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Weekly Current Affairs PDF Index mentioned below.

- Appointments
- Awards and Honours
- Banking Current Affairs
- Books and Authors
- Brand Ambassadors
- Cabinet Decisions
- Defence Current Affairs
- Government Schemes
- Important Days
- India’s Ranking in Indexes
- International News
- MoUs and Agreements
- National News
- Obituaries Current Affairs
- Science Current Affairs
- Sports Current Affairs
- State Current Affairs
- Summits Current Affairs
- Current Affairs Questions
Appointments

Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah becomes the new Emir of Kuwait.

Important Points to Remember:

- Kuwait Emir: Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah (New Appointment)
- Kuwait Prime Minister: Sabah Khalid al-Sabah
- Kuwait Capital: Kuwait City

Facebook appointed Alex Schultz as a new global Chief Marketing Officer (CMO).

Important Points to Remember:

- Facebook CEO & Founder: Mark Zuckerberg
- Facebook Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States

Lieutenant General Harinder Singh appointed as the commandant of the Indian Military Academy.

Important Points to Remember:

- IMA: An officer-training academy of the Indian Army
- IMA Headquarters: Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- IMA Founded: 1 October 1932

Ms. S Aparna assumed charge as a new Union Pharma Secretary. She has replaced PD Vaghela.

Important Points to Remember:

- 1988-batch IAS officer of Gujrat cadre
- Executive Director, World Bank in 2017

Apurva Chandra assumed charge as a new Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment.

Important Points to Remember:

- 1988 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Maharashtra Cadre
- Shri Chandra has served on the Board of Directors of Maharatna PSU, GAIL (India) and Petronet LNG.
- Shri Chandra also served as Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of HRD, Department of School Education & literacy from August 2011 to February 2013.
Major General Sonali Ghosal appointed as Additional Director General Military Nursing Service. She replaced Major General Joyce Gladys Roach.

Important Points to Remember:
- Major General Sonali Ghosal was commissioned in 1981 and is an alumnus of School of Nursing, Indian Naval Hospital Ship Asvini, Mumbai.

Hero MotoCorp appoints former Air Chief BS Dhanoa as an independent director.

Important Points to Remember:
- Hero MotoCorp Headquarters: New Delhi
- Hero MotoCorp Founder: Brijmohan Lall Munjal

Kiran Mazumdar Shaw appointed as Biotherapeutics firm PureTech's Board of Directors.

Important Points to Remember:
- Kiran Mazumdar Shaw: Indian Entrepreneur, Chairman and Managing Director of Biocon

RP Goyal was appointed as NHPC Director (Finance).

Important Points to Remember:
- NHPC: Hydro Power Generation Company
- NHPC Headquarters: Faridabad, Harayana

Air Marshal RJ Duckworth took over as Air Officer in charge Personnel at Air Headquarters Vayu Bhawan, Indian Air Force on 01 Oct 20.

Important Points to Remember:
- He was commissioned into Fighter Stream of the IAF on 29 May 1983 as a Fighter Pilot.
- He has a flying experience of more than 3000 hours including operational flying on MiG-21 and MiG-29 fighter aircraft.

Air Marshal Amit Dev took over as AOC-in-C, Eastern Air Command.

Important Points to Remember:
- Commissioned into Fighter Stream of the Indian Air Force on 29 December 1982 as a Fighter Pilot.
• He has a flying experience of more than 2500 hrs, including operational flying on MiG 21 & MiG 27 fighter aircraft.

Devyani Khobragade appointed India’s next Ambassador to Cambodia.

K. Nandini Singla, presently Ambassador of India to Portugal, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Mauritius.

Charanjit Attra appointed as new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of State Bank of India.

Important Points to Remember:

• SBI Chief: Rajnish Kumar
• SBI Headquarters: Mumbai
• SBI Founded: 1 July 1955

Madhu Mahajan, and BR Balakrishnan appointed as Special Expenditure Observers for Bihar Elections 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

• Chief Election Commissioner: Sunil Arora
• Bihar Governor: Phagu Chauhan
  • Bihar Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar
• Bihar Capital: Patna

Prakash Padariya appointed as a Chief Information Security Officer of PayU.

Important Points to Remember:

• PayU: Online Payment Gateway Service Provider
• PayU CEO: Laurent le Moal
• PayU Headquarters: Hoofddorp, Netherlands

Arvind Hali appointed as MD and CEO of Motilal Oswal Home Finance.

Important Points to Remember:

• Founded: 2013
• Parent Company: Motilal Oswal Financial Services

Indian Origin Bhaskar Ghosh appointed as the chief strategy officer of Accenture.

Important Points to Remember:

• Accenture CEO: Julie Sweet
Dinesh Kumar Khara appointed as SBI Chairman. He replaced Rajnish Kumar.

Important Points to Remember:

- State Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai
- State Bank of India Founded: 1 July 1955

Shashank Bhide, Ashima Goyal, and Jayanth R Varma appointed as members of RBI's Monetary Policy Committee.

- RBI Governor: Shashikanta Das
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai
- RBI Founded: 1 April 1935

M Rajeshwar Rao appointed as a new deputy governor of RBI. He replaced N. Vishwanathan.

Important Points to Remember:

- Other RBI Deputy Governors: B.P. Kanungo, M.K. Jain, and M.D. Patra
- RBI Governor: Shashikanta Das
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai
- RBI Founded: 1 April 1935

Bhimaraya Metri appointed as a director of IIM Nagpur.

Important Points to Remember:

- IIM Nagpur Chairperson: C P Gurnani
- IIM Nagpur Established: 2015

Adarsh Hegde appointed as the managing director of Gati-KWE.

Important Points to Remember:

- GATI: A multinational courier delivery services company
- GATI CEO: Mahendra Kumar Agarwal
- GATI Headquarters: Hyderabad
- GATI Founded: 1989

Vijay Solomon appointed as a group head global India of Julius Baer.

Important Points to Remember:
Julius Baer: A Swiss wealth management group

Nilesh Shah re-elected as chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

Important Points to Remember:

- AMFI Founded: 1995

Uday Shankar resigned as Star & Disney India Chairman.

- Star and Disney Headquarters: Mumbai
- Star is a subsidiary of The Walt Disney.

Ramkumar Ramamoorthy appointed as the new CEO of the Chennai Mathematical Institute.

Important Points to Remember:

- Chennai Mathematical Institute located in Chennai.
- Chennai Mathematical Institute founded in 1989.

Indian-origin Srikant Datar appointed as Dean of Harvard Business School. He will replace Nitin Nohria.

Important Points to Remember:

- Harvard Business School located in Boston, USA

K.S. Jawahar Reddy took charge as the new Executive Officer (EO) of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). He replaced EO AV Dharma Reddy.

R. Balasubramaniam, appointed as a member of the Technical Group on Social Stock Exchange (SSE).

Important Points to Remember:

- A Social Stock Exchange (SSE) functions as a regulated funding platform to allow social enterprises and voluntary organizations with a social purpose, to raise funds.

Piyush Goyal has been given additional charge of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution.

Important Points to Remember:
Currently, Piyush Goyal is a railway minister and Commerce and Industry Minister.

**Facebook India appoints Sunil Abraham as Public Policy Director for Data and Emerging Tech.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Facebook CEO: Mark Zuckerberg
- Facebook Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States

**Star Sports CEO Gautam Thakar Resigned.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Star Sports: A group of Indian pay television sports channels owned by Star India, a subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company India.

**Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar took over as the General Officer Commanding of the White Knight Corps.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The White Knight Corps (XVI) Corps is a corps of the Indian Army raised on 1 June 1972.

**OnePlus co-founder Carl Pei Resigned.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- One Plus: A Chinese smartphone manufacturer
- One Plus Headquarters: Shenzhen, Guangdong
- Founded by: Pete Lau and Carl Pei in December 2013.

**Robert Destro appointed as U.S. special envoy to Tibet.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- USA President: Donald Trump
- USA Capital: Washington D.C.
BJP MLA Dasanlgu Pul was appointed as the advisor of the social welfare and child development department.

Important Points to Remember:

- She is the wife of Arunachal Pradesh's former chief minister Kalikho Pul.
- Arunachal Pradesh Governor: B. D. Mishra
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister: Pema Khandu
- Arunachal Pradesh Capital: Itanagar

Army chief Manoj Mukund Naravane to get an honorary rank of General of Nepali Army.

Important Points to Remember:

- Nepal President: Bidya Devi Bhandari
- Nepal Prime Minister: KP Sharma Oli
- Nepal Capital: Kathmandu

Vodafone Idea Chief Technical Officer Vishant Vora resigned.

Important Points to Remember:

- Vodafone Idea CEO: Ravinder Takkar
- Vodafone Idea Headquarters: Gandhinagar

Sanjeev Krishan appointed as the Chairman and CEO of PwC India. He will replace Shyamal Mukherjee.

Important Points to Remember:

- PwC: PricewaterhouseCoopers (The second-largest professional services network in the world)
- PwC Headquarters: London

President of Kyrgyzstan Sooronbai Jeenbekov steps down.

Important Points to Remember:

- Kyrgyzstan New Prime Minister: Sadyr Japarov
- Kyrgyzstan Capital: Bishkek

Ashwani Kumar appointed as Group CEO of Suzlon Group.

Important Points to Remember:
Suzlon Energy Limited is an Indian wind turbine manufacturer based in Pune, India. It is the world's fifth-largest wind turbine supplier.

Rohit Sharma appointed as Brand Ambassador of India’s leading beauty accessories brand, Vega.

Important Points to Remember:

- In August, Rohit Sharma appointed as Brand Ambassador of Sports eyewear "Oakley".

Jyothi Pradhan appointed as chief executive officer of Kurl-on.

Important Points to Remember:

- Kurl-on: Mattress and home comfort brand

Jacinda Kate Laurell Ardern will be the next Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Important Points to Remember:

- Jacinda Kate Laurell Ardern is a New Zealand politician who has served as the 40th prime minister of New Zealand.
- She won the New Zealand election in a landmark victory, secures the second term.
- New Zealand Capital: Wellington

Tanuj Chaudhary appointed as CEO and Co-founder of Home Lane.

Important Points to Remember:

- Home Lane is a home interior company.

Rajkiran Rai G appointed as the Chairman of the Indian Banks’ Association (IBA), and Dinesh Kumar Khara appointed as the Deputy Chairman of the Indian Banks’ Association (IBA).

Important Points to Remember:

- Rajkiran Rai G: Managing Director and CEO of Union Bank of India
- IBA Headquarters: Mumbai

Vishal V. Sharma appointed as the next Permanent Representative of India to UNESCO, with the rank of Ambassador.

Important Points to Remember:
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France
- UNESCO Chief: Audrey Azoulay

Sunil Kumar Bansal, Akshaya Kumar Mishra, A Sema Rajan & Swagat Das has been promoted as Special Director in Intelligence Bureau.

Important Points to Remember:
- IB Director: Arvind Kumar
- IB Headquarters: New Delhi
- IB Founded: 1887

Kabir Ahmad Sakir appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Tata Communications.

Important Points to Remember:
- Tata Communications CEO: Amur Swaminathan Lakshminarayanan
- Tata Communications Headquarters: Mumbai

Anti-triple talaq crusader Shayara Bano appointed as the vice-chairperson in Uttarakhand’s state women commission with the minister of state (MoS).

Important Points to Remember:
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister: Trivendra Singh Rawat.
- Uttarakhand Capital: Dehradun
- Shayara Bano has been appointed as vice-chairperson in the state women commission along with two others Jyoti Shah and Pushpa Paswan with the minister of state (MoS).

R Narayan appointed as the President of the Confederation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (CMSME).

Dr. Saman Habib elected a fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi.

Important Points to Remember:
- Dr. Saman Habib, Chief Scientist and Professor (AcSIR) in Molecular Biology Division, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow brought the laurels to the Institute again through her outstanding work for understanding the malaria parasite.
- She is elected a fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi.
Nanda Kishore Sahoo appointed as Director General Dental Services and Colonel Commandant of Army Dental Corps.

India gets chairmanship of the governing body of the International Labour Organisation.

Important Points to Remember:

- Apurva Chandra, appointed as the Chairperson of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for the period October 2020- June 2021.
- Apurva Chandra: He is the Secretary of Labour and Employment Ministry.
- ILO Chief: Guy Ryder
- ILO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- ILO Formation: 11 April 1919

Sandeep Kalra appointed as CEO of Persistent Systems. He will replace Christopher O’Connor.

Important Points to Remember:

- Persistent Systems is a technology services company.
- Persistent Systems Founder: Anand Deshpande
- Persistent Systems Headquarters: Pune

Facebook Policy Head in India Ankhi Das resigned.

Important Points to Remember:

- Facebook Headquarters: California
- Facebook Founder: Mark Zuckerberg

Vertex CEO Gagan Arora appointed as Director of Education Committee Asian Arab Chamber of Commerce.

Important Points to Remember:

- AACC (Asian Arab Chamber of Commerce): AACC’s main aim is to promote trade, investment, and technology co-operation between Arab enterprises and their global counterparts.

Rajesh Nambiar appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Cognizant India.

Important Points to Remember:

- Cognizant CEO: Brian Humphries
Cognizant Founded: 26 January 1994
Cognizant Headquarters: Teaneck, New Jersey, United States

Ghanshyam Jha takes oath as Chairman of the J&K State Water Resources Regulatory Authority (SWRRA).

Important Points to Remember:

- The Jammu and Kashmir State Water Resources Regulatory Authority have been constituted vide SRO No. 339 dated 15.10.2012. It comprises a Chairperson and two Members.

Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner.

Important Points to Remember:

- Earlier he was Information Commissioner appointed on January 1, 2019.
- He also served as the High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka.
- He will replace Bimal Julka.

Shashi Kiran Shetty appointed as the Chairman of the Society and Board of Governors (BoG) of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE).

Important Points to Remember:

- Shashi Kiran Shetty: He is the chairman of Allcargo Logistics and Gati.
- NITIE is one of India’s premium and the only institution offering postgraduate courses in Industrial Engineering.
- NITIE, located in a sprawling 63-acre campus at Powai, Mumbai.
- NITIE was established by the Government of India in 1963 with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- NITIE was established to create skilled professionals through the International Labour Organization (ILO).
- UNDP Headquarters: New York, USA
- ILO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Wavel Ramkalawan appointed as president of Seychelles.

