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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill 100 of March 2020 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda

स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF मार्च माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill 100 में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा

501. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The Asia-Pacific region could face a total and permanent income loss of \$620 billion owing to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, according to the latest S&P Global Ratings update released. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Asia-Pacific region face a total and permanent income loss of \$620 billion due to Covid-19
- Forecast has released by S&P Global Ratings
- S&P Global Ratings: Hq – New York City, New York, U.S. | Chief Technology Officer – Marcus Daley

502. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

The impact of global warming on Himalayan glaciers is not a secret, but a study by scientists from a Dehradun-based institution under ministry of science and technology has now found an added cause of concern observing that the glaciers in Sikkim are melting faster than other parts of the Himalayan regions. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Glaciers in Sikkim are melting faster than other parts of the Himalayan regions
- Sikkim : CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

503. Banking & Economic Affairs

India's largest lender SBI has announced to commit 0.25% of its fiscal year 2020 profit to fight COVID-19 outbreak situation in India. This is in line with Ministry of Corporate Affairs' notification of spending CSR funds for COVID-19 as an eligible CSR activity. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

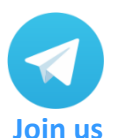
- SBI has announced to commit 0.25% of its fiscal year 2020 profit to fight COVID-19
- SBI: Hq – Mumbai | Founded – 1 July 1955 | Chairperson – Rajnish Kumar
- SBI Tagline: "Pure banking, nothing else"

504. Banking & Economic Affairs

Jana Small Finance Bank, along with National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI), has launched a UPI QR-based loan installment payment facility for its customers. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Jana Small Finance Bank + NPCI – launched – a UPI QR-based loan installment payment facility
- NPCI: Hq – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Dilip Asbe
- Jana Small Finance Bank: Hq – Bengaluru | MD & CEO – Ajay Kanwal



505. Sports & Games

The Government of India (GoI) will make efforts to take indigenous sport kabaddi to the Olympics, Union minister Kiren Rijiju said. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- GoI will make efforts to take indigenous sport kabaddi to the Olympics
- MoS of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West

506. Appointments & Resignations

Vedanta Ltd said its Chief Executive Officer Srinivasan Venkatakrisnan has resigned citing personal reasons and the company has appointed Sunil Duggal as interim chief executive officer of the company. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Sunil Duggal appointed as interim CEO of Vedanta Ltd
- Srinivasan Venkatakrisnan CEO of Vedanta Ltd has resigned

507. Defence Affairs

Operation Namaste is a campaign launched by the Indian Army to combat the spread of COVID-19 and help the government in its fight against the pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Operation Namaste is a campaign launched by the Indian Army
- Indian Army: Hq – New Delhi | Chief of the Army Staff – Manoj Mukund Naravane

508. National & States Affairs

Assam Finance, Health & Family Welfare Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched a helpline number for COVID-19. The helpline number is 104. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Assam launched a helpline number 104 for COVID-19
- Assam : CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



509. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Indian-origin American author Ruchika Tomar has been named the winner of the prestigious 2020 PEN/Hemingway Award for her debut novel 'A Prayer for Travelers' which the judges described as a "remarkable piece of writing, astute in style and structure". [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Ruchika Tomar – won – prestigious 2020 PEN/Hemingway Award – for her novel 'A Prayer for Travelers'

510. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Reserve Bank has opened an emergency line of credit of around Rs. 60,000 crores to Yes Bank to meet any liquidity crisis in paying back its depositors as the bank resumes normal operations. The move comes after 16 years when a similar credit line was opened for Global Trust Bank in 2004. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- RBI has opened an emergency line of credit of around Rs. 60,000 crores to Yes Bank
- The additional liquidity arsenal is in line with Section 17 (4) of the RBI Act
- A similar credit line was opened for Global Trust Bank in 2004.
- RBI: Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das | Founded – 1 April 1935
- YES Bank:Hq – Mumbai | CEO – Prashant Kumar

