Prakash Gurnani
- HQs of UNGC – New York, USA | CEO – Ms. Lise Kingo

**10.** The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has entered into an agreement with Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) for cooperation in the field of Space Situational Awareness (SSA) and Astrophysics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO + ARIES = for cooperation in the field of SSA & Astrophysics
- HQs – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed in – 1969
- HQs of ARIES – Nainital, Uttarakhand

**11.** CSIR and Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) have signed a letter of intent to collaborate in areas of mutual interest for promoting innovation in the country in various sectors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CSIR + AIM = signed a letter of intent to promote innovation
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | CSIR President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande
- AIM Director – Ramanan Ramanathan

**12.** India and Denmark have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Indo-Denmark Energy Cooperation to develop a strong, deep and long-term co-operation between the two countries in the power sector. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India + Denmark = MoU in the power sector
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone

**13.** Kerala based start-up VST Mobility Solutions tied up with Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Science and Technology (SCTIMST) to launch IoT (Internet of Things) based used mask disposal smart bin & UV light-based disinfection device namely 'BIN-19' & 'UV SPOT' to beat COVID 19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- VST Mobility Solutions (Kerala) + SCTIMST (Kerala) = to launch IoT & developed 'BIN-19' & 'UV SPOT'
- SCTIMST Director– Asha Kishore

**14.** The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and Rotary India Humanity Foundation digitally signed MoU for e-learning content telecast for class 1-12 over all NCERT TV channels. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NCERT + Rotary India Humanity Foundation = MoU for e-learning content telecast – for class 1 to 12
- HQs of NCERT – New Delhi | Director – Hrushikesh Senapaty
- HQs of Rotary India Humanity Foundation – Kolkata, West Bengal

**15.** TCS iON, part of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), has partnered with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to provide its training partners access to the TCS iON Digital Glass Room, enabling online vocational skills training for millions of students across the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- TCS iON + NSDC = to enable online vocational skills training for millions of students
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan

**16.** State-owned National Fertilizers Ltd (NFL)'s Nangal plant in Punjab has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ITI Nangal to train youth in 12 trades. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NFL + ITI Nangal = MoU to train youth in 12 trades
- HQs of NFL – Noida, UP | MD & Chairman – Virendra Nath Datt

**17.** Recykal, a digital technology company in waste management space, has partnered with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages (HCCB) for Project "Prithvi" - a joint initiative for developing sustainable plastic waste management practices in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Recykal + UNDP + HCCB = for Project "Prithvi"
- HQs of Recykal – Hyderabad, Telangana | Founder – Abhay Deshpande
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner
- HQs – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Christina Ruggiero

**18.** ePaisa, a leading point of sale (POS) solution provider in India, has joined hands with First Alliance Bank (Z) Ltd in Zambia, Africa to provide mobile point of sale (mPOS) solution to the SMEs and other businesses in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ePaisa + First Alliance Bank = to provide mobile point of sale (mPOS) solution to the SMEs
- HQs of ePaisa – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Pravinkumar Bhandari
- HQs of First Alliance Bank – Lusaka, Zambia | MD – Inder Mani Malik

**19.** Fertiliser major IFFCO has signed an agreement with government's farm research institute ICAR (Indian Agricultural Research Institute) for joint research, testing and validation of different products. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IFFCO + ICAR = or joint research, testing and validation of different products
- HQs of IFFCO – New Delhi | Chairman – Balvinder Singh Nakai
- HQs of ICAR – New Delhi | Director General – Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra

**20.** The 'Department of School Education and Literacy' under MHRD has joined hands with sports ministry's flagship programme 'Fit India' under the 'Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat' initiative to produce a series of special films promoting 10 indigenous sports of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MHRD + Sports Ministry = collaborated to produce a series of promoting 10 indigenous Sports
- HRD Ministry – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' | Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand
- Sports Ministry – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West

**21.** Empays Payment Systems India Pvt Ltd, which built and runs the IMT Payment System, announced a partnership with Mastercard to enable contact-free ATM cash withdrawals in India. India now has become the second nation to have contact-free ATM cash withdrawals. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Empays Payment Systems + Mastercard = to enable contact-free ATM cash withdrawals
- HQs of Empays Payment Systems – Mumbai, MH | CMD – Ravi Rajagopalan
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)
- India - 2nd country to have contact-free ATM cash withdrawals



**22.** With the lockdown ending and domestic travel gradually starting across the country, PhonePe announced the launch of a comprehensive, domestic multi-trip insurance cover in a strategic partnership with ICICI Lombard. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PhonePe + ICICI Lombard = launched “Domestic multi-trip insurance cover”
- PhonePE HQs – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta

**23.** Greece and Italy have signed an agreement demarcating their maritime boundaries, amid tension in the Mediterranean region over rights to natural resources. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Greece + Italy = an agreement demarcating their maritime boundaries
- Greece – Athens – Euro | Italy – Rome – Euro

**24.** In a bid to fight child exploitation online, Facebook joined Google, Microsoft and 15 other tech companies to announce the formation of Project Protect to combat child sexual abuse on its platforms. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Facebook + Google + Microsoft = formed – a Project Protect to combat child sexual abuse
- Facebook: HQs – California, USA | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg
- Microsoft: HQs – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella
- Google: HQs – California, USA | CEO – Sundar Pichai

**25.** The Maharashtra government signed 12 major memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with foreign and Indian companies with investment worth Rs 16,100 Cr. It is a part of the Magnetic Maharashtra 2.0 initiative. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Maharashtra – signed 12 major MoUs – worth Rs 16,100 Cr
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshiyari

**26.** Indian software major, Infosys along with US telecommunication conglomerate Verizon and British consumer goods company Reckitt Benckiser, signed on to The Climate Pledge, an initiative by Amazon founder and Global Optimism founder to become Net-Zero carbon by 2040. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Infosys + Verizon + Reckitt Benckiser = signed on to The Climate Pledge
- To become Net-Zero carbon by – 2040
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh



**27.** Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) has announced a partnership with HDFC Bank to offer online auto retail financing solutions to the customers on its “Click to Buy” - a digital car buying platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hyundai Motor + HDFC = to offer online auto retail financing solutions on its “Click to Buy” platform
- HQs of HMIL – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Seon Seob Kim
- HDFC HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Aditya Puri
- HDFC Bank Tagline – “We understand your world”

**28.** The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has signed a pact with SIDBI to implement PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), a Special Micro-Credit Facility for Street Vendors. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MoHUA + SIDBI = to implement PM SVANidhi
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa

**29.** Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) has partnered with automobile major Maruti Suzuki to fund existing and new buyers of its vehicles with simpler and flexible financing schemes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- KVB + Maruti Suzuki = to fund existing and new buyers of its vehicles
- HQs of KVB – Karur, Tamil Nadu | CEO – P. R. Seshadri
- HQs of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Kenichi Ayukawa

**30.** To protect the health of common man, Karnataka Bank has launched a special health insurance policy for COVID-19 in a tie-up with Universal Sompo General Insurance Company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka Bank + Universal Sompo General Insurance = launched a special health insurance policy for COVID-19
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S
- HQs of USGI – Mumbai, MH



**31.** HDFC ERGO partnered with TropoGo Tech start-up to launch on-demand 'Pay as you fly' insurance for drone owners. This policy is the first-of-its-kind in the non-life insurance segment in India which will be offered on-demand to customers on 'Pay as you Fly' concept. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- HDFC ERGO + TropoGo = to launch on-demand 'Pay as you fly' insurance – for “Drone Owners”

**32.** The Serum Institute of India (SII) will provide ten million doses of the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV), which helps to prevent severe pneumonia, to lower-income countries for the next decade under a new supply agreement with the UNICEF & GAVI that helped dramatically decreased the price of pneumonia vaccine for those nations. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SII + UNICEF + GAVI = will provide “10 million doses” of PCV to lower-income countries
- HQs of SII – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Adar C. Poonawalla
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore
- HQs of GAVI – Geneva, Switzerland

**33.** Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA Life) has tied up with East Consultancy Services to offer Aadhaar-based paperless offline e-KYC service. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tata AIA Life + East Consultancy Service = to offer Aadhaar-based paperless offline e-KYC service
- HQs – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rishi Srivastava

**34.** NITI Aayog and International Transport Forum (ITF) will collaborate to launch a new project called “Decarbonising Transport in India” on 24 June to chart out a path for a low-carbon transport system in the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog + ITF = will collaborate to launch “Decarbonising Transport in India”
- HQs of ITF – Paris, France
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi
- CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar



**35.** UCO Bank tied up with 4 insurers to offer various insurance products to its customers through its network of branches across the country. The lender teamed up with SBI Life Insurance Company, the Oriental Insurance Company and Religare Health Insurance Company, Star Health and Allied Insurance Company. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UCO Bank – tied up with – 4 insurers
- SBI Life Insurance + Oriental Insurance + Religare Health Insurance + Star Health and Allied Insurance
- HQs of UCO Bank – Kolkata, West Bengal | MD & CEO – Atul Kumar Goel
- HQs of SBI Life – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Sanjeev Nautiyal
- HQs of Oriental Insurance – New Delhi | CMD – A V Girija Kumar
- HQs of Religare Health Insurance – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Anuj Gulati
- HQs of Star Health Insurance – Chennai, TN | CEO – V. Jagannathan