Important Points to Remember:

- Seychelles elected an opposition candidate as president for the first time since 1977.
Ramkalawan, a former Anglican priest, defeated President Danny Faure after three decades of unsuccessful runs for the presidency of the East African nation.
Ramkalawan captured 54.9% of the vote while Faure got 43.5%.

Kewal Kumar Sharma appointed as the State Election Commissioner of Jammu and Kashmir.

Important Points to Remember:
- He was serving as an Adviser to Jammu and Kashmir Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha.
- K.K. Sharma, a 1983 batch IAS officer, was appointed as Adviser to the L-G in November last year.
- He has also served as Chief Secretary of Delhi and Goa.

Jishnu Baruah appointed as the new chief secretary of Assam.

Important Points to Remember:
- He will succeed present Chief Secretary Kumar Sanjay Krishna, who retired on October 31.
- Assam Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Assam Chief Minister: Sarbananda Sonowal
- Assam Capital: Dispur

Awards and Honours


Important Points to Remember:
- Nobel Prize is the most prestigious award in its category.
- It was first awarded in 1901.
- The Nobel Prize is given in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, and Economics.
- The Nobel Prize is given in the memory of Alfred Nobel.


Important Points to Remember:
- Prani Mitra Awards are given to encourage Zoo Officers and Staff.
- Animal Keeper Award: - Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo, Mumbai
- Biologist/Educationist Award: - Nandankanan Biological Park, Odisha
• Veterinarian Award: - Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, Bhopal
• Director/Curator Award: - Arignar Anna Zoological Park Chennai

**Piyush Goyal announced First-ever National Startup Awards 2020.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The National Startup Awards aim to recognize and reward tremendous startups and ecosystem enablers that are building innovative products or solutions with high potential of employment generation or wealth creation in the country.
- There are eight categories in Startups and 2 Categories in Enablers. Rs. 5 Lakh will be awarded to the winners of all categories in Startups. Rs. 15 Lakh will be awarded to the incubators and accelerators each under the categories in Enablers.

[Click here to Check Winners List]

**The Nobel Prize 2020 in Physics awarded one half to Roger Penrose and the other half jointly to Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Nobel Prize is the most prestigious award in its category.
- It was first awarded in 1901.
- The Nobel Prize is given in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, and Economics.
- The Nobel Prize is given in the memory of Alfred Nobel.

**The Nobel Prize 2020 in Chemistry is awarded jointly to Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna “for the method for genome editing development.”**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Nobel Prize is the most prestigious award in its category.
- It was first awarded in 1901.
- The Nobel Prize is given in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, and Economics.
- The Nobel Prize is given in the memory of Alfred Nobel.

**The Nobel Prize 2020 in Literature is awarded to American poet Louise Gluck "for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal".**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Nobel Prize is the most prestigious award in its category.
It was first awarded in 1901.
The Nobel Prize is given in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, and Economics.
The Nobel Prize is given in the memory of Alfred Nobel.

The Nobel Prize 2020 in Peace is awarded to World Food Programme (WFP).

Important Points to Remember:

- Nobel Prize is the most prestigious award in its category.
- It was first awarded in 1901.
- The Nobel Prize is given in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, and Economics.
- The Nobel Prize is given in the memory of Alfred Nobel.

Click here to Check the Complete Nobel Prize Winners List

Prince William announced the EarthShot Prize.

Important Points to Remember:

- The Earthshot Prize is a new prize for the environment similar to Nobel Prize but Earth Shot Prize Prize money ($1.3 Million) is higher than the Nobel Prize.

Everything About EarthShot Prize: Click Here to Know More

Kani Kusruti won the best actress award for Sajin Baabu’s ‘Biriyaani’ at 42nd Moscow Film Festival.

Important Points to Remember:

- The Moscow film festival started in 1935 in Moscow.

Poet Ezhacheri Ramachandran won Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Literary Award 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- He won for his collection of poems Oru Virginian Veyilkaalam.

The Nobel Prize 2020 in Peace is awarded to Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson.

Important Points to Remember:

- Nobel Prize is the most prestigious award in its category.
- It was first awarded in 1901.
The Nobel Prize is given in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace, and Economics.

The Nobel Prize is given in the memory of Alfred Nobel.

Click here to Check the Complete Nobel Prize Winners List

Indian-origin philanthropist Harish Kotecha won Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award.

Important Points to Remember:

- He is the founder and president of Hindu Charities for America.
- He has been awarded for his work in the U.S. for meeting the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness.
- Sandra Neese was a founding member of Nevada’s homeless youth education office in 1988. For the next 10 years, she gave of herself tirelessly so that all children in this region may have what most take for granted: safety, shelter, and a future.
- In memory of her magnificent spirit, Community Chest, Inc. established the Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award to honor people like Sandra who have given so much of their lives so that young people without shelter may find the promise of tomorrow.

Mrs. Seema Gupta, Director (Operations), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, won the GOLD Stevie Award in Lifetime Achievement.

Important Points to Remember:

- A business category in the 17th annual Stevie Awards for Women in Business.
- The Stevie Awards are the world’s premier business awards.
- Established in 2002 to honor and generate public recognition of the achievements and positive contributions of organizations and working professionals worldwide.

Ritesh Rawal’s "Manifestism" has been Awarded as "Innovation of an Education Philosophy" in the Education Innovation Awards.

Important Points to Remember:

- The Education Innovation Awards by Entrepreneur Media recognizes inspiring leaders and innovative trendsetters from the field of education for outstanding contributions in transforming education to enrich the lives of learners everywhere.

Indian-American, Anika Chebrolu won the 3M young scientist challenge.

Important Points to Remember:
• She won the 3M Young Scientist Challenge for a discovery that could provide a potential treatment for Covid-19.
• 3M Young Scientist Challenge is the US’ premier middle school science competition.

**Malayalam film Kaanthi won the best film award at the India International Film Festival of Boston.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• Film Kaanthi is directed by Ashok R. Nath

**Insmart Systems Wins FICCI National Award.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• Insmart Systems, 27 years old manufacturers of quality control machinery catering to Defence, Atomic Energy, Cement, Steel, and Mineral sectors have been conferred with the National “GOLD” award by FICCI in the 8th FICCI quality systems excellence award function held in New Delhi.
• This prestigious FICCI national award has been presented to the company for adopting best practices in quality management systems and manufacturing machines adopting the Atmanirbhar Bharat concept.

**Rajesh Goenka, Director, RP tech India Bags the Prestigious Global CMO Leadership Award 2020.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• This is the first and only Global Award of this nature, where CMOs and Marketing leaders from 25 countries were recognized.
• The Awardees comprised CMOs, Marketing Directors, VPs, and Marketing Heads from companies in IT, ITES, Telecom, Datacenter, Cloud, and Managed Services.

**Merck Foundation "Stay at Home" Media Recognition Awards 2020 Recognized the Best of COVID-19 Reportage From the Democratic Republic of the Congo.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• The theme of the awards was 'Raising Awareness on how to Stay Safe and Keep Physically and Mentally Healthy during Coronavirus Lockdown'.

**CSIR-CDRI Scientist, Dr. Satish Mishra bags "DrTulsi Das Chugh Award-2020".**

**Important Points to Remember:**
The Orations & Awards Committee of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), has selected Dr. Satish Mishra, Principal Scientist, Division of Molecular Parasitology and Immunology, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow for “Dr. Tulsi Das Chugh Award” for the year 2020 in recognition of his research work on Malaria parasite’s life cycle which is a complex process involving two hosts and three invasive stages.

National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) is a unique institution that fosters and utilizes academic excellence as its resource to meet medical and social goals.

It was registered as the ‘Indian Academy of Medical Sciences’ on 21st April 1961 under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

The Academy was renamed the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) on 16th November 1976.

Maharashtra National Level Photo Competition Awards announced.

Important Points to Remember:

- Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari presented the top awards of a national level photo competition.
- The photo competition was organized by the Photographic and Artists Social Foundation.
- The theme of the photographic competition was ‘rains’.
- Sanjay Hadkar (Times of India) won the first prize.
- Rajesh Jadhav (Asian Age/Deccan Chronicle) won the second prize
- Ashpak Killedar won the third prize.
- Photographers Bhushan Koyande, (PTI /HT Media), Prashant Kharote, Lokmat (Nashik) and Sharad Patil of Kolhapur were given consolation prizes on this occasion.

Kerala Kalamandlam Awards 2020 announced. (Full Winners List)

Important Points to Remember:

- Kerala Kalamandlam awards for the year 2019 were declared on 28th October 2020. Kathakali maestro Injakkad Ramachandran and Maddalam expert Kalamandalam Narayanan Nair won the Kerala Kalamandlam fellowships.
- The Fellowships category winners will receive a cash prize of ₹50,000, citation, and Ponnada.
- The awards category winners will receive a cash prize of ₹30,000 and citations.
- The Young talent award-Thullal category winner will receive a cash prize of ₹10,000 and a citation.

Click Here To Download Complete Winners List PDF

Bangladesh Government announced Independence Day Awards 2020. (Complete Winners List Here)

Important Points to Remember:

- Swadhinata Puroskar, is the highest state award given by the government of Bangladesh.
The award carries a gold medal, certificate, and Taka 5 lakh. Introduced in 1977, the award is given away to individuals and institutions ahead of Independence Day on March 26 every year. This award is bestowed upon Bangladeshi citizens or organizations. Swadhinata Puroskar is also termed as Independence Award, Independence Day Award, and Swadhinata Padak.

(Complete Winners List Here)

Banking

The RBI excluded six public sector banks from the Second Schedule of the RBI Act following their merger with other banks.

Important Points to Remember:

- The six banks are Syndicate Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC), United Bank of India, Andhra Bank, Corporation Bank, and Allahabad Bank.

RBI approves appointment of CoD to run Dhanlaxmi Bank till the appointment of CEO.

Important Points to Remember:

- The committee of directors (CoD) will be constituted with Subramonia Iyer as chairman and G Rajagopalan Nair and PK Vijayakumar as its member.

Banks Board Bureau recommended the name of Dinesh Khara for the SBI chairman post. Rajnish Kumar, current chairman, will complete his tenure on 6 October 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- SBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- SBI Founded: 1 July 1955

M Rajeshwar Rao appointed as a new deputy governor of RBI. He replaced N. Vishwanathan.

Important Points to Remember:

- Other RBI Deputy Governors: B.P. Kanungo, M.K. Jain, and M.D. Patra
- RBI Governor: Shahsikanta Das
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai
- RBI Founded: 1 April 1935
API integration between PM SVANidhi and SBI portal launched.

Important Points to Remember:

- This integration will facilitate the seamless flow of data between these two portals in a secure environment and expedite the loan sanctioning and disbursement process, which will benefit the street vendors.
- **PM SVANIDHI Scheme** *(Launched- 1 June 2020)*
- SBI Chief: Dinesh Kumar Khara
- SBI Headquarters: Mumbai

India becomes the leader in real-time transactions with 41 million payments per day: FIS Report

Important Points to Remember:

- In terms of the growth rate, the list is topped by Bahrain with 657 percent growth, followed by Ghana clipping at 488 percent, the Philippines growing at 309 percent, Australia at 214 percent, and Poland at 208 percent. India's growth was 213 percent, handling 41 million transactions a day.

RTGS to be available 24x7 from December.

- The minimum amount that can be remitted through RTGS is ₹2 lakh. There is no upper limit.
- Last year RBI allowed NEFT 24X7 from December 2019.
- RBI Governor: Shashikanta Das
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai

Shashank Bhide, Ashima Goyal, and Jayanth R Varma appointed as members of RBI's Monetary Policy Committee.

- RBI Governor: Shashikanta Das
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai
- RBI Founded: 1 April 1935

Fino Payments Bank launches "human ATM".

Important Points to Remember:

- Equipped with Fino's Micro ATM and Aadhaar-enabled payment system (AePS) devices, the staff at the outlet transform into human ATMs, helping people with deposits, withdrawals, or money transfer transactions and even open new accounts.
- Customers can also purchase insurance (health, life, COVID, and motor) pay utility bills, recharge mobile, and DTH at the BPCL outlets.
Fino Payments Bank CEO: Rishi Gupta

Fino Payments Bank Headquarters: Mumbai

**Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman announces measures of Rs 73,000 crore to stimulate consumer spending before the end of this Financial Year in the fight against COVID-19.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Leave Travel Concession (LTC) Cash Voucher Scheme
- Special Festival Advance Scheme
- Special Assistance to the States
- Enhanced Budget Provisions

Complete Details Here: Download PDF

**ICICI Bank shuts down operations in Sri Lanka.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, having considered the request made by ICICI Bank, has granted approval to close down the business operation of the bank in Sri Lanka and cancel the license issued to it.
- ICICI Bank CEO: Sandeep Bakhshi
- ICICI Bank Headquarters: Mumbai

**DBS named Asia’s Safest Bank for the 12th consecutive year.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- DBS’ rankings as the fourth-safest commercial bank in the world and 14th safest bank globally remain unchanged from 2019 and 2018.
- DBS Bank Ltd is a Singaporean multinational banking and financial services corporation.
- DBS Bank CEO: Piyush Gupta
  DBS Bank Headquarters: Singapore

**Yodaa, A Neo-bank for teens launched in India.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Singapore-based Atlantis launched teen banking products Yodaa.
- Yodaa provides teen users with a card and an app.
- The card allows them to make purchases online and in stores and the app connects the teen’s card to that of a parent.
The app also allows teens to make peer-to-peer payments to other Yodaa users, split bills, set up recurring savings plans.
Parents can use the app to top up their child’s card, contribute to their savings, get spending notifications and insights, and set budgets.

**Books and Authors**

**Dr Jitendra Singh released a Coffee Table Book on “Discovering the Heritage of Assam”.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Dr Jitendra Singh: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space
- Book foreword by Amitabh Bachchan
- Book published by Penguin Publishers

**Artist M Dileef released his cartoon book called ‘I Can’t Breathe’**.

**Important Points to Remember:**

- A cartoon book that is 400 meters long, features 800 different frames and weighs 75 kilograms.