511. Schemes & Initiatives

PM Narendra Modi announced the creation of an assistance and emergency situation relief fund named "PM-CARES Fund" where people can contribute and help in the government's fight against coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- PM of India – announced – the creation of emergency relief fund named "PM-CARES Fund"

512. Books & Authors

Drawing inspiration and inner-strength from the Holy Scriptures throughout her personal and professional journey, award-winning businesswoman, Savita Chhabra, Chairperson, HRIPL has launched her debut book, called 'Legacy of Learning'; which offers simplistic and relatable interpretations of the Bhagavad Gita in an attempt to connect the youth of India to the age-old, but relevant scriptures. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 'Legacy of Learning'– author Savita Chhabra

513. Science & Technology

Researchers at the IIT Delhi have developed a "probe-free detection assay" to detect COVID-19 which can significantly reduce the test cost making it affordable for large sections. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Delhi has developed a "probe-free detection assay" to detect COVID-19

514. Appointments & Resignations

Governor Shri Lalji Tandon has appointed Purushendra Kaurav senior advocate as advocate general of Madhya Pradesh with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Purushendra Kaurav – appointed – as advocate general of Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh : CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

515. Defence Affairs

US Marines and UAE Emirati forces conducted the biennial exercise, named Native Fury at Abu Dhabi. The biennial exercise, called Native Fury, shows the close ties between American forces and the United Arab Emirates, a federation of seven sheikhdoms on the Arabian Peninsula home to Abu Dhabi. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- "Native Fury 20" – joint military exercise between the UAE and the United States – concluded at Abu Dhabi

516. Important Days & Dates

Every year on March 27, World Theatre Day is observed to generate awareness about the importance of theatre in our life. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- World Theatre Day – Every year on March 27

517. Science & Technology

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) said it has set up a Covid-19 task force for mapping of technologies to fund nearly market-ready solutions in the area of diagnostics, testing, healthcare delivery solutions and equipment supplies. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- DST has set up a Covid-19 task force for mapping of technologies to fund nearly market-ready solutions
- Minister of Science and Technology – Dr. Harsh Vardhan

518. Appointments & Resignations

Indian Revenue Service officers Satish Kumar Gupta and Krishan Mohan Prasad have been appointed new members in the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IRS officers Satish Kumar Gupta and Krishan Mohan Prasad – appointed – as new members in CBDT
- CBDT:Chairman – Pramod Chandra Mody

519. Banking & Economic Affairs

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) said it will provide loans up to Rs 50 lakh to micro and small enterprises (MSEs) that are manufacturing medical supplies for fighting the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- SIDBI will provide loans up to Rs 50 lakh to MSEs for manufacturing medical supplies for COVID-19
- SIDBI: Hq – Lucknow | MD&Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa | Founded – 2 April 1990

520. Banking & Economic Affairs

Repo Rate, or Repurchase Rate, is the key monetary policy rate of interest at which the central bank lends short term money to banks, essentially to control credit availability, inflation, and the economic growth. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- RBI: Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das | Founded – 1 April 1935

521. Appointments & Resignations

The Centre has extended the tenure of Reserve Bank Deputy Governor B P Kanungo by a year with effect from April 3, 2020. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- RBI Deputy Governor – B P Kanungo – got 1 year extension
- RBI: Hq – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das | Founded – 1 April 1935

522. Ranks, Reports & Surveys

Peatlands, which play a crucial role in regulating global climate by acting as carbon sinks, are facing degradation and need to be urgently monitored, according to a Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations report released recently. Peatlands cover only 3 % of Earth's surface. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- According to FAO of UN report – Peatlands – play a crucial role in regulating global climate
- Peatlands cover only 3 % of Earth's surface
- FAO: Hq – Rome, Italy | Head – Qu Dongyu

523. National & States Affairs

The Rajasthan government revised higher dearness allowance for its employees to 17 %, from the existing 12% . [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan govt revised higher dearness allowance from 12% to 17%.
- Rajasthan: CM - Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

524. Important Days & Dates

The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) has celebrated its 66th foundation day, falling on March 29, 2020 innovatively by announcing the opening of virtual tour of its permanent collections amid lockdown. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- National Gallery of Modern Art – celebrated its 66th foundation day – on March 29

525. Science & Technology

IIT Gandhinagar has launched Project Isaac to engage its students in creative projects to enhance their critical skills while they are confined to their homes because of Corona virus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Gandhinagar – launched 'Project Isaac' – to engage its students in creative projects



526. Important Days & Dates

International Day for Achievers is a day that honors those who have achieved something in any field. It is a day that recognizes those who have set goals and displayed determination and confidence on their journey to achieve them.