**36.** IBMC Financial Professionals Group has joined hands with US Gold Currency Inc and Blockfills to bring the world's first monetary gold-backed digital gold currency to India. The currency is also being simultaneously introduced in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Middle East and Africa. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IBMC + US Gold Currency Inc + Blockfills = to bring world's first monetary gold-backed Digital Gold Currency
- HQs of US Gold Currency Inc – Jackson, Wyoming, USA
- HQs of Blockfills – Chicago, USA

**37.** Rajasthan government has collaborated with Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL) to start 'Smart Classrooms' in the state. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajasthan + PGCIL + EdCIL = to start 'Smart Classrooms' in the state
- HQs of PGCIL – Gurgaon, Haryana | CMD – Kandikuppa Sreekant
- HQs of EdCIL – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CMD – Manoj Kumar
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**38.** The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) India and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi have collaborated to develop innovative solutions for the government's food safety nets through operations research. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- UNWFP + IIT Delhi = to develop innovative solutions for the government's Food Safety Nets
- HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36

**39.** Coal India Limited (CIL) has agreed to partner with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog to support proactively the flagship mission's innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives across the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- CIL + AIM = to support proactively the flagship mission's innovation
- HQs of CIL – Kolkata, WB | Director – Anil Kumar Jha
- Atal Innovation Mission – under “NITI Aayog” (HQs – New Delhi)
- CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**40.** Yes Bank has partnered with fintech startup “Affordplan” to launch a co-branded health card called “Swasth Card” to address healthcare needs. The co-branded healthcare card will enable families plan and manage their finances for their healthcare needs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Yes Bank + Affordplan = to launch a co-branded health card called “Swasth Card”
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar
- Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”
- HQs of Affordplan – New Delhi

**41.** The Haryana government has signed an agreement with Reliance Jio TV to facilitate a “Distance Education Programme” for school students amid the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Haryana + Reliance Jio TV = “Distance Education Programme” for school students
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

**42.** “Surakshit Dada-Dadi, Nana-Nani Abhiyan” is a collaborative effort between NITI Aayog, Piramal Foundation, and 25 Aspirational Districts to ensure the well-being of 2.9 million Senior Citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog + Piramal Foundation = “Surakshit Dada-Dadi, Nana-Nani Abhiyan”
- To ensure the well-being of – 2.9 million Senior Citizens
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**43.** Bengaluru based B2B digital platform "SOLV" has launched an MSME segment focused Credit Card, in partnership with Standard Chartered Bank. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SOLV + SCB = launched an MSME segment focused 'Credit Card'
- HQs of SOLV – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Nitin Mittal
- HQs of SCB – London, UK | CEO – Bill Winters

**44.** Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship & IBM partnered to launch Free Digital Learning Platform "Skills Build Reignite" to reach more job seekers & provide new resources to Business Owners in India. And they also announced a ten-week duration "Skills Build Innovation Camp" for students. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MSDE + IBM = to launch "Skills Build Reignite" & "Skills Build Innovation Camp" for students
- MSDE Minister – Mahendra Nath Pandey (Constituency – Chandauli, UP)
- IBM HQs – Armonk, New York, United States | CEO – [Arvind Krishna](#)

**45.** The Flipkart-backed payments player - PhonePe has officially launched '@ibI' handle in partnership with ICICI Bank as part of an effort to diversify into a Multi-Bank Partnership Model. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PhonePe + ICICI Bank = launched '@ibI' handle – for UPI Multi-Bank Partnership Model
- PhonePE HQs – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam
- ICICI Bank: HQs – Mumbai | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#)

**46.** The Centre, the Tamil Nadu government and the World Bank signed two agreements for affordable housing projects in Tamil Nadu involving a total outlay of \$250 million. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- World Bank + Tamil Nadu = signed two agreements for affordable housing projects – outlay of \$250 million
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit



**47.** Foodtech giant Swiggy has launched its digital wallet named "Swiggy Money" in partnership with ICICI Bank, which will allow customers to store money to be used for orders on the platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Swiggy + ICICI Bank = launched "Swiggy Money" Digital Wallet
- HQs of Swiggy – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Sriharsha Majety
- ICICI Bank: HQs – Mumbai | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#) | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”

**48.** The Indian Railways has signed an MoU with RailTel for installation of an IP-based video surveillance system at 6,049 railway stations across the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Railways + RailTel = to install IP-based video surveillance system – at 6,049 railway stations
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra

**49.** The South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) signed an MoU with Indian Oil and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to set up a pilot project for ‘Waste to Wealth Plant’ at its Okhla landfill site in New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SDMC + Indian Oil + NTPC = to set up a pilot project for ‘Waste to Wealth Plant’ – at Okhla in Delhi
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya

**50.** RSWM Ltd, the flagship firm of textiles major LNJ Bhilwara Group has signed a strategic partnership with Switzerland's HeiQ to offer anti-coronavirus fabric under its Mayur brand. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RSWM + HeiQ = partnership – to offer anti-coronavirus fabric – under “Mayur brand”
- HQs of HeiQ – Switzerland

**51.** SAP India has announced the launch of “Global Bharat”, a program designed to enable Indian MSMEs become globally competitive by equipping them with digital technologies. It is launched in association with NASSCOM Foundation, UNDP and Pratham InfoTech Foundation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SAP + NASSCOM + UNDP + Pratham InfoTech = to launch “Global Bharat” program for MSMEs
- HQs of SAP – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD – Deb Deep Sengupta
- NASSCOM HQs – New Delhi
- Chairman – UB Pravin Rao | Vice-Chairman – Rekha M Menon | President – Debjani Ghosh
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner



# **Books & Authors**

**1.** Indian author and renowned personal lifestyle coach, Luke Coutinho's new book, titled "The Dry Fasting Miracle: From Deprive to Thrive" will be published under the Ebury Press imprint of Penguin Random House. The book was co-authored by Sheikh Abdulaziz Bin Ali Bin Rashed Al Nuami, a member of the Ajman royal family in the UAE. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- "The Dry Fasting Miracle: From Deprive to Thrive" book – authored by "Luke Coutinho"
- Co-authored by – Sheikh Abdulaziz Bin Ali Bin Rashed Al Nuami

**2.** "A Burning", the breakaway novel that everyone is talking about, is written by Megha Majumdar. A Burning is a quiet, searing study of the underclass and the aspiring middle class in India. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- "A Burning" Novel – authored by Megha Majumdar

**3.** Shobhaa De's new series of short stories is set amid the tumult of the Covid-19 pandemic. "Lockdown Liaisons: Leaving and Other Stories", Shobhaa De's, series of short stories, looks at how confinement affects different people in different ways. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- "Lockdown Liaisons: Leaving and Other Stories" the book – Sobhaa De

**4.** Kazuo Ishiguro's first novel since he won the Nobel prize for literature named "Klara and the Sun" will be published in March 2021. It is about an 'Artificial Friend' who wants to find a human owner. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- "Klara and the Sun" Novel – authored by "Kazuo Ishiguro"

**5.** Biography of Dadabhai Naoroji, who internationalised freedom struggle, is to hit store shelves. Dinyar Patel is the author of the book "Naoroji-Pioneer of Indian Nationalism". It was published by the Harvard University Press in May 2020. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- "Naoroji-Pioneer of Indian Nationalism" book – Dinyar Patel
- Published by – Harvard University Press

**6.** "Legend of Suheldev - The King Who Saved India" - a tale of a magnificent 11th century king, who united different Indians against the onslaught of invaders, is the first in a stream of stories from Amish's Writers' Centre. It is an exclusive first excerpt from the foreword to the book. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Legend of Suheldev - The King Who Saved India" book – authored by "Amish Tripathi"

**7.** The Prime Minister paid tribute to Acharya Shri Mahapragyaji on the occasion of his birth centenary on June 19. The Prime Minister mentioned one of his books - "The Family and The Nation" which was written by Acharya Mahapragya along with Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- PM paid tribute to – Acharya Shri Mahapragya (10th head of the Shwetambar Terapanth order of Jainism)
- "The Family and The Nation" book – written by Acharya Mahapragya + Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

**8.** US President Donald Trump's brother has requested for a temporary restraining order against his niece Mary Trump, in an attempt to halt the publication of her upcoming book based on her family – "Too Much and Never Enough: How My Family Created the World's Most Dangerous Man". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Too Much and Never Enough: How My Family Created the World's Most Dangerous Man" book – Mary Trump