**Kumar Bendre’s Kannada novel, Daali, was released online by film director Nagathihalli Chandrashekar.**

**Book titled "C is for Cat and D is for Depression".**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Author- Kairavi Bharat Ram

**Book titled "Mr Prime Minister, We Shrank the Dragon".**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Author- Pradeep Goorha

**Shashi Tharoor announced his new book titled “The Battle of Belonging: On Nationalism, Patriotism And What It Means To Be Indian”.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
Shashi Tharoor: Loksabha MP (Thiruvananthapuram), writer and author

Mr. Raj K Pathak, a noted veteran in the start-up ecosystem has announced his first book Startup Kunji - Practical insights for starting a business.

Important Points to Remember:

- He is the President of the WeSpark Entrepreneur Association.

Arjun Anand Launched his Maiden Book Hamir - The Fallen Prince of Ranthambore

Important Points to Remember:

- Arjun Anand: Author and fine art photographer
- The book captures the life of the popular tigers of the world-famous Ranthambore National Park, with a special focus on the tiger known as Hamir (T104).
- Hamir is a fiercely wild, blue-eyed tiger born in the Park, but eventually declared a man-eater after he killed three humans in dire existential crises and sentenced to a lifetime of confinement.

Sarbpreet Singh authored the book titled “Night of the Restless Spirits: Stories from 1984”.

Important Points to Remember:

- It is a heart-rending collection of stories that evokes the horrors and uncertainties of 1984.

Anandi Ben Patel released World's first scientoon book titled "Bye Bye Corona".

- The book is written by 'scientoonist' Dr. Pradeep Srivastava.
- He is the former Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow.
- The book is published by Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous agency under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India.
- The book contains comprehensive information on the novel coronavirus pandemic, its symptoms, and its prevention through precautions.
- The basic purpose of this book is to make people aware of COVID-19.

Cabinet Decisions

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Australia for collaboration in capacity building, research and development, and making an impact for sustainable groundwater management.

Important Points to Remember:
A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga rejuvenation, India and Managing Aquifer Recharge and Sustaining Groundwater use through village-level intervention (MARVI) PARTNERS, Australia in October 2019.

To promote cooperation in surface and groundwater training, education, and research to achieve water security for agricultural, urban, industrial, and environmental purposes.

Cabinet approves Special Package for UT of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission.

Important Points to Remember:
- Cabinet has approved a Special Package worth Rs. 520 crore in the UTs of J&K and Ladakh for a period of five years till FY 2023-24 and ensure funding of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) in the UTs of Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh.
- This will ensure sufficient funds under the Mission, as per need to the UTs, and is also in line with the Government of India’s aim to universalize all centrally sponsored beneficiary-oriented schemes in the UTs of J&K and Ladakh in a time-bound manner.

Cabinet approves Rs. 5718 crore World Bank aided project STARS.

Important Points to Remember:
- Implementation of the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) project with a total project cost of Rs 5718 crore with the financial support of the World Bank amounting to the US $ 500 million (approximately Rs. 3700 crores).
- STARS project would be implemented as a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. (MOE)
- Setting up and support to the National Assessment Centre, PARAKH as an independent and autonomous institution under the Department of School Education and Literacy, MOE.
- The project covers 6 States namely Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, and Odisha.
- The identified States will be supported by various interventions for improving the quality of education. Besides this project, it is also envisaged to implement a similar ADB-funded project in 5 states namely Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, and Assam.
- All states will partner with one other state for sharing their experiences and best practices.
The STARS project seeks to support the states in developing, implementing, evaluating, and improving interventions with direct linkages to improved education outcomes and school to work transition strategies for improved labor market outcomes.

Union Cabinet approved Externally Aided Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)–Phase II & Phase III.

Important Points to Remember:

- To improve the safety and operational performance of selected 736 dams across the country, this project worth Rs 10,211 crore, will be implemented from April 2021-March 2031.

Union Cabinet approved MoC between India and Japan on cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technologies.

Important Points to Remember:

- The MoC will contribute to strengthening bilateral cooperation and mutual understanding in the field of communications and will serve as a strategic initiative for India as Japan is an important partner with “Special Strategic and Global Partnership” status.
- The MoC will help in cooperation between two countries in various fields like 5G network, telecom security, Submarine cable, standard certification of communication equipment, utilization of latest Wireless Technologies and ICTs, ICTs capacity building, Public Protection, and Disaster Relief, Artificial Intelligence (AI) / BlockChain, Spectrum Chain, Spectrum Management, Cooperation on Multilateral platforms, etc.

Union Cabinet approved the MoU between India and Cambodia on cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine.

Important Points to Remember:

- The bilateral MoU will encourage cooperation between the two countries through joint initiatives and technology development in the health sector. It will strengthen bilateral ties between India and Cambodia. The MoU shall become effective on the date of its signature and shall remain in force for a period of five years.
- The main areas of cooperation between the two Governments include:
- Mother and child health, Family Planning, HIV/AIDS and TB, Drugs, and Pharmaceuticals,
- Technology Transfer, Public Health and Epidemiology, Disease Control (Communicable and Non-Communicable), Medical Research and Development, subject to the approval of the National Ethics Committee of Cambodia and to the clearance by concerned Department/Ministry in India,
Medical Education, Health manpower development in the field of public health, Training in clinical, para-clinical, and management skills, and any other area of cooperation as may be mutually decided upon.

**Union Cabinet approved Extension of Norms for Mandatory Packaging in Jute Materials.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Cabinet has approved that 100% of the foodgrains and 20% of the sugar shall be mandatorily packed in diversified jute bags.
- The decision to pack sugar in diversified jute bags will give an impetus to the diversification of the jute industry.
- Under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 (hereinafter “the JPM Act”), the Government is required to consider and provide for the compulsory use of jute packaging material in the supply and distribution of certain commodities.
- The approval will benefit farmers and workers located in the Eastern and North Eastern regions of the country particularly in the states of West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya and Tripura.

**Union Cabinet approved Mechanism for procurement of ethanol by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies under Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Cabinet has approved the following, including fixing higher ethanol price derived from different sugarcane-based raw materials under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme for the forthcoming sugar season 2020-21 during Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2020-21 from 1st December 2020 to 30th November 2021:
  - (i) The price of ethanol from the C heavy molasses route be increased from Rs.43.75 per lit to Rs.45.69 per litre.
  - (ii) The price of ethanol from the B heavy molasses route be increased from Rs.54.27 per lit to Rs.57.61 per litre.
  - (iii) The price of ethanol from sugarcane juice/sugar/sugar syrup route be increased from Rs.59.48 per lit to Rs.62.65 per litre.

**Defence News**

**DRDO test-fires BrahMos supersonic cruise missile successfully. BrahMos can now hit targets 400 kilometres away. (Previous Range- 290 kilometres).**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organization
Lieutenant General Harinder Singh appointed as the commandant of the Indian Military Academy.

Important Points to Remember:

- IMA: An officer-training academy of the Indian Army
- IMA Headquarters: Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- IMA Founded: 1 October 1932

Indian Coast Guard Fast Patrol Vessel ICGS 'Kanaklata Barua' commissioned in Kolkata.

Important Points to Remember:

- Indian Coast Guard Director-General: Krishnaswamy Natarajan
- Indian Coast Guard Headquarters: New Delhi
- Indian Coast Guard Founded: 18 August 1978

DRDO successfully tested Laser-Guided Anti Tank Guided Missile. Missile defeated the target located at a longer range. The test was conducted from MBT Arjun at KK Ranges (ACC&S) Ahmednagar in continuation of a successful trial done on 22nd September 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organization
- DRDO Chief: G. Sateesh Reddy
- DRDO Headquarters: New Delhi

Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy bilateral exercise "BONGOSAGAR" commences in Northern Bay of Bengal.

Important Points to Remember:

- This is the 2nd edition of "BONGOSAGAR".
- This exercise will be followed by the 3rd edition of IN - BN Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) in Northern Bay of Bengal from 4 to 5 October 2020.
- Indian Naval Ships: INS Kiltan and INS Kurti
- Bangladesh Naval Ships: Abu Bakr

Air Marshal Vikram Singh took over as Senior Air Staff Officer, Headquarters Western Air Command.
Important Points to Remember:

- He has been the Air Attache at Moscow, Russia.
- He has also served at the Integrated Defence Staff Headquarters and was Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Plans) at Air Headquarters.
- Air Force Chief: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
- Air Force Headquarters: New Delhi
- Air Force Founded: 8 October 1932

**India successfully test-fires new version of nuclear-capable Shaurya Missile from a defence facility off the Odisha coast.**

Important Points to Remember:

- Shaurya Missile: Hypersonic surface-to-surface tactical missile
- Shaurya Missile Speed: 7.5 Mach (7.5 times the speed of sound)
- Developed By: Defence Research Development and Organization
- The Shaurya missile can hit targets at a range of around 800 kilometres.

**New war memorial built for 20 Galwan warriors who caused heavy casualties to the Chinese Army.**

Important Points to Remember:

- The memorial is located in Durbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie, Ladakh.
- The memorial has 20 soldier’s names and the 15th June operation’s details.

**DRDO has flight-tested the Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) successfully.**

Important Points to Remember:

- SMART: Missile assisted release of lightweight Anti-Submarine Torpedo System
- DRDO Chief: G. Sateesh Reddy
- DRDO Headquarters: New Delhi, India

**India Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) Vigraha, last in series of 7 OPVs launched at Kattupalli.**

Important Points to Remember:

- Indian Coast Guard Director-General: K Natarajan
- Indian Coast Guard Headquarters: New Delhi
- Indian Coast Guard Founded: 18 August 1978
Air Force Day is observed every year on 8th October. This is the 88th Anniversary of the Indian Air Force.

Important Points to Remember:

- Air Force Chief: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
- Air Force Headquarters: New Delhi

India successfully test-fires Rudram Anti-Radiation Missile developed by DRDO.

Important Points to Remember:

- India’s first indigenous anti-radiation missile, Rudram, developed for the Indian Air Force, was successfully flight-tested from a Sukhoi-30 MKI.
- Anti-radiation missiles are designed to detect, track, and neutralize the opponent’s radar, communication assets, and other radio frequency sources.
- DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organization
- DRDO Chief: G Sateesh Reddy
- DRDO Headquarters: New Delhi
- DRDO Founded: 1958

Indian Air Force achieved a new record of the highest Skydive Landing at Khardungla Pass, Leh at an altitude of 17982 ft breaking its own earlier record.

Important Points to Remember:

- Wing Commander Gajanad Yadava and Warrant Officer AK Tiwari carried out successful skydiving jump from C-130J aircraft and landed at Khardungla Pass, Leh on 08 Oct 20.
- IAF Chief: RKS Bhadauria

Suraksha Kavach, Joint Anti-Terrorist Exercise by Indian Army and Maharashtra Police concluded.

- 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.
- The exercise involved the participation of Quick Reaction Teams, Dog Squads and Bomb Disposal Teams of the Army as well as Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and Quick Reaction Team of Maharashtra Police.

India will be delivering submarine INS Sindhuvir to Myanmar Navy. This will be the first submarine of the Myanmar Navy.

Important Points to Remember:
INS Sindhuvir (S58) is a Sindhughosh-class diesel-electric submarine of the Indian Navy.
Indian Navy Chief: Admiral Karambir Singh

Raksha Mantri Trophy for Best Command Hospitals.

Important Points to Remember:

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh gave these awards to command hospitals.
- The award Best Command Hospital for 2019 was awarded to Command Hospital (Air Force) Bengaluru.
- The award Second Best Command Hospital for 2019 was awarded to Command Hospital (Eastern Command) Kolkata.

India – Kazakhstan Defence Cooperation: Webinar and Expo held.

Important Points to Remember:

- A webinar between India and Kazakhstan was held on 15th October 2020.
- The Theme of the webinar was “Make In India For The World, India – Kazakhstan Defence Cooperation: Webinar and Expo”.
- It was organized under the aegis of Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence through FICCI.


Important Points to Remember:

- SLINEX is a naval exercise between the Indian Navy and the Sri Lanka Navy.
- Indian Navy Chief: Admiral Karambir Singh

DRDO successfully test-fired BRAHMOS, the supersonic cruise missile on 18th October 2020 from the Indian Navy’s indigenously-built stealth destroyer INS Chennai.

Important Points to Remember:

- BRAHMOS is developed by DRDO.
- DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organization
- DRDO Chief: G. Sateesh Reddy

India successfully test-fires Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile off Odisha coast.

Important Points to Remember:
SANT missile is Air to Surface Missile.
SANT missile is developed by Defence Research and Development Organization. It is developed for the Indian Air Force.
SANT missile was test-fired from a roof-top launcher at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) against a static target.
SANT missile and Helicopter Launched Nag (HeliNa) missile has both lock-on before launch and lock-on after launch capability.
SANT missile is equipped with an advanced nose-mounted seeker the missile can hit targets 15 km to 20 km away.

Australia to join Malabar Naval exercise with India, the US, and Japan.

Important Points to Remember:
- The Annual Naval Exercise Malabar-2020 is expected to be held in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea later this year.


Important Points to Remember:
- The new DRDO Procurement Manual will facilitate the indigenous Defence Industry by simplifying the processes and ensure their participation in design and development activities.

Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette “INS Kavaratti” commissioned into the Indian Navy by Indian Army Chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane at Naval Dockyard, Vishakhapatnam.

Important Points to Remember:
- Indian Navy Cheif: Admiral KaramBir Singh

India successfully carried out the final trial of the DRDO-developed Nag anti-tank guided missile with a warhead.

Important Points to Remember:
- DRDO Chief: G Sateesh Reddy

Rajnath Singh addressed the Army Commanders’ Conference in New Delhi.

Important Points to Remember:
The Army Commanders’ Conference, an apex level biannual event, is being held in New Delhi from 26 to 29 October 2020.

Rajnath Singh: Defence Minister

HAL signed a contract worth Rs 400 cr. with Tech Mahindra.

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd and Tech Mahindra signed a contract worth Rs 400 crore recently in Bengaluru for implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning to support HAL’s ‘Project Parivartan’, a comprehensive business transformation exercise through technology enhancement and centralized ERP.
- HAL Chairman and Managing Director: R Madhavan

Indian Army has developed a simple and secure messaging application named the 'Secure Application for the Internet (SAI)'.

