

## The Most Important Current Affairs June 2020

### Environmental Performance Index 2020

“**Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2020**” has been released by the Yale Center for Environmental Law & Policy, **Yale University**, and Center for International Earth Science Information Network, **Columbia University**. EPI 2020 is the **22nd edition** of the Environmental Performance Index report.

The EPI has **ranked 180 countries** by using **32 performance indicators** across **11 issue categories** involving environmental health and ecosystem vitality as the policy objectives. The EPI provides a scorecard that indicates the leaders as well as the laggards in the environmental performance.

Policy Objective & Issue Categories: The Environmental Performance Index 2020 was based on two Policy Objectives comprising of 11 Issue Categories.

The **two Policy Objectives** are:

1. Environmental Health
2. Ecosystem Vitality

The Policy Objective titled “**Environmental Health**” comprised of **4 Issue Categories** namely:

1. Air Quality
2. Sanitation & Drinking Water
3. Heavy Metals
4. Waste Management

The Policy Objective titled “**Ecosystem Vitality**” comprised of **7 Issue Categories** namely:

1. Biodiversity & Habitat
2. Ecosystem Services
3. Fisheries
4. Climate Change
5. Pollution Emissions
6. Agriculture
7. Water Resources

The above **11 Issue Categories** further comprised of **32 indicators** of environmental performance for **180 countries**. All of the above together aggregated into an EPI Score.

Key findings of Environmental Performance Index 2020:

- The Environmental Performance Index 2020 was **topped** by **Denmark** with an EPI score of **82.5**, followed by Luxembourg (82.3), Switzerland (81.5), United Kingdom (81.3), and France (80.0) at 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th position respectively out of 180 countries ranked by the index.
- **India** was ranked **168th** along with Ghana, out of 180 countries with an EPI score of **27.6** in the 2020 Environmental Performance Index.
- **Liberia** stood at the **bottom** in the EPI rankings with an EPI score of **22.6**.

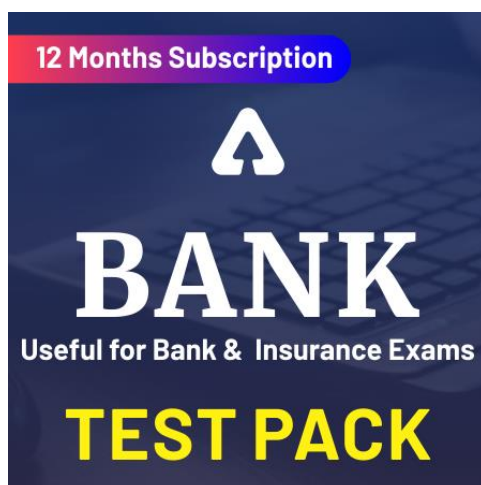
**India in the Environmental Performance Index 2020:**

- The report states that India struggled to perform well on several of the 2020 EPI’s environmental issue categories such as Air Quality at which the country was placed at 179th position just above Pakistan which stood at 180th place.
- India was placed at 148th position in the world in the issue category “biodiversity & habitat”, hence failing to maximize the conservation capacity of its protected areas.
- India was placed 106th in the world on climate change mitigation.

### World Bank Releases “Global Economic Prospects (June 2020)”

**World Bank** has released its flagship report titled “**Global Economic Prospects (June 2020)**”. The report assesses the impressions of the pandemic and also examines the possible courses and outcomes. The report describes a grave near-term outlook and states that there is a contraction in **global GDP** which was **5.2 percent** in **2020** due to the **COVID-19 pandemic**.

The report assesses the impressions of the COVID-19 pandemic and also examines the possible courses and outcomes. It indicates the clear actions needed by the global community and national policymakers—to restrict the harm, recover, and rebuild better and stronger than before.



**Outlook of various economies mentioned in the report:**

- The report forecasts a **5.2%** contraction in **global GDP** in 2020 i.e. the **deepest global recession** in eight decades that the world has witnessed.
- The **GDP of India** is expected to **contract** by **3.2% in 2020**, while it is expected to expand by **3.1% in 2021**.
- The GDP of **advanced economies** is expected to **contract** by **7%** in 2020.
- The GDP of **U.S.** is expected to **contract** by **6.1%** in 2020.
- The GDP of **Japan** is expected to **contract** by **9.1%** in 2020.
- The GDP of **Emerging market and developing economies (EMDE)** is expected to **contract** by **2.5%** in 2020.
- The GDP of **China** is expected to become slow by **1.0%** in 2020.
- The GDP of **Russia** is expected to contract by **6%** in 2020.

**Indian Railways commissions 1st high rise Over Head Equipment**

- **Indian Railways** has commissioned the **first high rise Over Head Equipment (OHE)** and successfully ran a **double stack containers** in electrified territory on Western Railway. With this, **Indian Railways has become the first Railway** to run Double Stack Container train with high reach pantograph in high rise OHE territory, which is a first of its kind in the entire world.
- The first 1st high rise Over Head Equipment (OHE) has a contact **wire height of 7.57 metre** and it was operated successfully from **Palanpur & Botad** stations in **Gujarat** on 10th June 2020. This new achievement of Indian Railways will also boost the ambitious mission of Green India as its latest green initiative. This initiative is also expected to bring innovation, speed and customisation in freight operations.

**QS World University Rankings 2021 released**

**Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Ranking 2021** has been released. Only **eight Indian institutes** managed to feature in the **top 500** of QS World University Ranking 2021.

Ranks	Universities	Country
1st	<b>Massachusetts Institute for Technology (MIT)</b>	USA
2nd	Stanford University	USA
3rd	Harvard University	USA
4th	California Institute of Technology	USA
5th	University of Oxford	United Kingdom
172nd	<b>Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay</b>	India
185th	Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore	India
193rd	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi	India
275th	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras	India
314th	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur	India
350th	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur	India
383rd	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee	India
470th	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati	India

**India signs MOU on “Energy Cooperation” with Denmark**

- **India** has signed an **MOU on “Energy Cooperation”** with **Denmark** to develop a strong, deep and long-term co-operation between two nations in the power sector. The MoU was signed between the Ministry of Power, Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry for Energy, Utilities and Climate, Government of the Kingdom of Denmark.
- The MoU signed between the two countries provides for collaboration in the following areas: **offshore wind, long term energy planning, forecasting, variability in renewable energy production, flexibility in the power purchase agreements, incentivize power plant flexibility, flexibility in the grid, consolidation of grid codes to integrate and operate efficiently variable generation options, etc.**
- As per the MoU, India & Denmark will also **establish a Joint Working Group (JWG) for implementation of the identified areas**. Joint Secretary level officials will co-chair this Joint Working Group and will report to a Steering Committee which would be jointly chaired by the Secretary level officer from both the sides.

## FSSAI releases State food safety index for 2019-20

**Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** has released the results of the second **State Food Safety Index** to celebrate World Food Safety Day. On this occasion, FSSAI also released an **e-handbook** on **“Eat Right during COVID-19”** for citizens. It highlights safe food practices to be followed diligently and tips on health and nutrition.

The State Food Safety Index ranks states on **five parameters** of food safety every year. These parameters are:

1. Human Resources and Institutional Data
2. Compliance
3. Food Testing Facility
4. Training
5. Capacity Building besides Consumer Empowerment

Winners are distributed in **three categories**.

- Large State
- Small State
- Union Territories

**Following is the list of winners:**

**Large States:**

Rank	Winner
1	Gujarat
2	Tamil Nadu
3	Maharashtra

**Small States:**

Rank	Award
1	Goa
2	Manipur
3	Meghalaya

**Union Territories (UTs):**

Rank	Award
1	Chandigarh
2	Delhi
3	Andaman Islands

## CSIR & Atal Innovation Mission to promote Innovation in India

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (**CSIR**) has partnered with **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** to promote innovation in India.

**Major areas of mutual interest are:**

- The partnership will support world class start-ups through **CSIR Incubators** under the Atal Innovation mission initiatives.
- They will jointly work on new models of innovation and will also set-up **CSIR Innovation Parks**.
- With the **collaboration** of **CSIR** with **ARISE**, an initiative of AIM, they will together stimulate innovation and research in the MSME industry.
- It will also create problem solving mind-set across schools in India via close cooperation between Atal Tinkering Labs and Jigyasa. **JIGYASA** is CSIRs Student-Scientist connect program where in more than 3 lakhs students across the country have been exposed to science and technology.

## Government of India bans 59 Chinese apps

The **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology** has announced that **“Government of India Bans 59 Chinese mobile apps”**, which are prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, the security of the state and public order”.

The Ministry of Information Technology, invoking its power under section 69A of the Information Technology Act read with the relevant provisions of the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking of Access of Information by Public) Rules 2009 and in view of the emergent nature of threats has decided to block 59 apps.

The complete **list of 59 Chinese App Banned** in India is given below:

S. No.	Chinese Mobile Applications
1.	TikTok
2.	Shareit
3.	Kwai
4.	UC Browser
5.	Baidu map
6.	Shein
7.	Clash of Kings
8.	DU battery saver
9.	Helo
10.	Likee
11.	YouCam makeup
12.	Mi Community
13.	CM Browsers
14.	Virus Cleaner
15.	APUS Browser
16.	ROMWE

S. No.	Chinese Mobile Applications
17.	Club Factory
18.	Newsdog
19.	Beutry Plus
20.	WeChat
21.	UC News
22.	QQ Mail
23.	Weibo
24.	Xender
25.	QQ Music
26.	QQ Newsfeed
27.	Bigo Live
28.	SelfieCity
29.	Mail Master
30.	Parallel Space
31.	Mi Video Call – Xiaomi
32.	WeSync
33.	ES File Explorer
34.	Viva Video – QU Video Inc
35.	Meitu
36.	Vigo Video
37.	New Video Status
38.	DU Recorder
39.	Vault- Hide
40.	Cache Cleaner DU App studio
41.	DU Cleaner
42.	DU Browser
43.	Hago Play With New Friends
44.	Cam Scanner
45.	Clean Master – Cheetah Mobile
46.	Wonder Camera
47.	Photo Wonder
48.	QQ Player
49.	We Meet
50.	Sweet Selfie
51.	Baidu Translate
52.	Vmate
53.	QQ International
54.	QQ Security Center
55.	QQ Launcher
56.	U Video
57.	V fly Status Video
58.	Mobile Legends
59.	DU Privacy

## Union HRD Minister releases “India Rankings 2020” for Higher Educational Institutions

Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ has virtually released the **5th edition** of “**India Rankings 2020**” of Institutions of Higher Educational Institutions.

The ranking framework evaluates institutions on **five broad generic groups of parameters**:

- Teaching, Learning and Resources (TLR)
- Research and Professional Practice (RP)
- Graduation Outcomes (GO)
- Outreach and Inclusivity (OI)
- Perception (PR)

The rankings are being announced for India’s best universities and institutions in **10 categories** namely:

**Overall, Universities, Engineering, Colleges, Management, Pharmacy, Medical, Dental, Architecture, and Law.**

**List of winners is as follows:**

**Overall Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Indian Institute of Technology Madras
2	Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
3	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
4	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
5	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

**University Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
2	Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
3	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
4	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore
5	Jadavpur University, Kolkata

**Engineering Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Indian Institute of Technology Madras
2	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
3	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
4	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
5	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

**Management Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad
2	Indian Institute of Management Bangalore
3	Indian Institute of Management Calcutta
4	Indian Institute of Management Lucknow
5	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

**Colleges Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Miranda House, Delhi
2	Lady Shri Ram College for Women, New Delhi
3	Hindu College, Delhi
4	St. Stephen`s College, Delhi
5	Presidency College, Chennai

**Pharmacy Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi
2	Panjab University, Chandigarh
3	National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Mohali
4	Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai
5	National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Hyderabad

**Medical Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
2	Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh
3	Christian Medical College, Vellore

**Architecture Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
2	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee
3	National Institute of Technology Calicut

**Law Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	National Law School of India University, Bengaluru
2	National Law University, New Delhi
3	Nalsar University of Law, Hyderabad

**Dental Category:**

Ranks	Name of Institute
1	Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences, Delhi
2	Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Udupi
3	Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune

**PM Modi launches CHAMPIONS: Technology Platform to empower MSMEs**

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched the technology platform **CHAMPIONS** which stands for **Creation and Harmonious Application of recent Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength**. The portal is essential for creating the smaller units big by solving their grievances, encouraging, supporting, helping and handholding. It is a real one-stop solution of MSME Ministry.

