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NATIONAL NEWS

IFFCO launches the world's first nano liquid urea for farmers

- **Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)** has introduced the world's first nano urea liquid for farmers across the world. It was introduced at the **50th IFFCO annual general body meeting**.

Jammu & Kashmir signs an MoU with Go Air for transportation of Agri produce across India

- **Jammu and Kashmir** Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Go Air**, a private airline, for the transportation of perishable **horticulture and agricultural** produce to various destinations across India.

Union Government forms an 8-member panel headed by Conrad K Sangma to examine GST exemption on COVID-19 relief materials

- The Union Government has constituted an **eight-member** ministerial panel under the convenership of **Meghalaya** Chief Minister **Conrad K Sangma** to examine Goods and Services Tax (GST) exemptions on a range of COVID-19 essentials such as **vaccines, drugs, testing kits and ventilators**.

Goa CM Pramod Sawant launches solar-based electrification programme for remote villages

- Chief Minister of Goa **Pramod Sawant** launched a **solar-based electrification programme** for rural households in **Goa**.
- This project will bring **electricity** through **renewable energy** to areas in **Goa** where grid connectivity is not feasible.
- An agreement was signed between **Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL)** and **Goa Energy Development Agency (GEDA)** to install solar home lighting systems in remote rural households of Goa.

Union Government assures safe potable tap water by 2022 in every household of Northwestern states

- Union Government has assured safe potable tap water by **2022** in every household of **Northwestern states and Union Territories (Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh)**.
- Union Ministry of Jal Shakti stated that the implementation of **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** will be expedited in these states and UTs and every rural household will be provided with tap water connections by the end of **2022**.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates three ethanol stations in Pune as a pilot project

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched three **E100 ethanol dispensing stations** in **Pune** under a pilot project on World Environment Day (5 June).
- The Union Government will also release the E-20 notification that will allow oil companies to sell **20% ethanol** blended petrol from **April 2023**.
- One of the ethanol dispensing stations has come up at **Samgamwadi petrol pump**, another at **Chowisawadi village** and the third at **Wesley road**.

NTPC joins UN's CEO Water Mandate to step up work on water conservation

- **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)** has become a signatory to the prestigious **United Nations** Global Compact's **CEO Water Mandate**.
- The CEO Water Mandate is a UN Global Compact initiative to demonstrate the commitment and efforts of companies to better their **water and sanitation agenda** as part of long-term **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

Research Design and Standards Organisation becomes the first standards body to join the 'One Nation One Standard' scheme

- Lucknow-based **Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO)** became the first standards body in **India** to join the Union Government's '**One Nation One Standard**' scheme that aims to ensure **quality products** to Indian consumers.

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- The RDSO has now been recognised as a **Standard Developing Organisation (SDO)** by the **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**, which is implementing the One Nation One Standard scheme.

One Nation One Standard scheme (ONOS) :

- The '**One Nation, One Standard**' scheme was launched in **2019**. The scheme is to ensure that there is a synergy and no overlap in the standardisation work in India, thereby building a '**Brand India**' identity in the long run.

Union Government allocates Rs. 7, 000 crores grant to West Bengal under Jal Jeevan Mission

- Union Government allocated **Rs. 6, 998.97 crore** grant to **West Bengal** under **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** for the year **2021–22** to provide every household with an assured tap water supply on a regular and long-term basis.
- Union Minister of Jal Shakti **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** assured full assistance to **West Bengal** for the provision of tap water supply to every rural home by **2024**.

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) :

- **Jal Jeevan Mission** is envisioned to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual **household tap connections** by **2024** to all households in rural India. Jal Jeevan Mission was launched on **15 August 2019**.

Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launches Horticulture Cluster Development Programme virtually

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare **Narendra Singh Tomar** virtually launched the **Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP)**.
- The programme would be implemented by the **National Horticulture Board (NHB)** of the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

Telangana celebrates its 8th formation day on 2 June 2021

- '**Telangana Formation Day**' is observed on **2 June** to mark the addition of Telangana as India's **29th** state. On this day in **2014**, Telangana came into existence after being bifurcated from **Andhra Pradesh**.

CSC SPV launches an e-marketplace for agri services

- The Common Services Centers (CSC) **E-Governance India Limited** launched an e-marketplace or portal (www.cscagri.in) for agri services to help **farmers**.
- The **Common Services Centers Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV)** is a special purpose vehicle under the **Union Ministry of Electronics & IT** that provides a host of electronic services to consumers through its common service centres.

Union Government revises the target of 20% ethanol-blending in petrol to 2023 from 2025

- Union Government has brought forward the target year to achieve **20 per cent ethanol-blending** with **petrol** by two years from **2025** to **2023** to help reduce India's dependence on costly oil imports.

CBSE collaborates with Microsoft to introduce a coding and data science curriculum

- The **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** has collaborated with **Microsoft** to introduce coding for classes 6–8 and the **data science curriculum** for classes 8–12 as new skilling subjects in the **2021–2022** CBSE academic session.
- Coding classes and data science curriculum are focused on building **critical thinking, computational skills, problem-solving skills, creativity** and hands-on exposure to new technologies.

Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates Indus Best Mega Food Park at Raipur, Chhattisgarh

- Union Minister of Food Processing Industries **Narendra Singh Tomar** virtually inaugurated the **Indus Best Mega Food Park** at **Raipur, Chhattisgarh**.
- The Mega Food Park has been set up in over **63 acres** of land at a project cost of over **Rs. 145 crores**.

Lt. Governor of Ladakh RK Mathur launches YounTab scheme for students to encourage digital learning

- Ladakh Lieutenant Governor **RK Mathur** has launched the **YounTab scheme** for students in Ladakh. He distributed tablets to the students of classes 9 to 12 as part of the first phase of the YounTab Scheme.

The Expert Committee on Variable Capital Company headed by KP Krishnan submits its report to IFSCA

- The Expert Committee on the Variable Capital Company headed by **KP Krishnan** has submitted its report on the feasibility of variable capital companies in the **International Financial Services Centres (IFSCA)** to the Chairperson of the IFSCA **Injeti Srinivas**.

Indian Navy's oldest hydrographic survey ship INS Sandhayak was decommissioned after 40 years of service

- **Indian Navy's** oldest hydrographic survey ship **INS Sandhayak** was decommissioned at the Naval Dockyard in **Visakhapatnam** after serving the nation for **40 years**.

Union Government sets up an expert panel headed by Ajit Mishra to fix minimum pay and national floor wage

- Union Ministry of **Labour and Employment** constituted an expert group to provide technical inputs and recommendations on the fixation of **minimum wages** and the **national floor for minimum wages**.
- The expert group was constituted for **three years** and is chaired by **Ajit Mishra**, Director of the Institute of Economic Growth.

ADB and India sign an agreement to support road upgrade in Sikkim

- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the Government of **India** signed a **\$2.5 million project readiness financing (PRF) loan** to support project preparation and design activities to upgrade major district roads in **Sikkim**.

India to add 20 GW wind capacity by 2025: Global Wind Energy Council report

- According to the **Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)** report, **India** will install **20 GW** of wind capacity over **2021–25**. About **90 per cent** of this capacity addition will come from **central tenders** followed by **corporate procurement** and **state markets**.

NHPC and JKPDCL form a joint venture firm to build 850 MW Ratle hydroelectric project

- **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC)** and **Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation Limited (JKPDCL)** have formed **Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited**, a joint venture firm for the implementation of the **850 MW Ratle hydroelectric project** in Jammu and Kashmir.

Gujarat Maritime Board to set up India's first international maritime services cluster at GIFT City

- **Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB)** will set up India's first international maritime services cluster at **GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City)**.
- The maritime cluster will be developed as a dedicated ecosystem comprising **ports, shipping, logistics services providers** and **government regulators**.

Assam Government signs an MoU with the Survey of India for a rural property survey

- The **Assam Government** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Survey of India (SoI)** for implementing the **Svmitva scheme** in Assam.
- The scheme aims to provide an integrated property **validation solution** for **rural areas**.

Goa becomes the first rabies-free state in India

- Chief Minister of Goa **Pramod Sawant** announced that **Goa** had not reported a **single rabies case** in the last **three years**. Goa became the **first rabies-free state** in India.
- The task of rabies control has been carried out by the '**Mission Rabies project**', which is being run through a Union Government grant.

Delhi Government launches 'Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojana'

- The **Delhi Government** has developed a new portal named '**Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojana**'. The portal is to avail financial assistance for the families affected by COVID-19.
- Under the scheme, ex gratia of **Rs. 50, 000** will be provided to those who have lost a family member to COVID-19 and an additional **Rs. 2, 500** pension per month if the deceased was the sole breadwinner of the family.

World Bank approves a \$125 million program to support a green and resilient Kerala

- The **World Bank** Board of Executive Directors has approved a **\$125 million** program to support **Kerala's** preparedness against natural disasters, climate change impacts, disease outbreaks and pandemics.

Jammu & Kashmir Chief Secretary inaugurates a mental health helpline initiative named 'SUKOON'

- Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir **Arun Kumar Mehta** inaugurated State Disaster Response Fund's (SDRF) first Battalion's 24x7 mental health helpline '**SUKOON**'.
- '**SUKOON**' is a mental health helpline initiative (toll-free number 1800-1807159) to offer **guidance to persons** who are experiencing anxiety, depression, stress, panic attack, mental health emergency and pandemic induced psychological stress.

Union Government extends Pradhan Mantri Grameen Kalyan Ann Yojana for five months until November 2021

- Union Government has now extended the **Pradhan Mantri Grameen Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY)** for **five months** until **November 2021**. Further allocation of 198.78 lakh MT food grains has been made under **PMGKAY-IV** for July to November.

Principal Scientific Adviser K Vijay Raghavan launched the Atmanirbhar Krishi app

- Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) of the Government of India, **K Vijay Raghavan**, has launched the "**Atmanirbhar Krishi app**".
- The **Atmanirbhar Krishi app** was created to equip **farmers** with actionable agricultural insights and **early weather alerts**.

IFSCA forms a panel headed by Vandana Aggarwal to examine best practices in ship financing and leasing

- **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** formed a committee for the development of avenues for **ship financing** and **leasing**. This committee will be chaired by **Vandana Aggarwal**, former Senior Economic Advisor to the Government of India.

Maharashtra signs an MoU with the UK Government to strengthen the start-up ecosystem

- **Maharashtra** has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the **British Government** under their '**ACT4Green**' programme. This programme aims to enable the **Indian** and **UK start-ups** to expand internationally through market entry support in their respective **cross-border** markets of interest.

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India signs a \$32 million loan agreement with the World Bank for improving healthcare services in Mizoram

- The Government of India, along with the **Government of Mizoram** and the **World Bank**, has signed a **\$32 million** loan agreement for Mizoram health systems strengthening project.

Odisha Government joins hands with UN World Food Programme to Empower, support women through SHGs

- The **Odisha** Government and the **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)** have joined hands to improve household food and nutritional security by strengthening livelihood initiatives, reaching thousands of state-supported **Women's Self-Help Groups (WSHGs)** till **December 2023**.

Union Ministry of Defense signs contract with Goa Shipyard Limited for the construction of two Pollution Control Vessels for the Indian Coast Guard

- **Union Ministry of Defence** signed a contract with **Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)** for the construction of two **Pollution Control Vessels (PCVs)** for the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** at the cost of about **Rs. 583 crores**.
- These two vessels are scheduled for delivery by **November 2024** and **May 2025**, respectively.

World's first genetically modified rubber plant was planted in Guwahati, Assam

- The world's first **genetically modified (GM) rubber plant** was planted on the outskirts of Guwahati, Assam. The GM rubber plant was developed at the **Kerala-based Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII)**.

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani e-launches Agricultural Diversification Scheme 2021

- Chief Minister of Gujarat **Vijay Rupani** had e-launched '**Agricultural Diversification Scheme 2021**' for the benefits of Vanbandhu farmers in the tribal areas.
- The scheme will benefit more than 1.26 lakh farmers from **14 tribal districts** of Gujarat. Under this scheme, tribal farmers will get fertiliser-seed assistance of **Rs. 31 crores**, in which 45 kg of urea, 50 kg of NPK and 50 kg of ammonium sulphate will be provided.

Tata Motors and Tata Power inaugurate India's largest solar carport in Pune, Maharashtra

- **Tata Motors** and **Tata Power** jointly inaugurated India's largest grid-synchronised behind-the-metre solar carport at the Tata Motors car plant in **Chikhali, Pune**.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurates a mega quintal capacity seed processing plant in Jammu and Kashmir

- Union Minister **Jitendra Singh** has inaugurated a **mega quintal capacity seed processing plant** at **Kathua District** in **Jammu and Kashmir**. This plant will help in **doubling farmers' income** in India and the plant will cater to the entire Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir.

Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar addresses the CII Northern Region Food Processing Summit 2021

- Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Food Processing Industries, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj **Narendra Singh Tomar** virtually addressed the **3rd edition** of the **Northern Zone Food Processing Summit** organised by the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**.

IBRD approves \$210 million loan for the implementation of the SALT programme in Andhra Pradesh

- The lending arm of the **World Bank Group**, **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)** has approved a **\$250 million** loan for Andhra Pradesh Government.

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- The main objectives of the programme called Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation (SALT) are strengthening **foundation schools** and **providing training** and **skill development** to teachers.

NTPC commissions 910 MW capacity at Barauni, Tanda

- **NTPC Limited** (National Thermal Power Corporation Limited) has declared the commercial operation of the second unit of **660 MW capacity** at **Tanda Super Thermal Power Station** in Uttar Pradesh.

NTPC sets target to install 60 GW renewable energy capacity by 2032

- State-owned **NTPC Limited (National Thermal Power Corporation Limited)** has set a target to install **60 GW** of renewable energy capacity by **2032**.
- NTPC became the first energy company in **India** to declare its energy compact goals as part of the UN **High-level Dialogue on Energy (HLDE)**.

NITI Aayog and Piramal Foundation launch 'Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyaan' for home care support to COVID-19 patients

- **NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog** and **Piramal Foundation** have launched '**Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyaan**' in **112 aspirational districts** to assist district administrations in providing **home care support** to **COVID-19 patients** who are asymptomatic or have mild symptoms.

Alok Kumar takes charge as the new Chief Secretary of Tripura

- Senior IAS officer **Alok Kumar** took charge as the new Chief Secretary of Tripura. He replaced **Manoj Kumar**, who has been transferred and posted as **Special Chief Resident Commissioner** of **Tripura Bhavan**, New Delhi.

Assam Government declares Dihing Patkai as its 7th National Park

- **Assam** Government has declared **Dihing Patkai** as its **7th** National Park. Recently, **Raimona National Park** (422 sq. km) in western Assam's Kokrajhar district was declared as the **sixth** National Park in Assam.
- The other five existing national parks in Assam are **Kaziranga National Park**, **Manas National Park**, **Nameri National Park**, **Orang National Park** and **Dibru-Saikhowa National Park**.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju releases an e-Book on '20 Medicinal Plants for COVID-19 Care'

- Union Minister of State for Ayush **Kiren Rijiju** released an e-book on '**20 Medicinal Plants for COVID-19 Care**' to highlight important medicinal plants and their **therapeutic properties**. These medicinal plants are useful in the **prevention and management** of COVID-19.
- The book was prepared by **National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)**.

Gujarat launches "e-Nirman" web portal and app to help unorganised sector workers to benefit from welfare schemes

- The Chief Minister of **Gujarat Vijay Rupani** has launched a web portal named "**e-Nirman**" and a mobile application to facilitate online registration of workers from the unorganised sector to give them smart cards for availing various welfare schemes.
- Workers having the **U-WIN cards** are entitled to get benefits from several government schemes, such as the insurance "**Ma Amrutam**" scheme for hospitalisation and affordable meals under the "**Shramik Annapurna Yojna**".

Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa launches DBT mobile application for transfer of money

- Chief Minister of Karnataka **BS Yediyurappa** launched a **DBT mobile application** for transferring money under various welfare schemes through the Aadhaar-based **Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT)** to beneficiaries.

Union Minister Harsh Vardhan addresses the WHO High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy Platform of Action

- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan virtually addressed the first meeting of the **World Health Organization High-Level Coalition on Health and Energy Platform of Action**.

Punjab becomes the first state in India to use NFC based eIDs

- **Punjab** became the first Indian state to use **Near Field Communication (NFC)** technology-based **Electronic Identity Cards (eIDs)** for Punjab Government officers/employees through **Punjab Mandi Board**.

Rajasthan Government launches 'CM Anuprati Coaching Scheme' for underprivileged students

- **Rajasthan Government** has launched the '**Chief Minister Anuprati Coaching Scheme**' to help **underprivileged students** prepare for entrance examinations.
- The **free coaching scheme** is a step to help students from poor financial backgrounds to prepare for **civil services** and **other competitive exams**.

PGCIL commissions India's first VSC-based HVDC power transmission system

- **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL)** has fully commissioned **India's first Voltage Source Converter (VSC)** based **High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC)** electricity transmission system.
- The **2, 000 MW** electricity transmission system, consisting of 2 links between **Pugalur** in **Tamil Nadu** and **Thrissur** in **Kerala**.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Sarma launches 'Sishu Seva welfare scheme' for COVID-19 orphans and widows

- **Assam** Chief Minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma** has launched the '**Sishu Seva welfare scheme**' for children who lost their parents to COVID-19 and women who lost their husbands to COVID-19.
- Under the Sishu Seva scheme, children will receive a fixed deposit of **Rs. 781, 000** with a monthly interest of **Rs. 3, 500** till they attain the age of **24**. Girls of marriageable age will receive **Rs. 50, 000** and gold (10 grams) under the **Arundhati scheme**.

Flipkart partners with the Telangana Government for drone deliveries of medical supplies under the 'Medicines from the Sky' project

- E-commerce firm **Flipkart** has partnered with the **Telangana Government** to lead a consortium tasked with the development and execution of drone deliveries of medical supplies to remote areas under the '**Medicines from the Sky**' project.

Union Ministry of Jal Shakti allocates Rs. 3, 183 crores to Andhra Pradesh under Jal Jeevan Mission in 2021-22

- **Union Ministry of Jal Shakti** has increased the grant to **Rs. 3, 183 crores** from **Rs. 790.48 crores** to **Andhra Pradesh** under **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** in 2021-22.
- **The Union Government** has assured full assistance to **Andhra Pradesh** for making provision of tap water supply in every rural home by **2024**.

Madhya Pradesh Government launches 'Yuva Shakti Corona Mukti Abhiyan'

- **Madhya Pradesh** Government has launched the '**Yuva Shakti Corona Mukti Abhiyan**' to make people aware of the **COVID-19** pandemic.
- The campaign will be run by the **Madhya Pradesh Higher Education and Technical Education Department** in association with **Public Health and Family Welfare Department**.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy releases Rs. 248 crores for YSR Vahana Mitra

- **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** announced **Rs. 248.47 crores** to be credited into the accounts of 2, 48, 468 beneficiaries under the **YSR Vahana Mithra** scheme.

Odisha celebrates the 3-day Raja Parba festival

- **Raja Parba (Mithuna Sankranti)** is a **3-day festival** that celebrates womanhood. The festival is celebrated across the state of **Odisha**.

Ladakh celebrates the two-day Hemis festival

- The two-day **Hemis Festival** was celebrated in **Ladakh** to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Guru Padmasambhava** (also known as the second Buddha).

Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin inaugurates 'Minnagam' customer care cell to redress electricity issues 24x7

- **Tamil Nadu** Chief Minister **MK Stalin** inaugurated a 24x7 customer care cell '**Minnagam**' at TANGEDCO (Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation) headquarters in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**, to address consumer grievances. The public can register their grievances by calling the 24x7 helpline number — **9498794987**.

Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda launches the tribal livelihoods initiative "Sankalp Se Siddhi – Mission Van Dhan"

- **Seven** new **Tribes India** outlets were inaugurated virtually at **Jagdalpur, Ranchi, Jamshedpur** and **Sarnath**.
- **Immunity boosting hampers, Tribes India Coffee table book, new TRIFED Head Office** were among the other highlights of the mega-launch virtual event 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' – Mission Van Dhan.

NHPC signs a pact with BSHPC to set up a 130.1-MW hydropower project in Bihar

- State-owned **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC)** signed a pact with **Bihar State Hydroelectric Power Corporation (BSHPC)** to implement a 130.1-megawatt (MW) **Dagmara hydroelectricity project** in Bihar.

Telangana AI Mission launches 'Revv Up' accelerator program for AI startups

- The Government of **Telangana** has launched the **Telangana AI Mission (T-AIM)** powered by the **National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM)** as part of the "2020 Year of AI" initiative.
- **T-AIM** announced the launch of the accelerator program '**Revv Up**' that will enable and **empower AI startups**.

Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways signs an MoU with the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation for the Development of sea plane services in India

- This MoU envisages the development of the **Non-Scheduled (or) Scheduled** operation of seaplane services within the territorial jurisdiction of India under the **Regional Connectivity Scheme-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik)** scheme of the Government of India.

Ambuja Cement Foundation and NABARD partners to skill rural youth across India

- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) arm of **Ambuja Cements Limited, Ambuja Cement Foundation (ACF)**, partnered with the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** for the implementation of its **Employability through Skill Initiative Project (ESIP)** Phase II.

Union Government launches 'Project O2' to meet the growing demand for medical oxygen

- The **Union Government** has come up with '**Project O2 for India**' and modular hospitals to boost **India's** ability to meet the sudden rise in demand for medical oxygen and hospital beds after the second wave of COVID-19.

Delhi Government set to start a diploma course in mediation and yoga sciences

- The **Delhi Government** is going to launch a diploma course in '**Meditation and Yoga Sciences**' at the **Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences Research University**.

India likely to have 330 million 5G connections by 2026: Ericsson Mobility Report

- According to **Ericsson Mobility Report**, India is likely to have **330 million 5G subscribers** by **2026** and the monthly data consumption per smartphone is expected to grow over 3-fold to **40 GB** per smartphone.
- The average traffic per smartphone user in **India** has increased from **13 GB per month** in 2019 to **14.6 GB per month** in 2020.

TRAI launches a TV channel selector portal for DTH and cable TV subscribers

- **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)** has launched the **TV Channel Selector Portal** (www.channelselector.trai.gov.in). This portal will facilitate those subscribers who do not own a mobile phone but want to use a web browser for the selection of **TV channels**.

Union Cabinet approves 'Deep Ocean Mission' for the use of sustainable renewable resources

- The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of the **Union Ministry of Earth Sciences** on the '**Deep Ocean Mission**'. The mission is aimed to explore the deep ocean for resources and develop deep-sea technologies for sustainable use of **ocean resources**.

Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways signs an MoU with the Union Ministry of Culture for cooperation in the development of national maritime heritage complex at Lothal, Gujarat

- **NMHC** is set to be developed as the first of its kind in India, which is dedicated to the legacy of **Maritime Heritage of India** and to showcase India's rich and diverse maritime glory.

Delhi Government to start the 'Lighthouse project' for marginalised youth

- The **Delhi Government** announced that the **Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU)** will identify youth in low-income or slum communities in the city to help them make more informed life choices and acquire **necessary skills** for **improved employability** under the '**Lighthouse project**'.

India signs a \$484 million loan with ADB to improve highways in the Tamil Nadu Industrial Corridor

- The **Government of India** has signed a **\$484 million** loan agreement with the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** to improve transport connectivity and facilitate industrial development in the **Chennai–Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC)** in **Tamil Nadu**.

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan addresses the Global Yoga Conference 2021

- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, **Harsh Vardhan**, has addressed the inaugural ceremony of the **2021 Global Yoga Conference** in the presence of the Union Minister of State for Defence **Shripad Yesso Nayak**.

Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda launches ADI PRASHIKSHAN portal to foster skill and capacity building

- Union Minister of Tribal Affairs **Arjun Munda** has launched the '**ADI PRASHIKSHAN portal**' to provide quality **skill development** and capacity building programs to the **tribal population** across India.
- The **ADI PRASHIKSHAN portal** has been developed by the **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs** in collaboration with the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** and **Tribal Research Institute, Odisha**.

