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National & States Affairs

1. "Joginder War Memorial" has been inaugurated in at Bum La in Arunachal Pradesh. Joginder Singh of 1st Battalion the Sikh Regt received the highest gallantry award, 'Param Vir Chakra' in the Eastern Theatre during the 1962 Sino-India War. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Joginder War Memorial" – inaugurated in at 'Bum La' in Arunachal Pradesh
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

2. "SCALE India", an android app aimed to integrate quality assurance under Skill India Mission was launched by Leather Sector Skill Council, a non-profit organization (NGO). The android app was unveiled by Mahendra Nath Pandey. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Leather Sector Skill Council launched – "SCALE India" an android app to integrate quality assurance
- The app unveiled by – Mahendra Nath Pandey (MSDE Minister | Constituency – Chandauli, UP)
- HQs of Leather Sector Skill Council – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | Chairman – P. R. Aqeel Ahmed

3. 'Heeng or asafoetida' which has never been grown locally is now going to be cultivated in India. Scientists from CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur have planted saplings of the condiment in Himachal Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 1st plantation of saplings of 'Heeng or asafoetida' is done in Himachal Pradesh – by IHBT
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

4. 42nd GST Council meeting was recently held virtually. From the first of January onwards, the taxpayers whose annual turnover is less than Rs 5 crores will not be required to file monthly returns. GST Council has allowed them quarterly filing of returns. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 42nd GST Council meeting held virtually
- GST Council allowed Quarterly Filing of returns to the taxpayers with annual turnover of less than Rs 5 crores
- GST council formed under – "Article 279A" of Indian Constitution



5. In order to improve its feeder service, Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Limited (Maha Metro) has launched a mobile app namely "Bharat Rides" to enable passengers to book auto-rickshaws. It can be downloaded from Google Playstore. It functions like Ola or Uber apps. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MahaMetro launched a mobile app namely "Bharat Rides" to enable passengers to book auto-rickshaws
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

6. A month-long cyber safety awareness campaign targeting youngsters has been launched in Assam. The 'CyberSafety' campaign will be jointly conducted by the Assam Police and cyber-security think tank Cyber Peace Foundation (CPF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'CyberSafety' campaign – launched in Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

7. A special Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) court in Lucknow has acquitted all 32 accused in the Babri Masjid demolition case. It also included BJP leaders LK Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBI court in Lucknow acquitted all 32 accused in the Babri Masjid demolition case
- CBI Court judge – Surendra Kumar Yadav
- HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Rishi Kumar Shukla

8. A toll-free government helpline 1800-180-0018 for mental health "Mann Samvad" was launched recently in Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Mann Samvad" a toll-free government helpline – launched in Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

9. A unique Plastic Premier League (PPL) tournament is being played in Indore, Madhya Pradesh to free the city from single use plastic. Indore has been awarded as the cleanest city in the country four times so far. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- A unique Plastic Premier League (PPL) tournament is being played in – Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

10. According to the government, the mines and minerals sector is a major employer in rural areas and its role as an essential service has been acknowledged during the coronavirus pandemic. The mining sector has the potential to create total employment for about five crore jobs by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mining Sector has the potential to create total employment for about five crore jobs – by 2025
- Mines and Minerals – major Employers in rural areas in addition to ‘Agriculture sector’
- Pralhad Joshi – Minister of Coal, Minister of Mines (Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka)

11. After launching Kisan Rail services last month and seeing the stupendous response, Indian Railways has decided that a 4th Train will be added to the service which will run between Nagpur & New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways decided to run 4th Kisan Rail – between Nagpur & New Delhi
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

12. Airports Authority of India (AAI) will develop Greenfield Airport in Arunachal Pradesh’s Hollongi with estimated cost of Rs.650 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AAI – to develop Greenfield Airport in Hollongi, Arunachal Pradesh (Cost - Rs.650 crore)
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Arvind Singh
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

13. All India Football Federation - the apex body for the sport of football in the country has announced the launch of their new motto – “Indian Football. Forward Together”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- All India Football Federation – announced the launch of their new motto - “Indian Football. Forward Together”
- HQs of AIIF – Dwarka, Delhi | President – Praful Patel



14. An expert group has been constituted by Labour Ministry for a period of 3 years for providing technical guidance to Labour Bureau with respect to surveys on migration, professional bodies, domestic workers and other surveys. It is chaired by Prof S. P. Mukherjee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Labour Ministry – constituted An expert group for a period of 3 years to evaluate the employment situation
- Expert Group is headed by – S. P. Mukherjee
- MoS in Ministry of Labour and Employment – Santosh Gangwar

15. Anti-pollution measures to fight air pollution has come into force in Delhi and its neighbouring National Capital Region (NCR) towns, as part of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). The action plan has been in effect for three years in Delhi and NCR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anti-pollution measures under the Graded Response Action Plan – came into force in Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

16. Assam chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal has launched the “Kisan Rath Mobile App” in order to facilitate timely sale of agricultural products by promoting a buyer-seller network. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – launched the “Kisan Rath Mobile App”
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

17. Assam has inaugurated “Agar International Trade Centre”, which is the first-of-its-kind in the country at Dabidubi in Golaghat district. The Assam Agar International Trade Centre would be a step towards making a self reliant Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agar International Trade Centre – inaugurated in Golaghat, Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

18. Assam has launched ‘Kritagyata’ portal, an on-line pension submission and tracking system to lend convenience to the pensioners to dispose their pension-related claims. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Assam launched 'Kritagyata' portal for pensioners
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

19. Chandigarh UT Adviser Manoj Parida has launched the “Reservation Roster Management System” developed by NIC for Personnel and UT Social Welfare Departments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandigarh – launched the “Reservation Roster Management System” – developed by NIC

20. Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister D V Sadananda Gowda has launched "POS 3.1 Software, SMS Gateway and Home delivery facility" of fertilisers for farmers in Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D V Sadananda Gowda launched Home delivery of fertilisers for Andhra Pradesh farmers
- Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers – D. V. Sadananda Gowda – Bangalore, Karnataka
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

21. Chennai Metro Rail has become the first in the country to use Micro-Plasma Oxidation System, a technology used in high-end defence and medical applications, to disinfect rolling stock and stations following the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chennai Metro Rail – became the first in the country to use Micro-Plasma Oxidation System
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

22. Chief Justice of India, Sharad Arvind Bobde inaugurated India's first-ever E-resource centre “Nyay Kaushal” on October 31. The centre was inaugurated at Judicial Officers Training Institute in Maharashtra’s Nagpur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sharad Arvind Bobde – inaugurated India's first-ever E-resource centre “Nyay Kaushal” – in Nagpur, MH
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

23. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has launched the “Green Delhi” mobile application using which citizens can bring pollution causing activities to the government's notice. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Arvind Kejriwal – launched the “Green Delhi” mobile application
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

24. Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has inaugurated a 25-kilowatt capacity “Pirul Power Project” worth Rs 25 lakhs for generating electricity using Pirul (dry pine needles) at Chakon Dhanari village in Uttarakhand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand inaugurated – 25-kilowatt capacity “Pirul Power Project” – worth Rs 25 lakhs
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

25. Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has e-launched projects worth more than Rs 200 crore in Surat. The BRTS corridor from Kumbharia to Kadodora was opened. With the opening of this BRTS (Bus Rapid Transit System) corridor, Surat has become the only city in the country to have the longest BRTS network of 108 km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijay Rupani – e-launched projects worth more than Rs 200 crore in Surat
- Surat – the only city in India to have the longest BRTS network of 108 km
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

26. Chief minister Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated Uttar Pradesh’s largest oxygen production plant in Ghaziabad in a virtual ceremony. Medical oxygen is important in the treatment of critically ill Covid-19 patients. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yogi Adityanath inaugurated largest oxygen production plant – in Ghaziabad, UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

27. Dairy production in India began as far back as in the 3rd millennium BCE and may have been a factor behind sustaining the Indus Valley Civilisation, according to findings from a team of Canadian and Indian researchers. The study is published in the journal Nature. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Indus valley Civilisation” had dairy production way back in 3rd millennium BCE



- Evidence of dairy production found in – Kotada Bhadli, Gujarat

28. Dalle Khursani, the famous red hot cherry pepper of Sikkim, is set to get a geographical indication (GI) tag from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Dalle Khursani” – the famous red hot cherry pepper of ‘Sikkim’ – to get GI tag from DPIIT
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

29. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has launched a mega anti-air pollution campaign named “Yudh Pradushan ke Virudh” in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi launched – “Yudh Pradushan ke Virudh” a mega anti-air pollution campaign
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

30. Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has launched a new anti-pollution campaign namely “Red Light On, Gaadi Off” under which people will be encouraged to switch engines of their vehicles off while waiting at traffic signals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – launched a new anti-pollution campaign namely “Red Light On, Gaadi Off”
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

31. Dr Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated “DBT-BIRAC” Clean Tech Demo Park at the Barapullah drain site in New Delhi in the virtual presence of lieutenant governor Anil Baijal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – inaugurated “DBT-BIRAC” Clean Tech Demo Park – in New Delhi
- “DBT-BIRAC” – Department of Bio-Technology & Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

32. Durg district of Chhattisgarh has recently launched “Nanhi Durga” mascot to spread awareness about Covid19 among people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Durg, Chhattisgarh – launched “Nanhi Durga” mascot to spread awareness about Covid19
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

33. E-commerce major Amazon India has launched a new “Fulfilment Centre” in Tamil Nadu as part of strengthening its network in the state. It would lead to economic growth and create new jobs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon India – launched a new “Fulfilment Centre” – in Tamil Nadu
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

34. Films Division, under Ministry of Information Broadcasting has organized ‘Gandhi Filmotsav’. The online film festival was streamed on its website and YouTube Channel from 26th September to 2nd October, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Films Division – organized ‘Gandhi Filmotsav’
- HQs of Films Division – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Films Division functions under – Ministry of Information Broadcasting

35. Food regulator FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) has decided to extend “Food Safety Compliance System” (FoSCoS) in the entire country from November 1. Currently, the system is operational in 9 States/UTs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FSSAI – to extend “Food Safety Compliance System” (FoSCoS) from November 1
- HQs of FSSAI – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rita Teatonia

36. Gajanan Mallya, General Manager of South Central Railway has presented “Man of the Month” safety awards to 45 employees for showing ness in the duty and taking timely action to prevent unsafe conditions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Central Railway Zone – presented “Man of the Month” safety awards – to 45 employees
- HQs of South Central Railway zone – Secunderabad | General Manager – Shri Gajanan Mallya



37. Giving a further boost to e-learning in higher education for the current academic year 2020-21, the Goa government has launched a YouTube channel 'DISHTAVO', wherein the students will be able to view recorded lectures. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – launched 'DISHTAVO' YouTube channel for e-learning in higher education
- DISHTAVO – Digital Integrated System for Holistic Teaching And Virtual Orientations
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

38. Goa has become the first state in the country to provide 100% tap water connections in rural areas covering 2.30 lakh households. The government's Jal Jeevan Mission aims to provide piped water to all rural households by 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa – became the first state in the country to provide 100% tap water connections in rural areas
- Aim of 'Jal Jeevan Mission' - to provide piped water to all rural households – by 2024
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

39. Google has launched a new feature in the Covid-19 layer on Maps that displays the demarcation of containment zones in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Mumbai residents can view coronavirus containment zones in Google Maps. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mumbai residents – can view coronavirus containment zones in Google Maps
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

40. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has completed work towards creation of a Unified Procurement System by integrating GeM with the Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) and consolidating the entire public buying of goods and services onto a single platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GeM integrated with the Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP)
- CEO of GeM – Talleen Kumar | GeM portal launched by – Ministry of Commerce (in 2016)

41. Gujarat government has announced the setting up of the world's biggest Zinc Smelter project in Dosawada in Tapi district. The proposed 300 KTPA production capacity project would provide big employment opportunities to the local youths in this tribal area. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Gujarat – announced the setting up of the world’s biggest Zinc Smelter project – in Dosawada, Tapi
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

42. Gujarat Police has launched ‘Prison Radio’ initiative - a radio channel dedicated to over 3,000 inmates of Sabarmati Central Jail on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat Police launched ‘Prison Radio’ initiative – dedicated to over 3,000 inmates of ‘Sabarmati Central Jail’
- Sabarmati Central Jail – located in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

43. Guntur Municipal Corporation (GMC) has entered the final lap of establishing the world’s first ‘Plastic-to-Petrol’ making unit. This is considered to be 100% indigenous, zero pollution and zero waste-plastic waste vanishing plant. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Guntur Municipal Corporation (Andhra Pradesh) – to establish the world’s 1st ‘Plastic-to-Petrol’ making unit
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

44. Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar has digitally launched ‘Gram Darshan’ - a platform making the accessibility of data of as many as 6,197 Gram Panchayats of the state online. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – launched ‘Gram Darshan’ platform – to make 6,197 Gram Panchayats online
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

45. Haryana government has launched a state-of-the-art Van for testing the quality of drinking water under the Jal Jeevan Mission. The Jal Jeevan Mission aims to provide every rural household with a tap water connection by 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – launched a state-of-the-art ‘Van’ – for testing the quality of drinking water



- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

46. Haryana has the best Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) Index among all the states in India. The Anemia Mukht Bharat, an initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and UNICEF, has been launched to reduce the prevalence of Anemia all over India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – the best Anemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) Index
- Anemia Mukht Bharat – an initiative of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare + UNICEF
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

47. Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has virtually launched the 2nd phase of “Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojna” for the underprivileged Thalassemic patients. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – launched the 2nd phase of “Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojna” | Scheme launched in 2017
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)

48. ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) has redefined the ideal or reference Indian adult man and woman with regard to age to 19-39 years instead of 20-39 years. The body weight has been put at 65 kg for males and 55 kg for females while earlier, it was 60 kg and 50 kg respectively. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- National Institute of Nutrition – redefined the ideal weight for Indian adult man and woman
- 65 kg for males & 55 kg for females (from 60 kg & 40 kg respectively)
- HQs of NIN – Secunderabad, Telangana | Director – Dr. R. Hemalatha

49. In a bid to promote sustainable and healthy lifestyle in rural areas, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has announced a ‘Special Refinance Facility’ to support the government’s Water, Sanitisation and Hygiene (WASH) programme. An amount of Rs 800 crore has been earmarked for this purpose. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD – announced a ‘Special Refinance Facility’ to support government’s “WASH” programme
- WASH – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene | Amount allocated – Rs 800 Cr
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu



50. In latest strategy to fight pandemic, Mizoram will observe a “COVID-19 No Tolerance Fortnight” from October 26 to November 9. Mizoram has recorded zero Covid-19 deaths so far. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mizoram – to observe a “COVID-19 No Tolerance Fortnight” from October 26 to November 9
- Mizoram: Capital – Aizawl | CM – Zoramthanga | Governor – P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

51. In Madhya Pradesh, a fine of 500 rupees will be imposed now on the people who spit in the railway premises. West Central Railway has taken this step to prevent corona infection. It has been started from Bhopal division. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A fine of Rs 500 will be imposed on the people who spit in the railway premises – in Madhya Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Anandiben Patel

52. In Maharashtra's Sangli district, the police have launched a campaign, 'No Mask, No Ride' to contain the spread of Coronavirus in the region. The campaign is part of the state government's “My Family, My Responsibility” which was launched on 15th of September to control the surging pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘No Mask, No Ride’ campaign – launched in Sangli, Maharashtra
- “My Family, My Responsibility” – belongs to Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

53. In order to offer more safety to female passengers, Indian Railways has launched “Meri Saheli” initiative which aims for focused action on the security of women across all zones. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways launched “Meri Saheli” initiative for the security of women
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

54. India will soon have its first-ever 5 ‘Animal Overpasses’ or ‘Animal Bridges’ at the under-construction Delhi-Mumbai Greenfield Expressway. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5 ‘Animal Overpasses’ or ‘Animal Bridges’ – will be constructed at Delhi-Mumbai Greenfield Expressway



- Ranthambhore & Mukundra (Darah) Wildlife Sanctuaries – located in Rajasthan

55. India's first-ever "Khadi Fabric Footwear" was launched recently by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in the presence of Union MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari. The footwear will feature exquisite Indian paintings including Madhubani. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari + KVIC = launched India's first-ever "Khadi Fabric Footwear"
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena

56. Indian Army has introduced a software named "Infrastructure Management System (IMS)" software which was inaugurated by Manoj Mukund Narvane for automation of functions related to infrastructure development and management on the sidelines of the Army Commanders Conference on 28 October 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army launched the "Infrastructure Management System (IMS)" software
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – S K Saini

57. Indian IT major Infosys has turned carbon neutral 30 years ahead of 2050, the timeline set by the Paris Agreement. In 2011, Infosys made a pledge to become carbon neutral by 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Infosys – took a pledge to become Carbon Neutral by 2050 (Earlier 2020)
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh

58. Indian Railways has developed new Freight Business Development (FBD) portal for Freight Clients to increase its freight revenue. The portal has been developed by the team of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways – developed new 'Freight Business Development (FBD) portal' – for Freight Clients
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- HQs of CRIS – New Delhi | Chief Systems Manager – Sanjeev Kumar Pal



59. Indian Railways has given a boost to 'Make in India' and 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' initiatives. Rail Wheel Factory (RWF) has created history by rolling its 4 millionth wheel as many as 40 lakh wheels in a period of 40 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rail Wheel Factory – created history by rolling its 4 millionth wheel or 40 lakh wheels in a period of 40 years
- HQs of RWF – Yelahanka, Bengaluru | Chairman – Vinay Mittal | Founded – 1984
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

60. Indian Railways has rolled out User Depot Module (UDM) developed by Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) digitally across all user depots of Western Railway. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Railways rolled out – User Depot Module (UDM) – developed by CRIS
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi
- HQs of CRIS – New Delhi | Chief Systems Manager – Sanjeev Kumar Pal

61. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has come out with the exposure draft on color coding of individual products of health insurance business. And three colors will be used in the process. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – came out with the Exposure draft on color coding of individual products of Health Insurance
- Total 3 colors – to be used in the process
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash C. Khuntia

62. Jammu and Kashmir has become the first union territory in the country to operationalise Public Financial Management System (PFMS) at the district level. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jammu and Kashmir – the first UT in India to operationalise PFMS at the district level
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



63. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Manoj Sinha has announced the “My Town My Pride” programme, starting from October 19, as a part of the public outreach initiative in J&K’s towns to deliver services at doorsteps to the urban population. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jammu and Kashmir – announced the “My Town My Pride” programme
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

64. Keeping in view the Diwali festival, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched a Limited Edition of two-layered "Happy Diwali" printed face masks made of pure Muslin fabric. It is a high quality and ultra-fine cotton fabric handmade by traditional Khadi artisans of West Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- KVIC launched – a Limited Edition of two-layered "Happy Diwali" printed face masks
- Made of – Muslin fabric | handmade by traditional Khadi artisans of – West Bengal
- HQs of KVIC – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Vinai Kumar Saxena
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

65. Kerala Automobiles Ltd (KAL) has claimed to be the first State-level public sector undertaking to export “Neem-G electric” auto rickshaws, when it shipped the first batch of 25 eco-friendly electric three-wheelers from its plant by road to Nepal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Neem-G electric” auto rickshaws of Kerala Automobiles Ltd – exported to Nepal
- 1st batch of – 25 Eco-friendly electric 3-wheelers
- Nepal – Kathmandu – Nepalese Rupee | President – Bidhya Devi Bhandari
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

66. Kerala has become the first state in the country to have High-Tech classrooms in all its public schools. LDF (Left Democratic Front) government has led the mission. 4 missions have been announced to rejuvenate public education. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – the 1st state in the country to have High-Tech classrooms in all its public schools
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan



67. Kerala has become the first state to fix the floor price for vegetables, which would be 20% above the production cost. The scheme would come into effect from November 1. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – the first state to fix the floor price for vegetables (20% above the production cost)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

68. Kerala is the first state which has decided to fix a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for vegetables and fruits as part of its decision to support farmers and boost the agricultural sector. The scheme for the 16 crops will come into effect from November 1. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – the first state to fix MSP for the 16 vegetables and fruits – from November 1
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

69. LIC Housing Finance has launched “Project RED” (re-imagining excellence through digital transformation) for digital transformation by doing 95% of work through the digital mode. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC Housing Finance – launched “Project RED” for digital transformation
- HQs of LIC Housing Finance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Siddhartha Mohanty

70. Maharashtra energy minister Nitin Raut has asked state-run power generation company to add gas-based capacity of up to 2,000 MW at the Uran Gas Turbine Power Station (GTPS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra asked to add gas-based capacity upto 2,000 MW at ‘Uran Gas Turbine Power Station’ (Maharashtra)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

71. Maharashtra government has fixed the maximum rates for N95 to Rs 49 and double-triple layer masks to Rs 3 and thus, it has become the first state to cap the prices of facemasks in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra – the first state to cap the prices of facemasks in India
- N95 – Rs 49 | Double-triple layer masks – Rs 3
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



72. Maharashtra state Higher and Technical Education Minister Uday Samant has announced to start Maharashtra's first government music college in Mumbai. The college will be named after Lata Mangeshkar's father and renowned musician Deenanath Mangeshkar on the occasion of singer Lata Mangeshkar's 91st birthday. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra's 1st government Music College – to start in Mumbai
- The college to be named after – Deenanath Mangeshkar (a renowned Musician)
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

73. Maharashtra's Women and Child welfare department has launched a new initiative "Tarang Suposhit Maharashtra" to fulfill the nutritional requirements of lactating mothers and children in the state. Maharashtra stood first in the recently concluded Poshan Mah in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maharashtra launched – a new initiative "Tarang Suposhit Maharashtra"
- Maharashtra – stood the first in the recently concluded 'Poshan Mah' in India
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

74. Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma has launched the "Micro ATM" service in rural areas of the state. He distributed the handheld devices, through which money could be withdrawn. The initiative is being promoted by the Meghalaya State Rural Livelihood Society (MSRLS) in partnership with the Meghalaya Rural Bank (MRB) and the NABARD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Conrad K Sangma launched – "Micro ATM" service in rural areas – promoted by MSRLS + MRB + NABARD
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

75. Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh L. Mandaviya has launched an indigenous variety of Calcium Nitrate and Boronated Calcium Nitrate produced by Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals India Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya launched – indigenous variety of Calcium Nitrate & Boronated Calcium Nitrate



- It is produced by – Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals India Ltd
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Shipping – Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Gujarat

76. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has launched Affordable Rental Housing Complex (ARHC) portal and a national report on 'ANGIKAAR' - a campaign for change management for PMAY (U) beneficiaries through a 3 C strategy - Community Engagement, Convergence and Communication. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA launched – Affordable Rental Housing Complex portal & a national report on 'ANGIKAAR'
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri

77. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched "e-Dharti Geo Portal" service to provide Property Certificate by Land & Development Office (L&DO) to integrate the legacy drawings like maps and lease plans in Management Information System (MIS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs – launched "e-Dharti Geo Portal" service for certification by L&DO
- MIS – Management Information System
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri

78. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has integrated Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) to its online grievance resolution portal - "Champions" to get social media insights relating to MSME. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MSME – launched "Champions" an online grievance resolution portal
- Nitin Gadkari – Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, Ministry of MSMEs (Nagpur, Maharashtra)

79. Multi-Commodity Exchange of India Ltd (MCX) has launched futures trading on the India's first tradable real-time Base Metals Index namely "METLDEX". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Multi-Commodity Exchange of India launched – "METLDEX" India's first tradable real-time Base Metals Index
- HQs of MCX – Mumbai, MH | Chairperson – Mr. Saurabh Chandra | CEO – P. S. Reddy



80. NITI Aayog and Quality Council of India (QCI) have launched the 'National Program and Project Management Policy Framework' (NPMPPF), with the aim of bringing radical reforms in the way infrastructure projects are executed in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + QCI = launched the 'National Program and Project Management Policy Framework' (NPMPPF)
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of QCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Adil Zainulbhai | Secretary General – Dr Ravi P Singh

81. Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of 9 National Highway projects in Tripura and announced that the 1.8 kilometre long Feni bridge connecting Sabrum in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh will be completed by December, 2020 at the cost of Rs. 129 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of 9 National Highway projects in – Tripura
- 1.8 km long "Feni bridge" connecting Sabrum (Tripura) with Ramgarh (Bangladesh) to be completed by December
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Biplab Kumar Deb | Governor – Ramesh Bais

82. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched "Sumangal web portal" to promote inter-caste marriages. Patnaik also announced an incentive hike of Rs 1.5 lakh, from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 2.5 lakh for couples. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – launched "Sumangal web portal" to promote inter-caste marriages
- An incentive to couples of – Rs 2.5 lakh
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

83. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched an electricity consumer service portal "Mo Bidyut" and its mobile app to provide efficient, time-bound and transparent online service to the people of the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naveen Patnaik launched – "Mo Bidyut" an electricity consumer service portal
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



84. On the occasion of World Postcard Day, Odisha has released a picture postcard named "Jau Kandhei" on the theme of 'Traditional Toys of India'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha released – a picture postcard named “Jau Kandhei”
- Theme – 'Traditional Toys of India'
- October 1 – “World Postcard Day”
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

85. Palghar district of Maharashtra has issued an alert for the deadly Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF), or Congo Fever, which is believed to spread from animals to humans in the form of ticks and external parasites. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Palghar, Maharashtra – issued an alert for the deadly ‘Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever’ or ‘Congo Fever’
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

86. Passenger Train Services from Dhaka to Siliguri are planned to be started from 26 March, 2021. The work on the Bangabandhu railway bridge would also start in November. The bridge would improve rail connectivity between the two countries immensely. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Passenger Train Services from Dhaka (Bangladesh) to Siliguri (West Bengal) – to be started from 26 March, 2021
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

87. Paytm is in talks with various banks to launch co-branded cards and plans to issue 2 million new cards over the next 18 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm – to launch co-branded cards and plans to issue 2 million new cards over the next 18 months
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO of Paytm – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar



- CEO of Paytm Payment Bank– Satish Kumar Gupta | CEO of Paytm General Ins. – Vineet Arora

88. Phase-II of the Rs 11,000 crore Urban Environment Improvement Programme (UEIP) was launched in Chandigarh by Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh with a virtual foundation-laying ceremony. The CM also announced a One-Time Settlement (OTS) scheme of pending VAT assessment to promote economic activity in urban areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – launched Phase-II of the Rs 11,000 crore Urban Environment Improvement Programme
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

89. Piyush Goyal has inaugurated the Phoolbagan Station of Kolkata's East-West Metro corridor which is likely to be completed by December, 2021 at the estimated cost of ₹8,575 crore. The total length of the project is 16.6 km and it will consist of 12 stations. Phoolbagan is the first underground station to become operational in the East West Metro corridor, which travels both below the surface and on elevated tracks, and also through underwater tunnels below River Hooghly. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal inaugurated – 'Phoolbagan Station' of Kolkata's East-West Metro corridor – to be completed by 2021
- Phoolbagan Station – the 1st underground station to be constructed below 'Hooghly River' (West Bengal)

90. Piyush Goyal has invited startups to register at public procurement portal GeM and offer goods as well as services to government organisations and PSUs. An online discovery platform - "Startup India Showcase" & "Blockchain-based Certificate Verification System" were also launched during the event. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has conceived the first-ever National Startup Awards to recognise and reward outstanding Startups and ecosystem enablers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DPIIT launched – "Startup India Showcase" & "Blockchain-based Certificate Verification System"
- DPIIT works under – Ministry of Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)

91. PM Narendra Modi has launched a "Jan Andolan" campaign for COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. PM Modi has also asked citizens to remember wearing a mask, wash hands, and practice 'Do Gaj Ki Doori'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi launched – a "Jan Andolan" campaign



92. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the Centenary Convocation of the University of Mysore via video conferencing. The University of Mysore was established in 1916 and was the first university in Karnataka as well as the sixth university in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – addressed the Centenary Convocation of the ‘University of Mysore’ (Karnataka)
- The University of Mysore was established in – 1916 | 6th university in India
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – B S Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

93. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated “Sardar Patel Zoological Park”, popularly known as Jungle Safari, in Kevadia, Narmada district, Gujarat. The park has been set up near the 182-metre Statue of Unity. PM Modi has also inaugurated the ‘Arogya Van’ in Kevadia. Besides, PM Modi also inaugurated ‘Ekta Mall’ and ‘Children Nutrition Park’ and took a ride in ‘nutri train’ at the park. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated:
- Sardar Patel Zoological Park (Jungle Safari) + Arogya Van + Ekta Mall + Children Nutrition Park = at Kevadia, Gujarat
- 182-metre “Statue of Unity” – located in Kevadia, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

94. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated ‘Atal Tunnel’ in Manali, Himachal Pradesh. It is world’s longest highway tunnel of 9.02 kilometres long and is named “Atal Rohtang tunnel”. It connects Manali in Himachal Pradesh to Lahaul-Spiti. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi inaugurated – world’s longest “Atal Rohtang tunnel” in Manali, Himachal Pradesh (9.02 km long)
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

95. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a special commemorative coin of Rs 100 denomination to mark the completion of the birth centenary celebrations of Vijaya Raje Scindia - a renowned Politician. “The last Maharani of Gwalior” is an autobiography of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia authored by Manohar Malgonkar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- PM Modi releases Rs 100 commemorative coin to honour Vijaya Raje Scindia's birth centenary
- "The last Maharani of Gwalior" autobiography of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia – authored by 'Manohar Malgonkar'

96. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 3 major projects in his home state Gujarat. He virtually inaugurated the Paediatric Heart Hospital, which is attached with the UN Mehta Institute of Cardiology and Research Centre in Gujarat. PM Modi also inaugurated the 2,320 metres long ropeway at Girnar mountain in Junagadh, Gujarat. He has launched the 'Kisan Suryodaya Yojana' for the farmers in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated 3 major projects in Gujarat
- 1. Paediatric Heart Hospital | 2. Girnar Ropeway in Junagadh, Gujarat | 3. Kisan Suryodaya Yojana
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

97. Puducherry airport has become the Airports Authority of India's (AAI) 1st entirely solar-powered airport in the country with the commissioning of 500KWp ground-mounted solar power plant at a cost of Rs 2.8 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Puducherry airport – became the Airports Authority of India's (AAI) 1st entirely solar-powered airport in India
- Power Capacity – 500KWp | Cost – Rs 2.8 Crore

98. Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has digitally launched the construction of 750 rural stadiums and playgrounds at a cost of Rs 105 crore in rural areas under the state government's "Rural Transformation Strategy" and "Tandarust Punjab Mission". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab launched = the construction of 750 Rural Stadiums and Playgrounds
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

99. Punjab Chief Minister Capt. Amarinder Singh has laid the foundation stone of Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University (MBSPSU) at village Sidhuwal in Patiala on October 25. The Punjab Cabinet last year had approved the Punjab Sports University Ordinance for the establishment of the MBS Punjab Sports University. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- The foundation stone of Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University laid at – Patiala, Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

100. Railway Minister Piyush Goyal has inaugurated the renaming of 'Naugarh railway station' to 'Siddharthnagar railway station' situated at Siddharthnagar district in Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal inaugurated – renaming of 'Naugarh railway station' to 'Siddharthnagar railway station' – in UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

101. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has released “DRDO Procurement Manual 2020” to encourage more participation of Indian industry, including Start-ups and MSMEs in Defence Research & Development (R&D) for achieving 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh – released “DRDO Procurement Manual 2020”
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

102. Reliance Capital's subsidiary, Reliance General Insurance has unveiled its new brand campaign Tech + Heart with its new brand mascot “BroBot”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance General Insurance – unveiled its new brand campaign Tech + Heart with its new brand mascot “BroBot”
- HQs of Reliance General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Rakesh Jain

103. Shipping minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya has inaugurated a Direct Port Entry (DPE) facility at V. O. Chidambaranar port trust, a development aimed at expediting cargo movement. Formerly known as the Tuticorin Port Trust, the V.O Chidambaranar port trust in Tamil Nadu is one of the 12 major ports in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya – inaugurated a Direct Port Entry (DPE) facility at V. O. Chidambaranar Port Trust
- V. O. Chidambaranar Port Trust / Tuticorin Port Trust – located in Tamil Nadu
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Shipping – Mansukh L. Mandaviya

• Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

104. Shripad Yesso Naik has inaugurated a Regional Raw Drug Repository (RRDR) for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) medicine (Southern Plateau Region) at the National Institute of Siddha, Chennai. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shripad Yesso Naik – inaugurated RRDR for ASU&H medicine – at National Institute of Siddha, Chennai
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

105. Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has launched ‘Dharani’ Portal for land and property registrations at Mudu Chinatalapalli village of Medchal-Malkajgiri district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – launched ‘Dharani’ Portal for land and property registrations
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

106. Telangana chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao will launch web portal “Dharani” for integrated land record management on October 26 on the occasion of Dasara. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana – to launch “Dharani” web portal on the occasion of Dasara
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

107. The “National Clinical Management Protocol based on Ayurveda and Yoga for Management of Covid-19” was released by Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Shripad Yesso Naik, Minister of State for AYUSH. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan & Shripad Naik released – National Clinical Management Protocol
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa

108. The Aadhaar issuing body, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has announced that individuals can now avail Aadhaar in a PVC card form by paying a nominal fee of Rs 50. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Aadhaar Card can be obtained in a PVC card form – at Rs 50
- HQs of UIDAI – New Delhi | CEO – Pankaj Kumar

109. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) is planning to develop at least 100 airports, waterdromes, and heliports across the country by 2024 under the regional air connectivity scheme, also known as UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik). The fourth anniversary of "UDAN" scheme was commemorated on October 21, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AAI will develop at least 100 airports, waterdromes, and heliports across India by 2024 under "UDAN" scheme
- October 21 – 4th anniversary of "UDAN" scheme (launched in 2016)
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Arvind Singh

110. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has now introduced "Facial Recognition System" for accessing digital documents of class 10 and Class 12. CBSE has already pushed 12 crores digital academic documents in Digi locker which can be opened by a student to access Mark sheets, Pass certificate and Migration certificate. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CBSE introduced "Facial Recognition System" for accessing digital documents of class 10 and Class 12
- HQs of CBSE – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shri Manoj Ahuja

111. The Central Government has further extended the due date for filing Income Tax Returns by individual taxpayers for the financial year 2019-20. The deadline is now December 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The deadline for filing returns by individual taxpayers for FY 2019-20 extended – till December 31

112. The Central government has increased the election campaign expenditure limit by 10% for all future elections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Central government – increased the election campaign expenditure limit by 10%



113. The central government has notified the Director General of Shipping as the National Authority for Recycling of Ships will be set up at Gandhinagar under Section 3 of the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019 to overlook activities related to ship recycling. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- National Authority for Recycling of Ships – will be set up in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Under Section 3 of the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

114. The Centre has proposed a double-decker flyover in Chennai in an effort to decongest parts of the city. The project, if approved by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami, will be built at a cost of ₹5,000 crore. Currently, India's largest double Decker flyover is being built in Chapra, Bihar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Centre has proposed a double-decker flyover in – Chennai, TN (at a cost of ₹5,000 crore)
- India's largest double Decker flyover – being built in Chapra, Bihar

115. The Centre has released a list of 18 individuals who have been declared as 'terrorists' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The UAPA, 1967 was amended in August 2019 to include the provision of declaring an individual as a terrorist. Before this, only organisations could be declared as terror outfits. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A list of 18 individuals – declared as 'terrorists' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967

116. The Centre has set up a 70-member high-level committee headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to commemorate the 400th birth anniversary of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 70-member high-level committee is set up – to commemorate the 400th birth anniversary of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur
- Committee is headed by – PM Narendra Modi

117. The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) has shortlisted 5 new startups as part of its third cohort of MAIL (Mobility & Automobile Innovation Lab) programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maruti Suzuki – shortlisted 5 new startups – as part of its 3rd cohort of MAIL programme



- HQs of Maruti Suzuki – New Delhi | Chairman – R C Bhargava | MD & CEO – Kenichi Ayukawa

118. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has banned exports of onion seeds with immediate effect due to shortage in the domestic market. Earlier, the export of onion seeds was in the restricted category, which means an exporter was required to obtain a licence or permission from the government for shipments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DGFT banned exports of ‘Onion seeds’ with immediate effect
- DGFT comes under – “Ministry of Commerce & Industry” (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)
- DGFT HQs – New Delhi | Director General – Amit Yadav

119. The first in the country, the Kerala government has decided to form a Welfare Fund Board known as “Kerala Karshaka Kshemanidhi Board” for the uplift of farmers in the state. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala decided to form – “Kerala Karshaka Kshemanidhi Board” a Welfare Fund Board
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