**Detailed objectives of CHAMPIONS:**

- **Grievance Redressal:** To resolve the issues of MSMEs including those of finance, raw materials, labour, regulatory permissions etc particularly within the COVID created a difficult situation;
- **To help them capture new opportunities:** including manufacturing of medical equipment and accessories like PPEs, masks, etc and provide them in National and International markets;
- **To identify and encourage the sparks:** i.e. the potential MSMEs who are ready to withstand the present situation and may become national and international champions. It is a technology packed control room-cum-management data system. In addition to ICT tools including telephone, internet and video conference, the system is enabled by AI, Data Analytics and Machine Learning. It is also fully integrated on real time basis with GOI's main grievances portal CPGRAMS and MSME Ministry's own other web based mechanisms. The entire ICT architecture is made in house with the assistance of NIC in no cost.

**World No Tobacco Day 2020 Awards**

World No Tobacco Day Award 2020 has been announced. Every year, WHO recognizes individuals or organizations in each of the six WHO Regions for their accomplishments in the area of tobacco control. This recognition takes the form of **WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award** and **World No Tobacco Day Awards**.

**WHO Director-General Special award:**

- Dr **Mom Kong**, Executive Director, Cambodia Movement for Health, Cambodia.

**Six WHO Regions:**

**1. South-East Asia Region Awardees:**

- Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health, Kingdom of Thailand.
- **Socio-Economic and Educational Development Society, Patna, Bihar, India (for its efforts to ban pan masala, gutkha, e-cigarettes and hookah in Bihar and Jharkhand).**
- Dr Aung Tun, Chairman, Tun Khit Foundation, Myanmar.

**2. African Region Awardees**

- Mr Wondu Bekele Woldemariam, Executive Director, Mathiwos Wondu Cancer Society, Ethiopia
- Ms Rachel Kitonyo Devotsu, Regional Coordinator for Africa, McCabe Centre for Law and Cancer, Kenya
- Mr Aboubacar Hamidou, Secrétaire administratif, Réseau de Lutte contre le Tabac et autres Stupéfiants (RELUTAS), Mali
- Mr Deowan Mohee, NGO VISA, Mauritius;
- Pr Kumako Vinyo Kodzo, Chef du programme national de lutte contre le tabac, Ministère de la santé et de l'hygiène publique, Togo
- Ms Robinah Kaitiritimba, Executive Director, Uganda National Health Users'/Consumers' Organization, Uganda

**3. Region of the Americas Awardees**

Three **Bolivian institutions** (shared award):

- Asamblea Legislativa Plurinacional de Bolivia (National Assembly of Bolivia)
- Ministerio de Salud del Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia (Bolivia Ministry of Health)
- Alianza Bolivia Libre Sin Tabaco (Alliance for a Bolivia Free of Tobacco)
- Antonio Drauzio Varella, medical doctor and influencer, Brazil
- Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela (Ministry of Health of Venezuela)
- Three Mexican institutions (shared award):
- Secretaría de Salud de México (Mexico Ministry of Health)
- Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público de México (Mexico Ministry of Finance and Public Credit)
- Secretaría de Economía de México (Mexico Ministry of Economy)

**4. Eastern Mediterranean Region Awardees**

- Ms Nesreen Osama Dabous, President of life without smoking (Haya Bela Tadkheen), Arab Republic of Egypt
- Professor Ahmad Jonidi Jafari, Head of the Environmental and Occupational Health Centre, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Islamic Republic of Iran
- Tobacco Free Jordan (TFJ) (Laliltadkheen Org), Jordan
- Mr Anwar Jassim Borahmah, Secretary General, Antismoking and Cancer Society, Chairman, Antismoking Committee, Kuwait
- Dr Ghazi Zaatari, Interim Dean, Faculty of Medicine, American University of Beirut, Professor and Chair, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, Lebanon

**5. European Region Awardees**

- Dr Arsen Torosyan, Minister of Health, Armenia
- VIVID – Institute for the Prevention of Addiction, Austria
- Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland
- Limerick Comhairle (country-wide youth council), Ireland
- Dr Ghenadie Turcanu, program coordinator, Center for Health Policies and Studies, Republic of Moldova
- Cancer Research UK, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**6. Western Pacific Region Awardees**

- The Beijing Tobacco Control Association, People's Republic of China
- Coalition for a Tobacco Free Palau, Palau
- Ministry of Health, Health Promotion Board, Health Sciences Authority, Singapore
- National Tobacco Control Center, Korea Health Promotion Institute, Republic of Korea
- The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), Australia

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## GoI launches “The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP)”

Government of India has launched “**The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP)**”. It is an initiative of **All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)**, Ministry of HRD, and Ministry of Housing and Urban Development. The programme aims to provide internship opportunities to fresh graduates in all **Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)** as well as Smart Cities across the nation. It would also facilitate practical experience to the students of India and hence help in infusing fresh ideas and innovative thinking into the working of Urban Local Bodies and smart cities.

An opportunity will be provided to the youth of India via TULIP programme in order to generate new ideas to reform Urban local bodies with the help of modern techniques and innovative methods. Hence, it will help in improving the value-to-market of Indian graduates and help in the creation of a potential talent pool in diverse fields such as transport engineering, environment, urban planning, municipal finance etc.

## UNCTAD Releases “World Investment Report 2020”

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has released its flagship report titled as “**World Investment Report 2020: International Production Beyond the Pandemic**”. This is the **30th edition** of the report. The report monitors the global as well as regional FDI trends and also documents the national and international investment policy developments. It also analyses the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

### Key findings of the report:

- The report forecasts **Global FDI flows** to decrease by up to **40% in 2020**, from their 2019 value of \$1.54 trillion.
- According to the report, the investment flows are expected to slowly recover starting from 2022 to be led by global value chains (GVCs).
- As per the report, **Global FDI** is projected to decrease by a further **5 to 10% in 2021**, followed by a **recovery in 2022**.
- Report mentioned that among developed countries, **FDI flows to Europe** are expected to fall by **30 to 45%**.
- Report stated that the developing economies are expected to see the biggest fall in FDI.
- The FDI flows to **developing Asia** is projected to fall by **30 to 45%**.
- As per the report, the inflows to **South Asia** increased by **10 per cent** to \$57 billion.

- As per the report, the **FDI to India increased by 20%** to **\$51 billion in 2019**, sustaining the country's upward FDI trend.
- Among the world's largest FDI recipients, United States stood first in 2019.
- Among the **world's largest FDI recipients, India** has jumped from 12th position in 2018 to **9th position in 2019**.
- Report also mentioned that India's large market will continue to attract market-seeking investments to the country.

## India releases National Report on the state of Climate Crisis

**India's** first ever National Report on the state of the Climate Crisis has been released. The report has been prepared under the aegis of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) with title “**Assessment Of Climate Change Over The Indian Region**”. The report analyses where India stands regarding long-term changes in climate patterns, and their attendant risks.

### Key findings of the report:

- It revealed that **India's average temperature** has risen by **0.7 degrees Celsius** between 1901-2018, citing the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) as key reason of the temperature rise.
- It also predicted **two different scenarios** related to India's temperature rise by 2099. In a **best-case scenario** of immediate mitigation of emissions, India's temperature will still rise by **2.7 degrees Celsius** while in the **worst-case scenario** temperature will increase by **4.4 degrees Celsius** by the end of the century.
- About the **monsoon**, it shows that the **precipitation** over north **India has reduced by 6%** between 1951-2015 because of the polluting aerosol “**brown cloud**”. The monsoon is also expected to become more extreme in the upcoming decades.
- It also predicts the **April-June heatwaves** to become **four times** more frequent by 2099 as compared to that of 1976-2005.
- It stated that the **sea level near Mumbai** is rising at the rate of **3 cm per decade** while it is **5 cm per decade** off the **Bengal coast**.
- It mentioned that **surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean** including the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea have **increased by 1 degree Celsius** between 1951-2015 which is higher than the global average.
- It also shows that the **frequency of warm days and nights** is expected to increase upto **55% and 70%** respectively.

### MoHUA & SIDBI signs MoU for PM SVANidhi scheme

Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for **PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi** (PM SVANidhi). PM SVANidhi is a Special Micro-Credit Facility for Street Vendors.

- According to the MoU, PM SVANidhi Scheme will be implemented by SIDBI under the guidance of MoHUA. The credit guarantee to the lending institutions would also be managed by the SIDBI through Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).
- SIDBI will ensure effective implementation of the scheme by providing a **Project Management Unit** (PMU) consisting of domain experts in training/capacity building, project and platform management, banking, NBFC and MFI sectors etc for the period of scheme, i.e. upto March 2022. SIDBI will also leverage the network of lending Institutions for the Scheme implementation. The lending institutions will include Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), Non-Bank Finance Companies (NBFCs), Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Co-operative Banks, Small Finance Banks (SFBs), etc.

### India elected as non-permanent member of UN Security Council

- **India** has been elected as the **non-permanent member** of the **United Nations Security Council**. India has won the election for a two-year term after winning **184 votes in the 193-member General Assembly**.
- India won the non-permanent seat from the **Asia-Pacific category for the 2021-22 term** which will begin on 1st January 2021.
- Earlier India has been elected as a non-permanent member of the Council for the following years: 1950-1951, 1967-1968, 1972-1973, 1977-1978, 1984-1985, 1991-1992 and 2011-2012.
- **Ireland, Mexico and Norway** also won the Security Council elections along with India. The United Nations high-table comprises of five permanent members and 10 non-permanent members.

### IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2020

Institute for Management Development (IMD) has released **World Competitiveness Index 2020**. Top 20 Countries in IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2020:

Bank	Country
1.	Singapore
2.	Denmark
3.	Switzerland
4.	Netherlands
5.	Hong Kong SAR
6.	Sweden
7.	Norway
8.	Canada
9.	UAE
10.	USA
11.	Taiwan, China
12.	Ireland
13.	Finland
14.	Qatar
15.	Luxembourg
16.	Austria
17.	Germany
18.	Australia
19.	United Kingdom
20.	China
43.	India

### GoI to launch "Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan"

- **"Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan"** will be launched by the Government of India from Village **Telihar, Block Beldaur of Khagaria District of Bihar**. It is a massive rural public works scheme that will empower and offer livelihood opportunities to the returnee migrant workers as well as rural citizens. The programme will be joined by the villages across 116 districts in the six States through the **Common Service Centres and Krishi Vigyan Kendras**. The six states are: Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar.
- **"Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan"** will be **125 days** long campaign and work in mission mode. It will be a **coordinated effort** between **12 different Ministries/Departments** such as Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Environment, Railways, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Road Transport & Highways, Mines, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Telecom, Agriculture, New & Renewable Energy, and Border Roads.



- The campaign will involve focused implementation of 25 different types of works which will provide employment to the migrant workers along with creation of infrastructure in the rural regions of the country, with a resource envelope of **Rs 50,000 crore**.

### Flood warning system “iFLOWS” launched in Mumbai

- State of the art flood warning system “iFLOWS”** has been launched in **Mumbai**, Maharashtra. I-FLOWS consists of seven modules: **Data Assimilation, Flood, Inundation, Vulnerability, Risk, Dissemination Module and Decision Support System**.
- The system will enable Mumbai to predict floods three days before they happen. As a result, administration will be able to save property as well as lives from the flood.

### UP becomes top state to provide employment under MGNREGA

**Uttar Pradesh** has become the top state in India to provide employment to the workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA). According to the data released, **57,12,975 workers** got employment in around **57,000 village panchayats of the state which is 18%** of the total work generated under the MGNREGA in the country.