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee relaunches 'Krishak Bandhu' scheme

- **West Bengal** Chief Minister **Mamata Banerjee** has relaunched the state government's **Krishak Bandhu** scheme, doubling the assistance to farmer-beneficiaries from **Rs. 5000** to **Rs. 10,000** per acre per year.
- Farm labours, sharecroppers and marginal farmers will also get double benefits starting from **Rs. 4,000** per month instead of **Rs. 2,000** per month.

Bihar CM launches two new schemes to provide employment opportunities to women and youth of all sections

- Chief Minister of Bihar **Nitish Kumar** has launched two ambitious schemes named the '**Mukhya Mantri Yuva Udyami Yojana**' and the '**Mukhya Mantri Mahila Udyami Yojana**' to promote entrepreneurship among **youth** and **women** of all sections under the state's '**Mukhya Mantri Udyami Yojana**' scheme.

Odisha Government launches Ashirbad scheme for children losing parents during the COVID-19 pandemic

- **Odisha** Government has launched '**Ashirbad scheme**'. Under this scheme, **Rs. 2,500** per month will directly be transferred to the account of children who have lost both of their parents in the COVID-19 pandemic.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Isaac Herzog was elected as the 11th President of Israel

- Veteran politician **Isaac Herzog** was elected as the **11th** President of **Israel**. The 60-year-old Isaac Herzog will replace **Reuven Rivlin**, who was elected as the President of Israel in **2014**.

Henri Marie Dondra was named as the Prime Minister of the Central African Republic

- Henri Marie Dondra was appointed as the Prime Minister of the **Central African Republic (CAR)**. He replaced **Firmin Ngrebada**.
- He was the former Finance Minister of the **Central African Republic**.

India receives \$64 billion FDI in 2020 and becomes the fifth-largest recipient of inflows in the world: UNCTAD Report

- According to a UNCTAD report, India received **\$64 billion** in **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** in 2020, the **fifth-largest** recipient of inflows in the world. The **USA** was the largest recipient of inflows, followed by **China** and **Hong Kong**.

Nikol Pashinyan was elected as the Prime Minister of Armenia

- **Armenia's** acting Prime Minister **Nikol Pashinyan** was elected as the new Prime Minister of **Armenia**. With 75 per cent of results declared, Pashinyan's party had 55.61 per cent of the vote.

Barnaby Joyce was appointed as the Deputy Prime Minister of Australia

- Australian Prime Minister **Scott Morrison** has appointed **Barnaby Joyce** as the Deputy Prime Minister of Australia. He defeated **Michael McCormack**.

Ebrahim Raisi was elected as the 8th President of Iran

- **Ebrahim Raisi** was elected as the **8th** President of Iran. He succeeded **Hassan Rouhani**. He won **61.95** per cent of the vote on a voter turnout of 48.8 per cent – the lowest turnout for the Iranian presidential election since the **1979** Iranian revolution.

India ties up with Russia as the fourth largest forex reserves holder

- **India** has tied with **Russia** as the fourth largest reserve holder in the world. The forex reserve of Russia is calculated to be \$605.2 billion.
- Countries with the highest foreign reserves **1. China** – \$3, 330 Billion; **2. Japan** – \$1, 378 Billion; **3. Switzerland** – \$1, 070 Billion; **4. Russia** – \$605.200 Billion; **5. India** – \$605.008 Billion.

Belgium hosts the 2021 NATO Summit

- The 31st summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was held in **Brussels, Belgium**. The meeting was chaired by the NATO Secretary-General, **Jens Stoltenberg**.
- NATO had partnered with the **German Marshall Fund** of the United States to host '**NATO 2030 at Brussels Forum**'.

Exim Bank extends Line of Credit of \$108.28 million to the Kingdom of Eswatini

- **Export-Import Bank of India** (Exim Bank) has extended **Line of Credit (LoC) of \$108.28 million** to the Government of the Kingdom of **Eswatini** (Swaziland) for the construction of a **new Parliament building** in Eswatini.

India-Kyrgyzstan reviews bilateral cooperation in defence and capacity building

- The **11th** round of **Foreign Office Consultations** between **India** and **Kyrgyzstan** was held through virtual mode. Both countries reviewed the entire gamut of their bilateral cooperation in **economic, commercial, defence, development partnership, capacity building, consular matters** and **culture**.

India extends a \$100 million loan to Sri Lanka for solar energy projects

- **India** has extended a **\$100 million** loan to **Sri Lanka** to help the island nation finance various projects in the **solar energy sector** and ensure that the country's **70 per cent** power requirements are fulfilled by renewable energy sources by **2030**.

IIT Bombay hosts a virtual conference of BRICS Network Universities on electric mobility

- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay** hosted a three-day virtual conference of **BRICS Network Universities** on **electric mobility**.
- The conference is part of the engagements that **India** is hosting under the education stream during its **13th BRICS Summit 2021**.

Rajnath Singh virtually addresses the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus

- The ADMM-Plus is a platform comprising **10-nation ASEAN** (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and its eight dialogue partners (**India, China, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States**) to strengthen security and defence cooperation for peace, stability and development in the **ASEAN region**.

India and three EU nations begin two-day naval drill 'EUNAVFOR' in the Gulf of Aden

- **India** and three **European nations (Spain, France and Italy)** began a two-day high-voltage naval wargame '**EUNAVFOR**' held in the **Gulf of Aden** with a larger aim of improving operational **interoperability** and **promote, peace, security** and **stability** in the key waterways.
- **European Union Naval Force Somalia (EUNAVFOR)** is the EU's counter-piracy mission off the **coast of Somalia**.

India and Bhutan signed an MoU for developing cooperation in the areas of environment

- The MoU will also strengthen **technological, scientific** and **management capabilities** and expand the areas of cooperation in the field of environment to promote a mutually beneficial partnership between the two countries.

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

Union Cabinet approves an MoU between India and Argentina on cooperation in the field of mineral resources

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to be signed between the **Union Ministry of Mines** of India and the Secretariat of Mining Policy of the Union Ministry of Productive Development of **Argentina**.

Union Cabinet approves an MoC between India and Japan in the field of sustainable urban development

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on **sustainable urban development** between the Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs of **India** and the Union Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of **Japan**.

India virtually hosts the 2021 BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting

- Union Minister of External Affairs **S Jaishankar** chaired the **2021 BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting**.
- The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister of Russia **Sergey Lavrov**, Foreign Minister of China **Wang Yi**, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa **Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor** and Brazilian Foreign Minister **Carlos Alberto Franco**.

Microsoft launches the first-ever Asia-Pacific Cyber Security Council

- **Microsoft** has launched the first **Asia-Pacific Public Sector Cyber Security Executive Council** to build a strong communications channel for addressing **cyber threats** and sharing best practices across the participating countries.
- The cyber security council consists of policymakers and influencers from **Brunei, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore** and **Thailand**.

The Second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference to be held in Beijing, China

- The Second **United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference** will be held from 14–16 October 2021 in **Beijing, China**.
- The First Global Sustainable Transport Conference was held in 2016 in **Ashgabat, Turkmenistan**.

Maldives Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid was elected as the President of the United Nations General Assembly for 2021–22

- Maldives Foreign Minister **Abdulla Shahid** was elected as **President** of the **76th session of the United Nations General Assembly (2021–22)**. He received 143 votes out of the 191 ballots cast.
- The decision was taken in the **76th Session** of the **United Nations General Assembly (PGA)** held at the UN headquarters in **New York**.

World Bank approves \$500 million program to help boost India's MSME sector

- The **World Bank's** Board of Executive Directors has approved a **\$500 million** program to support India's nationwide initiative to revitalise the MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) sector.

Germany hosts the 8th Global Nitrogen Conference virtually

- **Germany** virtually hosted the **8th Global Nitrogen Conference** that focused on **sustainable development goals (SDGs)**. The conference was attended by over **800 scientists** and other stakeholders from over 60.

India was elected to the UN Economic and Social Council for 2022–24 term

- **India** was elected to the **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**, one of the six main organs of the **United Nations** for the 2022–24 term.
- **India** was elected in the **Asia-Pacific States** category along with **Afghanistan, Kazakhstan** and **Oman**.

India launches 'Mission Innovation CleanTech Exchange' for clean energy innovation

- **India** launched the 'Mission Innovation CleanTech Exchange', a global initiative that will create a network of incubators across member countries to accelerate clean energy innovation.
- The network was virtually launched at the **Innovating to Net Zero Summit** hosted by **Chile**.

India and Thailand Navy begin 3-day coordinated patrol exercise 'CORPAT' in the Andaman Sea

- The **31st** edition of **India** and **Thailand** coordinated patrol exercise 'CORPAT' has started in the **Andaman Sea**.
- The Indian Navy's offshore patrol vessel **INS Saryu** and Thailand Navy's ship **Krabi** along with **Dornier maritime patrol aircraft** from both navies are participating in the three-day coordinated patrol exercise.

HeidelbergCement to build the world's first carbon-neutral cement plant in Sweden

- The world's second-largest cement maker **HeidelbergCement** has planned to turn its **Swedish factory** in Slite into the **world's first CO₂-neutral cement plant** by **2030** via carbon capture technology.
- The installation at the Slite plant will capture up to **1.8 million tonnes** of CO₂ annually, which corresponds to the plant's total emissions.

El Salvador becomes the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as legal tender

- **El Salvador** became the first country in the world to adopt **bitcoin** as **legal tender** after its Congress approved President **Nayib Bukele's** proposal to embrace the Cryptocurrency (Bitcoin) to promote "financial inclusion", investment and economic development.

Choguel Kokalla Maiga was named as the transitional Prime Minister of Mali

- **Choguel Kokalla Maiga** was appointed as the transitional Prime Minister of Mali by **Assimi Goita**, transitional President of Mali. He succeeded **Moctar Ouane**. Maiga served as the Minister of Communication from **2015 to 2016**.

Former Mongolian Prime Minister Ukhnaa Khurelsukh was elected as the 6th President of Mongolia

- Former **Mongolian** Prime Minister **Ukhnaa Khurelsukh** was elected as the **sixth** President of **Mongolia**. He was forced to resign as prime minister after protests earlier this year (2021). He succeeded **Khaltmaa Battulga**.

The first edition of the Arab-India Energy Forum was held virtually

- The first edition of the two-day **Arab-India Energy Forum (AIEF)** was held in a virtual format under the **Co-Chairship** of **India** and the **Kingdom of Morocco** to boost energy cooperation and intra-regional power trading.

The first meeting of the India-Australia Joint Working Group on Cyber Security Cooperation was held virtually

- The Joint Working Group on Cyber Security Cooperation is a mechanism established under the Framework Arrangement on the **Cyber and Cyber-enabled Critical Technology Cooperation** between India and Australia to implement the **2020–25** Plan of Action under the Framework.

India signs an MoU with Kuwait for cooperation on recruitment of domestic workers

- **India** and **Kuwait** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that brings **Indian domestic workers** in the Gulf nation within the ambit of a legal framework that streamlines their **recruitment** and provides them with the **protection of the law**.

Naftali Bennett was sworn in as the 13th Prime Minister of Israel

- **Israel's** Parliament approved **Naftali Bennett** as the 13th Prime Minister of **Israel**. He replaced Israel's longest-serving (12 years) Prime Minister, **Benjamin Netanyahu**.

The United Kingdom hosts 47th G7 Summit 2021

- The **United Kingdom** was hosted the **47th G7 Leaders' Summit 2021** in **Carbis Bay** and **Cornwall**. The G7 Summit was held under the theme of '**Building Back Better**'.

India signs an MoU with Fiji for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors

- The MoU was signed by the Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare **Narendra Singh Tomar** and Fiji's Minister of Agriculture, Waterways & Environment **Mahendra Reddy**.

India is set to host the 9th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable in 2022

- India is set to host the **9th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable (AMER9) in 2022**. The decision was made in a virtual meeting between IEF Secretary-General **Joseph McMonigle** and Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas **Dharmendra Pradhan**.

India retains its position as the 2nd largest source of FDI for the UK in 2020

- **India** has retained its position as the **second-largest source** of **foreign direct investment (FDI)** for the **United Kingdom (UK)** in **2020**.
- The US is the top source of FDI for the UK and US companies have invested in 389 projects and created 19, 301 new jobs in **2020–21**.

India reviews bilateral cooperation with Indonesia under Comprehensive Strategic Partnership framework

- The sixth round of the **Foreign Office Consultations (FOC)** between **India** and **Indonesia** was held virtually. India reviewed the entire gamut of the bilateral relationship under the framework of **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**.

Denmark signs framework agreement on the International Solar Alliance with India

- **Denmark** signed the **International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement (ISA FA)** and Instrument of Ratification with **India**.
- **Denmark** became the **first country** to ratify International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement (ISA FA) after amendments.

Indian Air Force and Indian Navy conduct passage exercise with the US Navy in the Indian Ocean

- The **Indian Navy** and the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** began a two-day passage exercise with **US Navy Carrier Strike Group (CSG)** Ronald Reagan during its transit through the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**.

NSA Ajit Doval attends SCO meeting in Dushanbe

- National Security Advisor **Ajit Doval** has attended the **16th** meeting of the Security Council Secretaries of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** in **Tajikistan, Dushanbe**.
- **Tajikistan** is the current President of the **SCO**.

IFFCO to set up nano urea plant in Argentina

- Leading fertiliser cooperative **Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)** will set up a nano urea liquid manufacturing plant in **Argentina** in partnership with the **Instituto Nacional de Asociativismo y Economía Social (INAES)** and Cooperative Confederation of Argentina "**Cooperar**".

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) programme was launched in Bhutan in partnership with India

- **Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB)**, a joint initiative of the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** and the **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**, launched its programme in **Bhutan** in partnership with **India**.

Union Ministry of External Affairs Secretary Riva Ganguly Das participates in the ASEAN Regional Forum Senior Officials' Meeting 2021

- Union Ministry of External Affairs Secretary **Riva Ganguly Das** has participated in the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** Regional Forum Senior Officials' Meeting 2021.
- **Brunei** holds the chairmanship of **ASEAN** for **2021** and **Cambodia** is set to assume the chairmanship in **2022**.

Turkey and Azerbaijan conduct a joint military drill 'Mustafa Kemal Ataturk 2021' in Baku

- **Turkey** and **Azerbaijan** began a joint military drill named '**Mustafa Kemal Ataturk 2021**' in Azerbaijan's capital city **Baku**.

Mobile World Congress 2021 was held in Barcelona, Spain

- The **Mobile World Congress 2021 (MWC)**, the world's biggest mobile event was held in **Barcelona, Spain**, in a hybrid format. It is an annual trade show dedicated primarily to the mobile communications/telecom industry, organised by **GSMA** (Global System for Mobile Communications) in Barcelona since **2006**.

India and Bhutan review development cooperation and agree to implement new projects

- **India** and **Bhutan** reviewed the entire gamut of their development partnership, with both sides agreeing to implement some new projects in the **Himalayan nation (Bhutan)** across various sectors such as **road infrastructure, water management** and **COVID-19 management**.

Ukraine and the US conduct "Sea Breeze" joint naval exercises in the Black Sea

- **Ukraine** and the **United States** launched joint naval exercises in the **Black Sea**. The exercise known as **Sea Breeze** drills have taken place 21 times since **1997**. This exercise will involve around **5,000** military personnel from more than **30** countries.

World's second-biggest hydropower dam in China starts making power

- **World's second-biggest hydropower station** in **China** named **Baihetan Hydropower Dam** started its operation to generate power.
- The 289-metre (948 feet) high Baihetan Hydropower Station over the **Yangtze River** in southwest China is **second in the world** only to China's **Three Gorges Dam** in terms of power generation, which began partial operation.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

RBI revises India's GDP growth forecast to 9.5% for FY22

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** had cut its projection for **gross domestic product (GDP)** growth for 2021–22 fiscal (FY22) to **9.5 per cent** from the earlier forecast of **10.5 per cent**.
 - RBI also lowered **Consumer Price Inflation (CPI)** at **5.1 per cent** in FY22 from the earlier forecast of **5.2 per cent**.
 - Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor **Shaktikanta Das** kept interest rates unchanged and retained an **accommodative stance** for the sixth consecutive time in the second bi-monthly **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of 2021**.
- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| ➤ Repo Rate | : 4.00% |
| ➤ Reverse Repo Rate | : 3.35% |
| ➤ Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) | : 4.25% |

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

- Bank Rate : **4.25%**
- Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) : **4.00%**
- Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) : **18.00%**

RBI announces on-tap liquidity window of Rs. 15, 000 crore for contact-intensive sectors like hotels and salons

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced a separate **on-tap liquidity window** of **Rs. 15, 000 crore** for contact intensive sectors like restaurants, hotels and those involved in the tourism sector, among others.
- The tenors of this window shall be of up to **three years** at a rate of repo rate. The facility will be available till **31 March 2022**.

HDFC Bank announces to become carbon neutral by 2031–32

- **HDFC Bank** has announced plans to become carbon neutral by **2031–32**. As part of this initiative, the bank is looking at reducing its **emissions, energy and water consumption**.

SEBI signs an MoU with Luxembourg's CSSF to strengthen cooperation in securities regulation

- **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF)**, the supervisory authority for the financial sector of **Luxembourg**, for mutual cooperation and technical assistance.

RBI announces FPI investment limits in G-secs and SDLs

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** announced the limits for **foreign portfolio investors (FPI)** investment during the current fiscal (2021–2022) in **Government Securities (G-secs)** and **State Development Loans (SDLs)**.
- **They both** will remain unchanged at **6 per cent** and **2 per cent** respectively, of outstanding stocks of securities for **2021–22**.

RBI cancels licence of Pune-based Shivajirao Bhosale Sahakari Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has cancelled the licence of **Pune-based Shivajirao Bhosale Sahakari Bank** as the bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects.
- The bank customers will receive the full amount of their deposits from the **Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC)**.

ICICI Bank joins hands with SWIFT to offer 'SWIFT gpi Instant' facility for cross-border inward remittances

- Private Sector lender **ICICI Bank** has tied up with **SWIFT** to offer a facility that helps **overseas partner banks** to send instant remittances on behalf of their customers to the beneficiary in India.
- **ICICI Bank** became the first bank in Asia-Pacific and the second bank globally to offer the facility called '**SWIFT gpi Instant**' for cross-border inward payments.

Edelweiss strengthens co-lending partnership with Central Bank of India for MSMEs

- **Edelweiss Retail Finance Limited (ERFL)** announced the strengthening of its co-lending partnership with the **Central Bank of India** for priority sector lending to **micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)**.
- MSMEs can now avail of collateral-free business loans up to **Rs. 50 lakhs** from **Rs. 10 lakhs** earlier. they also increased the avail of a loan against property up to **Rs. 10 crores**.

HDFC ERGO partners with VISA to provide specialised insurance policies for business cardholders

- India's leading private sector general insurance company, **HDFC ERGO General Insurance** had partnered with **VISA** to provide **curated insurance covers** for **VISA'S business cardholders**.

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

- The partnership will offer two insurance products, namely **Business Suraksha Classik** and **my:Credit Personal Accident Insurance group policy**.

WazirX launches India's 1st NFT marketplace

- India's largest crypto exchange **WazirX** announced the launch of India's first **Non-Fungible Token (NFT)** marketplace. The platform will be used to trade Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs), which are run on the **Binance Smart Chain**.

Bharti AXA Life Insurance partners with Shivalik Small Finance Bank for bancassurance

- Private life insurer **Bharti AXA Life Insurance** has entered into a bancassurance partnership with **Shivalik Small Finance Bank** for the distribution of its life insurance products through the bank's pan-India network of branches.

Bombay Stock Exchange signs a pact with ESC to encourage listing of startups

- Leading stock exchange **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)** has joined hands with **Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC)** to create awareness about the benefits of listing among **small businesses** and **startups**.

RBI imposes Rs. 6 crore penalty on Bank of India and Punjab National Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** imposed a penalty on the **Bank of India** and **Punjab National Bank** for contravention of norms, including one related to "**Frauds – Classification and Reporting**".
- A penalty of **Rs. 4 crores** has been imposed on the **Bank of India** and **Rs. 2 crores** on **Punjab National Bank**.

Central Bank of India inks co-lending pacts with Indiabulls Housing and IIFL Home Finance

- Under this arrangement, **Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs)** will originate and process retail home loans while the **Central Bank of India** will take into its book **80 per cent** of the **housing loan** under direct assignment transactions.

NITI Aayog recommends privatisation of the Central Bank of India and Indian Overseas Bank

- **NITI Aayog** has recommended divesting government stake in the **Central Bank of India** and **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)** as part of the privatisation initiative announced in the Union Budget **2021–2022**.
- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** had announced in the **2021–2022** budget privatising two **Public Sector Banks (PSBs)** as per the new PSE (Public Sector Enterprise) policy for '**Aatmanirbhar Bharat**'.

DBS tops the 2021 Forbes World's Best Banks list in India category

- **DBS (Development Bank of Singapore)** has been named by **Forbes** in their list of **World's Best Banks 2021** in **India category**.
- The second bank on the list was Kerala-based **Catholic Syrian Bank (CSB)**, followed by **ICICI Bank**, **HDFC Bank**, **Kotak Mahindra Bank** and **Axis Bank**. **State Bank of India** ranked seventh on the list.

Indian Bank partners with Fisdom to offer wealth management solutions

- **Indian Bank** has partnered with wealth-tech company **Fisdom** to offer a comprehensive suite of **wealth management products** and **services** to the bank's 10 crore customers.

RBI allows banks to charge Rs. 21 for post limit ATM transactions from 1 January 2022

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has permitted banks to increase charges for cash and non-cash **ATM transactions** beyond the free monthly permissible limit from 2022.
- Bank customers will have to pay **Rs. 21** per transaction instead of **Rs. 20**, with effect from **1 January 2022**, if they exceed the monthly limit of free transactions.

PayNearby ties up with IndiaFirst Life Insurance to provide insurance solutions for retailers

- India's leading branchless banking and digital payments Network, **PayNearby** has launched a unique insurance solution, '**Poorna Suraksha**', for its retail community.

HDFC Bank inks an MoU with KIADB to offer banking solutions to investors

- **HDFC Bank** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB)** to provide a wide range of **financial products** and **services** to its customers through an extensive network of branches across **India**.

SBI launches 'Kavach Personal Loan' scheme' for COVID-19 patients

- The **State Bank of India (SBI)** has launched the '**Kavach Personal Loan**' scheme for COVID-19 patients. As per the scheme, SBI will offer a collateral-free personal loans up to **Rs. 5 lakhs** at an annual interest rate of **8.5 per cent**.

Federal Bank partners with Oracle and Infosys for cloud-based customer relationship management system

- **Federal Bank** has partnered with **Oracle** and **Infosys** to offer an enhanced customer experience through **Oracle CX** (Customer Experience) platform.
- The partnership will be creating a comprehensive integrated **Customer Relationship Management (CRM)** solution across **marketing, sales, customer service** and **social listening** to strengthen Federal Bank's operations.

Navi General Insurance launches EMI based health insurance in Kerala

- **Navi General Insurance** has introduced subscription-based **health insurance** in Kerala through monthly **Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs)** instead of paying an upfront annual premium.
- The health insurance policies can be purchased using EMIs starting as low as **Rs. 240 per month**.

RBI grants 'in-principle' nod to Centrum Financial Services Limited to set up a Small Finance Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given "**in-principle**" approval to **Centrum Financial Services Limited (CFSL)** to set up a **small finance bank (SFB)**, which will take over the beleaguered **Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank (PMC Bank)**.
- The approval is under the general guidelines for '**on tap**' licensing of **small finance banks (SFB)** in the private sector issued on 5 December 2019.

FlexiLoans.com partners with Retailio to offer working capital loans

- Fintech platform **FlexiLoans.com** has partnered with **Retailio**, a **business-to-business healthcare marketplace**, to provide working **capital loans** to its more than 1, 00, 000 retailers and distributors across India.

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank collaborates with MoEngage to drive its digital banking experiences

- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** has collaborated with customer engagement platform **MoEngage** to drive its digital banking experiences in the unserved and underserved regions of **India**.