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The application supports an end to end secure voice, text & video calling services for the Android platform over the internet.

Guided Missile Corvette INS Kora hits the target at max range with precise accuracy in the Bay of Bengal.

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Kora-class corvettes are 1,350-tonne guided missile corvettes of the Indian Navy.

24th MALABAR Naval exercise will commence from 3rd November 2020.

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Indian Navy, US Navy, Japan Maritime Self Defence Force & Royal Australian Navy will take part in Phase-I, which is to commence off in Visakhapatnam in Bay of Bengal from 3 to 6 November.
- Phase-II will commence off in the Arabian Sea in mid-November.

**Important Days**

The International Day of Older Persons is observed every year on 1st October.

**Important Points to Remember:**
On 14th December 1990, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons. International Day of Older Persons 2020 Theme is "Leave No One Behind".

**International Coffee Day is observed every year on 1st October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- International Coffee Organization founded in 1963
- 1st International Coffee Day celebrated in 2015

**World Vegetarian Day is observed every year on 1st October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Objective: It brings awareness to the benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle.
- Established By: North American Vegetarian Society in 1977
- Endorsed by: The International Vegetarian Union in 1978
- Theme: To promote vegetarianism

**International Non-Violence Day is observed every year on 2nd October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2nd October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The United Nations General Assembly on 15 June 2007 voted to establish 2nd October as the International Day of Non-Violence.

**World Smile Day is observed every year on 2nd October.**

**World Animal Day is observed every year on 4th October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Objective: Celebrates for animal rights and welfare
- World Animal Day 2020 Theme: Man, and Dog

**World Habitat Day is observed every year on the 1st Monday of October. This year the day falls on 5 October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- It is recognized by the United Nations to reflect on the state of towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter.
- World Habitat Day 2020 Theme is Housing for all - A better urban future
World Teachers' Day is observed every year on 5th October.

Important Points to Remember:

- When a meeting convened by UNESCO on 5 October 1966, in Paris adopted the UNESCO/ILO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.
- Theme: “Teachers: Leading in Crisis, Reimagining the Future”.

World Space Week is observed every year from 4th to 10th October.

- Theme: Satellites Improve Life

World Cotton Day is observed on 7th October.

Important Points to Remember:

- This was the 2nd edition.

NCERT celebrated its 60th Foundation Day on 6th October 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- NCERT: National Council of Educational Research and Training
- NCERT Director: Hrishikesh Senapaty
- NCERT President: Ramesh Pokhriyal (Education Minister)
- NCERT Headquarters: New Delhi
- NCERT Founder: Government of India
- NCERT Founded: 1961

Air Force Day is observed every year on 8th October. This is the 88th Anniversary of the Indian Air Force.

Important Points to Remember:

- Air Force Chief: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
- Air Force Headquarters: New Delhi

World Sight Day is observed every year on 8th October.

Important Points to Remember:

- World Sight Day 2020 Theme: Hope in Sight
World Post Day is observed every year on 9th October. India post commences National Postal Week from 9th to 15th October.

Important Points to Remember:

- This day was established by the Universal Postal Union Congress in 1969.
- Objective: To increase awareness about the role of the postal department

World Mental Health Day is observed every year on the 10th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

- World Mental Health Day is an international day for global mental health education, awareness, and advocacy against social stigma. It was first celebrated in 1992.
- The theme for World Mental Health Day 2020 is 'Mental Health for All: Greater Investment – Greater Access'.

World Day Against The Death Penalty is observed every year on the 10th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

- The 18th World Day Against The Death Penalty is dedicated to the right to effective legal representation for individuals who may face a death sentence.
- The theme for World Day Against The Death Penalty 2020 is "Access to counsel - A matter of life or death."

International Day of the Girl Child is observed every year on the 11th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

- The theme for International Day of the Girl Child is "My voice, our equal future".
- Twenty-five years ago, some 30,000 women and men from nearly 200 countries arrived in Beijing, China, for the Fourth World Conference on Women, determined to recognize women’s rights as human rights.

Columbus Day is observed every year on 12th October.

Important Points to Remember:

- Columbus Day is the celebration of Christopher Columbus’ discovery of the Americas on October 12, 1492.

World Arthritis Day is observed every year on 12th October.

Important Points to Remember:
Objective: To raise awareness about arthritis, the world's most prevalent disease
The theme for World Arthritis Day 2020 is “Time2Work”

International Day for Disaster Reduction is observed every year on the 13th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

-Began in 1989, after a call by the UN General Assembly for a day to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction.
The International Day for Disaster Reduction 2020 theme is Disaster risk governance.

World Thrombosis Day is observed every year on the 13th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

The World Thrombosis Day campaign aims to educate patients, caregivers, and medical professionals about the early warning signs, the importance of screening upon hospital admission, prompt interventions, and optimal treatments.

World Standards Day (or International Standards Day) is observed every year on the 14th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

- The aim of World Standards Day is to raise awareness among regulators, industry, and consumers as to the importance of standardization to the global economy.
World Standards Day 2020 Theme- Protecting the planet with standards

World Students' Day is observed each year on the 15th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

- World Students' Day 2020 Theme- Youth Engagement for Global Action
It marks the birth anniversary of former President of India Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
The United Nations declared October 15 as World Students’ Day in 2010.

Global Handwashing Day is observed each year on the 15th of October.

Important Points to Remember:

- The 2020 Global Handwashing Day theme is “Hand Hygiene for All.”
The global campaign is dedicated to raising awareness of handwashing with soap as a key factor in disease prevention.

**World Anaesthesia Day is observed every year on the 16th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- It is observed on the anniversary of the first use of ether anaesthesia by American dentist William T. G. Morton in 1846.

**World Food Day is observed every year on the 16th of October. World Food Day 2020 marks the 75th Anniversary of FAO.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization
- FAO Chief: Qu Dongyu
- FAO Headquarters: Rome, Italy
- World Food Day 2020 Theme is Grow, nourish, sustain. Together. Our actions are our future.

**Digital Society Day is observed every year on the 17th of October in India.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Information Technology Act 2000 was notified on 17th October 2000.
- An electronic document became legally recognized as equivalent to a paper document.

**International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on the 17th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- To honour victims of poverty, hunger, violence, and fear
- United Nations declared 17th October as 'International Day for the Eradication of Poverty' in honour of Joseph Wresinski, the founder of International Movement ATD Fourth World.
- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2020 theme is Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all.

**Word Statistics Day 2020 is celebrated globally on 20th October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
• World Statistics Day was first celebrated on 20 October 2010.
• World Statistics Day is celebrated every five years.
• World Statistics Day 2020 Theme is "Connecting The World With Data We Can Trust".

**National Police Commemoration Day is observed every year on October 21.**

• On October 21, 1959, twenty Indian soldiers were attacked by the Chinese troops in Ladakh. This altercation between the troops led to the death of ten policemen.
• Seven of the others who were also imprisoned and managed to escape from the Chinese troops.
• On November 28, 1959, the Chinese troops handed over the dead bodies of the martyred policemen to India.
• Their cremation was held with full Police honors at the Hot springs in Ladakh.
• Ever since the incident, October 21 is celebrated as Police Commemoration Day in remembrance of the martyrs.

**International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD), or International Stammering Awareness Day is observed every year on 22nd October.**

**World Mole Day is observed every year on 23 October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• World Mole Day is observed every year on 23 October from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m. commemorates chemistry’s measuring unit called “Avogadro’s Number” (6.02 x 10^23).
• Mole Day was created to generate interest in the subject of Chemistry. The theme of Mole Day 2020 is MOLEzilla!

**World Polio Day is observed every year on the 24th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• Jonas Salk made a breathtaking contribution to the whole world through his discovery of the Polio vaccine.
• The development was indeed a very significant milestone in medical history.
• Along with this vaccine, the oral form of ingesting this vaccine for kids below five years soon followed suit.
• World Polio Day 2020 Theme is Stories of Progress: Past and Present

**World Development Information Day is observed every year on the 24th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
In 1972, the United Nations General Assembly decided to institute a World Development Information Day coinciding with United Nations Day on October 24.

**United Nations Day is observed every year on the 24th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The United Nations officially established on 24 October 1945.
- In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly declared 24 October, the anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations.

**Intersex Awareness Day is observed every year on the 26th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Objective: To highlight human rights issues faced by intersex people.
- Intersex Day of Remembrance or Intersex Solidarity Day is observed on the 8th of November, the birthday of Herculine Barbin.

**Accession Day (Jammu and Kashmir) is observed every year on the 26th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Maharaja Hari Singh signed off the Instrument of Accession on 26 October 1947, in which Jammu and Kashmir joined the Dominion of India.

**Vigilance Week begins across the country.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Vigilance Awareness Week, 2020 will be observed from the 27th of October to the 2nd of November.
- Vigilance Awareness Week is observed every year during the week in which the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel falls on the 31st of October.
- The CBI is hosting a 3-day national conference on vigilance and anti-corruption beginning from the 27th of November.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the conference via video conferencing this evening.
- The CBI organizes this national conference coinciding with ‘Vigilance Awareness Week.

**Indian Army Celebrated 74th Infantry Day 2020.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
• 27th of October is celebrated as Infantry Day by the Indian Army as it was on this
day that an Infantry Company of the First Battalion of the Sikh Regiment was
airlifted from Delhi to Srinagar to liberate Kashmir from the invading tribals who
were supported by Pakistan Army.

**World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is observed on 27th October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• The theme for World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is Your Window to the World

**International Animation Day is observed every year on the 28th of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• October 28, the International Animation Day was an international observance
proclaimed in 2002 by the International Animated Film Association (ASIFA) as the
main global event to celebrate the art of animation.

**World Stroke Day is observed every year on 29th October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• World Stroke Day is observed every year on 29th October by the World Stroke
Organization. On this day, organizations and individuals around the world raise
awareness around stroke prevention and treatment.
• The day focuses on stroke awareness and improving facilities for people who
survived the health condition.
• World Stroke Day 2020 Theme is "Join the MoveMent".

**National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is observed every year on the 31st of
October. National Integration Day 2020 is observed on the 31st of October.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

• The Government of India introduced National Unity Day in 2014.
• National Unity Day is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel.
• He served as the First Deputy Prime Minister and First Home Minister of India.
• He was conferred with Bharat Ratna Award (posthumously) in 1991.
• The Statue of Unity is a monument dedicated to Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, located in the
Indian state of Gujarat, facing the Narmada Dam, 3.2 km away from Sadhu Bet near
Vadodara.
• At the height of 182 meters (597 feet), it is the world’s tallest statue, exceeding the Spring
Temple Buddha by 54 meters, and the Statue of Liberty by 89 meters.

**World Cities Day is observed every year on the 31st of October.**
Important Points to Remember:

- Objective: This day aims for international cooperation among countries in order to tackle challenges and create sustainable opportunities for urbanization.
- World Cities Day was established in 2014 by the U.N General Assembly.
- The general theme of World Cities Day is Better City, Better Life.
- The theme of World Cities Day 2020 is Valuing our Communities and Cities.

**World Thrift Day is observed every year on the 31st of October.**

Important Points to Remember:

- The aim of celebrating World thrift day is to change our behavior towards saving and constantly reminds us of the importance of wealth.
- The first International Thrift Congress had declared October 31 as the World Thrift day.
- The theme of World Thrift Day 2020 is saving money to gain a higher standard of life and to secure the economy.

**International News**

Marking the 151st Gandhi Jayanti, India gifted 41 Ambulances to government and non-profit organizations of Nepal working in 29 districts across Nepal.

Important Points to Remember:

- Nepal President: Bidya Devi Bhandari
- Nepal Prime Minister: K P Sharma Koli
- Nepal Capital: Kathmandu

Inspired by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi on his 151st birth anniversary, Google Arts & Culture launched "Be the Voices of Change via Postcards" online exhibition.

Important Points to Remember:

- Organised in association with Kochi-based non-profit LetterFarms, the online exhibition aims to inspire people to be the change through messages written or painted on handcrafted postcards
- Google Founder: Larry Page
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States

NASA lifts off Kalpana Chawla cargo spacecraft.

Important Points to Remember:

- Launched from NASA’s Flight Facility in Virginia
Kalpana Chawla was born in Haryana, India and became a NASA astronaut as a member of "The Flying Escargot," NASA’s 15th class of trainees.

NASA: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASA Headquarters: Washington D.C., USA
NASA Founded: 1 October 1958

Sofia Vergara tops in the Forbes list of the world’s highest-paid actresses with $43 million.

Important Points to Remember:

- Hollywood veteran Angelina Jolie ($35 million) and Red Notice star Gal Gadot ($31 million) come in 2nd and 3rd on the list.

Russia successfully tests new hypersonic Tsirkon missiles.

Important Points to Remember:

- The missile hit its target 450 kilometers away in the Barents Sea and reached a speed of Mach 8 (eight times the speed of sound).
- Russia President: Vladimir Putin
- Russia Capital: Moscow

Saudi Arabia’s National Commercial Bank buys Samba Financial Group in a $14.8 bn deal.

Important Points to Remember:

- Saudi Arabia National Commercial Bank Chairman: Saeed Mohammed AL-Ghamdi
- Saudi Arabia National Commercial Bank Headquarters: Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Bangladesh’s Cabinet approves the death penalty in rape cases.

Important Points to Remember:

- President Abdul Hamid approved the Women and Children Repression Prevention (Amendment) bill.
- Bangladesh Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina
- Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka

NASA’s Kate Rubins along with Sergey Ryzhikov and Sergey Kud-Sverchkov of the Russian space agency Roscosmos lifted off from the Baikonur space launch facility in Kazakhstan for a six-month stint at the International Space station.

Important Points to Remember:
Japan unveiled its newest submarine with the aim to boost the country’s maritime security amid China’s growing aggression in the region.

Important Points to Remember:

- Japan Prime Minister: Yoshihide Suga
- Japan Capital: Tokyo

Pakistan re-elected to United Nations Human Rights Council.