### KVIC launches project to produce Neera and Palmgur

- A unique project to produce **Neera and Palmgur** has been rolled out by the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** in **Palghar district of Maharashtra**. The project aims to promote Neera as a substitute to soft drinks along with generating self-employment opportunities for Adivasis as well as traditional trappers. Indian state Maharashtra is home to more than **50 lakh palm trees**.
- As a part of project, KVIC distributed tool kits to local artisans for extraction of **Neera and making palmgur**. The tool kit comprised of canteen burners, perforated moulds, food grade stainless steel Kadhai, along with other equipment namely knives, rope and axes.
- Neera** is a nutrient-rich health drink consumed in many Indian states, and is extracted from the palm trees before sunrise.

### Nature Index 2020: India ranked 12th in science research

**Nature Index table 2020** has been released. India has been placed at twelfth position globally in science research output. The top five positions have gone to the **United States of America, China, Germany, United Kingdom and Japan**.

**Top 10 countries in the Nature Index 2020:**

Rank	Country
1	United States of America
2	China
3	Germany
4	United Kingdom
5	Japan
6	France
7	Canada
8	Switzerland
9	South Korea
10	Australia
12	India

**Top 3 Institutions (Global):**

Ranks	Name of Institution
1	Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
2	Harvard University, United States of America (USA)
3	Max Planck Society, Germany

**Top 3 Indian Institutions (Global)**

India Rank	Global Rank	Name of Institution
1	160	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
2	184	Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore
3	260	Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)

### SIPRI Yearbook 2020: India ranked 6th as nuclear weapons increased since 2019

**Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** has launched **SIPRI Yearbook 2020**. The Yearbook assesses the current state of armaments, disarmament and international security. The 51st edition of the Yearbook reveals an unbroken deterioration within the conditions for international stability.

In accordance with the “SIPRI Yearbook 2020- Armaments, Disarmament and International Security” from 2019 there’s a rise within the nuclear weapons stockpile of **India and China**.

Following table shows the number of warheads of top rankers (as of January 2020):

Rank	Country	Nuclear Warheads
1	USA	5800
2	Russia	6375
3	United kingdom	215
4	France	290
5	China	320
6	<b>India</b>	<b>150</b>
7	Pakistan	160
8	Israel	90
9	North Korea	(30-40)

### GoI brings all cooperative banks under supervision of RBI

- **Government of India** will bring an ordinance to bring all **cooperative banks** under the **Reserve Bank of India supervision**.
- Now **1,482 urban cooperative banks** and **58 multi-state cooperative banks** will come under the supervisory powers of the Reserve Bank of India.
- The RBI’s powers as they apply to the scheduled banks will also apply to cooperative banks. This decision will give an assurance to more than **86 million depositors** in these banks that their money amounting to **Rs 4.84 trillion** will stay safe.

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### Cabinet approves setting up of Rs 15000 crore “AHIDF”

- Establishment of **Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)** has been approved by the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The **AHIDF** will be worth **Rs 15000 crore** and provide incentivisation of investments in the formation of such infrastructure for dairy as well as meat processing, and value addition infrastructure and establishment of animal feed plant in the private sector.
- Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), MSMEs, Section 8 Companies, Private Companies and individual entrepreneur would be the eligible beneficiaries under the scheme According to the scheme, minimum **10% margin money** would be contributed by the beneficiary while scheduled banks would be responsible for the availability of balance **90%** of the loan component. Interest subvention of **3%** would be provided by the Government of India to the eligible beneficiaries. There will be **2 years moratorium** period for the principal loan amount while **6 years** repayment period thereafter.
- A Credit Guarantee Fund of **Rs 750 crore** would be set up by the Government of India. This fund would be managed by **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** and will provide Credit guarantee to those sanctioned projects which are covered under MSME defined ceilings. Guarantee Coverage would be provided **upto 25%** of Credit facility of borrower.
- Both of the above facilities will ensure availability of capital to meet upfront investment required for the above projects and also help enhance overall returns/ pay back for investors.

### NITI Aayog to launch project “Decarbonising Transport in India”

- **NITI Aayog** will launch the “**Decarbonising Transport in India**” project in collaboration with **International Transport Forum (ITF)** to develop a pathway towards a low-carbon transport system for India. It will design a tailor-made transport emissions assessment framework for India and facilitate the government with a comprehensive understanding of present as well as future transport activities along with the related **CO2 emissions**.
- The project is a part of the International Transport Forum’s “**Decarbonising Transport in Emerging Economies (DTEE)**” family of projects.

## HRD Minister virtually launches 'YUKTI 2.0' platform

- "YUKTI 2.0" platform has been virtually launched by the Union Minister of Human Resource Development, **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'**. The platform will help in systematically adopting the technologies having commercial potential and information related to incubated startups in our higher education institutions. The Young India combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology and Innovation (YUKTI) platform seeks to cover the different dimensions of COVID-19 challenges in a very holistic and comprehensive way. The platform has been developed by the Ministry of HRD.
- YUKTI 2.0 is logical extension of earlier version of 'YUKTI' and has been launched to find out ideas relevant in COVID pandemic.
- With the help of this platform, MHRD aims to identify innovative solutions from India's higher and technical institutions. During the launch, HRD minister encouraged students, faculty members, startups including other stakeholders of higher education institutions to get them registered on the YUKTI portal and share their technologies and innovations.

## Global Status Report on Preventing Violence Against Children 2020

**Global Status Report on Preventing Violence Against Children 2020** has been released by the **World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)**, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the End Violence Partnership. It has been prepared from a survey administered between 2018 and 2019. In this survey, responses from 155 countries were taken about their progress against the "INSPIRE" framework, which is a set of seven strategies to prevent and respond to violence against children. The report tells us about the progress that the countries have achieved in implementing activities to attain the Sustainable Development Goal targets on ending violence against children.

The report aims to analyse if the governments have national plans of action, policies as well as laws that are in line with those identified as effective by INSPIRE. It also examines if the countries are accurately measuring fatal as well as non-fatal instances of violence.

## What is Inspire Framework?

Inspire Framework was launched in 2016. It is a set of seven evidence-based action plan for countries to eliminate the violence against children. INSPIRE is an acronym in which each letter represents a strategy:

- **I** denotes the implementation and enforcement of laws
- **N** denotes norms and values
- **S** denotes safe environments
- **P** denotes parent and caregiver support
- **I** denotes income and economic strengthening
- **R** denotes response and support services
- **E** denotes education and life skills

## Key findings of the Global Status Report on Preventing Violence Against Children 2020:

- It states that **89%** of countries assign responsibility of addressing the violence against children to multiple sectors. Among them, the education, health, justice and social sectors most often mentioned.
- It mentions that **80%** of nations have at least one national action plan to prevent violence against children.
- It shows that only one fifth of the countries has fully funded national action plans or plans that contains specified indicators on the prevalence of violence against children with baseline and target values.
- It concludes that only **56%** of countries are providing some national support to implement the INSPIRE strategies.
- It states that the laws against violence that affects children, along with laws restricting exposure to alcohol and firearms are widely implemented but often inadequately enforced.

## Union Cabinet approves 2% Interest Subvention on Shishu Loans

Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri **Narendra Modi** has approved the scheme for interest subvention of **2%** to all **Shishu loan accounts** given under **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)** to eligible borrowers. Under PMMY, the loans extended for income generating activities up to Rs 50,000 are known as Shishu loans. The Member Lending Institutions such as Scheduled Commercial Banks, Non Banking Finance Companies and Micro Financial Institutions, registered with Mudra Ltd are responsible for extending the above loans. With an objective to promote entrepreneurship among the new generation aspiring youth, it is ensured that more focus is given to Shishu Category Units and then Kishore and **Tarun categories**.

**About the Interest Subvention Scheme:**

The Scheme for Interest Subvention of 2% would be applicable on all Shishu loan accounts given under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) to the eligible borrowers. The interest subvention would be applicable for a period of **12 months**. The scheme would be applicable to loans which are outstanding as on **31st March, 2020**; and not in Non-Performing Asset (NPA) category, in line with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines, on 31st March 2020 and during the period of operation of the Scheme. According to the scheme, people who will make regular repayments of loans would be eligible to avail the benefits of the interest subvention which would be payable for the months in which the accounts are not in NPA category, and the months in which the account becomes a performing asset again, after turning NPA. The estimated cost of the interest subvention scheme would be approximately **Rs 1,542 crore which would be borne by the Government of India**.

**Implementation of the scheme:**

The Interest Subvention Scheme will be implemented through the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The scheme would be in operation for a period of 12 months. For borrowers, who have been allowed a moratorium by their respective lenders, as permitted by RBI under the 'COVID 19 Regulatory Package', the Scheme would begin after the completion of the moratorium period till a period of 12 months i.e. **from September 01, 2020 till August 31, 2021**. While, for other borrowers, it would begin with effect from **June 01, 2020 till May 31, 2021**.

**THE Young University Ranking 2020 released**

**Times education (THE)** has released the world's young university ranking for the relatively newer generation of universities, which are 50 years old or younger. The **2020 ranking includes 414 universities**, up from 351 in 2019. As many as two Indian universities made it into the highest 100, while none could enter the **'50 under 50'** category.

**THE Young University Rankings 2020: Indian Universities**

Rank	University
62nd rank	IIT-Ropar
64th rank	IIT Indore
101-150 band	IISER Pune
101-150 band	IIT-Gandhinagar
151-200 band	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham
151-200 band	IIT-Bhubaneswar
151-200 band	IIT-Guwahati
151-200 band	IIT-Hyderabad

**THE Young University Rankings 2020: the top 10**

Rank	University
1.	<b>The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong</b>
2.	<b>Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</b>
3.	Paris Sciences et Lettres – PSL Research University, Paris, France
4.	Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies – Pisa, Italy
5.	Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), South Korea
6.	Maastricht University (Netherlands)
7.	City University of Hong Kong
8.	Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH), South Korea
9.	Sorbonne University, France
10.	Pompeu Fabra University, Spain

**Banking and Financial Current Affairs**

- The **IndusInd Bank** has launched a mobile application based facility where customer can open the current bank account in a paperless manner in just a few hours. Now **IndusInd** is the first bank in India to introduce this assisted mobile application based facility.
- **Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF)** has been created by the Reserve Bank of India. In PIDF, an initial contribution of **Rs 250 crores** will be made by the Reserve Bank of India i.e. covering half the fund, while the remaining contribution will be from card issuing banks and card networks operating in the country.
- **"Summer Treats"** campaign has been launched by the **HDFC Bank**. The special campaign has been launched by the bank with the easing of the lockdown restrictions in order to provide offers to both merchants and, salaried and self-employed customers.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (**NABARD**) has extended a **Special Liquidity Facility (SLF)** of **Rs 270 crore** to **Assam Gramin Vikash Bank** to support the agricultural activities of the farmers amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- **ICICI Bank** has introduced an online overdraft (OD) facility **'Insta FlexiCash'** for its salary account customers. This facility will guard ICICI Bank Salary Account customers against missing their **Equated Monthly Instalments (EMIs) or cheque bounces** thanks to insufficient funds by providing short-term instant credit.

- **Airtel Payments Bank** has launched ‘**Suraksha Salary Account**’ for **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**.
- **ICICI Home Finance** has launched a special affordable housing loan scheme “**SARAL**” to fund homes in urban and rural areas. The scheme has been developed especially for **women, lower, middle income customers** and economically weaker sections having maximum household income up to **Rs 6 lakh annually**. It provides affordable housing loans up to **Rs 35 lakh** at an **interest rate** starting from **7.98%** for a maximum tenure of **20 years**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has enhanced the withdrawal limit for depositors of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Limited, Mumbai to **Rs 1 Lakh** per depositor. The withdrawal limit was earlier set at **Rs 50,000**.
- **Yes Bank** has partnered with **fintech startup “Affordplan”** to launch ‘**Swasth Card**’, a co-branded healthcare card, under Swasth program.
- **UCO Bank** has tied up with four insurers to offer various insurance products to its customers through its network of branches across the country. The lender teamed up with SBI Life Insurance Company, the Oriental insurance company and **Religare insurance Company**, Star Health and Allied insurance company for selling their products.
- **Karnataka Bank** has rolled out a new product titled “**KBL Micro Mitra**” for the Micro entrepreneurs. Under this, the Micro manufacturing and service enterprises will be offered a financial assistance of up to Rs 10 lakhs.
- **Yes Bank** has partnered with **UDMA Technologies** to launch its digital wallet solution ‘**Yuva Pay**’ **mobile app**. Through this app, the bank enables contactless payments for its customers.