ICICI Bank extends instant 'Cardless EMI' for online shopping

- Private lender **ICICI Bank** has introduced the instant '**Cardless EMI**' facility to online purchases made on e-commerce platforms.
- The instant Cardless EMI facility allows customers to instantly buy products or services (up to Rs. 5 lakhs) online through **Equated Monthly Instalments (EMIs)** in just a few clicks by using their mobile phone and PAN.

Union Bank of India signs an MoU with NSIC to support MSMEs with credit requirements

- **Union Bank of India (UBI)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC)** under the "**NSIC Bank Credit Facilitation Scheme**" to support MSMEs with credit requirements.

ICICI Bank launches a digital banking solution for corporate companies named 'ICICI STACK for Corporates'

- Private sector lender **ICICI Bank** announced the launch of '**ICICI STACK for Corporates**' a comprehensive set of digital banking solutions for corporates and their entire ecosystem, including **promoters, group companies, employees, dealers, vendors** and all **other stakeholders**.

LIC CSL launches prepaid gift card 'Shagun' in collaboration with IDBI Bank on RuPay platform

- **LIC Cards Services (LIC CSL)** has launched a contactless prepaid gift card named '**Shagun**' in collaboration with **IDBI Bank** on the **RuPay platform**.
- The **Shagun gift card's** aim is to expand the gift card market with an intent to promote cashless ways of gifting. It offers customisation in the form of flexible loading of any amount ranging from **Rs. 500** to **Rs. 10, 000**.

Godrej Housing Finance launches 'design your EMI' home loan product

- **Godrej Housing Finance (GHF)** has launched a '**design your EMI**' home loan product to enable customers to customise their **equated monthly installments (EMIs)**. It is aimed at optimising their cashflows and bring down the cost of **homeownership**.

IndusInd Bank launches a comprehensive digital lending platform named 'IndusEasyCredit'

- **IndusInd Bank** has launched '**IndusEasyCredit**', a comprehensive digital lending platform that enables customers to meet their financial requirements from the comfort of their homes.

Union Finance Ministry allows HFCs above Rs. 100 crore asset size to use to SARFAESI law

- The **Union Finance Ministry** has now allowed all **Housing Finance Companies (HFCs)** with asset sizes of over **Rs. 100 crores** to use **SARFAESI (Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002) law** to recover dues.
- Previously, HFCs with assets over **Rs. 500 crores** and notified by the Union Finance Ministry were allowed to use **SARFAESI law** to recover dues.

SBI General Insurance enters into bancassurance tie-up with IDFC FIRST Bank

- **SBI General Insurance** has signed a corporate agency agreement with **IDFC FIRST Bank** for the distribution of **non-life insurance solutions**.
- Under this strategic agreement, **SBI General Insurance** will offer insurance products such as **health, personal accident, home, motor and travel** along with the commercial line of insurance products such as **property, marine and engineering insurance**, to the IDFC bank customers.

Union Government eases listing norms for companies having over Rs. 1 lakh crore market capitalisation

- After the Department of Economic Affairs under the Union Finance Ministry has amended the **Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules**, companies that have a **market capitalisation (M-cap)** of more than **Rs. 1 lakh crores** at the time of listing can now sell just **five per cent** of their shares.

Kotak Mahindra Bank launches 'Pay Your Contact' service

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has launched a new feature named '**Pay Your Contact**' service, that enables its customers to send money or make payments to any of their contacts across all payment apps simply by the beneficiary's mobile number.

Bandhan Bank acquires branding rights of a Kolkata metro station

- **Bandhan Bank** has entered into an arrangement with **Kolkata Metro** for the branding rights of the **Salt Lake Sector V metro station**. This Metro station was renamed as the “**Bandhan Bank Salt Lake Sector V Metro Station**”.

SBM Bank partners with Paisabazaar to launch the ‘Step Up Credit Card’

- Lending marketplace **Paisabazaar.com** has partnered with **SBM Bank India** to launch the ‘**Step Up Credit Card**’, a credit-builder product designed for consumers with limited access to formal credit due to ineligible credit scores.

PhonePe unveils India’s first-ever wallet with auto top-up

- Digital payments company **PhonePe** has launched **India’s first wallet auto top-up** feature using **UPI e-mandates** for its customers. The amount for auto top-up ranges from **Rs. 1, 000** to **Rs. 5, 000**.

SBI Card partners with Fabindia to launch ‘Fabindia SBI Card’

- India’s second-largest credit card issuer **SBI Card** has partnered with retail platform **Fabindia** for a wide range of handcrafted products, to launch an exclusive co-branded **contactless credit card**, ‘**Fabindia SBI Card**’.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari launches Indian Bank’s ‘MSME Prerana’ in Maharashtra

- Union Minister of MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) and Road, Transport and Highways **Nitin Gadkari** has launched **Indian Bank’s** flagship business mentoring program named ‘**MSME Prerana**’ in **Maharashtra**.

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank partners with LoanTap to provide personal loans

- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** has partnered with digital lender **LoanTap** to provide **personal loans** to salaried professionals.
- This collaboration aims to extend the bank’s services to its customers via LoanTap’s **fast** and **convenient platform**.

Northern Arc launches alternative investment platform ‘AltiFi.ai’ for retail investors

- Chennai-based non-banking finance company (NBFC) **Northern Arc Capital** announced the launch of ‘**AltiFi.ai**’, an alternative investment platform for individual investors including **family offices, High Networth Individuals (HNIs)** and **corporate treasuries**.
- **AltiFi.ai** stands for both ‘**Alternative Financial Investments**’ and ‘**Alternative Fixed Income**’.

Mastercard partners with Instamojo to empower MSMEs and gig workers

- **Mastercard** has announced a strategic equity investment in **Instamojo**, a full-stack digital solutions provider to digitise and empower **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** and gig workers by providing **easy-to-use solutions**.

SBI launches Aarogyam Healthcare Business Loan for the healthcare sector

- This loan will cover the entire healthcare ecosystem such as hospitals, nursing homes, diagnostic centres, pathology labs, medical devices, equipment manufacturers, suppliers, importers and logistics firms engaged in **critical healthcare supply**. They can avail loans of up to **Rs. 100 crores** repayable in **10 years**.

Afthonia Lab partners with YES Bank to support fintech companies in India

- **Afthonia Lab** has announced a strategic partnership with **YES Bank** to support **fintech companies** in India in their efforts to **innovate** and inject **new ideas** that would transform the **Indian financial sector**.
- Afthonia Lab's portfolio startups will be able to develop APIs in a **sandbox environment**, allowing them to experiment with **innovative ideas** and test their solutions in real-time.

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BSE Institute inks an MoU with GIFT City for training in finance and capital markets

- Under the MOU, **BSE Institute** will develop, launch and conduct programs related to **International Financial Services Centre (IFSC)** at GIFT City.

LIC launches “e-PGS” web portal for group business operations

- **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** has launched a new centralised, web-based and workflow-based IT platform “**e-PGS**” for its **group business operations**.
- This portal will provide very **innovative features** of seamless and **integrated banking** with **automatic reconciliations**.

RBI extends the regulatory restrictions on PMC Bank for six months till December 2021

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has extended the regulatory restrictions on **Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank** by another six months till **December 2021** to enable the completion of its takeover by Centrum Financial Services and **BharatPe**.

GDP FORECAST

Ind-Ra revises India’s GDP growth to 9.6% for FY22

- **India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra)** has projected India’s GDP growth rate to **9.6 per cent** from **10.1 per cent** for fiscal year **FY22 (2021–22)**.

S&P revises India's FY22 GDP forecast to 9.5% from earlier 11%

- S&P Global Ratings has revised India's growth forecast for **FY22 (2021–2022)** to **9.5 per cent** from **11 per cent** earlier. The ratings agency also warned of the risk to the outlook from further waves of COVID-19.
- It also projected India's growth forecast for **FY23 (2022–2023)** to **7.8 per cent**.

NCAER expects the Indian economy to grow 8.4–10.1% in FY22

- Economic think-tank **NCAER** expected the Indian economy to grow **8.4–10.1 per cent** for the current financial year **FY22 (2021–2022)** from an earlier contraction of **7.3 per cent**.

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) projects Indian GDP growth at 9.5% for FY22

- The **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** has projected Indian gross domestic product (GDP) at **9.5 per cent** in the current financial year **FY22 (2021–22)**.

CRISIL revises India's GDP forecast to 9.5% from 11% for FY22

- Rating agency **CRISIL** has revised India's **gross domestic product (GDP)** growth forecast to **9.5 per cent** from the earlier projection of **11 per cent**. It also projected India’s GDP growth to **7.3 per cent** for **FY21**.

World Bank projects India’s GDP growth to 8.3% in 2021 and 7.5% in 2022

- The **World Bank** has projected India's economy to grow at **8.3%** in **2021** and **7.5%** in **2022**. India's economy is estimated to have contracted by **7.3%** in **2020**.

ICRA projects India’s GDP growth at 8.5% in FY22

- According to credit rating agency **ICRA**, India’s **gross domestic product (GDP)** will grow at **8.5 per cent** in **FY22 (2021–22)**. It expects the gross value added (GVA) at basic prices (at constant 2011–12 prices) to grow at **7.3 per cent** in **FY22**.

OECD revises India growth forecast to 9.9% for FY22

- The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** revised its growth projection for India for **FY22 (2021–2022)** to **9.9%** from **12.6%**. OECD has revised global GDP growth at **5.8%** for **CY21**.

Moody's projects the Indian economy to grow 9.3% in FY22

- **Moody's** credit rating agency projected India's GDP growth as **9.3%** for the fiscal year 2021–2022 (FY22). It also projected the GDP growth of India for **FY23** as **7.9%**. Moody's has estimated a '**Baa3**' rating on India with a negative outlook.

Moody's revises India's growth forecast to 9.6% for CY21

- Moody's Investors Service revised India's growth projection to **9.6 per cent** for the **calendar year CY21 (2021)** from its earlier estimate of **13.9 per cent**.
- It also projected India's GDP to grow at **7 per cent** in the calendar year **CY22 (2022)**.

SBI's Ecowrap revises India GDP growth forecast to 7.9% for FY22

- **State Bank of India's** Ecowrap has revised GDP growth projection for **FY22** to **7.9 per cent** from **10.4 per cent** earlier due to the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic.
- SBI Ecowrap projects the shape of recovery will be "**W-shaped**" instead of "**V-shaped**" as it was anticipated earlier.

ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS

ICICI Lombard partners with Microsoft to automate audits of service calls

- India's largest private sector general insurer **ICICI Lombard** has tied up with **Microsoft** to strengthen and automate the **quality control processes**.

NHPC signs E-Mobility agreements with Convergence Energy Services Limited

- **National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation (NHPC)** has signed E-Mobility agreements with **Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL)** for leasing of **25 electric vehicles (EVs)** and supply of **3 electric vehicles** fast chargers to NHPC, including its installation and commissioning.
- NHPC will have the biggest electric vehicle fleet amongst **Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)** in India. Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**.

EESL partners with TERRE to mainstream carbon neutrality in higher education institutions

- State-run **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)** and non-government organisation (NGO) **Technology, Education, Research and Rehabilitation for the Environment (TERRE)** have partnered to mainstream **carbon neutrality** in higher educational institutes.

BharatPe acquires loyalty platform PAYBACK India

- Merchant payments and financial services provider **BharatPe** has acquired a multi-brand loyalty platform, **PAYBACK India**, to help its 6 million offline merchants roll out rewards and loyalty programmes for customers.

Union Cabinet approves the merger of CRWC with CWC to improve efficiency and financial savings

- The Union Cabinet has approved the merger of the **Central Railside Warehouse Company (CRWC)**, a PSU with Mini-Ratna status with its holding enterprise **Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)** to unify similar functions of both companies to improve efficiency and increase **financial savings**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

OneWeb launches 36 LEO satellites from the Russian cosmodrome

- **OneWeb**, a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite communications operator co-owned by **Bharti Global** and the UK Government launched another batch of **36 satellites** by Arianespace from the **Vostochny cosmodrome** in **Russia**.

China successfully launches cargo resupply spacecraft 'Tianzhou-2'

- **China** has successfully launched an automated **cargo resupply spacecraft 'Tianzhou-2'** to rendezvous with an orbiting module.
- The 'Tianzhou-2' or 'Heavenly Vessel' in Chinese, blasted off through a **Long March-7 Y3** rocket from the Wenchang Space Launch Centre on the southern island of Hainan in the **South China Sea**.

IIT Ropar develops "AmbiTAG" which is India's first indigenous temperature data logger for the cold chain management

- **Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IIT Ropar), Punjab**, has developed a first-of-its-kind IoT device named "**AmbiTag**" that records real-time ambient temperature during the transportation of **perishable products, vaccines, body organs** and **blood**.

EESL partners with ISHRAE for energy-efficient cooling solutions

- **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)** has signed an MoU with the **Indian Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ISHRAE)** for a strategic partnership in implementing energy-efficient and clean energy solutions in the **heating, ventilating, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC&R)** industry.

IIT Hyderabad develops nano-fibre technology-based oral tablets of Amphotericin B to treat fungal infections

- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad** has developed nano-fibre based oral tablets of **Amphotericin B (AmB)** to treat fungal infections post COVID-19 treatment. Currently, the Amphotericin B (AmB) is available in **injectable form**.

IIT Kharagpur scientists develop a new technique to detect cyclones earlier than satellites

- **IIT Kharagpur** scientists have found a promising technique for **early detection** of development or strengthening of **tropical cyclones** in the atmospheric column before satellite detection over ocean surface in the **northern Indian Ocean region**.

Wipro joins the WEF's partnership for the 'New Work Standards' initiative

- IT services major **Wipro Limited** has joined the **World Economic Forums** partnership for the '**New Work Standards**' initiative to establish a **healthy, resilient** and equitable future of work.

China successfully launches its first crewed mission for space station construction

- **China** has successfully launched its crewed spacecraft, sending **three astronauts** to its space station's core module **Tianhe** for a three-month mission.
- The **Shenzhou-12 spacecraft**, atop a **Long March-2F** carrier rocket, was launched from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre** in northwest China's Gobi Desert.

IIT Roorkee and IMU Visakhapatnam develop fuel-efficient maritime transport solution

- A collaborative research effort by the Hydropower Simulation Laboratory (HSL) of IIT Roorkee and Indian Maritime University, Visakhapatnam (IMU-V), has resulted in the development of an **environment-friendly** and **cost-efficient** maritime transport solution.

World's third-largest diamond was discovered in Botswana

- A **1, 098-carat diamond** was discovered in **Botswana**, a joint venture between Anglo American's **De Beers** and the **Botswana** Government. It is the third-largest gem-quality stone ever to be mined.
- The largest diamond to be recovered to date is a **3, 106 carat Cullinan stone** in **South Africa** in 1905, followed by the **1, 109 carat Lesedi La Rona** unearthed by Lucara Diamonds in **Botswana** in **2015**.

Airtel and TCS partner for 5G network solutions

- **Bharti Airtel** and **Tata Group** have announced a strategic partnership for implementing **5G network** solutions for India, which will be available for commercial development from **January 2022**.

IIT Bombay launches India's first center for digital health named 'Koita Centre for Digital Health'

- **IIT Bombay** has set up the '**Koita Centre for Digital Health**' (**KCDH**) under the aegis of the **Koita Foundation**. It will be the first of its kind in **India**.
- The **KCDH** is focused on driving academic programs, research and industry collaboration in **digital health**.

European Space Agency's 'EnVision mission' to visit Venus in 2030

- **European Space Agency (ESA)** has selected **EnVision mission** as its next orbiter that will visit Venus in **2030**.
- **NASA** selected two missions **DAVINCI+** and **VERITAS**, to the planet **Venus** (Earth's nearest neighbour). The two missions were selected based on their potential for **scientific value** and the feasibility of their development plans.

IIT Mandi researchers crack code of excess sugar intake causing fatty liver disease

- A team of researchers from the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi** has unravelled the **molecular mechanism** by which excess sugar consumption causes **fatty liver disease**.

IIT Ropar develops India's first power-free CPAP device 'Jivan Vayu'

- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar** has developed India's first power-free **continuous positive airway pressure therapy** (CPAP) device named '**Jivan Vayu**'.

IIT Roorkee professor Shailesh Ganpule gets NSG Counter-Terrorism Innovator Award 2021 for blast-resistant helmet design

- A professor from IIT Roorkee, **Shailesh Ganpule (Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department)** has received the '**NSG Counter-IED & Counter-Terrorism Innovator Award 2021**' for his design of a blast-resistant helmet. He was awarded in the "**academic**" category.

NHSRCL and IGBC launches the world's first green rating system for High-Speed Rail

- **National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL)** has collaborated with the **Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)** for the formulation of the **world's first exclusive green rating system** for **high-speed rail**.

IIT Madras launches CREST for academic and thought leadership

- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** has launched a '**Centre for Research on Start-Ups and Risk Financing**' (CREST) to provide academic and thought leadership in innovation, entrepreneurship and risk capital.

India successfully tests fires Nirbhay cruise missile from Odisha coast

- **India** has successfully test-fired the indigenous subsonic cruise missile '**Nirbhay**' with a range of **1000 km** from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur off the **Odisha coast**.
- Nirbhay is a subsonic cruise missile that was designed and developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**. The missile can carry nuclear warheads up to **200 kg**.

NSDC and WhatsApp launch "Digital Skill Champions Program" to improve skill development for youth

- The **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** and **WhatsApp** have announced an alliance to launch the **Digital Skill Champions Program** that aims to train India's youth on digital skills.

India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier is set to be commissioned in 2022

- Union Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** announced that **India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC)** is set to be commissioned in 2022. The aircraft carrier is set to be commissioned into the **Eastern Naval Command** as **INS Vikrant**.

DRDO successfully test-fires enhanced Pinaka rocket off Odisha coast

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has successfully test-fired an extended-range version of indigenously developed **Pinaka rocket** from a Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher at Integrated Test Range, **Chandipur**, off the coast of **Odisha**.
- The enhanced range version of the Pinaka Rocket System can destroy targets at distances up to **45 kilometers**. The DRDO also successfully test-fired enhanced range versions of indigenously developed **122 mm Caliber Rocket**.

IIT Madras develops drone algorithms to understand how fire behaves in space stations and satellites

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** have developed algorithms for **drones** to help study how fire behaves in space stations, shuttles and satellites.

India successfully test-fires 'Agni Prime' missile off the Odisha coast

- India successfully test-fired its new generation nuclear-capable **Agni Prime missile** from a defence base off the Odisha coast. The **surface-to-surface** ballistic missile has a range of **1, 000 to 2, 000 km**.

APPOINTMENTS

NSA Ajit Doval Commissions Indian Coast Guard's Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Sajag'

- National Security Advisor (NSA) **Ajit Doval** has commissioned the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) '**Sajag**'. The ship was constructed by **Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)**.
- **Sajag** is the **third** in a series of **five offshore patrol vessels** indigenously designed under the '**Make in India**' vision.

Former Power Secretary Sanjeev Sahai was appointed as the Chairman of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board

- Former Power Secretary **Sanjeev Nandan Sahai** was appointed as the new Chairman of the **Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)**.

Ranjitsinh Disale was appointed as the Education Advisor of the World Bank

- **Ranjitsinh Disale** was appointed as the **World Bank's Education advisor** for **3 years**, from June 2021 to June 2024.
- He was the first Indian teacher to receive the **Global Teacher Award** in **2020**. He will now be working on the Coach Project that was launched by The **World Bank** in March 2021.

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- The project aims to help countries accelerate learning by **improving teacher professional** development.

Justice Bala Krishna Narayana was appointed as the Chairperson of the Uttar Pradesh Human Rights Commission

- **Justice Bala Krishna Narayana** was appointed as the new Chairperson of the **Uttar Pradesh Human Rights Commission**. He is a former Judge of the **Allahabad High Court**. He will remain in the post for **three years** or till he reaches the age of 70.

Hitendra Dave was appointed as the CEO of HSBC India

- The **Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)** announced the appointment of **Hitendra Dave** as **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of HSBC India. He succeeded **Surendra Rosha**, who is moving to Hong Kong as the Co-Chief Executive of **HSBC, Asia-Pacific**.

Arun Raste takes charge as the MD and CEO of the NCDEX

- **Arun Raste** took charge as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the **National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX)**.

Harsh Kumar Bhanwala was appointed as the Senior Advisor of Omnivore

- Former Chairman of the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**, **Harsh Kumar Bhanwala**, was appointed as the Senior Advisor of the **Omnivore**, an agritech venture capital firm.

Vishwavir Ahuja was re-appointment as MD and CEO of RBL Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the appointment of **Vishwavir Ahuja** as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Ratnakar Bank (RBL Bank)** for one year with effect from 30 June 2021.

Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari was appointed as the Vice Chief of Indian Air Force

- Air Marshal **Vivek Ram Chaudhari** was appointed as the next Vice Chief of Air Staff in the Indian Air headquarters. Air Marshal **Ballabha Radha Krishna** would succeed **VR Chaudhari** at the Western Command in Delhi.

Satya Nadella was appointed as the Chairman of Microsoft

- **Microsoft** has named **Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Satya Nadella** as its new Chairman. He succeeded **Steve Ballmer**.
- Microsoft also appointed former Chairman **John Thompson** as a lead **independent director**.

V Vaidyanathan was re-appointed as the MD and CEO of the IDFC First Bank

- **IDFC First Bank** has approved the proposal for the re-appointment of **V Vaidyanathan** as its Managing Director (MD) and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for **3 years** with effect from 19 December 2021 to 18 December 2024.

Montek Singh Ahluwalia was named as a member of the World Bank and IMF High-Level Advisory Group

- Former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission **Montek Singh Ahluwalia** was named as a member of a High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG) formed by the **World Bank** and the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** in the face of the dual crisis posed by the **COVID-19 pandemic** and **climate change**.

Ashok Kumar was appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Zambia

- Ashok Kumar was appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Zambia. He replaced **Ngulkham Jathom Gangte**. **Ngulkham Jathom Gangte** was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Tunisia**.

SEBI reconstitutes Takeover Panel and appoints N Venkatram as its new member of the Takeover Panel

- Markets regulator **Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has appointed **N Venkatram**, MD and CEO of **Deloitte India**, as the new member of the **Takeover Panel**.
- The panel was chaired by **NK Sodhi** (Former Chief Justice of the High Courts of Karnataka and Kerala), **Darius Khambata** (Former Advocate general, Maharashtra) and **Thomas Mathew TÂ** (Former Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation of India).

Yuvraj Singh was appointed as the brand ambassador of the PUMA Motorsport in India

- Former Indian cricketer **Yuvraj Singh** was appointed as the brand ambassador of the **PUMA Motorsport in India**.
- With this, **Yuvraj** also joins the brand's global league of legends like **Thierry Henry**, **Boris Becker** and **Usain Bolt**. He is associated with PUMA for over a decade.

Union Government appoints private person Aashish Chandorkar as the Director at India's WTO Permanent Mission

- Union Government has appointed a private person **Aashish Chandorkar** as Counsellor, in **India's Permanent Mission** in the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** for three years.

Antonio Guterres was re-elected as the Secretary-General of the United Nations for a five-year term

- **UN General Assembly** has appointed **Antonio Guterres** as the **Secretary-General** of the **United Nations** for a second five-year term from **1 January 2022** to **31 December 2026**. He is the ninth Secretary-General of the **United Nations**.

Ngulkham Jathom Gangte was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Tunisia

- **Ngulkham Jathom Gangte** was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Tunisia**. He is a 1994 batch **Indian Foreign Service officer (IFS)**. He is presently working as the High Commissioner of India to **Zambia**.

ICCR was appointed as the personnel certification body of the Yoga Certification Board of India

- **Yoga Certification Board of India** has appointed **Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)** as its **personnel certification body**.
- **ICCR**, along with the **Union Ministry of Ayush**, will now start **Yoga Certification courses** for professionals across the world.

S Janakiraman was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Cuba

- **S Janakiraman** was appointed as the next Ambassador of **India** to the **Republic of Cuba**. He is a 2002 batch **Indian Foreign Service officer (IFS)**.