Key Points:

- The International Day for Achievers is celebrated globally on March 24.

527. Obituaries

Thomas Schaefer, the finance minister of Germany's Hesse state, has committed suicide apparently after becoming "deeply worried" over how to cope with the economic fallout from the coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Thomas Schaefer (Germany) – passed away – finance minister of Germany's Hesse state
- Germany – Berlin – Euros

528. National & States Affairs

In India, the Sawai Man Singh Government Hospital in the Rajasthan capital Jaipur is conducting a series of trials on a humanoid robot to check if it can be pressed into service for delivering medicines, and food to the COVID-19 patients admitted there. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Sawai Man Singh Government Hospital (Jaipur) – conducting – a series of trials on a humanoid robot
- Rajasthan: CM - Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

529. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Ministry of Health through a special amendment has categorised hydroxychloroquine (HCQS) drug as a schedule H1 drug- which means it cannot be sold over the counter. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Health – categorised – hydroxychloroquine (HCQS) drug as a schedule H1 drug
- Union Health Minister – Dr. Harsh Vardhan | Constituency – Chandni Chowk

530. Obituaries

Veteran actress Nimmi passed away at her Mumbai home. She was 88 years old and her original name was Nawab Banoo. Raj Kapoor gave her screen name: Nimmi. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Nimmi (Nawab Banoo) – passed away – Veteran actress



531. International Affairs

International Monetary Fund (IMF) has Launched a Tracker of Policies Governments are Taking in Response to COVID-19 [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- IMF – Launched – “a Tracker of Policies Governments are Taking in Response to COVID-19”
- IMF: Hq – Washington, D.C., United States | MD – Kristalina Georgieva | Chief Economist: Gita Gopinath

532. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The 2019 edition of The Hindu Prize has been awarded to Mirza Waheed's Tell Her Everything in the fiction section and Santanu Das for India, Empire, and First World War Culture: Writings, Images and Songs in the non-fiction section. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Hindu Prize 2019 – awarded to Mirza Waheed – Tell Her Everything (fiction section)
- Santanu Das – awarded – for India, Empire, and First World War Culture (non-fiction section)

533. Science & Technology

The hantaviruses are a family of viruses spread mainly by rodents. A person can get infected if he/she comes in contact with a rodent that carries the virus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The hantaviruses are a family of viruses spread mainly by rodents.
- First case of hantaviruses – China

534. Obituaries

Former Somalian footballer Abdulkadir Mohamed Farah has recently passed away due to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). He was 59-year-old. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Abdulkadir Mohamed Farah (Somalia) – passed away – footballer
- Somalia – Mogadishu – Dollar/Shilling

535. Obituaries

Renowned chef Floyd Cardoz, who ran the successful 'Bombay Canteen', 'O Pedro' and 'Bombay Sweet Shop' in Mumbai and was the magician behind New York's 'Tabla', passed away due to complications from the coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Floyd Cardoz (Mumbai) – passed away – Renowned chef



536. Schemes & Initiatives

In the wake of Preventive Measures of the Government of India to contain the spread of Covid-19, and to encourage people to #StayIn and #StayHome, the National Book Trust of HRD Ministry, in its efforts to encourage people to read books while at home, is providing its select and best-selling titles for FREE Download as part of its initiative of #StayHomeIndiaWithBooks! [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The National Book Trust – launched – #StayHomeIndiaWithBooks – encourage people to read books while at home