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**Economy Current Affairs**

- The sovereign rating of India has been downgraded by the Moody’s Investors Service to “**Baa3**”. Moody’s Investors Service has also expected contraction by **4%** in the India’s real GDP in fiscal 2021, while a growth of **8.7%** in fiscal 2022.
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development** has forecasted **Indian Economy** to contract to **3.7%** in the fiscal year **2020-21**. It also stated that if there is a second COVID-19 outbreak in the country, then its growth will drop further to **-7.3%**.
- **OECD’s** Economic Outlook has forecasted **India’s growth** to recover to **7.9%** in the ‘**single-hit**’ scenario while it expects an **8.1%** rebound in the ‘**double-hit**’ Covid-19 scenario in the fiscal year **2021-22**.
- The rating agency “**S&P**” has kept **India’s** sovereign rating at “**BBB-**” along with a **stable outlook**.
- **S&P Global Ratings** has forecasted **Indian economy** to shrink by **5%** in fiscal year **2020-21**. The S&P Global Ratings also expects India’s growth to rebound to **8.5%** in the fiscal year 2021-22. It has also projected India’s growth to be **6.5%** in the fiscal year 2022-23.
- The **Asian Development Bank** has projected Indian economy to contract by **4% in Fiscal Year 2021**.
- **The Asian Development Bank** expects India’s economy to recover in **Fiscal Year 2022** with growth rate of **5%**, as economic activity will get to its normal state gradually.
- **Fitch Ratings** has retained India’s sovereign rating at the lowest investment grade of “**BBB-**”, while the rating agency has revised downward its rating outlook for India to negative from stable. Although, the rating agency expects India’s economic activity to contract by **5% in the fiscal year 2021 before rebounding by 9.5% in fiscal year 2022**.
- **Moody’s Investors Service** has released its June update to **Global Macro Outlook (2020-21)**. In its latest release, the rating agency projected the Indian economy to shrink **3.1%** in the fiscal year **2020**. It also forecasts Indian economy to **register 6.9%** growth in fiscal year **2021**.
- **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has projected that Indian economy will experience a sharp contraction of **4.55% in Fiscal Year 2021**, as compared to that of **1.9% expansion** projected in the month of **April 2020**. IMF has forecasted that Indian economy will recover in the fiscal year 2022 with a growth rate of **6%**. These projections has been stated by IMF in its latest World Economic Outlook titled “**A Crisis like No Other, An Uncertain Outlook**”.

## Business Current Affairs

- **Yes Bank Limited** has acquired a **24.19%** stake in Dish TV India Ltd, a corporation providing **Direct to Home (DTH) television service** in India, following invocation of **44.53 crores** pledged shares thanks to default in payment of the debt by Dish TV and a few other companies.
- The **“Real-Time Electricity Market (RTM)”** has been launched by the Indian Energy Exchange on its platform and it will be effective from 01st June 2020. **Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)** envisages to make the power market dynamic via the recently launched real time market. The RTM will make the power market dynamic by enabling trade in electricity through half-hourly auctions, totaling 48 auction sessions per day.
- The merger of **Peugeot S.A (PSA)** and **Fiat Chrysler Automobiles N.V. (FCA)** has been approved by the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**.
- Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (**IL&FS**) has completed the sale of its **50% stake** in **Gujarat International Finance Tec-City**. These stakes were bought by the Gujarat Urban Development Company Ltd (GUDCL), on behalf of the Gujarat government, at an amount of Rs 32.71 crore.
- **Jio Platforms** has received investment of **Rs 5683.50 crore** from a wholly owned subsidiary of the **Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)**. ADIA has bought **1.16% stake** in Jio Platforms.
- **Acquisition by MacRitchie Investments Pte. Ltd.** (MacRitchie) in **Ascent Health and Wellness Solutions Private Limited (Ascent)**, **API Holdings Private Limited (API)** & **91Streets Media Technologies Private Limited (91Streets)** has received the approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI). The acquisition by MacRitchie in three companies will be executed under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- **HDFC ERGO General insurance** firm has partnered with UK based tech firm **TropoGo Limited** to launch India's 1st 'Pay as you Fly' insurance for drone-owners in India. This policy, which can be offered on-demand to commercial drone owners and operators, give life assurance for Third Party Liability Claims.
- **Competition Commission of India** has approved the **acquisition** of **Metso Oyj's** minerals business by **Outotec Oyj**. The acquisition will be done under **Section 31(1)** of the Competition Act, 2002.
- United Kingdom oil major **“British Petroleum”** is going to set up **Global Business Service Centre** in **Pune, Maharashtra** to support its global businesses.

- Special health insurance policy has been launched by the **Karnataka Bank** in association with **Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Ltd** to cover the uncertainties posed by **COVID-19** pandemic.
- **Reliance Industries Limited** has reached **\$150-billion** mark in term of **market capitalisation** and has become **India's first** \$150-billion company in terms of market capitalisation.
- **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved the acquisition of stake in Jio Platforms Limited by Jaadhu Holdings LLC. **Jaadhu Holdings LLC** will acquire approximately **9.99% stake** in **Jio Platforms**.
- **PhonePe** has partnered with **ICICI Bank** on UPI multi-bank model. With this partnership Phonepe will offer its users the option to create and use multiple UPI IDs with ICICI and Yes Bank's handles on the PhonePe app.

## International Current Affairs

- **World Health Organisation** has launched the **‘COVID-19 Technology Access Pool’** for equitable access to life-saving tech. This comes after at least 37 countries jointly appealed to the **WHO** for common ownership of vaccines, medicines and other diagnostic tools to combat the global health crisis.
- **Lazarus Chakwera** becomes the new **President of Malawi**. He defeated incumbent Peter Mutharika with 58.57% of votes.
- **Bangladesh** has launched an initiative named **‘Shohojodha’**, which is an online network to facilitate plasma exchange between recovered patients of COVID-19 treatment.
- **Myanmar** military **“Tatmadaw”** has decided to **use Facebook again** to provide ‘accurate’ news to people.
- **New Zealand** has **declared** itself **free** from **“Coronavirus”**. New Zealand achieved this milestone after 75 days of restrictions.
- Member countries of the Group of 20 (**G20**) has pledged more than **\$21 billion** to improve the global health and hence supporting the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, **Mukhammedkalyi Abylgaziev** has resigned from the post.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has affirmed a **USD 750 million (around Rs 5,714 crore) loan** to India to enable the legislature to fortify its fight against the antagonistic effect of COVID-19 on poor and vulnerable households.

- **World Economic Forum (WEF)** has announced its **2020 cohort of Technology Pioneers**. WEF has unveiled **100 new tech** firms awardees which are leaders in carbon capture, alternative meat and circular economies, while some of them aims to address food security, financial access etc. The 20th cohort of Technology Pioneers comprised 2 Indian firms namely: **ZestMoney and Stellapps**.
- The **World Bank** has approved **USD 1.05 billion** for three projects in **Bangladesh** to generate quality jobs and boost economic recovery in the wake of the **COVID-19 pandemic**. The three projects namely: **Private Investment and Digital Entrepreneurship (PRIDE), Enhancing Digital Government and Economy (EDGE), and Second Programmatic Jobs Development Policy Credit**, are expected to help the economy in its recovery by generating jobs and encouraging direct private investment in specialized economic zones.
- The **Senkaku Islands dispute**, or **Diaoyu Islands dispute**, concerns a territorial dispute over a gaggle of uninhabited islands referred to as the Senkaku Islands in Japan, the Diaoyu Islands in **China** and **Tiaoyutai** Islands in Taiwan. Recently, a local council in southern Japan has approved a bill to change the name of an area containing Senkaku Islands from **Tonoshiro to Tonoshiro Senkaku**.
- **Pakistan** will remain on the grey list of the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** for failing to abide by the FATF's deadline to prosecute and penalise terrorist financing in the country. The plenary was held under the **Chinese Presidency of Xiang Liu**.
- **Micheal Martin** has been elected as new **Prime Minister of Ireland**.
- Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana will be extended till the end of November, an extension to cost over Rs 90 thousand crores.
- India and Bhutan has signed a pact for the construction of the 600 MW Kholongchhu joint venture hydroelectric project in Bhutan. The Kholongchhu Hydro Energy Limited is a joint venture between Bhutan's Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) and India's Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVN).
- Government of India has launched a new **initiative 'SWADES' (Skilled Workers Arrival Database for Employment Support)** to conduct a skill mapping exercise of the Indian citizens returning from overseas under the **'Vande Bharat Mission'**. This is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and therefore the Ministry of External Affairs.
- Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, **R. K. Singh** has launched the **"#iCommit"** initiative on the occasion of World Environment Day.
- **Government of India** has raised the **Customs duty** on **bamboo** imports from 10% to **25%** with immediate effect.
- Government of India has allocated **Rs 4000 crore** to the **State Governments** under **'Per Drop More Crop'** component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY- PDMC) for the year **2020-21**.
- To **expand** the **coverage** of **Micro Irrigation** in the states, a **Micro Irrigation Fund corpus** of **Rs 5000 crore** has been created with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.
- **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs** has launched its flagship programme **"Turant Customs"** at **Bengaluru** and **Chennai** to take a leap forward to take advantage of the technology for faster Customs clearance of imported goods.

### National News

- National **"Artificial Intelligence Portal"** of India called **"ai.gov.in"** has been launched by the Union Minister for Electronics and IT, Law and Justice and Communications Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- National Program for the youth titled **"Responsible AI for Youth"** has been launched to empower the youth of India with appropriate new age tech mind-set, hence making them digitally ready for the future.
- **World Bank** has approved a **\$500 million** for **Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Program (STARS)**. The program seeks to improve the quality and governance of school education in 6 Indian states namely **Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan**.
- **Tech Mahindra** has signed a joint declaration with **UN Global Compact**, joining 155 global companies in calling for policies to build resilience against future shocks by supporting the activities targeted to hold global temperature rise to within 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, in order to reach net-zero emissions before 2050.
- **'COVID BEEP' app** is India's 1st indigenous **wireless physiological parameters monitoring system** facilitated for COVID-19 affected patients. **"COVID BEEP"** stands for **Continuous Oxygenation & Vital Information Detection Biomed ECIL ESIC Pod**. It has been developed by ESIC medical college, Hyderabad in collaboration with IIT Hyderabad and the Department of Atomic Energy.