Renuka Kumar was appointed as the Secretary of the Union Minority Affairs

- Senior bureaucrat **Renuka Kumar** was appointed as **Secretary** of the Union Minority Affairs.
- **Sanjay Kumar Singh** was appointed as the head of the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)**.
- Union Cabinet has appointed **Manoj Kumar Parida** as the Chairman of the **National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC)**.

SEBI whole-time members SK Mohanty and Ananta Barua get a 2-year extension of their terms

- The Union Government has extended the tenure of appointment of **Santosh Kumar Mohanty** as Whole-time Member (WTM) of the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** for two years beyond 31 July 2021.
- The Union Government has also extended the tenure of appointment of **Ananta Barua** as Whole-time Member (WTM) of the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** for two years beyond 31 July 2021.

Tadang Minu becomes the first Indian woman to be appointed as a member of the AIBA's Coaches Committee

- Arunachal Pradesh's **Tadang Minu** became the first woman in India and the second Indian to be appointed as a member of the **Coaches Committee** of the **International Boxing Association (AIBA)**. She is an assistant professor at the **Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU)**.

Rear Admiral IB Uthaiah takes over as the Admiral Superintendent of Visakhapatnam Naval Dockyard

- Rear Admiral **IB Uthaiah** took over as the Admiral Superintendent, Naval Dockyard of Visakhapatnam. He replaced Rear Admiral **Sreekumar Nair**.
- Vice Admiral **Kiran Deshmukh** assumed charge as the Controller of **Warship Production and Acquisition** of the **Indian Navy**.
- Vice Admiral **Sandeep Naithani** assumed charge as the Chief of Materiel of the Indian Navy.

India's Nagraj Adiga was elected as the Asia-Oceania representative in the International Association of Ultrarunners Congress

- India's **Nagraj Adiga** was elected as the Asia-Oceania representative in the **International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU)** Congress for **2021–25**.
- **Nadeem Khan** of Canada was elected as the President and Robert Boyce of Australia was elected **vice-president** of **IAU**. **Hilary Walker** of Great Britain has become **General-Secretary** of **IAU**.

Magma Fincorp appoints Adar Poonawalla as its Chairman

- **Magma Fincorp** has appointed Adar Poonawalla as its Chairman as part of a management overhaul following the Poonawala-controlled **Rising Sun Holdings** acquiring a controlling stake in it.
- It also appointed **Abhay Bhutada** as its Managing Director. Rising Sun invested Rs. 3,456 crores in the non-bank lender. Magma Fincorp will soon be rebranded as **Poonawalla Group company**.

Former SC judge Arun Kumar Mishra was appointed as the Chief of the National Human Rights Commission

- Former Supreme Court judge **Arun Kumar Mishra** was appointed as the Chairperson of the **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)**. He replaced Justice **Prafulla Chandra Pant**.

TV Narendran was appointed as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry

- Industry chamber **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** has elected **TV Narendran** as its new President for 2021–22. He takes over from **Uday Kotak**, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited**.

JB Mohapatra gets additional charge as CBDT Chairman

- **JB Mohapatra** was given the additional charge as the Chairman of the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** after the extended tenure of incumbent **Pramod Chandra Mody** ended.

Subrata Bhattacharjee was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Chile

- **Subrata Bhattacharjee** was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Chile**. He is presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of **Serbia**. He is a 1989 batch **Indian Foreign Service officer**.

B Shyam was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Iceland

- **B Shyam** was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Iceland**. He is a 2000 batch Indian Foreign Service officer.

Lt. General Ajai Singh takes over as 16th Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman & Nicobar Command

- Lieutenant General **Ajai Singh** assumed charge as the **16th Commander-in-Chief** of the Andaman & Nicobar Command (CINCAN). The Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) is the **only tri-service theatre command** of the Armed Forces based at **Port Blair**.
- Lieutenant General **Manoj Pande** took over as the **General Officer Commanding-in-Chief** of Eastern Command.
- Lieutenant General **Pradeep Chandran Nair** took over as the **21st Director-General** of the **Assam Rifles**.

WhatsApp appoints Paresh B Lal as the Grievance Officer for India

- **Facebook**-owned messaging platform **WhatsApp** has appointed **Paresh B Lal** as its Grievance Officer for India.
- The grievance officer will have to acknowledge the complaint within **24 hours** and dispose of such complaint within **15 days** from the date of its receipt and receive and acknowledge any order, notice or direction issued by the Indian Government authorities.

Canara Bank appoints SK Majumdar as its Chief Financial Officer

- State-owned **Canara Bank** has appointed **SK Majumdar** as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO) with immediate effect. He has replaced **V Ramachandra**.

RS Sodhi was elected to the Board of the International Dairy Federation

- Managing Director of the **Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited (GCMMF)** **RS Sodhi** was elected to the **Board of International Dairy Federation (IDF)** during the General Assembly of IDF.

Vinay K Nandicoori was appointed as the Director of the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology

- **Vinay K Nandicoori** was appointed as the new Director of the **CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB)**, **Hyderabad**.

Patrick Amoth of Kenya was elected as the Chairperson of the WHO's Executive Board

- **Patrick Amoth** was elected as the Chairperson of the Executive Board of the **World Health Organization (WHO)** for one year. He was elected to the position during the **149th** session of the WHO's Executive Board held in **Geneva, Switzerland**.
- He took over the position of India's Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare **Harsh Vardhan**.

KK Maheshwari was elected as the President of ANMI

- **KK Maheshwari** was elected as the President of the **Association of National Exchanges Members of India (ANMI)**. He succeeded **Anup Khandelwal**.

S Inbasekar was appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Papua New Guinea

- **S Inbasekar** was appointed as the next **High Commissioner of India** to the Independent State of **Papua New Guinea**. He is a 2004 batch Indian Foreign Service Officer (IFS).

Virendra Nanavati becomes the first Indian to be elected as a member of the FINA Bureau

- India's **Virendra Nanavati** was elected as a member of the **International Swimming Federation (FINA) Bureau** for 2021–2025 at the world body's General Congress held in **Doha, Qatar**. He is the first Indian to be elected as a Bureau member of the **FINA**.

UNSC recommends Antonio Guterres for a second term as the UN Secretary-General

- The **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** had recommended **Antonio Guterres** as the **Secretary-General** of the United Nations for a second **five-year term**.
- The 72-year-old former Prime Minister of **Portugal** has held office since **2017**.

RBI approves the re-appointment of GC Chaturvedi as the part-time Chairman of the ICICI Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the re-appointment of **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi** as the part-time Chairman of the **ICICI Bank** for three years, with effect from **1 July 2021**.

Mahesh Kumar Jain gets a two-year extension as the Deputy Governor of the RBI

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the re-appointment of **Mahesh Kumar Jain** as the **Deputy Governor** of the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for two years.
- The other three serving Deputy Governors of the RBI are **Michael Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao** and **T Rabi Sankar**.

Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Secretary Anup Chandra Pandey was appointed as an Election Commissioner of India

- Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Secretary **Anup Chandra Pandey** was appointed an **Election Commissioner of India**. He succeeded **Sunil Arora**. He is a 1984 batch **Indian Administrative Services (IAS)** officer.
- Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) **Sushil Chandra** and Election Commissioner **Rajiv Kumar** are the other two members of the Election Commission of India.

Facebook names Spoorthi Priya as Grievance Officer for India

- Social media platform **Facebook** named **Spoorthi Priya** as its Grievance Officer for **India**. This move comes close on the heels of the new **Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021**, coming into force in May 2021.
- Facebook-owned **WhatsApp** had recently named **Paresh B Lal** as its grievance officer for India.

MR Kumar gets nine months extension as the Chairman of the LIC

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has extended the term of **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** Chairman **MR Kumar** till 13 March 2022.
- The Union Government has significantly increased the authorised capital of LIC to **Rs. 25, 000 crores** from **Rs. 100 crores**.

RBI approves re-appointment of CS Ghosh as the MD & CEO of the Bandhan Bank for three years

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has granted approval for the re-appointment of **Chandra Shekhar Ghosh** as the **Managing Director (MD)** and **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the **Bandhan Bank** for **three years**.
- **Bandhan Bank** is the first bank in India that has been transformed from a **microfinance institution** to a **universal bank**.

Benedetto Vigna was appointed as the CEO of Ferrari

- **Ferrari** has named **Benedetto Vigna** as its **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**. He succeeded **John Elkann**. He currently serves as the President of STMicroelectronics' Analog, MEMS and Sensor Group. He is a member of the company's executive committee.

L Prashant Pise was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Iraq

- **L Prashant Pise** was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Iraq**. He is a 1995 batch **Indian Foreign Service officer (IFS)**. He is presently working as the **Deputy Director-General** of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

Nobel laureate Esther Duflo and former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan were named in Tamil Nadu Economic Advisory Panel

- **Tamil Nadu Government** has named Nobellaureate **Esther Duflo** and former Reserve Bank of India Governor **Raghuram Rajan** as part of a five-member **Economic Advisory Council** for Tamil Nadu.

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

- The other members in the council are former Chief Economic Adviser **Arvind Subramanian**, development economist **Jean Drèze** and former Union Finance Secretary **S Narayan**.

Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari was appointed as the Acting Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court

- Justice **Munishwar Nath Bhandari** was appointed as the Acting Chief Justice of the **Allahabad High Court** (as per Article 223 of the Constitution of India). He succeeded **Chief Justice Sanjay Yadav**, who retired recently.

British lawyer Karim Ahmad Khan was sworn in as ICC'S Chief Prosecutor

- British lawyer **Karim Ahmad Khan** was sworn in as the new **Chief Prosecutor** for the **International Criminal Court**. He was elected for a term of **9 years**. He succeeded **Fatou Bensouda**.

R Chandramouli was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Djibouti

- **R Chandramouli** was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Djibouti**. He is presently working as a Counsellor in the High Commission of India to the **United Republic of Tanzania**.

OnePlus ropes in Jasprit Bumrah as the brand ambassador for its wearables

- Premium smartphone brand **OnePlus** has roped Indian cricketer **Jasprit Bumrah** as the brand ambassador for its wearable category.

Abdul Rahim Musaliar Badharudeen was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Kerala High Court

- **Abdul Rahim Musaliar Badharudeen** was appointed as an Additional Judge of the **Kerala High Court** for **two years** with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office.

Olympic medallist Karnam Malleswari was appointed as the first Vice-Chancellor of the Delhi Sports University

- India's first woman Olympic medal winner **Karnam Malleswari** was appointed as the **Vice-Chancellor** of **Delhi Sports University**. She won a bronze medal at the **Sydney Olympic Games** held in 2000.

Pardeep Singh Tiwana becomes the first Indian origin judge of the County Court in Australia

- **Pardeep Singh Tiwana** became the first Indian to be appointed as a judge of the County Court of **Victoria, Australia**.

Praveen Sinha was appointed as the Special Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- The Union Government has appointed CBI Additional Director **Praveen Sinha** as the **Special Director** of the **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**. He replaced **Rakesh Asthana**.

Suresh Patel was appointed as the new Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)

- **Vigilance Commissioner Suresh N Patel** to act as the **Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)** in the Central Vigilance Commission. He succeeded **Sanjay Kothari**.

Meenesh Shah takes additional charge as the Chairman of the NDDB

- **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)** 's executive director, **Meenesh Shah**, was appointed as the Chairman of the NDDB for six months.

Twitter appoints California-based Jeremy Kessel as Grievance Officer for India

- **Twitter** has appointed California-based **Jeremy Kessel** as the new Grievance Officer for **India**, as required under the new Information Technology Rules, 2021.

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- **WhatsApp** had recently named **Paresh B Lal** as its Grievance Officer for India and **Facebook** appointed **Spoorthi Priya** as its Grievance Officer for **India**.

Former Allahabad High Court judge Shambhu Nath Srivastava was appointed as the Chairman of the IFUNA

- Former judge of the **Allahabad High Court Shambhu Nath Srivastava** was appointed as the Chairman of the **Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA)**, a non-profit organisation to promote objectives of the **United Nations** and its specialised agencies.

Justice Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court

- President **Ram Nath Kovind** has appointed **Justice Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath** as the next Chief Justice of the **Himachal Pradesh High Court**. He succeeded Justice **Lingappa Narayana Swamy**.

Union Government extends Attorney General KK Venugopal's tenure by one year

- The Union Government has extended senior advocate and renowned constitutional expert **KK Venugopal's** tenure as the **Attorney General** for India till **30 June 2022**.

Usha Natesan was appointed as the Director of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training & Research (NITTTR)

- Anna University Professor **Usha Natesan** was appointed as the Director of the **National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training & Research (NITTTR)**, **Chennai**, for a period of **five years**.

NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant's tenure extended till June 2022

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extended tenure of **NITI Aayog** Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Amitabh Kant** by one year till **30 June 2022**. This is a **third extension** for the post.

RBL Bank appoints Chandan Sinha and Manjeev Singh Puri as the Directors on its Board

- Private sector lender **RBL Bank** has appointed **Chandan Sinha** and **Manjeev Singh Puri** to its Board of Directors. They will provide continued strategic direction and guidance to help **RBL Bank** achieve its objectives.

US appoints Indian-American diplomat Atul Keshap as its Interim Envoy to India

- The **US** has appointed Indian-American career diplomat **Atul Keshap** as the country's Charge d'Affaires in **Delhi**.

Umesh Sinha was re-appointed as the Deputy Election Commissioner of India for one year

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved an extension in the term of re-employment of **Umesh Sinha** as the Deputy Election Commissioner on a contract basis for a period of **one year** till 30 June 2022.

WhatsApp appoints Manesh Mahatme to lead India Payments Business

- Facebook-owned messaging platform **WhatsApp** has appointed former **Amazon** executive **Manesh Mahatme** as the head of its payments business in India.

Ashish Saraf was appointed as the Vice-President and the Director of Thales India

- French multinational defence and aerospace firm **Thales** has appointed **Ashish Saraf** as the Vice-President and Director for **Thales India**. He succeeded **Emmanuel de Roquefeuil**.

Debbie Hewitt becomes the first Chairwoman of the England Football Association

- **England's Football Association** named **Debbie Hewitt** as its first woman chair. She succeeded **Greg Clarke**.

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- The England Football Association was formed in **1863** and had been working to become more inclusive. It had launched its '**Pursuit of Progress**' initiative in **2018**.

Swedish Minister appoints Sunita Narain to an international advisory group for action on the environment, climate and biodiversity

- Noted environmentalist **Sunita Narain** was appointed to an international advisory group for action on the environment, climate and biodiversity by **Per Olsson Fridh**, Swedish Minister for **International Development Cooperation**.

Anand Prakash Badola takes charge as the Inspector General of East Indian Coast Guard region

- **Anand Prakash Badola** took over the charge as the **Inspector General** of the **East Indian Coast Guard region** at Chennai. He succeeded **S Paramesh**.

Indian IFS officer K Nagaraj Naidu was appointed as the Chef de Cabinet of the UNGA's President

- Maldives Foreign Minister and President of the 76th United Nations General Assembly **Abdulla Shahid** has appointed India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador, **K Nagaraj Naidu** as his **Chef de Cabinet**. He was appointed for **one year** tenure.

Justice Sanjay Yadav was appointed as the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court

- President of India **Ramnath Kovind** has appointed **Justice Sanjay Yadav** as the Chief Justice of the **Allahabad High Court**. He has been serving as the acting Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court since 14 April 2021.

Rebeca Grynspan of Costa Rica becomes the first female Secretary-General of UNCTAD

- **Rebeca Grynspan** of Costa Rica became the first female Secretary-General of the **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**. She replaced **Mukhisa Kituyi**.

Union Government appoints Union Finance Ministry official Anand Mohan Bajaj to the SEBI Board

- The Union Government has appointed **Anand Mohan Bajaj** as a Member of the Board of **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**. He replaced **Tarun Bajaj**, who is now the Union Revenue Secretary.

Biotechnology company MyLab Discovery Solutions appoints Akshay Kumar as its brand ambassador

- Bollywood actor **Akshay Kumar** was appointed as the new brand ambassador of biotechnology company **MyLab Discovery Solutions**.
- Pune-based MyLab Discovery Solutions had launched India's first COVID-19 self-test kit "**CoviSelf**". The price for the CoviSelf kit has been set at **Rs. 250**.

Former SC judge Arjan Kumar Sikri was appointed as the Chairperson of the grievance redressal body

- The **Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)** announced that former Supreme Court judge **Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri** was appointed as the Chairperson of the Grievance Redressal Board of the recently formed **Digital Publisher Content Grievances Council (DPCGC)**.

Vineeta Bal and Krishna Mohan was selected to CEPI's Scientific Advisory Committee

- Immunologist **Vineeta Bal** and Bharat Biotech Executive Director **Krishna Mohan** have been selected to the Scientific Advisory Committee at the **Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)** for **three years (2021–2024)**.
- CEPI is an international partnership that brings together **public, private, philanthropic and civil organisations**.

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Bharti Airtel's Ajai Puri was re-elected as the Chairman of COAI for 2021–22

- Chief Operating Officer of **Bharti Airtel**, **Ajai Puri**, was re-elected as the Chairman of the **Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI)** for 2021–22.
- President of Reliance Jio Infocomm **Pramod Kumar Mittal** will continue as Vice-Chairman of the COAI.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Authors Nitin Rakesh and Jerry Wind win the 2021 International Business Book of the Year award

- Notion Press authors **Nitin Rakesh** and **Jerry Wind** won the prestigious **2021 International Business Book of the Year award** for their recently launched book 'Transformation in Times of Crisis'. The book was published by **Notion Press**.

Wipro becomes the third Indian IT firm to scale Rs. 3 trillion market capitalisation

- **Wipro** has touched **Rs. 3 trillion** in market capitalisation for the first time, becoming the third Indian IT firm to achieve the milestone after **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** and **Infosys**.

Kempegowda International Airport achieves net energy neutral status in FY 2020–21

- The **Kempegowda International Airport** has achieved net energy neutral status in the Financial Year 2020–21 (FY21) as part of its sustainability goals.

Thomas Vijayan wins the 2021 Nature TTL Photographer of the Year

- Indian origin photographer **Thomas Vijayan** won the **2021 Nature TTL Photographer of the Year** for his photo of an Orangutan clinging to a tree. The picture was titled 'The World is Going Upside Down'. He is from Kerala and now settled in Canada.

David Diop and Anna Moschovakis win the 2021 International Booker Prize

- **David Diop** of France and translator **Anna Moschovakis** have won the **2021 International Booker Prize** for 'At Night All Blood Is Black', a novel inspired by the French author's Senegalese great-grandfather's silence about his experiences in World War I.
- The **International Booker Prize** is awarded every year for a single book that is translated into **English** and published in the UK or Ireland.

Delhi and Hyderabad airports receive ACI Asia–Pacific Green Airports recognition 2021

- The **Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi** and **GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL)** have been felicitated by the Airports Council International (ACI) with **Asia-Pacific Green Airports Recognition 2021** for their environmentally sustainable initiatives in the below **25 million** passengers per annum (MPPA) category.

Indian-origin Amika George was honoured as a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for her services to education

- A 21-year-old **Amika George** was honoured as a **Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)** for services to education.
- She crusades for free hygiene products for girls living in poverty with no access to **menstrual products**.

IIT Kanpur professor Mukesh Sharma was appointed as an honorary member of WHO's Technical Advisory Group

- A professor from IIT Kanpur, **Mukesh Sharma**, was appointed as an honorary member of the **World Health Organization's (WHO)** Global Air Pollution and Health - Technical Advisory Group (GAPH-TAG).

Larsen & Toubro Infotech wins Snowflake Global Innovation Partner of the Year award

- According to the data cloud company **Snowflake**, **Larsen & Toubro Infotech (LTI)** was recognised as the **2021 Global Innovation Partner of the Year**.

ReNew Power CMD Sumant Sinha was recognised as one of the SDG Pioneers by UNGC

- **United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)** has recognised **Sumant Sinha**, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of ReNew Power, as one of the ten **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Pioneers 2021** for his work to advance access to clean and affordable energy.

Indian climate activist Shyam Sundar Jyani gets prestigious UN Land for Life Award 2021

- Rajasthan-based climate activist **Shyam Sundar Jyani's** environment conservation concept '**Familial Forestry**' has won the **2021 United Nations Land for Life Award**. This award was conferred by the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**.

FTCCI CEO Khyati Naravane was awarded 'Certificate of Commitment' by The World Book of Records

- **Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI)** CEO **Khyati Naravane** was awarded '**Certificate of Commitment**' by the **World Book of Records, London**, for her commitment towards trade and industry during the COVID-19 times.

INS Sahyadri was awarded the 'Best Ship' title 'Best Ship' title at the Fleet Awards 2021

- **INS Sahyadri** was adjudged as the **Best Ship** of the Eastern Fleet among capital ships in the **Fleet Awards 2021**. **INS Kamorta** received the title of the **Most Spirited Ship**. **INS Kiltan** and **INS Khukri** won the **Best Corvette Trophy** amongst corvettes and similar classes of ships.

Indo-American chemist Sumita Mitra was honoured with prestigious European Inventor Award 2021

- Indian-American chemist **Sumita Mitra** has been honoured with the **2021 European Inventor Award** in the '**Non-European Patent Office countries**' category for her application of nanotechnology in **dentistry**.

Former Kerala Health Minister KK Shailaja was honoured with CEU Open Society Prize 2021

- Former Health Minister **KK Shailaja** was chosen for the prestigious **Central European University (CEU) Open Society Prize 2021**. She was selected for the award in recognition of her commitment to **public health services**.

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan honoured with 'WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award' for his efforts in tobacco control

- **World Health Organisation (WHO)** has awarded Union Health Minister **Harsh Vardhan** with '**WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award**' for his accomplishments in the area of **tobacco control**.
- His leadership was instrumental in the **2019** national legislation to ban **E-cigarettes** and **heated tobacco products**.

Zimbabwean novelist Tsitsi Dangarembga wins the 2021 PEN Pinter Prize

- **Zimbabwean** novelist, playwright, filmmaker and activist **Tsitsi Dangarembga** has been awarded the **2021 PEN Pinter Prize** for her ability to **capture** and **communicate vital truths** even amidst times of upheaval.

Tillotama Shome wins the Best Actor Award for Raahgir: The Wayfarers at the 2021 UK Asian Film Festival

- Indian actress **Tillotama Shome** won the Best Actor Award at the **2021 UK Asian Film Festival**. She has won the award for her film, '**Raahgir: The Wayfarers**'. The film was directed by **Goutam Ghose**.
- The director of the film, **Goutam Ghose** has also won the **Best Director Award** for '**Raahgir: The Wayfarers**' at the UKAFF.

Amul's RS Sodhi was conferred with the Asia Pacific Productivity Champion Award 2021

- Managing Director of the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), **RS Sodhi**, was conferred with the regional award as the **Asia Pacific Productivity Champion 2021** from **Asian Productivity Organization (APO)** of **Tokyo, Japan**.
- He is the first Indian to have received this prestigious award in the past **20 years**.

Indian-origin journalist wins Pulitzer Prize for exposing China's detention camps for muslims

- Indian-origin journalist **Megha Rajagopalan** along with **Alison Killing** and **Christo Buschek**, have won the Pulitzer Prize for **International Reporting** category.
- Tampa Bay Times' **Neil Bedi** won the Pulitzer Prize for **local reporting** category. Neil Bedi along with **Kathleen McGrory**, has been awarded the Pulitzer Prize for the series exposing a Sheriff's Office initiative that used computer modelling to identify people believed to be future crime suspects.

Vinoo Mankad among 10 ICC Hall of Fame special inductees ahead of the WTC final

- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has inducted 10 icons of the game, including India's **Vinoo Mankad**, into its illustrious Hall of Fame with two players each from five eras.

Deepti Pillay Sivan's documentary 'Decoding Shankar' wins the Best Film Award at the Toronto International Women Film Festival 2021

- Actress-turned-filmmaker **Deepti Pillay Sivan's** documentary, "**Decoding Shankar**" won the **Best Film Award** in the Documentary section (Best Biographical) at the **2021 Toronto International Women Film Festival**.
- The 52-minute 'Decoding Shankar' documentary is about the life and career of the celebrated musician **Shankar Mahadevan**.