120. The first of the two, “B-777” VVIP aircraft Air India One for President, Vice President and Prime Minister has arrived in New Delhi, India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “B-777” VVIP aircraft Air India One for President, Vice President & PM arrived – in New Delhi

121. The Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) has launched the facility of filing ‘NIL statement’ for Composition Taxpayers. With this, composition taxpayers can now file NIL statement in ‘Form GST CMP-08’ through SMS and without logging in to the GST portal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GSTN – launched the facility of filing ‘NIL statement’ for Composition Taxpayers in ‘Form GST CMP-08’
- HQs of GSTN – New Delhi | CEO – Prakash Kumar | Founded in – 2013

122. The government employees are being provided with a prepaid Rupay Card loaded with Rs 10,000. This is under the special festival advance proposed by the government, and the card will be called “UTSAV” card, to be primarily distributed by the SBI. This is to be paid back by the employee in 10 instalments. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “UTSAV” card given to the government Employees – loaded with Rs 10,000 (For interest-free advance) – by SBI
- It is to be paid back – in 10 instalments
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse

123. The government has approved the 14th tranche of Electoral Bonds which was open for sale from October 19 to October 28. The Election Commission of India (ECI) accorded 'no objection' from the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) angle on October 15. State Bank of India has been authorised to issue and encash Electoral Bonds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government approved the 14th tranche of Electoral Bonds
- SBI – authorised to issue and encash the 14th tranche of Electoral Bonds
- Chief Election Commissioner – Sunil Arora (23rd)
- HQs of ECI – New Delhi

124. The government has launched a website to support entities involved in R&D in the coal sector. The website has been designed and developed by Coal India subsidiary Central Mine Planning and Design Institute. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government launched website to support R&D in – Coal sector
- The website designed and developed by – Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, Coal India
- HQs of CIL – Kolkata, WB | Director – Anil Kumar Jha | CMD – Pramod Agrawal
- Pralhad Joshi – Minister of Coal, Minister of Mines (Constituency – Dharwad, Karnataka)

125. The government has selected “Hughes Communications India” to connect 5,000 village panchayats in border and Naxal-affected states as well as in island territories with high-speed satellite broadband under ‘BharatNet’ project by March 2021. The ‘BharatNet’ network being created by Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited (BBNL) along with Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- BBNL & TCIL = selected 'Hughes Communications' to connect 5,000 village panchayats with Satellite broadband
- It will be done under 'BharatNet' project – by March 2021
- The 'BharatNet' network created by = BBNL + TCIL
- HQs of BBNL – New Delhi | MD & Chairman – Sarvesh Singh
- HQs of TCIL – New Delhi | CMD – Rajiv Gupta

126. The Gujarat government has announced a 25% fee reduction in private schools for the current academic year across all boards and has directed the schools not to charge any other fee under co-curricular activities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat – announced a 25% fee reduction in private schools for the current academic year
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

127. The Gujarat government has decided to start 'Digital Seva Setu' programme in all the 14,000 gram panchayats in the state to ensure optimum utilisation of technology for public welfare in rural areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat – decided to start 'Digital Seva Setu' programme
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

128. The Gujarat High Court has become the first high court in the country to live-stream its court proceedings on Youtube in order to enhance access to courts, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gujarat High Court – became the first high court in India to live-stream its court proceedings on Youtube
- Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court – Vikram Nath
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat



129. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has launched a dynamic, impact-based Cyclone Warning System aimed at minimising economic losses and damage to property from cyclones that hit the country's coasts every year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMD – launched a dynamic, impact-based Cyclone Warning System
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

130. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has operationalised an advanced High-Resolution Air Quality Early Warning System “ENFUSER” (ENvironmental information FUsion SERvice) for Delhi as well as a separate one for the country. Delhi has about 40 air quality monitoring systems. SILAM and ENFUSER have been developed in technical collaboration with the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMD – operationalised an advanced High-Resolution Air Quality Early Warning System
- “ENFUSER” – for Delhi | “SILAM” – for India
- ENFUSER – ENvironmental information FUsion SERvice
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra
- HQs of FMI – Helsinki, Finland



Smartkeeda
The Question Bank

131. The Indian government has released a commemorative postage stamp on the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. External Affairs S Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister was the chief guest at the event. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – released a commemorative postage stamp on the 75th anniversary of the UN
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

132. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has introduced a standard, individual term life insurance product called “Saral Jeevan Bima”. This will be mandatorily offered by all life insurance companies from January 1, 2021, onwards. The minimum sum assured under the product will be Rs 5 lakh; the maximum can go up to Rs 25 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI introduced “Saral Jeevan Bima” term life insurance product
- Sum assured: Minimum – Rs 5 lakh | Maximum – Rs 25 lakh



- IRDAI made it mandatory to All Life Insurance Companies – from January 1, 2021
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash C. Khuntia

133. The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) board has approved “Bullion Exchange Regulations-2020” to set up the entire ecosystem for bullion trading. The board also approved International Financial Services Centres Authority (Global In-House Centres) Regulations, 2020 to provide services relating to financial products and financial services. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IFSCA board approved – “Bullion Exchange Regulations-2020” & “Global In-House Centres Regulations-2020”
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas

134. The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation System is considered to be one of the world’s largest multi-purpose projects. It is designed to provide water for irrigation and drinking purposes in Telangana. The cost of the project is Rs 80,000 crore, but is expected to rise to Rs 1 lakh crore by the time it is completely constructed by the end of 2020. The total length of the entire Kaleshwaram project is approximately 1,832 km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project” – in Telangana
- Total cost: Rs 80,000 crore (expected to rise to Rs 1 lakh crore by 2020) | Total length: 1,832 km approximately
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

135. The Labour and Employment Ministry has revised the base year of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) from 2001 to 2016 to reflect the changing consumption pattern. It also gave more weightage to spending on health, education, recreation and other miscellaneous expenses, while reducing the weight of food and beverages. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Labour and Employment Ministry revised the base year of the CPI-IW from 2001 to 2016
- MoS in Ministry of Labour and Employment – Santosh Gangwar

136. The Maharashtra government has banned the sale of unpackaged “loose” cigarettes and beedis, making it the first Indian state to do so. Maharashtra currently contributes to around 8-10% of the cigarette sales volumes. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Maharashtra – the 1st state to ban the sale of unpackaged “loose” cigarettes and beedis
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

137. The Ministry of Home Affairs has announced new guideline for Unlock 5 and has decreed that cinemas, theatres, multiplexes will be permitted to open with up to 50% of their seating capacity from October 15. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to MHA – ‘Cinema halls’ will be permitted to open with up to 50% of their seating capacity
- Ministry of Home Affairs – Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

138. The Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned 3 additional branches of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to be located at Imphal, Chennai and Ranchi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs – sanctioned 3 additional branches of NIA – at Imphal, Chennai & Ranchi
- Ministry of Home Affairs – Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

139. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is planning to undertake ‘Sanitation Literacy Campaign’ (SLC) from October 2 to promote literacy on ‘WASH’ (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) in 2,000 villages across the country covering one lakh rural population. Rs 800 crore has been for this purpose. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD – planning to undertake ‘Sanitation Literacy Campaign’ – to promote literacy on ‘WASH’
- WASH – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene | Amount allocated – Rs 800 Cr
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu

140. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) will provide “grant assistance” to 2 first-of-its-kind Organic Spices Seed Park for saunf (fennel seed) in Patan and Banaskantha districts of Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 1st ever Organic Spices Seed Park – to be set up in Patan & Banaskantha districts of Gujarat
- Financial Assistance from – NABARD



- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu

141. The Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC) has named one of its stations as “Pride Station” and dedicated the station to the transgender community. Earlier known as “Sector 50” metro station, the station will now be known as the Pride station. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Noida Metro Rail Corp – renamed “Sector 50” metro station as – “Pride Station”
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

142. The Northern Railways' Delhi Division has announced the app-based “Bags on Wheels”, a first of its kind service through which their luggage will be transported to their homes from the railway station upon their arrival in trains and vice versa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Northern Railways – launched “Bags on Wheels” service for Indian passengers
- HQs of Northern Railway Zone – New Delhi | General Manager – Rajiv Chaudhry

143. The Odisha government has launched the “Sujal-Drink from Tap Mission” to provide quality drinking water which would be suitable for consumption from the tap. All households in the urban areas of the state will have piped water facilities by March 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – launched the “Sujal-Drink from Tap Mission”
- All households in the urban areas of Odisha will have piped water facilities – by March 2022
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

144. The Rajasthan police have launched a campaign named "AAWAJ" - Action Against Women-related crime and Awareness for Justice to spread awareness among woman about the crime against them and to educate them of their rights and ways to secure justice if they end up becoming its victims. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan police – launched a campaign named “AAWAJ” – to spread awareness among woman about the crime
- AAWAJ – Action Against Women-related crime and Awareness for Justice



- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

145. The Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) has decided to start an independent ‘Maratha kingdom’ study and research centre, through which a detailed study of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and other Maratha kings will be undertaken at the university. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Savitribai Phule Pune University – decided to start an independent ‘Maratha kingdom’ study and research centre
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

146. The South Eastern Railway has launched a project “Operation My Saheli” to boost the security of women passengers in trains during their entire journey. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Eastern Railway launched – “Operation My Saheli” project
- HQs of South Eastern Railway Zone – Kolkata, West Bengal | GM – Sanjay Kumar Mohanty

147. The State Water Transport Department (SWTD) of Kerala will launch the taxi service for people living in waterlogged areas of the district. The first water taxi in the state will be operational in Alappuzha by October. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala – to launch the first water taxi in Alappuzha district
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

148. The Tamil Nadu School Education Department has proposed to start free online coaching classes for students of government and aided schools who will be taking up NEET in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – proposed to start free online coaching classes for students appearing in NEET in 2021
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

149. The third phase of the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) will be started in January, 2021. The Rs 4,500 crore-National Supercomputers Mission (NSM) envisages nearly 50 supercomputers across the country in three phases. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- 3rd phase of the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) will be started in January, 2021 (Cost: Rs 4,500 Cr)

150. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the 'STARS' project under the New Education Policy-2020 (NEP) to support states in strengthening the school education system. The project is supported by World Bank and is estimated to cost Rs 5,718 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet – approved the 'STARS' project under the NEP-2020 | Project funded by – World Bank
- STARS – Strengthening Teaching-learning And Results for States | Estimated Cost – Rs 5,718 crore
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

151. The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has celebrated the achievements under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' in the past 6 years on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. The ministry has organised a webinar titled 'Swachhata Ke 6 Saal, Bemisaal'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA organised – a webinar titled 'Swachhata Ke 6 Saal, Bemisaal'
- Swachh Bharat Mission launched by PM Narendra Modi – in 2014
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri

152. The UP government has dedicated the upcoming Navratri festival to women's safety, dignity and empowerment by launching 'Mission Shakti' on October 17. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched "Mission Shakti" for women for the upcoming Navratri festival
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

153. The West Bengal government has launched a campaign in areas adjoining elephant habitats in the northern parts of the state to prevent electrocution deaths of the pachyderms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – launched a campaign to prevent electrocution deaths of Elephants
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar



154. To commemorate the Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 2nd October 2020, “Shramdan” drive was organized by the Department of Justice. On this occasion, Online Essay Competition and Painting Competition were also organized. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Shramdan” drive – organized by Department of Justice – on 2nd October 2020

155. To give an impetus to the diversification of the jute industry, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has extended the norms for mandatory packaging of 100% food grains and 20% sugar in diversified jute bags. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA – extended the norms for mandatory packaging of 100% food grains and 20% sugar in diversified jute bags

156. Total 5 states - Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu will get a Vulture Conservation & Breeding Centre each, according to the “Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025” which was approved by the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) October 5, 2020. The plan has also suggested that new veterinary Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDS) be tested on vultures before their commercial release. Four rescue centres will be established in Pinjore (Haryana), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Guwahati (Assam) and Hyderabad (Telangana). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- As per “Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025” – 5 states to get Vulture Conservation & Breeding Centre
- Total 5 states – Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, Maharashtra, Karnataka & Tamil Nadu
- Total 4 rescue centres – Pinjore, Bhopal, Guwahati and Hyderabad

157. Union AYUSH minister Shripad Yesso Naik has inaugurated a 20-bed tribal unit of the ‘National Institute of Naturopathy’ in Pune. It will provide free clinical services to the tribal population in the area. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated – ‘National Institute of Naturopathy’ – in Pune, Maharashtra
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa



158. Union Defence minister Rajnath Singh has laid the foundation stone of the “Nechiphu Tunnel” on the Balipara-Charduar-Tawang (BCT) road in West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh. This tunnel will be 450m-long & D-shaped. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh – laid the foundation stone of “Nechiphu Tunnel” on Balipara-Charduar-Tawang (BCT) road – in AP
- 450m-long & D-shaped
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra
- Defence Minister – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

159. Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has inaugurated the permanent campus of the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar located in Punjab. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' – inaugurated the permanent campus of IIT Ropar – in Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

160. Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has virtually launched the “KAPILA” Kalam Program for Intellectual Property Literacy and Awareness campaign on the 89th birth anniversary of former President and Scientist Late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' – launched the “KAPILA” Kalam Program
- October 15 – 89th birth anniversary of former President and Scientist ‘Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam’
- Intellectual Property Literacy Week – from October 15 to 23
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

161. Union Education Minister, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has virtually inaugurated the “DST-IEST Solar PV Hub” at Howrah, West Bengal. It has been established under the aegis of Centre of Excellence for Green Energy and Sensor System at IEST, Shibpur. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated the “DST-IEST Solar PV Hub” – at Howrah, West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

162. Union health and science and technology minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched “CuRED” (CSIR Ushered Repurposed Drugs), a website that gives comprehensive information about the numerous Covid-19 clinical trials that the CSIR is engaged in partnership with industry, other government departments and ministries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan launched “CuRED” (CSIR Ushered Repurposed Drugs) website
- CuRED – CSIR ushered Repurposed Drugs
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | CSIR President – Narendra Modi | Director General – Shekhar C. Mande

163. Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan along with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath have digitally inaugurated the Super-Speciality Block of Motilal Nehru Medical College in Allahabad (Prayagraj). Dr Harsh Vardhan has also inaugurated the first high throughput ‘COBAS 6800’ machine in Uttar Pradesh, installed by the ICMR to pursue its regionally balanced coronavirus testing strategy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Super-Speciality Block of Motilal Nehru Medical College – inaugurated in Allahabad (Prayagraj), Uttar Pradesh
- Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the 1st high throughput ‘COBAS 6800’ machine – in UP
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

164. Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan has recently reminded everyone of the government's effort to make India trans fat free by 2022, a year ahead of WHO's target. Trans fat is a modifiable risk factor for cardiovascular diseases (CVD). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government's target to make India Trans Fat Free by – 2022
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)

165. Union minister for road transport, highways and MSMEs Nitin Gadkari has initiated the first blasting of 14.15 km long ‘Zojila Tunnel’ in Jammu and Kashmir, which will ensure all-weather connectivity between the Srinagar valley and Leh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari – initiated the first blasting of ‘Zojila Tunnel’ in Jammu and Kashmir
- It provides all-weather connectivity between – Srinagar valley & Leh



- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

166. Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot has launched the “Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission” (ASIIM) under Venture Capital Fund for SCs through Video Conferencing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Thaawarchand Gehlote – launched the “Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission”
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – Thawar Chand Gehlot (Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)

167. Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda has virtually launched India’s largest handicraft and organic products marketplace, "Tribes India E-Marketplace" on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arjun Munda launched – "Tribes India E-Marketplace" India’s largest handicraft & organic products marketplace
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jhrakhand)

168. Union minister Jitendra Singh has inaugurated 23 road and bridge projects worth around Rs 73 crore in Kathua, Udhampur, Doda and Reasi districts of Jammu and Kashmir. The projects involve a road length of 111 kilometers that will benefit more than 35,000 people in the region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh inaugurated – 23 road & bridge Projects – in J&K (Worth: Rs 73 crore)
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- Jitendra Singh – MoS of DoNER, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space

169. Union Minister Mansukh L. Mandaviya has e-launched an indigenous software solution for Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) and Vessels Traffic Monitoring Systems (VTMS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mansukh L. Mandaviya – e-launched an indigenous software solution for ‘VTS’ & ‘VTMS’
- VTS – Vessel Traffic Services | VTMS – Vessels Traffic Monitoring Systems
- MoS I/C of Ministry of Shipping – Mansukh L. Mandaviya



170. Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated Kerala's first Mega Food Park in Palakkad district that will help generate 5,000 direct and indirect employment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – inaugurated Kerala's first Mega Food Park – in Palakkad district
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

171. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has laid the foundation stone for India's first Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Assam to be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 694 crore under the ambitious Bharatmala Pariyojna. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone for India's first Multi-Modal Logistics Park in – Assam | Cost: Rs 694 Cr
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

172. Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti and Social Justice & Empowerment Sh. Rattan Lal Kataria, has launched a Mobile application for Geo tagging of the components of projects under 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana- Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme' (PMKSY-AIBP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rattan Lal Kataria – launched a Mobile application for Geo tagging of the components of projects – under 'PMKSY-AIBP'
- Minister of Jal Shakti – Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- MoS for Jal Shakti and Social Justice & Empowerment – Rattan Lal Kataria

173. Union Minister of Textiles and Women & Child Development, Smriti Zubin Irani has launched the 1st ever Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton on 2nd World Cotton Day on 7th October, 2020. Now India's premium Cotton would be known as 'Kasturi Cotton' in the world cotton Trade. A mobile app, "Cott-Ally" has been developed by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) for providing latest news regarding weather condition, Crop situation and best farm practices. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Smriti Zubin Irani launched – the 1st ever Brand & Logo for – Indian Cotton
- India's premium Cotton would be known as – 'Kasturi Cotton'
- "Cott-Ally" mobile app – developed by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)



- HQs of CCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman & MD – Pradeep Kumar Agarwal

174. Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda has launched two 'Centers of Excellence for Tribal Welfare' in Maharashtra & Jharkhand. These centers were launched in collaboration between the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Art of Living Foundation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arjun Munda – launched 2 Centers of Excellence for Tribal Welfare in Maharashtra & Jharkhand
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand)

175. UP CM Yogi Adityanath has launched "Hath dhona, roke corona" campaign on the occasion of the "Global Handwashing Day" on October 15. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched "Hath dhona, roke corona" campaign
- October 15 – "Global Handwashing Day"
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

176. Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to establish anti-human trafficking Police Stations in each and every district in a major step towards the security of women and children. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – decided to establish anti-human trafficking Police Stations in each and every district
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

177. Uttar Pradesh government has launched a 6-month long women empowerment campaign 'Mission Shakti' to raise awareness and tackle crime against women in the state. Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel has inaugurated the 'Safe City Project', a 180-day-long campaign. The central government has approved the project for Lucknow at a total cost of Rs 194 crore with an aim to strengthen security of women in public places. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched a 6-month long women empowerment campaign 'Mission Shakti'
- Anandiben Patel – inaugurated the 'Safe City Project' | Cos: Rs 194 crore
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



178. Uttarakhand is the first state in the country which has started using Quick Deployment Antenna (QDA) for disaster management, which till now, was being used primarily by paramilitary forces and the national disaster response force (NDRF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – the first state in the country to use Quick Deployment Antenna (QDA)
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

179. While inaugurating the CII’s “Green Building Congress 2020”, the Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has launched a coffee table book and Rating systems on Healthcare, Logistics and Net Zero Water. He also congratulated CII for its 125th anniversary. According to the World Green Building Council, buildings and construction account for 39% of energy related CO₂ emissions in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu launched – a coffee table book and Rating systems on Healthcare, Logistics and Net Zero Water
- M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated – “Green Building Congress 2020”
- 125th anniversary of CII (Confederation of Indian Industry)
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – Uday Kotak | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee

180. Wipro with SAP SE has launched Tenant Acquisition Management Solution for real estate industry. It can be integrated as a cloud extension to SAP ‘Customer Experience’ and SAP S/4HANA software as well. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wipro + SAP SE = launched Tenant Acquisition Management Solution for real estate industry
- HQs of Wipro – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Thierry Delaporte
- HQs of SAP SE – Walldorf, Germany | MD & President – Kulmeet Bawa



International Affairs

1. 'Wroclaw' city in Poland has named a square after celebrated poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan. He was best known for his poem "Madhushala", received the Padma Bhushan in 1976 for his contribution to Hindi literature. He passed away in 2003. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wroclaw, Poland – named a square after 'Harivansh Rai Bachchan'
- Poland – Warsaw – Polish Zloty | President – Andrzej Sebastian Duda

2. A 100-bed state-of-the-art Cancer Hospital & 22,000-seater Cricket stadium will be set up in Hulhumale, Maldives under the USD 800 million Line of Credit extended to the Maldives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 100-bedded Cancer hospital & 22,000-seater Cricket stadium – will be set up in Maldives – by India
- India extended USD 800 million LoC to Maldives for this purpose
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

3. A bipartisan group of five influential US senators has urged the Trump administration to seek removal of High Tariffs on import of 'Pecans' by India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US senators urged the Trump administration to seek removal of high tariffs on import of 'Pecans' by India
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

4. A Godwit bird has travelled 12,200 kilometres in 11 days, to set a record for longest non-stop flight by a bird. The bar-tailed godwit bird has a 5gm satellite tag, fitted on its lower back that helps experts track it. The bird started from south-west Alaska, USA and arrived at Auckland, New Zealand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bar-Tailed Godwit Bird – travelled 12,200 Km in 11 days to set a record for longest non-stop flight

5. A majority of voters in New Caledonia, an archipelago in the South Pacific, have chosen to remain part of France instead of backing independence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Majority of voters in New Caledonia – chose to remain part of France



- New Caledonia – Noumea – CFP Franc
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

6. According to the WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom, 184 countries have now joined the COVAX facility, which aims to finance COVID-19 vaccines. Ecuador and Uruguay were the most recent countries to join. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 184 countries – joined the ‘COVAX facility’ as on October 19, 2020 (Latest: Ecuador & Uruguay)
- Ecuador – Quito – US Dollar | Uruguay – Montevideo – Peso Uruguayo

7. After a record of having the world’s tallest building-Burj Khalifa, Dubai is set to make another record in the Guinness book of World Records. The city has been developing the world’s largest fountain known as “Palm Fountain”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dubai – to make a new Guinness book of World Records – by developing world’s largest “Palm Fountain”
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

8. Andorra has formally joined the International Monetary Fund (IMF) becoming its 190th member state as the tourism and trade-dependent principality struggles with the coronavirus pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andorra – joined IMF (190th member state)
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190
- Andorra – Andorra la Vella – Euro

9. Argentina has formally become the first country in the world to approve the use of drought-resistant genetically modified (GMO) wheat, prompting fierce criticism by the country’s massive export agriculture industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Argentina – the first country in the world to approve the use of drought-resistant GMO wheat
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso



10. Bangladesh has approved the death penalty for rapists, replacing life imprisonment as the maximum penalty. The ordinance comes days after the “World Day against the Death Penalty” which was observed on October 10. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 10 – “World Day against the Death Penalty”
- Bangladesh – approved the death penalty for rapists
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

11. Bangladesh's government has launched a ‘No mask, No service’ policy in order to fight the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As per the orders, no services will be provided to the people who will not be wearing masks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bangladesh – launched a ‘No mask, No service’ policy
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

12. China has formally joined COVAX, the global initiative for COVID-19 vaccine by signing an agreement with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The COVAX facility, led by the WHO, aims to deliver at least 2 billion doses of vaccines by the end of 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – joined COVAX by signing an agreement with “Gavi”
- COVAX facility – led by the WHO – aims to deliver at least 2 billion doses of vaccines – by 2021
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

13. Cyclone “Ianos” has hit Greece recently. It is also known as a "medicane" (Mediterranean hurricane). An online platform was activated for the immediate payment of the extraordinary one-time financial aid to affected people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cyclone “Ianos” – hit Greece
- Greece – Athens – Euro | Turkey – Ankara – Lira



14. Defence Ministers of NATO Member States will set up a new Space Centre at the alliance's Air Command in Ramstein, Germany. In December, NATO leaders declared space to be the alliance's 5th domain of operations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Ministers of NATO Member States – to set up a new Space Centre – in Ramstein, Germany
- Germany – Berlin – Euro
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member States – 30

15. France has announced a gradual ban on using wild animals in travelling circuses, on keeping dolphins and killer whales in captivity in marine parks and on raising mink on fur farms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- France – announced a gradual ban on using wild animals in Circuses
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

16. Human rights organisation Amnesty International has decided to halt its operations in India after a successful 8-year run alleging that its bank accounts were frozen as part of government's "witch-hunt". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amnesty International – decided to halt its operations in India
- HQs of Amnesty International – London, UK | Secretary-General – Kumi Naidoo

17. In the 70th address on his monthly radio programme Mann ki Baat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi renewed his pitch for domestic products. He also pointed towards khadi's popularity in Mexico's Oaxaca. The fabric has become popular by the name "Oaxaca khadi". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Khadi fabric has become popular by the name "Oaxaca khadi" – in Mexico
- Mexico – Mexico city – Mexican Peso

18. India and France were re-elected as the President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), for a term of two years at the virtual meeting of the 3rd ISA Assembly. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – re-elected as the President of – ISA – for 2 years



- France – re-elected as the Co-President of – ISA
- HQs of ISA – Gurugram, Haryana | DG – Upendra Tripathy | Member Countries – 121
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

19. India and the Netherlands have unveiled plans for a joint thrust in the e-health sector, with the aim of providing digital health facilities and security to every Indian. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India & Netherlands = unveiled plans for a joint thrust in the e-health sector
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro

20. India has been designated the Vice-Chair of Good Laboratory Practice, GLP Working Group of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Good Laboratory Practice is a quality system, which has been evolved by OECD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – designated the Vice-Chair of – ‘Good Laboratory Practice (GLP)’ - a working group of OECD
- HQs of OECD – Paris, France | Secretary-General – Angel Gurría | Member countries in OECD – 37

21. India has joined the Five Eyes alliance and Japan governments in asking big tech companies to come up with a solution for law enforcement to access WhatsApp end-to-end encrypted chats. The Five Eyes intelligence alliance companies consist of the US, the UK, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – joined the “Five Eyes alliance”
- Members in Five Eyes intelligence alliance: US, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand

22. India in a unique move has launched “Green Strategic Partnership” for the first time with Denmark as its partner as the two aim to be at forefront of the global fight against the Climate Change. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Denmark = launched “Green Strategic Partnership” for the first time
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone



23. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has commissioned the dedicated Flash Flood Guidance Services (FFGS), first of its kind for South Asian countries namely India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IMD commissioned the dedicated FFGS for South Asian countries – India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal & Sri Lanka
- HQs of IMD – New Delhi | Director General – Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

24. Intergovernmental Coordination Group for Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS) of UNESCO-IOC has recently conducted “Indian Ocean wide Tsunami Mock Exercise (IOWave20)” for Tsunami preparedness in the Indian Ocean region. In India, the exercise is coordinated by Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICG/IOTWMS – conducted “Indian Ocean wide Tsunami Mock Exercise (IOWave20)”
- ICG/IOTWMS functions under – UNESCO
- Location of INCOIS – Hyderabad, Telangana | Director – Tummala Srinivasa Kumar | Founded in – 1998
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

25. Israel Embassy will have a separate 'Water Attache' from January 2021 to help share their country's best practices and technologies for advancements in India's water management and agriculture sectors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Israel – will have a separate 'Water Attache' from January 2021
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

26. Japan has set a target of achieving Zero Carbon Emissions by 2050 in policy shift. Japan is the world's fifth-biggest emitter of carbon dioxide. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – set a target of achieving Zero Carbon Emissions by 2050
- Japan – the world's 5th biggest emitter of carbon dioxide | 1st – China | 3rd – India
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga



27. Kuwait's government has submitted its resignation to Emir Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah in anticipation of the upcoming November general elections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kuwait's government submitted its resignation – in anticipation of the upcoming November general elections
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Kuwaiti Dinar

28. Mozambique Railways will get Diesel loco sets from Indian Railways' Rail Wheel Factory (RCF), Bengaluru. The RCF in Bengaluru has paved the way for exports through swift production of as many as 90 wheels and 45 axles, which will be soon assembled at Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW) in Varanasi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mozambique Railways – to get Diesel loco sets from Indian Railways' Rail Wheel Factory (RCF), Bengaluru
- HQs of DLW – Varanasi, UP | General Manager – YashPal Singh
- Mozambique – Maputo – Mozambican metical
- Chairman of Indian Railways – Vinod Kumar Yadav | HQs – New Delhi

29. Myanmar is all set to acquire its first diesel-electric submarine "INS Sindhuvir" from India. Both India and Myanmar are in talks for the supply of more military hardware, including 105 mm artillery guns, ammunition, sonars and advanced light torpedoes 'Shyena'. India is working with Myanmar and Bangladesh to build and upgrade defence capabilities in an attempt to counter growing Chinese influence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Myanmar – to acquire its first diesel-electric submarine "INS Sindhuvir" from India
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint

30. New tropical storm "Hurricane Zeta" has recently hit the USA. The system was centered about 260 miles (420 kilometers) southeast of Cozumel Island. Zeta was the earliest named 27th Atlantic storm recorded in an already historic hurricane season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hurricane "Zeta" – recently hit the USA
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump



31. Pakistan will remain in the 'grey' list of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) till February 2021 as it has failed to fulfill six key obligations of the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pakistan will remain in the 'grey' list of FATF till February 2021
- HQs of FATF – Paris, France | President – Xiangmin Liu | Member Countries – 39

32. Russia has approved its second experimental vaccine named as "EpiVacCorona" for Coronavirus. This has come after Moscow approved "World's first" Covid-19 vaccine "Sputnik-V" in August. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia – approved the 2nd Experimental Vaccine named as "EpiVacCorona" for Coronavirus
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

33. Singapore will become the world's first country to use facial verification in its national ID scheme to pay taxes. Millions of people living in the city-state will be able to access government agencies, banking services and other amenities with a quick face scan by using this "SingPass Face Verification". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Singapore – became the world's 1st country to use facial verification in its national ID scheme to pay taxes
- Singapore – Singapore – Dollar | PM – Lee Hsien Loong | President – Halimah Yacob

34. Singapore-based bond exchange, BondEvalue, developed by India-origin entrepreneurs, is targeting to launch a blockchain-platform in the New Year to facilitate investment in bonds by individuals and common man. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BondEvalue – to launch a blockchain-platform in Indian in 2021
- HQs of BondEvalue – Singapore | CEO – Rahul Banerjee

35. Sweden has banned the use of telecom equipment from China's Huawei and ZTE in its 5G network. The United Kingdom in July has ordered Huawei equipment to be purged completely from Britain's 5G network by 2027, becoming one of the first European countries to do so. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sweden – banned the use of telecom equipment from China's Huawei and ZTE in its 5G network



- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona

36. Taiwan has released a new design for the country's passport highlighting the English word for 'Taiwan' eyeing to distinguish it from China. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Taiwan – released a new design for the country's passport to distinguish it from China
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan Dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

37. Tech giant LG has launched the world's first rollable TV in South Korea. The 65-inch "LG Signature OLED R" will cost 100 million won, or \$87,000 (approximately Rs 64 lakh). Its name "R" contains the meaning of "revolutionary," "rollable" and "redefine the space". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LG launched the world's 1st rollable TV "LG Signature OLED R" in South Korea (Cost: Rs 64 lakh)
- HQs of LG Electronics – Seoul, South Korea | CEO – Kwon Bong-seok

38. The 'Follow the Mahatma' campaign has been launched by schools in the Netherlands to promote non-violence among children on Gandhi Jayanti 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Netherlands launched – 'Follow the Mahatma' campaign
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro

39. The city of Tel Aviv is working on creating wireless electric roads to charge and power public transportation in the city. With this, this city has become the first city with electric roads that charge public buses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tel Aviv (Israel) – became the first city with Electric roads that charge public buses
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

40. The Ministry of External Affairs is creating a new vertical, which includes a new Oceania territorial division with Australia at its centre, as well as including the Indo-Pacific and Asean divisions within it. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Ministry of External Affairs – to create a new Oceania Territorial Division
- Ministry of External Affairs – Subrahmanyam Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat

41. The Ministry of Shipping has extended the current concessional rate of 40% discount for coastal movement of cargo and vessel-related charges, for a period of further 1 year to clients for cargo being handled at Jawaharlal Nehru Port and Deendayal Port from or to Shahid Beheshti Port, Chabahar, Iran. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Shipping – extended the current concessional rate of 40% discount on cargo movement between India & in Iran
- Shahid Beheshti Port + Chabahar Port = in Iran
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Shipping – Mansukh L. Mandaviya
- Iran – Tehran – Rial | President – Ali Khamenei

42. The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) has announced to set up a new 'Space Centre' at its airbase in Ramstein, Germany, to counter a rising Russian and Chinese threat. Last year NATO declared space to be a new "area of operations", the fifth such zone after land, air, sea and cyberspace, which was added in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NATO – to set up a new 'Space Centre' at its airbase in Ramstein, Germany
- HQs of NATO – Brussels, Belgium | Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg | Member States – 30

43. The South African government has declared the Phoenix Settlement in Durban as a National Heritage Site on the 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- South Africa – declared the 'Phoenix Settlement' in Durban as a National Heritage Site
- South Africa – Cape Town – South African Rand | President – Cyril Ramaphosa

44. The Sri Lankan government has recently approved the proposal to ban cattle slaughter in the island nation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Sri Lanka – approved the proposal to ban ‘Cattle Slaughter’
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

45. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR) Michelle Bachelet has appealed to the Government of India to review the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act and its compliance with international human rights norms, and regretted that it was being “used to deter or punish NGOs for human rights reporting”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNHCHR appealed to Indian government to review the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act
- HQs of UNHCHR – Geneva, Switzerland | Head – Michelle Bachelet



Banking & Economic Affairs

1. As a part of the Vigilance Awareness Week (VAW), Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched the “PNB Tracking & Monitoring Staff Accountability Cases (TMSAC) portal” and PNB’s 2020 Vigilance Manual. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB – launched the “PNB Tracking & Monitoring Staff Accountability Cases (TMSAC) portal” and Vigilance Manual
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao
- Vigilance Commissioner – Suresh N Patel

2. As per the RBI's data, Digital payment volumes have grown at a compounded annual growth rate of 55.1% between 2015-16 and 2019-20. In value terms, they have grown from Rs 920.38 trillion to Rs 1,623.05 trillion during this period, clipping at an annual compounded rate of 15.2%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Digital payment volumes grown at a compounded annual growth rate of 55.1% – between 2015-16 and 2019-20
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

3. Bank of Baroda (BoB) has signed an MoU with Mahindra and Mahindra for tractor finance business to push agriculture finance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BoB + Mahindra and Mahindra = signed an MoU for tractor finance business
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha
- HQs of Mahindra and Mahindra – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Dr Pawan Goenka

4. Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance has launched a new Unit Linked Insurance Plan (ULIP) titled ‘Invest 4G’. New “Invest4G” offers three options to the individuals: Life Option, Care Option and Century Option. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance – launched a new ULIP “Invest4G”
- HQs of CHOBCLI – Gurugram, Haryana | Chairman – R. A. Sankara Narayanan | MD & CEO – Anuj Mathur



5. Chqbook has launched India's first 'Financial Control Center' or 'Neobank' on mobile to empower 60 million Small Business Owners like kiranas, merchants, chemists, and others running proprietorships. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chqbook launched – India's 1st 'Financial Control Center' or 'Neobank' to empower 60 million small business owners
- HQs of Chqbook – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Vipul Sharma

6. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched 'MSME Prerana', an online business mentoring programme of Indian Bank. The programme is aimed at empowering entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity building workshops. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman launched – 'MSME Prerana' - an online business mentoring programme of Indian Bank
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru

7. Fino Payments Bank is planning to add another 300 points at BPCL outlets to its existing 1,075 in Tamil Nadu, to help truck drivers to get fleet cards recharged by paying equivalent cash, without any hassles. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fino Payments Bank – to add another 300 points at BPCL outlets to its existing 1,075 in Tamil Nadu
- HQs of FPBL – Maharashtra | MD and CEO – Rishi Gupta
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

8. Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra has launched the Application Programming Interface (API), integration between the "PM SVANidhi Portal" and the State Bank of India's "e-Mudra Portal" to ease processing of loan applications. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Durga Shanker Mishra launched – API integration between "PM SVANidhi Portal" & SBI's "e-Mudra Portal"
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri
- Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary – Durga Shanker Mishra
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara



- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse

9. ICICI Bank has closed its banking business in Sri Lanka with effect from 23 October 2020 and cancelled the licence issued to it in terms of the provisions of the Banking Act, No. 30 of 1988, subject to certain terms and conditions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank closed its banking business in – Sri Lanka
- HQs of ICCI Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#) | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