**9.** Dr. Adyasha Das, well-known poet from Odisha has released her fourth book of poems, "The Yogini Poems: Love and Life", based on the Chausathi Yoginis of Hirapur. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "The Yogini Poems: Love and Life" book – authored by "Dr. Adyasha Das" (from Odisha)

**10.** Hind Pocket Books has recently signed Shri Priyamvad, a celebrated writer in Hindi literature. His new book, "Bharatiya Loktanktra Ka Koras: Kuch Bisari Bikhari Dhwaniyan" will be released next year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Bharatiya Loktanktra Ka Koras: Kuch Bisari Bikhari Dhwaniyan" book – Priyamvad

# Obituaries

1. Former international archer turned coach Jayantilal Nanoma was killed in a road mishap. He was 35. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Jayantilal Nanoma – passed away – Archery
- HQs of World Archery Federation – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Ugur Erdener

2. Former Union Minister and 3-time Congress MP from Ladakh, P Namgyal, passed away after brief illness in the Union Territory of Ladakh. He was 83. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- P Namgyal – passed away – Politician (MP from Ladakh)

3. Former Pakistan first-class cricketer Riaz Sheikh passed away after reportedly testing positive for novel coronavirus (COVID-19). He was 51. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Riaz Sheikh (Pakistan) – passed away – Cricket
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi

4. Veteran filmmaker, Basu Chatterjee, the director behind cult films like 'Rajnigandha' and 'Chitchor', passed away due to age-related ailments. He was 93. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Basu Chatterjee – passed away – Film Director

5. Music composer, director and singer Wajid Khan passed away at the age of 42 in Mumbai. He was diagnosed with the novel coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Wajid Khan – passed away – Music Composer, Director & Singer

6. Former two-time Tamil Nadu State BJP president K N Lakshmanan died due to age-related ailments. He was 90 years. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- K N Lakshmanan – passed away – Politician (BJP – Tamil Nadu)
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai
- CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit





**7.** Bobby Joe Morrow, the Texas sprinter who won three gold medals in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, has passed away. He was 84. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Bobby Joe Morrow (USA) – passed away – Athlete (Sprinter)

**8.** Veteran lyricist Anwar Sagar passed away. He wrote the lyrics of the song “Waada Raha Sanam” for the 1992 film Khiladi. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anwar Sagar – passed away – Lyricist

**9.** British producer, songwriter and advocate Rupert Hine has died at the age of 72. Hine started out in the music business in the mid-1960s & posed with tape machines in a recording studio in 1973. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rupert Hine (UK) – passed away – Producer, Songwriter And Advocate
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK - Boris Johnson

**10.** Bollywood Film producer Anil Suri, who had backed films like Raaj Kumar-Rekha starrer Karmayogi and Raaj Tilak, passed away due to coronavirus. He was 77. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anil Suri – passed away – Film Producer

**11.** Former Santosh Trophy player Hamza Koya passed away after undergoing plasma therapy for Covid-19 infection in Kerala. He was 61. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hamza Koya (Kerala) – passed away – Football Player
- “Santosh Trophy” related to – Football

**12.** Former Delhi Police commissioner Ved Prakash Marwah passed away recently in Goa. He was 87. Marwah served as governor of Manipur from 1999 to 2003, governor of Mizoram from 2000 to 2001, and governor of Jharkhand from 2003 to 2004. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ved Prakash Marwah – passed away – Indian police officer & a Politician



- Served as the Governor of – Manipur, Mizoram & Jharkhand

**13.** Kurt Thomas, the first U.S. male gymnast to win a world championship gold medal, has died. He was 64. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kurt Thomas (USA) – passed away – Gymnast

**14.** Famous Kannada actor Chiranjeevi Sarja passed away at the age of 39 years in Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Chiranjeevi Sarja – passed away – Kannada Actor

**15.** Former Union Minister & Odisha MP Arjun Charan Sethi passed. He was 79. An eight-time Parliamentarian from Bhadrak (Odisha), Sethi was Water Resources Minister in Atal Bihari Vajpayee Cabinet from 2000 to 2004. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Arjun Charan Sethi – passed away – Politician (MP from Odisha)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**16.** Dr A Vaidyanathan, a former member of the Government of India's Planning Commission, passed away. During his lifetime, Dr Vaidyanathan also served as a Professor at the Madras Institute of Development Studies. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr A Vaidyanathan – passed away – Professor (former member of India's Planning Commission)

**17.** Pierre Nkurunziza, the outgoing president of Burundi has died of a sudden illness, suspected by many to be Covid-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pierre Nkurunziza (Burundi) – passed away – Former President of Burundi
- Burundi – Gitega – Franc

**18.** DMK MLA J Anbazhagan, who contracted COVID-19 earlier in June, died in Chennai. He was 61. [{Read more}](#)



**Key Points:**

- J Anbazhagan (Tamil Nadu) – passed away – Politician [Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Party]

**19.** Manchester United's European Cup-winning defender, footballer, Tony Dunne has died aged 78. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tony Dunne (Ireland) – passed away – Football (Manchester United's European Cup-winner)
- Ireland – Dublin – Euro

**20.** TV actor Jagesh Mukati, best known for playing Lord Ganesha on the 2000 mythological serial 'Shree Ganesh', has died at the age of 47. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jagesh Mukati – passed away – TV Actor

**21.** Former IIM-Lucknow director Pritam Singh, an acclaimed management guru and Padma Shri awardee, passed away following a cardiac arrest. He was 78. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pritam Singh – passed away – Management Trainer (Former IIM-Lucknow director)

**22.** Lieutenant General (retd) Raj Mohan Vohra, who was a 1971 war hero and a Maha Vir Chakra awardee, has died due to COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Leut. Gen. Raj Mohan Vohra – passed away – Army Personnel (Maha Vir Chakra awardee)

**23.** Samir Bangara, the co-founder and chief executive of digital music platform Qyuki Digital Media, passed away following a motorcycle accident. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Samir Bangara – passed away - Co-Founder And Chief Executive of "Qyuki" Digital Media Company
- HQs of Qyuki – Mumbai, MH

**24.** Former Goa minister Achyut Kashinath Sinai Usgaonkar died following age-related ailments. He was 92. He served as a cabinet minister from August 13, 1977 to April 27, 1979 in the then Shashikala Kakodkar government of Goa, Daman and Diu. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Achyut Kashinath Sinai Usgaonkar – passed away – Politician (Minister of Goa, Damna & Diu)

**25.** Actor Sushant Singh Rajput, 34, was committed suicide in Mumbai at his home. He was born on 16th January 1986 in Patna, Bihar. The actor was known for his performances in films such as Chhichhore, MS Dhoni: The Untold Story and Detective Byomkesh Bakshy! [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Sushant Singh Rajput – passed away – Actor
- He was born in – Patna, Bihar

**26.** Noted folk singer of Uttarakhand Heera Singh Rana died at the age of 78 due to a heart attack. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Heera Singh Rana (Uttarakhand) – passed away – Folk Singer

**27.** Former New Zealand Test cricketer Matt Poore, who is remembered for catching a stray dog during a match in Bengaluru in 1955 and subsequently taking 12 anti-rabies injections, has died at the age of 90. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Matt Poore (New Zealand) – passed away – Cricketer
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD)

**28.** Atul Srivastava, Director (Personnel), Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) passed away recently at Apollo Hospital, New Delhi following a cardiac arrest. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Atul Srivastava – passed away – Director of SAIL
- HQs of SAIL – New Delhi | CEO – Anil Kumar Chaudhary

**29.** Famous Urdu Poet Pandit Anand Mohan Zutshi 'Gulzar' Dehlavi, who had recovered from COVID-19 recently, passed away. He was 94. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pandit Anand Mohan Zutshi 'Gulzar' Dehlavi – passed away – Urdu Poet

**30.** India's oldest First Class Cricketer Vasant Raiji passed away recently. He was 100. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vasant Raiji – passed away – Cricketer

**31.** Social worker Vidyaben Shah passed away at her residence in the national capital. She was 98. As a university student, she participated in the Quit India Movement. She was honoured with the Padma Shri in 1992. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vidyaben Shah – passed away – Social Worker (Padma Shri in 1992)

**32.** Senior journalist and freedom fighter from Maharashtra, Dinu Randive passed away recently. He was 95. He was a Founder & Editor of Samyukta Maharashtra Patrika. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dinu Randive (Maharashtra) – passed away – Journalist + Freedom fighter
- Founder & Editor of – “Samyukta Maharashtra Patrika”

**33.** Former Lok Sabha MP and founder of Janalaxmi Cooperative Bank Madhavrao Patil died recently in Maharashtra's Nashik district. He was 80. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Madhavrao Patil (Maharashtra) – passed away – Lok Sabha MP & Founder of Janalaxmi Cooperative Bank
- HQs of JCB – Nashik, Maharashtra

**34.** Noted Economist B P R Vithal, who served as a Member of the 10th Finance Commission, died in Hyderabad. He was 93. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- B P R Vithal – passed away – Economist + Member of the 10th Finance Commission