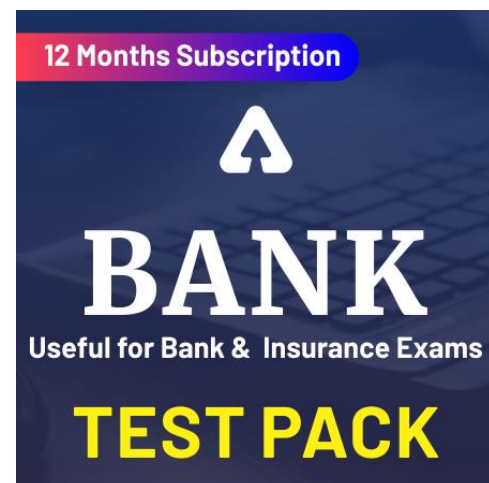
- **India** has recorded a **29% increase** in the **population of Asiatic Lions**, count of which has increased from 523 in 2015 to **674** in **2020**. The period from 2015 to 2020 also saw a **36% increase** in the **distribution area of the lions**.
- The **National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)** has become the first development division to go **“fully Digital”**.
- Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, **Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched **“Sahakar Mitra: Scheme on Internship Programme (SIP)”** an initiative by **National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC)**.
- National Healthcare Supply Chain Portal named as **“Aarogyapath”** has been launched. It is an information platform developed by CSIR in partnership with **Sarvodaya Infotech** and institutional users and manufacturers / authorized suppliers of healthcare essentials.
- Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister, **Dharmendra Pradhan** has launched the **Indian Gas Exchange (IGX)**. IGX is the first nationwide online delivery-based gas trading platform.
- India has joined the **Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI or Gee-Pay)** as a founding member. This partnership aims to guide the responsible development as well as use of AI, grounded in **human rights, diversity, innovation, inclusion, and economic growth**.
- “e-Office” application has been launched in over **500 CGST and Customs offices** across India by the Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), **M. Ajit Kumar**. The **“e-Office”** is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National e-Governance of India. “e-Office” has been developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) and is supported by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).
- **Employees Provident Fund Organisation** has launched a **“Multi Location Claim Settlement”** facility. The facility will cover claims such as provident fund, pension, partial withdrawal and claims and transfer claims.
- **Trustees of the Prime Minister’s Citizens Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES)** fund has appointed, New Delhi based **Chartered Accountants, SARC & Associates**, as its auditors for the next three years. The SARC & Associates headed by Sunil Kumar Gupta is also the auditor of the **PM’s National Relief Fund (PMNRF)** appointed in 2019.
- India’s first mobile lab for **COVID-19 testing “Infectious Disease Diag Lab (I-Lab) – Rapid Response Mobile Laboratory”** has been developed with the support from the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology and Andhra Pradesh Med-tech Zone (AMTZ) under DBT-AMTZ COMManD (COVID Medtech Manufacturing Development) Consortia.
- **India** has been elected as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and will **serve as the President of the UN body** for the month of **August, 2021**.
- R&D Portal **“Science and Technology Yojana for Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement (SATYABHAMA)”** has been launched for Science and Technology Programme Scheme of Ministry of Mines. It has been designed, developed and implemented by **National Informatics Centre, Mines Informatics Division**.
- Union Minister **Jitendra Singh** has inaugurated two bridges **Devika** and **Puneja** at Udhampur and Doda districts respectively in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** and **IBM** has partnered to unveil free Digital Learning Platform **“Skills Build Reignite”**. Along with “Skills Build Reignite”, IBM has also launched the **Skills Build Innovation Camp**.
- **Republic of Mali** has awarded the project management consultancy contract for the development of **500 megawatts (MW)** solar park to **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)**.
- **Niti Aayog** has formed a panel to develop a **job platform** for **migrant labourers**. In this panel, Niti Aayog has included top officials of tech companies like Google, Microsoft and Tech Mahindra.
- A **Line of Credit (LOC)** of **USD 20.10 million** has been extended by the **Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank)** on behalf of the Government of India, to the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua. This LOC has been extended for reconstruction of **Aldo Chavarria Hospital** in the Republic of **Nicaragua**.
- **France** has signed a loan agreement of **200-million-euros** with India to boost India’s COVID-19 response. With this, France aims to increase the state and central governments’ capacities to support India’s most vulnerable people in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis.
- Minister of State for Shipping (I/C) and Chemicals & Fertilisers **Mansukh Mandaviya** has introduced India’s largest **1st Virtual Healthcare & Hygiene EXPO 2020**. It has been organised by **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)**.




## States Current Affairs

- Food Processing Edition of the “**Exclusive Investment Forum**” has been launched. It has been designed by the Invest India, the **National Investment Promotion & Facilitation Agency** of the Government of India.
- “**Information about Country of Origin**” has been mandated for the sellers by the **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)**, a Special Purpose Vehicle under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The sellers have been advised to mention “**Information about Country of Origin**” while registering all new products on GeM.
- **India** has pledged to contribute **USD 10 million** to the **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)**.
- A behaviour change campaign called “**Navigating the New Normal**” has been launched by the NITI Aayog in partnership with **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)**, Ashoka University, Centre for Social and Behavioural Change (**CSBC**), and the Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel, **Dharmendra Pradhan** has inaugurated a **Product Application and Development Centre (PADC)** set up by Indian Oil at **Paradip, Odisha**.
- **TRIBES India** store has been inaugurated on the **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)**. It will help in facilitating purchases by Government. Along with the store, TRIFED’s new website (**trifed.tribal.gov.in**) was also launched. It contains all important information about the schemes as well as initiatives underway to the benefit of tribal communities.
- The **Ministry of Culture** is celebrating the “**Sankalp Parva**” from **28th June to 12 July 2020**. Under this, the ministry expects its Subordinate Offices, Academies, Attached Institutions as well as Affiliated Institutions to plant trees in its campus or at the surroundings wherever it is possible. It has also recommended 5 trees which represents the herbal heritage of our country. These are: Awla, Bel, Pepal, Bargad, Ashok.
- **Battery Swapping Facility Quick Interchange Service (QIS)** has been inaugurated at **Chandigarh**. A non-binding Strategic cooperation document has been signed between the Indian Oil and M/s Sun Mobility to explore the establishment of Energy infrastructure for Electric vehicle via Battery Swapping model across Indian Oil Retail outlets in select cities.
- The **web portal** of the **Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan** has been launched to provide information to the public regarding the various district-wise and scheme-wise components of the Abhiyaan.
- Amount of **Rs 445 crore** has been approved by the Government of India for the implementation of **Jal Jeevan Mission** in Chhattisgarh in 2020-21. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, **Chhattisgarh government** has prepared a roadmap to **achieve 100% Functional Tap Water Connection (FHTC) by year 2023-24**.
- Telangana government celebrates 2nd June as the **Telangana Formation Day**.
- **Chhattisgarh Police** have launched a special campaign “**Spandan**” to check mental stress and depression among their personnel by conducting interactive programmes and arranging counselling sessions, music and yoga therapies for them.
- The state govt of Kerala has declared that their ambitious broadband project: **Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project**.
- **Uttarakhand** forest department has opened the state’s **biggest biodiversity park in Haldwani**.
- **Andhra Pradesh** government has launched ‘**Jagananna Chedodu**’ scheme to provide financial assistance to tailors, barbers and washermen, who had lost their livelihood due to COVID-19 pandemic. It will provide **one-time financial assistance of Rs 10,000** each to the beneficiaries **under 60 years of age**.
- **West Bengal** government has received a loan amount of **Rs 1950 crore** from the **World Bank** to tackle COVID-19 situation and developmental work in the state.
- **Madhya Pradesh** government has started “**Street Vendor Registration**” and “**Mukhyamantri Shahri Path Vyavsayi Utthan Yojana**” and transferred **Rs 300 crore** to urban local bodies.
- State cabinet of **Odisha** has adopted “**Bande Utkala Janani**” or Glory to mother Utkala as the **anthem of Odisha**. It has been **written by Kantakabi Laxmikanta Mohapatra** in 1912.
- **Maharashtra** government has launched the world’s largest plasma therapy trials “**Project Platina**” for COVID-19 patients.
- **Uttarakhand** forest department has developed **India’s first lichen park** in Kumaon’s Munsiyari, **Pithoragarh district**. A lichen is a composite organism that arises from algae or cyanobacteria living among filaments of multiple fungi species in a mutualistic relationship.
- **Madhya Pradesh** government will launch a ‘**Kill Corona**’ campaign from July 1 to control the spread of COVID-19 in the state. Under the campaign, the door-to-door survey will be conducted and tests would also be done on citizens for other diseases as well.

- **Gairsain** in Chamoli district has been formally declared as the **summer capital** of Uttarakhand.
- **“Raj Kaushal Portal”** and **“Online Shramik Employment Exchange”** has been launched by the **Rajasthan Government**. It aims to improve availability of opportunities for the migrated workers and hence acts as a bridge between industry and labourers.
- Online waste exchange website of **Andhra Pradesh Environment Management Corporation (APEMC)** has been launched by the **Andhra Pradesh Government**. Andhra Pradesh has become **India’s first state** to launch waste exchange website.
- Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh has inaugurated **“Plant Health Clinic”** at the Directorate of Horticulture and Soil Conservation, **Imphal** to boost the economic growth of **Manipur** through agriculture and horticulture.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, **Yogi Adityanath** has launched **‘Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana’** to educate child labourers in the state.
- In Telangana, **Hyderabad City Police** along with Hyderabad City Security Council (**HCSC**) has launched a programme called **“She Triumphs through Respect, Equality, and Empowerment” (STREE)** to support and empower women victims of domestic violence and abuse.
- **Odisha** has become the first state in the country to receive **ISO certification** for hostels meant for **tribal students**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** government gives **'corona warriors'** status to **Divyang Anganwadi workers**.
- **“Ghar Ghar Nigrani”** mobile application has been launched by the Punjab government to check the community spread of COVID-19 in the state of Punjab.
- **West Bengal government** has launched a job portal **‘KarmaBhumi’** for IT professionals who have returned to the state amid the COVID-19 pandemic. IT professionals can use this portal to connect with companies based in the state.
- A new fish species named as **“Schizothorax sikusirumensis”** has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh. The new fish species was discovered by **Dr. Keshav Kumar Jha**.
- **Raja Parba** festival celebrated in **Odisha**. It is a 3-days unique festival in which the onset of monsoon and the earth’s womanhood is celebrated by the state. It is believed that during this time the Mother Earth or Bhudevi undergoes menstruation.
- **“Composite Regional Centre (CRC)** for Skill Development, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)” has been inaugurated in **Ranchi, Jharkhand**.
- **Karnataka** government observed the **“Mask Day”** on **18 June 2020** to aware the people about the use of masks, sanitisers, washing hands with soap in order to control the spread of COVID-19 in the state.
- Municipal Corporation of **Greater Mumbai (MCGM)** has launched a mobile application **“Air-Venti”** to provide information on ICU beds, ventilators.
- The **19th Great June Uprising Day** was observed on **18th June** at **Kekrupat, Manipur**.
- **Rajasthan** state government will soon launch **Indira Rasoi Yojana** for the poor. This scheme will start to ensure that **“no one sleeps hungry”** in the state.
- Union Cabinet has given **International Airport status** to **Kushinagar Airport** in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Tripura** government has announced a special initiative for activity-based learning named **‘Ektu Khelo, Ektu Padho’**.
- In **Madhya Pradesh**, **Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company** has launched the **Nishtha Vidyut Mitra Scheme** for women empowerment. Under the scheme, women Self-Help Groups at Gram Panchayat level will work as Nishtha Vidyut Mitra.
- **Tripura government** has announced a scheme **“Mukhyamantri Matru Pushti Uphaar”** which aims to provide nutrition kits to pregnant and lactating women in order to combat infant and maternal mortality and malnutrition.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has virtually launched a scheme **“Atma Nirbhar Uttar Pradesh Rojgar Abhiyan”** in 31 districts of Uttar Pradesh constituting more than **25,000 returnee migrant workers**. It aims to generate employment for the migrant workers of the state who recently returned from other states.
- **Maharashtra State Government** has introduced **“Maha Parwana”** plan to attract fresh investment in industries. This plan will offer incentives and a **single-window clearance system**.



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## Schemes/Committees

- **“PM SVANidhi”** is a Special Micro-Credit Facility Scheme that has been launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Street vendors will be provided affordable loans under the **PM Street Vendor’s Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)** scheme, hence enabling them to resume work and earn livelihoods. The scheme is expected to benefit **over 50 lakh people including hawkers, thelewalas, vendors, rehriwala etc.**
- Government of India has launched the **“Nagar Van (Urban Forests)”** programme with an objective of increasing the forest cover in urban areas. The “Nagar Van (Urban Forests)” programme has been launched with **200 corporations** and cities across India.
- Ministry of Home Affairs has reconstituted a **new committee for the welfare of the freedom fighters.** It would be **chaired** by the Minister of State for Home Affairs **G Kishan Reddy.**
- **Himachal Pradesh** has launched **“Panchvati Yojana”** for the senior citizens of rural areas of the state. Under the scheme it will **set up parks and gardens** in every development block with all the necessary amenities.
- **10 member Task force** has been constituted by **Women and Child Development Ministry** to evaluate issues related to Infant Mortality Rate, Maternal Mortality Rate, Total Fertility Rate, Sex Ratio at Birth, Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and any other issue that pertains to health as well as nutrition. It will be **headed by Jaya Jaitly.**
- An **Internal Working Group (IWG)** has been constituted by the **Reserve Bank of India** with a prime objective of reviewing the extant guidelines on ownership and corporate structure for Indian private sector banks. The IWG will be headed by **Dr. Prasanna Kumar Mohanty,** Director, Central Board of RBI. IWG is supposed to submit its report by **30th September 2020.**
- **Board of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)** has reconstituted the **Advisory Committee on Corporate Insolvency Resolution & Liquidation.** The Advisory Committee will be chaired by the Executive Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Bank, **Uday Kotak. Methil Unnikrishnan** has been designated as the secretary to the Advisory Committee.

## Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- Cloud-based payment solutions provider, **Empays Payment Systems India** has **partnered** with **Mastercard** to launch **contactless ATM solution** in India due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- **TCS iON** has **partnered** with **National Skill Development Corporation** to provide NSDC’s training partners access to the TCS iON Digital Glass Room in order to move classroom-based vocational skills training to online mode for students across the country.
- **National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Nangal, Punjab** has tied up with **Industrial Training Institutes (ITI), Nangal, Punjab** to train youth in 12 trades to enhance the chances of their employability in heavy as well as process industry.
- National Council Of Educational Research And Training (NCERT) has digitally signed an **MoU** with **Rotary India Humanity Foundation** for e-learning content telecast for **class I to XII** over all NCERT TV channels.
- **Maruti Suzuki India (MSI)** has collaborated with **Karur Vysya Bank** to offer simpler and flexible financing plans for new clients.

## Appointments/Resignations (National &amp; International)

- The appointment of **Arun Singhal** as **Chief Executive Officer of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. He will replace GSG Ayyangar as the CEO of the food regulator.
- **Anita Kotwani** has been appointed as the **Chief Executive Officer** of Carat India, a media agency owned by Dentsu Aegis Network (DAN).
- IAS **Vini Mahajan** has become the 1st woman chief secretary of Punjab.
- Uttar Pradesh Governor **Anandiben Patel** has been given the additional charge of Madhya Pradesh as its Governor, as the present governor of Madhya Pradesh Lalji Tandon is undergoing treatment in Lucknow.
- **Pradip Kumar Tripathi,** has taken over as Secretary, **Ministry of Steel, Government of India.**
- **Raveesh Kumar** has been appointed as the next **Ambassador of India to Finland.** He is presently serving as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry.
- **Sibi George** has been appointed as the next **Ambassador of India** to the State of **Kuwait.** He was presently serving as the Ambassador of India to Switzerland.

- **Gaitri I. Kumar** has been appointed as the next **High Commissioner** of India to the **United Kingdom**.
- **Sushil Kumar Singhal** has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to **the Independent State of Papua New Guinea**. He is presently serving as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- **National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)** Marketing Director, **Virendra Nath Datt** has taken additional charge of Chairman & Managing Director of the Company. He will replace Manoj Mishra.
- Emmy-winning television producer, **Krishnendu Majumdar** becomes the new chairman of **British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)**. He will replace Pippa Harris.
- Twitter has appointed **Patrick Pichette** as new board chairman. He will replace **Omid Kordestani**.
- MD & CEO, **Kotak Mahindra Bank, Uday Kotak** has taken over as the President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for the year 2020-21. He has replaced the chairman and MD of **Kirloskar Systems, Vikram Kirloskar** as the President of CII.
- The tenure of Subramanian Sundar as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Lakshmi Vilas Bank has been extended after the approval from the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Rajeev Topno** has been appointed as the Senior Advisor to the Executive Director (ED) of **World Bank**, in Washington DC.
- India has appointed **Brajendra Navnit** as India's new ambassador to the **World Trade Organization (WTO)**.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of **Anwar Hussain Shaik** for the post of Counsellor, at **the PMI to WTO, Geneva**.
- After nearly six decades in business, **Kushal Pal Singh** retired as the **Chairman** of property firm **Delhi Land & Finance Limited (DLF)**. **Rajiv Singh** has been appointed as the new chairman of DLF while **Kushal Pal Singh** was made chairman emeritus.
- President of India has appointed senior Kashmiri lawyer **Javed Iqbal Wani** as a Judge of the **Jammu and Kashmir High Court**.
- **Rahul Shrivastava** has been appointed as the next **Ambassador** of India to **Romania**.
- **Monika Kapil Mohta** has been appointed as the next **Ambassador** of India to **Switzerland**.
- **Sibi George** has been appointed as the next **Ambassador** of India to the State of **Kuwait**.
- **UTI Mutual Fund** has appointed **Imtaiyazur Rahman** as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- Former Supreme Court judge, **D K Jain** gets one-year extension from Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) as ethics officer and ombudsman.
- Turkish's diplomat **Volkan Bozkir** has been elected as the **president** of the **75th session of the UN General Assembly**. He will take over from Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, the present General Assembly president.
- **Urjit Patel** has been appointed as the **Chairman** of the **National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP)**, an economic think tank which is based in New Delhi, India.
- The U.S. Senate has appointed Indian-American scientist **Dr Sethuraman Panchanathan** as the Director of the **National Science Foundation (NSF)**.
- **Vijay Khanduja** has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Zimbabwe**. He is presently serving as Director in the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**.
- **Dr Nirakar Pradhan** has been appointed as the **Chief Executive Officer** of the **Professional Risk Managers' International Association (PRMIA)** of its new India office.
- Former Indian opener **Wasim Jaffer** has been appointed head coach of **the Uttarakhand cricket team**.
- **Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS)** has announced the appointment of **T Rabi Sankar** as the Chairman of the organization. Agency also appoints **Dr N Rajendran** as the **Chief Executive Officer** of the organization.

### Ranks and Reports

- India skipper **Virat Kohli** is the only cricketer to feature in Forbes' list of the top 100 highest-paid athletes in the world for the year 2020. Kohli is ranked at number **66** with estimated earnings of **\$26 million**. Swiss tennis great, **Roger Federer** has **topped** the list of world's highest-paid athlete for 2020 with an estimated **\$106.3 million**.
- **S&P Global Ratings** has released its **report** on emerging markets titled **"Financial Conditions Reflect Optimism, Lockdown Fatigue Emerges"**.
- **Swiss National Bank (SNB)** has released 'Annual banking statistics, 2019'. According to the latest SNB data, **India** has moved down three places to **77th rank** in terms of money parked by its citizens. While **Britain** holds the **first place** in this list with a share of 27 % of the total deposits.

## Sports Current Affairs

- **Khelo India e-Pathshala programme** has been launched by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) in collaboration with National Sporting Federations (NSF).
- Former Germany **footballer Mario Gomez** has announced his **retirement** from the sport. The German striker scored 31 goals in 78 appearances for the national team.
- The **National Anti-Doping Agency's** first mobile app named as "**NADA App**" has been launched. It aims to bridge the gap between NADA and the athletes by offering easily-accessible information on various aspects of sport, prohibited substances as well as dope-testing.
- India has been awarded the hosting rights of the **2022 Women's Asian Cup** by the **Asian Football Confederation**. The tournament has been expanded from the previous slots of **eight teams to 12 teams**.
- International Weightlifting Federation has cleared **India's lifter K Sanjita Chanu** of anti-doping violation charges.
- Court of Arbitration for Sport has banned Former **European** high jump champion, **Alexander Shustov** for 4-years for the use or attempted use of a banned substance or method (doping).
- Athletics Integrity Unit has banned **Gomathi Marimuthu** for 4-years after she tested positive for banned substances.
- **Oleksandr Gvozdyk**, the former world light heavyweight boxing champion from **Ukraine**, has **retired** from the sport.
- **India** football team retained its **108th spot** in the **latest FIFA rankings**. While **Belgium** ranked **first** and world champion **France** is in **2nd place** and **Brazil** is at **3rd spot**.
- Under the Sports Ministry's flagship programme "**Khelo India Scheme**", the ministry is going to set up Khelo India State **Centres of Excellence (KISCE)**. One KISCE will be identified in each state and union territory (UT) to create a robust sporting ecosystem in the entire country, as well as to strengthen India's pursuit for excellence in Olympics, .
- Grandmaster **Shakhriyar Mamedyarov** of **Azerbaijan** has won the World Stars Sharjah Online International Chess Championship. Indian Grandmaster **Pentala Harikrishna** finished second in the Championship.
- **Asian Paralympic Committee (APC)** has announced that the 4th edition of Asian Youth Para Games will be held in Bahrain in December 2021.

- **International Tennis Federation** has declared the list of players, who have been chosen for the **ITF World Tennis Tour Player Panels**. India's **Niki Poonacha** has been elected as a player member to **ITF World Tennis Tour Player Men's panels**.
- New Zealand wicketkeeper-batswoman **Rachel Priest** has announced her **retirement from International Cricket**.
- **Liverpool** has won the **English Premier League 2019-20** title. This is club's overall 19th league title win, while this victory is their first in the Premier League era. The club won the title after Manchester City's loss to Chelsea with **score 2-1**.
- **FIFA Women's World Cup 2023** will be hosted by **Australia and New Zealand**.
- According to a poll conducted by Wisden India, **Rahul Dravid** is the greatest Indian **Test batsman of all time**.
- Indian umpire **Nitin Menon** has been inducted into **International Cricket Council's Elite Panel of Umpires** for the upcoming 2020-21 season. He has replaced England's umpire Nigel Long.

## Summits And Conferences

- **Virtual Global Vaccine Summit 2020** was hosted by the **UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson**. India was represented by the Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** in the summit. During the virtual summit, India pledged a contribution of **15 Million US Dollars to Gavi**, the international vaccine alliance.
- **World Economic Forum** will host a **Unique Twin Summit in January, 2021**. The twin summit will connect key global governmental and business leaders in Davos. The theme of the summit will be "**The Great Reset**".
- International Workshop on "**Good Governance Practices in a Pandemic for International Civil Servants**" was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Jitendra Singh.
- The virtual 32nd special **Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG)** plenary meeting was attended by the Indian officials including the representatives from enforcement agencies. The meeting was held under the aegis of the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**.
- The **45th** annual meeting of the **United States India Business Council (USIBC)** will be marked with the **2020 India Ideas Summit**. The 2020 summit will be held virtually on **21st and 22nd July**. Both Indian and the **United States of America** Government will focus on the importance of re-establishing trade between both the nations, digitization, equitable growth, the future of **healthcare system post-COVID-19, etc**.

- Shri Piyush Goyal, Commerce & Industry Minister and President of NPC Governing Council chaired the 49th Governing Council Meeting of National Productivity Council (NPC).
- The G20 Extraordinary Virtual Education Ministers' Meeting was held to address the widespread disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the education sector. Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' represented India in the meeting. The meeting was held under the presidency of Saudi Arabia.

### Awards & Recognition

- Indian writer, Kritika Pandey has been honoured with Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2020 for the Asia region. She won the prize for her story "The Great Indian Tee and Snakes".
- Indian Musician & founder of Kalakruthi music organisation in Australia, Shobha Sekhar will be conferred the "Medal of the Order of Australia" for her service to the community and the country.
- Indian Aerospace entrepreneur, Renjith Kumar has been honoured with "NASA Distinguished Service Medal" for his administration to NASA through executive leadership, engineering contribution, technical excellence and consumer loyalty.
- Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw has been named EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year 2020.
- Javed Akhtar has become 1st Indian to be honoured with the Richard Dawkins Award 2020 for critical thinking, holding religious dogma up to scrutiny, advancing human progress and humanist values.
- Indian-American soil scientist, Rattan Lal has won the prestigious World Food Prize 2020 for developing and mainstreaming a soil-centric approach to increase food production that conserves natural resources and mitigate climate change.
- Chef Angad Singh Rana has won QualityNZ Culinary Cup 2020.

- Hyderabad-based Deccan Development Society has won the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Award.
- The German Book Trade has chosen Indian Nobel prize-winning economist and philosopher Amartya Sen for its prestigious 2020 Peace Prize. He has been chosen for his pioneering work addressing issues of global justice, social inequality in education and healthcare.
- Maharashtra government has declared the Vithabai Narayangaokar lifetime achievement award to folk artist Gulabbai Sangamnerkar.
- The Annasaheb Kirloskar award will be presented upon veteran theatre on-screen character artist Madhuvanti Dandekar.
- Himachal Pradesh state Panchayati raj department has won 1st prize under e-Panchayat Puraskar-2020. This prize was given by the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- Kerala Health Minister K.K Shailaja was honoured by the United Nations for her efforts to fight the coronavirus pandemic in her state.
- Popstar Beyonce has been honored with the BET 2020 Humanitarian Award for her longstanding philanthropic work with her BeyGOOD Foundation, including her recent COVID-19 relief efforts such as #IDIDMYPART, a mobile testing initiative.