Important Points to Remember:

- UNHRC: United Nations Human Rights Council
- UNHRC President: Elisabeth Tichy-Fisslberger
- UNHRC Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

World Bank approves $12B to finance virus vaccines, care.

Important Points to Remember:

- World Bank President: David Malpass
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington DC, USA

Russia will hold the maiden International Inter-Party Forum SCO+ to be held in a virtual format from October 21-23.

Important Points to Remember:

- Russia: Current President of SCO
- SCO: The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), or Shanghai Pact, is a Eurasian political, economic, and security alliance, the creation of which was announced on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai, China.
- The SCO currently comprises eight Member States (China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), four Observer States interested in acceding to full membership (Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran, and Mongolia) and six “Dialogue Partners” (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Turkey).
- Russia President: Vladimir Putin
- Russia Capital: Moscow
A film museum was inaugurated at the Bangladesh Film Archive Bhaban in Dhaka.

Important Points to Remember:

- Bangladesh Film Archive Bhaban is the biggest archive building in South Asia.
- Bangladesh Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina
- Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka

A Saudi artist, Ohud Abdullah Almalki has created the world's "largest coffee painting" and made it into Guinness World Records.

Important Points to Remember:

- She became the first woman from Saudi Arabia to achieve a record title single-handedly.
- She used expired coffee to illustrate renowned leaders from the kingdom and the neighboring United Arab Emirates for the 220 square meters (around 2,370 square feet) piece.

A first commercial passenger flight from UAE lands in Israel.

Important Points to Remember:

- Israel Prime Minister: Benjamin Netanyahu
- Israel Capital: Jerusalem
- UAE President: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- UAE Capital: Abu Dhabi

Israel and Bahrain have formally established diplomatic relations after signing the US-brokered deal in the Arab country's capital Manama.

Important Points to Remember:

- Bahrain is the fourth Arab state to normalize ties with Israel.
- Bahrain King: Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
- Bahrain Capital: Manama

184 countries have joined the COVAX facility: WHO

Important Points to Remember:

- WHO: World Health Organization
- WHO Director-General: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
MoUs and Agreements

POWERGRID signed an MoU with the Ministry of Power for the year 2020-21.

Important Points to Remember:

- The MoU includes targets related to various parameters such as Financial, Physical, Project execution, etc. to be achieved by POWERGRID during the FY 2020-21.

SJVN signed an MoU with the Ministry of Power for the year 2020-21.

Important Points to Remember:

- SJVN shall strive to achieve 9680 Million Units of electricity generation during the year.

NTPC signed an MoU with the Ministry of Power for the year 2020-21.

Important Points to Remember:

- MoU includes 340 BU of electricity generation, 15 MMT of coal production, Rs. 21,000 Crores of Capex and Rs. 98,000 Crores of revenue from operations.

REC signed an MOU with Power Ministry.

Important Points to Remember:

- Objective: Revenue target for FY2021 has been set at Rs. 35,000 Cr, up by 17.5% from the previous year's achievement.
- REC Limited is a Navratna NBFC focusing on Power Sector Financing and Development across India. Established in 1969.
- It provides financial assistance across the power sector value chain.
- Apart from this, REC is also the nodal agency for Govt. of India flagship schemes in the Power sector like Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY), Saubhagya, etc.

Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs signed an MoU with Swiggy to take Street Food Vendors online under the PM SVANIDHI Scheme. (Read All Government Schemes Here)

Important Points to Remember:

- Under this agreement, Swiggy will train 250 street vendors from five cities- Ahmedabad, Varanasi, New Delhi, Chennai, and Indore.
• Swiggy will provide help in PAN and FSSAI registration, Packaging, Technology, and Digitization.

Prasar Bharati and IFFCO signed an MoU to broadcast and promote Agri technology and innovations for the growth of Indian agriculture.

Important Points to Remember:

• According to MoU, DD Kisan will broadcast 30 minutes program series for the benefit of farmers in which it will broadcast various innovative techniques being adopted in the agriculture field in easy language.

• IFFCO: Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited
  • IFFCO Chief: Dr. US Awasthi
  • IFFCO Headquarters: New Delhi
  • IFFCO Founded: 3 November 1967

ISLRTC and NCERT signed an MoU for Converting Educational Materials into Indian Sign Language on the 60th foundation day of NCERT.

Important Points to Remember:

• It aims to make educational materials accessible for Deaf children in their preferred format of communication viz Indian Sign Language.

• ISLRTC: Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center

• NCERT: National Council of Educational Research and Training

NDDB signs MoU with Ladakh to promote dairying and rural livelihoods.

Important Points to Remember:

• Objective: To promote dairying and rural livelihoods in the Union Territory of Ladakh

• NDDB: National Dairy Development Board

• NDDB Chief: Amrita Patel

• NDDB Headquarters: Anand, Gujarat

• Ladakh Lieutenant Governor: RK Mathur

Gujarat: NABARD inks 3 MoUs with SBI to extend credit support for various projects.

Important Points to Remember:

• To Provide credit support to the different sections of the society.
Amazon India partners with IRCTC to start online train ticket bookings.

Important Points to Remember:
• Objective: To provide its customers with the facility to book reserved train tickets on Amazon

All India Institute of Ayurveda signed an MoU with Amity University for Ayurveda Research.

Important Points to Remember:
• Objective: To promote research in Ayurvedic Sciences.
• The All India Institute of Ayurveda is located in New, Delhi

India and ADB signed a $270 million loan to improve urban services in 64 Madhya Pradesh small cities.

Important Points to Remember:
• Objective: To develop water supply and integrated stormwater and sewage management infrastructure and strengthen capacities of urban local bodies (ULBs) for improved service delivery in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
• ADB: Asian Development Bank
• ADB President: Masatsugu Asakawa
• ADB Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines
• ADB Established: 1966
• ADB Member Countries: 66

India and ADB signed a $300 million loan to Develop Rajasthan’s Secondary Towns.

Important Points to Remember:
• The project aims to provide better quality and more sustainable water supply and sanitation (WSS) services in the project towns that will improve the quality of life in these towns, including for the poor and vulnerable after signing the loan agreement.
• The investments in WSS with a 10-year operation and maintenance contracts will ensure improved and sustainable service delivery in line with the state government’s urban sector development plan.
• ADB: Asian Development Bank
• ADB President: Masatsugu Asakawa
• ADB Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines
• ADB Established: 1966
• ADB Member Countries: 66
Jammu and Kashmir government signed an MoU with Flipkart to provide a platform for local artisans, craftsmen, weavers to reach customers worldwide.

Important Points to Remember:

- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor: Manoj Sinha
- Flipkart: eCommerce website
- Flipkart CEO: Kalyan Krishnamurthy

ADB, India sign $177 million loans for state road improvements in Maharashtra.

Important Points to Remember:

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a $177 million loan to upgrade 450 kilometers (km) of state highways and major district roads in the state of Maharashtra.

Microsoft, NSDC collaborate to empower 1 lakh, women, in India with digital skills.

Important Points to Remember:

- The partnership is focused on enhancing women's workforce participation by equipping underserved young women from rural communities with the skills required to thrive in a digital economy.
- As part of the collaboration, more than 70 hours of the course content will be made available free of cost, covering topics such as digital literacy, enhancing employability, nano entrepreneurship, and communication skills.

Naval Ship Repair Yard inks deal with CDIIC.

Important Points to Remember:

- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Naval Ship Repair Yard (NSRY), Kochi, and Codissia (Coimbatore District Small Scale Industries Association) Defence Innovation and Atal Incubation Centre (CDIIC) was signed in Coimbatore on 28th October.
- The MoU allows NSRY to use world-class facilities of MSMEs based in Coimbatore for hardware development, material testing, and analysis and obsolescence mitigation programs in respect of legacy equipment.
- Rear Admiral Deepak Bansal, Admiral Superintendent NSRY (Kochi), and CDIIC Director V. Sundaram signed the MoU.

NTPC tied up with Japan Bank for Rs 3,500 crore loan.

Important Points to Remember:
• The loan proceeds will be utilized by NTPC Ltd for funding its Capex for Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) and renewable energy projects.
• NTPC: India’s largest power producer

O.P. Jindal Global University Signed an MoU with Education Ministry, Conferred the Status of 'Institution of Eminence'.

Important Points to Remember:

• With the confirmed status as an 'Institution of Eminence', JGU has entered a coveted group of top 10 private institutions in the country to be unshackled from regulatory controls and be given full autonomy.
• The search for 'Institutions of Eminence' began in the year 2017 with the introduction of the 'UGC (Institutions of Eminence Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2017' for private institutions and 'UGC (Declaration of Government Educational Institutions as Institutions of Eminence) Guidelines, 2017' for public institutions.

National News

Giriraj Singh releases 2nd Edition of the newsletter “Matsya Sampada”.

Important Points to Remember:

• Giriraj Singh: Minister of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries
• PMMSY aims to enhance fish production to 220 lakh tons by 2024-25.

Thaawarchand Gehlot e-launches “Ambedkar Social Innovation & Incubation Mission under Venture Capital fund for SCs(ASIIM)”.

Important Points to Remember:

• Thaawarchand Gehlot: Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment
• Objective: To promote innovation and enterprise among SC students studying in higher educational institutions
• Under named “Ambedkar Social Innovation Incubation Mission (ASIIM)” initiative, 1,000 SC youth would be identified in the next 4 years with start-up ideas through the Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) in various higher educational institutions.
• SC Youth will be funded @ Rs. 30 lakhs in 3 years as equity funding so that they can translate their start-up ideas into commercial ventures.
• Successful ventures would further qualify for venture funding of up to Rs. 5 Crore from the Venture Capital Fund for SCs.

VIP aircraft Air India One arrived at Delhi International Airport.

Important Points to Remember:
• The aircraft is operated as a VVIP flight by the Indian Air Force.
• One of the new Air India Ones used by the Prime Minister & President of India

Home Ministry announces one-day state mourning on October 4, 2020, as a mark of respect on the passing away of Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait.

Important Points to Remember:
• Kuwait Emir: Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah (New Appointment)
• Kuwait Prime Minister: Sabah Khalid al-Sabah
• Kuwait Capital: Kuwait City

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the 71st TB Seal Campaign of the Tuberculosis Association of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Important Points to Remember:
• The Tuberculosis Association of India conducts a TB Seal Campaign to raise funds for the fight against Tuberculosis.

Marking the 151st Gandhi Jayanti, a week-long festival of philanthropy, DaanUtsav, starts with initiatives across the country to mobilise resources for those in need.

Important Points to Remember:
• DaanUtsav is India’s ‘festival of giving’. Launched in 2009, the festival is celebrated every year – commencing on Gandhi Jayanti – from October 2 to 8.

Reliance develops RT-PCR kit that can give Covid-19 results in two hours.

Important Points to Remember:
• Reliance Founder: Dhiru Bhai Ambani
• Reliance Headquarters: Mumbai

Narendra Modi inaugurated the Atal Tunnel (World's longest highway tunnel) in Himachal Pradesh.

Important Points to Remember:
• Length- 9.02 Kms
• It reduces a distance of 46 km and 4 to 5 hours time
• The shape of the Tunnel: Horseshoe
• The altitude of the tunnel: More than 10000 ft.
• Vehicular speed: 80 km/h (50 mph)
Piyush Goyal inaugurated Kolkata’s East-West Metro corridor's Phoolbagan Station.

Important Points to Remember:

- Piyush Goyal: Railway Minister and Commerce Industry Minister
- Railway Board CEO: VK Yadav
- Kolkata Governor: Jagdeep Dhankar
- Kolkata Chief Minister: Mamta Banerjee

Prime Minister Narendra inaugurated Responsible AI for Social Empowerment (RAISE) Summit 2020 virtually.

Important Points to Remember:

- RAISE Summit: A Summit on Artificial Intelligence

DD News launches Mask Up India campaign, an initiative to fight COVID19 pandemic.

Important Points to Remember:

- Objective: Every person to wear a mask and wear it right

Health Minister, Dr Harsh Vardhan released the 'Ayush Standard Treatment Protocol'.

Important Points to Remember:

- It will detail Ayurveda and Yoga interventions in dealing with the Covid 19.
- It is expected to contribute to the mainstreaming of Ayush solutions for the management of novel coronavirus.

India will become the first country to circulate iodine-based sanitizers.

Important Points to Remember:

- India will be the first country in the world to begin the rollout of iodine-based hand sanitizers. Currently, the alcohol-based sanitizers are in circulation around the globe. With iodine-based sanitizers, India would also become the manufacturing hub of such products.
Smriti Irani launches first-ever Brand & Logo for Indian Cotton on 2nd World Cotton Day.

Important Points to Remember:

- India’s Premium Cotton would be known as "Kasturi Cotton".
- World Cotton Day: 7 October
- Smriti Irani: Union Textiles Minister

Forbes released the 10 Richest Indians list. With a total net worth of $88.7 billion, Mukesh Ambani topped the list.

Important Points to Remember:

- Mukesh Ambani; US$88.7 billion
- Gautam Adani; $25.2 billion
- Shiv Nadar; $20.4 billion
- Radhakishan Damani; $15.4 billion
- Hinduja brothers; $12.8 billion
- Cyrus Poonawalla; $11.5 billion
- Pallonji Mistry; $11.4 billion
- Uday Kotak; $11.3 billion
- Godrej family; $11 billion
- Lakshmi Mittal; $10.3 billion

Infosys to acquire Blue Acorn iCi for up to $125 mn.

Important Points to Remember:

- Blue Corn iCi is a US-based data analyst company.
- Infosys CEO- Salil Parekh
- Infosys Headquarters: Bengaluru

TCS surpasses Accenture to become the most valuable IT services firm globally.

Important Points to Remember:

- TCS was valued at $144.73 billion (Rs 10.6 trillion). Accenture is currently valued at $142.4 billion.
- TCS Chairman: Rajesh Gopinathan
- TCS Headquarters: Mumbai

Coal Ministry launches a Website for research endeavors in the coal sector.

Important Points to Remember:
Ministry of Coal has launched the website to promote the Research & Development (R&D) activities of the ministry and attract research institutes for R&D endeavors in the coal sector.

Coal Ministry Secretary, Shri Anil Jain launched the website (https://scienceandtech.cmpdi.co.in/) during the 56th meeting of Standing Scientific Research Committee of the Ministry.