**35.** Malayalam screenwriter and director K R Sachidanandan, popularly known as Sachy, passed away in Thrissur. He was 48. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K R Sachidanandan – passed away – Malayalam Screenwriter & Director



**36.** Major General Lachhman Singh Lehl, one of India's finest military brains passed away in New Delhi. He was 97. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Major Gen. Lachhman Singh Lehl – passed away – Army Personnel

**37.** Joel Schumacher the eclectic and brazen Filmmaker passed away recently. He was 80. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Joel Schumacher (USA) – passed away – Filmmaker

**38.** Former Karnataka basketball star K Raghunath passed away due to age-related complications. He was 74. Fondly referred to as "Pappachi", Raghunath was one of the founding members of the still-popular "Beagles Basketball Club". [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K Raghunath (Pappachi) – passed away – Basketball

**39.** Former international rifle shooter and coach from Maharashtra, "Pournima Zanane", passed away recently. She was 42. She had represented India at World Cups, Asian Championships and was a national record holder in 10m air rifle event. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pournima Zanane (Maharashtra) – passed away – Rifle Shooter

**40.** One of India's finest left-arm spinners, Rajinder Goel passed away in Kolkata after battling long-term illness. He was 77. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rajinder Goel (Kolkata) – passed away – Cricket

**41.** Vishwa Bandhu Gupta, a former member of Parliament and a Journalist, known as the Balloon Man, passed away recently. He was 93. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Vishwa Bandhu Gupta (Balloon Man) – passed away – Politician + Journalist

**42.** American movie Producer Steve Bing, who backed films like 'The Polar Express' and 'Beowulf' has passed away at age 55. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Steve Bing (USA) – passed away – Movies Producer

**43.** Trinamool Congress lawmaker "Tamonash Ghosh" has passed away recently. He had tested coronavirus disease (Covid-19) positive and was undergoing treatment. He was 60. He was a three-time MLA from the Falta Assembly constituency of South 24 Parganas. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamonash Ghosh – passed away – Politician (Congress & 3-time MLA from Falta)

**44.** Sqn Ldr Parvez Jamasji (retd), who was awarded the Vir Chakra for gallantry during the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war, has died. He was 77. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Parvez Jamasji – passed away – Army Personnel (Vir Chakra – in 1971)

**45.** Veteran novelist Geetha Nagabhushan passed away recently in June. She was 78 and was suffering from age-related ailments since recent years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Geetha Nagabhushan – passed away – Veteran Novelist

**46.** Veteran novelist Geetha Nagabhushan passed away recently in June. She was 78 and was suffering from age-related ailments since recent years. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Geetha Nagabhushan – passed away – Novelist



# Persons in News

**1.** The Expert Committees on Rationalisation/Closure/Merger of 'Film Media Units' under the chairmanship of Shri Bimal Julka, submitted their report to Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- The Expert Committees on Rationalisation/Closure/Merger of 'Film Media Units' – Bimal Julka
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ministry of Info. & Broadcasting
- Constituency – Maharashtra

**2.** Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan was tested positive for the novel coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Nikol Pashinyan (PM of Armenia) – tested positive for Covid-19
- Armenia – Yerevan – Armenian Dram

**3.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appointed a committee headed by Rajnath Singh to resolve any problem in the implementation of the Rs 3 lakh crore collateral-free loan scheme for MSMEs under Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) scheme announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- A committee for 'Rs 3 lakh crore collateral-free loan scheme' for MSMEs – headed by Rajnath Singh
- ECLGS Scheme – Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme
- Rajnath Singh – Minister of Defence Ministry | Constituency – Lucknow, UP

**4.** The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA), K Vijay Raghavan to the Government of India and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) have initiated a consultation process for formulation of a new national Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020). [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- PSA + DST = have initiated a consultation process for "STIP 2020"
- PSA – K Vijay Raghavan

**5.** The tenure of Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary K Shanmugam has been extended by three months till October 31. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- K Shanmugam – extended as the Chief Secretary of "Tamil Nadu" by 3 months
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai
- CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit





**6.** The government announced setting up of a high level Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS), to be chaired by the cabinet secretary, and a Project Development Cell (PDC) in ministries/ departments with a view to attracting investments to the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A high level Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) – chaired by Cabinet Secretary (Rajiv Gauba)
- PDC – Project Development Cell

**7.** Since March, telecom companies in India replaced ringtones with default caller tunes that spread awareness about the virus. And the voice that delivers you the message in Hindi, is of Delhiite Jasleen Bhalla. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Delhiite Jasleen Bhalla – voice behind the Covid-19 Caller tune in Hindi

**8.** The RBI (Reserve Bank of India) has been promoting financial inclusion under the two pronged system namely- Horizontally Differentiated Banking System (HDBS) and Vertically Differentiated Banking System (VDBS) as per the recommendations of the committee on 'Comprehensive Financial Services for Small Businesses and Low-Income Households' headed by Shri Nachiket Mor. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A committee on 'Comprehensive Financial Services for Small Businesses and Low-Income Households'
- Headed by – Nachiket Mor
- HDBS – Horizontally Differentiated Banking System
- VDBS – Vertically Differentiated Banking System

**9.** Markets regulator SEBI has re-constituted its commodity derivatives advisory committee that examines issues related to contract designs and new products in the segment and advises on matters related to delivery mechanism and warehouses. The 17-member committee would be chaired by retired IAS officer Ashok Dalwani. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SEBI re-constituted – 17-members Commodity Derivatives Advisory Committee – chaired by Ashok Dalwani
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

**10.** The Government of India has set up a Task Force to examine matters pertaining to age of motherhood, imperatives of lowering MMR, improvement of nutritional levels and related issues. The Task Force is headed by Ms. Jaya Jaitly. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A Task Force to examine matters pertaining to age of motherhood – headed by "Jaya Jaitly"



**11.** The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has reconstituted a committee to look into the welfare of freedom fighters, with the minister of state for home affairs G Kishan Reddy as the chairman and 9 eminent freedom fighters from across the country as its members. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MHA – reconstituted a committee – for the welfare of freedom fighters
- The committee chaired by – G Kishan Reddy (MoS in Ministry of home affairs)
- Ministry of Home Affairs – Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

**12.** Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched a high-level 8-member panel of leading experts to help the officials identify options for Southeast Asian economies to tap into to quickly bounce back after the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The panel is moderated by ADB Vice-President Ahmed M Saeed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ADB – constituted – 8 member panel of Experts – to help Southeast Asian economies to recover from COVID-19
- The panel moderated by – Ahmed M Saeed
- ADB: HQs – [Mandaluyong, Philippines](#) | President – [Masatsugu Asakawa](#) | Member countries – 68

**13.** The RBI proposed changes to Securitisation Rules. The draft guidelines take into account the recommendations of the Committee on Development of Housing Finance Securitisation Market in India (Chair: Dr. Harsh Vardhan) and the Task Force on the Development of Secondary Market for Corporate Loans (Chair: Shri T. N. Manoharan), which were set up by the Reserve Bank in May, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – proposed changes – to ‘Securitisation Rules’
- “Committee on Development of Housing Finance Securitisation Market in India” – chaired by Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- “Task Force on the Development of Secondary Market for Corporate Loans” – chaired by T N Manoharan

**14.** Gargo International, a Delhi-based Lubricant Company under the flagship of R.G. Group has appointed Actor Sonu Sood as its brand Ambassador in the month of January, this year. And they praised him for his tremendous work and his kindness towards the migrants. The company has gone live with its TVC now, starring Sonu Sood. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Actor “Sonu Sood” – brand Ambassador of “Gargo International” – got praised for his work
- HQs of Gargo International – New Delhi



**15.** Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launched the “Feedback Call Centres on Public Grievances” and interacted live with citizens whose grievances have been successfully redressed on the COVID-19 National Monitor for Public Grievances. The Call centre is operated in 14 languages. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – launched “Feedback Call Centres on Public Grievances”
- Jitendra Singh – MoS of DoNER, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space
- Call centre is operated in – 14 languages

**16.** Anmol Narang has made history by becoming the first Sikh woman to graduate from the prestigious United States Military Academy at West Point. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Anmol Narang – first Sikh woman – to graduate from the US Military Academy at West Point

**17.** The RBI has constituted a 5-member Internal Working Group (IWG), headed by RBI Central Board Director P K Mohanty, to review the extant guidelines on ownership and corporate structure for Indian private sector banks. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RBI – constituted – 5-member Internal Working Group (IWG)
- The group is headed by – P K Mohanty (RBI Central Board of Director)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**18.** Attorney General K K Venugopal has agreed for extension of one more year as a top law officer of the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- K K Venugopal – extended for 1 year as the – Attorney General of India

**19.** Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Dharmendra Pradhan launched the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX), first nationwide online delivery-based gas trading platform. The exchange will provide 6 market products. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dharmendra Pradhan – launched – IGX 1st online delivery-based gas trading platform
- The exchange will provide – 6 market products
- Dharmendra Pradhan – Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Minister of Steel
- Constituency – RS MP from Madhya Pradesh