10. In a bid to boost banks’ investment in government bonds, the enhanced HTM limit has been extended by a year to March 31, 2022 from March 31, 2021 by the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The enhanced HTM limit – extended by a year to March 31, 2022
- HTM – Held To Maturity
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

11. In a bid to increase credit flow to small businesses, the RBI has raised banks’ maximum aggregate retail exposure limit/ limit for risk weight to entities with turnover up to Rs 50 crore to Rs 7.5 crore, up from Rs 5 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI raised banks’ maximum aggregate retail exposure limit for small businesses to Rs 7.5 Cr (from Rs 5 Cr)
- This is for entities with turnover up to – Rs 50 crore
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

12. In a bid to provide better user convenience and encourage digital transaction in India, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed the payment operators such as Paytm, PhonePe, MobiKwik, Google Pay to shift to interoperable Quick Response (QR) codes by March 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- RBI directed the payment operators to shift to interoperable Quick Response (QR) codes by March 2022
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

13. Indian Bank has introduced a “Kisan Credit Card Loan Scheme” for fishermen in Tamil Nadu. Under this scheme, Kisan credit card loans of up to ₹ 2 lakh as working capital with low-interest rate will be provided. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank introduced – “Kisan Credit Card Loan Scheme” for fishermen – in Tamil Nadu (loans of up to ₹ 2 lakh)
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, TN | CEO – Padmaja Chundurur
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

14. Indian Bank, a premier Public Sector Bank, has launched another green initiative, “IB-eNote” that enables a totally paperless working environment. The IB e-Note is a tool that enables processing and tracking of notes put up by various offices digitally. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank launched another green initiative – “IB-eNote” for paperless working environment
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chundurur

15. IndusInd Bank has gone live on the RBI’s account aggregator (AA) framework making it the first bank in the country to go live. It has gone live as ‘Financial Information Provider’ (FIP) with DigiSahamati. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IndusInd Bank – 1st bank in India to become a FIP under the new Account Aggregator (AA) Framework of RBI
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”

16. Jana Small Finance Bank has partnered with Ashoknagar Co-operative Bank Limited under the bank sponsorship programme. With this, Jana Bank has become the first SFB to go live under the sponsorship programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Jana Small Finance Bank + Ashoknagar Co-operative Bank – partnership to sponsor Ashoknagar Co-operative Bank
- Jana Small Finance Bank – became the 1st SFB to go live under the sponsorship programme
- HQs JSFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Ajay Kanwal
- HQs of ACBL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | President – K M Nagraj

17. Punjab National Bank has launched a financial inclusion and literacy initiative 'Gram Sampark Abhiyan' to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The nationwide campaign was launched by Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB launched – financial inclusion and literacy initiative “Gram Sampark Abhiyan”
- It was launched by – Narendra Singh Tomar
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao

18. RBL Bank in partnership with Visa has launched “Visa Direct” which facilitates instant, real-time and secure fund settlement on debit and credit cards. The platform will help RBL Bank build advanced tech-led banking solutions to address evolving needs of its partners and merchants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBL Bank + Visa = launched “Visa Direct”
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly

19. State Bank of India (SBI) has entered into a partnership with global non-profit education platform “edX” to offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on the platform from November 2020 onwards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + edX (USA) = partnership to offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse



20. The 3 day & 6-member 25th RBI Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting was held from October 7 to October 9. The RBI has decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 4% and the reverse repo rate at 3.35% in its bi-monthly Monetary Policy review. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3 day RBI MPC meeting – held from October 7 to October 9
- GDP prediction of India in FY21 as per RBI’s MPC meeting – (-9.5%)
- Repo rate – 4% | Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35%
- Total members in the RBI’s MPC = 6 (3 of RBI + 3 of GoI)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

21. The RBI has announced that RTGS (Real-Time Gross Settlement) will be available round the clock, 24*7*365 from December 2020. The announcement came after the RBI made the NEFT facility available 24X7 from December 16, 2019. Under the current rules, the transfers can be made between 7 AM and 6 PM. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RTGS (Real-Time Gross Settlement) – will be available round the clock, 24*7*365 from – December 2020
- RBI made the NEFT facility available 24X7 from – December 16, 2019
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

22. The RBI has decided to conduct ‘On tap Targeted Long-term Repo Operations’ of up to 3 years tenor for a total amount of up to ₹1 lakh crore at a floating rate linked to the policy repo rate. The RBI has informed that banks can deploy money drawn from this TLTRO in 6 sectors – MSMEs, agriculture, agri-infrastructure, secured retail, healthcare, drugs and pharmaceuticals. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI decided to conduct ‘On tap Targeted Long-term Repo Operations’ of up to 3 years tenor for up to ₹1 lakh Cr
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

23. The RBI has excluded 6 Public Sector Banks from the Second Schedule of the “RBI Act – 1934” following their merger with other banks. These 6 banks are Syndicate Bank, OBC, UBI, Andhra Bank, Corporation Bank, and Allahabad Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – excluded 6 Public Sector Banks from the Second Schedule of the “RBI Act – 1934”



- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

24. The RBI has fixed the minimum Net Owned Fund (NOF) size for Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) at Rs 25 crore. The Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) holding a Certificate of Registration (CoR) and having an NOF of less than Rs 25 crore will be required to achieve NOF of Rs 15 crore by March 31, 2022 and Rs 25 crore by March 31, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI fixed the minimum NOF size for HFCs at Rs 25 crore
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

25. The RBI has put out the final guidelines for housing finance companies (HFC) in which all such non-banking finance companies (NBFC) should have at least 60% of their net assets deployed in the business of providing finance for housing, and those who still don't have that ratio, must do so in a phased manner by March 31, 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI put out the final guidelines for HFC – to have 60% of their Net Assets – by March 31, 2024
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

26. The RBI has replaced the “co-origination model” with “co-lending model”. Now, all Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) including Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) will be allowed to collaborate with banks to undertake priority sector lending. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI has replaced the “co-origination model” with “co-lending model”
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

27. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set the Ways and Means Advances (WMAs) limit at Rs 1.25 lakh crore for the central government for the second half of FY21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI set the WMAs limit at Rs 1.25 lakh crore – for the second half of FY21
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

28. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will provide banks on-tap funds under on-tap Targeted Long-Term Repo Operations (TLTRO) up to Rs 1 trillion to give loans to sectors having multiplier effects on growth.



The sectors, which could benefit from this move, include construction, real estate, and micro finance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – to provide up to Rs 1 trillion on-tap funds to banks under on-tap TLTRO
- TLTRO – Targeted Long-Term Repo Operations
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

29. The Reserve Bank of India has deferred implementation of provisions made under Basel III capital due to uncertainty related to Covid crisis. RBI would push back the final tranche of the Capital Conservation Buffer (CCB) and the implementation of Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) by 6 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – deferred implementation of provisions made under Basel III capital
- RBI – to push back final tranche of CCB & NSFR – by 6 months
- CCB – Capital Conservation Buffer | NSFR – Net Stable Funding Ratio
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

30. The Reserve Bank of India has taken a ‘special’ decision to purchase state government bonds i.e. State Development Loans (SDL) in the secondary market via open market operations (OMOs). It will ensure that they don’t face rising interest costs amid high borrowings. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – to buy State Development Loans (SDL) for the 1st time – via OMOs
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

31. Yes Bank has launched its festive campaign titled ‘Khushiyon ki karein Zimmedari se Tayyari’ aimed at empowering customers with enhanced access to digital finance and e-solutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yes Bank – launched titled ‘Khushiyon ki karein Zimmedari se Tayyari’
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”



Defence Affairs

1. A Defense Logistics Production Centre and Atal Innovation Park has started functioning at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. This is part of the second defence corridor project. The first defence corridor was inaugurated in Uttar Pradesh in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A Defense Logistics Production Centre and Atal Innovation Park – started functioning at Coimbatore, TN
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

2. A two-day Coastal Security Exercise “Sagar Kavach” to assess the preparedness of all agencies towards dealing with an asymmetric threat emanating from the sea is concluded. The exercise was conducted along the coastal areas of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A 2-day Coastal Security Exercise “Sagar Kavach” – conducted at Kerala, Karnataka & Lakshadweep
- Kerala: CM – Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala
- Lakshadweep: Capital – Kavaratti | Administrator – Dineshwar Sharma

3. Agnibaaz Division has organized a Joint Exercise “Suraksha Kavach” for Indian Army and Maharashtra Police at Lullanagar, Pune recently in October. The aim of the exercise was to harmonize the drills and procedures of both Army and Police for activating anti-terrorist Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) to counter any terrorist actions in Pune. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A Joint Exercise “Suraksha Kavach” held between = Indian Army & Maharashtra Police – at Pune
- QRTs – Quick Reaction Teams
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – S K Saini
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

4. Alpha Design Technologies Ltd. (ADTL) has signed the first of two-phase defence contracts worth ₹753 crore. Under the first contract worth ₹53 crore, Alpha Design would set up and run Russia’s MiG-29 simulator centre at the Adampur airfield near Jalandhar (Punjab) initially for two years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alpha Design Technologies – to build & run Russia's MiG-29 Simulator Centre for IAF – at Adampur, Punjab



- Contract worth – Rs 753 crore
- HQs of ADTL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – H. S. Shankar
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

5. Australia is set to join the “Malabar” trilateral naval exercise comprising India, Japan and the US. The Malabar exercises will take place in November in the in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – to join the “Malabar” trilateral naval exercise comprising India, Japan & USA
- To take place in November – in the Bay of Bengal & the Arabian Sea
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

6. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has unveiled the “Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020” which is aligned with the government's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat and giving an impetus to the Make in India initiative. The DAP was prepared under Apurva Chandra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh unveiled – “Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020” – prepared under Apurva Chandra

7. Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) ICGS 'Kanaklata Barua' of the Indian Coast Guard is commissioned at Kolkata. It has been designed and indigenously built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICGS 'Kanaklata Barua' – commissioned at Kolkata
- Designed & indigenously built by – Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd
- FPVs – Fast Patrol Vessels
- HQs of GRSE – Kolkata, India | CMD – Rear Admiral Vipin Kumar Saxena

8. In a major fillip for Government's push for indigenous defence manufacturing, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has roped in private sector players Alpha Design Technologies Limited (ADTL) to upgrade the Soviet Era “Pechora” Surface to Air Missile Systems. ADTL will be upgrading and digitising 16 of the Pechora missile and radar systems which are presently in operation under a contract worth Rs 591 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Alpha Design Tech Ltd – to upgrade 16 “Pechora” surface to air Missile Systems (contract worth Rs 591 Cr)
- HQs of ADTL – Bengaluru , Karnataka
- Defence Minister – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

9. India and France will be involved in Exercise Varuna, a naval effort between October 10 and 15. SITMEX, will be a 4-day naval exercise with Singapore and Thailand, beginning November 17. SIMBEX, will involve India and Singapore between the 21st and 23rd of November. Both will happen in the Andaman Seas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Varuna” – between “India & France”
- “SITMEX” – “Singapore + India + Thailand” Maritime Exercise
- SIMBEX – “Singapore + India” Maritime Bilateral Exercise

10. India has successfully test fired its first indigenously developed Anti-radiation missile namely “Rudram-1” which will be part of the tactical weaponry of the Indian Air Force. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India test fired – “Rudram-1” - India's first indigenously developed Anti-radiation missile
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

11. India is in advanced talks with Russia to acquire "Sprut SDM1 light tanks" that could be useful in high altitude areas like the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to acquire "Sprut SDM1 light tanks" – from Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

12. Japan Coast Guard has begun test flights of an unmanned aerial vehicle “SeaGuardian” - maritime surveillance drone, to learn whether it can be utilised to carry out the coast guard's key duties. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – tested flights of an unmanned aerial vehicle “SeaGuardian” - maritime surveillance drone
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga



13. Russia has successfully tested "Tsirkon" (Zircon) a new hypersonic anti-ship cruise missile in a move hailed by President Vladimir Putin as a "great event" for the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia – tested "Tsirkon" (Zircon) - a new hypersonic anti-ship cruise missile
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

14. The 11th Battalion Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has launched a Cycling Expedition from its Pegong base in Sikkim to border villages of the state. Total 218 Kilometers will be covered by the ITBP team in the course of 20 days in difficult terrains. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 11th Battalion ITBP – launched a Cycling Expedition from its Pegong base in Sikkim
- HQs of ITBP – New Delhi | Director General – Surjeet Singh Deswal
- Sikkim: Capital – Gangtok | CM – Prem Singh Tamang | Governor – Ganga Prasad

15. The 2nd edition of the bilateral naval exercise "Bongosagar" between India and Bangladesh was held in Northern Bay of Bengal. Bongosagar will be followed by the 3rd edition of India Bangladesh Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) on 4-5 October. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd edition of "Bongosagar" bilateral Naval Exercise held between India & Bangladesh
- 3rd edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) – also held between India & Bangladesh
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

16. The 8th edition of the annual Indian Navy (IN) - Sri Lanka Navy (SLN) bilateral maritime exercise "SLINEX-20" is scheduled off Trincomalee, Sri Lanka from October 19 to 21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 8th edition of "SLINEX-20" bilateral maritime exercise between India & Sri Lanka – at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



17. The Acquisition Wing of the Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with M/s Economic Explosive Ltd (EEL), Nagpur, for supply of 10,00,000 multi-mode hand grenades to the Indian Army at an approximate cost of Rs 409 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoD + EEL = a contract for supply of 10,00,000 multi-mode hand grenades to Army – at cost of Rs 409 Cr
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – S K Saini
- HQs of EEL – Nagpur, Maharashtra

18. The American Government has offered to provide its “F-18 Naval Fighter Jets” for the Indian Navy's requirements of combat jets for its aircraft carriers under a government proposal at the meeting between defence delegations of both countries during the 2+2 meetings. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USA offered to provide “F-18 Naval Fighter Jets” for the Indian Navy's requirement
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

19. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved the creation of the "Army Static Switched Communication Network (ASCON) Phase IV" - a secure communication system for the army at a cost of Rs 7,800 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCS approved the creation of the "ASCON Phase IV" | Cost – Rs 7,800 crore
- CCS is chaired by – Prime Minister of India (Narendra Modi)

20. The Defence Ministry has approved the procurement of 72,000 assault rifles, worth Rs 780 crore, for the Indian Army from the United States. This is the second batch of ‘Sig Sauer rifles’ that has been cleared for procurement by the defence ministry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Defence Ministry – approved the procurement of 72,000 assault rifles – worth Rs 780 crore – from the USA
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)



21. The DRDO has flight tested the "Rustom-2", a medium altitude long endurance indigenous prototype drone and achieved 8 hours of flying at an altitude of 16000 feet at Chitradurga, Karnataka. The prototype is expected to achieve a height of 26000 feet and endurance of 18 hours by 2020 end. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO flight tested – "Rustom-2" a medium altitude long endurance indigenous prototype Drone
- 8 hours of flying at an altitude of 16000 feet at Chitradurga (Karnataka)
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

22. The first phase of the "Malabar" Naval exercise including Australia along with Japan and the U.S., is scheduled to be held next week off the Visakhapatnam coast. This is the first time Australia will be joining the exercise after 2007. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 1st phase of the "Malabar" Naval exercise – scheduled to be held off the Visakhapatnam coast
- Exercise to be held among – India + Japan + USA + Australia
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

23. The Indian Air Force has successfully test-fired an air-launched version of the "BrahMos" supersonic cruise missile from a Sukhoi fighter aircraft in the Bay of Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Air Force test-fired an air-launched version of the "BrahMos" supersonic cruise missile
- From – Sukhoi fighter aircraft | In the Bay of Bengal
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

24. The Indian Army has launched a messaging app called "SAI" that will provide secure voice, text and video calling services to its soldiers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Army – launched a messaging app called "SAI" (Secure Application for Internet)
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – S K Saini



25. The Indian Navy has fired an Anti-Ship Missile destroying a sinking ship with deadly accuracy somewhere in the Arabian Sea. The missile was fired by frontline corvette INS Prabal as part of a mega naval drill. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anti-Ship Missile (AShM) – fired by frontline corvette “INS Prabal”
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

26. The Indian Navy has successfully test-fired an Anti-Ship Missile (AShM) from its missile corvette INS Kora off the eastern coast. The test-firing conducted as part of a practice drill mimicking a war-like situation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy – test-fired an Anti-Ship Missile (AShM) from its missile corvette “INS Kora”
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

27. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has organised a 200-kilometre long Walkathon under Fit India Movement, from October 31 to November 2 in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer. Union Minister Kiren Rijiju has flagged off a 200-km long Walkathon. Earlier, ITBP had organised a "Run for Unity" at their headquarters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ITBP – organised a 200-kilometre long Walkathon under Fit India Movement in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- It was flagged off by – Kiren Rijiju (Sports Minister | Constituency – Arunachal West)
- HQs of ITBP – New Delhi | Director General – Surjeet Singh Deswal

28. The last in the series of seven offshore patrol vessel of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), 'Vigraha' was formally unveiled at Kattupalli Port, Chennai recently to enhance coastal security. The vessel was built by Larsen and Toubro. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICG Vigraha – formally unveiled at Kattupalli Port, Chennai (built b – L & T)
- HQs L&T – Mumbai | CMD – SN Subrahmanyam

29. The last of 4 indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) stealth corvettes “INS Kavaratti” under Project 28 (Kamorta class) is scheduled to be commissioned into Indian Navy at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- INS Kavaratti – scheduled to be commissioned at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam
- All of the 4 corvettes: 1. INS Kamorta 2. INS Kadmat 3. INS Kiltan 4. INS Kavaratti
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

30. The Navy has operationally deployed its first batch of 3 women pilots on the Dornier maritime recce aircraft operating from the Southern Naval Command headquartered in Kochi. The 3 women - Divya Sharma, Shivangi and Shubhangi Swaroop are part of the 6 pilots of the 27th Dornier Operational Flying Training (DOFT) Course. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy deployed its first batch of 3 women pilots on the Dornier maritime recce aircraft at Kochi, Kerala
- The 3 women – Divya Sharma, Shivangi & Shubhangi Swaroop
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

31. USA Department of Defense, the Pentagon has approved India's request to buy USD 90 million worth of equipment, spare parts and logistical support for its fleet of “C-130J Super Hercules cargo aircraft”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pentagon (USA) approved India's request to buy equipment – for “C-130J Super Hercules cargo aircraft”
- Worth of equipment – \$90 million
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump



Schemes & Initiatives

1. According to Ministry of Labour and Employment, government of India has now extended the Employees State Insurance (ESI) Scheme for the first time to Arunachal Pradesh, with effect from 1st November, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian government extended the “ESI Scheme” for the first time to Arunachal Pradesh – from 1st November, 2020
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra

2. Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has initiated “Swa-nirbhar Naari: Atmanirbhar Asom” scheme in a bid to empower the economically disadvantaged women of the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – initiated “Swa-nirbhar Naari: Atmanirbhar Asom” scheme
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

3. Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has initiated “Swa-nirbhar Naari: Atmanirbhar Asom” scheme in a bid to empower the economically disadvantaged women of the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sarbananda Sonowal – initiated “Swa-nirbhar Naari: Atmanirbhar Asom” scheme
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

4. Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched “YSR Bima”, an insurance scheme to benefit 1.41 crore BPL families. Rs 510 crore is to be paid by the government a year as insurance premium. And the Insurance coverage is as follow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh launched – “YSR Bima” insurance scheme to benefit 1.41 crore BPL families
- Accidental death & total permanent disability (Age: 18-50) = Rs 5 lakh
- Accidental death & total permanent disability (Age: 51-70) = Rs 3 lakh
- Natural Death (Age : 18-50) = Rs 2 lakh
- Partial permanent disability due to an accident (Age : 18-70) = Rs 1.5 lakh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)



- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

5. Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the “Jagananna Vidya Kanuka” scheme, under which kits will be provided to the government school students across the state. Students from classes 1 to 10 in government schools will get the kits. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andhra Pradesh – launched “Jagananna Vidya Kanuka” scheme – for the Students from classes 1 to 10
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

6. Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Science & Technology has launched a Scheme titled “SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research)”, designed exclusively for women scientists. SERB - POWER Scheme will have 2 components namely (i) SERB-POWER Fellowship (ii) SERB-POWER Research Grants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Science & Technology – launched a Scheme titled “SERB-POWER”
- SERB – A statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- HQs of SERB – New Delhi | Secretary – Prof Sandeep Verma

7. Gujarat government has changed the name of its ambitious scheme of providing electricity to all the farmers during daytime from “Dinkar Yojana” to “Kisan Suryoday Yojana”. The first phase of the scheme was virtually launched by PM Narendra Modi on October 24, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Dinkar Yojana” renamed as “Kisan Suryoday Yojana” – Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

8. In Tamil Nadu, the “Young Advocates Welfare Fund” has been launched. It provides a monthly financial assistance of Rs. 3000 each for 2 years to the lawyers who just come out of law colleges. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu launched – “Young Advocates Welfare Fund”
- Financial assistance of Rs. 3000 each for 2 years
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit



9. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has launched a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) to facilitate the stakeholders by providing valuable marketing platform and ensuring optimum prices to the apple growers. The Market Intervention Scheme will make way for the procurement of 12 lakh metric tonnes of apples. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manoj Sinha – launched a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) to facilitate farmers growing Apples
- J &K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

10. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the physical distribution of property cards under “SVAMITVA” scheme, saying the move will make rural India “self-reliant”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – launched the physical distribution of property cards under “SVAMITVA” scheme
- “SVAMITVA” scheme – of Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj – Narendra Singh Tomar (Morena, MP)

11. Punjab has approved the “Dr B R Ambedkar SC Post-Matric Scholarship” Scheme for the Scheduled Castes to replace the Centre’s defunct scheme. It will come into effect from the academic session 2021-22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab – approved the “Dr B R Ambedkar SC Post-Matric Scholarship” Scheme
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

12. Tamil Nadu government is implementing the “Smart Black Board scheme” in 80,000 government schools to ensure better teaching environment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu is implementing the “Smart Black Board scheme” in 80,000 government schools
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

13. The Delhi government has approved its “Tree Transplantation Policy”, paving way for one of its kind scheme to protect the green cover of the city. As per the new rules, construction firms in Delhi have to transplant 80% of the trees affected by any project work. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Delhi government approved – “Tree Transplantation Policy”
- Construction firms in Delhi will have to transplant 80% of the affected trees
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

14. The Department of Pharmaceuticals has revised guidelines of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes for promoting domestic manufacturing of bulk drugs and medical devices. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Department of Pharmaceuticals revised guidelines of the “PLI” schemes (Production Linked Incentive)
- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers – D. V. Sadananda Gowda (Bangalore, Karnataka)

15. The government has extended for the third time the deadline for making payment under the Direct Tax Dispute Settlement scheme ‘Vivad Se Vishwas’ by 3 months to March 31, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Deadline for making payment under ‘Vivad Se Vishwas’ scheme – by 3 months (till March 31, 2021)

16. The Karnataka cabinet has granted approval to implement the “Bhagyalakshmi scheme”, which provides financial security to girl child of BPL families, through ‘Sukanya Samridhi Yojana’ of the Postal department instead of LIC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka – granted approval to implement the “Bhagyalakshmi scheme”
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

17. Two more States, Tamil Nadu and Arunachal Pradesh have been integrated under "One Nation One Ration Card" Scheme with existing national portability cluster of 26 States and UTs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu & Arunachal Pradesh – integrated under "One Nation One Ration Card" Scheme
- Total 28 States/UTs are now connected – under “One Nation One Ration Card” scheme
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra



18. Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched “AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR” scheme. AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR scheme has been formulated by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). The loan of Rs. 10,000 crore will be provided by NCDC to set up healthcare facilities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar launched – “AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR” scheme – formulated by NCDC
- The loan of Rs. 10,000 crore to be provided by NCDC
- Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development – Narendra Singh Tomar (Morena, MP)
- HQs of NCDC – New Delhi | Managing Director – Sundeep Kumar Nayak

19. Uttar Pradesh has secured the first rank in implementing the “PM Atmnirbhar Nidhi Scheme” or “Svanidhi Scheme”. Uttar Pradesh has ranked first in all the categories – applications, sanctions and disbursements. The scheme was launched on June 1, 2020 by the central government. According to official statistics of UP, loans under Svanidhi scheme would be disbursed to 2.51 beneficiaries by October 27, 2020. The scheme aims at facilitating working capital loan up to Rs. 10,000 at a subsidised rate of interest. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – secured the 1st rank in implementing the “Svanidhi Scheme” (2.51 beneficiaries by October 27)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

20. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has inaugurated “Integrated Model Agricultural Village scheme” (Ekikrit Adarsh Krishi Gram Yojana) in the state in partnership with NABARD. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand + NABARD = inaugurated “Integrated Model Agricultural Village scheme” (Ekikrit Adarsh Krishi Gram Yojana)
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu

21. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has launched the “Mukhya Mantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana” under which 10,000 youth and migrants of the states will get self employment in the green energy sector. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Uttarakhand – launched the “Mukhya Mantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana”
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

22. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has launched the “Pathashree Abhijan”, a road repair scheme, where more than 7,000 stretches of roads comprising 12,000 kilometers across the state will be repaired. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal launched – “Pathashree Abhijan” a road repair scheme
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar



Sports & Games

1. A 19-year-old tennis player Iga Swiatek has become the first from the country to clinch a Grand Slam singles title by defeating USA's Sofia Kenin 6-4, 6-1 in the women's singles final of French Open 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Iga Swiatek (Tennis-Poland) – won women's single title of 124th edition of "French Open 2020" – at Paris, France
- Poland – Warsaw – Polish Zloty | President – Andrzej Sebastin Duda

2. American doll manufacturer Barbie has celebrated para-badminton champion Manasi Joshi with a one-of-a-kind (OOAK) Barbie doll modelled to her likeness on the International Day of Girl Child, on October 11. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Barbie (USA) – created a one-of-a-kind Barbie doll of – Manasi Joshi (Para-badminton)

3. British driver Lewis Hamilton has made Formula One (F1) history, winning the "Portuguese Grand Prix" for a 92nd career victory. Hamilton won his first F1 race in 2007 and first title in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton – won "Portuguese Grand Prix" | His 92nd victory
- Lewis Hamilton (UK) – drives 'Mercedes'

4. Captain Meg Lanning has become the fastest player to score 14 One Day International centuries as she starred in Australia's series-clinching win. The hosts won the second ODI by four wickets to retain the "Rose Bowl" series. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meg Lanning (Australia – Cricket) – became the fastest player to score 14 One Day International centuries
- "Rose Bowl" series – the Women's International cricket series between – Australia & New Zealand
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD)

5. Chris Gayle has become the first batsman to get to 1,000 sixes in T20 cricket history during his belligerent 99 against Kings XI Punjab in an Indian Premier League match. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Chris Gayle (Jamaica) – became the first batsman to get to 1,000 sixes in T20 cricket history
- Jamaica – Kingston – Jamaican dollar

6. Elavenil Valarivan has won a Gold medal in the Women's event and Shahu Tushar Mane has bagged a Silver medal in the Men's event at the "Sheikh Russel International Air Rifle Championship - 2020". The championship was organised by Bangladesh Shooting Sport Federation (BSSF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Sheikh Russel International Air Rifle Championship - 2020" – organised by BSSF
- Elavenil Valarivan (Shooter - Tamil Nadu) – won Gold medal in Women's event
- Shahu Tushar Mane (Shooter - Maharashtra) – won Silver medal in Men's event | Gold: Naoya Okada (Japan)

7. FC Bayern Munich striker 'Robert Lewandowski' has won the UEFA men's Player of the Year award. Pernille Harder, who played for Wolfsburg last season and is now with Chelsea, won the Women's Player of the Year award for the second time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Robert Lewandowski (Poland – Footballer) – won "UEFA men's Player of the Year award"
- Pernille Harder (Denmark – Footballer) – won "UEFA women's Player of the Year award"
- Poland – Warsaw – Polish Zloty | President – Andrzej Sebastian Duda

8. Former India under-19 and Uttar Pradesh left-hander Tanmay Manoj Srivastava has decided to retire from all forms of Cricket. The 30-year-old Tanmay played 90 first-class matches and aggregated 4918 runs with ten centuries and 27 half-centuries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tanmay Srivastava (Uttar Pradesh) – retired from – Cricket
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

9. Former Manchester City, Argentina defender 'Pablo Zabaleta' has announced retirement from football. Zabaleta left West Ham at the end of last season and has decided to retire at the end of his successful 18-year career. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pablo Zabaleta (Argentina) – retirement – from Football
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso

10. Honda will withdraw from Formula One (F1) at the end of the 2021 season. Honda, which resumed competition in F1 in 2015, is the power unit supplier to Red Bull and AlphaTauri. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Honda – to withdraw from Formula One (F1) at the end of the 2021 season
- HQs of Honda Motor – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Takahiro Hachigo

11. In Badminton, former World Champion Nozomi Okuhara has clinched the “Denmark Open title” beating three-time world champion Carolina Marin in women's singles. In the men's singles final, world number seven Anders Antonsen has won the same title. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nozomi Okuhara (Badminton-Japan) – won the women's singles “Denmark Open Title”
- Anders Antonsen (Badminton-Denmark) – won the men's singles “Denmark Open Title”
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone

12. India's Visnu Shivaraj Pandian has won the 10m air rifle event at the 5th edition of “International Online Shooting Championship”. The second place was won by world no. 27 Etienne Germond of France. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Visnu Shivaraj Pandian (Shooter) – won 10m air rifle event at 5th edition of “International Online Shooting Championship”

13. Jammu and Kashmir Police have organised a 3-day water sports festival “Jashn-E-Dal” with an aim to boost water sports activities and promote tourism in the valley. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K Police – organised a 3-day water sports festival “Jashn-E-Dal”
- Dal lake – located in Srinagar, J & K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha



14. Jason Kokrak has won his first-ever “PGA Tour victory” at the CJ Cup in Las Vegas in his 233rd try. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jason Kokrak (USA - Golfer) – won his first-ever “PGA Tour victory” at the CJ Cup in Las Vegas (233rd try)

15. Michael Schumacher’s record of 91 Grand Prix victories seemed like one that would never be beaten. But, Lewis Hamilton has just equalled the record by winning "Eifel Grand Prix-2020" at the Nurburgring, Germany. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton – won “Eifel Grand Prix-2020”
- Lewis Hamilton (UK) – drives ‘Mercedes’

16. Mohun Bagan FC has been handed over “Hero I-League 2019/20 trophy” officially after 7 months. The trophy was handed over to players and coaches by I-League CEO Sunando Dhar in presence of club president Swapan Sadhan Bose and West Bengal Sports Minister Aroop Biswas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Hero I-League 2019/20 trophy” – handed over to ‘Mohun Bagan FC’ (Kolkata)
- Coach of Mohun Bagan FC – Antonio Lopez Habas

17. Odisha Government has announced that it would sponsor the Indian National Rugby Team for the next 3 years and facilitate high performance training and conditioning of the players. An agreement with Indian Rugby Football Union (IRFU) was inked at Kalinga Stadium. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – to sponsor National Rugby Team for 3 years (till 2023)
- HQs of IRFU – Mumbai, Maharashtra | President – Noomi Mehta
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

18. Pakistan speedster Umar Gul has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket after the end of the ongoing National T20 Cup. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Umar Gul (Pakistan) – retired from – Cricket
- Pakistan – Islamabad – Pakistani Rupee | PM – Imran Khan | President – Arif Alvi



19. Rafael Nadal has won 13th French Open title-2020 to lift a record-equalling 20th Grand Slam men's singles title by defeating a great rival Novak Djokovic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rafael Nadal (Spain – Tennis) – won 13th men's single in 124th edition of “French Open Title” – at Paris, France
- Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez

20. The 16-year old, young Indian player Nihal Sarin has emerged winner in the Chess.com's “Junior Speed Online Chess Championship-2020”, beating Russia's world junior No. 6 Alexey Sarana in the final. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nihal Sarin (Kerala) – winner of the Chess.com's “Junior Speed Online Chess Championship-2020”
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

21. The BWF (Badminton World Federation) “World Junior Championships 2020” scheduled to be held in Auckland, New Zealand, has been cancelled. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BWF “World Junior Championships 2020” – scheduled to be held in Auckland, New Zealand – cancelled
- HQs of BWF – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | President – Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD)

22. The Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Kiren Rijiju has launched the Sports Authority of India's (SAI) new logo at Delhi's Major Dhyan Chand Stadium. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sports Ministry launched a new logo of – Sports Authority of India – in New Delhi
- Major Dhyan Chand Stadium – located in New Delhi
- HQs of SAI – New Delhi | Director General – Sandip Pradhan
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports – Kiren Rijiju (Constituency – Arunachal West)



23. Union Minister of Youth and Sports Kiren Rijiju has attended the 1st ever “Youth-20 (Y20) Summit” held virtually in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The theme of the Summit is “Government - Youth dialogue on post-COVID-19 opportunities”. [{Read more}](#)

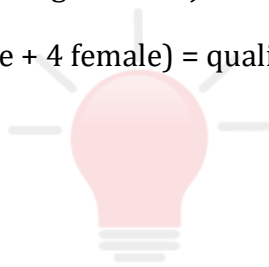
Key Points:

- Kiren Rijiju – attended the 1st ever “Youth-20 (Y20) Summit” – hosted by Saudi Arabia
- Theme – “Government - Youth dialogue on post-COVID-19 opportunities”
- Sports Ministry – Kiren Rijiju | Constituency – Arunachal West

24. World silver-medallist Amit Panghal (52kg), Sanjeet (91kg) & Ashish Kumar (75kg) struck Gold in their first competition after a coronavirus-forced break, claiming the top honours at the “Alexis Vastine International Boxing Tournament” in Nantes, France. In that event, 9 Indians - five men and four women - qualified for the Tokyo Olympics, postponed to next year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Alexis Vastine International Boxing Tournament” in Nantes, France
- 3 Boxers – Amit Panghal + Sanjeet + Ashish Kumar = won Gold medal
- 9 Indians (5 male + 4 female) = qualified for the “Tokyo Olympics-2021”



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The Question Bank



Important Days & Dates

1. “International Internet Day” is celebrated globally on October 29 every year to commemorate a momentous day in the history of telecommunications and technology. Charley Kline, a student programmer at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), transmitted the first-ever electronic message on October 29, 1969. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 29 – “International Internet Day”

2. “Dharmachakra Pravartan Day” is observed every year on October 14. It is also called “Dhamma Chakra Anupravartan Din” and is marked to celebrate the Buddhist conversion of Dr BR Ambedkar and his thousands of followers on October 14, 1956, at Deekshabhoomi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 14 – “Dharmachakra Pravartan Day” or “Dhamma Chakra Anupravartan Din”
- It is marked to celebrate the Buddhist conversion of ‘Dr BR Ambedkar’ – at Deekshabhoomi, Nagpur, MH

3. “Indian Foreign Service Day” or “IFS Day” was recently observed on October 9, 2020. Established on October 9, 1946, the Indian Foreign Service has celebrated 74 years of its existence. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 9 – 74th foundation day of “Indian Foreign Service Day” or “IFS Day” (established in – 1946)

4. “International Chefs Day” is observed every year on 20 October to celebrate and honour the noble profession, and to educate people around the world about eating healthy. This year, the theme is “Healthy Food For the Future”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 20 – International Chefs Day
- Theme – “Healthy Food For the Future”

5. “International day for Rural Women” is celebrated globally on October 15 every year to recognise the services of women living in rural areas. This year the theme is “Building rural women’s resilience in the wake of COVID-19”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 15 – International day for Rural Women
- Theme – “Building rural women’s resilience in the wake of COVID-19”



6. “International Day of Older Persons” is observed on October 1 every year. It is a United Nations designated day to focus on the well-being and special needs of the elderly people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 1 – UN’s “International Day of Older Persons”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

7. “National Unity Day” or “Rashtriya Ekta Diwas” is celebrated on October 31 every year. The day was introduced by the Government of India in 2014 to mark the birth anniversary of Iron Man of India - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. This year marks his 145th birth anniversary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 31 – “National Unity Day” or “Rashtriya Ekta Diwas” – since 2014
- 145th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

8. “Police Commemoration Day” is observed on October 21 every year to remember and honour the brave policemen who have laid down their lives in the line of duty. The National Police Memorial commemorates 34,844 police personnel from all of the central and state police forces who have sacrificed their lives since 1947. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 21 – “Police Commemoration Day” – to commemorate the valour of CRPF personnel
- National Police Memorial commemorates 34,844 police personnel – sacrificed their lives since 1947