Union Coal Minister: Prahlad Joshi

**IPFT developed Bio-Pesticide Formulation for insect control in seed spice crops.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT) under the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in collaboration with ICAR- National Research Center on Seed Spices (NRCSS), Ajmer, Rajasthan has successfully developed new Aqueous Suspension formulation technology of bio-pesticide based on entomopathogenic fungus Verticillium lecanii.

**India donates 1.8 million N95 masks to Philadelphia city in the USA to help fight against COVID-19.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Philadelphia: The largest city in the US state of Pennsylvania
- USA President: Donald Trump
- USA Capital: Washington D.C.

**PM Modi launches physical property card distribution under the SVAMITVA scheme.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- PM Street Vendor’s Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (SVANIDHI) Scheme (Launched- 1 June 2020): To provide affordable loans to street vendors to resume their livelihoods that have been adversely affected due to lockdown. This scheme targets to benefit over 50 lakh Street Vendors.

**India became the first country to be awarded coveted international Blue Flag certification for 8 of its beaches in one attempt.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Blue Flag is reportedly a certification that a beach, marina, or sustainable boating tourism operator meets its standards. These beaches are:-

**All Government Schemes PDF**
PM Narendra Modi released a special commemorative coin of Rs. 100 in the honor of Rajmata Vijaya Raje Scindia on the occasion of her Birth Centenary celebrations.

Important Points to Remember:

- Popularly known as the Rajmata of Gwalior.
- She also authored her biography "Rajapatha se lokapatha para"

Rajnath Singh inaugurated 44 bridges built by BRO and laid the foundation stone of the Nechiphu tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh.

Important Points to Remember:

- The 44 bridges are spread over seven states/union territories.
- The 44 bridges of various spans ranging from 30 meters to 484 meters are located in J&K (10), Ladakh (08), Himachal Pradesh (02), Punjab (04), Uttarakhand (08), Arunachal Pradesh (08), and Sikkim (04).
- BRO: Border Roads Organization
- BRO Director-General: Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh
- Arunachal Pradesh Governor: BD Mishra
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister: Prema Khandu
- Arunachal Pradesh Capital: Itanagar

Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog begins nationwide campaign to celebrate “Kamdhenu Deepawali Abhiyan”.

Important Points to Remember:

- Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog Chairman: Vallabhbhai Kathiria
- Through this campaign, the RKA is promoting extensive use of cow-dung/Panchgavya products during this Diwali Festival.
- Manufacture of Cow dung based Diyas, Candles, Dhoop, Agarbatti, Shubh-Labh, Swastik, Samrani, Hardboard, Wall-piece, Paper-weight, Havan samagri, Idols of Lord Ganesha and Goddess Lakshmi for this year’s Diwali festival has already started.
PM Narendra Modi released the autobiography of Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil.

Important Points to Remember:

- The autobiography is titled ‘Deh Vechava Karani’.
- Eknathrao alias Balasaheb Vikhe Patil (10 April 1932 – 30 December 2016) was a member of the 14th Lok Sabha of India.
- He represented the Kopargaon and Ahmednagar (South) constituency of Maharashtra and was a member of the Indian National Congress (INC) political party.
- He later joined Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)


Important Points to Remember:

- It 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).

Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 8 NH projects in Kerala.

Important Points to Remember:

- Nitin Gadkari: Road Transport and Highways Minister
- 35,000 km of National Highways are being developed as a part of Bharatmala Pariyojana in the country. Out of this, 1,234 km of National Highways are being developed as a part of Bharatmala Pariyojana in the Kerala State. In addition, 119 KM of Port Connectivity Roads are planning to upgrade under Bharatmala/Sagarmala Scheme.
- Mumbai – Kanyakumari Economic Corridor with a length of 1,760 km is one such corridor being developed as a part of the Bharatmala Pariyojana.
- As a part of the Mumbai – Kanyakumari Economic Corridor, 23 projects with a length of 650 km are being developed in the state of Kerala at an investment of Rs 50,000 crore.

Union MoS for Home, Kishan Reddy inaugurates the 21st All India Conference of Directors, Fingerprint Bureau 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- eCyber lab set up by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) also inaugurated.
- The month of October is observed as National Cyber Security Awareness Month.
Atal Innovation Mission collaborates with CGI to promote innovation across schools.

Important Points to Remember:

- CGI: Canadian global information technology company
- AIM is the flagship program of the Government of India that promotes a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship across the country.
- Its ATLs are accessed by over 2.5 million school kids in India. ATL is a dedicated innovation workspace set-up at schools where students get access to do-it-yourself (DIY) kits and learn to tinker and create innovative solutions using the latest technologies.
- As part of the SOI, CGI has agreed to adopt 100 schools with ATLs across Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Mumbai to promote and train students.
- CGI volunteers will coach and mentor students at the ATLs to enhance technical literacy & provide immersive learning experiences.

India and France re-elected as President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

Important Points to Remember:

- ISA Headquarters: Gurugram
- ISA Leader: Upendra Tripathy

India contributes 1 million dollars to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees in Near East.

Important Points to Remember:

- This aid will support the Agency’s programs and services, including education, health care, relief, and social services.
- UNRWA Headquarters: Amman, Jordan
- UNRWA Commissioner-General: Philippe Lazzarini

Narendra Modi released a commemorative coin of Rs 75 denomination on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on 16th October.

Important Points to Remember:

- Objective: To mark the long-standing relation of India with the Food and Agriculture Organisation.
- World Food Day is observed every year on the 16th of October.
- World Food Day 2020 marks the 75th Anniversary of FAO.
- FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization
Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates Food and Agri Week 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- World Food Day is observed every year on the 16th of October.
- World Food Day 2020 marks the 75th Anniversary of FAO.
- India - International Food & Agri Week being organised from 16th to 22nd October 2020.
- Narendra Singh Tomar: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Food Processing Industries, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister

Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 16 National Highways projects with a total length of 1411 km worth Rs 15,592 crore in Andhra Pradesh.

Important Points to Remember:

- Nitin Gadkari: Road Transport, Highways and MSMEs Minister
- Andhra Pradesh Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy
- Andhra Pradesh Capital: Amravati

Government lifts all restrictions on the export of alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

Important Points to Remember:

- DGFT: Directorate General of Foreign Trade
- DGFT Headquarters: New Delhi
- DGFT Founded: 1991

AWS and NITI Aayog launched Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Center in India.

Important Points to Remember:

- This CIC is part of the AWS CIC Global Program, which provides an opportunity for government agencies, non-profits, and educational institutions, to come together on pressing challenges, apply design thinking, test new ideas, and access the technical expertise of AWS.

NTPC Dadri site becomes the cleanest coal-fired plant in India.

Important Points to Remember:
NTPC Dadri site becomes the cleanest coal-fired plant in the country and is complying with all the CPCB guidelines on emissions.

All the emission parameters are being monitored online and transmitted to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on a real-time basis.

**CSIR-IHBT introduces asafoetida (Heeng) cultivation in the Indian Himalayan region.**

- Asafoetida is one of the top condiments and is a high-value spice crop in India.
- India imports about 1200 tonnes of raw asafoetida annually from Afghanistan, Iran, and Uzbekistan and spends approximately 100 million USD per year.
- Lack of planting material of Ferula assafoetida plants in India was a major bottleneck in the cultivation of this crop.
- The first seedling of asafoetida was planted by Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Director, CSIR-IHBT on 15th October 2020 at farmer’s field in village Kwaring of Lahaul valley to mark the initiation of cultivation of asafoetida in India.

**Mansukh Mandaviya launched “Development of Indigenous Software solution for VTS and VTMS.”**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Shri Mansukh Mandaviya: Minister of State for Shipping (I/C)
- VTS: Vessel traffic services VTS
- VTMS: Vessels Traffic Monitoring Systems
- VTS and VTMS is software which determines vessel positions, the position of other traffic or meteorological hazard warnings, and extensive management of traffic within a port or waterway.
- Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) contribute to the safety of life at sea, safety, and efficiency of navigation, and protection of the marine environment, adjacent shore areas, worksites, and offshore installations from possible adverse effects of maritime traffic.
- Vessels Traffic Management Systems are installed in some of the busiest waters in the world and are making valuable contributions to safer navigation, more efficient traffic flow, and protection of the environment.

**Nitin Gadkari laid the Foundation Stone of the country’s first Multi-modal Logistic Park in Jogighopa, Assam.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Rs 693.97 crore park will provide direct air, road, rail, and waterways connectivity to the people.
- It will be developed under the ambitious Bharatmala Pariyojana of the Government of India.
An MoU was also signed between NHIDCL and Ashoka paper mills, Govt of Assam on the occasion for sharing of land and logistics in Jogighopa.

**Nitin Gadkari launches India’s first-ever high-quality khadi fabric footwear, designed by KVIC.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- KVIC Chairman: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- KVIC Headquarters: New Delhi

**Kathak Queen Jayanti Mala Inaugurates Online Dance Platform Kathak World.**

**Prahlad Singh Patel launched the Life in Miniature project virtually.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- Prahlad Singh Patel: Culture and Tourism Minister
- The project is a collaboration between the National Museum, New Delhi, Ministry of Culture, and Google Arts and Culture.
- Several hundred miniature paintings from the National Museum can be viewed online on Google Arts and Culture by people around the world.

**Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated the Regional Raw Drug Repository today at All India Institute of Ayurveda in New Delhi.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- Shripad Yesso Naik: AYUSH Minister
- This RRDR is the second in the series of repositories proposed by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB).
- In order to document the diversity in the genetics and chemistry of medicinal plants, eight RRDR and one NRDR have been proposed by AYUSH Ministry.

**IMD Commissioned Flash Flood Guidance Services for South Asia.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- IMD Commissioned Flash Flood Guidance Services, first of its kind for South Asian countries namely India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka on 22 October 2020.
- IMD Director-General: Dr. M. Mohapatra
- IMD Founded: 1875
- IMD Headquarters: New Delhi
NTPC allowed using drones for research and inspection of Thermal Power Projects.

Important Points to Remember:

- Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) granted a conditional exemption to National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for the deployment of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) for carrying out research and inspection activities at VindhyaChal Super Thermal Power Station, Madhya Pradesh, Gadarwara Super Thermal Power Plant, Madhya Pradesh, and Sipat Super Thermal Power Project, Chhattisgarh using drones.
- NTPC Founded: 1975
- NTPC Headquarters: New Delhi

Narendra Modi addressed at 4th India Energy Forum.

Important Points to Remember:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at the 4th India Energy Forum CERAWeek through video conference.
- The theme of this edition is "India's Energy Future in a World of Change".

Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched Punjab National Bank's All India CSR campaign.

Important Points to Remember:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare launched Punjab National Bank’s (PNB) All India CSR campaign against COVID 19.
- He also released the digital CSR album & CSR video of Punjab National Bank.

The Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial Cooperation (BECA) have finally been signed by India and the US.

Important Points to Remember:

- The agreement will enable India to gain access to extremely accurate geo-spatial data.
- BECA is the last of the pacts that America signs with close partners. The pact basically facilitates the interoperability of forces and the exchange of sensitive and classified information.

Important Points to Remember:


Harley Davidson partners with Hero MotoCorp to sell motorcycles in India.

Important Points to Remember:

- Hero Motocorp Ltd., formerly Hero Honda, is an Indian multinational motorcycle and scooter manufacturer based in New Delhi, India. The company is the largest two-wheeler manufacturer in the world, and also in India.
- As part of the partnership, Hero will develop and sell a range of premium Harley Davidson motorcycles in India.
- Hero MotoCorp Owner: Brijmohan Lall Munjal
- Hero MotoCorp Headquarters: New Delhi

India Post Office & United States Postal Service signed an agreement.

Important Points to Remember:

- IPO and USPS signed an agreement for the electronic exchange of customs data related to postal shipments exchanged between the two countries.
- The agreement aims to facilitate ‘ease of exports’ for small and large exporters.
- The agreement was signed by Mr. Prannoy Sharma, Deputy Director General (International Relations & Global Business), Department of Posts, Government of India, and Mr. Robert H. Raines Jr., Managing Director, Global Business of United States Postal Service.

Nitin Gadkari inaugurated Walmart Vriddhi Digital Learning Platform.

Important Points to Remember:

- Nitin Gadkari: Union Minister of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- Walmart operates a chain of hypermarkets, discount department stores, and grocery stores.
- Walmart Headquarters: Bentonville, Arkansas
- Walmart Founder: Sam Walton

The Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is celebrated as National Integration Day (31 October).
Important Points to Remember:

- He served as the First Deputy Prime Minister and First Home Minister of India.
- The Statue of Unity is a monument dedicated to Patel, located in the Indian state of Gujarat, facing the Narmada Dam, 3.2 km away from Sadhu Bet near Vadodara.
- At the height of 182 metres (597 feet), it is the world's tallest statue, exceeding the Spring Temple Buddha by 54 meters.
- Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) was introduced by the Government of India and inaugurated by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014.
- The intent is to pay tribute to Patel, who was instrumental in keeping India united. It is to be celebrated on 31 October every year.
- He was also instrumental in the creation of the All India Services which he described as the country's "Steel Frame".
- He was conferred with Bharat Ratna Award (posthumously) in 1991.

**India hosts the 19th meeting of SCO Ministers handling the economy and foreign trade.**

Important Points to Remember:

- India hosted the 19th Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Ministers of Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade.
- The virtual meeting was attended by the Secretary-General of SCO and Ministers from, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- SCO Secretary-General: Vladimir Norov
- SCO Headquarters: Beijing, China
- SCO Founded: 15 June 2001

**Indian Railways launched "Meri Saheli".**

Important Points to Remember:

- The “Meri Saheli” initiative was started as a pilot project in South Eastern Railway in September 2020 and after getting encouraging response from lady passengers, it was extended to all zones and KRCL w.e.f. 17.10.2020.
- Objective: For focused action on the security of women across all zones with an objective to provide safety and security to lady passengers traveling by trains for their entire journey from starting station to destination station.

**Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched SERB – POWER.**

Important Points to Remember:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan: Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, and Health & Family Welfare
Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched a Scheme titled “SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research)”. It is a scheme to mitigate gender disparity in science and engineering research funding in various S&T programs in Indian academic institutions and R&D laboratories.

**Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated dynamic lighting of the Sardar Sarovar Dam.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated dynamic lighting for the Sardar Sarovar Dam.
- He unveiled the website of Statue of Unity in all the UN official languages and launched the Kevadia App, at the Unity Glow Garden.
- He inaugurated and visited the Cactus Garden.

**Unity Glow Garden**

- It is a unique theme park spread over an area of 3.61 acres.
- It has a glimmering array of installations, figures, and optical illusions to welcome all tourists to experience the joy of night tourism.

**Cactus Garden**

- It is a grand architectural greenhouse with 450 national and international species from 17 countries.
- It has around 6 lakh plants including 1.9 lakh cactus plants in an area spread over 25 acres.

**Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated Sardar Vallabhai Patel Zoological Park.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated Sardar Patel Zoological Park and Geodesic Aviary Dome in Kevadia.

**Jungle Safari**

- The Jungle Safari is in the state of the art zoological park spread over an area of 375 acres at seven different levels ranging from 29 to 180 meters.
- It has more than 1100 Birds & Animals and 5 lakh plants. It is the fastest ever built Jungle Safari.

**Geodesic Aviary Dome**
The zoological park has two aviaries - one for domestic birds and another for exotic birds. It is the world’s largest geodesic dome for an aviary.

The aviaries would be enclosed by a petting zone that would provide a unique touch, feel, and exhilarating experience of cuddling the animals like Macaw, Cockatoo, Rabbits, Guinea Pig, etc.

**Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated Ekta Cruise Service.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

**Ekta Cruise Service**

- Through the Ekta Cruise Service, one can experience the viewing of the Statue of Unity through the Ferry Boat Service from Shrestha Bharat Bhavan to Statue of Unity by covering a distance of 6 km.
- The 40 min ride can be covered by a boat which can ferry 200 passengers at a time.
- New Gora Bridge is built especially for the operation of the ferry service.
- Boating Channel is constructed to provide boating services to tourists visiting the Statue of Unity.

**Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated Arogya Van, Arogya Kutir, Ekta Mall, and Children Nutrition Park at Kevadia in Gujrat.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

**Arogya Van**

- Arogya Van has 5 lakh plants of 380 different species spread over an area of 17 acres.

**Arogya Kutir**

- Arogya Kutir has a traditional treatment facility named Santhigiri wellness center which will provide healthcare based on Ayurveda, Siddha, Yoga, and Panchakarma.

**Ekta Mall**

- Ekta Mall exhibits a diverse range of handicrafts and traditional items from all over India symbolizing unity in diversity and is spread over 35000 sq ft.
- The mall consists of 20 Emporia each representing a specific state in India and is built in just 110 days.

**Children Nutrition Park**

- CNP is the world’s first-ever technology-driven nutrition park for children and is spread over an area of 35000 sq ft.

**KVIC launched high-quality Muslin fabric Masks on 30 October 2020.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- KVIC will also launch Christmas and New Year special masks in the coming days.
- KVIC Chairman: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- KVIC Headquarters: Mumbai

**Shiv Nadar Foundation launched Shiv Nadar University in Chennai.**

- The Shiv Nadar University, the first private varsity to be legislated in Tamil Nadu in 90 years (since Annamalai University Act in 1928), has been set up near Chennai.
- It was set up by the Shiv Nadar Foundation, formed by Shiv Nadar, founder of HCL. Former RBI Governor C Rangarajan and Turing Award winner Raj Reddy would be distinguished mentors of the university.
- Shiv Nadar University is a private multidisciplinary research university founded in 2011 in Dadri, Uttar Pradesh in India.
- **Shiv Nadar University faculty member, Dr. Parthapratim Munshi becomes a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, UK.**

**Biocon in the Top 5 Global Biotech Employers for 2020 on the US-based Science magazine’s annual ‘Science Careers Top 20 Employers’ list.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Biocon: Biopharmaceuticals company
- Biocon Headquarters: Bengaluru
- With this ranking, Biocon has moved up from No. 7 in 2018 and No. 6 in 2019 and to 5th position this year.

**Obituary**

**World's first patient cured of HIV, Ray Brown, passes away.**
Savithri Vaithi, the founder of Vishranthi Old Age Home, passes away.

Former Judge and Chief Justice (Acting CJ) of Gujarat High Court AS Dave passes away.

Former Union Minister and nine times MP from Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh Rashid Masood passes away.

Eddie Van Halen, rock legend and guitar hero, dies at 65.

Important Points to Remember:

Lead guitarist of the American rock band Van Halen

Shri T G L Iyer, Former DG CRPF passes away.

Important Points to Remember:

- CRPF: Central Reserve Police Force
- CRPF Chief: AP Maheshwari
- CRPF Headquarters: New Delhi

Former CBI Director Ashwani Kumar passes away.

Important Points to Remember:

- He also served as Governor of Nagaland and Manipur.
- CBI: Central Investigation Bureau
- CBI Chief: Rishi Kumar Shukla
- CBI Headquarters: New Delhi

Cabinet Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Ram Vilas Paswan passes away.

Important Points to Remember:

- Eight Time member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and one-time member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha).
- President of Lok Janshakti Party

CK Rajkumar, entrepreneur and founder of Sujatha Bio-Tech passes away.

Karnataka Bank Former Chairman and CEO, Ananthakrishna passed away.

Important Points to Remember:
Noted music director Rajan of Rajan-Nagendra passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

- Kannada Music Composer, and Director

Former India football captain Carton Chapman passed away.

Important Points to Remember:


Legendary Gujarati singer Kaumudi Munshi passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

- She is known as the ‘Nightingale of Gujarat’,
- She has compiled a Gujarati album for children “Chhaani Maani Raat Padi”.

Kuchipudi dancer Shoba Naidu passes away.

Important Points to Remember:

- Awards won by Shoba Naidu: Padma Shri award in 2001, Nritya Choodamani award in 1982, She received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Kuchipudi dance in 1991, Nritya Kala Siromani award in 1996, Late Sri N T Rama Rao award in 1998, AP State Government Hamsa Award

New Zealand former cricket captain John R. Reid passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

- He captained New Zealand in 34 Test matches.
- He was the country’s first cricketing leader to achieve victory, both at home against the West Indies in 1956, and the first away win, against South Africa in 1962.

Malayalam poet Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri passes away.

Important Points to Remember:

India’s first Oscar winner Bhanu Athaiya passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

• She won the Oscar for her work in the legendary film 'Gandhi'.

Herbert Kretzmer, the journalist and lyricist best known for his English-language adaptation of the musical Les Miserables, passed away.

Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan, the supreme head of Mar Thoma Church, passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

• He was the 21st Marthoma Metropolitan and primate of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church.
• Mar Thoma Syrian Church Headquarters: Kerala, India.

Samsung Electronics chairman Lee Kun-hee passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

• Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. is a South Korean multinational electronics company headquartered in the Yeongtong District of Suwon.
• The Samsung Group is a South Korean multinational conglomerate headquartered in Samsung Town, Seoul.
• Samsung Founder: Lee Byung-Chul
• Samsung Headquarters: Seoul, South Korea

ISKCON President Jasomatinandan Das passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

• He was the President of The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) temple, Ahmedabad, and Zonal Secretary of ISKCON Gujarat.
• He is known for building ISKCON temples in Ahmedabad, Kathwada, and several other places in Gujarat.
• He had initiated and completed the construction of 40 temples and centers of ISCKON.
Mahesh Kanodia, former BJP MP and musician dies at 83.

Important Points to Remember:

- He represented Patan Lok Sabha constituency as a Member of Parliament of the BJP thrice between 1991 and 1999.
- Mahesh Kanodia had received several accolades and awards for his performance as a music composer and singer for Gujarati films including "Jigar and Ami", "Tanariri", "Jog Sanjog" and "Laju Lakhan".

Veteran Gujarati actor Naresh Kanodia passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

- He was known as the Amitabh Bachchan of the Gujarati film industry.
- He has worked in more than 300 films and won the Dadasaheb Phalke Academy Award in 2012 to mark the centenary of Indian cinema.

Keshubhai Patel, Former Chief Minister of Gujarat, passes away at the age of 92.

Important Points to Remember:

- He was the Chief Minister of Gujarat in 1995 and from 1998 to 2001.
- He was a six-time member of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly.

Sukumar Hansda, TMC MLA, and Bengal assembly Dy Speaker passed away.

Important Points to Remember:

- He served as Minister for Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs in the Government of West Bengal.
- He also served as the Deputy Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly.
- He was also an MLA, elected from the Jhargram (West Bengal) constituency in 2011.

Ranking on Indexes

Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI) 2020 released.

Important Points to Remember:

- Department of Fertilizers ranked 2nd amongst the 16 Economic Ministries / Departments and ranked 3rd amongst the 65 Ministries / Departments in the Survey Report on Data Governance Quality Index.

Kerala and Chandigarh topped in the Public Affairs Index 2020.
Important Points to Remember:

- Kerala has adjudged the best-governed state in the country while Chandigarh has adjudged the best-governed UT in the country according to the Public Affairs Index 2020 released by the Public Affairs Centre on 30th October 2020.
- Kerala (1.388), Tamil Nadu (0.912), Andhra Pradesh (0.531), and Karnataka (0.468) stood in the first four ranks in the large states category.
- Uttar Pradesh (-1.461), Odisha (-1.201), and Bihar (-1.158) were at the bottom of the ranking in the large states category.
- In the small state category, Goa (1.745) ranked first, followed by Meghalaya (0.797) and Himachal Pradesh (0.725). Manipur (-0.363), Delhi (-0.289), and Uttarakhand (-0.277) are the least performer states in the small states category.
- Chandigarh (1.05) emerged the best-governed UT in the category of UTs, followed by Puducherry (0.52) and Lakshadweep (0.003). Dadar and Nagar Haveli (-0.69), Jammu and Kashmir (-0.50), Andaman and Nicobar (-0.30) were the least performers UTs.
- PAC headed by former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman K Kasturirangan.

Sports News

Courtney Walsh appointed as head coach of West Indies women's cricket team.

Important Points to Remember:

- Former West Indies Fast Bowler
- Played for West Indies from 1984 to 2001

Japanese Car Maker, Honda will withdraw from Formula One at the end of the 2021 season as it shifts to a goal of carbon neutrality.

Science and Technology

Agharkar Research Institute discovers two new species of pipeworts from the Western Ghats of Maharashtra & Karnataka.

Important Points to Remember:

- The new species belong to a plant.

DST collaborated with IBM to build Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) career opportunities for girl students.

Important Points to Remember:
The Department of Science & Technology (DST) and IBM India announced collaborations to scale up to two DST initiatives--Vigyan Jyoti and Engage with Science (Vigyan Prasar), on October 8, 2020.

Vigyan Jyoti is a program to promote STEM learning among girl students and to inspire them towards STEM careers by creating a level-playing field for meritorious girls from grades 9 to 12 to pursue STEM in their higher education, especially from the top colleges in the areas where girls are hugely underrepresented.

**CSIR-KPIT demonstrates Hydrogen Fuel Cell fitted car.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and KPIT successfully ran trials of India’s first Hydrogen Fuel Cell (HFC) prototype car running on an indigenously developed fuel cell stack at CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune.
- The fuel cell is a low-temperature PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane) type Fuel Cell that operates at 65-75 degrees centigrade, which is suitable for vehicular applications.

**ISRO to launch earth observation satellite EOS-01 on November 7.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- ISRO Founder: Vikram Sarabhai
- ISRO Founded: 15 August 1969
- ISRO Director: Kailasavadivoo Sivan
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru

**Wipro to acquire the Chennai firm Encore Theme.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

Wipro has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Chennai-based Encore Theme Technologies Private Limited (Encore Theme), for a purchase consideration of ₹95 crores.

- Wipro Headquarters: Bengaluru
- Wipro Owner: Aziz Prem Ji
- Wipro Founder: M.H. Hasham Premji

**Sports News**

India’s Vishnu Shivaraj Pandian won the gold medal in 10m air rifle event in the 5th International Online Shooting Championship.
Iga Swiatek won the **2020 French Open** Women’s Singles Title.

- The French Open 2020 is the 124th edition of the French Open and it was the 3rd Grand Slam episode of the year.
- It was held on clay court.

**Rafael Nadal won the French Open 2020 Men’s Singles title. He won his 13th French Open and equal Roger Federer’s all-time record of 20 Grand Slam titles.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The French Open 2020 was the 124th edition of the French Open and it was the 3rd Grand Slam episode of the year.
- It was held on clay court.

**Kevin Krawietz and Andreas Mies won the French Open 2020 Men’s Doubles title.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The French Open 2020 was the 124th edition of the French Open and it was the 3rd Grand Slam episode of the year.
- It was held on clay court.

**Timea Babos and Kristina Mladenovic won the 2020 French Open Women’s Doubles Title.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- The French Open 2020 was the 124th edition of the French Open and it was the 3rd Grand Slam episode of the year.
- It was held on clay court.

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<thead>
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<th>French Open 2020 Runner up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Singles</td>
<td>Rafael Nadal (Spain)</td>
<td>Novak Djokovic (Serbia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</table>
Women’s Doubles | Timea Babos and Kristina Mladenovic | Desirae Krawczyk and Alexa Guarachi
--- | --- | ---
Mixed Doubles | Not Held | Not Held

Lewis Hamilton won Eifel Grand Prix Formula One 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- Lewis Hamilton won his 91st Grand Prix equals Michael Schumacher's record for most F1 wins.

Young Indian player Nihal Sarin won the 2020 Junior Speed Online Chess Championship in Chennai.

Important Points to Remember:

- He beats Russia's world junior No. 6 Alexey Sarana 18-7 in the final.

BCCI announces Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, and Mithali Raj as captains of Supernovas, Trailblazers, and Velocity respectively. The 3 teams will compete in the upcoming Women’s T20 Challenge to be played from 4th- 9th November in the UAE.

Important Points to Remember:

- BCCI: Board of Control for Cricket in India
- BCCI President: Saurav Ganguly

Los Angeles Lakers beat Miami Heat to clinch 17th NBA title.