537. National & States Affairs

The Election Commission (EC) has allowed usage of indelible ink by health authorities for stamping 'home quarantined' on the hands of those suspected of being infected with the new coronavirus, easing its policy of using the ink only for voting purposes. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Election Commission – allowed usage of 'indelible ink' – for stamping 'home quarantined'

538. Schemes & Initiatives

The Delhi government announced a Rs 100-crore scheme to introduce the national capital as a tourism brand to domestic and foreign tourists and create news jobs in the sector. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Govt announced a Rs 100-crore scheme to make delhi tourism brand
- Delhi: CM - Arvind Kejriwal | Lt .Governor – Anil Baijal

539. Sports & Games

Canada has become the first country to warn that it won't send its athletes to the Tokyo Olympics unless they are postponed for a year, as pressure builds to delay the Games due to the coronavirus pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Canada has become the first country in the world to withdraw from Tokyo 2020 Olympics
- Tokyo 2020 Olympics held in Tokyo, Japan



540. International Affairs

Keeping in view the growing number of COVID-19 cases in the country, the Dubai Police have started using drones to disseminate critical information to the public. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Dubai Police – started – using drones to disseminate critical information to the public
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham

541. Books & Authors

Montek Singh Ahluwalia's latest book, Backstage: The Story Behind India's High Growth Years. This polite and civilised book is the memoir of a man whose thinking, after P.C. Mahalanobis's in the 1950s, shaped India's economic policy the most and it captures the essence of policymaking between 1985 and 2014. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Backstage: The Story Behind India's High Growth Years – written by Montek Singh Ahluwalia

542. Science & Technology

Carissa kopilii is threatened by a hydroelectric project and water turned acidic. A multi-utility wild berry, whose thorny plant the British had used to build a barrier through India in the 1870s, has a hitherto unknown wilder cousin in Assam, a new study has revealed. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Carissa kopilii – a new Plant Species – found in Assam
- Assam : CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

543. Obituaries

Beni Prasad Verma, a founding member of the Samajwadi Party and former Union minister who was considered close to party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav, died. He was 79. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Beni Prasad Verma – passed away – a founding member of the Samajwadi Party

544. Defence Affairs

India and France, For the first time, have conducted joint patrols from the Reunion Island, signalling New Delhi's intent to engage with friendly foreign partners in expanding its footprint in the Indian Ocean, focusing on the stretch between the East African coastline and the Malacca straits. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- India and France, For the first time, have conducted joint patrols from the Reunion Island
- France – Paris – Euros



545. National & States Affairs

Chief Minister of Nagaland Neiphiu Rio launched the Self Declaration COVID-19 Nagaland App named "nCOVID-19 App" at Kohima. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Nagaland launched the Self Declaration COVID-19 App named "nCOVID-19 App"
- Nagaland: CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – RN Ravi

546. Banking & Economic Affairs

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced Rs 1.7 lakh crore relief package, named Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Scheme, aimed at taking care of the poor, urban and rural workers, and those in need of immediate attention. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Finance Minister announced Rs 1.7 lakh crore relief package, named Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Scheme
- Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs – Nirmala Sitharaman | Constituency – Karnataka

547. Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

Asia's largest film tourism event - 8th India International Film Tourism Conclave (IIFTC) honored the cult filmmaker - Zoya Akhter with IIFTC Tourism Impact Award 2020 for her outstanding contribution to the world tourism through her cinema. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Zoya Akhter – honoured with IIFTC Tourism Impact Award 2020
- 8th IIFTC 2020 held in Mumbai, Maharashtra

548. Schemes & Initiatives

The SAARC Disaster Management Centre has launched a website for information related to the COVID-19 pandemic in the region. The website shows the number of coronavirus cases in the member states while updating the numbers regularly. The website is www.covid19-sdmc.org. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- SDMC – launched – a website for information related to the COVID-19
- SDMC – SAARC Disaster Management Centre
- SAARC: Hq – Kathmandu, Nepal | Secretary general – Esala Weerakoon

549. National & States Affairs

In a first, India is set to start antibody tests for the coronavirus to confirm whether a person had previously been infected with the virus, a move that will help understand the epidemiology of Covid-19 in the country. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- India has become the first country to start antibody tests for the coronavirus