9. “World Animal Day 2020” is observed every year on October 4th to raise awareness about improving the welfare standards of the animals across the globe. This day is also known as “Animal Lovers Day”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 4 – “World Animal Day” or “Animal Lovers Day”

10. “World Arthritis Day” is observed on October 12, every year since 1996. This year, the theme is “Time2Work”. This day unifies people of all ages, races, and genders to raise awareness of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 12 – World Arthritis Day | Theme – “Time2Work” – since 1996



- RMDs – Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases

11. “World Day for Audiovisual Heritage” is annually celebrated by The United Nations (UN) on October 27, 2020 since 2005. This year, the theme is “Your Window to the World”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 27 – “World Day for Audiovisual Heritage” – since 2005
- Theme – “Your Window to the World”

12. “World Egg Day” is celebrated on the second Friday of October every year, which falls on the 9th of October, this year. The day is observed to spread awareness about their nutritional value and importance in the human diet. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 9 – “World Egg Day” (The 2nd Friday of October)

13. “World Iodine Deficiency Day” is observed on the 21st of October every year to mark the need for awareness about nutrient deficiency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 21 – “World Iodine Deficiency Day”

14. “World Mental Health Day” is observed every year on 10 October for global mental health education, awareness, advocacy against the social stigma. The theme this year is “Mental Health for All: Greater Investment – Greater Access”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 10 – World Mental Health Day
- Theme – “Mental Health for All: Greater Investment – Greater Access”

15. “World Osteoporosis Day”, which is observed on 20 October each year, attempts to create awareness about this bone condition. Osteoporosis is a bone-related disease that results in brittle bones that are highly-prone to fractures. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 20 – “World Osteoporosis Day”



16. “World Post Day 2020” is celebrated on October 9, to mark the anniversary of the establishment of Universal Postal Union (UPU) across the world. UPU was established in 1874. This year, the theme is “We Have Always Delivered”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 9 – “World Post Day 2020” | Theme – “We Have Always Delivered”
- HQs of UPU – Bern, Switzerland | DG – Bishar Abdirahman Hussein | Establishment in – 1874

17. “World Psoriasis Day” was recently observed on October 29. This year, the theme was “INFORMED”. Psoriasis is a skin disorder that causes skin cells to multiply up to 10 times faster than normal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 29 – World Psoriasis Day | Theme – “INFORMED”

18. “World Savings Day” is observed every year on October 31 all over the world. Previously known as “World Thrift Day”, this day is celebrated in India on October 30. This day is dedicated to promote the importance of savings and learn more about the same. World Savings Day was first introduced in 1924 as World Thrift Day at the first International Thrift Congress held in Milan, Italy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 31 – “World Savings Day” or “World Thrift Day” – since 1924 (in India on October 30)

19. “World Space Week (WSW) 2020” was celebrated from October 4 to 10, under the theme “Satellites Improve Life.” On December 6, 1999, the United Nations General Assembly declared World Space Week as an annual event celebration to be commemorated from October 4-10. And the theme for WSW-2021 will be “Women in Space”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “World Space Week (WSW) 2020” celebrated from October 4 to 10 – since 1999
- Theme for 2020 – “Satellites Improve Life” | Theme for 2021 – “Women in Space”
- The 1st human-made Earth satellite “Sputnik 1” - launched on 4th October 1957

20. “World Standards Day”, also known as “International Standards Day”, is celebrated on October 14 each year. The day is marked to celebrate the contributions of experts and scientists across the world in developing voluntary standards within standards development organisation. This year, the theme is “Protecting the planet with standards”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- October 14 – “World Standards Day”, also known as “International Standards Day”
- Theme – “Protecting the planet with standards”

21. “World Stroke Day” was recently observed on October 29. This day tries to create awareness about the prevention of stroke. This year, the theme is “Get ready to join the Movement”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 29 – World Stroke Day
- Theme – “Get ready to join the Movement”

22. “World Students Day” is celebrated across the globe on October 15. The day is marked to celebrate the birth anniversary of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam. It was first celebrated in 2010. Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was India’s 11th President. This year, the theme was “Learning for people, planet, prosperity, and peace”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 15 – “World Students Day” – since 2010 (Birth anniversary of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam)
- Theme – “Learning for people, planet, prosperity, and peace”

23. ‘Harijan Sevak Sangh’ has celebrated its foundation day on September 30. On this day in 1932, Harijan Sevak Sangh was founded, when Gandhi Ji was in Yervada Jail, Pune and on fast. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- September 30 – Foundation day of ‘Harijan Sevak Sangh’ (established in – 1932)

24. ‘World Food Day’ was observed on October 16 every year to tackle global hunger and strive to eradicate hunger across the world. This year, the theme is "Grow, nourish, sustain. Together. Our actions are our future". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16 – World Food Day – by UN
- Theme – “Grow, nourish, sustain. Together. Our actions are our future”

25. "World Migratory Bird Day" is observed every year on the second Saturday of May and October. This year, it was observed on May 9 & October 10. The theme this year is “Birds Connect Our World”. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- May 9 & October 10 – "World Migratory Bird Day" (2nd Saturday of May & October)
- Theme – "Birds Connect Our World"

26. 28 October has marked the 19th anniversary of International Animation Day (IAD) that was created by ASIFA in 2002 to honour the birth of animation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 28 – 19th anniversary of International Animation Day – since 2002

27. A national-level webinar on women empowerment in Indian agriculture was held at Agricultural College and Research Institute, Eachangkottai, Thanjavur district, on October 15 on the eve of "National Women Farmers' Day" (Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 15 – "National Women Farmers' Day" (Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas)

28. Ashfaqullah Khan was a prominent young freedom fighter who believed in radical movements to uproot British rule. He was born on 22 October, 1900 in Uttar Pradesh's Shahjahanpur, and his 120th birth anniversary is being observed this year. Ashfaqullah Khan came to the limelight recently when the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved a proposal to set aside Rs 234 crore for a Zoological Garden in Gorakhpur that would be named after the freedom fighter. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 22 – 120th birth anniversary of Shaheed Ashfaqullah Khan
- Shaheed Ashfaq Ullah Zoological Garden – to be set up in Gorakhpur, UP (Cost: Rs 234 Cr)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

29. Coffee Board will organise events throughout the State from October 1 to 7 to celebrate "International Coffee Day" that falls on October 1. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 1 – "International Coffee Day"

30. Considering the concerns associated with the E-waste stream, the WEEE Forum (a not-for-profit association) has been observing the 3rd "International E-Waste Day" on October 14 since 2018. A recent report by the United Nation's "Global E-waste Monitor-2020" estimated that in last 5 years, the volume of



E-waste increased by 21% globally. It has a doubling rate of 16 years. It has already set a record with a massive 53.6 million tonnes (MT) generated in 2019 alone. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 14 – 3rd edition of “International E-Waste Day” – by WEEE Forum – since 2018
- Theme – “Education”
- According to UN’s report “Global E-waste Monitor-2020” – ‘E-waste’ increased by 21% in last 5 years
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – António Guterres

31. Culture and Tourism Minister Prahlad Singh Patel has taken part in the commemoration event of 77th Anniversary of the Formation of ‘Azad Hind Government’ at Red Fort in Delhi. It was established in 1943. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 21 – 77th Anniversary of the Formation of Azad Hind Government (established in 1943)
- Prahlad Singh Patel took part in the event
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture (Constituency – Damoh, Madhya Pradesh)

32. Doctors and nurses in Madurai’s Government Rajaji Hospital have taken a pledge to mark ‘Pinktober’ or the “World Breast Cancer Awareness Month” being observed in October. Pinktober is observed to create awareness among women about early screening and diagnosis for breast cancer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October – observed as “World Breast Cancer Awareness Month” or ‘Pinktober’
- Rajaji Hospital – located in Madurai, Tamil Nadu

33. Every 5 years, October 20 is celebrated as “World Statistics Day”. The day intends to raise awareness on the importance of trustworthy, authentic data. This year, the theme is “Connecting the world with data we can trust”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 20 – 3rd edition of ‘World Statistics Day’ – every 5 years since 2010
- Theme – “Connecting the world with data we can trust”



34. Every year on October 17, the world observes “International Day for the Eradication of Poverty” to raise awareness about the people who are struggling amid poverty. This year, the theme was “Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 17 – “International Day for the Eradication of Poverty”
- Theme – “Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all”

35. Global Handwashing Partnership founded “Global Handwashing Day”, to be observed annually on October 15, in 2008. This year, the theme is “Hand Hygiene for All”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 15 – “Global Handwashing Day” – since 2008
- Theme – “Hand Hygiene for All”

36. Government hospitals in the city have observed “World Trauma Day” through awareness programmes on October 17. Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital also observed World Trauma Day. The day was first observed in 2011. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 17 – “World Trauma Day” – since 2011
- Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital – located in Chennai, Tamil Nadu

37. Ministry of Communications, Government of India has celebrated “National Postal week”. The 7-day celebration started from 9th October, 2020 to 15th October, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 9-15 – “National Postal week” – celebrated by ‘Ministry of Communications’
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)

38. October 1 is celebrated as “World Vegetarian Day” by people across the globe. The day was established by the North American Vegetarian Society in 1977 to promote a vegetarian lifestyle and make people aware of the benefits of eating a vegan diet. October 1 also marks the beginning of “Vegetarian Awareness Month.” [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 1 – “World Vegetarian Day” – by ‘North American Vegetarian Society’ – since 1977



- October – “Vegetarian Awareness Month”

39. October 16 marks the 36th Raising Day of one of the finest anti-terror forces in the world known as - the National Security Guard (NSG) who are also informally referred to as the ‘Black Cats’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16 – 36th Raising Day of NSG (‘Black Cats’)
- HQs of NSG – New Delhi | DG – S S Deswal (additional charge)

40. October 23 is celebrated as “World Snow Leopard Day” every year since 2014 to protect and conserve snow leopards and other wildlife of the Himalayas. These are distributed across 12 countries in central Asia and are usually found in high, rugged mountain landscapes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 23 – “World Snow Leopard Day” – since 2014

41. October 24 is observed as “United Nations Day” since 1948. Since it was established in 1945, therefore, this year has marked the 75th anniversary of UN Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – 75th anniversary “United Nations Day” – since 1948
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres | Established in – 1945

42. October 24 is observed as “World Polio Day” every year in order to call on countries to stay vigilant in their fight against the disease. The theme for this year is “A win against polio is a win for global health”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – World Polio Day
- Theme – “A win against polio is a win for global health”

43. October 24 is observed as The “International Day of Diplomats”. The first International Day of Diplomats was observed in Brasília on 24 October 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – “International Day of Diplomats” – since 2017



44. October 5 is celebrated as “World Teachers’ Day” by the UNESCO since 1994. The day is celebrated by the UNESCO along with UNICEF, ILO and Education International. The theme for this year is “Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 5 – “World Teachers’ Day” – by UNESCO since 1994
- Theme – “Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future”

45. On the occasion of 75th Anniversary of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a commemorative coin of Rs 75 denomination to mark the long-standing relation of India with FAO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16 – 75th Anniversary of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
- Narendra Modi – released a commemorative coin of Rs 75 denomination on this occasion
- HQs of FAO – Rome, Italy | DG – QU Dongyu | Formation – 16th October, 1945

46. On this occasion, to mark the 20 years of the first light event of the 2m optical-infrared ‘Himalayan Chandra Telescope’ (HCT) at the Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) has organized a 2-day online science workshop during September 29-30, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Himalayan Chandra Telescope’ of IAO – completed 20 years recently
- HQs of IAO – Leh, Ladakh

47. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid tribute to former prime minister Indira Gandhi on her 36th death anniversary on October 31. The then prime minister was assassinated by her bodyguards here in 1984. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 31– 36th death anniversary of Indira Gandhi
- “Peoples and Problems” book – authored by ‘Indira Gandhi’

48. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid tributes to Sikh martyr Bhai Taru Singh, who chose to sacrifice his life instead of compromising with his religious beliefs, on his 300th birth anniversary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Narendra Modi paid tributes to Sikh martyr “Bhai Taru Singh” – on his 300th birth anniversary

49. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Dhaka to participate in the celebration of 50th Independence Day of Bangladesh on March 26, 2021. Bangladesh celebrated December 16 when the 1971 India-Pakistan war came to an end with the defeat of Pakistan Army but the country marked March 26 as the official Independence Day as it was on this day in 1971, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman announced the birth of Bangladesh in a dramatic speech. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 26, 2021 – 50th Independence Day of Bangladesh – to be participated by Narendra Modi
- Bangladesh’s Foreign Minister – Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

50. The “Ayurveda Day” is observed every year on the day of ‘Dhanwantri Jayanti’ since 2016. This year it falls on November 13. The Ayurveda Day aims to focus on strengths of Ayurveda and its unique treatment principles, to work towards reducing the burden of disease and related mortality. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- November 13 – “Ayurveda Day” (on the day of ‘Dhanwantri Jayanti’ since 2016)

51. The “International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD)” is marked every year on October 22 to increase awareness about the speech disorder that is said to affect 70 million people worldwide. The theme for ISAD 2020 is “Journey of Words - Resilience and Bouncing Back.” [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 22 – “International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD)”
- Theme – “Journey of Words - Resilience and Bouncing Back”

52. The 10th annual global celebration of “Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week” took place from 24 to 31 October 2020, under the theme “Resisting Disinfodemic: Media and Information Literacy for everyone and, by everyone”. The event was led by the UNESCO & joined by the WHO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24-31 = 10th “Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week” – by UNESCO + WHO
- Theme – “Resisting Disinfodemic: Media and Information Literacy for everyone and, by everyone”



53. The 59th Raising Day of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) was observed on October 24. It was founded in 1962 and it has strength of about 90,000 personnel with 60 battalions on the ground. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – 59th Raising Day of ITBP
- HQs of ITBP – New Delhi | Director General – Surjeet Singh Deswal | Established in – 1962

54. The 7th edition of "World Cities Day" was observed recently on October 31. This year, the theme was "Valuing our communities and cities." [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 31 – 7th edition of "World Cities Day"
- Theme – "Valuing our communities and cities"

55. The CBDT has extended the deadline to file belated/revised income tax returns (ITR) for FY 2018-19 to November 30, 2020 from the earlier one of September 30, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The deadline to file belated/revised ITR for FY 2018-19 – extended to November 30, 2020
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Pramod Chandra Mody

56. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has celebrated the 88th Air Force Day on October 8. The Air Force in India was officially raised in 1932 as the supporting force of the Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 8 – 88th Air Force Day – celebrated by IAF (Founded on 8 October 1932)
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

57. The Indian Army has celebrated October 27 as the 74th "Infantry Day", as it was on this day that the 1st Battalion of the Sikh Regiment landed at Srinagar airbase and displayed resoluteness and extraordinary courage and became 'The Wall' to thwart the evil designs of the Pakistan Army. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 27 – 74th "Infantry Day" – celebrated by Indian Army



58. The International Day of the Girl Child is being celebrated every year on October 11. The main objective of this day is to empower women and help them to get their rights. This year, the theme is “My voice, our equal future”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 11 – International Day of the Girl Child | Theme – “My voice, our equal future”

59. The National Mission for Clean Ganga, the Wildlife Institute of India and the Forest Department have launched ‘My Ganga My Dolphin’ campaign on the occasion of “Ganga River Dolphin Day” that was observed on October 5. A Dolphin-based ecotourism programme was launched at various sites along the Ganga River. It was started in 6 sites across the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 5 – “Ganga River Dolphin Day”
- NMCG + WII + Forest Dept = launched ‘My Ganga My Dolphin’ campaign
- Dolphin-based ecotourism programme – started at 6 sites of UP, Bihar & West Bengal
- HQs of WII – Dehradun, Uttarakhand | Director – Shri Damodar Sharma

60. The United Nations “Disarmament Week” is held annually from October 24 till October 30. The week-long annual observance was first called for in the Final Document of the General Assembly’s 1978 special session on disarmament (resolution S-10/2). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24-30 – UN “Disarmament Week”
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – António Guterres

61. The United Nations celebrates “World Development Information Day” every year on October 24 since 1972. The main aim of this day is to propagate information and mobilise public opinion in order to draw their attention and create awareness of the problems surrounding development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 24 – “World Development Information Day” – since 1972
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres



62. The United Nations has decided to observe the first Monday of October as 'World Habitat Day'. This year, it was celebrated on October 5. The theme of this year is "Housing for all: A better urban future." World Habitat Day was first celebrated in 1986. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 5 – World Habitat Day – by UN – since 1986
- Theme – "Housing for all: A better urban future"

63. The United Nations has observed the "International Day of Non-Violence" on 2nd October which is the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, a leader of India's freedom movement and a pioneer of the philosophy of Non-Violence. The day was first observed in 2007. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 2 – "International Day of Non-Violence" – since 2007
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

64. The United Nations in 1989 designated October 13 as the "International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction" to reduce the impact of calamities on human beings and other life forms on our planet earth. This year, the theme is "It's all about governance". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 13 – "International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction" – since 1989
- Theme – "It's all about governance"
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – António Guterres

65. The World Obesity Federation has changed the global event from October 11 to March 4. The World Obesity Day, which is held on March 4 (as of 2020), encourages practical solutions to help people achieve, maintain a healthy weight and end the global obesity crisis. This year, the theme is "The Roots of Obesity Run Deep." [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 4 – World Obesity Day | Theme – "The Roots of Obesity Run Deep"
- This day was celebrated on "October 11" till 2019
- HQs of World Obesity Federation – London, UK | Founded in – 1999



66. This year the “World Sight Day” is observed on October 8 across the world. It is observed to bring global attention to blindness and vision impairment. The theme of this year is “Hope in Sight”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 8 – “World Sight Day” | Theme – “Hope in Sight”

67. This year the 66th Wildlife Week was celebrated between October 2-8, 2020 with the theme “Roar (Roar and Revive) - Exploring Human-Animal Relationships”. It aims at providing a platform to celebrate the special place of wild plants and animals in their many varied and beautiful forms. India contributes about 8% of the known global biodiversity. Central Zoo Authority has instituted the “Prani Mitra awards” to encourage the zoo officers and staff working towards captive animal management. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 2-8 – 66th Wildlife Week | Theme – “Roar (Roar and Revive) - Exploring Human-Animal Relationships”
- Indian Board of Wildlife – constituted in 1952
- CZA – instituted the “Prani Mitra awards”

68. Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Food Processing Industries, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Narendra Singh Tomar has virtually inaugurated the “India - International Food & Agri Week” being organised from 16th to 22nd October 2020. It was organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in association with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Ministry of Food Processing Industries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 16-22 – “India - International Food & Agri Week” – inaugurated by Narendra Singh Tomar
- Organised by = CII + MoAFW + MoFAHD + MoFPI
- Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural Development – Narendra Singh Tomar (Morena, MP)

69. Union Minister of Textiles and Women & Child Development, Smriti Zubin Irani, has launched the 1st ever Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton on 2nd World Cotton Day on 7th October, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 7 – 2nd edition of “World Cotton Day”
- Smriti Zubin Irani – launched the 1st ever Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton



70. Union Territory of Ladakh has celebrated its first Raising Day or Union Territory Foundation Day on October 31, 2020. It was on this day in 2019, Ladakh became a union territory. A series of foundation or dedication of programmes is planned in Leh and Kargil districts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- On October 31 – Ladakh has celebrated its 1st “Raising Day” or “Union Territory Foundation Day”
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

71. World Animal Protection along with the Asia for Animals coalition is celebrating "World Day for Farmed Animals" on October 2 to bring focus on the need to treat farm animals as sentient beings and make visible the importance and urgency of farm animal welfare. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- October 2 – "World Day for Farmed Animals"



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

1. Atal Innovation Mission (Niti Aayog), in association with Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), has organized a two-day hackathon on circular economy, "India-Australia Circular Economy Hackathon (I-ACE)", on 7 and 8 December. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIM-Niti Aayog + CSIRO = organized "India-Australia Circular Economy Hackathon (I-ACE)"
- Atal Innovation Mission – under "NITI Aayog" (HQs – New Delhi)
- CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of CSIRO – Canberra, Australia | Head – David Thodey

2. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has addressed the 4-day "Army Commanders' Conference" held in Delhi. The Army Commanders' Conference, an apex level biannual event, which formulates important policy decisions through collegiate deliberations in the Indian Army, is being held in New Delhi from October 26 to 29, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajnath Singh addressed – 4-day "Army Commanders' Conference" – in Delhi
- Ministry of Defence – Rajnath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, UP)

3. Dr Harsh Vardhan has chaired the 5th Special Session of Bureau of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) as Chairman. The resolution WHA 73.1 titled "COVID-19 response" was co-sponsored by more than 130 countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – chaired the 5th Special Session of Bureau of the Executive Board of WHO
- WHO HQs – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194

4. Dr Harsh Vardhan has virtually addressed the "World Bank - IMF annual meeting 2020". The theme of the meeting was "Unleashing the South Asian Century through Human Capital for All" and "Investing in Covid-19 Vaccines and Primary Healthcare Delivery System". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – addressed the "World Bank - IMF annual meeting 2020"
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Chandni Chowk, Delhi)
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189



- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190

5. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Japanese counterpart Toshimitsu Motegi have participated in the 13th India-Japan Strategic Dialogue which was held at Tokyo, Japan. They discussed cooperation in manufacturing, skills, infrastructure and health sectors, reaffirming the similarities in their respective India-Pacific visions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S Jaishankar participated – in the 13th India-Japan Strategic Dialogue – held at Tokyo, Japan
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

6. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has participated in the plenary meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) through video conferencing. The IMFC is the ministerial-level committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – participated in the plenary meeting of the IMFC
- IMFC – a ministerial-level committee of IMF
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 189

7. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has virtually participated in the 102nd meeting of the World Bank Development Committee Plenary. According to her, government has committed \$2.03 billion for strengthening health infrastructure in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – participated in the 102nd meeting of the World Bank Development Committee Plenary
- Finance Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency – Karnataka)

8. India and Chile have held their 1st Joint Commission Meeting and agreed to add new momentum to their relations in a wide range of fields including trade and commerce, agriculture, health and social security, defence and space. The meeting was co-chaired by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India & Chile – held their 1st Joint Commission Meeting
- Chile – Santiago – Peso



9. India and Mexico have held the 8th edition of “Joint Commission Meeting” and reviewed cooperation in several areas including trade, investment, agriculture, health and education. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar co-chaired the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India and Mexico – held the 8th edition of “Joint Commission Meeting” – co-chaired by ‘S. Jaishankar’
- Mexico – Mexico city – Mexican Peso

10. India has hosted the 19th Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Ministers of Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade. Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Hardeep Singh Puri had participated in the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India has hosted the 19th Meeting of the SCO Ministers of Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade
- Piyush Goyal + Hardeep Singh Puri = participated in the meeting
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China

11. India has kept its engagements up at Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, SCO as it participated in 18th meeting of Prosecutors General of SCO. Tushar Mehta - represented India at the 18th meeting of Prosecutors General of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tushar Mehta – represented India at the 18th meeting of “Prosecutors General of SCO”
- HQs of SCO – Beijing, China | Secretary General – Vladimir Norov

12. Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has hosted the 7th meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). The virtual meeting on October 16 will be attended by Law and Justice ministers of China, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India hosted – the 7th meeting of Ministers of Justice of the SCO
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – attended the 7th meeting of Ministers of Justice of the SCO
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)
- Sanjay Dhotre – MoS for Communications and Information Technology



13. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Prakash Birla has virtually addressed the meeting of the 6th BRICS Parliamentary Forum, which was held on the theme “BRICS partnership in the interest of the global stability, general safety and innovative growth: parliamentary dimension.” [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Om Prakash Birla – addressed the meeting of the 6th BRICS Parliamentary Forum – held by Russia
- Theme – “BRICS partnership in the interest of the global stability, general safety and innovative growth: parliamentary dimension”
- Presidency of BRICS in 2021 – India | BRICS Countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa

14. Ministry of Tourism has organised a webinar on “Charkhe pe Charcha” under Dekho Apna Desh Webinar Series on 2nd October 2020 to mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The Webinar titled “Charkhe pe Charcha” focused on spinning wheel and Khadi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism – organised a webinar on “Charkhe pe Charcha”
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture

15. Nirmala Sitharaman has recently participated in “G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meet” via Video Conferencing on October 14 under the Saudi Arabian Presidency. India has emphasised that the updated commitments in the G20 Action Plan have to be kept relevant in the current policy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – participated in “G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meet”
- The Meet was held under the presidency of – Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia – Riyadh – Saudi Riyal)
- Finance Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency – Karnataka)

16. NITI Aayog, the New and Renewable Energy Ministry, and Invest India have organised a Global Symposium virtually “India PV EDGE 2020” on October 6 to become self-reliant in manufacturing of solar equipment in the next 18 months and reduce its dependence on Chinese imports. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + New & Renewable Energy Mini. + Invest India = organised a Global Symposium “India PV EDGE 2020”
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar



- Raj Kumar Singh – Minister of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

17. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the “Invest India conference” in Canada through video conferencing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi addressed “Invest India conference” – in Canada
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

18. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the “National Conference on Vigilance and Anti-Corruption” on the theme “Vigilant India, Prosperous India” via video conferencing. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) organises the National Conference coinciding with ‘Vigilance Awareness Week’, which is observed in India every year from October 27 to November 2. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi inaugurated the “National Conference on Vigilance and Anti-Corruption”
- Theme – “Vigilant India, Prosperous India” / “Satark Bharat, Samriddh Bharat”
- October 27 – November 2 = ‘Vigilance Awareness Week’ – by CBI
- HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Rishi Kumar Shukla

19. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Summit “RAISE 2020” (Responsible AI for Social Empowerment). It was organised by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and NITI Aayog. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated – “RAISE 2020” Summit | organised by = MeitY + NITI Aayog
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

20. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurated the 4th Edition of India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK (Cambridge Energy Research Associates). It was organised by NITI Aayog in association with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK was started in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi Inaugurated – 4th Edition of India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK (started in 2017)



- It was organised by NITI Aayog + Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

21. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has addressed an international webinar on ‘Textile Traditions’ organized by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Uttar Pradesh Institute of Design (UPID). “Weaving Relations: Textile Traditions” was the theme of the webinar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi addressed an international webinar on ‘Textile Traditions’ – organized by ICCR + UPID
- Theme of the webinar – “Weaving Relations: Textile Traditions”
- HQs of ICCR – New Delhi | DG – Dineshk Patnaik

22. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has virtually inaugurated the Gyan Circle Ventures, a MeitY funded Technology Business Incubator (TBI) of IIIT - Sri City (Chittoor), Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' – inaugurated the “Gyan Circle Ventures”
- Gyan Circle Ventures – a MeitY funded Technology Business Incubator of “IIIT-Sri City (Chittoor)”
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

23. Smriti Irani has addressed the High-level meeting on the 25th anniversary of the “Fourth World Conference on Women”. The 'National Nutritional Mission' launched to improve nutritional status of children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers seeks to make India malnutrition free by 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Smriti Irani addressed – High-level meeting on the 25th anniversary of the “Fourth World Conference on Women”
- Smriti Zubin Irani – Minister of Women & Child Development, Minister of Textiles (Amethi, Uttar Pradesh)

24. The 10th round of Ministerial the United Kingdom (UK)-India Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) was held virtually On October 28, 2020. Nirmala Sitharaman represented India at the Dialogue. India and the United Kingdom have agreed to establish a bilateral Sustainable Finance Forum. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Nirmala Sitharaman attended – the 10th round of Ministerial the UK-India Economic and Financial Dialogue
- India + UK = agreed to establish a bilateral Sustainable Finance Forum
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

25. The 12th BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) Summit will be held on November 17 under the Presidency of Russia to discuss partnership among its members for global stability, shared security and innovative growth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 12th BRICS Summit will be held on November 17 | Presidency – Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS – Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021

26. The 19th round of Foreign Office Consultations between India and Myanmar held through virtual mode. The Indian delegation at the Consultations was led by Foreign Secretary, Harsh Vardhan Shringla. India has agreed to provide debt service relief to Myanmar under the G-20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 19th round of “Foreign Office Consultations” held between – India & Myanmar
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint

27. The 2nd ASEAN-India Track 1.5 Dialogue on Cyber Issues was held virtually focused upon cooperation and security in the digital and cyber domain in the backdrop of coronavirus pandemic. Observer Research Foundation (ORF) in partnership with the External Affairs Ministry (EAM) had organised this Summit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 2nd ASEAN-India Track 1.5 Dialogue on Cyber Security = organised by ORF + External Affairs Ministry
- Ministry of External Affairs – Subrahmanyam Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- HQs of ORF – New Delhi | Chairperson – Sunjoy Joshi
- Chairmanship of ASEAN 2020 – Vietnam | Secretariat of ASEAN – Jakarta, Indonesia | Members – 10
- Brunei – to assume the Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2021



28. The 2nd India-Australia-Japan-USA ministerial meeting was held in Tokyo on October 6. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited Japan to attend the 2nd meeting of the Quad foreign ministers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 2nd “India-Australia-Japan-USA ministerial meeting” or “Quad foreign ministers Meeting” – held Tokyo, Japan
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

29. The 5th Joint Working Group (JWG) on coal between India and Indonesia will be held on November 5, 2020. The one-day meeting will be held through video conference from New Delhi due to travel restrictions on account of the coronavirus pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th Joint Working Group on coal between India and Indonesia – to be held virtual
- Indonesia – Jakarta – Rupiah | President – Joko Widodo

30. The 5th meeting of the “India-Mexico Bilateral High Level Group on Trade, Investment and Cooperation” was held on 9 October 2020. The meeting was co-chaired by the Commerce Secretary of the Government of India, Dr. Anup Wadhawan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th meeting of the “India-Mexico Bilateral High Level Group on Trade, Investment and Cooperation” held on Oct 9
- Meeting co-chaired by – Dr. Anup Wadhawan (Commerce Secretary)

31. The 6th edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020 was held virtually from 22nd to 25th December, 2020. It will be a reflection on Indian Science & Technology Innovations for Atmanirbhar Bharat and Global welfare. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 6th edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020 held virtually from 22nd to 25th December, 2020

32. The 6th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held virtually this year from December 22-25. The previous editions of Science Festivals were hosted by New Delhi, Lucknow and Kolkata. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- 6th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) – to be held from December 22-25

33. The 6th Session of the “India-Norway Joint Commission” was held on a virtual platform on October 13, 2020. The Indian delegation was led by Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The 6th Session of the “India-Norway Joint Commission” – attended by S. Jaishankar
- Ministry of External Affairs – Subrahmanyam Jaishankar | Constituency – Gujarat
- Norway – Oslo – Krone | PM – Erna Solberg

34. The 9th session of the India-Oman Joint Commission was held virtually. The meet was co-chaired by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Hardeep Singh Puri. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 9th session of the India-Oman Joint Commission – co-chaired by Hardeep Singh Puri
- Oman – Muscat – Rial

35. The landmark 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly has commenced amidst the devastating coronavirus pandemic from September 15 to September 30, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 75th session of the UNGA – commenced virtually amid coronavirus pandemic
- HQs of UNGA – NewYork, USA | President – Tijjani Muhammad Bande

36. The PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the "Vaishvik Bharatiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) Summit 2020" a virtual summit of national and international researchers On October 2 - Gandhi Jayanti. The concluding session will be held on October 31, on the occasion of Sardar Patel Jayanti. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi inaugurated – "Vaishvik Bharatiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV) Summit 2020" – from 1st October to 31st October
- The summit will be concluded on the Birth Anniversary of – Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (31st October)

37. The World Economic Forum (WEF) will hold its Annual Meeting 2021 in Lucerne-Burgenstock, Switzerland, from May 18 to 21. It will be held with the theme of “The Great Reset”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- “WEF Annual Meeting 2021” – to be held in Lucerne-Burgenstock, Switzerland
- Theme – “The Great Reset”
- HQs of WEF – Cologne, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab

38. Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar has addressed the “UN Biodiversity Summit” on October 01. Javadekar said “India aims to restore 26 million hectares of degraded and deforested land, and achieve land-degradation neutrality by 2030.” [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prakash Javadekar addressed – “UN Biodiversity Summit” on October 01
- India’s Aim: to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land & achieve land-degradation neutrality by – 2030

39. Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has addressed the 1st ever Ministerial Meeting of G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group. Dr Jitendra Singh also referred to the India’s Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, which the Modi government amended after 30 years in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Jitendra Singh – addressed the 1st ever Ministerial Meeting of G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group
- Dr. Jitendra Singh – MoS of DoNER, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space

40. Union minister For Chemicals and Fertilizers Shri D V Sadananda Gowda has addressed the Inaugural Session of “CII Life Science Conclave 2020.” Pharma sector is likely to grow in to 65-billion-dollar industry by 2024 and to 120 billion dollars by 2030 and Medical Devices industry to reach US \$50 Billion by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D V Sadananda Gowda addressed – the Inaugural Session of “CII Life Science Conclave 2020”
- Predictions for Pharma sector: To grow into \$65 Billion – by 2024 & \$120 Billion – by 2030
- Medical Devices industry to reach US \$50 Billion – by 2025
- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers – D. V. Sadananda Gowda (Bangalore, Karnataka)

41. Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot has inaugurated the virtual “International conference on Mental Health: Looking Beyond COVID 19” through video conference. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Thaawarchand Gehlot – inaugurated “International conference on Mental Health: Looking Beyond COVID 19”
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – Thawar Chand Gehlot (Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh)

42. Union textiles minister Smriti Irani has addressed the session of the ‘India-Bangladesh Virtual Conference on Textiles and Apparel Sector’ jointly organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Smriti Irani addressed – the session of the ‘India-Bangladesh Virtual Conference on Textiles and Apparel Sector’
- The conference organised by – CII & FBCCI
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – Uday Kotak | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

1. "Right Livelihood Award – 2020", sometimes referred to as the "Alternative Nobel" was given to 4 winners in Stockholm, Sweden by Right Livelihood Award Foundation. Ales Bialiatski (Belarus), Nasrin Sotoudeh (Iran), Bryan Stevenson (USA) & Lottie Cunningham Wren (Nicaragua) were the winners. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Right Livelihood Award – 2020" or "Alternative Nobel" given to 4 winners – in Stockholm, Sweden
- Sweden – Stockholm – Krona

2. 8 beaches in India, across 5 states and 2 union territories, have been awarded the prestigious 'Blue Flag' certification, announced by Union Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The prestigious 'Blue Flag' certification awarded to – 8 beaches in India across 5 state & 2 UTs
- Kappad – Kerala | Rushikonda – Andhra Pradesh | Golden – Puri, Odisha | Radhanagar – A&N Islands
- Shivrajpur – Dwarka, Gujarat | Ghoghla – Diu | Kasarkod & Padubidri – Karnataka

3. A 14-year-old Indian-American girl, Anika Chebrolu has won a USD 25,000 the "3M Young Scientist Challenge" for a discovery that could provide a potential treatment for COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anika Chebrolu – won a USD 25,000 the "3M Young Scientist Challenge"

4. Actor Sonu Sood who is often dubbed as the "messiah of migrants" for his philanthropic work during coronavirus induced lockdown, has been conferred with the prestigious "SDG Special Humanitarian Action Award" by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sonu Sood – conferred with "SDG Special Humanitarian Action Award" by UNDP
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner

5. Aishwarya Sridhar, 23, has become the first Indian woman to win the "Wildlife Photographer of the Year" award. Her image titled 'Lights of passion' has won the 'Highly Commended' award at the Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2020. In 2019, she received the 'Diana award' by the Princess Diana foundation for her efforts in wetland conservation. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Aishwarya Sridhar (Maharashtra) – the 1st Indian woman to win “Wildlife Photographer of the Year” award
- She received the ‘Diana award’ by the Princess Diana foundation – in 2019

6. Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has presented the "Anundoram Borooah Award 2020" to students who secured 75% or above in matriculation (10th) examination in Guwahati. As part of the award, an amount of Rs 20,000 to each was directly transferred to bank accounts of 16 thousand 944 students for purchasing laptops. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – presented the "Anundoram Borooah Award 2020" – to students who secured 75% or above in 10th
- An amount of Rs 20,000 – to each student’s bank a/c for purchasing laptop
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

7. Bank of Ghana has won “Central Bank of the Year Award 2020”. The Bank of Ghana demonstrated its strengths with the delivery of a major banking sector and microfinance clean-up operation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bank of Ghana – won “Central Bank of the Year Award 2020”
- Ghana – Accra – Cedi | President – Nana Akufo-Addo

8. Belarusian opposition politician, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya has been awarded with European Union’s top human rights “Sakharov Prize”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya (Belarus) – awarded with European Union’s top human rights “Sakharov Prize”
- Belarus – Minsk – Ruble | PM – Siarhiey Rumas
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | President – Ursula von der Leyen | Member Countries – 27

9. Chennai birder and wildlife photographer Sambath Subbaiah has won the “Wildlife Photographer of the Year” award in the Birds Behaviour category from London’s Natural History Museum. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Sambath Subbaiah (Tamil Nadu) – won the “Wildlife Photographer of the Year” award – in ‘Birds Behaviour’
- Natural History Museum – located in London, UK

10. Coveted trophies for best ship were awarded to INS Sahyadri among capital ships and INS Kora among corvettes at the Fleet Award Function (FAF), 2020. It was organised to mark the successful culmination of the Operational Cycle of the Eastern Fleet of the Indian Navy in Visakhapatnam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Sahyadri (capital ships) & INS Kora (corvettes) – declared as best ship in “Fleet award function 2020”
- Fleet Award Function (FAF) 2020 organised by the ‘Indian Navy’ – at Visakhapatnam
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

11. Dr A N Chandrasekaran has been selected for the Asia Pacific League of Association for Rheumatology (APLAR) Master Award 2020, for his contribution in the field of rheumatology. He will receive the APLAR Master Award 2020 during the 22nd Asia-Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology Virtual Congress. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 22nd edition of Asia-Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology Congress held virtually
- Dr A N Chandrasekaran (Tamil Nadu) – selected for the “APLAR Master Award 2020”

12. Dr Jajini Varghese, a UK-based Indian-origin plastic surgeon, has been named an “Outstanding Young Person of the World 2020” by a non-profit NGO for her “incredible” scientific contributions to diagnosing and treating breast cancer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Jajini Varghese (UK) – named an “Outstanding Young Person of the World 2020” by a non-profit NGO
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

13. For the first time since the inception, “International Solar Alliance (ISA) Awards” were conferred on countries of the region as well as institutions working for solar. Haryana Chief Minister M L Khattar has announced the “Kalpana Chawla Awards” to Bhim Singh from IIT Delhi (India) and Aasha Alnuaimi from Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (UAE). Karnataka Additional Chief Secretary Mahendra Jain has announced “Visvesvaraya Award” (named after Bharat Ratna M Visvesvaraya) to Japan & Netherlands.