Important Points to Remember:

- Los Angeles defeated Miami 106-93 in Game 6 on 11th October.
- The Los Angeles Lakers earned their record-tying 17th championship win at the NBA Finals.

Ex-FC Barcelona manager Sergio Lobera appointed as head coach of Mumbai City FC.

Important Points to Remember:

- Mumbai City FC: An Indian professional football club based in Mumbai, Maharashtra, which competes in the Indian Super League.
The Indian Super League is a professional football league that represents the sport’s highest level in India.

The Indian Super League comprises of 11 Teams.

Tokyo will host an international gymnastics tournament on 8 November 2020.

- Japan Prime Minister: Yoshihide Suga
- Japan Capital: Tokyo

Anders Antonsen and Nozomi Okuhara are Denmark Open 2020 winners in Men’s Singles and Women’s Singles category respectively.

Important Points to Remember:

- The 2020 Denmark Open was a badminton tournament which took place from 13 to 18 October 2020.
- It had total prize money of US Dollars 750,000.

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<td>Mayu Matsumoto &amp; Wakana Nagahara (Japan)</td>
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<td>Mark Lamsfub &amp; Isabel Herttrich (Germany)</td>
<td>Chris Adcock &amp; Gabby Adcock (England)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

World number one Indian Elavenil Valarivan won a gold medal in the Sheikh Russel International Air Rifle Championship, held virtually on 18 October 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- Shahu Tushar Mane won a silver medal in the same event.
- The championship was organized by Bangladesh Shooting Sport Federation (BSSF).
MS Dhoni becomes the first player to play 200 games in IPL.

Important Points to Remember:

- MS Dhoni is the Captain of Chennai Super Kings.
- He also completed his 4000 runs in IPL.
- He announced his retirement from One Day cricket on 15th August 2020.

Mohammed Siraj became the first bowler to bowl two maiden overs in the IPL match.

Important Points to Remember:

- Mohammed Siraj: Fast Bowler from Royal Challengers Bangalore

Lewis Hamilton breaks Michael Schumacher's record by winning the Portuguese Grand Prix 2020.

Important Points to Remember:

- Lewis Hamilton (Britain) with the most Grand Prix, having won 92 times. Michael Schumacher (Germany) won 91 Grand Prix.
- Lewis Hamilton won his 91st Grand Prix at Eifel Grand Prix equals Michael Schumacher’s record for most F1 wins.
- He breaks his record by winning the Portuguese Grand Prix 2020 on 25th October 2020.

Royal Challengers Bangalore captain Virat Kohli became the fifth batsman and third Indian to hit 200 sixes in the Indian Premier League.

Important Points to Remember:

- Mumbai Indians captain Rohit Sharma (209) and CSK captain MS Dhoni (216) are the two other Indians on the list.
- The other two players are Chris Gayle (336 Sixes), and AB de Villiers (231 Sixes).

Entire Cricket South Africa board resigns.

Important Points to Remember:

- Six board members resigned on 27th October, including acting president Beresford Williams, on 26th October.
- The resignation of the four remaining board members clears the way for the appointment of an interim committee.

Jasprit Bumrah completed 100 wickets in IPL.

Important Points to Remember:
• Bumrah also became the third-youngest to the mark having reached the feat at the age of 26 and 372 days.
• Piyush Chawla is the fastest having reached the milestone at the age of 26 and 117 days.

Kiren Rijiju, along with actor Vidyut Jammwal flaged off a 200-km long 'Fit India Walkathon' on October 31 at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

Important Points to Remember:
• The 3-day event is being organized by Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), starting from October 31 to November 2.
• Kiren Rijiju: Union Sports Minister

State Current Affairs

Uttar Pradesh cabinet has approved a proposal of establishing ODOP as a brand through a chain of retail stores. These ODOP stores will sell special products made by local artisans and entrepreneurs in various districts and the state government will provide financial support to them.

Important Points to Remember:
• The One District One Product (ODOP) Programme was envisioned and subsequently inaugurated on January 24, 2018, by the Chief Minister of UP Yogi Adityanath on the day of Uttar Pradesh Divas.
• This project by Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP) aims to encourage more visibility and sale of indigenous and specialized products/crafts of Uttar Pradesh.
• UP Governor: Anandi Ben Patel
• UP Capital: Lucknow

Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers Shri. D.V. Sadananda Gowda launched POS 3.1 software, SMS Gateway and Home Delivery facility of Fertilizers (RBK) for farmers in Andhra Pradesh. DBT system was launched on 1st March 2018.

Important Points to Remember:
• Andhra Pradesh Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan
• Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister: YS Jaganmohan Reddy
• Andhra Pradesh Capital: Amravati

Tamil Nadu and Arunachal Pradesh launched the Centre's One Nation One Ration Card scheme across the state.

Important Points to Remember:
• Launched: 1 June 2020
• Objective: The scheme will enable ration cardholders to get their supply of food grains at any fair price shop across the country.
• Now, 26 States/UTs integrated into the ‘one nation, one ration card’ scheme.
• These 26 States/UTs are namely Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.

Nagpur Municipal Corporation starts Mobile COVID test centers in order to stop the spread of the Corona Virus in the City. A fleet of 12 buses in the Civic bus transport facility converted into swab collection centers.

Important Points to Remember:
• Nagpur: Nitin Gadkari Constituency
• Nitin Gadkari: Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Minister of Shipping and the Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Assam government launched Kisan Rath mobile app to promote the buyer-seller network.

Important Points to Remember:
• The newly launched app connects more than 10,000 farmers, 50 farmer-producer organizations, and 1,000 verified agricultural traders on its interface.
• App Developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC)
• Assam Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
• Assam Chief Minister: Sarbananda Sonowal
• Assam Capital: Dispur

AP government will install piped water taps in 32 lakh homes at a cost of Rs 4,800 crore.

Important Points to Remember:
• Andhra Pradesh Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan
• Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister: YS Jaganmohan Reddy
• Andhra Pradesh Capital: Amravati

Yogi Adityanath unveils UP's largest oxygen plant in Modinagar, Ghaziabad.

• UP Governor: Anandi Ben Patel
• UP Capital: Lucknow
Goa becomes the first state to provide 100% tap water connections in rural areas.

Important Points to Remember:

- It covered 2.30 lakh households.
- Modi government's Jal Jeevan Mission aims to provide piped water to all rural households by 2024.
- Union Jal Shakti Minister: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- Goa Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Goa Chief Minister: Pramod Sawant

Arunachal Pradesh to feature on the country’s aviation map with Greenfield Airport at Hollongi.

Important Points to Remember:

- With an area of 4100 sqm, the new terminal building of the Airport will be able to handle 200 passengers during peak hrs.
- Equipped with 8 check-in counters, the terminal will have all modern facilities.
- Arunachal Pradesh Governor: BD Mishra
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister: Prema Khandu
- Arunachal Pradesh Capital: Itanagar

14 investors signed an MoU with the Tamil Nadu government to invest over Rs. 10,055 crore in various industrial projects, in presence of state’s chief minister.

Important Points to Remember:

- They would generate over seven thousand direct jobs. 42 MoUs signed since last January worth over Rs. 31464 crore.
- Tamil Nadu Governor: Banwarilal Purohit
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister: Edappadi Palaniswamy
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai

Ladakh becomes the 34th State/UT, which has notified Rules under RERA.

Important Points to Remember:

- RERA: Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016
- It was done on 8 October 2020.
- It paves the way for the implementation of this transformative legislation in the Union Territory, opening new vistas of the real estate development journey.
- Ladakh Lieutenant Governor: Radha Krishna Mathur
Kerala has become the first state in the country to have high-tech classrooms in all its public schools.

Important Points to Remember:

- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan
- Kerala Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

Pepsi to set up greenfield potato chips production unit in Uttar Pradesh with an investment of Rs. 814 crore.

Important Points to Remember:

- PepsiCo: American multinational food, snack, and beverage
- PepsiCo Headquarters: Harrison, New York, USA
- PepsiCo CEO: Ramon Laguarta
- Uttar Pradesh Governor: Anandi Ben Patel
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath
- Uttar Pradesh Capital: Lucknow

The government of Odisha and the Indian Rugby Football Union (IRFU) signed an agreement.

Important Points to Remember:

- To sponsor the Indian national rugby teams for the next three years.
- IRFU World Rugby affiliation: 1999
- IRFU President: Noomi Mehta
- IRFU Founded: 1968
- IRFU Headquarters: Mumbai
- Odisha Governor: Ganeshi Lal
- Odisha Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik
- Odisha Capital: Bhubaneshwar

Kerala State’s first water taxi launched in Alappuzha.

Important Points to Remember:

- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan
- Kerala Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram
Baseer Ahmad Khan inaugurated two-day folk and light music concert 'JASHN-e-HARUD' at Srinagar.

- Baseer Ahmad Khan: Adviser to Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir
- The musical concert is being organised by Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages Kashmir.


Important Points to Remember:

- The government may, at any time after a Government servant has attained the age of 48 years or completed 22 years of service, as the case may be, retire him in the public interest.
- Such a Government servant shall be granted pensionary benefits.

Maharashtra govt withdrew general consent given to CBI to probe cases in the state.

Important Points to Remember:

- The Maharashtra government withdrew the general consent given to the Central Bureau of Investigation to probe cases in the state.
- Now CBI will have to get the state government’s permission to probe any matter in Maharashtra.
- Maharashtra is the fifth state to withdraw general consent for CBI operations within its territory.
- The governments of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh had recently withdrawn the general consent to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- The Andhra Pradesh government restored the general consent in 2019 after Chief Minister Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy took over.

Uttar Pradesh secured the first rank in disbursing loans under PM Swanidhi Scheme.

Important Points to Remember:

- Uttar Pradesh government has secured the first rank in the central government's PM Atmanirbhar Nidhi Scheme (SVANidhi Scheme) by approving the highest number of loans under the scheme in the country.
- The state has ranked first in all the categories - Applications, Sanctions, and Disbursements of the loans under the scheme. As many as 6,22,167 applications were received under the scheme in the state which is highest in the country, out of
which sanctions were given to 3,46,150 applicants while the loans were disbursed to 2,26,728 beneficiaries.

- Seven cities of the state also find a place in the list of top 10 cities of the country. Varanasi, Lucknow, and Aligarh are the top three cities on the list even as other cities of the state include Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad, and Kanpur.
- The scheme was launched on June 1, 2020, by the Central Government to help the street vendors.

**Naveen Patnaik launched an integrated Odisha State Scholarship Portal.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- To help eligible students avail of scholarship benefits in a seamless & transparent manner.
- More than 11 lakh beneficiaries to be benefitted from this unified portal.
- Odisha Governor: Ganeshi Lal
- Odisha Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik
- Odisha Capital: Bhubaneshwar

**Noida Metro Rail Corp has designated Sec 50 station as 'Pride Station' to honor the transgender community.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Pride Station is the new name of Sector 50 station on the NMRC line which connects Noida and Greater Noida.
- 6 people of the transgender community have been given employment.
- The station has been renamed to honor the transgender community.
- Earlier in 2017, the Kochi Metro Rail Limited in Kerala had taken a similar step by employing 23 transgenders.
- The initiative was inspired by the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, passed by the Centre for the protection of the rights of the transgender people and working towards their welfare.

**Kerala becomes the first state to fix the floor prices for vegetables.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Kerala on 27th October became 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.
- This was the first time the floor price was being fixed for 16 varieties of vegetables produced in Kerala.

**Tamil Nadu Government launched the Young Advocates Welfare Fund.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy launched the Young Advocates Welfare Fund on 28th October 2020.
- It provides monthly financial assistance of three thousand rupees each for two years to the lawyers who just come out of law colleges.
- He handed over the assistance to nine young lawyers at a function in Chennai.

**Jammu Kashmir Government launched the Market Intervention Scheme 2020.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- The objective of the newly launched MIS is to facilitate the stakeholders by providing optimum prices to the growers in the region during the peculiar situation arising out of COVID-19 pandemic.
- The scheme will make way for procurement of 12 Lakh Metric Tonne of apples which will not only ensure profitability to the apple growers but at the same time, it will also create rural employment through supplementary services such as packaging, transportation.

**K. Chandrashekar Rao launched the "Dharani" Portal.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- K. Chandrashekar Rao: Telangana Chief Minister
- Dharani portal, a first of its kind in the country, for storing digitized land records and registration of properties.
- This means property registrations would be done without a human interface from now on, eliminating the scope for corruption.

**Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched the "Green Delhi" mobile application.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- Citizens can click pictures or make a video of pollution-causing activities, such as the burning of garbage, industrial pollution, dust, etc. and upload them on the Green Delhi app.
- The application will identify the location and the complaint will be automatically forwarded to the concerned department for time-bound redressal.

**Karnataka proposed a ban on government servants acting in films, TV programs.**

**Important Points to Remember:**
- Now the government servant will have to take permission to participate in any Films, TV program.
Karnataka Governor: Vajubhai Vala
Karnataka Chief Minister: B. S. Yediyurappa
Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru

**Summits**

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the VAIBHAV Summit 2020.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- VAIBHAV: Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik
- VAIBHAV Summit 2020 celebrates Science and Innovation from India and the World.
- The summit will conclude on the occasion of Sardar Vallab Bhai Patel Jayanti i.e. 31st October 2020.

**First-ever India-Russia Webinar on Use of Natural Gas organized.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India and Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation for cooperation on the use of Natural Gas for Transportation was signed in presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Mr Narendra Modi and Hon'ble President of Russian Federation Mr Vladimir Putin.
- The implementation of this MoU would assist in collective efforts to use natural gas as an environmentally friendly motor fuel for mutual benefit.

**The 12th BRICS Summit will be held on 17th November.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- BRICS: Group of Five Countries: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
- BRICS Founded: 2009

**Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan chairs 5th Special Session of the WHO Executive Board.**

**Important Points to Remember:**

- He is the Chairman of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO)
- WHO Director-General: Tedros Adhanom
- WHO: World Health Organization
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
Shri Santosh Gangwar addressed the BRICS Ministerial Summit.

Important Points to Remember:

- BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers’ Virtual Meeting was held under the Russian Presidency.
- Shri Santosh Gangwar: Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment
- BRICS: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa

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