550. Books & Authors

Senior Journalist Chander Suta Dogra's Book "Missing in Action: The Prisoners Who Never Came Back" was launched and discussed during an event hosted by United Service Institution of India (USI) at its premise in New Delhi. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- "Missing in Action: The Prisoners Who Never Came Back" – Chander Suta Dogra

551. Science & Technology

Pune based molecular diagnostic company Mylab becomes the first Indian company to have received the validation for its Covid-19 diagnostic test kits also known as the Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) tests by the Drug Controller of India, after the National Institute of Virology validated its test. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Mylab – becomes the first Indian company to have received the validation for its Covid-19 diagnostic test kits
- It is also known as RT-PCR tests by the Drug Controller of India
- RT-PCR – Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

552. Obituaries

Veteran photographer Nemai Ghosh, who had a long association with directing great Satyajit Ray, passed away. He was 86. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Nemai Ghosh(Kolkata) – passed away – Photographer

553. National & States Affairs

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs(CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for taking up construction of Aligarh-Harduaganj flyover by Ministry of Railways. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA clears 22 km-long rail flyover between Aligarh-Harduaganj – construction by Ministry of Railways
- Minister of Railways and Commerce – Piyush Goyal | Constituency – Maharashtra

554. International Affairs

US pharma giant Abbott Laboratories has unveiled a Covid testing kit that can detect the virus in as little as 5 minutes. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Test that can detect coronavirus in 5 minutes by Abbott Laboratories (U.S. Pharma)
- Abbott Laboratories:Hq – Chicago, Illinois, United States | CEO – Robert Ford

555. International Affairs

Former prime minister of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) chairperson Khaleda Zia was released from jail as per a government decision to stay her conviction for six months and free her on humanitarian grounds considering her age. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Khaleda Zia (Former PM of Bangladesh) – released from jail on humanitarian grounds
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – taka

556. Schemes & Initiatives

Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik has launched Mo Jeeban programme and urged people to take a pledge to stay indoors. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha govt has launched Mo Jeeban programme
- Odisha: CM – Naveen Patnaik (14th CM) | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

557. Important Days & Dates

The Hindu new year, Vikram Samvat 2077, began on the first day of the Hindu month of Chaitra. According to the Gregorian calendar, this day falls in the months of March or April. This year, the Hindu new year was celebrated on March 25 amid the coronavirus outbreak. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Hindu new year is officially known as Vikram Samvat 2077
- This year, It was celebrated on March 25

558. National & States Affairs

UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has set up "Team-11" comprising of as many inter-departmental committees to fight against the coronavirus spread. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- UP has set up "Team-11" to fight against the coronavirus
- Uttar Pradesh: CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor- Anandiben Patel

559. Schemes & Initiatives

The Union HRD Minister said that the access to the National Online Education Platform SWAYAM and other Digital Initiatives has tripled in the last one week. The SWAYAM courses can now be viewed by any learner free of cost without any registration. About 50,000 people have accessed SWAYAM since 23rd March 2020. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Union HRD Minister – launched – SWAYAM Initiative
- Minister of HRD – Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank | Constituency - Haridwar (Uttarakhand)

560. International Affairs

U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced he has tested positive for the coronavirus, making him the first major governmental leader known to have contracted the disease. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Boris Johnson(U.K. Prime Minister) – tested positive for the coronavirus
- UK – London – Pound sterling



561. National & States Affairs

Five months after rolling out its electric-vehicles policy, the Tamil Nadu government said it will set up 4,000 acre e-vehicle park for manufacture and assembly of e-vehicles. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu will set up 4,000 acre e-vehicle park
- Tamil Nadu : CM - Edappadi K Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

562. Important Days & Dates

Rajasthan Day is celebrated every year on March 30 to commemorate the day on which the state of Rajasthan came into existence. Rajasthan Day commemorates the valor, strong willpower and sacrifice of the people of Rajasthan. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan Day/ Rajasthan Statehood Day – every year on March 30