Journalist P Sainath was awarded Japan's Fukuoka Grand Prize for 2021

- Renowned journalist and founder of **PARI (People's Archive of Rural India)** **P Sainath** was awarded the **Fukuoka Grand Prize for 2021** of Japan.
- He will receive the '**Grand Prize**' of the 2021 Fukuoka Grand Prize, while the Academic Prize and the Prize for '**Arts and Culture**' will go to **Prof. Kishimoto Mio** of Japan and filmmaker **Prabda Yoon** of Thailand, respectively.

Delhi Metro wins 'Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award' for 2020 from JSCE

- **Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE)** has awarded the **Delhi Metro's** Phase I, II, and III projects with the prestigious '**Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award**' for 2020.
- The Delhi Metro project was dubbed a "**High-Quality Infrastructure Development Project**" by the JSCE.

Mawya Sudan becomes the first female fighter pilot in IAF from Jammu and Kashmir

- The 24-year-old **Mawya Sudan** has become the **12th woman officer** and first from **Jammu and Kashmir** to be inducted as a fighter pilot in the **Indian Air Force (IAF)**.
- She hails from **Lamberi village** near the Line of Control (LoC) in the **Rajouri** district of **Jammu and Kashmir**.

Taj Hotel was named as the strongest hotel brand in the world: Brand Finance Report

- According to the world's leading brand valuation consultancy **Brand Finance's report**, **Taj Hotel** was named as the **strongest hotel brand** in the world.

Upasana Kamineni was named the 'Ambassador of Forest Frontline Heroes' at WWF India

- **WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) India** has named **Upasana Kamineni** (Director of the Apollo Hospitals) as the "**Ambassador of Forest Frontline Heroes**" to appreciate the efforts of **frontline workers** in hospitals and the wildlife protection space.

Cochin International Airport wins ACI's roll of excellence honour

- The **Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)** won the Airport Council International's (ACI) Director-General's **Roll of Excellence** honour in **Airport Service Quality (ASQ)**.

NTPC wins recognition as India's best employers among top 50 Great Place to Work in India

- For the first time, **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)**, under the Union Ministry of Power, was recognised as a '**Great Place to Work**' for the **15th year** in a row by the Great Place to Work Institute.
- It ranked at the **38th** position and also won its first-ever recognition as **India's Best Employers** among **Nation-Builders 2021**.

Jamsetji N Tata becomes the world's top philanthropist of the last century

- The founder of the Tata Group, **Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata**, has topped the list of **EdelGive Hurun Philanthropists of the Century**, with an estimated donation of **\$102.4 billion** mainly made in the health and education sector.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

A new book titled "Languages of Truth: Essays 2003-2020" was authored by Salman Rushdie

- A new book titled "**Languages of Truth: Essays 2003-2020**" was authored by **Salman Rushdie**. The book was published by **Random House**.

A new book titled '1232 km: The Long Journey Home' was authored by Vinod Kapri

- **Vinod Kapri's** new book titled '**1232 km: The Long Journey Home**'. The book was published by **Harper Collins**.
- The book is about a journey that seven migrants from **Bihar** undertook on their bicycles that lasted for **seven days and seven nights**.

A new book titled "Skill It Kill It" was authored by Ronnie Screwvala is set to be released in July 2021

- Film producer **Ronnie Screwvala** will share stories, failures and personal learnings from his career in his new book titled "**Skill It Kill It**". The book will be published by **Penguin Random House** and will be released in July 2021.

A new book titled "Home in the World" was authored by Amartya Sen

- Nobel Laureate **Amartya Sen** has authored a new book titled "**Home in the World**". The book will be published by **Penguin Random House** in July 2021.
- Recently, he was conferred with Spain's **Princess of Asturias Award 2021** in the social sciences category.

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

Amitav Ghosh's new book titled "The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis" is set for release

- Jnanpith awardee **Amitav Ghosh** authored a new book titled "The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis", which is set to be released on **14 October 2021**. The book will be published by **John Murray**.

A new book titled 'Habba Khatoon' authored by Kajal Suri was released

- **Kajal Suri's** new book titled 'Habba Khatoon' was released. The book was published by **Sanjana Prakashan Publication**.
- Habba Khatoon was a renowned poetess of Kashmir.

Tahira Kashyap Khurrana's new book is titled as 'The 7 Sins of Being a Mother'

- Filmmaker and writer **Tahira Kashyap Khurrana** announced her fifth book about motherhood, titled "The 7 Sins of Being A Mother". The book will be published by **Juggernaut Books**.

Hollywood actor Will Smith's first memoir titled "WILL" to be released in November 2021

- Hollywood actor **Will Smith** has announced that his first memoir, titled "Will", is set to release on 9 November 2021. The book is authored by Smith and his co-author **Mark Manson**. The book will be published by **Penguin Random House**.

A new book titled "Policymaker's Journal: From New Delhi to Washington D.C." was authored by Kaushik Basu

- **Kaushik Basu's** new book titled "Policymaker's Journal: From New Delhi to Washington D.C." was released. This book was published by **Simon & Schuster India**.

Union Minister Harsh Vardhan releases a book titled 'My Joys and Sorrows – as a Mother of a Special Child' authored by Krishna Saksena

- Union Health and Family Welfare Minister **Harsh Vardhan** has unveiled **Krishna Saksena's** new book titled "My Joys and Sorrows – as a Mother of a Special Child".
- This book is the epitome of the bravery and endurance of a **mother** in the best tradition of **Indian motherhood**.

A new book titled "The Startup Wife" was authored by Tahmima Anam

- Award-winning writer, novelist and columnist **Tahmima Anam's** new book is titled "The Startup Wife". The book is published by **Penguin Random House India**.

RANKINGS

Kerala retains top rank in the NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2020-21: Bihar is the worst performer

- **Kerala** has retained its top rank with a score of 75 in the **NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2020–21**. Both **Himachal Pradesh** and **Tamil Nadu** took the second spot with a score of 74.
- **Bihar, Jharkhand** and **Assam** were the worst-performing states in the NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2020–21.

Manama tops Global Financial Attractiveness Rankings for the 3rd consecutive year

- **Bahrain's** capital city **Manama** has topped the globally-recognised **AIRINC Global 150 Cities Index Financial Attractiveness Ranking** for the **third** consecutive year.
- Aside from the capital of **Bahrain** in the first place, other cities ranked included **Riyadh, Kuwait City, Amman** and **Abu Dhabi**.
- **New Delhi** and **Mumbai** are the only cities from India on the 2021 list.

- The rankings evaluate the **salary levels, cost of living** and taxes in a particular market to create an overall score for financial attractiveness.

China's Tsinghua University tops THE Asia University Rankings 2021

- According to the **Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Ranking 2021**, **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru**, was ranked at **37th** position in **Asia**. Apart from IISc Bangalore, **IIT Ropar** was placed at the **55th** rank and **IIT Indore** at **78th** rank among the top 100 universities.
- **China's Tsinghua University** topped the **Asian University Rankings 2021** followed by **Peking University** (China) and the **National University of Singapore**.

Punjab, Chandigarh and Andaman & Nicobar tops in the 2019–20 Performance Grading Index

- Union Education Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** approved the release of the **Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2019–20** for states and Union Territories of India.
- **Punjab, Tamil Nadu** and **Kerala** have all scored higher than 90% in the Union Education Ministry's Performance Grading Index for 2019–20.
- **Chandigarh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands** topped among the Union Territories in the Union Education Ministry ranking 2019–20.

India ranks 117 on achieving Sustainable Development Goals

- **India's** rank has slipped by two places from 117 on the 17 **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by **193 United Nations** Member States in **2015**.
- **India** ranks below four South Asian countries — **Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka** and **Bangladesh**. The overall SDG score of India is 61.9 out of 100.

IIM Bangalore ranked Best in India: QS Executive MBA Rankings 2021 report

- The Post Graduate Programme in Enterprise Management (PGPEM) of the **Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB)** was ranked the **best** in India in the latest edition of **QS Executive MBA Rankings 2021**.
- IIMB has bagged the **39th** spot globally, making it the only Indian institute to feature in the list of the top **100**.
- **HEC Paris** retains its top rank, followed by **Wharton Business school** and Instituto de Estudios Superiores de la Empresa (**IESE**) at the second and third spots, respectively.

Indore and Surat bag the 2020 Smart Cities Award for Best Performance

- **Indore (Madhya Pradesh)** and **Surat (Gujarat)** were adjudged joint winners of the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry's **Smart Cities Award 2020**. The awards were announced to commemorate **six years** of the **Smart Cities Mission (SCM)**.
- **Uttar Pradesh** secured the first position in the state awards category, followed by **Madhya Pradesh** and **Tamil Nadu**.
- **Chandigarh** bagged the award for Union territories category, while **Indore** won the '**Innovative Idea Award**'.
- **Ahmedabad** bagged the '**Smart Cities Leadership Award**', followed by **Varanasi** and **Ranchi** in the second and third spots, respectively.

Ashgabat is the world's most expensive city for foreign workers: Mercer Cost of Living Survey Report 2021

- According to the **2021 Mercer Cost of Living Survey**, **Turkmenistan's** capital city **Ashgabat** has become the **world's most expensive city for foreign workers**.
- Ashgabat was followed by **Hong Kong, Tokyo, Shanghai, Zurich** and **Singapore**.
- Mumbai remains India's most expensive city at the **78th** rank. Other Indian cities on the list are **New Delhi** (117th rank), **Chennai** (158th rank), **Bengaluru** (170th rank) and **Kolkata** (181st rank).

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

India ranks 31 among 46 countries on 'trust in news': Reuters Institute Digital News Report 2021

- According to the **Reuters Institute Digital News Report 2021**, India ranked **31** out of **46** countries on 'trust in news'. **Finland** had the highest levels of overall trust in the news (65%), while **the US** had the lowest levels of trust in the news (29%).

Bengaluru ranked as one of the top 5 technology centres in the Asia-Pacific: Colliers India Report

- According to the **Colliers India report**, **Bengaluru** was ranked as one of the **top 5 technology** centres in the **Asia-Pacific**.
- The top five technology centres in APAC are **Beijing, Shanghai, Bengaluru, Shenzhen** and **Singapore**.

Madhya Pradesh tops in the Anemia Mukht Bharat Index 2020–2021

- According to the **Anemia Mukht Bharat Index 2020–2021**, **Madhya Pradesh** is at the first position with a score of 64.1 followed by **Odisha** with a score of 59.3. **Himachal Pradesh** has climbed to the third spot with a score of **57.1**.

India emerges as the 14th most charitable country in the World Giving Index 2021

- According to **World Giving Index 2021** report released by **Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)**, **India** became the **14th** most charitable country across the world. This index was topped by **Indonesia** and followed by **Kenya**.

IISc Bangalore is the world's top research university in the QS World Rankings

- According to the **QS World University Rankings**, **The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore** is the world's top research university. IISc has got a perfect score of **100** out of **100** for the **citations per faculty (CPF)** metric in the analysis by **London-based Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)**.
- The top three institutions of India and their overall ranking is **IIT Bombay** (177th Rank), **IIT Delhi** (185th Rank) and **IISc Bengaluru** (186th Rank).
- According to the **18th edition** of the rankings, the **India Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay** is India's top-ranked institution for the **fourth consecutive year** at the **QS World University Rankings 2022**.
- The top three institutions globally are **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**, **University of Oxford** and **Stanford University** in the **QS World University Rankings 2022**.

Auckland was named as the world's most liveable city: Economist Intelligence Unit Report 2021

- According to the **2021 Economist Intelligence Unit's report**, **New Zealand's Auckland** is the world's most liveable city. Auckland took the top spot from Austria's capital **Vienna**, which has fallen to **twelfth place**.
- The list was followed by **Osaka** (Japan), **Adelaide** (Australia), **Wellington** (New Zealand) and **Tokyo** (Japan).

India ranks 55th in the Global Home Price Index in Q1 2021: Knight Frank report

- According to the **Knight Frank** research report on the **Global House Price Index** for Q1 2021, **India** has moved down **12 spots** in the Global Home Price Index to the **55th** rank in **Q1 2021** against the **43rd** rank in **Q1 2020** with a decline of 1.6 per cent **year-on-year (YoY)** in home prices.
- The index was topped by **Turkey**, followed by **New Zealand** and **Luxembourg**.

India ranks 67th in the 2021 Coursera's Global Skills Report: Switzerland tops the report

- According to the **2021 Global Skills Report** released by **Coursera**, India has ranked **67th** globally. The ranking list was topped by **Switzerland**. Luxembourg and Austria are in the second and the third position, respectively.
- **India** has been ranked **55th** in business and **66th** in both technology and data science categories.

India ranks 135th in the 2021 Global Peace Index (GPI) : Iceland tops the list

- According to the Sydney-based **Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP)** report, **India** has ranked **135th** (5th in South Asia) in the 15th edition of the **Global Peace Index (GPI) 2021**.

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

- **Iceland** remains the most peaceful country in the world, a position it has held since 2008. Iceland was followed by **New Zealand, Denmark, Portugal** and **Slovenia**.
- **Afghanistan** (163rd rank) is the least peaceful country in the world for the fourth consecutive year followed by **Yemen, Syria, South Sudan** and **Iraq**.

Bengaluru adjudged as India's Most Liveable City in the 2020 Ease of Living Index

- According to a study prepared by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), **Bengaluru** was adjudged as **India's Most Liveable City** in the **Ease of Living Index 2020**.
- **Bangalore** was followed by **Pune, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Surat** and **Delhi**.

India retains 43rd rank on IMD's World Competitiveness Index 2021: Switzerland tops the list

- According to the **Institute for Management Development (IMD)** report, **India** has retained the **43rd** spot in the **2021 World Competitiveness Index**. India has maintained the 43rd rank for the past three years.
- The 64-nation list was topped by **Switzerland**.
- **Switzerland** was followed by **Sweden (2nd rank), Denmark (3rd rank)** and **Netherlands (4th rank)**.

India ranks 2nd in the share of Central Bank surplus transfers: Turkey tops the list

- **India's** central bank and regulatory body under the jurisdiction of the Union Ministry of Finance, **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, was **second** in terms of **reserves transferred** (Rs. 99, 122 crores) to India as a percentage of **gross domestic product (GDP)** for the **fiscal year 2020–21**.
- The index was topped by **Turkey (Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey)**. The RBI was ranked fourth by the ratio of surplus as a percentage of GDP in **FY20**.

India ranks 120th in the Sustainable Development Report 2021: Finland tops the list

- According to the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** report, **India (60.1)** ranked 120th in the 2021 Sustainable Development Report. It is the 6th edition of the Sustainable Development Report.
- **Finland (85.9)** topped the index, followed by **Sweden (85.6)** and **Denmark (84.9)**.

OBITUARY

Tarzan actor Joe Lara passed away at 58

- Hollywood actor **Joe Lara** passed away at the age of 58. He played Tarzan in the **1989** television movie "**Tarzan in Manhattan**". He later starred in the television series "**Tarzan: The Epic Adventures**" (1996–1997).

Veteran actor Chandrashekhar passed away at 98

- Veteran actor **Chandrashekhar** passed away at the age of 98. He was best known for featuring in films like "**Cha Cha Cha**", and "**Surang**" and playing the role of Arya Sumant on the popular TV serial "**Ramayan**".

Renowned Malayalam lyricist Poovachal Khader passed away at 72

- **Poovachal Khader**, one of Malayalam cinema's most prolific lyricists of all time, has passed away in **Thiruvananthapuram**. He wrote over a **thousand songs** in more than 350 films.

Asian Games gold medallist and Padma Shri awardee Milkha Singh passed away at 91

- Four-time Asian Games gold medallist **Milkha Singh** passed away at the age of 91. He had also won four Asian Games gold medals, including the 200 m and 400 m wins in the **1956 Asian Games** and 400 m and 4X400 m relay in the **1962 Asian Games**.

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

- Milkha Singh was awarded the **Padma Shri** (India's fourth-highest civilian award) in **1959**. He was known as the "**Flying Sikh**".

First President of Zambia Kenneth Kaunda passed away at 97

- **Zambia's** first President and champion of African independence **Kenneth David Kaunda** passed away at the age of 97. He served as the first president of Zambia from 1964 to 1991.

DPIIT Secretary Guruprasad Mohapatra passed away at 59

- Secretary in the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** **Guruprasad Mohapatra** passed away at the age of 59. He was a Gujarat cadre **1986 batch IAS officer**.
- Mohapatra served as Chairman of the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** in **2019**. He had served as joint secretary in the **Department of Commerce**.

Renowned Tamil director GN Rangarajan passed away at 90

- Renowned director **GN Rangarajan** passed away due to an age-related illness. He was known for hit films such as **Meendum Kokila, Kalyanaraman and Maharasan**, among others.

Cartoonist Ibrahim Badusha passed away at 37

- **Cartoonist** and former Vice-Chairman of the **Kerala Cartoon Academy**, **Ibrahim Badusha** passed away at the age of 37. He had created a record of sorts by undertaking the '**Longest Live Caricature Drawing Show**', which he named '**portraiture**'.

Former Prime Minister of Mauritius Anerood Jugnauth passed away at 91

- The former Prime Minister of **Mauritius**, **Anerood Jugnauth**, who was credited with steering the island nation's economic transformation as its longest-serving leader, passed away at the age of 91.
- He is the father of **Pravind Jugnauth**, who is the current **Prime Minister of Mauritius**.

Founder of McAfee antivirus software John McAfee passed away at 75

- British-born US technology entrepreneur **John McAfee** passed away at the age of 75. He is the founder and creator of **McAfee Antivirus Software**.

Former Philippine President Benigno Aquino passed away at 61

- Former Philippine President **Benigno Aquino III** passed away after a prolonged illness. He served as the **15th President** of the Philippines from **2010 to 2016** and was succeeded in office by the incumbent, **Rodrigo Duterte**.

National Award winning cinematographer and director Sivan passed away at 89

- National Award winning cinematographer and veteran director **Sivan** passed away in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**. He has won the **National Award** three times in his career.

Former Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Minister Narinder Bragta passed away at 69

- Former **Horticulture Minister** of Himachal Pradesh **Narinder Bragta** passed away at the age of 69 due to prolonged illness. Currently, he was serving as Chief Whip of the **Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly**.
- He served as the Horticulture Minister of Himachal Pradesh from **1998 to 2003**. He was also a Cabinet Minister from **2007 to 2012**.

Former Karnataka minister Mumtaz Ali Khan passed away at 94

- Former Karnataka minister **Mumtaz Ali Khan** passed away due to age-related ailments. He had served as Karnataka's Minister for **Minority Affairs** in the cabinet of **BS Yediyurappa** in **2008**.

Former Karnataka minister CM Udasi passed away at 85

- Former Karnataka minister **CM Udasi** passed away due to age-related illness. He was Karnataka's minister for public works in the **BS Yediyurappa** cabinet in **2008**. He had represented the **Hangal Assembly constituency** in the **Haveri district** six times.

National Award-winning Bengali director Buddhadeb Dasgupta passed away at 77

- Veteran Bengali filmmaker **Buddhadeb Dasgupta** passed away at the age of 77. He had won National Film Award for Best Feature Film five times in his career, including **Bagh Bahadur** (1989), **Charachar** (1993), **Lal Darja** (1997), **Mondo Meyer Upakhyan** (2002) and **Kaalpurush** (2008).

International boxer Dingko Singh Ngangom passed away at 42

- International boxer and Arjuna awardee **Dingko Singh Ngangom** hailing from **Manipur**, passed away at the age of 42. He won the gold medal at the **1998 Asian Games** held in Bangkok. He was awarded the **Padma Shri** in **2013**.

Noted environmentalist and educationist Radhamohan passed away at 78

- Noted environmentalist, retired professor in Economics and Padma Shri awardee Radhamohan passed away at the age of 78. He was conferred with the prestigious **Padma Shri Award** (the fourth highest civilian honour in India) in 2020 for his contribution to the **agriculture sector**.

German architect and Pritzker Prize laureate Gottfried Böhm passed away at 101

- German architect and sculptor **Gottfried Bohm** passed away at the age of 101. He became the first German architect to be awarded with the **Pritzker Prize** in **1986**.

Padma Shri awardee Ashok Panagariya passed away at 71

- Prominent **neurologist** and Padma Shri recipient **Ashok Panagariya** passed away at the age of 71. He was a Vice-Chancellor of the **Rajasthan University of Health Sciences, Jaipur** and a member of the Government of **Rajasthan's Planning Board**. He was honoured with the **Padma Shri** in 2014.

Former India volleyball captain Nirmal Kaur passed away at 85

- Former Indian women volleyball team captain **Nirmal Kaur** passed away at the age of 85. She is the wife of legendary Olympian **Milkha Singh**. She was the former Director of Sports for Women in the **Punjab Government**.

Asiad medallist and Olympics marathon runner Surat Singh Mathur passed away at 90

- Former Indian athlete **Surat Singh Mathur** passed away at the age of 90. He won the bronze medal (Marathon) in the **1951 Asian Games**. He also participated in the **1952 Summer Olympics**.

National award-winning actor Sanchari Vijay passed away at 38

- Kannada actor **Sanchari Vijay** passed away at the age of 38. He made his debut with the film **Rangappa Hogbitna** in 2011. He received the National Film Award for **Naanu Avanalla Avalu** in 2015.

Mahavir Chakra recipient Brig Raghbir Singh Rajawat passed away at 98

- Mahavir Chakra recipient **Brig Raghbir Singh Rajawat** passed away at the age of 98. He was decorated with the **Maha Vir Chakra (MVC)** for gallantry in the **1965 Indo-Pak war**.

SPORTS NEWS

Sanjeet Kumar and Pooja Rani wins gold in the Asian Boxing Championships 2021 held in Dubai, UAE

- Indian Boxer **Sanjeet Kumar** won the gold medal in the **91 kg** weight category at the **Asian Boxing Championships 2021** held in **Dubai, UAE**.
- **Pooja Rani** won the gold medal in the **75 kg category**. Six-time world champion **MC Mary Kom, Lalbuatsaihi,** and **Anupama** settled for silver medals as the Indian women's team finished with 10 medals (1 gold, 3 silver and 6 bronze) at the **Asian Boxing Championship 2021**.

ICC expands Men's ODI Cricket World Cup to 14 teams for 2027 and 2031 editions

- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has decided to expand the **Men's ODI Cricket World Cup** from **10 teams** to **14 teams** for the **2027** and **2031** editions.
- ICC has also decided to expand the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup** to **20 teams** and the tournament will take place every two years from **2024–2030**.
- The ICC Men's Cricket World Cup format will have two groups of **seven**, with the **top three** in each group progressing to a **Super Six stage**, followed by semi-finals and final.

Oman to host first-ever FIH Hockey5s World Cup

- The Executive Board (EB) of the **International Hockey Federation (FIH)** has appointed **Oman** as the host country for the inaugural **FIH Hockey5s World Cups** (Both Men and Women) to be played in January 2024.
- The Matches will take place in Oman's capital city, **Muscat**.

Virender Sehwag and Sanjay Bangar launch cricket coaching website "Cricuru"

- India's star cricketer **Virender Sehwag** along with former Indian Player and Batting Coach of the Indian Cricket team (2015–19) **Sanjay Bangar**, launched "**Cricuru**" (www.cricuru.com), an experiential learning website for cricket coaching.
- The platform is an AI-based cricket coaching platform offering a personalised **learning experience** for its users.

Kathryn Bryce and Mushfiqur Rahim were named the ICC Players of the Month for May 2021

- All-rounder **Kathryn Bryce** from **Scotland** was named as the **International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's Player of the Month** for May 2021.
- Bangladesh wicketkeeper-batsman **Mushfiqur Rahim** was named as the International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's Player of the Month for May 2021.

D Gukesh wins the Gelfand Challenge chess title 2021

- **D Gukesh** sensationally won the **\$15, 000 Gelfand Challenge chess title 2021** and with it, a 'wild card' for the elite Meltwaters Champions Chess Tour.