**20.** Astronaut and oceanographer Kathy Sullivan, who was the first American woman to walk in space in 1984, became the first woman and the fifth person in history to descend to the deepest known spot in the world's oceans, called the "Challenger Deep" in the Mariana Trench. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kathy Sullivan – became the 1st woman & 5th person to reach "Challenger Deep"
- "Challenger Deep" – in Mariana Trench – Western Pacific Ocean

**21.** The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) reconstituted an advisory panel on corporate insolvency resolution and liquidation process by inducting four new members. The committee is chaired by noted banker Uday Kotak (Vice Chairman and MD of Kotak Mahindra Bank) and it was constituted in August 2017. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IBBI – reconstituted an advisory panel on corporate insolvency resolution and liquidation process
- Added 4 new members | Chaired by – Uday kotak
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Uday Kotak
- HQs of IBBI – New Delhi | Chairperson – M S Sahoo

**22.** Chief minister Mamata Banerjee has launched a web portal "Karmabhumi" for the IT professionals who have returned to the state following the Covid-19 outbreak to help them find jobs. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mamata Banerjee (WB) – launched "Karmabhumi" web portal – for the IT professionals
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

**23.** Government think tank NITI Aayog under the leadership of its CEO, Amitabh Kant, has formed a panel including top officials of tech companies like Google, Microsoft and Tech Mahindra to develop a job platform for migrant labours. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog – formed a panel to develop a job platform for migrant labours
- The panel headed by – Amitabh Kant
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi
- CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar



**24.** A SEBI panel headed by former Supreme Court Judge Anil Dave suggested measures to strengthen markets watchdog's enforcement mechanism and improve the system of recovery of siphoned off money. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- A SEBI panel headed by – Former SC Judge Anil Dave
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

**25.** The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has set up a Project Development Cell (PDC) headed by Amitesh Kumar Sinha to attract more investments into the sector that will help meet its 175 GW target for green energy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- MNRE – set up a PDC headed by “Amitesh Kumar Sinha” – to attract more investments into the sector
- Raj Kumar Singh – Minister of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
- Targets: 175 GW of renewable energy – by FY 2022 | 275 GW – by FY 2027

**26.** Kazakhstan's first President, Nursultan Nazarbayev, has been tested positive for COVID-19 and has gone into self-isolation. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Nursultan Nazarbayev (1st President of Kazakhstan) – has been tested positive for COVID-19
- Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge

**27.** Television host Jimmy Kimmel will host and produce the 72nd Emmy award ceremony this year. This marks the third time Kimmel will be hosting the Emmys. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jimmy Kimmel – will host and produce the 72nd Emmy award ceremony

**28.** Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain, who tested positive for coronavirus, has been administered plasma therapy in Max hospital. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The first patient to be successfully cured of COVID-19 through Plasma therapy discharged – in Karnataka
- New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

**29.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP national President JP Nadda paid tributes to the founder of Jana Sangh Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his death anniversary on June 23. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi + Amit Shah + JP Nadda = paid tributes to Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee
- He was – the founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh

**30.** Rahul Dravid is the greatest Indian Test batsman, according to a poll conducted on social media by Wisden India. Dravid got 52% of the votes, with as many as 11,400 fans taking part in the final round of voting. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Rahul Dravid – the greatest Indian Test batsman – according to a poll on social media – by Wisden India

**31.** Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar virtually inaugurated the India Pavilion at the Cannes Film Market. It is one of the biggest gatherings of filmmakers and cinema lovers, could not take place this year in May due to the coronavirus pandemic. FICCI has been managing the Indian Pavilion on behalf of the Ministry since 2014 at Cannes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Prakash Javadekar – inaugurated – India Pavilion at the “Cannes Film Market”
- FICCI has been managing the Indian Pavilion – since 2014
- Prakash Javadekar – Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ministry of Info. & Broadcasting
- Constituency – Maharashtra
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangita Reddy

**32.** KK Shailaja, the Health Minister of Kerala, was invited and honored by the United Nations to participate in a panel discussion on World Public Service Day 2020. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- KK Shailaja – Health Minister of “Kerala” – invited and honored by UN – on World Public Service Day-2020
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**33.** Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare launched the “eBloodServices” mobile App developed by The Indian Red Cross Society (ICRS) through a video conferencing. The Union Health Minister is also the Chairman of Indian Red Cross Society. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – launched the “eBloodServices” mobile App
- The app developed by – ICRS
- HQs of ICRS – New Delhi | President – Ram Nath Kovind | Chairman – Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Sci. & Tech., Ministry of Earth Science

- Constituency – Chandni Chowk, New Delhi

**34.** Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal launched the Food Processing Edition of the Exclusive Investment Forum by Invest India, the National Investment Promotion & Facilitation Agency of the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- FPI Minister – launched – Food Processing Edition of the Exclusive Investment Forum – by Invest India
- FPI Minister – Harsimrat Kaur Badal (Constituency – Bathinda, Punjab)

**35.** The US Space Agency, NASA will rename its Washington headquarters after its first black female engineer, Mary Jackson. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA – to rename – its Washington headquarters – after “Mary Jackson” (first black female engineer)
- NASA HQs – Washington, D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

**36.** The Centre has extended the tenure of the OBC Commission headed by Justice G. Rohini by 6 months. The panel will submit its report to the government by January 31, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The Centre has extended – the tenure of the OBC Commission – by 6 months (January 31, 2021)
- The commission headed by – Justice G. Rohini

**37.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Uttar Pradesh government’s “Atmanirbhar UP Rojgar Abhiyan” to help migrant workers. Over 1.25 Cr migrant workers and labourers across 31 districts in Uttar Pradesh who lost their jobs due to coronavirus pandemic are likely to benefit from this unique initiative. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Modi – launched – “Atmanirbhar UP Rojgar Abhiyan” – to help migrant workers
- It covers – 1.25 Cr migrant workers and labourers – in 31 districts of UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**38.** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has constituted a 9-member panel headed by Anjan Dey to study the kind of insurance products that are required to cover the various risks involved in the use of drones. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**



- IRDAI – constituted a 9-member panel to study – Drone insurance – headed by – Anjan Dey
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia

**39.** Union Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched a web portal for monitoring implementation of the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Narendra Singh Tomar – launched "Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan" portal
- Narendra Singh Tomar – Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Panchayati Raj
- Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh

**40.** NITI Aayog launched behaviour change campaign 'Navigating the New Normal' and its website to help people follow norms to contain the spread of Covid-19. It is chaired by NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NITI Aayog launched – “Navigating the New Normal” a behaviour change campaign – chaired by Amitabh Kant
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

**41.** Actress Priyanka Chopra and filmmaker Anurag Kashyap are among the 50 celebrated filmmakers and actors invited as the ambassadors of 45th edition of Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) this year. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Priyanka Chopra + Anurag Kashyap = named as Ambassadors for the 45th edition of TIFF-2020

**42.** Lazarus Chakwera has sworn in as Malawi president after historic win. He defeated incumbent Peter Mutharika with 58.57% of votes. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Lazarus Chakwera – sworn in as the president of – Malawi
- Malawi – Lilongwe – kwacha



**43.** Kashmiri separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani announced his resignation from the All Parties Hurriyat Conference. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Syed Ali Shah Geelani (Kashmir) – resignation – from the All Parties Hurriyat Conference

**44.** Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic has declared a landslide victory for Serbian Progressive Party (SNS) in a parliamentary election by winning 63% of the vote, or about 189 seats in the 250-member General Assembly. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Aleksandar Vucic – declared victory for Serbian Progressive Party (SNS) by winning 63% votes
- Serbia – Belgrade – Dinar | President – Aleksandar Vucic | PM – Ana Brnabic



# Science & Technology

**1.** The Institute for Astronomy at the University of Hawaii's Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System (ATLAS) has revealed that a new asteroid known as "2019 LD2" with a comet-like-tail has been discovered moving in the same orbit travelled by Jupiter around the sun. [\[Read more\]](#)

## **Key Points:**

- The Institute for Astronomy at the University of Hawaii's – discovered – a new asteroid - "2019 LD2"
- ATLAS – Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System

**2.** Facebook's experimental app division or the New Product Experimental (NPE) lab has soft-launched a new app called 'Collab' that aims to bring a new approach to collaborative short music videos making. [\[Read more\]](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Facebook – launched – 'Collab' short music videos making app
- Facebook: HQs – California, USA | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg

**3.** World Health Organization has launched Covid-19 "Technology Access Pool (C-TAP)" that aims at making tests, vaccines, treatments and other health technologies to fight COVID-19. [\[Read more\]](#)

## **Key Points:**

- WHO – launched – Covid-19 "Technology Access Pool (C-TAP)"
- 35 Countries supported – "C-TAP"
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

**4.** The Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a device "SUMERU-PACS" that helps wearers of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to feel comfortable without sweating. [\[Read more\]](#)