563. International Affairs

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan after his discussions with Saudi Minister of Energy, Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman, on global oil market developments said that Saudi Arabia has assured India of uninterrupted supply of LPG. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Saudi Arabia has assured India of uninterrupted supply of LPG
- Saudi Arabia – Riyadh – Riyal | King – Salman of Saudi Arabia

564. Obituaries

Albert Uderzo, co-creator and illustrator of the "Asterix and Obelix " comic book series, has died at the age of 92. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Albert Uderzo(France) – passed away – co-creator and illustrator of the "Asterix and Obelix " comic book
- France – Paris – Euros

565. National & States Affairs

In Madhya Pradesh, India's cleanest city- Indore has deploy drones to sanitize city areas against the coronavirus outbreak by sprinkle chemicals. Indore could be the first city in India to attempt to fight off the virus scare this way. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Indore – first city – has deploy drones to sanitize city areas
- Madhya Pradesh : CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Lalji Tandon

566. Current GK

A 7.5-magnitude earthquake hit off Russia's Kuril Islands, the US Geological Survey said, prompting a tsunami warning that was later cancelled. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Kuril Islands is located in Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Rouble | Prime minister – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

567. National & States Affairs

The country's largest COVID-19 hospital to be set up in Odisha. The hospital will have 1,000 beds and will be completely functional in the next 15 days. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- India's largest COVID-19 hospital to be set up in Odisha
- Odisha: CM – Naveen Patnaik (14th CM) | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

568. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Jammu and Kashmir government has issued an order to release Omar Abdullah who was kept in detention since August 5 when the Centre abrogated Article 370 and bifurcated the state into two Union Territories. Omar Abdullah was booked under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) 1978. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Omar Abdullah was booked under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA)
- The Jammu and Kashmir government has issued an order to release Omar Abdullah
- J&K: Lieutenant Governor – Girish Chandra Murmu

569. Schemes & Initiatives

The Government of India has launched a coronavirus risk-tracking app called 'Corona Kavach'. Jointly developed by the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Union Govt has launched a coronavirus risk-tracking app called 'Corona Kavach'
- Minister of Electronics & Information Technology – Ravi Shankar Prasad | Constituency – Patna Sahib
- Union Health Minister – Dr. Harsh Vardhan | Constituency – Chandni Chowk

570. Appointments & Resignations

IndusInd Bank has appointed Sumant Kathpalia as the Managing Director and CEO for a period of three years. The appointment was announced as Romesh Sobti retired as the MD & CEO of the Bank on Monday after a 12 year stint. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Sumant Kathpalia – appointed – as the MD and CEO IndusInd Bank – for 3 years
- Sumant Kathpalia will succeed Romesh Sobti
- IndusInd Bank: Hq – Pune

571. National & States Affairs

A total number of 29 private laboratory chains have been given approval for testing of corona virus. These private labs have 16 thousand collection centers across the country. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- 29 private laboratory chains have been given approval for testing of corona virus

572. Defence Affairs

The United States Space Force has launched an Advanced Extremely High-Frequency satellite (AEHF-6) for its military communications. The AEHF-6 is the first National Security Space payload to launch under the recently established U.S. Space Force. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The United States Space Force has launched an Advanced Extremely High-Frequency satellite (AEHF-6)
- U.S. Space Force:Hq – The Pentagon, Arlington VA,U.S. | Chief of Space Operations – John Raymond

573. National & States Affairs

Government of Uttar Pradesh has banned production, distribution and sale of pan masala in the entire state until further orders. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh has banned production, distribution and sale of pan masala
- Uttar Pradesh: CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor- Anandiben Patel

574. Science & Technology

The Technical Advisory Committee of the National Supercomputing Mission (MSM-TAC) has approved the installation of a Supercomputing facility of the compute power of 650 TF at IIT Guwahati, Assam. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Supercomputing facility of the compute power of 650 TF Installed at IIT Guwahati.