The “Diwakar Award” instituted by ISA has been awarded to Arpan Institute (Haryana) and Arushi Society. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Kalpana Chawla Awards” by Haryana – Bhim Singh (IIT Delhi) & Aasha Alnuaimi (UAE)
- “Visvesvaraya Award” by Karnataka – Japan & Netherlands
- “Diwakar Award” by ISA – Arpan Institute (Haryana) and Arushi Society (Madhya Pradesh)

14. French scientist Emmanuelle Charpentier and American Jennifer A. Doudna have won the “Nobel Prize -2020” in Chemistry for developing a method of Genome Editing known as “CRISPR”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Emmanuelle Charpentier (France) & Jennifer A. Doudna (USA) = “Nobel Prize -2020” in Chemistry
- Prize given for developing a method of Genome Editing known as “CRISPR”

15. Global Himalayan Expedition (GHE) has won the “UN Global Climate Action Award-2020” by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). GHE has won the award in the category of ‘Financing for Climate Friendly Investment’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Global Himalayan Expedition – won the “UN Global Climate Action Award-2020” – by UNFCCC
- HQs of UNFCCC – Bonn, Germany | Executive Secretary – Patricia Espinosa

16. Indian-origin philanthropist Harish Kotecha has been awarded the prestigious “Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award” in recognition of his work in the US for meeting the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Harish Kotecha – awarded the prestigious “Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award” for his work in the US
- Harish Kotecha – the founder and President of Hindu Charities for America (HC4A)
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

17. Iqbal Singh Chahal has been conferred the top “Covid Crusader Award-2020” by the Indo American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) in the Indian Bureaucrats Category. He has become the 1st Indian bureaucrat to be recognised and receive this global acknowledgment for his contribution in controlling the novel coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Iqbal Singh Chahal – awarded with “Covid Crusader Award-2020” – by Indo-American Chamber of Commerce

18. Mrs. Seema Gupta has been named the winner of “GOLD Stevie Award” in the Lifetime Achievement - Business category in the 17th annual Stevie Awards for Women in Business. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Seema Gupta – won “GOLD Stevie Award” in the Lifetime Achievement - Business category
- 17th edition of annual Stevie Awards for Women in Business – held virtually

19. Noted Odia poet Nityanand Nayak will be conferred the prestigious “Sarala Puraskar” for his poetry work ‘Setebelaku Nathiba’, published in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nityanand Nayak (Odia Poet) – conferred “Sarala Puraskar” – for ‘Setebelaku Nathiba’ poetry – published in 2017

20. Paul R Milgrom and Robert B Wilson have won “Nobel Prize-2020” in Economics. They have used their insights to design new auction formats for goods and services that are difficult to sell in a traditional way, such as radio frequencies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paul R Milgrom & Robert B Wilson = won “Nobel Prize-2020” in Economics

21. Rajya Sabha MP and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Sanjay Singh has been chosen for the “Gandhi Award” instituted by the Mahatma Gandhi National Foundation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Singh (AAP leader) – chosen for the “Gandhi Award - 2020”
- HQs of Mahatma Gandhi National Foundation – Kerala | Chairman – Eby J Jose

22. Rakayet Ul Karim Nakim, a native of Chittagong, Bangladesh, has won the 12th edition of the “Greenstorm International Nature Photography Contest” conducted in association with UNEP in connection with the World Environment Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 12th edition of the “Greenstorm International Nature Photography Contest” – conducted in association with ‘UNEP’
- 1st – Rakayet Ul Karim Nakim (Bangladesh) | 2nd – Mohamed Noufal (UAE) | 3rd – Kartikeya Grover (India)
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen

23. The “Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology - 2020” was awarded jointly to Harvey J Alter, Michael Houghton and Charles M. Rice. They have bagged the Nobel medicine prize for the discovery of "Hepatitis C virus". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology - 2020” given to – Harvey J Alter, Michael Houghton & Charles M. Rice
- For the discovery of – "Hepatitis C virus"

24. The “Nobel Prize-2020” for Literature has been awarded to American poet Louise Gluck ‘for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal.’ [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Louise Gluck (American Poet) – awarded “Nobel Prize-2020” – for Literature

25. The 3rd India International Film Festival of Boston (IIFFB) 2020 was recently held in Boston, United States. Late actor Om Puri was honoured there with a “Lifetime Achievement Award”. Malayalam film “Kaanthi” has won the Best Feature Film Award. The Best Actor Male was won by Victor Bannerjee for playing a priest in Josef: Born In Grace. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3rd India International Film Festival of Boston (IIFFB) 2020 – in Boston, USA
- “Lifetime Achievement Award” – Om Puri
- “Best Feature Film Award” – “Kaanthi” (Malayalam film)
- Best Actor Award (male) – Victor Bannerjee
- Best Actor Award (female) – Shylaja Ambu

26. The CII Foundation’s work on crop residue management has been awarded the “United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) Action Award” by UNDP in partnership with the Government of Punjab under the category ‘Integration, Convergence, Joint Action and Holistic Solution Approach – Industry’. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- CII Foundation – awarded “UNSDG Action Award” – by UNDP + Punjab
- CII Foundation set up by CII in – 2011
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner
- HQs of CII – New Delhi | President – Uday Kotak | Director General – Chandrajit Banerjee

27. The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) has presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to business icon ‘Ratan Tata’ as part of its recent global leadership awards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ratan Tata – awarded with “Indo-American Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award”

28. The names of 14 scientists who received "Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize - 2020" were announced during the foundation day of the CSIR on 26 September. The prize is given to Indian scientists below the age of 45 for outstanding research in 7 fields - Biology, Chemistry, Environment Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine and Physics. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mathematics Sciences: Dr U K Anandavardhanan & Dr Rajat Subhra Hazra
- Medicine Sciences: Dr Bushra Ateeq & Dr Ritesh Agarwal
- Physics Sciences: Dr Rajesh Ganapathy & Dr Surajit Dhara
- Biological Sciences: Dr Shubhadeep Chatterjee & Dr Vatsala Thirumalai
- Chemical Sciences: Dr Jyotirmayee Dash & Dr Subi Jacob George
- Engineering Sciences: Dr Amol Arvindrao Kulkarni & Dr Kinshuk Dasgupta
- Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences: Dr Abhijit Mukherjee & Dr Suryendu Dutta

29. The Orations & Awards Committee of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), has selected Dr Satish Mishra for “Dr.Tulsi Das Chugh Award” for the year 2020 in recognition of his research work on Malaria parasite’s life cycle. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Satish Mishra – conferred “Dr.Tulsi Das Chugh Award-2020” – for Malaria parasite’s life cycle



30. The Punjab government has announced 17 winners of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Action Awards. Actor Sonu Sood and Dubai-based businessman and philanthropist S P S Oberoi awarded “Special Humanitarian Action Award”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab announced 17 winners of “SDG Action Awards”
- Sonu Sood & S P S Oberoi – awarded “Special Humanitarian Action Award”
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

31. The Union Government has launched 3 missions under Swachh Sundar Samudayik Shouchalaya, Samudayik Shouchalaya Abhiyan and Gandagi Mukth Bharat. Under the Swachh Sundar Samudayik Shouchalaya category Gujarat bagged the first position at state level. Under the Samudayik Shouchalaya Abhiyan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh were awarded as the best performing states. Under the Gandagi Mukth Bharat Mission, Haryana and Telangana were awarded the top slot. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Swachh Sundar Samudayik Shouchalaya” – topped by Gujarat | in Districts – Tirunelveli
- “Samudayik Shouchalaya Abhiyan” – topped by Gujarat & Uttar Pradesh | in Districts – Prayagraj & Bareilly
- “Gandagi Mukth Bharat Mission” – topped by Haryana & Telangana

32. The United Nations' World Food Programme has won the “Nobel Peace Prize-2020” for its efforts to combat hunger and food insecurity in regions of conflict and hardship around the globe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Food Programme – conferred the “Nobel Peace Prize-2020” – in Oslo, Norway
- HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36

33. Three scientists have won “Nobel Prize for 2020” in physics for advancing our understanding of black holes. Briton Roger Penrose has received half of this year’s prize “for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity.” German Reinhard Genzel and American Andrea Ghez have received the second half of the prize “for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the center of our galaxy.” [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Nobel Prize for 2020” in physics – given to 3 Scientist
- Roger Penrose (UK), Reinhard Genzel (Germany) & Andrea Ghez (USA)



34. TRIFED has won 3 awards at the virtual edition of “National Awards for Excellence – PSU”, which recognize the outstanding initiatives taken by government departments, Public Sector units and industry leaders. Pravir Krishna, MD of TRIFED has won 2 individual awards - the “CEO of the Year” and “Visionary Leadership Award” for his exemplary and inspirational leadership. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TRIFED has won 3 awards at the virtual edition of “National Awards for Excellence – PSU”
- Pravir Krishna – won the “CEO of the Year” and “Visionary Leadership Award”
- TRIFED works under – Ministry of Tribal Affairs (Arjun Munda – Khunti, Jhrakhand)
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna

35. Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal has released the results of the 1st edition of “National Startup Awards” to recognize and reward outstanding startups and ecosystem enablers with high potential of employment generation or wealth creation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – released the results of the 1st edition of “National Startup Awards”



Appointments & Resignations

1. A 1999-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, Devyani Uttam Khobragade has been appointed as India's next ambassador to Cambodia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Devyani Uttam Khobragade – appointed as India's next Ambassador to – Cambodia
- Cambodia – Phnom Penh – Riel

2. Alpha Conde has won a controversial third term in office as the President of Guinea. The electoral commission said the 82-year-old had taken 59.5% of the vote. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alpha Conde – won a controversial third term as the President of Guinea
- Guinea – Conakry – franc | President – Alpha Conde

3. Apurva Chandra, Secretary (Labour and Employment) has been elected as the Chairperson of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for the period October 2020-June 2021. India, after a gap of 35 years, assumed the Chairmanship of the ILO. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Apurva Chandra – elected as the Chairperson of 'ILO' for the period October 2020 - June 2021
- HQs of ILO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Guy Ryder

4. Beauty accessories brand, Vega has announced the signing of Rohit Sharma as its brand ambassador. He will be endorsing the brand's men's personal grooming electronics range under the 'Vega Men' brand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohit Sharma – appointed as brand ambassador of – 'Vega' – a Beauty accessories brand

5. Commonwealth Games medallist shuttler Chetan Anand is named the Brand Ambassador of India's first-ever badminton brand 'Transform'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chetan Anand (Badminton) – appointed as the Brand Ambassador – “Transform” - India's first-ever badminton brand



6. Eminent Indian-origin academician Srikant Datar has been named as Dean of Harvard Business School (HBS), succeeding Nitin Nohria and becoming the second consecutive dean hailing from India to lead the prestigious 112-year-old institution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Srikant Datar (2nd Indian) – named as Dean of Harvard Business School (by succeeding – Nitin Nohria)
- HBS located in – Boston, Massachusetts, USA | Dean – Srikant Datar

7. Former diplomat and Central Information Commissioner Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha is set to be appointed as the country's next Chief Information Commissioner (CIC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha – to be appointed as India's next Chief Information Commissioner (CIC)

8. Hyderabad's industrialist, Purnachandra Rao Surapaneni is elected as National President of Indo American Chamber of Commerce (IACC), the apex bi-lateral body synergizing India-US business relations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Purnachandra Rao Surapaneni – elected as National President of 'Indo American Chamber of Commerce'
- He is from – Hyderabad, Telangana

9. Indian batsman Ajinkya Rahane has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador and Advisor of Hudle, a Delhi-based sports tech & events startup. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajinkya Rahane – appointed as the Brand Ambassador and Advisor of 'Hudle'

10. Indian diplomat Dr Neena Malhotra has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of San Marino. Presently, she is serving as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Italy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Neena Malhotra – accredited as the next Ambassador of India to – San Marino
- Republic of San Marino – San Marino – Euro



11. Indian-origin Wavel Ramkalawan has been elected as the President of Seychelles. Ramkalawan, a former Anglican priest, defeated President Danny Faure after three decades of unsuccessful runs for the presidency of the East African nation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Wavel Ramkalawan – elected as the President of Seychelles
- Seychelles – Victoria – Seychellois Rupee | President – Wavel Ramkalawan

12. J Venkatramu has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB). He is presently working as the CEO in Equitas Small Finance Bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J Venkatramu – appointed as the MD & CEO of – IPPB (Currently, CEO in Equitas Small Finance Bank)
- HQs of IPPB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – J Venkatramu

13. Jishnu Barua was appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Assam by replacing Kumar Sanjay Krishna who retires on October 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jishnu Barua – appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Assam (replacing Kumar Sanjay Krishna)
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

14. Jordan's King Abdullah has accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Omar al Razzaz. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Omar al Razzaz – has resigned from the post of Prime Minister of – Jordan
- Jordan – Amman – Dinar

15. Jordan's King Abdullah II has designated his Chief Policy Adviser to form a new government. Bishr al-Khasawneh has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Jordan recently. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bishr al-Khasawneh – appointed as the Prime Minister of – Jordan
- Jordan – Amman – Dinar | PM – Bishr al-khasawneh | King – Abdullah II



16. Kuwait's Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah has sworn in as the Gulf monarchy's new Emir in parliament. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah – sworn in as new Emir of – Kuwait
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Kuwaiti Dinar | PM – Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah

17. Kyrgyzstan's Prime Minister Sadyr Zhaparov has become the acting President in the wake of the President Sooronbai Jeenbekov's resignation amid turmoil sparked by a disputed parliamentary election. [{Read more}](#)

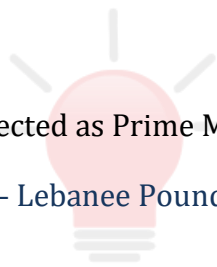
Key Points:

- Sadyr Zhaparov – became the acting President of – Kyrgyzstan (by replacing – Sooronbai Jeenbekov)

18. Lebanon's President Michel Aoun has designated Sunni Muslim politician Saad al-Hariri as Prime Minister to form a new government to tackle the worst crisis since the country's 1975-1990 civil war. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saad al-Hariri – elected as Prime Minister of – Lebanon
- Lebanon – Beirut – Lebanese Pound | PM – Saad al-Hariri



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The Question Bank

19. LG Electronics (LG) has announced that 6-Time Formula-1 World Champion Lewis Hamilton has been signed to be the Global Ambassador for its LG SIGNATURE, the company's premium home solutions brand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lewis Hamilton – appointed as Global Ambassador by LG Electronics for its 'LG SIGNATURE'
- Lewis Hamilton (UK) – drives 'Mercedes'
- HQs of LG Electronics – Seoul, South Korea | CEO – Kwon Bong-seok

20. Luis Arce was elected as President of Bolivia in the elections held on October 18. He is the chosen successor of Evo Morales, who was president of the country from 2006 to 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Luis Arce – elected as President of Bolivia (by replacing - Evo Morales)
- Bolivia – La Paz/Sucre – Boliviano | President – Luis Arce



21. M5 Entertainment has announced the onboarding of Kareena Kapoor Khan as brand ambassador of 'Drools' - India's leading dogs and cat's nutrition brand in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kareena Kapoor Khan – appointed as brand ambassador of 'Drools'

22. Manoj Kumar has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) till the date of his superannuation January 31, 2024. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manoj Kumar – appointed as the Chairman & MD of the Western Coalfields Limited – till January 31, 2024
- WCL – a subsidiary of the Coal India Limited (CIL)
- HQs of WCL – Nagpur, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Manoj Kumar

23. Merchant payment network BharatPe has appointed Dhruv Bahl as its Chief Operating Officer (COO) with immediate effect. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dhruv Bahl – appointed as the COO of – BharatPe
- HQs of BharatPe – New Delhi

24. Michael Irani has been appointed as Interim President of International Weightlifting Federation (IWF). Irani is Chairman of the IWF Medical Committee and a former Chairman of the IWF Anti-Doping Commission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Michael Irani – appointed as Interim President of – International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)
- IWF HQs – Budapest, Hungary | Interim President – Michael Irani

25. Myntra has announced YouTuber Bhuvan Bam as its first digital brand ambassador to further engage with the brand's tech-savvy customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhuvan Bam – appointed as the first digital Brand Ambassador of – Myntra
- HQs of Myntra – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amar Nagaram



26. Nilesh Shah has been re-elected as the Chairman of Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI), at the recently concluded Board Meeting of AMFI. He would also continue as the ex-officio Chairman of AMFI Financial Literacy Committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nilesh Shah – re-elected as Chairman of Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)
- HQs of AMFI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Nilesh Shah

27. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has delivered the biggest election victory for her centre-left Labour Party in half a century as voters rewarded her for a decisive response to COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jacinda Ardern – won ‘historic’ re-election & became the Prime Minister of – New Zealand
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | Prime Minister – Jacinda Ardern

28. Priyanka Chopra Jonas has been appointed the national Brand Ambassador, while Jr. NTR has been roped as the brand ambassador for markets in the south by Parle Agro for its new drink brand “B-Fizz”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Priyanka Chopra Jonas – appointed as National Brand Ambassador by Parle Agro for “B-Fizz”
- N. T. Rama Rao Jr. – appointed as the Brand Ambassador for markets in the South for “B-Fizz”
- HQs of Parle Agro – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Schauna Chauhan

29. Railway Minister Piyush Goyal is given additional charge of the Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution ministry following the death of Ram Vilas Paswan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – given additional charge of – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- Piyush Goyal – Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Commerce & Industry | Constituency – Maharashtra

30. RBI has extended the term of Rajesh Kumar Chhibber (RK Chhibber) as the Chairman and Managing Director of Jammu & Kashmir Bank for a period of 6 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RK Chhibber – term extended as the Chairman & MD of ‘J&K Bank’ – for 6 months



- HQs of J&K Bank – Sri Nagar, J & K | CEO – R K Chhibber

31. Rohan Jaitley, the son of former finance minister late Arun Jaitley, has been elected unopposed as the new President of Delhi and District Cricket Association (DDCA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohan Jaitley – elected unopposed as the new President of – Delhi and District Cricket Association (DDCA)
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

32. Romania’s 2008 Olympic champion Constantina Dita has been named an ambassador for the “World Athletics Half Marathon Championships Gdynia 2020” on October 17. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Constantina Dita – appointed as an ambassador for “World Athletics Half Marathon Championships Gdynia 2020”
- Constantina Dita (Romania) – Long-distance Runner
- Romania – Bucharest – leu

33. S Aparna, a 1988-batch IAS officer of Gujarat cadre, has assumed charge as secretary in the Department of Pharmaceuticals. She has replaced P D Vaghela, who superannuated on September 30, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S Aparna – assumed charge as secretary in the Department of Pharmaceuticals (by replacing - P D Vaghela)

34. Senior India cricketer Rohit Sharma has been named Brand Ambassador of healthcare company “Dr Trust”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rohit Sharma – appointed as Brand Ambassador of – “Dr Trust” - a healthcare firm
- HQs of Dr. Trust – New York, USA

35. Senior IPS officer and former Director General of Police (DGP) of Uttarakhand, MA Ganapathy, has been appointed as the Director General (DG) of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- MA Ganapathy – appointed as the Director General (DG) of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)

36. Senior journalist and editor of The Citizen, Seema Mustafa, has been elected as the new President of the Editors Guild of India. Mustafa takes over from Shekhar Gupta, editor-in-chief of The Print. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Seema Mustafa – elected as the new President of – Editors Guild of India (by replacing - Shekhar Gupta)

37. State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the appointment of Charanjit Singh Attra as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Charanjit Singh Attra – appointed as the Chief Financial Officer of – SBI
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse

38. Sushil Kumar Singhal, a 2000-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Solomon Islands. He is presently serving as the High Commissioner of India to Papua New Guinea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sushil Kumar Singhal – appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to – Solomon Islands
- Solomon Islands – Honiara – Dollar

39. The 1989-batch IFS officer, Alok Verma, has been selected as the new chairman of the Haryana Public Service Commission. Alok Verma, who hails from Bihar's Bhagalpur district, completes 56 years of age on October 24 and his tenure as HPSC chairman will come to end in 2026. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alok Verma – selected as the new chairman of 'Haryana Public Service Commission' – till 2026
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya



40. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has extended the tenure of state run NTPC Ltd Chairman & Managing Director, Gurdeep Singh till 31 July 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gurdeep Singh – tenure extended as the Chairman & MD of – NTPC (till 31 July 2025)
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh

41. The appointments committee of the cabinet has approved the extension in the term of appointment of Madhabi Puri Buch as whole-time member (WTM) of SEBI for a further period of one year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Madhabi Puri Buch – tenure extended for 1 year as whole-time member (WTM) of – SEBI
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

42. The Centre has appointed M Rajeshwar Rao as the new Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. He has succeeded NS Vishwanathan as the Central Bank's 4th deputy governor. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M Rajeshwar Rao – appointed as the 4th Deputy Governor of – RBI (by succeeding – NS Vishwanathan)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- Total Deputy Governors – 4 – Mukesh Kumar Jain | B P Kanungo | Michael D Patra | M Rajeshwar Rao

43. The Centre has approved the extension of service for 3 months to Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary K. Shanmugam in view of the COVID-19 situation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- K. Shanmugam – tenure extended for 3 months as Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

44. The Centre has extended till December 31 the term of Justice (ret'd) Bansi Lal Bhat as the officiating Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bansi Lal Bhat – extended as Chairperson of NCLAT till December 31



45. The country's largest two-wheeler maker Hero MotoCorp has appointed Air Chief Marshal (Retd) B S Dhanoa as a Non-Executive and Independent Director on the company's board with immediate effect. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- B S Dhanoa – appointed as Non-Executive and Independent Director – Hero MotoCorp
- HQs of Hero MotoCorp – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Pawan Kant Munjal

46. The Electronics Sector Skill Council of India (ESSCI) has announced appointment of PVG Menon as its Chief Executive Officer. ESSCI works with industry, the National Skill Development Corporation, and the Ministry of Electronics and IT to provide both skilling and re-skilling services to the industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PVG Menon – appointed as the CEO of – ESSCI
- HQs of ESSCI – New Delhi | CEO of – PVG Menon

47. The Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports (FIFS), the self-regulatory industry body for fantasy sports, has appointed former Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of India, Bimal Julka, as its Chairman. He will take over from John Loffhagen. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bimal Julka – appointed as Chairman of – Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports (FIFS)
- HQs of FIFS – Gurugram, Haryana | Chairman – Bimal Julka

48. The government has appointed 3 eminent economists Ashima Goyal, Jayanth R Varma and Shashanka Bhide as members of the rate-setting Monetary Policy Committee of the RBI. As per the RBI Act, these 3 new members would have 4-year terms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashima Goyal, Jayanth R Varma & Shashanka Bhide – appointed as members of RBI MPC – for 4 years terms
- Total members in the RBI's MPC = 6 (3 of RBI + 3 of GoI)
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)

49. The government has appointed Dinesh Kumar Khara as the new Chairman of State Bank of India (SBI) for a period of 3 years. His appointment is effective from October 7 and he has replaced Rajnish Kumar. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Dinesh Kumar Khara – appointed as the Chairman of “SBI” – for 3 years
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse

50. Uday Shankar, the President of The Walt Disney Company Asia Pacific and Chairman of Star and Disney India has recently stepped down from his position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uday Shankar – resigned from the post of ‘Walt Disney Co Asia Pacific Ltd’ & Chairman of ‘Star and Disney India’
- HQs of Walt Disney Co Asia Pacific Ltd – Hong Kong

51. Union Bank of India's MD and CEO Rajkiran Rai G has been elected as the Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) for the term 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajkiran Rai G – elected as the Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) – for the term 2020-21
- HQs of IBA – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Rajkiran Rai G
- HQs of UBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Rajkiran Rai G. | Tagline – “Good People to Bank With”

52. Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla’s tenure has been extended up to August 22, 2021. He was due to retire on November 30, 2020. He is a 1984-batch Assam-Meghalaya cadre IAS officer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajay Kumar Bhalla – tenure extended as ‘Union Home Secretary’ – up to August 22, 2021

53. Vijai Vardhan, a 1985-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as Chief Secretary of Haryana by replacing Keshni Anand Arora. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijai Vardhan – appointed as Chief Secretary of Haryana (by replacing - Keshni Anand Arora)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya



54. Vishal V Sharma has been appointed as the next Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) by succeeding Jawed Ashraf. [Read more](#)

Key Points:

- Vishal V Sharma – Permanent Representative of India to – UNESCO
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay



Amount & Agreements

1. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has inked loan agreement worth USD 570 million (about Rs 4,180 crore) with the Centre to fund public infrastructure building and strengthen Urban Local Bodies in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB + Indian Gov. – inked loan agreement worth USD 570 million
- To fund public infrastructure building and strengthen ULBs in – Rajasthan (\$300 mn) & Madhya Pradesh (\$270 mn)
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | VP – Ashok Lavasa

2. Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has signed an agreement with the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe, for making available Line of Credit (LoC) of USD 310 million for the purpose of financing repowering of “Hwange Thermal Power Station” in Zimbabwe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Exim Bank + Zimbabwe – LoC of USD 310 million
- Hwange Thermal Power Station – in Zimbabwe
- Zimbabwe – Harare – Dollar
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai | Chairman & MD – TC Venkat Subramanian

3. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced measures of Rs 73,000 crore to stimulate consumer spending before end of this Financial Year in fight against COVID-19. Also, government employees can avail cash voucher for Leave Travel Concession (LTC) if they can't travel due to pandemic in a 4-year block ending in 2021 i.e. 2018-2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – announced measures of Rs 73,000 crore to stimulate consumer spending
- LTC – Leave Travel Concession
- Finance Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency – Karnataka)

4. India has contributed USD 1 million to the “United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)” for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to support Palestinian refugees who have been facing extreme challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India contributed \$1 million to UNRWA – to support ‘Palestinian’ refugees



- HQs of UNRWA – Amman, Jordan + Gaza, Israel | Commissioner-General – Philippe Lazzarini
- Palestine – Ramallah & East Jerusalem – Israeli new shekel & Jordanian dinar

5. India has extended a \$1-billion line of credit to Central Asian countries for priority projects in connectivity, energy, IT and health care as part of New Delhi's efforts to boost its role as a transparent development partner. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – extended a \$1-billion line of credit to Central Asian countries

6. India has proposed to construct a Petroleum Refinery in Thanlyin region near Yangon in Myanmar and is planning to invest USD 6 billion for this purpose. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to construct a Petroleum Refinery in Myanmar | Worth – USD 6 billion
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint

7. NABARD has sanctioned loans worth ₹ 8504.30 lakh under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to the Government of Goa for various Social Infrastructure Projects in the State. With this, NABARD achieved 100% of the target fixed for sanction to the State Government during 2020-21. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD sanctioned loans worth ₹ 8504.30 lakh under “RIDF” to the Government of Goa
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

8. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Indian government have signed an agreement for \$177 million loan to upgrade 450 kilometres of state highways and major district roads in the state of Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB + Indian Gov – an agreement for \$177 million loan – to upgrade 450 km of state highways of 'Maharashtra'
- ADB: HQs – [Mandaluyong, Philippines](#) | President – [Masatsugu Asakawa](#) | Member countries – 68
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



9. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will invest \$15 million in Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL) to help the company to scale up photovoltaic solar energy generation capacity in India. The investment is ADB's second in AEPL after a first round of \$50 million made in April 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADB – to invest \$15 million in – Avaada Energy Private Ltd
- ADB: HQs – [Mandaluyong, Philippines](#) | President – [Masatsugu Asakawa](#) | Member countries – 68
- HQs of Avaada Energy – Mumbai, Maharashtra

10. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the second and third phase of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project to be implemented with financial assistance of the World Bank and AIIB. The project cost is ₹ 10,211 crore and it will be implemented over 10 years in two phases. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCEA approved the 2nd & 3rd phase of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project
- Financial assistance of World Bank + AIIB | Cost of the Project – ₹ 10,211 crore
- HQs of World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant
- HQs of AIIB – Beijing, China | President – Jin Lique

11. The Central government will borrow the Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation shortfall of Rs 1.1 lakh crore and will lend to states. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The Central government – to borrow the GST compensation shortfall of Rs 1.1 lakh crore
- GST Council constituted in 2016 under – Article 279A of the Constitution

12. The Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) on behalf of the Government of India has extended a Line of Credit (LoC) of USD 400 million for undertaking Greater Male's connectivity project in Maldives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Exim Bank = LoC of \$400 million to Maldives – for undertaking Greater Male's connectivity project
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai | Chairman & MD – TC Venkat Subramanian
- Maldives – Male – Maldivian rufiyaa | President – Ibrahim Mohamed Solih



13. The New Development Bank (NDB) of the BRICS countries has approved USD 241 million loan for Mumbai Metro and USD 500 million for the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) Project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NDB approved USD 241 million loan – for Mumbai Metro Rail Project
- NDB approved USD 500 million loan – for Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Project
- HQs of NDB – Shanghai, China | President – Marcos Troyjo
- NDB established by – BRICS Countries – In 2014
- BRICS Countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

14. The US Agency for International Development (USAID) has announced 2 new awards totaling \$5 million to Catalyst Management Service’s COVID Action Collaborative (CAC) and the Wadhvani Institute for Artificial Intelligence as part of the US government’s support to India’s Covid-19 response. This financial assistance will bring USAID’s COVID-19 assistance to India to over \$13 million in total. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USAID announced \$5 million as part of the US government’s support to India’s Covid-19 response
- USAID HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Mark Green

15. The USA has committed USD 1.9 million to support vulnerable populations in India like informal sector workers and micro enterprises whose livelihoods have been disrupted due to COVID-19. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- USA committed USD 1.9 million to India – to support Informal Sector Workers and Micro Enterprises
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

16. World Bank has sanctioned Rs 3 crore to a project proposed by the Goa state biodiversity board that will see India’s first sand dune parks and interpretation centres developed along select stretches. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- World Bank sanctioned Rs 3 crore for Goa to develop India’s first sand dune parks
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Satya Pal Malik



- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

1. “The Speedtest Global Index by Ookla” has ranked India's mobile internet speeds at 131 for mobile internet speeds, much behind its neighbouring nations like South Korea, Sri Lanka, and even Nepal and Pakistan. India's average mobile download speed is 12.07 Mbps, much lower than the global average of 35.26 Mbps. According to Ookla's Global Index, South Korea ranks number one with an average mobile data speed of 121 Mbps. The index puts India at the 70th position in terms of fixed broadband speed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Ookla Speedtest Global Index-2020” = India – 131st (12.07 Mbps) | Topped by – South Korea (121 Mbps)
- “Fixed Broadband Speed” = India – 70th | Topped by – Singapore

2. A new report titled “The World’s Women: 2020 Trends and Statistics” released by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. It is a collection of 100 stories providing up-to-date assessments of progress towards gender equality. No country has achieved the goal of Gender equality however the attitudes of discrimination have slowly changed. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The World’s Women: 2020 Trends and Statistics” report – released by the United Nations
- HQs of UN – New York, United States | Director – Antonio Guterres

3. A team of scientists from West Bengal has discovered the 1st dragonfly fossil found in India in Jharkhand’s Latehar district, according to a study published in Current Science. The fossil is said to be at least 2.5 million years old. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists from West Bengal – discovered the 1st dragonfly fossil found in India in Jharkhand (2.5 million years old)
- Study published in – Current Science
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

4. According to the Sydney-based Lowy Institute's “Asia Power Index for 2020”, India is the 4th most powerful nation in the Asia-Pacific following the US, China and Japan. The country's (India's) power score dipped 1.3 points to 39.7 this year as compared to 41.0 in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Asia Power Index for 2020” – released by ‘Lowy Institute’ (Sydney)



- India – 4th | 1st – USA | 2nd – China | 3rd – Japan

5. According to the World Bank, as many as 150 million people are likely to be in extreme poverty by 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to push an additional 88 million to 115 million people into extreme poverty in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to World Bank – 150 million people to be in extreme poverty by 2021 (additional 88 million in 2020)
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

6. Advances in robotics and artificial intelligence will lead to a net increase in jobs over the next 5 years but the coronavirus pandemic will result in “double-disruption” for workers, according to 3rd Edition of “The Future of Jobs Report 2020” released by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The rise of machines and automation would eliminate a huge 85 million jobs by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3rd Edition of “The Future of Jobs Report 2020” – released by the World Economic Forum (WEF)
- COVID-19 and Technological Advances may eliminate 85 million jobs by 2025 {Prediction}
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab

7. An estimated one in 6 children - or 356 million globally were living in extreme poverty before the COVID-19 pandemic began, and this is set to worsen significantly, according to a new World Bank Group and UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) analysis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 356 million children – were living in extreme poverty before COVID-19 pandemic began
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

8. As per the Indian Tourism Statistics (ITS) - 2020, Uttar Pradesh has gained the top position in terms of attracting the highest number of domestic tourists in 2019, leaving Tamil Nadu behind. As many as 53.6 crore domestic tourists visited UP in 2019. While Tamil Nadu has secured the first position in attracting foreign tourists leaving Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh behind respectively. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Indian Tourism Statistics-2020” (Domestic) = 1st – Uttar Pradesh | 2nd – Tamil Nadu | 3rd – Andhra Pradesh
- “Indian Tourism Statistics-2020” (Foreign) = 1st – Tamil Nadu | 2nd – Maharashtra | 3rd – Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

9. As per the Intellectual Property India’s annual report, in the overall patent filing category, 27 IITs have collectively filed 557 patents. Mohali’s Gharuan-based Chandigarh University has emerged as the top Institute in India which filed the highest number of patents in a year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandigarh University (Mohali, Punjab) – topped the list in filing highest number of patents in a year
- 27 IITs have collectively filed 557 patents
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore
- HQ of Indian Patent Office – Mumbai, Maharashtra

10. As per the report titled "State of Global Air 2020", India has the first-ever comprehensive analysis of air pollution's global impact on newborns finds that outdoor and household Particulate Matter (PM 2.5) pollution contributed to the deaths of more than 1,16,000 Indian infants in their first month of life in 2019, a new global study. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 3rd “State of Global Air 2020” report – India has the highest burden of infant deaths due to air pollution in 2019

11. At least 14 States have reported a reduction in ‘Parasitic Intestinal Worm Infection Prevalence’ or ‘Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis’ (STH) in children, as per the latest report by the Union Health Ministry. The Health ministry has also appointed the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) as the nodal agency to coordinate and conduct nationwide baseline STH mapping. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 14 States have reported a reduction in ‘Parasitic Intestinal Worm Infection Prevalence’ or ‘STH’ – in children
- STH – Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis
- Health ministry appointed the ‘NCDC’ for STH mapping