### Important Days

- World Health Organization (WHO) celebrates World No Tobacco Day every year on 31st May.
- United Nations celebrates Global Day of Parents on 1st of June every year to honour all the parents throughout the world.
- The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations celebrates World Milk Day every year on 01st June to recognize the importance of milk as a global food, and to celebrate the dairy sector. The theme of World Milk Day 2020 is "20th Anniversary of World Milk Day".
- United Nations celebrates World Bicycle Day every year on 3rd June to advance the use of the bicycle as a means of fostering sustainable development.
- International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed globally on 4th June every year.
- World Environment Day is observed globally on 5th June every year. World Environment Day 2020 will be celebrated with the theme Biodiversity. In year 2020, Colombia will host the World Environment Day.

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- United Nations celebrates **Russian Language Day** every year on **6 June** to raise awareness of the history, culture and development of each of the six official languages of the UN: **Arabic, Russian, Spanish, Chinese, English and French**. Russian Language Day is celebrated on the birthday of the great Russian poet **A.S. Pushkin**.
- **International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing** is organized every year on **5th June**.
- **World Day Against Child Labour** is observed globally on **12th June** every year.
- **World Accreditation Day (WAD)** is celebrated globally on **9th June** every year to highlight and promote the role of accreditation in trade & economy. The **theme** for WAD 2020 was **“Accreditation: Improving Food Safety”**.
- **World Ocean Day** is observed globally on **8th June** every year. The **theme** of World Oceans Day 2020 is **“Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean.”**
- United Nations celebrates **World Food Safety Day** on **7 June** every year. The **theme** for 2020 is **“Food safety, everyone’s business”**.
- **World Brain Tumour day** is observed globally on **8th of June** every year.
- **International Albinism Awareness Day** is observed on **13th June** every year. The theme of International Albinism Awareness Day 2020: **‘Made To Shine’**.
- **World blood donor day** is observed globally on **June 14th** every year. The campaign theme for this year’s World donor Day is **“Safe blood saves lives”** with the slogan **“Give blood and make the world a healthier place”**.
- **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)** is observed on **15th June** every year. The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) and the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL) invite you to join **“Lifting Up Voices” for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) in 2020**.
- **World Wind Day**, also known as **Global Wind Day**, is observed on **15th June** every year.
- **International Day of Family Remittances** is observed on **16th June** every year. This year International Day of Family Remittances is celebrated under the **theme**: **“Building resilience in times of crisis”**.
- **World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought** is observed on **17th June** every year. The theme of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2020: **Food. Feed.Fibre. – the links between consumption and land**.
- **Sustainable Gastronomy Day** is observed globally on **18th June** every year.
- International Day for the **Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict** is observed globally on **19th June** every year.
- **Autistic Pride Day** is observed globally on **18th June** every year to respect the rights of persons with autism.
- United Nations celebrates **World Refugee Day** globally on **20 June** every year. The theme of World Refugee Day 2020 is **“Every Action Counts”**.
- United Nations celebrates **International Day of Yoga** globally on **21 June** every year to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga. The **theme** of International Day of Yoga 2020 is **“Yoga for Health – Yoga at Home”**.
- **International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice** is observed globally on **21st June**.
- **World Music Day** is observed globally on **21st June** every year to honour **amateur and professional musicians**.
- **World Hydrography Day** is observed globally on **21st June** every year. This day was adopted by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). The theme of day for year 2020 is **“Hydrography enabling autonomous technologies”**.
- **International Widows Day** is observed globally on **23rd June** every year.
- **United Nations Public Service Day** is observed globally on **23rd June** every year to highlight the contribution of public service in the development process and to value public service to the community.
- **Olympic Day** is celebrated globally on **23rd June** every year. This year, amid COVID-19 pandemic, the Olympic Movement will celebrate Olympic Day 2020 by creating the world’s largest 24 hour digital-first Olympic workout.
- **International Maritime Organization** observes **25th June** as the **Day of the Seafarer**. The 2020 campaign for the day: **Seafarers are Key Workers**.
- **International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking** is observed globally on **26th June** every year. The theme of day for year 2020: **“Better Knowledge for Better Care”**.
- **International Day in Support of Victims of Torture** is observed on **26th June** every year by the United Nations to raise awareness among the people about the human torture that it is not only unacceptable but it is also a crime.

- **Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day** is observed globally on **27th June** every year by the United Nations to raise public awareness of their contribution to sustainable development and the global economy.
- Government of India celebrated **National Statistics day** on **29th June** on the birth anniversary of **Prof. P C Mahalanobis**. The **theme** of Statistics Day 2020 is selected as **SDG- 3** (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages) & **SDG- 5** (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls).
- **International Asteroid Day** is observed globally on **30th June** every year.
- **International Day of Parliamentarism** is observed globally on 30 June every year.

### Defence Current Affairs

- **Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) Complex** was inaugurated at Eastern Naval Command (ENC) in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Indian Air Force** has indigenously designed, developed and manufactured an **Airborne Rescue Pod for Isolated Transportation (ARPIT)** for the evacuation of critical patients with infectious diseases, from high altitude area, isolated and remote areas.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (**GRSE**) has delivered **ICGS Kanaklata Barua**, the fifth and last boat in the series of Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV) for the **Indian Coast Guard**.
- **India** will send its Tri-Service contingent to take part in the **75th Victory Day Parade of World War II in Moscow, Russia**. Russia is conducting a military parade on 24th June 2020 in Moscow on the 75th anniversary of the victory in the Second World War.
- **Indian Navy** has inducted an advanced anti-torpedo decoy system called '**Maareech**'. This system has been designed and developed indigenously by the Defence Research and Development Organization (**DRDO**).

### Science and Technology

- NASA astronauts **Robrt Behnken** and **Douglas Hurley** docked the **SpaceX capsule** with the International Space Station (ISS). SpaceX's Falcon 9 with Crew Dragon capsule – Endeavour launched from **Pad 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral, Florida**. Now SpaceX became the first private company to fly astronauts into orbit.

- A disinfection unit named as "**Ultra Swachh**" has been developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** to disinfect a wide range of materials such as electronics items, fabrics, Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) etc.
- Used mask disposal device based on Internet of Things (IoT) "**BIN-19**" and UV light-based multipurpose disinfectant "**UV SPOT**" has been **launched** in **Kerala** by **VST Mobility Solutions**.
- A robot named as '**Coro-bot**' has been developed by an engineer **Pratik Tirodkar** from **Thane** district of Maharashtra, in order to **reduce the physical contact** of care-givers with COVID-19 patients.
- **UVC-based Cabinet** has been co-developed by the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (**ARCI**) and the **MEKINS Industries**. It will disinfect non-critical hospital items, laboratory wear, and PPEs in order to prevent surface contamination of COVID 19.
- **Magnetocaloric material**, a rare-earth-based material that can be **effectively used for cancer treatment**, has been developed by scientists at the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (**ARCI**).
- **ISRO** has signed an **agreement** with Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (**ARIES**) for cooperation in the field of **Space Situational Awareness (SSA)** and **Astrophysics**.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has received a patent for its **Liquid Cooling and Heating Garment (LCHG)**. LCHG is a protective garment for human spaceflight.
- **IIT-Bombay** has created Indian beneficiary chip "**Dhruva**". This chip can be utilized in cell phones and route gadgets to discover locations and route inside the nation. Dhruva will get signals from India's NAVIC group of navigation satellites just as the US Global Positioning System-based satellites to decide these precisely under every single climate condition.
- **Union Cabinet** chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the establishment of Indian **National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE)**.
- **NASA** has announced that its headquarters in **Washington, D.C.**, will be named after **Mary W. Jackson**, one of its history-making engineers.
- **GermiBAN**, a device capable of killing **99.9%** of surface and air microbes, has been launched. The device has been developed by **Atal Incubation Centre & Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of India (ALEAP) Women Entrepreneurs (WE) HUB**. It would be useful for quarantine centres, isolation wards, hospitals and all general places for **killing viruses like coronavirus**.



## Books & Authors

- **Amish Tripathi** has released his new fiction book '**Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India**'.
- **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** has released an e-booklet called '**One Year of Modi 2.0 – Towards A Self-Reliant India**' marking the first anniversary of the second term of the Modi government. The e-booklet highlights the achievements of the Modi government during its second term.

## Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- A Video Blogging Contest titled "**My Life My Yoga**" (also called "**Jeevan Yoga**") has been launched by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** has warned that the cyclonic storm **Nisarga**, which has turned into a depression in the Arabian Sea, will hit Maharashtra and Gujarat on June 3. At the moment, the storm is brewing in the Arabian sea near Lakshadweep.
- Delhi Chief Minister **Arvind Kejriwal** has launched a mobile application "**Delhi Corona**". The mobile application will provide information to the people of Delhi about the availability of the beds and ventilators in government as well as private hospitals in Delhi.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** Lieutenant Governor, **Girish Chandra Murmu** has launched a salary tracker mobile app **MeraVetan** (Version-1) for government employees.
- The information booklet titled "**Safe online learning in the times of COVID-19**" has been launched. The booklet has been developed by the **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)** and UNESCO New Delhi Office to raise awareness of students and teachers on staying safe online.
- **IIT Guwahati** has developed an application called "**Flyzy**" for consistent and contactless air travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (**DIAT**) has developed "**ANANYA**" water-based **disinfectant spray** with nanotechnology assisted formulation.
- India's Non-Banking Finance Company, **India Infoline Finance Limited (IIFL)** has signed **Rohit Sharma** as its first-ever **brand ambassador**.
- Tamil Nadu girl, **M Nethra** has been appointed as the '**Goodwill Ambassador for the Poor**' by the United Nations Association for Development and Peace (**UNADAP**).
- Bollywood actor **Pankaj Tripathi** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Bihar Khadi by the state government. He will promote **Bihar Khadi and the country's largest Khadi Mall in Patna**.
- Former NASA astronaut and Geologist, **Kathryn D. Sullivan** has become the 1st woman to reach the deepest point of the ocean, **Mariana Trench**. She is the 1st American woman to walk in space and has become the first woman to reach the deepest known spot in the ocean.
- An **Artificial Intelligence** enabled robot "**CAPTAIN ARJUN**" has been launched by the Indian Railways' Central Railway zone to intensify the screening of passengers and surveillance to keep a watch on anti-social elements.
- "**Feedback Call Centres on Public Grievances**" has been launched by the Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh. Various "**Feed Back Call Centers**" have been operationalized by the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)** in collaboration with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).
- **Anmol Narang** has made history by becoming the 1st observant Sikh to graduate from the distinguished **United States (US) Military Academy at West Point**.
- French integrated content, media and communications group, **Vivendi** has partnered with Grammy winner **Ricky Kej** for "**My Earth Concert for Kids**". **Ricky Kej** is an **Indo-American composer, music producer and environmentalist**.
- **JSW Cement** has signed **Sourav Ganguly** and **Sunil Chhetri** as its brand ambassadors.
- Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting, **Prakash Javadekar** inaugurated the Virtual India Pavilion at Cannes Film Market 2020, commencing India's participation at Cannes Film Festival. This year, India has sent two films for screening during the festival, namely: **MaiGhat: Crime No 103/200 (Marathi)** and **Hellaro (Gujarati)**.
- Bollywood actress **Priyanka Chopra** and filmmaker **Anurag Kashyap** named among the **50 ambassadors** at 45th edition Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2020.
- Former England women's captain **Clare Connor** will become the **1st female president of Marylebone Cricket Club** in its 233-year history.
- The **Bengaluru International Airport Ltd (BIAL)**, which operated the **Kempegowda International Airport** becomes the 1st airport in India, who installed an indigenously-developed Aviation Weather Monitoring System at its new runway on both ends.