## **Key Points:**

- DRDO – developed "SUMERU-PACS" device
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

**5.** The 'Ultra Swachh' disinfection unit has been developed by the Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied Sciences (INMAS) in partnership with industry partner M/s Gel Craft Healthcare Private Ltd, Ghaziabad. [\[Read more\]](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 'Ultra Swachh' disinfection unit developed by – DRDO-INMAS(Delhi) + Gel Craft Healthcare(Ghaziabad, UP)
- INMAS works under – DRDO (HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy)



**6.** Students of IIT Guwahati have developed a mobile application, called “Flyzy” to provide a seamless air travelling experience to passengers during the pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Guwahati – developed – “Flyzy” a mobile application to provide a seamless air travelling experience

**7.** Union Minister of State (I/C) for Development of North Eastern Region Dr. Jitendra Singh Launched "COVID BEEP" app, India's first indigenous, cost effective, wireless physiological parameters monitoring system for COVID-19 patients. It was developed by ESIC Medical College, IIT Hyderabad & Department of Atomic Energy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ESIC + IIT Hyderabad + DAE = developed "COVID BEEP" app
- The app launched by – Dr. Jitendra Singh (MoS I/C for DoNER)

**8.** The National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) here has successfully developed an indigenous nasopharyngeal (NP) swab for collecting samples from the throat cavity of patients affected with Sars-Cov-2 virus which causes the Covid-19 (coronavirus). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NCL (Pune) – developed an indigenous nasopharyngeal (NP) swab

**9.** Within days of sending two NASA astronauts to ISS (International Space Station) on Falcon 9 rocket, SpaceX has now launched 60 new internet satellites into orbit using another Falcon 9 rocket. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- SpaceX – launched – 60 new internet satellites – using Falcon 9 rocket
- HQs – California, U.S. | CEO – Elon Musk

**10.** Scientists at the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), an autonomous R&D centre of the Department of Science and Technology, have developed a rare-earth-based magnetocaloric material that can be effectively used for cancer treatment. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IARCPMNM – developed a rare magnetocaloric material – for Cancer treatment
- HQs of HQs of IARCPMNM – Hyderabad, Telangana

**11.** A researcher from the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad, has developed an Artificial Intelligence-powered Covid-19 test kit that does not require RT-PCR (Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction). [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Hyderabad – developed AI-powered Covid-19 Test Kit

**12.** Pratik Tirodkar, a 23-year-old engineer from Maharashtra's Thane has developed a first-of-its kind 'Internet-controlled' robot specifically to address the needs of hospitals treating COVID-19 patients. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pratik Tirodkar (Maharashtra) – developed "Coro-bot" – a first-of-its kind 'Internet-controlled' robot
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**13.** The Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) in Pune has developed a nano-technology based disinfectant spray named "Ananya" to combat Covid-19. It is effective in disinfecting all types of surfaces. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DIAT (Pune) – developed a disinfectant spray – "Ananya"

**14.** Scientists say that Saturn's largest moon Titan is moving away from the ringed planet much faster than previously believed. In fact, it is drifting away a hundred times faster - about 11 centimetres per year. The study was published in the journal Nature Astronomy. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Saturn's largest moon "Titan" – moving away from the ringed planet – 100 times faster than believed
- The study was published in – "Nature Astronomy" journal

**15.** For the first time, Scientists from France witnessed birth of new planet around a distant star. The new discovery was published in Astronomy & Astrophysics journal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Scientists from France – witnessed birth of new planet
- The discovery was published in – "Astronomy & Astrophysics" journal

**16.** The star Kepler-160 and its companion KOI-456.04 are more reminiscent of the Sun-Earth system than any previously known exoplanet-star pair, according to a team of scientists led by the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research (MPS) in Gottingen, Germany. The new discovery has been reported in Astronomy & Astrophysics. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The star Kepler-160 and its companion KOI-456.04 – discovered
- The discovery published in – “Astronomy & Astrophysics” Journal

**17.** Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy launched "GermiBAN" a robot that carries essentials products to frontline COVID-19 workers. It was developed by AIC ALEAP - WEHub. It kills surface and air microbes and could be used in isolation wards, quarantine centres, hospitals and public spaces. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "GermiBAN" robot – launched by G Kishan Reddy (MoS for Home Affairs)
- Developed by – AIC ALEAP - WEHub (Hyderabad, Telangana)

**18.** Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a sanitizing chamber named 'GermiKlean' to sanitise uniforms of security forces. The sanitizing chamber has been set up at Parliament Street Police Station. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- DRDO – developed – “GermiKlean” a sanitizing chamber to sanitise uniforms of security forces
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

**19.** Researchers at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi have developed a herbal infusion technology as a sustainable means of income for local marginal farmers in the mid-Himalayan region. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Mandi – developed a herbal infusion technology as a sustainable means of income

**20.** Scientists have observed the fifth state of matter in space for the first time. Bose-Einstein condensates (BECs) - the existence of which was predicted by Albert Einstein and Indian mathematician Satyendra Nath Bose almost a century ago. The research published in the journal Nature. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Scientists – observed – 5th state of matter in Space
- BEC – Bose-Einstein condensates | Existence predicted by = Albert Einstein + Satyendra Nath Bose

**21.** India's first infectious disease diagnostic lab is now ready. This rapid response mobile labrotary is part of government Aatmnirbhar Bharat. This lab can test Elisa about 200 per day and RTPCR about 50 per day. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- India's first Infectious Disease Diagnostic Lab
- Testing Capacity: Elisa – about 200/day | RTPCR – about 50/day

**22.** Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan launched India's first mobile “I-Lab” (Infectious disease diagnostic lab) for last-mile access to Covid-19 testing. "I-LAB" is supported by the Department of Biotechnology & developed by Andhra Pradesh Med-tech Zone. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – launched India's first mobile “I-Lab” (Infectious disease diagnostic lab)
- Developed by – Andhra Pradesh Med-tech Zone
- Supported by – Department of Biotechnology

**23.** Astronomers at NASA and European Space Agency ESA recently discovered a neutron star estimated to be about 240 years old called Swift J1818.0-1607. The discovery was published in The Astrophysical Journal. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NASA + ESA = discovered a 240 years old neutron star – “Swift J1818.0-1607”
- The discovery – published in “The Astrophysical Journal”
- NASA HQs – Washington, D.C., United States | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

**24.** ISRO has received a patent for its Liquid Cooling and Heating Garment (LCHG) made of biocompatible fabrics and components to provide a comfortable temperature and removal of sweat for astronauts, for use in space for protection from hot and cold environments. ISRO has initiated the Rs 10,000 Cr project “Gaganyaan” with a target to send a human to space by 2022. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- ISRO – received a patent for – “LCHG” - Liquid Cooling and Heating Garment
- ISRO’s Target to send human to space by – 2022
- ISRO: HQs – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan

**25.** IIT-Bombay has developed a homegrown receiver chip “Dhruva” that can be used in smartphones and navigation devices to find locations and routes within the country. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IIT Bombay – developed – a receiver chip “Dhruva” to find locations

**26.** After receiving the approval from the drug regulator DCGI in the country, Glenmark pharmaceuticals has announced an antiviral drug – “Favipiravir” for mild to moderate COVID-19 positive patients. The drug will be available under the brand name “FabiFlu” and it will cost patients Rs 103 per tablet. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Favipiravir” drug for mild to moderate COVID-19 positive patients | Brand name – “FabiFlu”
- Developed by – Glenmark pharmaceuticals
- Approved by – The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) – V G Somani
- HQs of Glenmark Pharmaceuticals – Mumbai | CMD – Gleen Saldanha

**27.** The Uttar Pradesh Government is very soon going to start an antigen test for identification of COVID patients. It is a test on swab-based nasal samples which gives early results and is very different from the Rapid Antibody Test. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – to start an “Antigen test” – on swab-based nasal samples
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**28.** China successfully launched the last satellite of its BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS), touted to be a competitor to the Global Positioning System (GPS) of the US, taking another step to becoming a major space power. India too is building its navigational system called the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), with an operational name of NAVIC. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China – launched – the last satellite of its BDS (BeiDou Navigation Satellite System)
- India – building – Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) or NAVIC
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

**29.** World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has claimed to have discovered fossil of a “Stegodon” a now-extinct elephant species known as “Proboscideans” - believed to be 5 to 8 million years old from Badshahi Bagh area of Shivalik range in Saharanpur district, Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- WWF – discovered fossil of a “Stegodon” – extinct “Elephant species” – known as “Proboscideans”
- In – Badshahi Bagh, Shivalik range, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh



**30.** Hyderabad-based Hetero Labs has received regulatory approval to manufacture and market antiviral drug “Remdesivir” for treating coronavirus patients. Hetero's generic version of Remdesivir will be marketed under the brand name “Covifor” in India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hetero Labs (Hyderabad) – received approval to manufacture and market antiviral drug “Remdesivir”
- Generic Version of Remdesivir will be marketed under brand name – “Covifor”