- HQs of NCDC – New Delhi | Agency executive – Dr Sujeet Kumar Singh

12. DBS Bank has been named the 'Safest Bank in Asia' for the 12th consecutive year by New York-based trade publication Global Finance. DBS' rankings as the fourth-safest commercial bank in the world and 14th safest bank globally remain unchanged from 2019 and 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DBS Bank – named as the 'Safest Bank in Asia' for the 12th consecutive year by Global Finance (14th in the world)
- KfW bank – named as the 'World's Safest Bank' – by Global Finance
- SBI – named as the 'Safest Bank In India' – by Global Finance
- HQs of DBS Bank – Singapore | CEO – Piyush Gupta

13. Delhi is ranked first among 19 metropolitan cities in India in recording the highest number of crimes against women, according to data released by the National Crime Records Bureau. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – recorded the highest number of crimes against women – according to NCRB
- HQs of NCRB – New Delhi | Director – Ram Phal Pawar

14. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has conducted an online survey to study the travel pattern of commuters amid coronavirus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Metro Rail Corporation – conducted an online survey to study the travel pattern of commuters
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

15. Foodgrain production is estimated at record 144.52 million tonnes in the 2020-21 kharif season notwithstanding COVID-19 crisis, according to Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. Foodgrain production stood at 143.38 million tonnes during the 2019-20 kharif season, as per official data. Currently, harvesting of kharif crops is underway. Rice is the main kharif crop. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Estimation of Foodgrains production for 2020-21 – at record 144.52 million tonnes
- Production of Foodgrain in the 2019-20 kharif season – at 143.38 million tonnes
- Rice – the main kharif crop



16. Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district has bagged top position among 30 districts of the country in successful implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Himachal Pradesh has also secured second position at the national level for construction of roads under PMGSY. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mandi (Himachal Pradesh) – top district in India for implementing PMGSY programme
- Himachal Pradesh – 2nd position at the national level for construction of roads under PMGSY
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

17. In a first of its kind of study titled ‘Economic valuation of ecosystem services of National Zoological Park, New Delhi’ by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA), the total annual economic value of ecosystem services provided by the Delhi Zoo for 2019-20 was estimated to be over Rs 55,500 crore. The report was launched by Union Minister Prakash Javadekar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prakash Javadekar launched – ‘Economic valuation of ecosystem services of National Zoological Park, New Delhi’
- The report prepared by – CZA + TERI (The Energy and Resources Industries)
- HQs of TERI – New Delhi | DG – Dr. Ajay Mathur

18. India has been ranked 58th in the list of World’s Most Powerful Passports, according to Arton Capital’s Passport Index 2020. New Zealand emerged as the country with the most powerful passport in the world. Japan is on second spot along with Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Ireland, South Korea and Australia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- List of World’s Most Powerful Passports “Passport Index 2020” – according to Arton Capital
- India – 58th | Topped by – New Zealand | 2nd – Singapore

19. India has emerged as the second largest source country both in terms of the “total” inflow of new migrants to OECD countries during 2018 and also as regards the number of Indians acquiring citizenship of these countries, as per the 44th edition of “International Migration Outlook 2020”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 44th edition of “International Migration Outlook 2020” – unveiled by OECD
- India – 2nd largest source country | Topped by – China



20. India has registered a decline in the notification of Tuberculosis (TB) cases by about 85% in April, 2020 after the imposition of COVID-19 lockdown, according to the "Global Tuberculosis Report-2020" released on October 14, 2020 by the World Health Organization (WHO). India has the highest TB burden across the globe, which accounts for 26% of the total global cases. There is a decline of 25-30% Tuberculosis (TB) case notifications in India between January-June 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Global Tuberculosis Report-2020" – released by the WHO on October 14
- A decline in the notification of TB cases by 85% – in April, 2020
- A decline in the notification of TB cases of 25-30% – between January-June 2020
- India - has the highest TB burden across the globe (26% of the total global cases)

21. India is expected to overtake China as the world's largest cooking gas LPG residential sector market by 2030, according to Wood Mackenzie. Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) demand in the residential sector will continue to see sustainable growth at a Cumulative Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 3.3%, reaching 34 million tonnes (MT) in 2030. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – to overtake China as the world's largest cooking gas LPG residential sector market – by 2030
- CAGR – Cumulative Annual Growth Rate – of 3.3%
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

22. India is ranked 129 out of 158 countries in the Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index by Oxfam. India has spent just 4% of its budget on health going into the pandemic. This is the fourth lowest in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index" – by Oxfam
- India – 129th | Topped by – Norway (Norway – Oslo – Krone)

23. India's Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) emissions, which contribute to air pollution, has recorded a significant decline of approximately 6% in 2019 as compared to 2018. India continues to occupy the top emitter's position for the 5th consecutive year, according to a report by Greenpeace India and the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- India's SO₂ emissions – recorded approximately 6% decline in 2019 – according to Greenpeace India + CREA
- India – the largest emitter of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) – for 5th consecutive year
- Location of CREA – New Delhi

24. India's business tycoon and Asia's richest man Mukesh Ambani continues to top the "IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich list 2020" for the ninth consecutive year with a total wealth of Rs 6,58,400 crore. He has earned Rs 90 crore every hour since the March lockdown, suggests the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mukesh Ambani – topped "IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich list 2020" for the 9th consecutive year
- Total wealth – Rs 6,58,400 Cr | He earned Rs 90 Cr / hour since March lockdown

25. India's GDP is expected to contract by 9.6% in the fiscal year 2020-21 (FY21), according to the World Bank's report titled 'South Asia Economic Focus'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'South Asia Economic Focus' report – released by World Bank
- World Bank predicted India's GDP = (-9.6%) for FY21
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

26. Mukesh Ambani, Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries (RIL), has emerged as India's wealthiest for the 13th straight year as his net worth rose to \$88.7 billion (around Rs 6.65 lakh Cr), according to Forbes India Rich List 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mukesh Ambani – topped the "Forbes India Rich List 2020" for the 13th straight year (Net worth - \$88.7 billion)
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

27. NTPC Limited (National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd) has ranked 1st among Indian PSUs in the "World's Best Employer 2020" published by Forbes. The recognition is testimony to the NTPC's commitment towards inculcating best in class practices that are thoughtfully designed and robustly executed. Samsung has globally topped the list. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- NTPC – ranked 1st among Indian PSUs in the “World's Best Employer 2020” published by Forbes
- Overall 1st at global level – Samsung
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh

28. Remittances to India would fall this year by 9% to \$76 billion due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and global economic recession, according to the latest estimates published in the World Bank's “Migration and Development Brief”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Migration and Development Brief” report – released by World Bank
- Remittances to India would fall this year by 9% to \$76 billion
- HQs World Bank – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

29. Sofia Vergara is the highest-paid female actor in the world, according to Forbes' latest list. She made \$43 million in a one-year period, which is the equivalent of Rs 315 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sofia Vergara (American-Colombian) – topped the list of “Forbes List of Highest Paid Actresses 2020”
- Her earnings – \$43 million / year (Rs 315 Cr)

30. The 5th edition of Public Affairs Index 2020 (PAI 2020) is released by Public Affairs Centre (PAC) on October 30, 2020. The states were ranked on governance performance based on a composite index in the context of sustainable development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th edition of Public Affairs Index 2020 – released by Public Affairs Centre
- Large States: 1st – Kerala | 2nd – Tamil Nadu | 3rd – Andhra Pradesh
- Small States: 1st – Goa | 2nd – Meghalaya | 3rd – Himachal Pradesh
- Union Territory: 1st – Chandigarh | 2nd – Puducherry | 3rd – Lakshadweep

31. The Cost of a Plate of Food 2020” report released by the United Nations World Food Programme (UNWFP) shows the countries where a basic meal such as rice and beans costs the most when compared with people's incomes. South Sudan has topped the list where basic food ingredients cost 18% of a



person's daily income. 17 of the top 20 countries featured in the index are in sub-Saharan Africa. India features within the top 30 countries at 28th position. On an average an Indian spends 3.5% of his/ her daily income for a plate of food. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Cost of a Plate of Food 2020” report – released by United Nations World Food Programme
- Indian spends 3.5% of his/ her daily income for a plate of food
- India – 28th | Topped by – South Sudan
- South Sudan – Juba South – Sudanese Pound
- HQs of UNWFP – Rome, Italy | ED – David Muldrow Beasley | Countries – 36

32. The debt burden of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) has climbed to a record \$744 billion in 2019, according to the “International Debt Statistics-2021” released by the World Bank on October 13. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “International Debt Statistics-2021” – released by World Bank
- Debt burden LDCs climbed to a record \$744 billion in 2019
- LDCs – Least Developed Countries | DSSI – Debt Service Suspension Initiative
- World Bank HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Member Countries – 189
- President – David Malpass | MD & CFO – Anshula Kant

33. The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), Niti Aayog has conducted a Data Governance Quality Index Survey (DGQI). Department of Fertilizers under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has been ranked 2nd amongst the 16 Economic Ministries / Departments and 3rd out of the 65 Ministries / Departments with a score 4.11 on a scale of 5. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office – conducted a Data Governance Quality Index Survey (DGQI)
- Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office – functions under ‘Niti Aayog’
- Department of Fertilizers – ranked 2nd amongst the 16 Economic Ministries / Departments
- Department of Fertilizers – ranked 3rd amongst the 65 Ministries / Departments



34. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its “World Economic Outlook October 2020” report titled, “A Long and Difficult Ascent” has projected India's GDP to contract by 10.3% this year. However, it added that India is prone to bounce again with 8.8% progress price in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “World Economic Outlook October 2020” report – released by IMF
- IMF predicted India’s GDP = (-10.3%) for 2020 | 8.8% for 2021 {Flexible News}
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 189

35. The Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has released an interesting report titled "NSS REPORT: TIME USE IN INDIA-2019". It showed the percentage of the population engaged in various activities and the time they spend on those activities. The data further indicates that an average Indian spends only 11.4% of the total time on employment and related activities and on the other hand, spends 50.4% of the total time on self-care and maintenance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoSPI – released an interesting report titled "NSS REPORT: TIME USE IN INDIA-2019"
- NSS – National Sample Survey
- 11.4% of the total time – on employment and related activities
- 50.4% of the total time – on self-care and maintenance

36. The prolonged closure of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic in India may cause a loss of over USD 400 billion in the country’s future earnings, besides substantial learning losses, according to a World Bank report titled “Beaten or Broken? Informality and COVID-19 in South Asia”. South Asia region stands to lose USD 622 billion from the school closures in the present scenario or up to USD 880 billion in a more pessimistic scenario. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Beaten or Broken? Informality and COVID-19 in South Asia” report – released by World Bank
- India may cause a loss of over USD 400 billion in Country’s Future Earnings due to lockdown {Prediction}
- South Asia region: to lose \$ 622 billion in present scenario | \$ 880 billion in more pessimistic scenario {Prediction}

37. The report titled “State of Climate Services 2020 Report: Move from Early Warnings to Early Action”, is released by the UN World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Deaths & disasters will increase by almost 50% by 2030 due to climate change. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “State of Climate Services 2020 Report: Move from Early Warnings to Early Action” report – released by WMO
- Deaths & disasters will increase by almost 50% - by 2030
- HQs of WMO – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Petteri Taalas

38. The study, published in the Lancet journal, noted that life expectancy in India has risen from 59.6 years in 1990 to 70.8 years in 2019, ranging from 77.3 years in Kerala to 66.9 years in Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Life Expectancy in India rose to 70.8 years in 2019 (from 59.6 years in 1990) – as per ‘Lancet journal’
- Highest: Kerala – 77.3 years | Lowest: Uttar Pradesh – 66.9 years

39. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has expected a 7-9% on-year drop in the value of global trade in 2020 due to a possible resurgence of Covid-19 infections. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNCTAD expected a 7-9% drop in the value of global trade in 2020
- HQs of UNCTAD – Geneva, Switzerland | UNCTAD Secretary-General – Mukhisa Kituyi

40. The World Trade Organization (WTO) has revised upwards its forecast for the decline in World Merchandise Trade at 9.2% in 2020 as against 12.9% drop projected earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- According to WTO – World Merchandise Trade is expected to fall by 9.2% in 2020 {Flexible News}
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Roberto Azevedo | Member Countries – 164 & Observer – 25

41. UN Development Programme (UNDP) has released a new report titled “Human Mobility, Shared Opportunities: A Review of the 2009 Human Development Report and the Way Ahead”. The report illustrates how governments can shape migration to benefit development and boost recovery. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Human Mobility, Shared Opportunities” report released by – UNDP
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner



42. UN Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN-IGME) has released a report titled “A Neglected Tragedy: The Global Burden of Stillbirths”. Stillbirths in 2019 were concentrated in India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Congo, China and Ethiopia, as per estimates released by UNICEF, the WHO, the World Bank Group and the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “A Neglected Tragedy: The Global Burden of Stillbirths” report – released by UN-IGME
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194
- HQs of UNDES – New York, USA | Secretary-General – Liu Zhenmin

43. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) has released a report title “The human cost of disasters: an overview of the last 20 years” on 13th October. UNDRR report published to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on October 13, 2020, confirms how extreme weather events have come to dominate the disaster landscape in the 21st century. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNDRR – released a report title “The human cost of disasters: an overview of the last 20 years”
- HQs of UNDRR – Geneva, Switzerland | Secretary-General – Mami Mizutori

44. West Bengal has occupied the top position in the decline of dropout rate among school students during 2018-2020, according to the Annual State of Education Report (ASER) 2020. The school dropout rate in the state declined from 3.3% to 1.5%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Annual State of Education Report (ASER) 2020” – by the Pratham Education Foundation
- Topped by – West Bengal – 1.5% (from 3.3%)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

45. With 1.61 lakh tests in past 24 hours, Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the country to be undertaking over 1 crore tests to screen coronavirus. Of these, nearly 42% of tests were done through the RT-PCR method. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – became the 1st state in the country to be undertaking over 1 crore Tests to screen



• UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



Acquisitions & Mergers

1. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) will buy 1.2% in Reliance Retail Ventures (RRVL) for Rs 5,512.5 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ADIA – to acquire 1.2% stake (Rs 5,512.5 crore) – in Reliance Retail Ventures
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

2. Abu Dhabi-based sovereign wealth fund Mubadala Investment Company will invest Rs 6,247.5 crore to buy a 1.4% stake in Reliance Industries Ltd's retail arm. Mubadala will be the fourth investor in Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mubadala (4th) – to acquire 1.4% stake (Rs 6,247.5 crore) – in Reliance Industries Ltd's retail arm
- HQs of Mubadala – Abu Dhabi, UAE | MD & CEO – Khaldoon Al Mubarak

3. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited has announced the completion of the acquisition of Krishnapatnam Port Company Ltd., (KPCL) for an enterprise value of Rs 12,000 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone – completed the acquisition of 'Krishnapatnam Port'
- Krishnapatnam Port – located in Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of APSEZ – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani
- HQs of KPCL – Nellore, Andhra Pradesh | Managing Director – C. Sasidhar

4. Alyssum Asia Holdings II Pte. Ltd. (a unit of KKR) will make the investment of Rs 5,550 crore in Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL) to buy 1.28% equity stake. This was the second investment by KKR in Reliance Industries' units. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Alyssum Asia Holdings II Pte = to acquire 1.28% equity stake (Rs 5,550 crore) – in Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd
- Alyssum Asia Holdings II Pte. Ltd. – a unit of 'KKR'
- HQs of KKR – New York, USA | Co-CEOs – Henry Kravis, George R. Roberts
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani



5. Axis Bank with its subsidiaries Axis Securities will acquire 19% stake in Max Life insurance. The revised agreements will supersede the previous agreements entered into between the parties for acquiring 17% stake in Max life. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Axis Bank will acquire 19% stake in Max Life insurance (instead of 17%)
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry
- HQs of Max Life Ins. – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Prashant Tripathy

6. Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of CG Power and Industrial Solutions Ltd by Chennai-based Tube Investments India (TII), a subsidiary company of Murugappa Group. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved 50% acquisition of CG Power – by Tube Investments India
- CCI HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta
- HQs of CG Power – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman & CEO – Ashish Kumar Guha
- HQs of TII – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Vellayan Subbiah

7. Flipkart is going to acquire 7.8% stake in Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd for Rs 1,500 crore. This is the second big deal in two months in the domestic retail market, after Reliance acquired the retail assets of the Future group for nearly Rs 25,000 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Flipkart – to acquire 7.8% stake (Rs 1,500 Cr) – in Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal
- HQs of Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Sangeeta Pendurkar

8. Infosys will acquire Blue Acorn iCi, an Adobe Platinum partner in the US for up to \$125 million. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Infosys – to acquire – Blue Acorn iCi – for up to \$125 million
- HQs of Infosys – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Salil Parekh



9. Reliance Industries has announced that Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC) and global private equity firm TPG Capital would invest nearly \$1 billion in its retail arm, Reliance Retail Ventures. [Read more](#)

Key Points:

- GIC + TPG Capital = would invest nearly \$1 billion in Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd
- HQs of GIC Pvt Ltd – Singapore | CEO – Lim Chow Kiat
- HQs of TPG Capital – California, USA | CEO – Jon Winkelried
- HQs of Reliance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Mukesh Ambani

10. Reserve Bank of India has granted approval to Maple II B.V., for acquiring more than 5% but up to 9.99% of the paid up share capital of RBL Bank. RBL Bank's net profit surged 165% to Rs 144 crore in Q2 September 2020. [Read more](#)

Key Points:

- RBI granted approval to Maple II B.V. to acquire up to 9.99% stake in – RBL Bank
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

1. Acko General insurance has partnered with Finserv MARKETS, a fintech aggregator to offer two and four-wheeler insurance policies. In partnership with Finserv MARKETS, a Bajaj Finserv subsidiary, Acko seeks to make the insurance buying experience easy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Acko General insurance + Finserv MARKETS = to offer two and four-wheeler insurance policies
- HQs of AGIL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Varun Dua
- HQs of Finserv MARKETS – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO – Rakesh Bhatt

2. Amazon India has partnered with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to provide their customers with the facility to book reserved train tickets on its platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amazon + IRCTC – partnership to launch online reserved train ticket booking on its platform
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle, USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos
- HQs of IRCTC – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – Mahendra Pratap Mall

3. An MoU has been signed between the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center (ISLRTC) and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) to make educational materials accessible for hearing impaired children. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISLRTC (New Delhi) + NCERT = signed an MoU to make Educational materials accessible for deaf children
- HQs of NCERT – New Delhi | Director – Hrushikesh Senapaty

4. Arunachal Pradesh government has inked an MoU with Sports Authority of India (SAI) for development of infrastructures at National Centre of Excellence (NCoE). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arunachal Pradesh + SAI = an MoU for development of infrastructures at National Centre of Excellence
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra
- HQs of SAI – New Delhi | Director General – Sandip Pradhan

5. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, has signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) with CGI India to promote Innovation across schools in India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- AIM-NITI Aayog + CGI India = signed a 'SoI' to promote Innovation across schools
- Atal Innovation Mission – under “NITI Aayog” (HQs – New Delhi)
- CEO – Amitabh Kant | Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

6. Axis Bank, in collaboration with Google Pay and Visa, has launched the 'ACE Credit Card' with the aim of increasing participation of users in the digital economy. This initiative is aimed at providing simple, secure and intuitive payment experiences. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Axis Bank + Google Pay + Visa = to increase participation of users in the digital economy
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai

7. BOB Financial Solutions Ltd (BFSL) has partnered with Mastercard to launch 4 new credit cards catering to its customers across segments. Two other credit cards are launched with eminent professional institutions of the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BFSL + Mastercard = to launch 4 new Credit Cards
- HQs of of BFSL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Manish Banerjea
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)

8. Chennai-based small rocket-maker Agnikul Cosmos Private Ltd has signed an agreement with the Alaska Aerospace Corporation to launch indigenously developed “Agnibaan” rocket from foreign rocket ports in the US. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agnikul Cosmos + Alaska Aerospace = an agreement to launch “Agnibaan” rocket – in the USA
- HQs of Agnikul Cosmos – Chennai, TN | Co-Founders – Srinath Ravichandran
- HQs of Alaska Aerospace Corporation – Anchorage, USA

9. Cochin Shipyard Limited has signed an MoU with Italy's Fincantieri S.P.A, to collaborate on design, shipbuilding, ship repair, marine equipment manufacturing, training and skill development. Fincantieri is one of the world's largest shipbuilding groups operating 18 shipyards in four continents. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Cochin Shipyard Limited (Kerala) + Fincantieri = signed an MOU for marine equipment manufacturing
- HQs of Fincantieri SPA – Trieste, Italy | CEO – Giuseppe Bono

10. CSB Bank has partnered with IIFL Finance (IIFL) for sourcing and managing retail gold loan assets. IIFL, with its vast branch network, would help CSB Bank penetrate the lower strata of customers and rural areas. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CSB Bank + IIFL Finance = partnership for sourcing and managing retail gold loan assets
- HQs of CSB Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | CEO & MD – Rajendran Chinna Veerappan | Tagline – Support All the Way
- HQs of IIFL Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Nirmal Jain

11. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) in association with the SBI Card, has launched “Delhi Metro - SBI card”. This multipurpose Delhi Metro SBI card will allow its users to use it as a Smart Card with the facility of auto-top up whenever the balance of the card goes below the amount of Rs 100. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Metro + SBI Card = launched “Delhi Metro - SBI card”
- Auto-top up facility whenever the balance of the card goes below the amount of – Rs 100
- HQs of SBI Card – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rajnish Kumar | MD & CEO – Ashwini Kumar Tewari

12. Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC) has inked an MOU to collaborate on the Multi-Level Bus Depot Project which will be constructed at Hari Nagar and Vasant Vihar localities of New Delhi. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Transport Corporation + NBCC = an MOU to collaborate on the Multi-Level Bus Depot Project
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

13. EarlySalary, India’s largest consumer lending platform, has collaborated with NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) to launch “Salary Card” a zero-touch digital card and powered by RuPay. It provides instant access for salaried professionals, enabling them to make instant purchases across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- EarlySalary + NPCI = to launch “Salary Card” for salaried professionals (powered by ‘RuPay’)
- HQs of EarlySalary – Pune, Maharashtra | CEO and Co-Founder – Akshay Mehrotra
- HQs of NPCI – Mumbai | Chairman – Biswamohan Mahapatra | MD&CEO – Dilip Asbe

14. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has been selected as the national industry partner for the 3rd edition of ‘Make in Odisha’ conclave by the Odisha government. An MoU was signed between IPICOL (Industrial Promotion & Investment Corporation of Odisha) and FICCI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FICCI + Odisha = an MoU for national industry partner for the 3rd edition of ‘Make in Odisha’ conclave
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangita Reddy

15. FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) has signed an MoU with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) for empowering women through skill training to enhance their employability and promote entrepreneurship. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FLO + NSDC = an MoU for empowering women through skill training
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sangita Reddy
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Manish Kumar

16. Flipkart has announced a partnership with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company to offer ‘Digital Suraksha Group Insurance for customers in the country. This policy will cover financial losses caused by various kinds of online frauds and cyber attacks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Flipkart + Bajaj Allianz = to offer ‘Digital Suraksha Group Insurance for customers
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Gen. Ins.– Pune, MH | CEO – Tapan Singhel

17. Google India has partnered with Zoho and Instamojo to help small and medium businesses build digital presence. It has launched a nation-wide campaign ‘Make Small Strong’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Google + Zoho + Instamojo = to help small and medium businesses
- Google also launched – ‘Make Small Strong’ campaign
- Google HQs – California, United States | CEO – Sundar Pichai

18. Guidance, a nodal investment promotion and facilitation agency of the State of Tamil Nadu, has partnered with World Economic Forum (WEF) to establish India’s first advanced manufacturing hub (AMHUB) in the State. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Guidance (TN) + WEF = to establish India’s 1st Advanced Manufacturing Hub (AMHUB) – in Tamil Nadu
- Guidance – a nodal investment promotion and facilitation agency of ‘Tamil Nadu’
- HQs of WEF – Cologny, Switzerland | Executive Chairman & Founder – Klaus Schwab
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

19. HDFC Bank and Apollo Hospitals have partnered to digitally launch the ‘HealthyLife Programme’ - a holistic healthcare solution which makes healthy living accessible and affordable on Apollo’s digital platform, “Apollo 24|7”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HDFC Bank + Apollo Hospitals = to launch ‘HealthyLife Programme’ on “Apollo 24|7” platform
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – "We understand your world"

20. Hero MotoCorp has entered into a distribution and licensing agreement with American motorcycle maker Harley Davidson to develop and sell a range of premium motorcycles under the Harley Davidson brand name. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hero MotoCorp + Harley Davidson = partnership to develop and sell a range of premium motorcycles in India
- HQs of Hero MotoCorp – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Pawan Kant Munjal
- HQs of Harley Davidson – Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA | CEO – Jochen Zeitz

21. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has signed a contract worth Rs 400 crore with Tech Mahindra for implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to support its project ‘Parivartan’. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- HAL + Tech Mahindra = contract worth Rs 400 crore for project 'Parivartan'
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt
- HQs of Tech Mahindra – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Chander Prakash Gurnani

22. IBM will set up a Centre of Excellence for artificial intelligence (AI) in India in partnership with Government e-Marketplace (GeM). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IBM + GeM = to set up a Centre of Excellence for AI in India
- IBM HQs – Armonk, New York, United States | CEO – [Arvind Krishna](#)

23. ICICI Bank has launched a debit card facility for those customers availing the Loan Against Securities (LAS). The card is available on the Visa platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Bank + Visa – launched a debit card facility for those customers availing the Loan Against Securities (LAS)
- ICICI Bank: HQs – Mumbai | MD & CEO – [Sandeep Bakhshi](#) | Tagline – “Hum Hain Na!”
- HQs of Visa – Foster City, California | CEO – Alfred F. Kelly

24. ICICI Lombard General Insurance in partnership with Freepaycard has launched Group Safeguard Insurance. The plan will be offered to the members of Freepaycard, allowing them to receive an assured amount in case of any injury or hospitalization for treatment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICICI Lombard + Freepaycard = launched Group Safeguard Insurance
- HQs of ICICI Lombard – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Bhargav Das Gupta
- HQs of Freepaycard – Gurgaon, Haryana

25. IIT-Madras and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have partnered to develop productive usage of agricultural and industrial by-products such as biomass ash that remain underutilised due to their complex physio-chemical characteristics. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT-Madras + MIT (USA) = partnership to develop productive usage of agricultural and industrial by-products

26. IKEA in partnership Citibank India (Citi) and Mastercard has jointly launched “IKEA Family Credit Card by Citi” to make shopping at the Swedish furnishing company more affordable, convenient and rewarding. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IKEA + Citibank India + Mastercard = launched “IKEA Family Credit Card by Citi”
- HQs of IKEA – Delft, Netherlands | CEO – Jesper Brodin
- HQs of Citibank India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Ashu Khullar
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)

27. In another significant step towards ensuring ease of doing business by simplification, digitization and decriminalization of compliances, Punjab Government has signed an MoU with the Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME) to support MSMEs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab + GAME = signed an MoU to support MSMEs
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

28. In the country's first and unique drive, the Goa government has tied up with India Posts to get 11,000 farmers enrolled in the ‘Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi’ scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goa + India Posts = to get 11,000 farmers enrolled in the ‘Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi’ scheme
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- HQs of Indian Post – New Delhi | DG – Mrs. Meera Handa | Chairman – Ananta Narayan Nanda

29. India has ranked 94 among 107 countries in the “Global Hunger Index 2020” released by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe and is in the ‘serious’ hunger category with a score of 27.2. Total seventeen nations, including China, Belarus, Ukraine, Turkey, Cuba and Kuwait, shared the top rank with GHI scores. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Hunger Index 2020” – Topped by 17 countries | India – 94th



30. India is in talks with Kazakhstan defence industries for co-production and co-development in defence production to widen defence partnership including joint production as well as opening a new chapter in the heavy engineering sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Kazakhstan = for co-production and co-development in defence production
- Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge

31. India's Department of Posts and the United States Postal Service have entered into an agreement for Electronic Exchange of Customs data related to postal shipments exchanged between the two countries. It aims to facilitate 'ease of exports' for small and large exporters through postal channels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Post + US Postal Service = an agreement for Electronic Exchange of Customs data
- HQs of Indian Post – New Delhi | DG – Mrs. Meera Handa | Chairman – Ananta Narayan Nanda
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

32. Indian Bank has collaborated with IIT Madras Incubation cell to launch "IND Spring Board", an initiative for funding start-ups. The Bank will extend loans of up to Rs 50 crore to these start-ups for their working capital requirements or purchase of machinery and equipment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank + IIT Madras = collaboration to launch "IND Spring Board" – to extend loans of up to Rs 50 crore
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru

33. Indian Bank has signed an MoU with Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for payment of subsidy and cash incentives to street vendors under "PM SVANidhi" scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Bank + MoHUA + SIDBI = for payment of subsidy to street vendors under "PM SVANidhi" scheme
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | Chairman – Mohammad Mustafa



34. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi have agreed to advance bilateral cooperation on handling the coronavirus pandemic and to hold a digital conference on innovation in the field of solar energy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Israel = agreed to advance Bilateral Cooperation on handling the coronavirus pandemic
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

35. Jammu and Kashmir government has signed MoU with Flipkart to provide an online platform for showcasing and facilitating the local artisans/craftsmen/weavers to reach customers across the globe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J&K + Flipkart – an MoU to provide an online platform for showcasing the local artisans/craftsmen/weavers
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- HQs of Flipkart – Bangalore, Karnataka | Chairperson – Binny Bansal

36. Major stock exchange BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange) has signed an MoU with the Telangana government, along with GlobalLinker, to help micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) raise equity funds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE + Telangana + GlobalLinker = signed an MoU to support MSMEs to raise equity funds
- HQs of CBSE – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shri Manoj Ahuja
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

37. Mastercard has announced a partnership with Signzy, a RegTech startup, to enable the latter's video-based KYC (Know Your Customer) solutions for its banking customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mastercard + Signzy = to enable the latter's video-based KYC solutions for its banking customers
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)
- HQs of Signzy – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Co-Founder and Business Head – Arpit Ratan



38. Mastercard in partnership with Atlantis has announced the expansion of the Digital First Program in India. It will provide users with a technology solution that will enable them to enjoy a best-in-class digital banking experience. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mastercard + Atlantis = partnership to expand Digital First Program in India
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Ajay Banga (From Jan 2021 - Michael Miebach)
- HQs of Atlantis – Singapore | CEO – Gaurav Sharma

39. Microsoft has collaborated with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to impart digital skills to more than one lakh underserved women in India over the next 10 months. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Microsoft + NSDC – to impart digital skills to more than 1 lakh underserved women – in next 10 months
- Microsoft: HQs – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella
- HQs of NSDC – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Manish Kumar

40. Microsoft has partnered with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to empower learners and educators in new-age technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), data science and cloud computing. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Microsoft + AICTE = to empower learners and educators in New-Age Technologies
- Microsoft: HQs – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella
- HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairman – Anil D. Sahasrabudhe

41. Microsoft has partnered with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to empower learners and educators in new-age technologies, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), data science and cloud computing and to provide online course modules to students across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Microsoft + AICTE – partnership to empower learners and educators in new-age technologies ie. AI, IoT, etc.
- Microsoft: HQs – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella
- HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairperson – Anil Sahasrabudhe



42. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has partnered Swiggy to take Street Vendors & Small Businesses online. Under the PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme, the move will give street vendors online access to thousands of consumers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA + Swiggy = partnership to take Street Vendors & Small Businesses online – under “PM SVANidhi” Scheme
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri
- HQs of Swiggy – Begaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Sriharsha Majety

43. National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and Union Territory Administration of Ladakh have signed an MoU for conducting a Benchmark Survey to promote dairying and rural livelihoods in Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NDDB + Ladakh = an MoU for conducting a Benchmark Survey to promote dairying and rural livelihoods
- HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujara | Chairman – Dilip Rath
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

44. National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has joined hands with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur to share expertise, skills for betterment of country's road infrastructure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Jodhpur + NHAI = to share expertise, skills for betterment of country's road infrastructure
- HQs of NHAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

45. NITI Aayog and Embassy of the Netherlands have signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) on September 28 to support the 'Decarbonization and Energy Transition Agenda' for accommodating cleaner and more energy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + Netherlands = signed a Statement of Intent on 'Decarbonization and Energy Transition Agenda'
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro



46. NTPC has signed an agreement with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) for JPY 50 billion (approximately USD 480 million or ₹3,500 crore) under JBIC's GREEN operations in India. Besides NTPC, State Bank of India (SBI) has also signed a loan agreement worth \$1 billion with JBIC. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC + JBIC = an agreement for JPY 50 billion (\$480 million or ₹3,500 Cr)
- SBI + JBIC = an agreement for \$1 billion
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh
- HQs of JBIC – Tokyo, Japan | President & CEO – Tadashi Maeda
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse

47. NTPC Ltd has started to collaborate with cement manufacturers across the country to supply fly ash to achieve 100% utilisation of the by-product produced during power generation. NTPC Rihand is the first power plant in Uttar Pradesh to send conditioned fly ash to cement manufacturers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NTPC Ltd – started to collaborate with cement manufacturers across the country to supply 'fly ash'
- NTPC Rihand power plant (UP) – the 1st plant to send conditioned fly ash to cement manufacturers
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh

48. On October 27, India and the U.S. have signed the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) during the third 2+2 dialogue of defence and foreign ministers of the two countries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + USA = signed the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump

49. Pernod Ricard India Foundation has partnered with WWF India to conserve the Asian elephant through effective human-elephant conflict management in Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Pernod Ricard India Foundation + WWF India = partnership to conserve the Asian elephant in Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- Location of Pernod Ricard India Foundation – Gurugram, Haryana
- HQs of WWF India – New Delhi, India | President – Jamshyd N. Godrej

50. PhonePe in association with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has announced the launch of Car and Bike Insurance products on its platform for owners of private cars and two-wheelers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PhonePe + Bajaj Allianz General Insurance = to launch car and bike insurance products
- PhonePE HQs – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam
- HQs of Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Tarun Chugh

51. Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC) and Jammu Kashmir Power Corporation Ltd (JKPCL) have signed and exchanged an agreement for Liquidity Infusion Scheme under “Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PFC + JKPCL = signed an agreement for Liquidity Infusion Scheme
- HQs of PFC – New Delhi | CMD – Ravinder Singh Dhillon

52. Prasar Bharati and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) have signed an MoU to broadcast and promote new agriculture technology and innovations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prasar Bharati + IFFCO = to broadcast and promote new agriculture technology
- HQs of Prasar Bharati – New Delhi | CEO – Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- HQs of IFFCO – New Delhi | Chairman – Balvinder Singh Nakai

53. Reliance General Insurance has partnered with SatSure for Satellite-based Crop Monitoring and Predictive Analytics support to better risk management and improve efficiency of its crop insurance business operations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance General Insurance + SatSure = partnership for ‘Satellite-based Crop Monitoring and Predictive Analytics’



- HQs of Reliance General Insurance – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Rakesh Jain

54. SBI Cards and American Express have entered a strategic partnership to offer a powerful mix of global benefits and exclusive privileges for discerning consumers in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI Cards + American Express = a strategic partnership to offer exclusive privileges to their premium consumers
- HQs of SBI Card – Gurugram, Haryana | Chairperson – Rajnish Kumar | MD & CEO – Ashwini Kumar Tewari

55. Shri Arjun Munda has e-launched “Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Programme” of Ministry of Tribal Affairs in partnership with ASSOCHAM under its centre for excellence initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs + ASSOCHAM = launched “Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Programme”
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Arjun Munda (Constituency – Khunti, Jharkhand)
- HQs of Assocham – New Delhi | President – Niranjan Hiranandani

56. SJVN Limited has signed an MoU with Ministry of Power, Govt. of India detailing targets for year 2020-21. It has aimed to achieve 9680 Million Units of electricity generation during the year under ‘Excellent’ category. SJVN will have Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) target of Rs.2880 Cr and Turnover target of Rs. 2800 Cr under ‘Excellent’ category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SJVN Ltd + Ministry of Power (GoI) – an MoU to achieve 9680 Million Units of electricity generation in 2020-21
- Under – ‘Excellent’ category
- HQs of SJVN Ltd – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

57. State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with Hindustan Unilever (HUL) to offer an instant paperless overdraft facility of up to Rs 50,000 to retailers of the FMCG multinational for their billings with distributors. The retailers will first have to register on the company’s Shikhar app - a digital ordering platform. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI + HUL = partnership to offer an instant paperless overdraft facility of up to Rs 50,000



- Shikhar app – belongs to HUL | Yono app – SBI
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse
- HQs of HUL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Sanjiv Mehta