- The **world's first yoga university** outside India has been launched in **Los Angeles, US**. The Yoga University has been named as **Vivekananda Yoga University (VaYU)**. **Dr H R Nagendra** will be the first Chairman of the **Vivekananda Yoga University**.
- Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare (**DAC&FW**), Agriculture Ministry has indigenously developed a vehicle-mounted **Ultra-low volume (ULV)** sprayer for **locust control**.

### Obituaries

- Singer & music composer **Wajid Khan** passed away.
- American sprinter, **Bobby Joe Morrow** passed away. He won three athletics gold medals at the **1956 Melbourne Olympic Games**.
- Veteran Kannada writer **Geetha Nagabhushan** passed away. She chaired the 76th Akhil Bharat Kannada Sahitya Sammelan, at Gadag in 2010.
- Former International Archer turned coach **Jayantilal Nanoma** passed away. He was an Asian Cup and Asian Grand Prix medallist in compound individual and team archery in 2010.
- Former Union Minister and three-time Congress MP from **Ladakh, P Namgyal** passes away.
- National Basketball Association Hall of Famer **Wes Unseld** passed away. He was one of the greatest American professional basketball player.
- Legendary Filmmaker & the National Film Award winner **Basu Chatterjee** passed away. He was known for his middle-of-the-road cinema and films like "**Chhoti Si Baat**" and "**Rajnigandha**".
- Veteran lyricist and member of Indian Performing Right Society Limited, **Anwar Sagar** passed away.
- British Producer and songwriter **Rupert Hine** who worked with artists including Tina Turner, Howard Jones, passed away.
- Bollywood producer **Anil Suri** passed away due to COVID-19.

- Manchester United's European Cup-winning defender **Tony Dunne** passed away.
- The former member of the Planning Commission, **A. Vaidyanathan** passed away.
- Television Actor **Jagesh Mukati** passed away. He was renowned for working the TV shows namely Amita Ka Amit and Shree Ganesh.
- Former director of IIM Lucknow and Padma Shri award winner **Pritam Singh** passed away.
- Three-time Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) MLA **J Anbazhagan** passed away due to COVID-19.
- The President of the Republic of Burundi, **Pierre Nkurunziza** passed away.
- Former Union Water Resources Minister **Arjun Charan Sethi** passed away.
- Former Governor & Delhi Police commissioner, **Ved Marwah** passed away.
- Former Santosh Trophy player, **Hamza Koya** passed away due to COVID-19.
- The first U.S. male gymnast to win a world championship gold medal, **Kurt Thomas** passed away.
- Kannada actor **Chiranjeevi Sarja** passed away. He had made his debut with the movie 'Vayuputra'.
- Veteran Urdu poet, **Anand Mohan Zutshi Gulzar Dehlvi** passed away. He was the editor of '**Science ki Duniya**', the only science magazine published in Urdu by the government.
- India's oldest First Class cricketer **Vasant Raiji** passed away at the age of 100.
- Steel Authority of India Limited Director, **Atul Srivastava** passed away.
- Former New Zealand Test cricketer, **Matt Poore** passed away.
- Former Lok Sabha MP and founder of Janalaxmi Cooperative Bank, **Madhavrao Patil** passed away.
- Noted folk singer of Uttarakhand, **Heera Singh Rana** passed away. He was born in 1942 in Manila Dandholi village of Almora.
- Freedom fighter & Veteran journalist **Dinu Ranadive** passed away.
- Maha Vir Chakra awardee Lt Gen (retd) **Raj Mohan Vohra** passed away. He received the coveted award in 1972.
- Former Goa minister, **Achyut Kashinath Sinai Usgaonkar** passed away. He represented Pale constituency in the then Goa, Daman and Diu legislative assembly.
- Malayalam Film director, scriptwriter, and producer **K.R. Sachidanandan** passed away.

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- Veteran economist and the member of 10th Finance Commission, **B.P.R. Vithal** passes away.
- Former Left-arm spinner **Rajinder Goel** passed away. He played 157 first-class matches, most of them for Haryana.
- Padma Shri awardee and a social worker **Vidyaben Shah** passed away recently. She was a pioneer in the field of child welfare as she created the first Bal Bhavan in **Rajkot** in the **1940s**.
- Major General (Retd) **Lachhman Singh Lehl** passed away. He was one of India's finest military brains and one of its last surviving officers to have taken part in both the **1948** and **1971 wars**.
- A movie producer & philanthropist, Steve Bing passed away. He produced films such as Get Carter and Every Breath, and also wrote the screenplay for movie **Kangaroo Jack**.
- Former Karnataka basketball star player, **K Raghunath** passed away.
- Former Indian shooter and coach **Pournima Zanane** passed away due to cancer.
- Former member of parliament (MP) and veteran journalist **Vishwa Bandhu Gupta** passed away. He served as a Member of Parliament from Delhi between April 1984 to 1990, in the Rajya Sabha.
- Hollywood Director **Joel Schumacher** passed away. The costume designer-turned-director was renowned for directing hit movies such as St. Elmo's Fire, The Lost Boys, Falling Down, including two Batman films.
- Trinamool Congress MLA, **Tamonash Ghosh** passed away due to COVID-19. He represented Falta Assembly constituency in South 24 Parganas district in West Bengal.
- Vir Chakra awardee, Sqn Ldr (retd) **Parvez Jamasji** passed away. He was awarded the **Vir Chakra for gallantry during the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war**.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- Secretary-General of United Nations: António Guterres.
- Ministers of State for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH): Shripad Yesso Naik.
- Director-General of Meteorology, India Meteorological Department: Mrutyunjay Mohapatra.
- India Meteorological Department Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Chief Minister of Delhi: Arvind Kejriwal.
- Lieutenant Governor of Delhi: Anil Baijal.
- Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri.
- The administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA): Jim Bridenstine.
- Headquarters of NASA: Washington D.C., United States.
- SpaceX founder & CEO: Elon Musk.
- SpaceX president & COO: Gwynne Shotwell.
- SpaceX Founded: 2002.
- SpaceX Headquarters: Hawthorne, California, United States of America.
- Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation: G Satheesh Reddy.
- Headquarters of Defence Research and Development Organisation: New Delhi.
- Union Minister of Earth Sciences: Harsh Vardhan.
- Managing Director & CEO of IndusInd Bank: Sumant Kathpalia.
- Chairman of IndusInd Bank: Arun Tiwari.
- Headquarter of IndusInd Bank: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The tagline of IndusInd Bank: We Make You Feel Richer.
- Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri.
- Union Minister for Human Resource Development: Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.
- Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE): Anil D. Sahasrabudhe.
- Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh: Bhupesh Baghel; Governor: Anusuiya Uikey.
- Chief Executive Officer of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance: Dr Seth Berkley.
- National Informatics Centre Deputy Director-General: Abhay Kumar (State Informatics Officer).
- National Informatics Centre Established: 1988.

### Static Takeaways

- Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship: Mahendra Nath Pandey.
- Minister of State (IC) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation: Hardeep Singh Puri.
- Minister of External Affairs: Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.
- Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh: Bhupesh Baghel; Governor: Anusuiya Uikey.
- Hyderabad is the capital city of Telangana.
- The official language of the state is Telugu.
- Headquarters of WHO: Geneva, Switzerland.

- National Informatics Centre Headquarters: Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir.
- President of World Bank: David Malpass.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum: Klaus Schwab.
- Chief Minister of Kerala: Pinarayi Vijayan.
- Governor of Kerala: Arif Mohammad Khan.
- Capital of Kerala: Thiruvananthapuram.
- World Trade Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- World Trade Organization Membership: 164 member states.
- World Trade Organization Founded: 1 January 1995.
- Prime Minister of Denmark: Mette Frederiksen.
- Capital of Denmark: Copenhagen; Currency: Danish krone.
- Chief Minister of Punjab: Captain Amarinder Singh.
- Governor of Punjab: VP Singh Badnore.
- MD & CEO of National Skill Development Corporation: Manish Kumar.
- Mastercard President and CEO: Ajaypal Singh Banga.
- Chairman and Managing Director of Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd: Vipin Kumar Saxena.
- Governor of Manipur: Najma Heptulla.
- Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh: YS Jagan Mohan Reddy; Governor: Biswa Bhusan Harichandan.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot; Governor: Kalraj Mishra.
- Chief Minister of Uttarakhand: Trivendra Singh Rawat; Governor: Baby Rani Maurya.
- Chief Minister of Odisha: Naveen Patnaik; Governor: Ganeshi Lal.
- Governor of Madhya Pradesh: Lal Ji Tandon.
- Chief Minister of West Bengal: Mamata Banerjee; Governor: Jagdeep Dhankhar.
- President of World Bank: David Malpass.
- Chief Minister of Gujarat: Vijaybhai R. Rupani; Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat.
- Director-General of WHO: Tedros Adhanom; Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Food and Agriculture Organization headquarters: Rome, Italy.
- Secretary-General of the United Nations: António Guterres.
- Chairman of Quality Council of India: Adil Zainulbhai.
- Headquarters of International Labour Organization: Geneva, Switzerland.
- President of International Labour Organization: Guy Ryder.
- ISRO Director: K. Sivan, Headquarters: Bengaluru; Established: 1969.
- CEO of VST Mobility Solutions: Alvin George.
- Chairman & Independent Director of India Infoline Finance Limited: S. Sridhar.
- Capital of Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek.
- The currency of Kyrgyzstan: Kyrgyzstani som.
- Headquarters of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB): Beijing, China.
- President of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB): Jin Lique.
- Maruti Suzuki CEO: Kenichi Ayukawa.
- Maruti Suzuki Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Karur Vysya Bank Headquarters: Karur, Tamil Nadu.
- Karur Vysya Bank CEO: P. R. Seshadri.
- Airtel Payments Bank Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Airtel Payments Bank MD and CEO: Anubrata Biswas.
- Mastercard Headquarters: New York, U.S.
- Mastercard President and CEO: Ajaypal Singh Banga.
- Managing Director & CEO of ICICI Bank: Sandeep Bakhshi.
- Non-Executive (part-time) Chairman of ICICI Bank: Girish Chandra Chaturvedi.
- ICICI Bank established: 1994.
- Headquarters of ICICI Bank: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- HDFC ERGO General Insurance MD & CEO: Ritesh Kumar.
- HDFC ERGO General insurance Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- President of Asian Development Bank: Masatsugu Asakawa.
- BCCI President: Sourav Ganguly; Headquarter of BCCI: Mumbai.
- President of World Bank: David Malpass.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- Yes Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Yes Bank MD & CEO: Prashant Kumar.
- Yes Bank Tagline: Experience our Expertise.
- Headquarters of UCO Bank: Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of UCO Bank: Atul Kumar Goel.
- MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank: Mahabaleshwara M.S.
- Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS) Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950.
- Currencies of Zimbabwe: United States Dollar.
- Capital of Zimbabwe: Harare.
- President of Zimbabwe: Emmerson Mnangagwa.
- Professional Risk Managers' International Association (PRMIA) Founded: 2002.
- Professional Risk Managers' International Association (PRMIA) Headquarters: Wilmington, Delaware, United States.
- Chief Minister of HP: Jai Ram Thakur; Governor of HP: Bandaru Dattatraya.
- Union Minister of Panchayati Raj: Narendra Singh Tomar.
- International Tennis Federation President/CEO: David Haggerty.
- International Tennis Federation Chief Operating Officer(COO): Kelly Fairweather.
- International Tennis Federation Headquarters: London, United Kingdom.
- Secretary-General of the United Nations: António Guterres. United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA. It was founded on 24 October 1945.
- International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) was the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) which was established in 1921.
- Chairman of International Hydrographic Organization: Shepard M. Smith.
- Secretary-General of International Hydrographic Organization: Mathias Jonas.

- Headquarters of International Hydrographic Organization: Monaco.
- President of International Olympic Committee: Thomas Bach.
- International Maritime Organization Secretary-General: Kitack Lim.
- International Maritime Organization Headquarters: London, United Kingdom.
- International Maritime Organization Founded: 17 March 1948.
- Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation: K.Sivan; Headquarters: Bengaluru.
- Union Minister of Science and Technology: Harsh Vardhan.
- IIT-Bombay Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Director of IIT-Bombay: Subhasis Chaudhuri.
- ISRO Director: K. Sivan, Headquarters: Bengaluru; Established: 1969.



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