**31.** The RedDots team of astronomers from Germany has discovered two super-Earth planets orbiting nearby star Gliese 887, the brightest red dwarf star in the sky. The results were published in the journal Science. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RedDots team (Germany) – discovered two super-Earth planets – orbiting nearby star Gliese 887
- The brightest red dwarf star in the sky is – Gliese 887
- The study published in – “Journal Science”

**32.** Researchers in China have discovered a new type of swine flu named “G4” that is capable of triggering a pandemic, according to a study in the US science journal PNAS. It is genetically descended from the H1N1 strain that caused a pandemic in 2009. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- China – discovered a new type of swine flu – named “G4” – genetically descended from the “H1N1”
- The Study published in – US science journal PNAS

**33.** COVAXIN, India’s first vaccine against the novel coronavirus, developed by Bharat Biotech in collaboration with ICMR and the National Institute of Virology (NIV), has received approval from the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) to conduct Phase I and 2 human trials. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- COVAXIN – India’s first vaccine against the novel coronavirus – received approval from DCGI
- Developed by = Bharat Biotech + ICMR + NIV
- Bharat Biotech HQs – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Dr. Krishna Ella
- ICMR HQs – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava
- HQs of NIV – Pune, Maharashtra | NIV comes under – ICMR



# Ordinance, Bills and Acts

**1.** The Union Cabinet approved amendment to the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The new framework will include enabling barrier-free inter-state trade as well as e-trading of agricultural produce in the country. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Union Cabinet – amended – “Essential Commodities Act, 1955”

**2.** In an order that will come into force from October 1, 2020, the government has mandated all BS-VI-compliant cars to display a 1 cm long “Green sticker” that would provide all registration details of the vehicle. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Government – mandated all BS-VI-compliant cars to display – Green Stickers

**3.** Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved Cow-Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020. The amendments are aimed to protect the cow and prevent crimes related to cow slaughter. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Uttar Pradesh – approved “Cow-Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020”
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**4.** The Telangana government promulgated an ordinance which allowed it to defer salaries and pensions of its employees without getting into legal tangles. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- Telangana – promulgated an ordinance to defer salaries and pensions of its employees
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

**5.** The Jammu and Kashmir Administration approved the proposal of the “Agriculture Production Department” to change its nomenclature to "Agriculture Production and Farmer Welfare Department" with a greater focus on farmers' welfare. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- J & K – to rename “Agriculture Production Department” to "Agriculture Production and Farmer Welfare Department"
- J & K Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – G C Murmu



**6.** Tamil Nadu has approved 10% horizontal reservation for government school students who qualify National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test, NEET. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Tamil Nadu – approved 10% horizontal reservation for government school students who qualify NEET
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**7.** The Union government has decided to bring 1,482 urban cooperative banks and 58 multi-state cooperative banks, under the supervisory powers of the Reserve Bank of India. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- An ordinance – to bring “cooperative banks + multi-state cooperative banks” – under the supervisory of “RBI”
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

**8.** Karnataka has become first state to amend “The Karnataka Industries (Facilitation) Act, 2002” for Small, Medium & Large-Scale industries. Currently, only Gujarat and Rajasthan are the two states in the country that have amended this Act for small scale industries only. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Karnataka – 1st state to amend – “Industries (Facilitation) Act, 2002” – for Small, Medium & Large-Scale industries
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**9.** The Cabinet approved participation of the private sector in the entire range of space activities, including planetary exploration missions. The newly-created Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) will provide a level playing field for private companies to use Indian space infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Cabinet approved – participation of the Private Sector – in “Space” sector
- Cabinet created a body namely – “IN-SPACe” to provide a level playing field for private companies
- Jitendra Singh – MoS of DoNER, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space

**10.** Implementation of amendments in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 and Rules is made from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020 for rationalized collection mechanism of stamp duty across India with respect to Securities Market Instruments. (SMI) [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Indian Stamp Act, 1899 & Rules – made effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020 – to implement uniform stamp duty on SMI

# Current GK

1. The COVID-19 (Technology) Access Pool or C-TAP which was mooted by President Carlos Alvarado of Costa Rica has been launched by the WHO. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- The COVID-19 (Technology) Access Pool (C-TAP) – mooted by Carlos Alvarado
- Launched by WHO
- Costa Rica – San Jose – Costa Rican colon

2. A three-member team with experts from the Wildlife Institute of India, the ministry of environment, forests and climate change and the Indian Veterinary Institute will be visiting Gujarat to assess the recent deaths of lions in eastern part of Gir sanctuary. In last three months, 30-odd lions died in the Gir east region. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- 30 deaths of Lions – in “Gir National Park” – Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

3. The “Bori Wildlife Sanctuary” is a wildlife sanctuary in Hoshangabad District of Madhya Pradesh state in central India. The sanctuary covers an area of 518 km<sup>2</sup>, located in the northern foothills of the Satpura Range.

## **Key Points:**

- “Bori Wildlife Sanctuary” – Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

4. A ‘Nomad’ tiger that recorded a 510 km-long dispersal journey from Maharashtra’s Chandrapur to Madhya Pradesh’s Betul district in 2018 has been captured for killing three people in Kanha National Park. [{Read more}](#)

## **Key Points:**

- ‘Nomad’ tiger – captured in “Kanha National Park” or “Kanha Tiger Reserve” (Madhya Pradesh)
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

5. Sri Venkateshwara National Park is a national park and biosphere reserve in Andhra Pradesh, India. The total area of the park is 353 km<sup>2</sup>. The park is known for its many waterfalls including the Talakona, Gundalakona and Gunjana.

## **Key Points:**

- Sri Venkateshwara National Park – Andhra Pradesh



**6.** The Agency reported that the oil spot was detected in the water area of uvek dipper in the zone of the Volgograd reservoir of the Volga river. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Volga river (Russia) – oil spot was detected in the water
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- Military Exercise with Russia: (Indra, AVIA INDRA)

**7.** The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTc) has granted permission to operate 23 Vayu Vajra buses from 5 locations to the Kempegowda International Airport. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Kempegowda International Airport” – Karnataka

**8.** Mayur Nritya (Peacock Dance) is famous in the state of Uttar Pradesh. It is performed by dancers who wear specially designed clothes so as to resemble a peacock.

**Key Points:**

- Mayur Nritya (Peacock Dance) – Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**9.** According to the RBI, Carve outs have been provided for Residential Mortgage Backed Securities (RMBS) in prescriptions regarding minimum holding period (MHP), minimum retention requirement (MRR) and reset of credit enhancements. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- RMBS – Residential Mortgage Backed Securities
- MHP – Minimum Holding Period
- MRR – Minimum Retention Requirement

**10.** Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has successfully commissioned one 270 MW thermal unit at the 4x270 MW Bhadradi Thermal Power Project in Telangana. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- BHEL – commissioned 270 MW thermal unit Bhadradi Thermal Power Plant (Telangana)
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – N. Chandrababu Naidu



**11.** The colour of water in Maharashtra's Lonar lake, also known as Lonar crater, which was formed after a meteorite hit the Earth some 50,000 years ago, has changed to pink. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The colour of water of Lonar lake (Maharashtra) – changed to pink
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**12.** Sand mining was rampant in Vamsadhara river at Andhra and Odisha border (AOB) areas. The river starts in Odisha and passes through Srikakulam district in the State. Sand is being excavated at Neradi and Singidi areas in Bhamini mandal in Srikakulam district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Illegal Sand mining – in Vamsadhara river – at Andhra and Odisha border (AOB)
- The river starts in – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**13.** The Andhra Pradesh government signed a concession agreement with GMR Airports Ltd for construction of a greenfield international airport at Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram district. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Andhra Pradesh + GMR = for construction of Greenfield Bhogapuram international Airport
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

**14.** A campaign for saving the 111.19 sq. km Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary had gathered momentum after The Hindu had in April broken the story on the National Board for Wild Life's (NBWL) nod for coal mining in a part of the Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary" – Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**15.** The Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) expressed "serious concern" in a report earlier in June that Iran has been blocking inspections at the sites. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- IAEA – expressed serious concern over blocking of inspections at the sites
- HQs of IAEA – Vienna, Austria | DG – Rafael Grossi



**16.** The Kerala government has decided to cancel the “Sabarimala Festival” this year due to the risk involved in the prevailing Covid-19 scenario. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kerala – cancelled – “Sabarimala Festival”
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

**17.** PM Modi highlighted India’s historic and cultural links with Laos and expressed satisfaction at being involved in the restoration of the World Heritage Site at “Vat Phou” during the telephonic conversation with Prime Minister of Lao People’s Democratic Republic Dr Thongloun Sisoulith on the health and economic challenges due to Covid-19 crisis. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- The UNESCO World Heritage Site “Vat Phou” – in Laos
- Laos – Vientiane – Lao kip | PM – Dr Thongloun Sisoulith

**18.** In Odisha, Raja Parba Festival is celebrated for three days during the mid of June, preferably starts from 14th June and ends in 16th. During this period, the state remains in a state of jubilation and celebration. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Raja Parba Festival” – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**19.** Karnataka’s Hubballi railway station is set to get the world's longest railway platform with dimensions of 1,400 metres length and 10 metres width. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Hubballi railway station (Karnataka) – set to get the world's longest railway platform
- Length – 1400m | Width – 10m

**20.** Ghumura dance is a folk dance of Kalahandi district of the Indian state Odisha. It is classified as folk dance as the dress code of Ghumura resembles more like a tribal dance.