575. Science & Technology

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC) has partnered up with Microsoft Azure's Healthcare Bot service to introduce an AI bot called 'Clara' to help people assess potential symptoms of COVID-19. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- CDC + Microsoft Azure – introduced – an AI bot called 'Clara'
- CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S.)
- Microsoft: Hq – Redmond, Washington, US | CEO – Satya Nadella

576. Obituaries

Artist and architect Satish Gujral, renowned for his versatility across different mediums, has died. He was 94. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan, the second-highest civilian award of the Republic of India, in 1999. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Satish Gujral (Pakistan) – passed away – renowned 'Artist and architect'

577. Defence Affairs

Pakistan's dream of making a cruise missile that could cover a distance of 750 kilometers shattered as the Babur-2 missile crashed within two minutes of its launch. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Pakistan's efforts to launch 750 km range Babur II sub-sonic missile was failed

578. Obituaries

Brahma Kumaris chief Rajyogini Dadi Janki passed away. She was 104-year-old. Dadi Janki, who was the brand ambassador of Swachh Bharat Mission. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Dadi Janki – passed away – Chief of Brahma Kumaris

579. International Affairs

North Macedonia has officially become the 30th member of the NATO military alliance. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- North Macedonia – 30th member of the NATO military alliance
- North Macedonia – Skopje – Denar

580. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Union Home Ministry has issued strict guidelines for the enforcement of 21-day complete nationwide lockdown in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, invoking Sections 51 to 60 of the National Disaster Management Act which may result in imprisonment of up to two years for any violation. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Lockdown under Sections 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act – result in imprisonment of up to 2 years for any violation

581. International Affairs

President Trump has signed the largest-ever US financial stimulus package, worth \$2 trillion, as the country grapples with the coronavirus pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- President Trump – signed – US financial stimulus package – worth \$2 trillion
- USA – Washington, D.C. – Dollar | President – Donald Trump

582. Science & Technology

Scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune, an autonomous institute under the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, have developed a biofortified durum wheat variety MACS 4028, which shows high protein content. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists have developed a biofortified durum wheat variety MACS 4028

583. National & States Affairs

Tamil Nadu chief minister announced bifurcation of Nagapattinam district to create a new district with Mayiladuthurai as its headquarters. Mayiladuthirai will be the 38th district in the state. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Mayiladuthirai will be the 38th district of Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu : CM - Edappadi K Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

584. National & States Affairs

Goa Health minister Vishwajit Rane launched a 'CallDoc App', a 24x7 initiative to bring healthcare closer to everyone's doorstep in critical times during lockdown. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Goa launched a 'CallDoc App', a 24x7 initiative to bring healthcare closer to everyone's doorstep
- Goa: CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor- Satya Pal Malik

585. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

In a first-of-its-kind step, the government's flagship fitness movement, Fit India has partnered with Bollywood actress and fitness icon Shilpa Shetty Kundra to provide her premium 21-Day Weight Loss Programme, during the 21-day lockdown owing to Covid 19. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Fit India, has partnered with Shilpa Shetty to provide her premium 21-Day Weight Loss Programme

586. Banking & Economic Affairs

Indian Bank has announced five special emergency loan schemes for customs to cushion effect of economic slump and lockdown. It will be the second bank after State Bank of India (SBI) to come out with such schemes. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank announced five special emergency loan schemes for customs to cushion effect of lockdown
- Indian Bank: Hq – Chennai | CEO – Padmaja Chundururu | Tagline: "Your Own Bank"

587. Places in News

The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for the Kabul gurdwara attack but people familiar with the Afghanistan-Pakistan region do not rule out the hand of ISI-backed Teherik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) or Pakistan which may be aiming to consolidate its position following the US-Taliban deal. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for the Kabul gurdwara attack
- Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani

588. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Bharatiya Janata Party-led Karnataka government tabled the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Bill, 2020 in the Legislative Assembly. The Bill is to enable public participation in various levels of municipal governance. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Bill, 2020 – launched – by Karnataka govt
- Karnataka: CM – B. S. Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