Indian Olympic Association ropes in MPL as the principal sponsor of India for the Tokyo Olympics 2020

- The **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** has roped in mobile gaming platform **MPL Sports Foundation** as the principal sponsor of India for the **Tokyo Olympics 2020** and the upcoming **2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games**.
- Meanwhile, **Amul** has signed an **Rs. 1 crore** deal till 31 December 2021 specifically covering the Tokyo Olympics 2020.

Tajinderpal Singh Toor qualifies for Tokyo Olympics Games in Shot-put

- India's **Tajinderpal Singh Toor**, the reigning Asian Games champion in men's shot-put, has qualified for **Tokyo Olympics Games 2020** with an Asian record throw of **21.49 metres** in the **Indian Grand Prix IV** in Patiala, Punjab.
- In the women's 100-metre sprint, **Dutee Chand** clocked 11.17 seconds to improve her **national record** of 11.24 seconds which she had clocked in **Ranchi** in **2019**.

Shafali Verma becomes the youngest woman cricketer to score twin half-centuries in Test debut

- The **17-year-old** Indian woman cricketer **Shafali Verma** became the **youngest woman** to score twin half-centuries in her debut Test match.

Jon Rahm of Spain won the US Open Golf 2021 title

- **Spain's Jon Rahm** won the **121st US Open** at Torrey Pines Golf Course in **San Diego, California**. He became the first **Spaniard** ever to win the **US Open Golf** title.

Max Verstappen won the F1 French Grand Prix 2021 title

- Red Bull driver **Max Verstappen (Belgium)** won the 2021 F1 French Grand Prix title. Mercedes driver **Lewis Hamilton (Britain)** came at second position and Red Bull driver **Sergio Perez (Mexico)** came at the third position.

Ireland all-rounder Kevin O'Brien announces retirement from ODIs

- The 37-year-old Ireland all-rounder **Kevin O'Brien** has announced his retirement from one-day internationals. He remains available for Test and T20 cricket.
- His 50-ball hundred remains the **quickest century** in Cricket World Cup history. He scored **3,000** runs and took **114 wickets** in ODI.

Neeraj Chopra wins javelin gold medal in Meeting Cidade de Lisboa in Lisbon

- India's **Neeraj Chopra** won the javelin gold medal in the **Meeting Cidade de Lisboa** held in **Lisbon, Portugal**, with a throw of 83.18 metres.
- **Leandro Ramos** of Portugal was second with a throw of 72.46 m **Francisco Fernandes** from Portugal was third with a throw of 57.25 m.

BharatPe becomes ICC's official partner till 2023

- Lending and digital payments startup **BharatPe** has inked a **three-year** agreement to become an official partner with **International Cricket Council (ICC)**.
- As per the agreement, **BharatPe** will promote the association across **broadcast** and **digital platforms**, as well as execute in-venue brand activations at all the ICC events until **2023**.

Tata Consultancy Services was named as the title partner of the London Marathon from 2022

- India's largest IT services firm **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** announced that it will become the title partner of the **London Marathon** from **2022**. It is a **six-year** partnership signed after existing sponsor Virgin Money choose not to extend its deal beyond 2021.

Australia's Brisbane city is set to host the 2032 Summer Olympics

- The Australian city of **Brisbane** is set to host the **2032 Summer Olympics** after winning the approval of the **International Olympic Committee's (IOC)** executive board.
- **Paris (France)** and **Los Angeles (USA)** will host the Olympic Games **2024** and **2028**, respectively.

Aruna Tanwar becomes the first Indian Taekwondo athlete to qualify for Paralympics Games

- The 21-year-old **Aruna Tanwar** became the first **Indian Taekwondo athlete** who has qualified for the **Tokyo Paralympics 2020**. She hails from village Dinod of district Bhiwani in **Haryana**.

Novak Djokovic beats Stefanos Tsitsipas to clinch his 19th Grand Slam title

- **Novak Djokovic** of Serbia claimed his 19th Grand Slam title after he defeated **Stefanos Tsitsipas** in the **2021 French Open men's singles final** at Roland Garros, Paris. He became the first man to win major 4 Grand Slams at least twice in the Open Era.

Barbora Krejckova wins the women's singles title by defeating Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova in French Open 2021

- **Barbora Krejckova** of the Czech Republic defeated **Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova** of Russia in the French Open 2021 women's singles final at Roland Garros, Paris. It is her maiden Grand Slam title. She became the first Czech woman to win the **French Open title**.

Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat wins gold in the women's 53 kg freestyle at Poland Ranking Series

- Tokyo Olympic Games bound wrestler **Vinesh Phogat** won the women's **53 kg freestyle** gold by defeating **Khrystyna Bereza** of Ukraine at the Poland Ranking Series held in **Warsaw, Poland**.

Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu qualifies for the Tokyo Olympics 2020 in the women's 49 kg category

- The 26-year-old Indian weightlifter **Mirabai Chanu** (the 2017 World Champion in Weightlifting) from **Manipur** has qualified for the **2020 Tokyo Olympics** in the women's **49 kg category**.

Novak Djokovic won his 83rd career title in the 2021 Belgrade Open

- World No. 1 **Novak Djokovic** won the **83rd** title of his career after defeating **Alex Molcan** of Slovakia in the **2021 Belgrade Open** held in **Belgrade, Serbia**.
- **Jonathan Erlich** of Israel and **Andrei Vasilevski** of Belarus won the **Men's doubles title** in the 2021 Belgrade Open by defeating Andre Goransson and Rafael Matos.

Tech Mahindra ties up with FIDE for "Phygital" Global Chess League

- The **International Chess Federation (FIDE)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Tech Mahindra Limited** to establish the "**Phygital**" (physical and digital) Global Chess League.
- It will be the only world league officially recognised by **FIDE** with India's five-time former world champion **Viswanathan Anand** as its mentor.

Sergio Perez wins the 2021 F1 Azerbaijan Grand Prix

- Red Bull driver **Sergio Perez** (Mexico) won the **2021 F1 Azerbaijan Grand Prix**. **Sebastian Vettel** (Germany) came at the second position and **Pierre Gasly** (France) at the third position.

New Zealand weightlifter Laurel Hubbard becomes the first transgender athlete to compete at Olympics

- **New Zealand** weightlifter **Laurel Hubbard** will be the **first transgender athlete** to compete at the Olympics. Hubbard was among five weightlifters confirmed in New Zealand's team for Tokyo Olympics Games 2020.

Cristiano Ronaldo equals Ali Daei's record for most international goals in men's football

- **Portuguese** footballer **Cristiano Ronaldo** scored his **109th** (178 matches) goal for **Portugal** to equal the record of **Ali Daei** (**Iran**) for most international goals in men's football.

New Zealand defeat India by eight wickets to win the first-ever World Test Championship title

- **New Zealand** defeated **India** by eight wickets to win the first-ever **World Test Championship (WTC)** title held in Southampton, **England**.
- New Zealand bowler **Kyle Jamieson** was adjudged the **Man of the Match**.

India's official Olympic theme song 'Lakshya Tera Samne Hai' was released

- India's official Olympic theme Song, 'Lakshya Tera Samne Hai', was launched ahead of the **Tokyo Olympics Games 2020**.
- The event was organised by the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**. **Mohit Chauhan** has composed and sung the song titled 'Lakshya Tera Samne Hai'.

Saurabh Chaudhary wins bronze medal in the men's 10 metres air pistol in the ISSF Shooting World Cup 2021 in Croatia

- Indian shooter **Saurabh Chaudhary** won a bronze medal in the **men's 10 metres air pistol** event at the ISSF Shooting World Cup 2021 held in **Osijek, Croatia**.

Max Verstappen won the 2021 F1 Styrian Grand Prix

- Red Bull driver **Max Verstappen** won the **2021 Formula One Styrian Grand Prix**. This was also his 14th race win. **Lewis Hamilton (United Kingdom)** came at the second position and **Valtteri Bottas (Finland)** came at the third position.

Sajan Prakash becomes the first Indian swimmer to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics 2021

- Indian swimmer **Sajan Prakash** sets national record in a 200 metre Freestyle event at the **Sette Colli Trophy** in **Rome, Italy**.
- He created history by becoming the **first-ever Indian swimmer** to qualify for the **Tokyo Olympics 2021**.

Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary won a silver medal in the mixed team event at ISSF World Cup 2021 in Osijek, Croatia

- Indian shooters **Manu Bhaker** and **Saurabh Chaudhary** won a silver medal in the **mixed team event** at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2021 held in **Osijek, Croatia**.
- The Indian troika of **Manu Bhaker, Yashaswini Singh Deswal** and **Rahi Sarnobat** claimed the bronze medal in the **10 metre air pistol women's team** event of the ISSF Shooting World Cup 2021.

Indian archer Deepika Kumari claims No. 1 spot in World Archery ranking

- Indian archer **Deepika Kumari** regained the **number one position** in the World Archery Global Rankings following her hat-trick of **gold medals** at the **World Cup** held in **Paris, France**.
- The 27-year-old from **Ranchi** had achieved the top spot for the first time in **2012**, claimed gold medals in three recurve events — **women's individual, team** and **mixed pair**.

BCCI confirms ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 to be held in UAE

- **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** President **Sourav Ganguly** confirmed that the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup** is scheduled to be held in the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**.
- Earlier, the event was scheduled to be held in **India** in October–November 2021.

Madhya Pradesh allrounder Anshula Rao becomes the first woman cricketer to fail a dope test

- **Madhya Pradesh** allrounder **Anshula Rao** was handed a **four-year ban** by the **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** for failing a dope test, backdated to **July 2020**.

India's Rahi Sarnobat wins gold medal in women's 25 metres pistol event at the 2021 ISSF World Cup

- Indian shooter **Rahi Sarnobat** won a gold medal in the **women's 25 metres pistol** event at the **ISSF World Cup 2021** held in **Osijek, Croatia**.

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Other Information
1 June	Global Day of Parents	2021 Theme: "Appreciate All Parents Throughout the World"
1 June	World Milk Day	2021 Theme: "Sustainability in the dairy sector with messages around the environment, nutrition, and socio-economics"
2 June	International Sex Workers Day	2021 Theme: "Access to Justice"
3 June	World Bicycle Day	-
4 June	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	This day was recognised by the United Nations (UN) and established on 19 August 1982.
5 June	World Environment Day	2021 Theme: "Ecosystem Restoration"
5 June	International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	2021 Theme: "We're part of the solution"
6 June	World Pest Day	2021 Theme: "We're part of the solution"
7 June	World Food Safety Day	2021 Theme: "Safe food today for a healthy tomorrow"
8 June	World Oceans Day	2021 Theme: "The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods"
8 June	World Brain Tumour Day	This day was announced by the German Brain Tumour Association in 2000.
9 June	World Accreditation Day	2021 Theme: "Accreditation: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"
12 June	World Day Against Child Labour	2021 Theme: "Act now: End child labour!"
13 June	International Albinism Awareness Day	2021 Theme: "Strength Beyond All Odds"
14 June	World Blood Donor Day	2021 Slogan: "Give blood and keep the world beating"
15 June	Global Wind Day	-
15 June	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	2021 Theme: "Access to Justice"
16 June	International Day of Family Remittances	2021 Theme: "Recovery and resilience through digital and financial inclusion"
17 June	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	2021 Theme: "Restoration. Land. Recovery"
17 June	World Crocodile Day	-
18 June	Sustainable Gastronomy Day	This day was designated by the United Nations (UN) in 2016.
18 June	International Picnic Day	-
19 June	World Sauntering Day	2021 Theme: "The best remedy for a short temper is a long walk"
19 June	International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict	-
19 June	National Reading Day in India	-
19 June	World Sickle Cell Awareness Day	-
20 June	World Refugee Day	2021 Theme: "Together we heal, learn and shine"
20 June	World Fathers' Day 2021	-
21 June	International Day of Yoga	2021 Theme: "Yoga for well-being"
21 June	World Music Day	2021 Theme: "Music at the intersections"

LEGEND OF JUNE 2021

21 June	World Hydrography Day	2021 Theme: "100 years of international cooperation in hydrography"
21 June	World Humanist Day	The day was organised by the International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU) in 1980.
22 June	World Rainforest Day	2021 Theme: "Protected Together. Now. Forever"
23 June	International Olympic Day	2021 Theme: "Stay healthy, stay strong, stay active with the #OlympicDay workout on 23 June"
23 June	United Nations Public Service Day	2021 Theme: "Innovating the Future Public Service: New Government Models for a New Era to Reach the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)"
23 June	International Widows Day	The day was formally adopted by the United Nations on 21 December 2010.
25 June	World Vitiligo Day	The first World Vitiligo Day (also known as Vitiligo Awareness Day or Vitiligo Purple Fun Day) was observed on 25 June 2011.
25 June	International Day of the Seafarer	This day was first celebrated by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) on 25 June 2011.
26 June	International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking	2021 Theme: "Share Drug Facts to Save Lives"
26 June	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture	This day was declared by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 12 December 1997.
27 June	International MSMEs Day	2021 Theme: "MSME 2021: The key to an inclusive and sustainable recovery"
29 June	International Day of the Tropics	2021 Theme: "The Digital Divide in the Tropics"
29 June	National Statistics Day	This day marks the birth anniversary (29 June 1893) of the Father of Indian Statistics, Professor PC Mahalanobis.
30 June	International Asteroid Day	This day marks the anniversary of the Siberian Tunguska event that took place on 30 June 1908, which is considered the most harmful known asteroid-related event on Earth in recent history.
30 June	International Day of Parliamentarism	This day was designated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2018.

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

1) Where was the Indus Best Mega Food Park inaugurated by the Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Narendra Singh Tomar?

- a) Raipur
- b) Lucknow
- c) Hyderabad
- d) Indore
- e) Jaipur

2) Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh launched the YounTab scheme for students to encourage digital learning. Who is the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh?

- a) Manoj Sinha
- b) Devendra Kumar Joshi
- c) GC Murmu
- d) Anil Baijal
- e) RK Mathur

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3) Who was appointed as the head of an Expert Committee on the Variable Capital Company which submitted its report to the Chairperson of the IFSCA?

- a) **KP Krishnan**
- b) Rajiv Bansal
- c) Ajit Kumar
- d) SN Subrahmanyam
- e) Manisha Kapoor

4) Who was appointed as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) ?

- a) Rajiv Kumar
- b) Uday Kotak
- c) **TV Narendran**
- d) UK Sinha
- e) Sanjay Gupta

5) Which Indian Naval Ship was decommissioned in Visakhapatnam Naval Dockyard after 40 years of service in the Indian Navy?

- a) INS Vikrant
- b) INS Tarkash
- c) INS Sandhayak
- d) INS Vikram
- e) INS Sameet

6) Who is set to head an expert panel that was constituted by Union Government to fix minimum pay and national floor wages?

- a) BP Kanungo
- b) **Ajit Mishra**
- c) Umesh Sinha
- d) Amit Khare
- e) H Rangarajan

7) Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$2.5 million project readiness financing (PRF) loan to support road upgrade in _____.

- a) Himachal Pradesh
- b) West Bengal
- c) **Sikkim**
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) Gujarat

8) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the financial year 2021–22 according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) report?

- a) 8.1%
- b) 10.6%
- c) **9.5%**
- d) 12.4%

e) 11.5%

9) Which IIT has developed nano-fibre technology-based oral tablets of Amphotericin B to treat fungal infections?

- a) IIT Mandi
- b) IIT Bombay
- c) **IIT Hyderabad**
- d) IIT Kharagpur
- e) IIT Madras

10) Which organisation has launched the world's first nano liquid urea for farmers?

- a) **Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative**
- b) Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals
- c) Krishak Bharati Cooperative
- d) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- e) Food Corporation of India

11) Which company has launched 36 Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites from the Russian cosmodrome?

- a) SpaceX
- b) **OneWeb**
- c) Blue Origin
- d) EchoStar
- e) Virgin Galactic

12) Which country launched cargo resupply spacecraft 'Tianzhou-2'?

- a) India
- b) Japan
- c) France
- d) **China**
- e) Russia

13) Which IIT had developed "AmbiTAG" India's first indigenous temperature data logger for the cold chain management named "AmbiTAG"?

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Bombay
- c) **IIT Ropar**
- d) IIT Kanpur
- e) IIT Mandi

14) Which Indian Coast Guard's Offshore Patrol Vessel was commissioned by National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval?

- a) Sanjay
- b) Sumitra
- c) Varad
- d) **Sajag**
- e) Samarth

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15) Who took over as the Admiral Superintendent of Visakhapatnam Naval Dockyard?

a) Jagan Mohan

b) IB Uthaiiah

c) Kiran Deshmukh

d) Naren Kumar

e) Awasthi Singh

16) Who was appointed to head the 8-member panel constituted by the Union Government to examine GST exemption on COVID-19 relief materials?

a) Rajesh Bansal

b) Himanta Biswa Sarma

c) Conrad K Sangma

d) Samant Kumar Goel

e) Rajeev Kumar

17) Which state government had launched a solar-based electrification programme for remote villages (June 2021) ?

a) Maharashtra

b) Meghalaya

c) Goa

d) Haryana

e) Gujarat

18) Who received an additional charge as the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) ?

a) T Rabi Sankar

b) Ashutosh Choudhary

c) JB Mohapatra

d) Mahesh Balasubramanian

e) Arun Venkataraman

19) Who was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Chile?

a) Rajeev Kumar Vishnoi

b) Pradip Kumar Yadav

c) Mridul Kumar

d) Subrata Bhattacharjee

e) Alok Ranjan Jha

20) Who won the 'WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award' for his efforts in tobacco control?

a) Amit Shah

b) Piyush Goyal

c) Narendra Modi

d) Harsh Vardhan

e) Nirmala Sitharaman

21) When is World Bicycle Day observed?

a) 7 June

b) 5 June

c) 6 June

d) 4 June

e) 3 June

22) Who was appointed as the Grievance Officer for WhatsApp India?

a) Venkat Prabhakar

b) Paresh B Lal

c) Vikramjit Sen

d) Vinay K Nandicoori

e) Nagraj Adiga

23) Who was elected as the Chairperson of the Executive Board of World Health Organization (WHO) for a period of one year?

a) Fiame Naomi

b) Anatole Collinet Makosso

c) Patrick Amoth

d) David Barnea

e) Guillermo Lasso

24) How many teams has the International Cricket Council (ICC) decided to expand for the Men's ODI Cricket World Cup for the 2027 and 2031 editions?

a) 11

b) 18

c) 20

d) 14

e) 16

25) What is the revised target year set by the Union Government for 20% ethanol-blending in petrol?

a) 2025

b) 2030

c) 2023

d) 2024

e) 2027

26) Which university topped in THE Asia University rankings 2021?

a) Indian Institute of Science (IISc)

b) Peking University

c) Tsinghua University

d) National University of Singapore

e) University of Massachusetts

27) Where is the Second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference scheduled to be held?

a) Brussels, Belgium

b) New Delhi, India

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c) **Beijing, China**

- d) Geneva, Switzerland
- e) Tokyo, Japan

28) Which company had launched the first-ever Asia-Pacific Cyber Security Council?

- a) Adobe
- b) IBM

c) **Microsoft**

- d) Intel
- e) Wipro

29) Who won the 2021 International Booker Prize?

- a) Alexander Jenner
- b) David Diop
- c) Anna Moschovakis
- d) All of the above

e) **Both b and c**

30) Which state was ranked at the top in the NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2020-21?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Madhya Pradesh

c) **Kerala**

- d) Mizoram
- e) Maharashtra

31) Which city topped the Global Financial Attractiveness Rankings for the 3rd consecutive year according to the AIRINC Global 150 Cities Financial Attractiveness Index?

- a) Hongkong
- b) Tokyo

c) **Manama**

- d) Paris
- e) Berlin

32) Which international airport has received the ACI Asia-Pacific Green Airports Recognition 2021?

- a) GMR Hyderabad International Airport
- b) Indira Gandhi International Airport
- c) Kempegowda International Airport
- d) Chennai International Airport

e) **Both a and b**

33) Anerood Jugnauth passed away at the age of 91. He is the former Prime Minister of _____.

- a) Maldives
- b) Nepal

c) **Mauritius**

- d) Kenya
- e) Nigeria

34) Who won the Men's singles title at the 2021 Belgrade Open?

- a) Roger Federer
- b) Rafael Nadal
- c) Alex Molcan

d) **Novak Djokovic**

- e) Stefanos Tsitsipas

35) When is World Environment Day observed?

- a) 3 June
- b) 6 June
- c) 4 June

d) **5 June**

- e) 8 June

36) Who was appointed as the Education Advisor to the World Bank?

- a) Manisha Kapoor
- b) Rajesh Agrawal
- c) Neera Tanden

d) **Ranjitsinh Disale**

- e) Sanjay Kumar

37) Who was appointed as the Chairperson of the Uttar Pradesh Human Rights Commission?

- a) Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra
- b) Justice PRN Ramachandra Menon

c) **Justice Bala Krishna Narayana**

- d) Justice Prafulla Chandra Pant
- e) Justice Vikramjit Sen

38) Which international airport had achieved net energy neutral status in FY 2020-21?

- a) Indira Gandhi International Airport
- b) GMR Hyderabad International Airport

c) **Kempegowda International Airport**

- d) Chennai International Airport
- e) All of the above

39) Who took charge as the MD and CEO of the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) ?

- a) Ajay Kapoor
- b) Kris Gopalakrishnan
- c) Rajesh Bansal

d) **Arun Raste**

- e) Rajesh Agrawal

40) Who was appointed as the Senior Advisor of Omnivore (an agritech venture capital firm) ?

- a) Gurdeep Singh
- b) Ajay Tyagi

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c) **Harsh Kumar Bhanwala**

d) S Ramann

e) Biswamohan Mahapatra

41) Who won the 2021 Nature TTL Photographer of the Year?

a) Shyamala Ganesh

b) Amartya Sen

c) **Thomas Vijayan**

d) Mulchand Yadav

e) CNR Rao

42) Who is the author of the book titled '1232 km: The Long Journey Home'?

a) Khushwant Singh

b) Arundhati Roy

c) Ruskin bond

d) **Vinod Kapri**

e) Vikram Seth

43) Who was elected as the 11th President of Israel?

a) Reuven Rivlin

b) Benjamin Netanyahu

c) Assimi Goita

d) Jordan Clarkson

e) **Isaac Herzog**

44) With which country did India sign an MoU on cooperation in the field of mineral resources?

a) **Argentina**

b) Maldives

c) Finland

d) Philippines

e) Norway

45) Which country hosted the 2021 BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting virtually?

a) Brazil

b) Russia

c) China

d) South Africa

e) **India**

46) Which state topped in the 2019–20 Performance Grading Index according to the Union Ministry of Education report?

a) Haryana

b) Himachal Pradesh

c) Tamil Nadu

d) **Punjab**

e) Gujarat

47) Who won the 2021 F1 Azerbaijan Grand Prix?

a) Lewis Hamilton

b) **Sergio Perez**

c) Sebastian Vettel

d) Pierre Gasly

e) Max Verstappen

48) Who was elected as the Asia-Oceania representative in the International Association of Ultrarunners Congress for 2021–25?

a) Kuldeep Singh

b) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal

c) BVR Subrahmanyam

d) **Nagraj Adiga**

e) Prashant Kumar Mishra

49) Where did Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurate 3 ethanol stations as a pilot project?

a) New Delhi

b) Mumbai

c) Nagpur

d) Lucknow

e) **Pune**

50) Who was appointed as the Chairman of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)?

a) Gunjan Shah

b) **Sanjeev Nandan Sahai**

c) Vandita Kaul

d) Abhay Tewari

e) Arvind Kumar

51) Who was appointed as the Chief of the National Human Rights Commission?

a) **Arun Kumar Mishra**

b) Jagjit Pavadia

c) Rajesh Bansal

d) Sunil Singh

e) Kiran Desai

52) Who won the 2021 International Business Book of the Year award?

a) Manish Sharma

b) Nitin Rakesh

c) Jerry Wind

d) Both (a) and (b)

e) **Both (b) and (c)**

53) Pooja Rani won a gold medal in the Asian Boxing Championships 2021 held in _____.

a) Astana, Kazakhstan

b) Belgium, Brussels

c) **Dubai, UAE**

- d) Paris, France
- e) Nairobi, Kenya

54) Under which category did Sanjeet Kumar won a gold medal in the Asian Boxing Championships?