**Key Points:**

- “Ghumura” folk dance – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



**21.** The first population estimation exercise of the Indian gaur carried out in the Nilgiris Forest Division in recent years, which was conducted in February of this year, has revealed that more than an estimated 2,000 Indian gaurs inhabit the entire division. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- 1st Population Estimation Exercise of “Indian gaur” – carried out in – “Nilgiris Forest Division” (Tamil Nadu)
- Estimation: “2,000 Indian Gaurs” inhabit the entire division
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai
- CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**22.** On World Environment Day 2020, Bangalore International Airport Limited – operator of Kempegowda International Airport, announced the deployment of a weather-based Smart Automatic Irrigation System to manage its sprawling 100-acre landscape. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kempegowda International Airport (Karnataka) – 1st airport in India to deploy a tech-enabled SAIS
- SAIS – Smart Automatic Irrigation System
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**23.** The Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh, which was shut since March-end due to COVID-19 outbreak, has reopened for tourists after a gap of over two- and-a-half months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kanha National Park (Madhya Pradesh) – has reopened for tourists after two and a half months
- MP: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

**24.** The opening of the “Grand Anicut Dam”, near Trichy, in Tamil Nadu has been postponed. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Grand Anicut Dam” – Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai
- CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

**25.** Manipur's Ministerial team inspected largest freshwater lake " Loktak Lake" in Northeast, Keibul Lamjao National Park (KLNPN) which is country's only floating park. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Loktak Lake + Keibul Lamjao National Park = Manipur
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla



**26.** Harike Wetland also known as "Hari-ke-Pattan", with the Harike Lake in the deeper part of it, is the largest wetland in northern India in the border of Tarn Taran Sahib district and Ferozepur district of the Punjab.

**Key Points:**

- Harike Wetland – "Hari-ke-Pattan" – Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

**27.** Karnataka cricket team returned to the "M Chinnaswamy Stadium" in Bengaluru where they underwent a wide variety of medical tests ahead of the potential resumption of training. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "M Chinnaswamy Stadium" – Bangalore, Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**28.** "Yaosang" is a festival celebrated in Manipur for five days in spring, starting on the full moon day of the month of Lamda (February–March). Yaosang is indigenous traditions of the Meitei people. Like Holi, the Hindu Meitei of Manipur play with colours during this festival.

**Key Points:**

- "Yaosang" festival – Manipur – celebrated by – Meitei people
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla

**29.** Apart from the world-famous Ratha Yatra, which takes place in June, Odia people also celebrate a unique festival called Raja Praba. This is a 3-day-long festival dedicated to Mother Earth and womanhood at large. The first day of the festival is called Pahili Raja, the second is Mithuna Sankranti and the third Bhu daha or Basi Raja. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Raja Praba Festival" + "Ratha Yatra" = celebrated in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**30.** "Kalinga Stadium" among eight sports facilities across India is to be converted into Khelo India State Centre of Excellence. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Kalinga Stadium" – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



**31.** One of India's popular and most visited national parks, Corbett Tiger Reserve including Bijrani, Dhela and Jhirna were opened for tourists after a gap of nearly two and a half months. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Jim Corbett national park / Corbett Tiger Reserve – reopened after two and a half month
- Located in Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain
- CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

**32.** The coronavirus outbreak, which brought India's financial capital Mumbai to a standstill, appears to be entering the slower phase after the doubling rate increased from 30 to 41 days. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mumbai – Financial Capital of India
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**33.** “Ellora Caves” is a UNESCO World Heritage Site located in the Aurangabad district of Maharashtra, India. It is one of the largest rock-cut monastery-temple cave complexes in the world, featuring Hindu, Buddhist and Jain monuments, and artwork, dating from the 600–1000 CE period. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Ellora Caves” – a UNESCO World Heritage Site – in Aurangabad, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**34.** The annual “Jagannath Rath Yatra” in Odisha's Puri was held on June 23, 2020. This year, the Supreme Court had ruled that Rath, i.e, Chariot, would be pulled by not more than 500 persons. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Jagannath Rath Yatra” – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

**35.** Indonesia's Mount Merapi, one of the world's most active volcanoes, erupted twice, sending clouds of grey ash 6,000 metres (6 km) into the sky. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Mount Merapi (Indonesia) – erupted – sending clouds of grey ash 6,000 metres (6 km) high
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo

**36.** In view of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the famous Kamakhya temple management authorities have decided not to allow any devotees, pilgrims to attend this year's "Ambubachi Mela" in Assam. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Ambubachi Mela + Kamakhya Temple – Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

**37.** The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has imposed an interim penalty of Rs 10 lakh on the Karnataka government over pollution in the Kithiganahalli Lake, near Bommasandra suburb in Bengaluru. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- NGT – imposed an interim penalty of Rs 10 lakh – on "Karnataka"
- Kithiganahalli Lake – Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

**38.** The state forest department declared 29.53 sqkm area of Dodamarg forest range in Sindhudurg district as "Tillari Conservation Reserve". Tillari will be the seventh corridor in the state to be declared as a 'conservation reserve'. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Tillari Conservation Reserve" – 7th corridor – in Dodamarg forest range, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**39.** "Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary" is located in one of the oldest mountain ranges of India, the Aravalli range. It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1980.

**Key Points:**

- "Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary" – Aravalli Range, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

**40.** A tigress and three cubs were found dead in the "Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary" recently. The tigers were allegedly poisoned by some residents of Goulali village in a case of human-wildlife conflict over killed cattle. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary" – Goa
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

**41.** The Border Road Organisation (BRO) had built the all-weather, 70-tonne bridge over the river “Shyok” and the 255-km-long Darbuk Shyok Daulat Beg Oldi (DSDBO) road under ‘Project Himank’, known as Mountain Tamers. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Shyok river – in Ladakh
- Ladakh Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

**42.** Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval for the declaration of Kushinagar Airport in the state of Uttar Pradesh as an international airport. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Union Cabinet – approved – “Kushinagar Airport” as an International Airport
- Airport located in – Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

**43.** Kieren D’Souza finished a gruelling 5,289-metre trail run on the Pir Panjal mountain range in Himachal Pradesh. While most climbers take around 6 days to scale ‘Friendship Peak’, Kieren did it in just under 12 hours. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Kieren D’Souza – finished 5,289-metre “Friendship Peak” – Pir Panjal mountain range – Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

**44.** The Maharashtra forest department said the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve (STR) was being frequently used by eight tigers. It was declared a tiger reserve in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- “Sahyadri Tiger Reserve” – Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

**45.** Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated two important Bridges - 10 meter long “Devika Bridge” and 50 meter long “Puneja Bridge” constructed by BRO in Udhampur and Doda districts respectively in Jammu and Kashmir through virtual platform. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Dr Jitendra Singh – inaugurated “Devika Bridge” (Udhampur) + “Puneja Bridge” (Doda) – in J & K

- The bridges constructed by – BRO (Border Roads Organisation)
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh

**46.** Godhan Nyay Yojana was launched in Chhattisgarh from the day of "Hareli Festival" to promote environment conservation, cowdung management and to make animal husbandry more profitable. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- "Hareli Festival" = Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

**47.** Army Chief Gen MM Naravane awarded commendation cards to the soldiers who fought with Chinese troops in face-offs in Eastern Ladakh sector. Indian & Chinese troops have been engaged in violent face-offs in "Pangong Tso lake" which is world's highest salt water lake. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- Pangong Tso lake – world's highest salt water lake – Ladakh

**48.** Nameri National Park is a national park in the foothills of the eastern Himalayas in the Sonitpur District of Assam, India.

**Key Points:**

- "Nameri National Park" – Assam

**49.** A concession agreement for the 600 MW Kholongchhu Indo-Bhutan joint venture Hydroelectric Project was signed. The 600 MW run-of-the-river project is located on the lower course of the Kholongchhu River in Trashiyangtse district in eastern Bhutan. [{Read more}](#)

**Key Points:**

- An agreement – signed for the 600 MW – "Kholongchhu Indo-Bhutan joint venture Hydroelectric Project"
- Location – on the "Kholongchhu River" (Bhutan)



# SmartKeeda

The Question Bank

Presents

## TestZone

India's least priced Test Series platform



### ALL BANK EXAMS

2020-2021 Test Series

@ Just

# ₹ 599/-

300+ Full Length Tests

- ☒ Brilliant Test Analysis
- ☒ Excellent Content
- ☒ Unmatched Explanations

JOIN NOW