589. National & States Affairs

Maharashtra has overtaken Tamil Nadu & Telangana in organ donation, transplants for 2019. For the year 2019, the state of Maharashtra has donated the highest number of organs which resulted beneficial for 449 patients. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra has overtaken Tamil Nadu & Telangana in organ donation
- Maharashtra: CM - Uddhav Thackeray | Governor- Bhagat Singh Koshyari

590. Appointments & Resignations

Walmart India said it has elevated Sameer Aggarwal as its CEO and the appointment will be effective from April 1. Aggarwal succeeds Krish Iyer who is set to retire on March 31. Iyer, would get into advisory role from full-time management of Walmart India after leading the retail major for eight years. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Sameer Aggarwal – appointed as CEO of Walmart India
- He will succeed Krish Iyer
- Walmart: Hq – Bentonville, Arkansas, U.S. | CEO – Doug McMillon

591. MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

Haryana govt has partnered with mothers to combat drug addiction, promote sports. An App, called 'Mothers for Sports and Fitness', will help mothers locate the nearest govt sporting facility. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana govt – partnered with Mothers – to combat drug addiction, promote sports
- Haryana: CM - Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor- Satyadev Narayan Arya

592. Important Days & Dates

Since 2007, every year million participate in the campaign called "Earth Hour" on March 28. The event is organized by the World wide Fund. Earth Hour is a great initiative taken internationally by people to conserve energy and the natural climate. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Earth Hour Day – every year on March 28
- Theme for 2020: 'Climate Action'

593. Ordinance, Bills and Acts

The Cabinet approved the continuation of Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) for export of garments and made-ups from April 1, 2020 till the scheme is merged with Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP). [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Cabinet approved the continuation of RoSCTL for export of garments
- RoSCTL – Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies
- RoDTEP – Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products

594. Obituaries

Spanish Princess Maria Teresa of Bourbon-Parma has become the first royal to pass away due to Covid-19 complications. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Maria Teresa (France) – passed away – Princess of Bourbon-Parma, Spain
- Spain – Madrid – Euors

595. Banking & Economic Affairs

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved Rs 1,340 crore recapitalisation of Regional Rural banks to improve their capital to risk-weighted assets ratio. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA approved Rs 1,340 crore recapitalisation of Regional Rural banks
- Regional Rural bank: Founded – October 2, 1975 | 1st RRB – Prathama Grameen Bank

596. Banking & Economic Affairs

The G20 nations have resolved to collectively inject \$5 trillion into the global economy to combat the disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic on economies world over. Saudi Arabia, which is the current chair of G20, urged the grouping to form a coordinated response to tackle the global crisis. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The G20 nations inject \$5 trillion into the global economy to combat COVID-19
- G20 – will be held on 21–22 November 2020 in Riyadh

597. International Affairs

The United States announced USD 174 million financial assistance to 64 countries including USD 2.9 million to India to help them fight the coronavirus pandemic. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The United States announced USD 174 million financial assistance to 64 countries
- USA – Washington, D.C. – Dollar | President – Donald Trump

598. Important Days & Dates

Talismanic India football captain Sunil Chhetri has been picked by FIFA along with 28 past and present stars for world governing body's awareness campaign to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. FIFA and WHO have teamed up to combat the coronavirus by launching a new awareness campaign. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- FIFA + WHO – launching – The 'Pass the message to kick out coronavirus' campaign to combat the coronavirus
- Sunil Chhetri – picked by FIFA– for world governing body's awareness campaign
- FIFA: Hq – Zürich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino
- WHO: Hq – Geneva, Switzerland | Director General – Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.



599. National & States Affairs

Amidst the statewide lockdown, the Lohit district administration of Arunachal Pradesh launched 'Mee Buddy' app, an ultra-local online service delivery platform for the people. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- The Lohit district administration of Arunachal Pradesh launched 'Mee Buddy' app
- Arunachal Pradesh : CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B. D. Mishra

600. National & States Affairs

Karnataka govt launched a food helpline number – 155214, for the labourers who have been affected due to lockdown imposed by the central government to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. [Click here for more details](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka govt launched a food helpline number – 155214, for the labourers
- Karnataka: CM – B. S. Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala



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