58. State-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) has announced a tie up with Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) to enable finance options for the automaker's customers and dealers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BoB + Toyota Kirloskar Motor = partnership for auto finance
- HQs of BOB – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Sanjiv Chadha
- HQs of Toyota Kirloskar Motor – Bidadi, Karnataka | CEO – Akito Tachibana

59. Stock exchange BSE has signed an agreement with Inventivepreneur Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ICCI) to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups, and promote their listing on the exchange. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BSE + ICCI = signed an agreement to support SMEs and start-ups
- HQs of BSE – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sethurathnam Ravi | MD & CEO – Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan
- HQs of ICCI – New Delhi

60. SVC Co-operative Bank (Shamrao Vithal Co-operative Bank Ltd) has tied up with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for a rewards programme. The SVC Rewards programme is designed to make banking experience more rewarding for its customers in the form of points earned upon use of SVC Bank Cards. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SVC Co-operative Bank + NPCI = partnership for a rewards programme
- HQs of SVC Co-operative Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Shrinivas Joshi



61. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami has signed 14 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) entailing investments to the tune of ₹10,055 crore with potential to generate employment for over 7,000 people. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Edappadi K. Palaniswami – signed 14 MoUs entailing investments worth ₹10,055 crore
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

62. Tata Motors has collaborated with HDFC Bank for financing of its passenger vehicles. Through the partnership, the company has introduced two new schemes – “Gradual Step Up Scheme” and “TML Flexi Drive Scheme”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tata Motors + HDFC Bank = collaboration for financing of its passenger vehicles
- Tata Motors – introduced “Gradual Step Up Scheme” & “TML Flexi Drive Scheme”
- HQs of Tata Motors – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Guenter Butschek
- HQs of HDFC Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Sashidhar Jagdishan | Tagline – “We understand your world”

63. Tech giant IBM has collaborated with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) to transform the latter's customer experience using digital tools. The IndianOil One mobile app and portal are part of Indian Oil's Project ePIC, an integrated platform for Customer Relationship Management (CRM) and Distribution Management System (DMS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IBM + IOCL = collaboration to transform the latter's customer experience using digital tools
- IBM HQs – Armonk, New York, United States | CEO – [Arvind Krishna](#)
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya

64. Tech giant IBM has collaborated with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) under two initiatives to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning among students. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IBM + Department of S&T – partnership to promote STEM learning among students
- IBM HQs – Armonk, New York, United States | CEO – [Arvind Krishna](#)



65. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has collaborated with IIT Delhi, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Joint Advanced Technology Centre (JATC) to augment its Research and Development capabilities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CRPF + IIT Delhi + DRDO + JATC – collaborated to augment R & D capabilities
- HQs of CRPF – New Delhi | Director – Anand Prakash Maheshwari
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

66. The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) has signed 13 MoUs with the premier academic and R&D institutions to establish supercomputing infrastructure with assembly and manufacturing for the National Supercomputing Mission in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C-DAC – signed 13 MoUs with Top Academic Institutes to establish Supercomputing Infrastructure in India
- ‘C-DAC’ functions under – Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Ministry of Communications, MeitY, Law and Justice (Patna Sahib, Bihar)
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni

67. The Common Services Centre (CSC), a special purpose vehicle under the Ministry of Electronics and IT, has partnered with HelpAge India to provide digital literacy to citizens above the age of 55 years through a pilot project in selected states. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CSC + HelpAge India = partnership to provide digital literacy to citizens above the age of 55 years
- HQs of CSC – New Delhi | CEO – Dinesh Tyagi
- CSC works under – Ministry of Electronics and IT
- HQs of HelpAge India – New Delhi | CEO – Rohit Prasad

68. The European Commission and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) have signed a new implementing arrangement to enhance scientific cooperation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- European Commission + ICSSR = a new implementing arrangement to enhance scientific cooperation
- HQs of European Commission – Brussels, Belgium | President – Ursula von der Leyen



69. The government will set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee under NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant to spearhead research and study on energy modelling in India. This committee along with a steering committee will serve the India Energy Modelling Forum (IEMF) which is jointly launched by NITI Aayog and United States Agency for International Development (USAID). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- An Inter-Ministerial Committee – to be set up under ‘Amitabh Kant’
- NITI Aayog + USAID = jointly launched ‘India Energy Modelling Forum (IEMF)’

70. The Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) have signed an agreement with two institutions from Italy, seeking restoration and protection of historical monuments. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kanpur + ASI = signed an agreement with 2 institutions from ‘Italy’
- HQs of ASI – New Delhi | Director General – V. Vidyavathi
- Italy – Rome – Euro | UK – London – Pound Sterling

71. The Indian Navy has partnered with Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) for undertaking Aerial Seeding at Visakhapatnam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy + Greater Visakhapatnam MC – to undertake ‘Aerial Seeding’
- Chief of Indian Navy – Admiral Karambir Singh | Vice Chief – G. Ashok Kumar

72. The Meghalaya government has decided to partner with Israel for establishing a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on high-value vegetables in the state in order to improve and promote the livelihood of farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Meghalaya + Israel = to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on high-value vegetables
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu



73. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has inked 3 MoU with State Bank of India to extend credit support for various projects in Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NABARD + SBI = to extend credit support for various projects – in Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat
- HQs of NABARD – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Chintala Govinda Rajulu
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Arjit Basu | Ashwani Bhatia
- CFO of SBI – Charanjit Singh Attra | MD & CEO of SBI General Ins. – Prakash Chandra Kandpal
- MD & CEO of SBI Card – Ashwini Kumar tewari | MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Funds – Vinay M. Tonse

74. The SBI Card in association with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has launched a Contactless Multi-Purpose Card that can function as a credit card as well as a metro smart card. The combo credit card “Delhi Metro SBI Card” has been designed for regular commuters on the Delhi Metro. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI Card + DMRC = launched “Contactless Multi-Purpose Card” or “Delhi Metro SBI Card”
- HQs of SBI Card – New Delhi | Chairperson – Rajnish Kumar | MD & CEO – Ashwini Kumar Tewari
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

75. The Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation (TAEF), a leading think tank from Taiwan has signed an MoU with India’s National Maritime Foundation (NMF) in order to foster cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region as part of Taiwan’s South bound policy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s NMF + TAEF = an MoU to foster cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region
- Taiwan – Taipei – New Taiwan dollar | President – Tsai Ing-wen

76. The Telangana Government has signed a tripartite agreement between DET, GIZ India and Siemens India to implement a new initiative, Indo-German Initiative for Technical Education (IGnITE). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana + DET + GIZ + Siemens = for Indo-German Initiative for Technological Education
- HQs of DET – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | HQs of GIZ – Bonn, Germany



- HQs of Siemens India – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sunil Mathur
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

77. The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU between India and Australia to promote cooperation in surface and groundwater training, education and research to achieve water security for agricultural, urban, industrial and environmental purposes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India and Australia – an MoU for collaboration in R&D for sustainable groundwater management
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Scott Morrison

78. The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU signed in June 2020 between the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and International Barcode of Life (iBOL), Canada, regarding DNA Barcoding. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved an MoU – between “ZSI” & “iBOL-Canada” – regarding DNA Barcoding
- HQs of ZSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | Director – K Venkatraman
- Canada – Ottawa – Canadian Dollar | PM – Justin Trudeau

79. The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Cambodia for cooperation in the field of health and medicine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Cambodia = signed an MoU for cooperation in the field of health and medicine
- Cambodia – Phnom Penh – Riel

80. The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and Japan in the field of Information and Communication Technologies. The MoC is aimed at cooperation in areas such as 5G network, telecom security, submarine cable, certification of communication equipment, utilisation of latest wireless technologies and Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Japan = signed an MoC in the field of Information and Communication Technologies
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

81. The Union Cabinet was apprised of an MoU signed between India and Nigeria on cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. The MoU was signed between ISRO & NASRDA (National Space Research and Development Agency) of Nigeria. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + Nigeria = an MoU signed on cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes
- Nigeria – Abuja – Naira | President – Muhammadu Buhari

82. The United Kingdom has entered into a strategic partnership to develop India's fledgling international financial services centre GIFT City, and agreed to set up a new Fund of Funds to be managed by the State Bank of India group in order to route U.K.'s future capital investments into India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UK + India = partnership to develop International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) GIFT City
- HQs of IFSCA – Gandhinagar, Gujarat | Chairman – Injeti Srinivas
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

83. TRIFED in association with Chhattisgarh MFP Federation has launched “Tech For Tribals” training program designed by IIT Kanpur to bridge gap between tribal hamlets and global markets digitally. This initiative aims at the holistic development of tribals with a focus on entrepreneurship development, soft skills, IT, and business development through SHGs operating through Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TRIFED + Chhattisgarh MFP Federation + IIT Kanpur = launched “Tech For Tribals” training program
- TRIFED works under – Ministry of Tribal Affairs (Arjun Munda – Khunti, Jharkhand)
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna

84. UNICEF and India Chapter of International Advertising Association (IAA) have entered into a partnership to support research on gender representation in advertisements in India based on evidence and real-time validation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UNICEF + IAA = partnership to support research on gender representation in advertisements
- HQs of UNICEF – New York, United States | Executive Director – Henrietta H. Fore

85. Union Cabinet has approved signing of MoU in field the of cyber-security between India & Japan. India and Japan are committed to an open, interoperable, free, fair, secure and reliable cyberspace environment and will work towards promoting the Internet as an engine of innovation and economic growth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union Cabinet approved signing of MoU in the field of cyber-security between – India & Japan
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

86. Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel has virtually launched “Life in Miniature” project in collaboration between the National Museum and Google Arts & Culture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prahlad Singh Patel + National Museum + Google Arts & Culture = launched “Life in Miniature” project
- Prahlad Singh Patel – Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture (Constituency – Damoh, Madhya Pradesh)

87. Uttar Pradesh government has signed a concession agreement with representatives of Zurich Airport International to commence work on Noida International Airport in Jewar for a period of 40 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UP + Zurich Airport International – International to commence work on Noida International Airport in Jewar, UP
- Zurich Airport International – in Switzerland | Noida International Airport / Jewar Airport – Uttar Pradesh
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Simonetta Sommaruga
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

88. Vedanta Group firm Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL) has signed a pact with the Gujarat government to set up a Greenfield Zinc Smelter in the state. The project will entail an investment of up to Rs 10,000 crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hindustan Zinc Ltd + Gujarat = signed a pact to set up a Greenfield Zinc Smelter in the state
- HQs of Hindustan Zinc Ltd – Udaipur, Rajasthan | CEO – Arun Misra



89. Vistara and Axis Bank have launched a co-branded Forex Card that can load up to 16 currencies. Club Vistara (CV) is the airline's frequent flyer program. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vistara + Axis Bank = launched a co-branded 'Forex Card' that can load up to 16 currencies
- HQs of Vistara – Gurgaon, Haryana | CEO – Leslie Thng
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry

90. Zenpay Solutions has announced its partnership with RBL bank and YAP to drive financial inclusion to issue salary cards to its customers across India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Zenpay Solutions + RBL bank + YAP = partnership to drive financial inclusion to issue salary cards
- HQs of Zenpay Solutions – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Ankit Bhargava
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja



Books & Authors

1. A former RAW Officer, GBS Sidhu has written how pro-Khalistan sentiments and Sikh extremism were deliberately encouraged and then crushed with a heavy hand to draw political mileage in his upcoming book “The Khalistan Conspiracy: A Former R&AW Officer Unravels the Path to 1984”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Khalistan Conspiracy: A Former R&AW Officer Unravels the Path to 1984” book – authored by ‘GBS Sidhu’

2. Actor-producer Priyanka Chopra Jonas' long-awaited book/memoir debut, “Unfinished”, will be launched on January 19, 2021, announced by publisher Penguin Random House India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Unfinished” memoir of – Priyanka Chopra Jonas

3. Architect-author Goonmeet Singh Chauhan has written a book titled “Invertonomics: Eight Ideas to Transform India”. It presents innovative yet pragmatic ideas for solving some of India’s most fundamental and chronic problems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Invertonomics: Eight Ideas to Transform India” book – authored by ‘Goonmeet Singh Chauhan’

4. Author and politician Shashi Tharoor is back with his new book – “The Battle of Belonging”. This book is his solidly researched & passionately-argued work. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Battle of Belonging” book – Shashi Tharoor

5. Author Sarbpreet Singh’s latest book is on the Sikh massacre of 1984 titled “Night of the Restless Spirits: Stories from 1984”. The book is published by Penguin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Night of the Restless Spirits: Stories from 1984” book – authored by ‘Sarbpreet Singh’

6. Author Suman Dubey’s forthcoming debut novel, “The Fixer: Winning Has A Price. How Much Will You Pay?” narrates the tale of a cricketer-turned-fixer who finds himself up against the wall when his family business takes an unfortunate turn. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- “The Fixer: Winning Has A Price. How Much Will You Pay?” debut novel – written by Suman Dubey

7. DoNER minister Dr Jitendra Singh has released a coffee table book titled “Discovering the Heritage of Assam”. The book, authored by Padmapani Bora and published by Penguin. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Discovering the Heritage of Assam” book – authored by ‘Padmapani Bora’
- The book released by – Dr Jitendra Singh | Published by – Penguin

8. Founder of two e-commerce companies - Droom and ShopClues, Sandeep Aggarwal has put to paper his ‘roller-coaster’ story in the upcoming autobiography titled, “Fall Again, Rise Again”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Fall Again, Rise Again” book/autobiography – authored by ‘Sandeep Aggarwal’

9. In his book, “The Ultimate Goal”, former R&AW chief Vikram Sood has outlined how narratives are crucial to any country’s goal of avoiding being dominated by another. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Ultimate Goal” book – authored by ‘Vikram Sood’

10. In line with the government’s commitment to end Tuberculosis by 2025 in the country, Nagaland Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Mr. S. Pangnyu Phom has launched a handbook on “TB Harega, Desh Jeetega”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nagaland launched – a handbook on “TB Harega, Desh Jeetega”
- Government’s commitment to end Tuberculosis – by 2025
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi

11. On the occasion of the 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi Manish Sisodia launched a coffee-table book “Bapu - The Unforgettable”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A coffee-table book “Bapu - The Unforgettable” – launched by Manish Sisodia



12. Pradeep Goorha, is all set for the release of his second book “Mr Prime Minister, We Shrank the Dragon”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Mr Prime Minister, We Shrank the Dragon” book – authored by ‘Pradeep Goorha’

13. President Ram Nath Kovind has received a copy of a book titled “Mere Prarambhik Kahaniyan” from Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ at Rashtrapati Bhavan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Mere Prarambhik Kahaniyan” book – authored by Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’
- Ministry of Education – Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ (Constituency – Haridwar, Uttarakhand)

14. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release the autobiography of Dr Balasaheb Vikhe Patil and rename ‘Pravara Rural Education Society’ as ‘Loknete Dr Balasaheb Vikhe Patil Pravara Rural Education Society’. The autobiography is titled “Deh Vechwa Karani” which means ‘Dedicating one’s life for a noble cause’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Deh Vechwa Karani” autobiography Dr Balasaheb Vikhe Patil – released by Narendra Modi
- ‘Pravara Rural Education Society’ renamed as ‘Loknete Dr Balasaheb Vikhe Patil Pravara Rural Education Society’

15. The book “Portraits of Power: Half a Century of Being at Ringside”, is written by former bureaucrat and current chairman of the Finance Commission Nand Kishore Singh. This book is an autobiography of Veteran Economist N K Singh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- N K Singh wrote his autobiography titled – “Portraits of Power: Half a Century of Being at Ringside”

16. The book, called “Voice of Millions”, was published earlier this year but is yet to be launched formally. Mukherjee was due to address another session of Bangladesh Parliament, this time a Special Session on March 22-23 to mark the Mujib centenary, and also to attend the book’s launch. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Voice of Millions” book (Anthology of Essays) – written by Pranab Mukherjee – on ‘Sheikh Mujibur Rahman’



17. Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel has released the world's first scientoon book (a cartoon book on science) titled "Bye Bye Corona". The book is written by Pradeep Kumar Srivastava. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Bye Bye Corona" the world's first scientoon book – written by 'Pradeep Kumar Srivastava'
- The book released by – Anandiben Patel

18. West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankar has released a book titled "On The Trail of Buddha: A Journey to the East". The book is authored by Deepankar Aron. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "On The Trail of Buddha: A Journey to the East" book – authored by 'Deepankar Aron'
- Book released by – Jagdeep Dhankar
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar



Obituaries

1. Bhanu Rajopadhye Athaiya, a Colossus of Costume Design who became India's first Oscar winner for her work in Richard Attenborough's, Gandhi (1982) has passed away recently. She was 91. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhanu Rajopadhye Athaiya – a Costume Designer – passed away (India's first Oscar winner)

2. Bihar's Panchayati Raj minister Kapil Deo Kamat has succumbed to COVID-19 at AIIMS, Patna. He was 70. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kapil Deo Kamat – a Politician – passed away (Bihar's Panchayati Raj minister)
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

3. Bihar's backward and extremely Backward Classes welfare Minister and BJP leader Vinod Kumar Singh has passed away recently in October. He was 54. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vinod Kumar Singh – a Politician – passed away (Bihar's Backward Classes Welfare Minister | Party – BJP)
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

4. Charlie Moore, the 400-meter hurdles champion at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics, has passed away recently in October. He also set a world record of 51.6 in the 440 hurdles at the British Empire Games in London. He was 91. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Charlie Moore (USA) – an Athlete– passed away (400-meter Hurdles Champion at Helsinki Olympics-1952)

5. Daniel Menaker, Book Editor & Author has passed away recently in October. He was 79. After 26 years at The New Yorker, he became chief editor at Random House, overseeing works by a raft of luminaries. He wrote a half-dozen well-received books of his own. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Daniel Menaker (USA) – an Author & Book Editor – passed away
- USA – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | President – Donald Trump



6. Former acting Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court, Justice Anantkumar Surendraray Dave has passed away. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Anantkumar Surendraray Dave – Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court – passed away
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

7. Former BJP MP from Patan Loksabha constituency and legendary Gujarati singer-musician Mahesh Kanodia has passed away recently in October. He was 83. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mahesh Kanodia – Politician & Musician/Singer – passed away (Party: BJP | Gujarati film Industry)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

8. Former governor of Manipur & Nagaland and CBI chief Ashwani Kumar has passed away recently in October. He was 69. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashwani Kumar – Former governor of Manipur & Nagaland and CBI chief – passed away
- HQs of CBI – New Delhi | DG – Rishi Kumar Shukla
- Manipur: Capital – Imphal | CM – N. Biren Singh | Governor – Najma Heptulla
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi

9. Former Gujarat chief minister and veteran BJP leader Keshubhai Savdas Patel has passed away recently. He was 92. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Keshubhai Patel (Gujarat) – a Politician – passed away (Former Gujarat CM | Party: BJP)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

10. Former IAS officer B. Venkataraman who was an authority on Chola History and Architecture has passed away recently. He was 95. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- B. Venkataraman – Author & Architecture – passed away



11. Former Indian football captain Carlton Chapman has passed away recently in October. He had formed a deadly trio in club football with Bhaichung Bhutia and IM Vijayan in the 1990s. He was 49. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Carlton Chapman (India) – a Football Player – passed away

12. Jharkhand's Minority Welfare Minister Haji Hussain Ansari has died of a cardiac arrest recently in October. He was elected from the Madhupur constituency in the 2019 Assembly elections on a Jharkhand Mukti Morcha ticket. He was 73. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haji Hussain Ansari – a Politician – passed away (Minority Welfare Minister - from Jharkhand)
- Political Party – Jharkhand Mukti Morcha
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Draupadi Murmu

13. Justice K K Usha, former Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court, has passed away recently. She was the 1st women chief justice. She was 81. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice K K Usha – the 1st women Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court – passed away
- Kerala: CM – Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

14. K C Sivasankar, the artist who brought Chandamama cartoons to life, has passed away recently. He was illustrator of famous Vikram and Vetala series. He was 97. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- K C Sivasankar – an Artist – passed away (An illustrator of famous 'Vikram aur Betaal' series)

15. Kuwait's Emir (Ruler) Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad Al-Sabah has passed away recently. He was 91. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad Al-Sabah – Emir (Ruler) of Kuwait – passed away
- Kuwait – Kuwait City – Kuwaiti Dinar | PM – Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah



16. Lee Kun-Hee has passed away recently. He was 78. He was the Chairman of Samsung Electronics and transformed the small television maker into a global giant of consumer electronics. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lee Kun-Hee – Chairman of Samsung Electronics – passed away
- HQs of Samsung Electronics – Suwon-si, South Korea | CEO – Kim Hyun Suk

17. Lyricist Abhilash, who wrote 'Itni shakti hamein dena daata' has passed away recently. His real name was Om Prakash. And he was 74. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Abhilash or Om Prakash – a Lyricist – passed away

18. M Gopalakrishnan has passed away recently due to age-related ailments. He was former CMD of Indian Bank and stepped down in 1996. He was 86. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M Gopalakrishnan – former CMD of Indian Bank – passed away
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru

19. Mesut Yilmaz, a former Turkish prime minister, and veteran politician has passed away recently in October. He was 72. He served as Prime Minister 3 times in the 1990s. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mesut Yilmaz – a former Turkish PM – passed away
- Turkey – Ankara – Lira

20. Mexican scientist Mario Molina, who became his country's first winner of the “Nobel Prize for Chemistry” for his work on the threat to the ozone layer from chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), has passed away at the age of 77. In 2008, he was appointed a scientific adviser to U.S. President Barack Obama. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mario Molina (Mexico) – a Scientist – passed away (winner of - “Nobel Prize for Chemistry”)
- Mexico – Mexico City – Peso



21. Nagaland's Environment Minister C M Chang has died of Covid-19 complications. He was 77. He was retired IAS officer and former Member of Parliament. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C M Chang – a Politician – passed away (Nagaland's Environment Minister & former Member of Parliament)
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi

22. Najeeb Tarakai, the Afghanistan top-order right-handed batsman has passed away at the age of 29. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Najeeb Tarakai (Afghanistan) – a Cricketer – passed away
- Afghanistan – Kabul – Afghani | President – Ashraf Ghani

23. New Zealand's oldest surviving Test cricketer and former captain John R. Reid has passed away recently in October. He was 92. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- John R. Reid (New Zealand) – a Cricketer – passed away
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD)

24. Noted film Music Composer 'Rajan' has passed away recently in October. He was 87 years old. The composer duo has lent music for around 375 films over 5 decades. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajan (Karnataka) – Music Composer – passed away

25. Noted former Journalist and cricket Commentator Kishore Bhimani passed away recently. He was 80. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kishore Bhimani – Former Journalist & Cricket Commentator – passed away

26. Noted literary critic G. S. Amur has recently passed away after suffering from age-related illness. He was 95. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- G. S. Amur – Author – passed away

27. Padmabhushana Vid. Shri Puliyur Subramaniam Narayanaswamy, one among the finest gurus of carnatic music in India, has passed away recently. A winner of many awards and titles, including 'Padma Bhushan'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Puliyur Subramaniam Narayanaswamy – a Vocalist – passed away

28. Pradeep Maharathy, a Biju Janata Dal legislator and an MLA from Odisha has passed away after he tested positive for Covid-19. He was 65. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pradeep Maharathy – a Politician – passed away (MLA from Odisha - Biju Janata Dal)
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

29. Renowned Economist from Assam, Dr Jayanta Madhab has passed away recently. He was 91. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Jayanta Madhab (Assam) – an Economist – passed away
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

30. Renowned Kuchipudi dance exponent, Shobha Naidu has passed away recently in October. She was born in 1956 at Anakapalli in Andhra Pradesh and had received her training in Kuchipudi dance from Vempati Chinna Satyam. She was awarded the civilian honour of Padma Shri by the Government of India in 2001. She was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi award in 1991. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shobha Naidu – Kuchipudi Dancer – passed away (Padma Shri-2001 & Sangeet Natak Akademi award-1991)
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

31. Renowned Malayalam Poet Mahakavi 'Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri' has passed away recently. He was 94. Recently, he was conferred with the Jnanpith award, the highest literary award in the country. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri (Kerala) – a Malayalam Poet – passed away (conferred with - Jnanpith Award)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

32. Rock legend and guitarist Eddie Van Halen has passed away recently after long battle with cancer. He was 65. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Eddie Van Halen – Rock legend and Guitarist (Musician) – passed away

33. Senior TRS leader and former Home Minister of Telangana Nayani Narasimha Reddy has passed away recently in October. He was 76. He served as the first Home Minister of Telangana after its formation in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nayani Narasimha Reddy (Telangana) – a Politician – passed away (first Home Minister of Telangana)
- He was associated with – Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) Party
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

34. Shri Jashomatinandan Das Ji has passed away recently in Gujarat. He was 72 and he was the President of The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) temple. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shri Jashomatinandan Das – President of ISKCON Temple – passed away
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

35. The first woman officer of the Indian Air Force (IAF), Wing Commander Vijayalakshmi Ramanan, has passed away recently in Bengaluru. She was 96. She was the first lady commissioned officer as a Gynaecologist to the Air Force. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijayalakshmi Ramanan – 1st woman officer of IAF (Gynaecologist) – passed away
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria



36. The Scottish actor Sean Connery has passed away recently in October. He was best known for playing role in James Bond movie. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sean Connery (Scotland) – an Actor – passed away
- Scotland – Edinburgh – Pound sterling

37. Union minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Ram Vilas Paswan has passed away recently in October. He was 74. Paswan began his career with the Samyuktha Socialist Party and was elected to the Bihar assembly in 1969. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Vilas Paswan – a Politician – passed away
- Union minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution | Constituency – Hajipur, Bihar

38. Uttar Pradesh Congress leader and two-term member of the U. P. Legislative Council, Naseeb Pathan, has died of COVID-19 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naseeb Pathan – a Politician – passed away (Congress – Uttar Pradesh)
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

39. Veteran Bollywood actor-filmmaker Vishal Anand has recently passed away in October. He was 82. He also directed and produced a few films. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vishal Anand – Actor & Filmmaker – passed away

40. Veteran Gujarati film star-turned-politician Naresh Kanodia has passed away recently. He was Gujarati Actor, Musician & a Politician. He was 77. He had joined politics and was elected as a BJP MLA from Karjan constituency between 2002 and 2007. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Naresh Kanodia – Gujarati Actor, Musician & Politician – passed away (Party: BJP)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat



41. Veteran Kannada director B. Vijay Reddy has passed away recently (on October 9) in Chennai. He was 84. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- B Vijay Reddy – Kannada Director – passed away

42. Veteran Marathi actor Avinash Kharshikar has passed away recently in October. He was 68 years old. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Avinash Kharshikar – Marathi actor – passed away



Persons in News

1. A 16-year-old girl, Aava Murto has ceremoniously assumed the post of Finnish Prime Minister for 1 day for the “Girls Takeover” program - part of the U.N. International Day of the Girl to raise more awareness of gender equality. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aava Murto (Finland) – assumed the post of Prime Minister for 1 day – as a part of “Girls Takeover” program
- Finland – Helsinki – Euro | PM – Sanna Marin

2. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has constituted a committee for preparing the Professional Engineers Bill. The committee will function under the chairmanship of M. S. Ananth, former director, IIT Madras. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AICTE – constituted a Committee for preparing the Professional Engineers Bill – headed by ‘M.S. Ananth’
- HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairman – Anil D. Sahasrabudhe

3. Chaitanya Venkateswaran from New Delhi had the unique opportunity to spend as the UK's senior-most diplomat (British High Commissioner) in India for one day. It was held under the mission's initiative aimed at empowering and highlighting the challenges faced by women across the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chaitanya Venkateswaran (New Delhi) – became British High Commissioner for a day
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM of UK – Boris Johnson

4. Delhi University Vice Chancellor Yogesh Tyagi was suspended on the orders of President Ram Nath Kovind who has directed an inquiry against him over allegations of dereliction of duty. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yogesh Tyagi (VC of Delhi University) – suspended on the orders of President Ram Nath Kovind
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

5. Election Commission of India (ECI) has set up a committee for review of candidate expenditure limit. The poll panel has set up a committee under its Director General Umesh Sinha and ex Indian Revenue Service officer Harish Kumar to examine the existing expenditure limits for election candidates. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ECI – set up a committee for review of candidate expenditure limit – under Umesh Sinha & Harish Kumar
- HQs of ECI – New Delhi | Chief Election Commissioner – Sunil Arora (23rd)

6. Indian government has set up a panel to screen all Chinese Foreign Investment proposals. The panel is headed by the Home Secretary, Ajay Kumar Bhalla. [{Read more}](#)

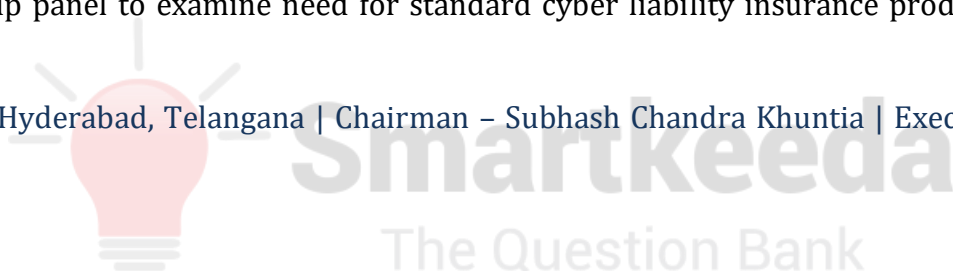
Key Points:

- India set up a panel to screen all Chinese Foreign Investment proposals – headed by ‘Ajay Kumar Bhalla’
- Home Secretary of India – Ajay Kumar Bhalla

7. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has set up panel to examine need for standard cyber liability insurance product. The panel is headed by P Umesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – to set up panel to examine need for standard cyber liability insurance product – headed by P Umesh
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur



8. NITI Aayog has constituted a 14-member advisory committee, headed by NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar. It will review the urban planning education system in India and examine the availability, demand and supply of qualified urban planners in the country. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog constituted a 14-member advisory committee – to review the urban planning education system in India
- The committee is headed by – Rajiv Kumar
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

9. The Delhi government has exempted road tax on its Battery-Operated Vehicles under its new Electric Vehicle Policy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi – exempted road tax on its Battery-Operated Vehicles under its ‘Electric Vehicle Policy’



- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev

- Delhi Transport minister – Kailash Gahlot

10. The government has constituted a panel of Secretaries under Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba to streamline the spectrum allocation process and examine the possibility of drawing up an annual calendar for auction of airwaves. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government constituted a panel of Secretaries to streamline the spectrum allocation process
- Panel is headed by – Rajiv Gauba (Cabinet Secretary)

11. The RBI has approved a 3-member interim committee of directors, headed by G Subramonia Iyer to run Dhanlaxmi Bank. The shareholders rejected the resolution for appointment of Gurbaxani as MD and CEO at the 93rd Annual General Meeting of the bank. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI approved a 3-member interim committee to run Dhanlaxmi Bank – headed by G Subramonia Iyer
- RBI: HQs – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th)
- HQs of Dhanlaxmi Bank – Thrissur, Kerala

12. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has formed a Market Data Advisory Committee (MDAC) headed by SEBI's whole time member Madhabi Puri Buch. It is a standing panel to recommend appropriate policy for access to securities market data. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI formed a Market Data Advisory Committee – headed by 'Madhabi Puri Buch'
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi

13. The Supreme Court has appointed retired apex court judge Justice Madan Bhimarao Lokur as a one-man committee to take steps for preventing stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh which is a source of pollution in Delhi-national capital region (NCR). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SC constituted one-man committee to take steps for preventing stubble burning – headed by 'Madan B. Lokur'
- Stubble burning in – Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh



- Supreme Court Chief of Justice – Sharad Arvind Bobde (47th)

14. The Supreme Court has constituted a one-member committee headed by Justice Madan B Lokur, to carry out physical surveillance on farm fires in Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh causing air pollution in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Supreme Court – constituted a committee to carry out physical surveillance on farm fires in Punjab, Haryana and UP
- The committee is headed by – Madan B Lokur
- Supreme Court Chief of Justice – Sharad Arvind Bobde (47th)

15. Vijay Sethupathi is going to play the role of Sri Lankan spin legend Muttiah Muralitharan in the upcoming cricket biopic 800. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vijay Sethupathi – to play the role of ‘Muttiah Muralitharan’ – in cricket biopic “800”
- Muttiah Muralitharan (Sri Lanka) – Cricket Coach
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



Science & Technology

1. 'Aenigmachanna gollum' a type of fish was discovered in the watery underground rocks of Kerala. It belongs to an old family of fish, called dragon snakeheads, which retains its primitive characteristics after all these millennia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 'Aenigmachanna gollum' – a type of 'Fish' discovered in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

2. 'Nokia Oyj' has been chosen by NASA to build the first ever cellular network on the moon. Nokia's Bell Labs unit is planning to build what it describes as an "Ultra-compact, low-power, space-hardened, end-to-end LTE solution" that will be available on the moon by late 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA chose – 'Nokia Oyj' to build the first ever cellular network on the moon - by late 2022
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

3. A rocket system called "New Shephard" meant to take tourists to space successfully completed its 7th test launch after it took off from a test facility in Texas, USA. The system is built by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos's Space Company called "Blue Origin". New Shephard has been named after astronaut 'Alan Shephard', the first American to go to space. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "New Shephard" – completed its 7th test launch from Texas, USA
- It is named after – American astronaut 'Alan Shephard'
- The system is built by – 'Blue Origin' (HQs – Washington, USA | Founder – Jeff Bezos | CEO – Bob Smith)

4. A team of researchers have reported a new species of perennial woody herb of the genus Lepidagathis namely "Lepidagathis ananthapuramensis" from the northern laterite plateaus of Kasaragod district in Kerala. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Lepidagathis ananthapuramensis" – a new species of perennial woody herb – discovered in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan



5. Amazon Web Services (AWS) and the NITI Aayog have set up a Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Center (CIC) that will work on addressing societal challenges around areas like agriculture and healthcare through digital innovation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog + AWS = launched Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Center (CIC)
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar
- HQs of Amazon – Seattle , USA | Founder & CEO – Jeff Bezos

6. An experimental satellite “Indian Sat” developed by 3 students - M Adnaan, M Kesavan and V Arun of Karur, Tamil Nadu has been selected for launch in sub-orbital space by NASA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA selected “Indian Sat” an experimental satellite – developed by 3 students of Tamil Nadu
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

7. AstroSat, India’s first multi-wavelength astronomical observatory has completed 5 years of imaging celestial objects in space. It was launched by the ISRO on September 28, 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AstroSat – completed 5 years of imaging celestial objects in space – on September 28
- It was launched by ISRO – in 2015

8. AstroSat, India’s first multi-wavelength astronomical observatory, has completed 5 years of imaging celestial objects in space. It was launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on September 28, 2015. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “AstroSat” – India’s first multi-wavelength astronomical observatory – completed 5 years
- Launched by ISRO – on September 28, 2015
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed in – 1969



9. BharatPe has introduced Digital Gold Product on its platform for merchants in association with Safegold. Safegold is a digital platform that allows customers to buy, sell and take delivery of 24k physical gold, at low ticket sizes, around the clock. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BharatPe + Safegold = introduced Digital Gold Product on its platform
- HQs of BharatPe – New Delhi | Founder & CEO – Ashneer Grover

10. CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) has developed Sustainable Municipal Solid Waste Processing Facility. This CSIR-CMERI MSW Technology envisions a Zero-Landfill and a Zero Waste City in addition to developing Job-Creation opportunities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CSIR-CMERI (Durgapur) – developed Sustainable Municipal Solid Waste Processing Facility
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | CSIR President – Narendra Modi | Director General – Shekhar C. Mande

11. ICMR and Hyderabad-based "Biological E" have developed purified Equine Antisera, raised in animals, as a prophylaxis and treatment for Covid-19. Antiserum is blood-based serum containing antibodies against viruses. The therapy works like plasma therapy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICMR + Biological E = developed purified 'Equine Antisera' – as a prophylaxis and treatment for Covid-19
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911
- HQs of Biological E – Hyderabad, Telangana

12. ICMR scientists have flagged presence of another Chinese virus called 'Cat Que Virus', which has a potential to cause disease in India, even as it grapples with the Covid pandemic. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICMR scientists warned India for the presence of another Chinese virus called – 'Cat Que Virus'
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava

13. IIM Kozhikode has conducted an Awareness Driven Webinar discussion on the 'National Education Policy 2020'. IIM Kozhikode will launch an E-Learning hub and Library for villagers in Mavoor which is one of the 5 villages adopted by the Institute under 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- IIM Kozhikode – conducted an Awareness Driven Webinar discussion on the ‘NEP 2020’
- IIM Kozhikode – to launch an ‘E-Learning hub’ and ‘Library’ for villagers in Mavoor (Kerala)