- a) **91 kg**
- b) 67 kg
- c) 88 kg
- d) 74 kg
- e) 83 kg

55) Who was elected as the President of the United Nations General Assembly for 2021–22?

- a) King Dom Manoel

b) **Abdulla Shahid**

- c) Mohamed Nasheed
- d) Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- e) Abdulla Yameen

56) Which country hosted the 8th Global Nitrogen Conference virtually?

- a) China
- b) France
- c) **Germany**
- d) Belgium
- e) Switzerland

57) Which country was recently elected to the UN Economic and Social Council for the 2022–24 term?

- a) Japan
- b) France
- c) **India**
- d) Maldives
- e) Singapore

58) Who was elected as the President of the Association of National Exchanges Members of India (ANMI) ?

- a) RM Sundaram
- b) Arun Kumar Singh
- c) Arun Venkataraman
- d) **KK Maheshwari**
- e) Vandita Kaul

59) Who was appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Papua New Guinea?

- a) Sunitha Sharma
- b) Amit Khare
- c) Mridul Kumar
- d) **S Inbasekar**
- e) Ram Karan Verma

60) Who was elected as a member of the International Swimming Federation (FINA) Bureau?

- a) **Virendra Nanavati**
- b) Pradip Kumar Yadav
- c) Rajeev Kumar Vishnoi
- d) Vijay Goel
- e) Rajeev Sundaram

61) Which state topped the Anemia Mukta Bharat Index 2020–2021?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Gujarat
- c) **Madhya Pradesh**
- d) Haryana
- e) Assam

62) Which country is set to host the first-ever FIH Hockey5s World Cup?

- a) Brazil
- b) France
- c) **Oman**
- d) Netherland
- e) Germany

63) Which company became ICC's official partner till 2023?

- a) Jio
- b) Phonepe
- c) VIVO
- d) DLF
- e) **BharatPe**

64) Which state government has launched the 'Sishu Seva welfare scheme' for COVID-19 orphans and widows?

- a) **Assam**
- b) Bihar
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Tripura
- e) Haryana

65) Which state government has partnered with Flipkart for drone deliveries of medical supplies under the 'Medicines from the Sky' project?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Jharkhand
- d) **Telangana**
- e) Madhya Pradesh

66) Which country has launched a global initiative named 'Mission Innovation CleanTech Exchange' for clean energy innovation?

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- a) China
- b) Japan
- c) Vietnam
- d) Sweden
- e) India**

67) Who is the author of the book titled “Languages of Truth: Essays 2003–2020”?

- a) Arundhati Roy
- b) Salman Rushdie**
- c) Amitav Ghosh
- d) Jhumpa Lahiri
- e) Vikram Seth

68) Where is the naval coordinated patrol exercise ‘CORPAT’ held between India and Thailand Navies?

- a) Indian Ocean
- b) Andaman Sea**
- c) Bangkok
- d) Bay of Bengal
- e) Arabian Sea

69) Heidelberg Cement is set to build the world’s first carbon-neutral cement plant in _____.

- a) China
- b) Sweden**
- c) Germany
- d) Japan
- e) India

70) Who was re-appointed as the part-time Chairman of the ICICI Bank?

- a) GC Chaturvedi**
- b) Jose J Kattoor
- c) Vandita Kaul
- d) Rajeshwar Rao
- e) Sankar Ghosh

71) Who’s term was extended by two years as the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (June 2021) ?

- a) BP Kanungo
- b) Sushil Chandra
- c) Michael Patra
- d) Mahesh Kumar Jain**
- e) Jose J Kattoor

72) Who was appointed as an Election Commissioner of India (ECI) ?

- a) Sunil Arora
- b) Anup Chandra Pandey**
- c) Harsh Kumar Bhanwala

- d) S Ramann
- e) Arun Raste

73) Tsitsi Dangarembga won the 2021 PEN Pinter Prize. Which country does she belong to?

- a) New Zealand
- b) Switzerland
- c) Kenya
- d) Zimbabwe**
- e) Mexico

74) Who was appointed as the Grievance Officer for Facebook India?

- a) Paresh B Lal
- b) Sanjay Gupta
- c) Spoorthi Priya**
- d) Arun Kumar Singh
- e) RM Sundaram

75) Who is the author of the book titled “Skill It Kill It”?

- a) Shashi Tharoor
- b) Ronnie Screwvala**
- c) Ramachandra Guha
- d) Kalki Koechlin
- e) Naseeruddin Shah

76) Which institute was named as the world’s top research university in the QS World Rankings 2022?

- a) University of Oxford
- b) IIT Bombay
- c) IISc Bangalore**
- d) Stanford University
- e) IIT Guwahati

77) Which firm was named as the title partner of the London Marathon from 2022?

- a) VIVO
- b) JIO
- c) Tata Consultancy Services**
- d) OPPO
- e) Wipro

78) Which state government declared Dihing Patkai as its 7th National Park?

- a) Kerala
- b) Mizoram
- c) Gujarat
- d) Assam**
- e) Maharashtra

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79) Who among the following has released an E-Book on '20 Medicinal Plants for COVID-19 Care'?

- a) Rajnath Singh
- b) Kiren Rijiju**
- c) Amit Shah
- d) Venkaiah Naidu
- e) Ramnath Kovind

80) Which state has launched a web portal named "e-Nirman" to help unorganised sector workers to benefit from welfare schemes?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Telangana
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Mizoram
- e) Gujarat**

81) Which bank has topped the 2021 Forbes World's Best Banks list in India category?

- a) Catholic Syrian Bank
- b) Development Bank of Singapore**
- c) HDFC Bank
- d) ICICI Bank
- e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

82) Which IIT scientists had developed a new technique to detect cyclones earlier than satellites?

- a) IIT Kanpur
- b) IIT Guwahati
- c) IIT Madras
- d) IIT Kharagpur**
- e) IIT Mandi

83) Who took charge as the Inspector General of the East Indian Coast Guard region?

- a) Anand Prakash Badola**
- b) Amitabh Chaudhary
- c) TV Somnathan
- d) Sanjay Kumar Mohanty
- e) Niraj Bajaj

84) Which country co-chaired the first edition of the Arab-India Energy Forum to boost energy cooperation and intra-regional power trading?

- a) India
- b) Saudi Arabia
- c) Morocco
- d) United Arab Emirates
- e) Both (a) and (c)**

85) Neeraj Chopra won the javelin gold medal in Meeting Cidade de Lisboa. Where was the event held?

- a) Lisbon**
- b) Madrid
- c) Tokyo
- d) Brussels
- e) Paris

86) Who among the following has launched a cricket coaching website named "Cricuru"?

- a) Sachin Tendulkar
- b) Kapil Dev
- c) Virendra Sehwaag**
- d) Sourav Ganguly
- e) Sunil Gavaskar

87) Which of the following state is set to establish India's first ever international maritime services cluster?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Haryana
- c) Nagaland
- d) Gujarat**
- e) Maharashtra

88) Which IIT has launched India's first center for digital health named 'Koita Centre for Digital Health'?

- a) IIT Mandi
- b) IIT Bombay**
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Kharagpur
- e) IIT Madras

89) Who was appointed as the Chef de Cabinet of the 76th UNGA President?

- a) K Nagaraj Naidu**
- b) Jose J Kattoor
- c) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- d) Kris Gopalakrishnan
- e) Rajesh Bansal

90) Who was appointed as the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court?

- a) Justice Gita Mittal
- b) Justice Vikramjit Sen
- c) Justice Sanjay Yadav**
- d) Justice Prafulla Chandra Pant
- e) Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra

91) Who won the Best Actor Award for the film Raahgir: The Wayfarers at the 2021 UK Asian Film Festival?

- a) Kunal Ross

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b) Vivek Gomber

c) Tillotama Shome

d) Anup Singh

e) Ahmareen Anjum

92) Who was conferred with the Asia Pacific Productivity Champion Award 2021?

a) RS Sodhi

b) Abhay Tewari

c) Gunjan Shah

d) Vandita Kaul

e) Arvind Kumar

93) Who is the author of the book titled "Home in the World"?

a) Neena Gupta

b) Amartya Sen

c) Sudha Murthy

d) Shamsheer Singh

e) Vikram Seth

94) What is the rank of India in the Global Home Price Index in Q1 2021 according to the Knight Frank report?

a) 55

b) 34

c) 77

d) 26

e) 44

95) India has ranked 67th in the 2021 Coursera's Global Skills Report. Which country topped the Index?

a) Norway

b) Switzerland

c) Austria

d) Iceland

e) Finland

96) Which city is set to host the 2032 Summer Olympics?

a) Brisbane

b) Paris

c) Los Angeles

d) Melbourne

e) Tokyo

97) Who became the first Indian Taekwondo athlete to qualify for the Tokyo Paralympics 2020?

a) Chadro Tomar

b) Aruna Tanwar

c) Tejaswini Shankar

d) Arjun Lal

e) Arvind Singh

98) Which country hosted the 47th G7 Summit 2021?

a) United Kingdom

b) France

c) Italy

d) Japan

e) Canada

99) Who was sworn in as the 13th Prime Minister of Israel?

a) Benjamin Netanyahu

b) Naftali Bennett

c) Majdi Ahmad Al-Dhafiri

d) Mohammad Al-Sabah

e) Sheikh Ahmad Nasser

100) Who won the 'NSG Counter-IED & Counter-Terrorism Innovator Award 2021' for designing blast-resistant helmet?

a) Shailesh Ganpule

b) Anup Wadhawan

c) Gunjan Shah

d) Vandita Kaul

e) Arvind Kumar

101) Who became the first female Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)?

a) Satoshi Uchida

b) Beth Mooney

c) Miguel Díaz-Canel

d) Alyssa Healy

e) Rebeca Grynspan

102) Anand Mohan Bajaj was appointed as a Member of the Board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Whom did he replace?

a) Ujjwala Singhania

b) Tarun Bajaj

c) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal

d) Narinder Batra

e) Pradip Kumar Yadav

103) Which Bollywood actor was appointed as the brand ambassador of MyLab Discovery Solutions?

a) Amir Khan

b) Akshay Kumar

c) Varun Dhawan

d) Sidharth Malhotra

e) Ranveer Singh

104) Who among the following won the Pulitzer Prize 2021 for International Reporting category?

a) Megha Rajagopalan

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- b) Alison Killing
- c) Christo Buschek
- d) Both (a) and (b)
- e) All of the above**

105) Who won the men's singles title in the 2021 French Open?

- a) Stefanos Tsitsipas
- b) Novak Djokovic**
- c) Rafael Nadal
- d) Dominic Thiem
- e) Roger Federer

106) Barbora Krejčíková defeated Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova in the French Open 2021 women's singles final at Roland Garros, Paris. Which country does she belong to?

- a) Serbia
- b) Russia
- c) Czech Republic**
- d) France
- e) Australia

107) Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat won a gold medal at the Poland Ranking Series held in Warsaw. Under which category did she win the medal?

- a) 43 kg freestyle
- b) 58 kg freestyle
- c) 68 kg freestyle
- d) 49 kg freestyle
- e) 53 kg freestyle**

108) Mirabai Chanu has qualified for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics in the women's 49 kg category. Which sport did she qualify for?

- a) Wushu
- b) Wrestling
- c) Boxing
- d) Weightlifting**
- e) Judo

109) Which state government has launched the 'Yuva Shakti Corona Mukti Abhiyan' to make people aware of the COVID-19 pandemic?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Madhya Pradesh**
- d) Haryana
- e) Kerala

110) Which general insurance company has launched an EMI-based health insurance?

- a) Kotak General Insurance
- b) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- c) ACKO General Insurance
- d) Navi General Insurance**
- e) Tata AIG General Insurance

111) European Space Agency's 'EnVision mission' is set to Venus in _____.

- a) 2023
- b) 2030**
- c) 2027
- d) 2025
- e) 2024

112) Which IIT researchers cracked the code of excess sugar intake causing fatty liver disease?

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Mandi**
- c) IIT Bombay
- d) IIT Kanpur
- e) IIT Kharagpur

113) Which IIT has developed India's first power-free CPAP device named 'Jivan Vayu'?

- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Ropar**
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Bombay
- e) IIT Kharagpur

114) Who was appointed as the Chairperson of the Grievance Redressal Board of the Digital Publisher Content Grievances Council (DPCGC)?

- a) Arjan Kumar Sikri**
- b) Jose J Kattoor
- c) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- d) Kris Gopalakrishnan
- e) Rajesh Bansal

115) Who among the following was selected to CEPI's Scientific Advisory Committee?

- a) Krishna Mohan
- b) Vineeta Bal
- c) Sanjay Gupta
- d) All of the above
- e) Both (a) and (b)**

116) Who was re-elected as the Chairman of the Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI) for 2021–22?

- a) Ajai Puri**
- b) Jagjit Pavadia

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- c) Preti Sinha
- d) SN Subrahmanyam
- e) Manisha Kapoor

117) Which is the first Indian state to use Near Field Communication (NFC) technology-based Electronic Identity Cards (eIDs) ?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Punjab**
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Assam
- e) Himachal Pradesh

118) Which country became the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as legal tender?

- a) Kenya
- b) El Salvador**
- c) Costa Rica
- d) Ecuador
- e) Paraguay

119) Who was appointed as the transitional Prime Minister of Mali?

- a) Bah Ndaw
- b) Moctar Ouane
- c) Assimi Goita
- d) Choguel Kokalla Maiga**
- e) Ibrahim Boubacar Keita

120) Which state government has launched the 'Chief Minister Anuprati Coaching Scheme' for underprivileged students?

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Rajasthan**
- d) Gujarat
- e) Bihar

121) Who's term was extended by nine months as the Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) ?

- a) Anup Chandra Pandey
- b) Ajay Tyagi
- c) MR Kumar**
- d) Arun Kumar Singh
- e) Gurdeep Singh

122) Which city was named as the world's most liveable city in 2021 according to the Economist Intelligence Unit Report 2021?

- a) Osaka
- b) Tokyo

- c) Adelaide
- d) Auckland**
- e) Vienna

123) Who became the first Chairwoman of England's Football Association?

- a) Laura Trott
- b) Greg Clarke
- c) Debbie Hewitt**
- d) Gianni Infantino
- e) Rebecca Bailey

124) Who was appointed as the Vice-President and the Director of Thales India?

- a) David Attenborough
- b) Ashish Saraf**
- c) Richard Attenborough
- d) Steve Backshall
- e) Luis Abinader

125) Dingko Singh Ngangom passed away recently. Which sport does he belong to?

- a) Wrestling
- b) Badminton
- c) Cricket
- d) Boxing**
- e) Archery

126) Which organisation has commissioned India's first Voltage Source Converter (VSC) based High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) power transmission system?

- a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
- b) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**
- c) National Thermal Power Corporation Limited
- d) Power System Operation Corporation
- e) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

127) Who was elected as the 6th President of Mongolia?

- a) Khaltmaa Battulga
- b) Anatole Collinet Makosso
- c) Fiame Naomi
- d) Ukhnaa Khurelsukh**
- e) Miguel Díaz-Canel

128) What is the rank of India in the World Giving Index 2021 report according to the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) ?

- a) 15
- b) 33
- c) 14**
- d) 7
- e) 27

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129) Which IIT hosted a virtual conference of BRICS Network Universities?

- a) IIT Mandi
- b) IIT Bombay**
- c) IIT Madras
- d) IIT Kanpur
- e) IIT Kharagpur

130) Which Indian cricketer was appointed as the brand ambassador of the PUMA Motorsport in India?

- a) Yuvraj Singh**
- b) Virat Kohli
- c) Suresh Raina
- d) Jasprit Bumrah
- e) KL Rahul

131) Who was the first private person to be appointed as the Director at India's World Trade Organization (WTO) Permanent Mission?

- a) NM Shaji
- b) Rajesh Bansal
- c) Aashish Chandorkar**
- d) Gopala Krishnan
- e) Shanker Ram

132) Which company has won the 2021 Snowflake Global Innovation Partner of the Year award?

- a) Mphasis
- b) Larsen & Toubro Infotech**
- c) HCL Technologies
- d) Wipro
- e) Tech Mahindra

133) Who was recognised as one of the SDG Pioneers by the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)?

- a) T Rabi Sankar
- b) Ashutosh Choudhary
- c) Sumant Sinha**
- d) Mahesh Balasubramanian
- e) Arun Venkataraman

134) Who is the author of the book titled "The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Crisis"?

- a) Neena Gupta
- b) Amitav Ghosh**
- c) Sudha Murthy
- d) Shamsheer Singh
- e) Vikram Seth

135) India has ranked 135th in the 2021 Global Peace Index (GPI). Which country had topped the list?

- a) Norway
- b) Iceland**
- c) France
- d) Germany
- e) Switzerland

136) What is the rank of India in the 2021 World Competitiveness Index according to the Institute for Management Development (IMD) report?

- a) 12
- b) 43**
- c) 77
- d) 34
- e) 14

137) Which company was selected by Indian Olympic Association as the principal sponsor of India for the Tokyo Olympics 2020 and 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games?

- a) MPL Sports Foundation**
- b) Tech Mahindra
- c) Paytm
- d) TCS
- e) Dream11

138) Which country had topped in the 2021 World Competitiveness Index 2021 according to the Institute for Management Development (IMD) report?

- a) China
- b) Iceland
- c) Switzerland**
- d) Germany
- e) France

139) Which state government has released Rs. 248 crores for the 'YSR Vahana Mitra' to autorickshaw and taxi drivers?

- a) Telangana
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh**
- d) Maharashtra
- e) Meghalaya

140) Which of the following state has celebrated the 3-day Raja Parba festival? (June 2021)

- a) Haryana
- b) Assam
- c) Odisha**
- d) Bihar
- e) Manipur

141) Which state's AI Mission has launched the 'Revv Up' accelerator program for AI startups?

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- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Telangana**
- e) Meghalaya

142) Who was named as the Prime Minister of the Central African Republic?

- a) Anatole Collinet Makosso
- b) Henri Marie Dondra**
- c) Fiame Naomi
- d) David Barnea
- e) Jacinda Ardern

143) With which country did India tie up as the fourth largest forex reserves holder?

- a) Mexico
- b) Belgium
- c) Russia**
- d) Spain
- e) France

144) Who was honoured as a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for her services to education?

- a) Mulchand Yadav
- b) Amika George**
- c) Shyamala Ganesh
- d) Amartya Sen
- e) Thomas Vijayan

145) Who was appointed as the honorary member of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Technical Advisory Group?

- a) MS Shanmugam
- b) Irai Anbu
- c) Anu George
- d) Rajeev Ranjan
- e) Mukesh Sharma**

146) Who was named as the International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's Player of the Month for May 2021?

- a) Smriti Mandhana
- b) Alyssa Healy
- c) Kathryn Bryce**
- d) Rachael Haynes
- e) Harmanpreet Kaur

147) Who was named as the International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's Player of the Month for May 2021?

- a) Shakib Al Hasan
- b) Mushfiqur Rahim**

- c) Kusal Perera
- d) Bhuvneshwar Kumar
- e) Kuldeep Yadav

148) Who won the Gelfand Challenge chess title 2021?

- a) Nihal Sarin
- b) R Praggnanandhaa
- c) D Gukesh**
- d) Magnus Carlsen
- e) Koneru Humpy

149) Which country is set to launch the 'Deep Ocean Mission' for the use of sustainable renewable resources?

- a) Brazil
- b) Germany
- c) India**
- d) Australia
- e) France

150) India signed a \$484 million loan with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to improve highways in which state's industrial corridor?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Kerala
- c) Tamil Nadu**
- d) Telangana
- e) Sikkim

151) Which country hosted the 2021 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Summit?

- a) Belgium**
- b) France
- c) Germany
- d) Turkey
- e) Malaysia

152) With which country did India reviewed its bilateral cooperation in defence and capacity building?

- a) Turkmenistan
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Kyrgyzstan**
- d) Mali
- e) Kazakhstan

153) Which country did India extend a \$100 million loan for solar energy projects?

- a) Sri Lanka**
- b) Bhutan
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Nepal
- e) Maldives

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154) Which IT firm has recently joined the World Economic Forum partnership for the New Work Standards initiative?

- a) TCS
- b) Mindtree
- c) Infosys
- d) HCL
- e) Wipro**

155) Who was recently appointed as the Chairman of Microsoft?

- a) Satya Nadella**
- b) Thierry Delaporte
- c) Salil Parekh
- d) Brian Humphries
- e) Rajesh Gopinathan

156) India, Spain, France and Italy began a two-day naval drill 'EUNAVFOR' held in the _____.

- a) Gulf of Guinea
- b) Arabian Sea
- c) Mediterranean Sea
- d) Gulf of Aden**
- e) Gulf of Oman

157) Which of the following financial service firm was approved by the RBI to set up a Small Finance Bank (SFB) ? June (2021)

- a) Max Financial Services Limited
- b) Centrum Financial Services Limited**
- c) Mahindra Finance Services Limited
- d) PTC India Financial Services Limited
- e) HDB Financial Services Limited

158) Who was re-elected as the Secretary-General of the United Nations for a five-year term?

- a) Antonio Guterres**
- b) Martin Griffiths
- c) Phil Mickelson
- d) Audrey Azoulay
- e) Inger Andersen

159) Who was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Tunisia?

- a) Satoshi Uchida
- b) Arun Kumar Singh
- c) Ngulxham Jathom Gangte**
- d) Vijay Goel
- e) Rajeev Sundaram

160) Who won the prestigious UN Land for life Award 2021 for his environment conservation concept 'Familial Forestry'?

- a) Shyam Sundar Jyani**
- a) Kailash Jayanth
- b) Arun Chowdary
- c) Vinoth Singh
- d) Suresh Mukund

161) What is the rank of India in the share of Central Bank surplus transfers for FY21?

- a) 3
- b) 7
- c) 2**
- d) 5
- e) 9

162) Asian Games gold medallist Milkha Singh passed away recently. Which sport does he belongs to?

- a) Hockey
- b) Athletics**
- c) Wrestling
- d) Boxing
- e) Weightlifting

163) Kenneth Kaunda passed away at 97. He was a former President of _____.

- a) Nigeria
- b) Kenya
- c) Zambia**
- d) Namibia
- e) Zimbabwe

164) Who became the youngest woman cricketer to score twin half-centuries in Test debut?

- a) Sophie Ecclestone
- b) Shafali Verma**
- c) Beth Mooney
- d) Deepti Sharma
- e) Alyssa Healy

165) Guruprasad Mohapatra passed away recently. He was a former Chairman of _____.

- a) Airports Authority of India (AAI)**
- b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
- d) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- e) National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM)

166) Which state government had launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Yuva Udyaymi Yojna' and the 'Mukhya Mantri Mahila

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Udyami Yojna' schemes to provide employment opportunities to women and youth of the state?

- a) Assam
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Bihar**
- d) Tripura
- e) Manipur

167) Which metro in India won the Japan Society of Civil Engineers' (JSCE) 'Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award' 2021?

- a) Mumbai Metro
- b) Delhi Metro**
- c) Kolkata Metro
- d) Chennai Metro
- e) Kochi Metro

168) Which country is set to host the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021?

- a) Australia
- b) India
- c) United Arab Emirates**
- d) South Africa
- e) England

169) Indian cricketer Anshula Rao became the first woman cricketer to fail the dope test by NADA. Which state does she belong to?

- a) Madhya Pradesh**
- b) Assam
- c) Bihar
- d) Arunachal Pradesh
- e) Manipur

170) Who won a gold medal in the women's 25 metres pistol event at the 2021 ISSF World Cup in Osijek, Croatia?

- a) Manu Bhaker
- b) Rahi Sarnobat**
- c) Yashaswini Singh Deswal
- d) Aishwary Pratap
- e) Nivetha Paramanatham

171) Who was awarded Japan's Fukuoka Grand Prize for 2021?