14. IIT Guwahati researcher has developed a Low-Cost Membrane Technology to produce “Psychoactive Drugs” and anti-aging compounds from wide range of agricultural resources. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Guwahati – developed a Low-Cost Membrane Technology to produce “Psychoactive Drugs” and anti-aging compounds

15. IIT Kharagpur and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) have jointly developed a ‘Novel Industry 4.0 Technology’ for remotely controlled factory operations and real-time quality correction during industrial production in a bid to deliver quality output at low costs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur + TCS = jointly developed a ‘Novel Industry 4.0 Technology’
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan

16. IIT Kharagpur has designed a robotic system capable of identifying the diseases plaguing plants through camera-captured image analysis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur – designed a Robotic System capable of identifying the diseases plaguing plants

17. IIT Kharagpur has developed a low-cost portable COVID-19 testing device named “COVIRAP”. It is a cuboid-shaped portable testing device that can deliver results in an hour and it has also received certification from the ICMR. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur – developed “COVIRAP” a low-cost portable COVID-19 testing device

18. IIT Madras has developed an Antimicrobial Food Wrapping Material. The novel material is biodegradable and can prevent the contamination of packaged food by bacteria during storage. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Madras – developed an Antimicrobial Food Wrapping Material



19. India has successfully carried out the 10th and final trial of the DRDO developed “Nag” anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) with a warhead after which the weapon system is now ready for induction into the Indian Army. The Nag missile was fired from a Nag Missile Carrier (NAMICA) at Pokhran, Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – carried out the 10th and final trial of “Nag” Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) (Developed by - DRDO)
- Fired from a Nag Missile Carrier (NAMICA) at Pokhran, Rajasthan
- HQs of DRDO – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

20. India has successfully conducted a night trial of the indigenously developed nuclear-capable “Prithvi-2” missile as part of a user trial by the Army from a test range at Chandipur in Odisha. The last trial of “Prithvi-2” was recently carried out on September 23 from the same base. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A night trial of the indigenously developed nuclear-capable “Prithvi-2” missile – conducted at Chandipur, Odisha
- Strike range of surface-to-surface Prithvi-II missile – 350 Km
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

21. India has successfully test fired “BrahMos” supersonic cruise missile from Indian Navy’s indigenously-built stealth destroyer INS Chennai hitting a target in the Arabian Sea. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India test fired “BrahMos” supersonic cruise missile from – INS Chennai
- Missile range – 400 km

22. India has successfully test fired its indigenously developed Nuclear Capable Hypersonic Missile “Shaurya” with a strike range of around 1,000 km from a test range in Odisha. The Surface-to-Surface tactical missile was blasted off the APJ Abdul Kalam Island located in Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India test fired – indigenously developed Nuclear Capable Hypersonic Missile “Shaurya” – in Odisha
- Type – Surface to Surface tactical missile
- Strike range – around 1,000 km | ‘Dr. Abdul Kalam Island’ or ‘Wheeler Island’ – Odisha



- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

23. India has successfully test-fired the Stand-off Anti-Tank (SANT) Missile off the coast of Odisha. The Missile is developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the Indian Air Force (IAF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India successfully test-fired “SANT” Missile – off the coast of Odisha
- SANT – Stand-off Anti-Tank | developed by – DRDO
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

24. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch an Earth Observation (Surveillance) Satellite of Risat series code named ‘EOS-01’ from Sriharikota on November 7 with PSLV-C49 rocket. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO – to launch an Earth Observation (Surveillance) Satellite named ‘EOS-01’ from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

25. ISRO & NASA have planned to launch the “NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR)” satellite by 2022 to accelerate efforts to create a safe and sustainable space environment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ISRO & NASA – to launch the “NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR)” satellite by 2022
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – Kailasavadivoo Sivan | Formed in – 1969
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

26. Origin Space, the Beijing-based company, will be sending out the world’s first mining robot named ‘Asteroid Mining Robot’ into space by November 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Origin Space (China) – to send the world’s first mining robot ‘Asteroid Mining Robot’ – in space by November, 2020
- China: Capital – Beijing | Currency – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping



27. Paytm has launched its “Android Mini App Store” to support Indian developers. This move will further intensify the tussle between the fintech major and Google. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm – launched “Android Mini App Store” to support Indian developers
- Paytm HQs – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | Paytm CEO – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- Paytm Payment Bank CEO – Satish Kumar Gupta | Paytm General Ins. CEO – Vineet Arora

28. Paytm Payment Gateway has launched the same-day settlement facility for all kinds of fund transfers for businesses on its payment gateway. It will help businesses that depend upon immediate availability of funds to pay down-stream partners. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm – launched the same-day settlement facility for all kinds of fund transfers for businesses
- HQs of Paytm – Noida, Uttar Pradesh | CEO of Paytm – Vijay Sekhar Sharma
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar
- CEO of Paytm Payment Bank– Satish Kumar Gupta | CEO of Paytm General Ins. – Vineet Arora

29. Researchers from India and Italy have discovered a new plant species of the Sahyadri globe thistle namely “Echinops Sahyadricus”, from the Rajgad Fort area in Pune district, which is located in the Sahyadri hills in the northern Western Ghats of Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Echinops Sahyadricus” a new plant species – discovered in Rajgad Fort, Pune, Maharashtra
- Sahyadri hills – located in Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

30. Russia's “Soyuz MS-17” spacecraft has been launched from Baikonur cosmodrome, Kazakhstan for the International Space Station (ISS) carrying Expedition 64 astronaut Kathleen “Kate” Rubins and 2 Russian cosmonauts Sergey Ryzhikov and Sergey Kud-Sverchkov. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia's “Soyuz MS-17” spacecraft – launched from Baikonur cosmodrome, Kazakhstan
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin



31. Science and Technology Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Technologies for rural development. The technologies were launched under a joint initiative of CSIR, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), IIT Delhi and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – launched the ‘CSIR Technologies for Rural Development’
- A joint initiative of = CSIR + UBA + IIT Delhi + VIBHA

32. Scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) have developed a wheat variety called “MACS 6478”. It has doubled the crop yield for farmers in Karanjkhop, a village in Maharashtra. A research paper on this variety has been published in ‘International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (Pune) – developed “MACS 6478” – variety of Wheat
- Published in – ‘International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences’

33. Scientists from Agharkar research institute, Pune (ARI) discovered 2 new species of ‘pipeworts’, wetland plants, (Eriocaulon parvicephalum & Eriocaulon karaavalense) in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra and Karnataka – one of the 35 hotspots of biological diversity in the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agharkar research institute (Pune) – discovered 2 new species of ‘pipeworts’ wetland plants
- They were found in the Western Ghats of – Maharashtra & Karnataka

34. Scientists from India, Germany, United Kingdom and Switzerland have discovered a new family of ‘Bony Fish’ from the Western Ghats, and named it Aenigmachannidae. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A new family of ‘Bony Fish’ namely Aenigmachannidae – discovered in ‘Western Ghats’

35. The Branded Royal, a rare butterfly, was documented along the Kotagiri slopes recently. It was last recorded in the Nilgiris in 1888. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Branded Royal – a rare butterfly – documented along the Kotagiri slopes recently
- Last recorded in the Nilgiris – in 1888



36. The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) will commission India's largest HPC-AI supercomputer, "PARAM Siddhi – AI". The supercomputer will have 210 AI Petaflops (6.5 Petaflops Peak DP) and will be based on the NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD reference architecture. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- C-DAC will commission – "PARAM Siddhi – AI" - India's largest HPC-AI supercomputer
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Senior Director – Mahesh Kulkarni
- HQs of NVIDIA – California, USA | CEO – Jensen Huang

37. The constellation of Maritime Surveillance Satellites for the Indian Ocean Region, will be jointly launched by India and France. It will be able to trace illegal spillage of oil by ships. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The constellation of Maritime Surveillance Satellites for IOR – to be jointly launched by India + France
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | New PM – Jean Castex

38. The DRDO has successfully tested Anti-submarine weapon system known as "Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo – SMART" from the Wheeler island in Odisha. Dr. Abdul Kalam Island, formerly known as Wheeler Island, is an island off the coast of Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – tested "SMART" anti-submarine weapon system – at Wheeler Island, Odisha
- SMART – Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo
- 'Wheeler Island' or 'Dr. Abdul Kalam Island' – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

39. The government has announced the launch of an ambitious information technology project 'Sunidhi' to digitise all provident fund and pension related activities of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation (CMPFO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government launched – project 'Sunidhi' to digitise the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation (CMPFO)
- HQs of CMPFO – Dhanbad, Jharkhand | Commissioner – Animesh Bharti



40. The IIT-Madras incubated dairy-tech startup and World Economic Forum's technology pioneer, Stellapps, has launched "mooPay" in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan for dairies and dairy farmers. National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has launched "Pashu Mitra" call centre for dairy farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Stellapps – launched "mooPay" in Bhilwara, Rajasthan – for dairy farmers
- NDDB – launched "Pashu Mitra" call centre for dairy farmers
- Stellapps – IIT-Madras incubated dairy-tech startup
- HQs of NDDB – Anand, Gujara | Chairman – Dilip Rath
- HQs of Stellapps – Bangalore, Karnatak

41. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched the "Project Management Information System" (P-MIS) portal of the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) to monitor the progress of projects and administering loans . [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoHUA – launched "P-MIS" portal – developed by 'National Capital Region Planning Board' (New Delhi)
- MoHUA Minister – Hardeep Singh Puri

42. The much-awaited trial of the new version of India's first Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) "Nirbhay" failed due to technical snag. The missile was fired from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) off Odisha coast. It was Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DRDO – test fired new version of India's 1st Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) "Nirbhay" – at Odisha
- Strike range – 800 km
- DRDO: HQs – New Delhi | Chairman – G. Satheesh Reddy

43. The NASA has contributed the "Moon Mineralogy Mapper or M3" to India's first mission to the moon namely "Chandrayaan-1". It was an imaging spectrometer designed to map the mineralogy of the lunar surface. In 2008, ISRO launched their Chandrayaan-1 lunar orbiter. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA – contributed the "Moon Mineralogy Mapper or M3" to "Chandrayaan-1"
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine



44. The NASA has launched a spacecraft of Northrop Grumman Cygnus (NG-14 Cygnus) named after “SS Kalpana Chawla”, the first Indian-born woman to enter space, for her key contributions to human spaceflight. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA launched – “SS Kalpana Chawla” spacecraft of Northrop Grumman Cygnus (NG-14 Cygnus)
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

45. The Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security, Regolith Explorer (OSIRIS-REx) spacecraft of NASA has made history after it successfully touched an asteroid “Bennu” to collect dust and pebbles from its surface. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “OSIRIS-REx” spacecraft of NASA – touched an asteroid “Bennu” to collect dust and pebbles from its surface
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

46. The Scientists have discovered around 544 new species from India during 2019 where 364 are animal species and 180 are plant species. It was done with the help of Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and the Botanical Survey of India (BSI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Total 544 new species (364 animal species + 180 plant species) – discovered in India during 2019
- HQs of ZSI – Kolkata, West Bengal | HQs of BSI – Kolkata, West Bengal

47. The spacecraft making a planetary swing is “BepiColombo”, which is really two spacecraft wrapped into one to explore ‘Mercury’. The vehicle consists of one spacecraft overseen by the European Space Agency and another overseen by the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “BepiColombo” space craft – launched to explore ‘Mercury’
- The vehicle consists of two spacecraft wrapped into one – by ESA + JAXA

48. Three NIT Warangal students have launched an e-commerce platform - ‘Pickmycloth’ for the weavers to directly sell their products to the customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- 3 students of NIT Warangal (Telangana) – launched an e-commerce platform - 'Pickmycloth'
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

49. Using NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA), the researchers, including those from the University of Hawaii in the US, detected water molecules (H₂O) in 'Clavius Crater' - one of the largest craters visible from the Earth, located in the Moon's southern hemisphere. Data is published in the journal Nature Astronomy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA's SOFIA – detected water molecules (H₂O) in 'Clavius Crater' of the moon
- Research is published in – "Nature Astronomy" journal
- NASA HQs – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Jim Bridenstine

50. While carrying out research on prostate cancer, Scientists in the Netherlands have discovered a potential new organ namely "Tubarial Salivary Glands" in the human throat that they stumbled upon. The study was published in the journal Radiotherapy and Oncology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Netherlands – discovered a potential new organ namely "Tubarial Salivary Glands" in the human throat
- Netherlands – Amsterdam – Euro

51. With the COVID-19 pandemic still raging, IIT Kharagpur has launched a telemedicine software named "iMediX" which facilitates critical health care support to patients at their doorsteps through remote consultation by a physician. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur launched – a telemedicine software named "iMediX"



Ordinance, Bills and Acts

1. Ministry of Home Affairs has amended “Jammu and Kashmir’s Panchayati Raj Act, 1989”, to establish District Development Councils (DDCs) in all districts in the union territory. According to the amendment, every district in J&K will be divided into 14 territorial constituencies to elect members of the body in the maiden DDC election. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs – amended “Jammu and Kashmir’s Panchayati Raj Act, 1989” – to set up DDCs
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha
- Ministry of Home Affairs - Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

2. President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to the 3 labour codes. The Industrial Relations Code combines the features of 3 erstwhile laws - the Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, and the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind – gave his assent to the 3 Labour Codes
- Trade Unions Act, 1926 | Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 | Industrial Disputes Act, 1947

3. President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to the amended “Disturbed Areas Act” passed by the Gujarat Legislative Assembly last year. The bill was brought by the BJP government in 2019. The Act bans sale of property by members of one religious community to those from another community without the prior approval of the district collector in areas declared as “disturbed areas”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind = given his assent to the amended “Disturbed Areas Act” – passed by the Gujarat L.A.
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

4. President Ram Nath Kovind has promulgated an ordinance to constitute a Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and adjoining areas. The new central body will replace the over 2-decade old Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind promulgated an ordinance to constitute a Commission for Air Quality Management in – New Delhi
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev



5. Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit has given his assent to a Bill envisaging 7.5% reservation to government school students who have cleared the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test in admission to medical courses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tamil Nadu – to provide 7.5% reservation to students who cleared NEET Test admission to medical courses
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

6. The Chhattisgarh assembly has approved the Chhattisgarh Krishi Upaj Mandi (Amendment) Bill 2020 that declared the entire state as a market for selling agriculture produce to negate the Centre's farm laws that allowed private players to directly buy produce from farmers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh – approved “Krishi Upaj Mandi (Amendment) Bill 2020”
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

7. The Niti Aayog has released a ‘Draft Model Act and Rules’ for states on conclusive land titling with an aim to reduce litigations and ease the land acquisition process for infrastructure projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Niti Aayog – released ‘Draft Model Act and Rules’ on land titles
- NITI Aayog HQs – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

8. The President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to the Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020, which will extend compliance-related timelines for taxpayers while offering significant relief to foreign investors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to – Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020
- HQs of CBDT – New Delhi | Chairman – Pramod Chandra Mody



9. Union Ministry of Home Affairs has introduced “Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2020” by amending the provisions of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 (FCRA). It has come into force with effect from September 29, 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Home Affairs introduced – “Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2020”
- It came into force with effect from – September 29, 2020
- Ministry of Home Affairs – Shri Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat



Current GK

1. "Asan Conservation Reserve" has become the first wetland from Uttarakhand to be included in the prestigious Ramsar sites list. Besides Asan, "Kabartal Wetland" also known as "Kanwar Jheel" from Bihar was the second new site to get included in this list. On the fresh inclusion, the Ramsar website stated that "India has named two new Wetlands of International Importance, bringing its total number of 'Ramsar Sites' to 39." [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Asan Conservation Reserve (Uttarakhand) – the 1st wetland included in the Ramsar sites list
- Kabartal Wetland / Kanwar Jheel (Bihar) – the 2nd wetland site included in the Ramsar sites list
- Total number of 'Ramsar Sites' in India – 39

2. "Asan Conservation Reserve" has become Uttarakhand's first Ramsar site, making it a 'Wetland of International Importance', announced by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The Reserve is located on the banks of Yamuna river. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Asan Conservation Reserve" – the 1st Ramsar site of Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

3. "Chandaka-Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary" in Odisha, which was closed since March 27 in view of the COVID-19 pandemic, will reopen its gates for the public from October 2. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Chandaka-Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary" – in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

4. "Great Living Chola Temples" is a Unesco World Heritage Site for a group of Chola dynasty era Hindu temples in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. The site includes three great temples— the Brihadeeswarar Temple at Thanjavur, the Airavatesvara Temple at Darasuram and the Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple at Jayankondam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Great Living Chola Temples" – a Unesco World Heritage Site – located in Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit



5. “Kazinag National Park” or “Qazinag National Park” is a commissioned future national park in the Baramulla district in the Indian union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Key Points:

- “Kazinag National Park” or “Qazinag National Park” – located in Jammu and Kashmir
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

6. “Mohindra Chaudhary Zoological Park” or “Chhatbir Zoo”, is situated close to Zirakpur, Punjab. The zoo was constructed in the 1970s and is home to a large variety of birds, mammals and reptiles.

Key Points:

- “Mohindra Chaudhary Zoological Park” or “Chhatbir Zoo” – located in Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

7. “Ramadevara Betta Sanctuary” is India’s only vulture sanctuary located in Karnataka. This area of rocky hills is popular for hiking & birdwatching. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Ramadevara Betta Sanctuary” – located in Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

8. 13 out of the 17 gates of the “Himayat Sagar lake” were opened in Hyderabad as the water level reached the full reservoir level (FRL) after the city received incessant rainfall. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himayat Sagar lake – located in Hyderabad, Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

9. A 6-member committee has been appointed by the Maharashtra forest department to check the feasibility of declaring a 265 sq km area at Kanhargaon in Chandrapur as either a wildlife sanctuary or a conservation reserve. The zone is also an important interstate link for tiger dispersal between Kawal and Indravati Tiger Reserves in Telangana and Chandrapur as well as the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve buffer, which is 38 km from the proposed airport site and 32 km from the Chaprala Wildlife Sanctuary. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary Tiger Reserve – Telangana



- Indravati Tiger Reserves – Chhattisgarh
- Tadoba Andhari National Park – Maharashtra
- Chaprala Wildlife Sanctuary – Maharashtra

10. A famous UNESCO Heritage Site in Peru, the Nazca Lines, has recently garnered much attention on social media. The Nazca Lines is famous for its larger-than-life depictions of imaginary beings, plants and animals. The recent attention is due to the discovery of the carving of a massive resting cat on a steep hill's slope and the etchings are believed to be over 2,000 years old. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The “Nazca Lines” – A famous UNESCO Heritage Site in ‘Peru’
- Peru – Lima – Sol | President – Martin Vizcarra

11. Adani Enterprises Limited is all set to take over the operations of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) airport in Ahmedabad on November 7, according to a statement issued by the Airports Authority of India (AAI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Enterprises – to take over the operations of “Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport” (Gujarat)
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Arvind Singh

12. After 195 days, cricket and cricketers have come back to historic “Eden Gardens Stadium” at Kolkata. Players of Bengal started practicing under strict covid-19 protocol as reported by Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Eden Gardens Stadium – located at Kolkata, West Bengal
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar

13. After Kaziranga National Park and Manas National Park, now the Orang National Park and Tiger Reserve will finally be opened for visitors on 1st November after eight months of closure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kaziranga National Park + Manas National Park + Orang National Park and Tiger Reserve = located in Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi



14. All the stakeholders including wildlife and territorial wings of the Forest Department on Monday proposed to extend the boundary of the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ECZ) of the “Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary” (CWS) up to 500 meters, towards the Hope Island from the water front on the north-east side and 50 meters on the landward side. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary + Hope Island = in Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

15. Amid criticism, Nagaland has clarified that “Hornbill Festival” will be held virtually this year. The tourism industry in Nagaland is largely dependent on the mega Hornbill Festival. It is observed every year by Naga tribe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Hornbill Festival” – celebrated by Naga tribe – in Nagaland
- Nagaland: Capital – Kohima | CM – Neiphiu Rio | Governor – Ravindra Narayana Ravi

16. An elephant calf was killed in a tiger attack in “Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve” in Gariaband district of Chhattisgarh. This is 14th death of elephant since June in Chhattisgarh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve – in Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

17. An international team of researchers has found a “lost” river that ran through the central Thar desert, near Bikaner, 1,72,000 years ago. The river was likely a lifeline for Stone Age populations, helping them thrive in that region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Researchers found a “lost” river – in the central Thar desert – located near Bikaner, Rajasthan, India
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

18. Bathukamma, a floral festival was celebrated on a grand note recently in October amid Covid-19 scare. Bathukamma celebrated for nine-days during Dasara navaratri festival was started on October 16 and concluded as ‘Saddula Bathukamma’. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “Bathukamma” - a floral dance festival – celebrated in Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

19. Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium or commonly known as “Ekana Cricket Stadium” is an international standard cricket stadium in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points:

- “Ekana Cricket Stadium” – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

20. China is tracking Indian underwater activities in Ladakh's Pangong Tso. The People's Liberation Army Ground Force (PLAGF) has been keeping the surface of Pangong Tso under surveillance through high-speed patrol crafts such as Type 305 and Type 928D boats copied from Swedish CB-90 boats. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pangong Tso or Pangong Lake – located in Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

21. Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) will have Women Nature Guides for the first time in its history. These selected women will be registered as guides and given responsibilities after a training and orientation programme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Corbett Tiger Reserve (Uttarakhand) – will have Women Nature Guides for the first time in its history
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

22. Customs officials at the Karipur airport seized 1.8kg of gold in three separate seizures at the “Calicut International Airport” on October 20. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Calicut International Airport” – located in Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

23. Delhi airport (Indira Gandhi International Airport) is certified as the 2nd safest airport globally with a score of 4.6 out of 5 for Covid-related safety protocols. Changi Airport, Singapore has secured 1st place in



the Safest Aerodrome globally with a score of 4.7 out of 5. Besides, Frankfurt Airport and Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport have also secured the second position. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Changi Airport (Singapore) – secured the 1st place in the Safest Aerodrome globally
- Delhi airport (Indira Gandhi International Airport) – 2nd Safest Airport globally
- Frankfurt Airport (Germany) + Chengdu Shuangliu Airport (China) = also stood at the 2nd position

24. Denying reports about the displacement of the villagers and reduction in their forest rights due to Lemru Elephant Reserve, Chhattisgarh Forest Minister Mohammad Akbar assured that the project will not infringe on the rights of villages and forest dwellers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Lemru Elephant Reserve – located in 'Chhattisgarh'
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

25. Despite ban, the annual “Banni Utsavam”, also called as “Karrala Samaram”, was celebrated in Andhra Pradesh. Over 50,000 people from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka thronged Devaragattu to witness the festival. As part of the celebrations, about 3,000 people fought with sticks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Banni Utsavam” or “Karrala Samaram” – celebrated in Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

26. Divisional commissioner Raj Shekhar has visited “Panki Thermal Power Plant” and directed the officials to ensure timely completion of the upgradation work of the thermal plant and make it functional by January 2022. The upgraded plant would have a capacity of 660 MW thermal power production. The project was started in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Panki Thermal Power Plant – located in Uttar Pradesh – functional by January 2022
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

27. Due to heavy inflows into Vijayawada's Prakasam Barrage, Nagarjuna Sagar Dam has recorded an inflow of 4 to 4.5 lakh cusecs and has discharged most of it to Pulichintala project. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Nagarjuna Sagar Dam – built over ‘Krishna’ river – located in Andhra Pradesh + Telangana
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

28. Every year, between September and October, one can witness movement of birds in large numbers signifying the start of migration. Other notable sites to see migratory birds are the Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur, Rajasthan and Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary in Jamnagar, Gujarat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Keoladeo National Park – in Bharatpur, Rajasthan
- Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary – in Jamnagar, Gujarat

29. Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi to discuss the state's dispute over “Mahadayi river” water sharing with Karnataka. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mahadayi river – located in Karnataka
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – B S Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

30. Himachal Pradesh is now ready to inaugurate the longest bridge "Barsi Bridge" on the Manali-Leh highway. The bridge, spanning 360 m, took around 10 years to be ready for use. It is built by the Border Road Organization (BRO) and runs over Bhaga river. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – to inaugurate the longest “Barsi Bridge” on the Manali-Leh highway – over Bhaga river
- The bridge is built by – Border Road Organization (BRO)
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya
- HQs of BRO – New Delhi | Director General – Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh



31. Illegal stone mining and stone crushing in the Eco-sensitive Zone of the “Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary” in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra has caused irreparable environmental damage and affected water sources even after a National Green Tribunal (NGT) order last year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary – in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

32. India and Myanmar have agreed to work towards operationalization of ‘Sittwe Port’ in the Rakhine State in the first quarter of 2021. The discussion was held during Indian Army Chief Gen MM Naravane and Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla two days visit to Myanmar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India & Myanmar – agreed to work towards operationalization of ‘Sittwe Port’ – located in Myanmar
- Myanmar – Naypyitaw – Kyat | President – Win Myint

33. India has identified 3 sets of landscape ‘Hemis-Spiti’ across Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh, ‘Nanda Devi-Gangotri’ in Uttarakhand and ‘Khangchendzonga-Tawang’ across Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh, for the restoration of the flagship species in the high-altitude region. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India identified 3 sets of landscape – ‘Hemis-Spiti’ + ‘Nanda Devi-Gangotri’ + ‘Khangchendzonga-Tawang’
- Khangchendzonga National Park – Sikkim | Namdapha National Park – Arunachal Pradesh

34. India-assisted “Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project” in Bhutan has been awarded the prestigious “Brunel Medal for Excellence in Civil Engineering” by the UK-based Institute of Civil Engineers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had inaugurated the 720 MW project on August 17 last year during his visit to Bhutan. It is built on the Mangdechhu River at a cost of Rs 4,500-crore. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project (Bhutan) – awarded “Brunel Medal for Excellence in Civil Engineering” in UK
- Project assisted by – India | built on – Mangdechhu River | Capacity – 720 MW | Cost – Rs 4,500-crore
- Bhutan – Thimphu – Bhutanese Ngultrum | PM – Lotay Tshering

35. International Coordinating Council (ICC) of UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme has included 3 new Biosphere Reserves - Panna Biosphere Reserve (Madhya Pradesh), Fuvahmulah Biosphere



Reserve (Maldives) and Addu Atoll Biosphere Reserve (Maldives) to UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICC UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere programme included 3 new Biosphere Reserves to the list
- Panna Biosphere Reserve (Madhya Pradesh) - declared as 12th Biosphere Reserve of India
- Fuvahmulah Biosphere Reserve (Maldives)
- Addu Atoll Biosphere Reserve (Maldives)

36. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has stressed upon innovative and efficient measures for conservation and preservation of world-renowned Dal Lake, Wular Lake and other water bodies in the Union territory. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – stressed upon conservation and preservation of Dal Lake, Wular Lake and other water bodies
- Dal Lake & Wular Lake – located in J & K
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

37. Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has directed the Tourism department to come out with a comprehensive report with regard to identification and development of tourist spots in the state. A development project at the world famous “Jog falls” at cost of Rs 120 crore will be implemented by Karnataka Power Corporation Limited. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Karnataka Tourism Dept – to come out with a comprehensive report for the development of tourist spots
- “Jog falls”– conferred “Sarala Puraskar” – for ‘Setebelaku Nathiba’ poetry – published in 2017
- Jog Falls – located on ‘Sharavati’
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

38. Kathak Queen Jayanti Mala (daughter of celebrated Kathak maestro Sitara Devi) has inaugurated Kathakworld.com, a website dedicated to bringing back the relevance and appeal of the dance to the younger new-age audience through its experiential way of learning. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Kathak” dance form – Uttar Pradesh
- Kathak Queen – Jayanti Mala



- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

39. Kerala is seeing a spurt in cases due to “gross negligence” during Onam celebrations, according to Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan during his weekly online interaction. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Onam festival – Kerala
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

40. Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary is a wildlife sanctuary located in Andhra Pradesh, India. It is one of the rarest eco-regions of the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary – Andhra Pradesh
- Andhra Pradesh: Capital – Amaravati (LC), Visakhapatnam (EC) & Kurnool (JC)
- CM – YS Jaganmohan Reddy | Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

41. Members of the Tanzania National Parks Authority (Tanapa) and local people have been struggling to extinguish a fire that has broken out on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Mount Kilimanjaro – located in Tanzania
- Tanzania – Dodoma – Tanzanian shilling | President – John Magufuli

42. Migratory birds are increasingly landing in Surajpur and giving the Okhla Bird Sanctuary, barely 28km away. In fact, the Surajpur wetland, which was just 2 years ago struggling with water supply issues, is not only well irrigated but seeing a healthy flock of migratory birds this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Okhla Bird Sanctuary” & “Surajpur wetland” – Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel



43. People have celebrated “Kati Bihu” festival in Assam’s Bongaigaon on October 17. The Kati Bihu is also closely related to agriculture. Kati Bihu is celebrated on the first day of 'Kati' month in Assamese calendar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kati Bihu” festival – Assam
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

44. Pocharam Wildlife Sanctuary is a forest and wildlife sanctuary located 15 km (9.3 mi) from Medak and 115 km (71 mi) from Hyderabad, Telangana, India. It is named after the Pocharam lake, formed from the bunding of the Allair from 1916-1922.

Key Points:

- Pocharam Wildlife Sanctuary – Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor - Tamilisai Soundararajan

45. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently visited Gujarat & inaugurated Sardar Sarovar Dam, Unity Glow Garden, Cactus Garden, Ekta Cruise, a website of ‘Statue of Unity’ and also launched ‘Kevadia app’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sardar Sarovar Dam + Unity Glow Garden + Cactus Garden + Ekta Cruise = inaugurated by PM Modi – in Gujarat
- PM Modi also unveiled = a website of ‘Statue of Unity’ & ‘Kevadia app’
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

46. Rani ki Vav is an ancient 11th century 7-storeyed step well located by the Saraswati River. A Unesco World Heritage Site, the well was constructed by Queen Udayamti, wife of the Chalukya dynasty king Bhima I after his death. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rani ki Vav – 11th century 7-storeyed step well – at Saraswati river – in Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Vijay Rupani | Governor – Acharya Devvrat

47. Renovation work was going on to restore the lost glory of about two centuries old ‘Raghunath temple’ on the bank of river Jhelum in the old Srinagar. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- Raghunath temple – located in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir – on the banks of river 'Jhelum'
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

48. Suspected toxic waste pollution off Russia's Kamchatka peninsula that caused the mass deaths of marine animals has formed a moving slick stretching 40 kilometres along the Pacific coastline. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kamchatka peninsula – located in Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

49. The Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department of Chandigarh in coordination with Forest Department has initiated a step to control mosquito-borne diseases like malaria and dengue. The Fisheries Department has released Mosquito Killer fish (Gambusia) at Butterfly Park. The Gambusia fish released in the water bodies is being produced at Fish Seed Farm at "Sukhna Lake" functioning under the Fisheries Department. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Sukhna Lake" – Chandigarh
- Shri Giriraj Singh – Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Begusarai, Bihar)

50. The Appointments Committee of Cabinet has approved the restructuring of the SAIL board. After the approval, 4 posts of the CEOs of Integrated Steel Plants (ISPs) of SAIL are to be elevated as Functional Directors, by designating them as Directors-in-charge of Bokaro, Rourkela, Bhilai and one Director-in-charge jointly for Burnpur and Durgapur steel plants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bokaro Steel Plant – Jharkhand
- Rourkela Steel Plant – Odisha
- Bhilai Steel Plant – Chhattisgarh
- Burnpur and Durgapur Steel plants – West Bengal

51. The Border Security Force Brass and Jazz Band, Guwahati Frontier has displayed a symphony of martial music organized at Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport, in Assam. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport" – located in Assam



- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Sarbananda Sonowal | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

52. The Centre has rejected the Trivendra Singh Rawat Government’s plans to temporarily divert a patch of “Rajaji National Park” forest area in Uttarakhand for the construction of housing, toilets and parking facilities for the Haridwar Maha Kumbh pilgrims. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajaji National Park – in Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand: Capital – Dehradun & Gairsain | CM – Trivendra Singh Rawat | Governor – Baby Rani Maurya

53. The Covid-19 outbreak may have kept animal lovers away from “Nandankanan Zoological Park” in the City but its 'Adopt an Animal' scheme has brought them closer to its inmates. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Nandankanan Zoological Park”– located in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

54. The government has approved demerger of the under-construction “Nagarnar Steel Plant” (NSP) from National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) and its strategic disinvestment by selling the entire stake of the Centre to a strategic buyer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government approved demerger of – “Nagarnar Steel Plant” from NMDC
- Nagarnar Steel Plant – located in Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey
- NMDC functions under – Ministry of Steel

55. The Government has established a domestic airport at Jharsuguda. It is also known as Veer Surendra Sai Airport. It is located 5 kilometers north-east of Jharsuguda, Odisha. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jharsuguda Airport/ Veer Surendra Sai Airport – located in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



56. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has achieved a new record of the highest skydive landing at Khardungla Pass, Leh at an altitude of 17,982 feet on the occasion of its 88th anniversary. Wing Commander Gajanad Yadava and Warrant Officer AK Tiwari carried out this successful skydiving jump from C-130J aircraft. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAF – achieved a new record of the highest skydive landing at an altitude of 17,982 feet
- Skydive landed at – Khardungla Pass – located in Leh, Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

57. The Indian Army has built a memorial for its 20 personnel who were killed while valiantly fighting Chinese troops in Galwan Valley in Eastern Ladakh on June 15. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Galwan Valley – located in Eastern Ladakh
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R K Mathur

58. The Jabalpur airport is getting upgraded and its new terminal is likely to be constructed and commissioned by March 2022, according to the Airports Authority of India (AAI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A new terminal of “Jabalpur airport” is likely to be constructed and commissioned by – March, 2022
- Jabalpur Airport – located in Madhya Pradesh
- HQs of AAI – New Delhi | Chairman – Arvind Singh

59. The Kalinga Stadium has completed a 2-year milestone since being refurbished for the Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup Bhubaneswar 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kalinga Stadium – Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

60. The Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) has reported that Chincholi in Kalaburagi and Raichur have received the highest rainfall recently in October. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chincholi Wildlife Sanctuary – Karnataka



- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – BS Yediyurappa | Governor – Vajubhai Vala

61. The last rites on mortal remains of Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan were performed with full State honours at “Janardan Ghat” on the banks of Ganga in Patna. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The last rites on mortal remains of Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan – performed at “Janardan Ghat”
- Janardan Ghat – located in Patna, Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

62. The Rajasthan government will build temporary Shelters for migratory birds near the famous Sambhar Lake before this year's winter season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Rajasthan – to build temporary Shelters for migratory birds near ‘Sambhar Lake’
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

63. The tigers of Chhattisgarh’s “Indravati National Park” seem to prefer the forests of Mancherial and Kumrambheem-Asifabad districts when it comes to hunting and breeding. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Indravati National Park” – located in Chhattisgarh
- Chhattisgarh: Capital – Raipur | CM – Bhupesh Baghel | Governor – Anusuiya Uikey

64. The water levels in ‘Hussain Sagar lake’ have crossed full tank level after heavy rains that lashed the city recently. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hussain Sagar lake – located in Telangana
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

65. The Wildlife Society of Orissa (WSO) has urged CM Naveen Patnaik to approve proposed expansion of two Elephant Reserves of Odisha such as the “Mahanadi Elephant Reserve” and the “Sambalpur Elephant Reserve” to reduce surging human-animal conflicts and safety of the pachyderms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:



- “Mahanadi Elephant Reserve” and “Sambalpur Elephant Reserve” – located in Odisha
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal

66. The world’s largest single location solar plant, of 2.2 GW capacity was inaugurated in China’s Quinghai province in October. In India, UP (150 MW over Rihand Dam reservoir) and Madhya Pradesh (1 GW on Indira Sagar reservoir) have regularly made announcements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The world’s largest single location solar plant of 2.2 GW capacity – inaugurated in Quinghai, China
- Rihand Dam reservoir – Uttar Pradesh | Indira Sagar reservoir – Madhya Pradesh

67. Two months ago, two villagers were apprehended for killing an adult male deer near the Nokrek National Park. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nokrek National Park – Meghalaya
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

68. Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has launched the virtual festival of “Parampara Series 2020 - National Festival of Music & Dance” which is organised by Natya Tarangini in partnership with the United Nations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. Venkaiah Naidu – “Parampara Series 2020 - National Festival of Music & Dance”
- It is organised = by Natya Tarangini + United Nations

69. With an International Airport coming up at Jewar in Gautam Budh Nagar, it will become the first aerotropolis of the country, ushering in economic activities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jewar International Airport – located in Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel





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