- a) P Sainath**
- b) Shailesh Ganpule
- c) RS Sodhi
- d) Tillotama Shome
- e) Vivek Gomber

172) Which state government has signed an MoU with the Survey of India (SOI) for a rural property survey?

- a) Assam**
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Bihar
- d) Tripura
- e) West Bengal

173) Which shipyard has signed an MoU with the Union Ministry of Defense for the construction of two Pollution Control Vessels for the Indian Coast Guard?

- a) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
- b) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
- c) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- d) Goa Shipyard Limited**
- e) Hindustan Shipyard Limited

174) Which state government had launched the Ashirbad scheme for children who lost their parents during the COVID-19 pandemic?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Odisha**
- e) Andhra Pradesh

175) Who was elected as the 8th President of Iran?

- a) Mustafa Al-Kadhimi
- b) Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
- c) Hassan Rouhani
- d) Ebrahim Raisi**
- e) Mohammad Khatami

176) Which IIT has developed low-cost fuel-efficient maritime transport with Indian Maritime University (IMU), Visakhapatnam?

- a) IIT Ropar
- b) IIT Mandi
- c) IIT Roorkee**
- d) IIT Kharagpur
- e) IIT Madras

177) Who among the following got a 2-year extension as the Whole-time Member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)?

- a) TV Narendran
- b) SK Mohanty
- c) Ananta Barua
- d) Both (b) and (c)**
- e) All of the above

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178) Tadang Minu became the first Indian woman to be appointed as a member of AIBA's (International Boxing Association) Coaches Committee. Which state does she belong to?

- a) Assam
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Manipur
- d) Arunachal Pradesh**
- e) Sikkim

179) Which Indian Navy Ship won the 'Best Ship' title among the capital ships category at the 2021 Fleet Awards?

- a) INS Sahyadri**
- b) INS Kamorta
- c) INS Kiltan
- d) INS Vikrant
- e) INS Khukri

180) Who was honoured with the 2021 European Inventor Award in the 'Non-European Patent Office countries' category?

- a) Nitin Rakesh
- b) Sumita Mitra**
- c) Thomas Vijayan
- d) Paresh B Lal
- e) RS Sodhi

181) Which city was adjudged as India's Most Liveable City in the 2020 Ease of Living Index according to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) report?

- a) Mumbai
- b) New Delhi
- c) Bengaluru**
- d) Chennai
- e) Hyderabad

182) Who won the 2021 US Open Golf title?

- a) Louis Oosthuizen
- b) Jon Rahm**
- c) Harris English
- d) Tiger Woods
- e) Phil Mickelson

183) Who won the F1 French Grand Prix 2021 title?

- a) Sergio Perez
- b) Lewis Hamilton
- c) Max Verstappen**
- d) Valtteri Bottas
- e) Sebastian Vettel

184) Kevin O'Brien announced his retirement from ODI cricket. Which country did he play for?

- a) Netherland
- b) Ireland**
- c) UAE
- d) Oman
- e) Zimbabwe

185) Which state/Ut had celebrated a two-day Hemis festival?

- a) Jammu and Kashmir
- b) Assam
- c) Ladakh**
- d) Himachal Pradesh
- e) Bihar

186) Which state government had inaugurated the 'Minnagam' to redress electricity issues 24x7 in the state?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Kerala
- d) Tamil Nadu**
- e) Telangana

187) Who was elected as the Prime Minister of Armenia?

- a) Tadang Minu
- b) Nikol Pashinyan**
- c) Hassan Rouhani
- d) Ebrahim Raisi
- e) Mohammad Khatami

188) Barnaby Joyce was appointed as the Deputy Prime Minister of _____.

- a) Spain
- b) Russia
- c) France
- d) Australia**
- e) Kosovo

189) Who was recently appointed as the Secretary of the Union Minority Affairs?

- a) Sanjeev Sahai
- b) Renuka Kumar**
- c) Hitendra Dave
- d) Ranjitsinh Disale
- e) Arun Raste

190) Which insurance company has launched the "e-PGS" web portal for group business operations?

- a) Kotak General Insurance
- b) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- c) Life Insurance Corporation of India**

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- d) Navi General Insurance
- e) Tata AIG General Insurance

191) Which IIT had developed drone algorithms to understand how fire behaves in space stations and satellites?

- a) IIT Mandi
- b) IIT Bombay
- c) IIT Kanpur
- d) IIT Kharagpur
- e) IIT Madras**

192) Who was recently appointed as the new Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) ?

- a) Suresh Patel**
- b) Abhay Tewari
- c) Gunjan Shah
- d) Vandita Kaul
- e) Arvind Kumar

193) Who took additional charge as the Chairman of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) ?

- a) Ujjwala Singhania
- b) Tarun Bajaj
- c) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- d) Meenesh Shah**
- e) Pradip Kumar Yadav

194) Which among the following cities won the 2020 Smart Cities Award for Best Performance?

- a) Indore
- b) Surat
- c) Ahmadabad
- d) Varanasi
- e) Both (a) and (b)**

195) Who is the author of the new book titled "The Startup Wife"?

- a) Neena Gupta
- b) Amartya Sen
- c) Sudha Murthy
- d) Tahmima Anam**
- e) Vikram Seth

196) Which city is the world's most expensive city for foreign workers according to the Mercer Cost of Living Survey Report 2021?

- a) Bengaluru
- b) Ashgabat**
- c) Shanghai
- d) Zurich
- e) Singapore

197) What is the rank of India on 'trust in news' according to the Reuters Institute Digital News Report 2021?

- a) 33
- b) 49
- c) 27
- d) 13
- e) 31**

198) Who won the 2021 Formula 1 Styrian Grand Prix?

- a) Lewis Hamilton
- b) Max Verstappen**
- c) Lando Norris
- d) Valtteri Bottas
- e) Sergio Pérez

199) Which city in India ranked as one of the top 5 technology centres in the Asia-Pacific according to the Colliers India Report?

- a) Bengaluru**
- b) New Delhi
- c) Mumbai
- d) Chennai
- e) Indore

200) Who became the first Indian swimmer to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics 2021?

- a) Sajan Prakash**
- b) Aryan Makhija
- c) Srihari Natraj
- d) Virbhawal Vikram Khade
- e) Shivan Kataria

201) Indian archer Deepika Kumari claimed No. 1 spot in World Archery global rankings. Which state does she belong to?

- a) Assam
- b) Bihar
- c) Kerala
- d) Jharkhand**
- e) Meghalaya

202) Which organisation has approved a \$210 million loan for implementation of the Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation (SALT) programme in Andhra Pradesh?

- a) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- b) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- c) Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM)
- d) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)**

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e) European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

203) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2021–22 according to the Ind-Ra report?

- a) 11.1%
- b) 9.2%
- c) 8.1%
- d) 7.4%
- e) 9.6%**

204) With which country did the US conduct "Sea Breeze" joint naval exercises in the Black Sea?

- a) China
- b) Ukraine**
- c) France
- d) Uruguay
- e) Venezuela

205) Who was appointed as a member of the World Bank and IMF High-Level Advisory Group?

- a) Louis Oosthuizen
- b) Jon Rahm
- c) Montek Singh Ahluwalia**
- d) Choguel Kokalla Maiga
- e) K Nagaraj Naidu

206) Who was appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Zambia?

- a) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- b) Tarun Bajaj
- c) Ashok Kumar**
- d) Narinder Batra
- e) Pradip Kumar Yadav

207) Who was appointed as the Grievance Officer of Twitter India?

- a) Jeremy Kessel**
- b) Paresh B Lal
- c) Spoorthi Priya
- d) Arun Chowdary
- e) Vinoth Kumar

208) Who was appointed as the Chairman of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA) ?

- a) Justice Vikramjit Sen
- b) Justice Prafulla Chandra Pant
- c) Justice Shambhu Nath Srivastava**
- d) Justice Sanjay Yadav
- e) Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra

209) Justice Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath was appointed as the Chief Justice of _____.

- a) Chhattisgarh High Court
- b) Bihar High Court
- c) Madras High Court
- d) Himachal Pradesh High Court**
- e) Karnataka High Court

210) Who among the following got a one-year extension as the Attorney General of India?

- a) Soli Sorabjee
- b) Mukul Rohatgi
- c) Ashok Desai
- d) Umesh Sinha
- e) KK Venugopal**

211) With which country did Azerbaijan conduct a joint military drill 'Mustafa Kemal Ataturk 2021' in Baku?

- a) USA
- b) Turkey**
- c) Kazakhstan
- d) France
- e) UAE

212) Who was appointed as the head of Payments Business for WhatsApp India?

- a) Tillotama Shome
- b) Manesh Mahatme**
- c) Gunjan Shah
- d) Vandita Kaul
- e) Arvind Kumar

213) Who was honoured with the Central European University (CEU) Open Society Prize 2021?

- a) Anup Wadhawan
- b) Vivek Gomber
- c) Tillotama Shome
- d) KK Shailaja**
- e) Shailesh Ganpule

214) Who is the author of the new book titled 'Habba Khatoon'?

- a) Kajal Suri**
- b) Ronnie Screwvala
- c) Ramachandra Guha
- d) Kalki Koechlin
- e) Naseeruddin Shah

215) Who is the author of the new book titled 'The 7 Sins of Being a Mother'?

- a) Neena Gupta

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b) Sanya Malhotra

c) Shama Zaidi

d) Tahira Kashyap Khurrana

e) Sudha Murthy

216) India ranked 120th in the Sustainable Development Report 2021. Which country topped the report?

a) Norway

b) Finland

c) Iceland

d) Switzerland

e) Denmark

217) Who was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Iraq?

a) Sunitha Sharma

b) L Prashant Pise

c) Mridul Kumar

d) Ashok Kumar

e) Ngulkham Jathom Gangte

218) Who among the following was named to the Economic Advisory Panel of Tamil by the Tamil Nadu Government?

a) Raghuram Rajan

b) Esther Duflo

c) Arvind Subramanian

d) Both (a) and (b)

e) All of the above

219) Who was appointed as the acting Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court?

a) Justice Vikramjit Sen

b) Justice Bala Krishna Narayana

c) Justice Munishwar Nath

d) Justice Prafulla Chandra Pant

e) Justice Sanjay Gupta

220) Who was appointed as the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court?

a) Fatou Bensouda

b) Karim Ahmad Khan

c) Philip Bensouda

d) Koudou Gbagbo Laurent

e) Phakiso Mochochoko

221) Which Indian cricketer was appointed as the brand ambassador of OnePlus for its wearables category?

a) Shubman Gill

b) Jasprit Bumrah

c) Virat Kohli

d) KL Rahul

e) Rishabh Pant

222) Who became the first female fighter pilot in Indian Air Force (IAF) from Jammu and Kashmir?

a) Bhawana Kanth

b) Mawya Sudan

c) Vijayalakshmi Ramanan

d) Mohana Singh

e) Avani Chaturvedi

223) Who was named as the 'Ambassador of Forest Frontline Heroes' by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) India?

a) Upasana Kamineni

b) Nitin Rakesh

c) Jerry Wind

d) Manish Sharma

e) Both (a) and (d)

224) Whose memoir is titled "WILL" that is to be released in November 2021?

a) Donald Trump

b) Jackie Chan

c) Will Smith

d) Chris Tucker

e) Robert Downey

225) Weightlifter Laurel Hubbard became the first transgender athlete to compete at Olympics Games. Which country does she belongs to?

a) Australia

b) South Africa

c) New Zealand

d) Switzerland

e) Belgium

226) Which country hosted the Mobile World Congress 2021?

a) Hungary

b) Austria

c) Spain

d) Kosovo

e) Brunei

227) Where was the world's first genetically modified rubber plant planted?

a) Hyderabad, Telangana

b) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

c) Mumbai, Maharashtra

d) Guwahati, Assam

e) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

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228) Where was India's largest solar carport inaugurated by Tata Motors and Tata Power?

- a) **Pune, Maharashtra**
- b) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- c) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- d) Guwahati, Assam
- e) Hyderabad, Telangana

229) Which country is set to host the 9th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable in 2022?

- a) Russia
- b) Brazil
- c) **India**
- d) Netherlands
- e) China

230) Which country won the first-ever World Test Championship cricket?

- a) Australia
- b) **New Zealand**
- c) India
- d) South Africa
- e) West Indies

231) Which of the following airport won the Airport Council International's (ACI) Director-General's Roll of Excellence honour in Airport Service Quality?

- a) GMR Hyderabad International Airport
- b) Indira Gandhi International Airport
- c) Kempegowda International Airport
- d) Chennai International Airport
- e) **Cochin International airport**

232) Who among the following got a one-year extension of tenure till June 2022 as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NITI Aayog?

- a) Subhash Chandra Khuntia
- b) Rajiv Kumar
- c) David Rasquinha
- d) **Amitabh Kant**
- e) TV Narendran

233) Who has composed India's official Olympic theme song 'Lakshya Tera Samne Hai' for Tokyo Olympics 2020?

- a) Javed Ali
- b) **Mohit Chauhan**
- c) Pritam Chakraborty
- d) Vishal Dadlani
- e) AR Rahman

234) Who has topped the list of EdelGive Hurun Philanthropists of the Century?

- a) Nowroji Saklatwala
- b) **Jamsetji N Tata**
- c) Dorabji Tata
- d) Nusserwanji Tata
- e) Dadabhai Naoroji

235) Which footballer equalled Ali Daei's record for most international goals in men's football?

- a) Lionel Messi
- b) **Cristiano Ronaldo**
- c) Neymar
- d) Ronaldinho
- e) Sunil Chettri

236) Who was appointed as the Interim Envoy of USA to India?

- a) **Atul Keshap**
- b) G Gowtham
- c) VK Pandian
- d) RK Kiran Desai
- e) D Suresh Raj

237) Which organisation has signed a \$32 million loan agreement with India for improving healthcare services in Mizoram?

- a) **World Bank**
- b) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- c) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- d) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
- e) National Development Bank (NDB)

238) Which state government has partnered with UN World Food Programme to empower and support women through self-help groups (SHGs)?

- a) Assam
- b) **Odisha**
- c) Haryana
- d) Gujarat
- e) Bihar

239) Which country became the first in the world to ratify the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement (ISA FA) after amendments on 8 January 2021?

- a) France
- b) Germany
- c) **Denmark**
- d) Belgium
- e) Finland

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240) IFFCO had partnered with the Instituto Nacional de Asociativismo y Economía Social (INAES) and Cooperar to set up a nano urea plant in _____.

- a) France
- b) Chile
- c) Germany
- d) Argentina**
- e) Denmark

241) Who was re-appointed as the Deputy Election Commissioner of India for one year?

- a) Amit Khare
- b) Sunil Arora
- c) Sushil Kumar
- d) Umesh Sinha**
- e) Vinay Kumar

242) Who is the author of the new book titled "Policymaker's Journal: From New Delhi to Washington D.C."?

- a) Kaushik Basu**
- b) Shakoor Rather
- c) Sumitra Mahajan
- d) Shashi Tharoor
- e) Kunal Kamra

243) Which state became the first rabies-free state in India?

- a) Manipur
- b) Kerala
- c) Goa**
- d) Assam
- e) Maharashtra

244) For which state in India has the World Bank approved a \$125 million program to create and support a green and resilient state?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Gujarat
- d) Kerala**
- e) Tripura

245) Who is appointed to head the panel constituted by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to examine best practices in ship financing and leasing?

- a) Vandana Aggarwal**
- b) Amit Khare

- c) Sudarshan Sen
- d) Kasturi Rajan
- e) Manish Sisodia

246) Where was the 16th meeting of the Security Council Secretaries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) held?

- a) Geneva, Switzerland
- b) Brussels, Belgium
- c) Nairobi, Kenya
- d) Dushanbe, Tajikistan**
- e) Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

247) Who became the first Indian origin judge of a County Court in Victoria, Australia?

- a) Rajesh Bansal
- b) Sumitra Sharma
- c) Pardeep Singh Tiwana**
- d) Kris Gopalakrishnan
- e) Narinder Batra

248) Which institute was ranked as the Best in India according to the QS Executive MBA Rankings 2021 report?

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIM Bangalore**
- c) IIT Madras
- d) IISc Bangalore
- e) IIT Kanpur

249) Who won a bronze medal in the men's 10 metres air pistol in the ISSF Shooting World Cup 2021 held in Osijek, Croatia?

- a) Saurabh Chaudhary**
- b) Javad Foroughi
- c) Abhishek Verma
- d) Damir Mikec
- e) Anish Bhanwala

250) Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated a mega quintal capacity seed processing plant in _____.

- a) Assam
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Jammu and Kashmir**
- e) Haryana

BANKING AWARENESS QUIZ

1) Which bank has launched the first of its kind flagship business mentoring program named 'MSME Prerana'?

- a) UCO Bank
- b) HDFC Bank
- c) State Bank of India
- d) Indian Bank**
- e) Canara Bank

2) Which Small Finance Bank has partnered with LoanTap to provide personal loans?

- a) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank**
- b) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- c) Janalakshmi Small Finance Bank
- d) Capital Small Finance Bank
- e) AU Small Finance Bank

3) Which bank is set to become carbon neutral by 2031–32?

- a) Axis Bank
- b) ICICI Bank
- c) HDFC Bank**
- d) RBL Bank
- e) HSBC Bank

4) Which organisation has signed an MoU with Luxembourg's Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF) to strengthen cooperation in securities regulation?

- a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- b) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- d) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**
- e) National Housing Bank (NHB)

5) Vishwavir Ahuja was re-appointment as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of _____.

- a) Canara Bank
- b) RBL Bank**
- c) HDFC Bank
- d) ICICI Bank
- e) Indian Bank

6) Which is the third Indian IT firm to scale Rs. 3 trillion market capitalisation?

- a) Tata Consultancy Services
- b) Wipro**
- c) Infosys
- d) IBM
- e) Mind Tree

7) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2021–22 according to the OECD report?

- a) 8.1%
- b) 10.6%
- c) 9.9%**
- d) 11.4%
- e) 6.5%

8) RBI cancelled the licence of the Shivajirao Bhosale Sahakari Bank. Which state is the Shivajirao Bhosale Sahakari Bank based in?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Maharashtra**
- c) Karnataka
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) Tamil Nadu

9) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2021–22 according to Moody's report?

- a) 9.3%**
- b) 7.6%
- c) 9.9%
- d) 11.4%
- e) 6.5%

10) Which insurance company had partnered with Microsoft to automate audits of service calls?

- a) HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company
- b) Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Limited
- c) ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company**
- d) IFFCO Tokio General Insurance Company Limited
- e) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

11) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2021–22 according to the SBI's Ecowrap report?

- a) 8.3%
- b) 7.9%**
- c) 8.5%
- d) 9.4%
- e) 6.5%

12) Which stock exchange has signed a pact with Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) to encourage the listing of startups on stock exchange?

- a) Bangalore Stock Exchange
- b) Calcutta Stock Exchange
- c) National Stock Exchange
- d) Bombay Stock Exchange**
- e) London Stock Exchange

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13) Which bank has appointed SK Majumdar as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO) ?

- a) Indian Bank
- b) UCO Bank
- c) Bank of Baroda
- d) Canara Bank**
- e) Bank of India

14) Which is the first bank in the Asia-Pacific and second bank globally to offer 'SWIFT gpi Instant' facility for cross-border inward payments?

- a) Axis Bank
- b) ICICI Bank**
- c) HDFC Bank
- d) State Bank of India
- e) Indian Bank

15) Which bank has partnered with the Edelweiss Retail Finance Limited (ERFL) for priority sector lending to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) ?

- a) Union Bank of India
- b) Bank of Baroda
- c) State Bank of India
- d) Canara Bank
- e) Central Bank of India**

16) Which insurance company has partnered with VISA to provide specialised insurance policies for business cardholders?

- a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company
- b) ICICI Lombard Insurance Company
- c) HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company**
- d) IFFCO Tokio General Insurance Company
- e) Bharti AXA General Insurance Company

17) Who was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of HSBC India?

- a) David Barnea
- b) Hitendra Dave**
- c) Tuilaepa Sailele
- d) Fiamé Naomi
- e) David Collier

18) Which company has launched India's 1st Non-Fungible Token (NFT) marketplace?

- a) Coinbase
- b) Huobi
- c) WazirX**
- d) Paxful
- e) Bitstamp

19) Which insurance company had partnered with Shivalik Small Finance Bank for bancassurance?

- a) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance

b) HDFC Life Insurance

- c) Bharti AXA Life Insurance**
- d) Max Life Insurance
- e) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance

20) Which bank has inked co-lending pacts with Indiabulls Housing and IIFL Home Finance?

- a) Bank of Baroda
- b) State Bank of India
- c) Central Bank of India**
- d) Union Bank of India
- e) UCO Bank

21) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the calendar year 2021 according to the World Bank report (June 2021) ?

- a) 11.1%
- b) 8.3%**
- c) 8.1%
- d) 7.4%
- e) 12.5%

22) Which bank inked an MoU with Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) to offer banking solutions to its investors?

- a) Axis Bank
- b) ICICI Bank
- c) Bank of Baroda
- d) HDFC Bank**
- e) Canara Bank

23) What is the asset size of the Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) announced by the Union Finance Ministry to use SARFAESI law to recover dues?

- a) More than 100 crores**
- b) Less than 100 crores
- c) More than 500 crores
- d) More than 1000 crores
- e) Less than 250 crores

24) Which general insurance has signed a corporate agency agreement with IDFC FIRST Bank for the distribution of non-life insurance solutions?

- a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- b) HDFC ERGO General Insurance
- c) Universal Sompo General Insurance
- d) Star Health Insurance
- e) SBI General Insurance**

25) Which bank has appointed Chandan Sinha and Manjeev Singh Puri as its Board of Directors?

- a) Federal Bank
- b) UCO Bank
- c) Canara Bank

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d) RBL Bank

e) ICICI Bank

26) Which bank has partnered with Fisdom to offer wealth management solutions?

a) Indian Bank

b) Canara Bank

c) UCO Bank

d) Bank of Baroda

e) State Bank of India

27) Which bank has launched the 'Pay Your Contact' service? June (2021)

a) Federal Bank

b) Kotak Mahindra Bank

c) HDFC Bank

d) Axis Bank

e) ICICI Bank

28) Which bank has acquired the branding rights of a Kolkata metro station?

a) UCO Bank

b) Bandhan Bank

c) HDFC Bank

d) ICICI Bank

e) Axis Bank

29) Which company has partnered with SBM Bank to launch the 'Step Up Credit Card'?

a) Policybazaar

b) Paisabazaar

c) Credit Mantri

d) Paytm

e) BankBazaar

30) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed banks to charge Rs. 21 for post limit ATM transactions from _____.

a) April 2022

b) January 2022

c) August 2021

d) March 2023

e) November 2021

31) Which company has partnered with IndiaFirst Life Insurance to provide insurance solutions for retailers?

a) Pay U

b) Mastercard

c) PayNearby

d) VISA

e) PayPal

32) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2021-22 according to the ICRA report?

a) 11.1%

b) 9.2%

c) 8.1%

d) 7.4%

e) 8.5%

33) Which company has acquired PAYBACK India (a multi-brand loyalty platform) ?

a) Flipkart

b) Phone Pe

c) Google Pay

d) BharatPe

e) PayU

34) Which bank has partnered with Oracle and Infosys for a cloud-based customer relationship management system?

a) Axis Bank

b) HDFC Bank

c) Federal Bank

d) DBS Bank

e) RBL Bank

35) Which bank had launched "Kavach Personal Loan" scheme for COVID-19 patients?

a) Union Bank

b) Bank of Baroda

c) State Bank of India

d) Indian Bank

e) HDFC Bank

36) Which general insurance company has launched an EMI-based health insurance?

a) Kotak General Insurance

b) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

c) ACKO General Insurance

d) Navi General Insurance

e) Tata AIG General Insurance

37) Which among the following banks were recommended by NITI Aayog for privatisation?

a) Bank of India

b) Indian Overseas Bank

c) Central Bank of India

d) All of the above

e) Both (b) and (c)

38) CS Ghosh was re-appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the _____.

a) RBL Bank

b) Bandhan Bank

c) Axis Bank

d) Bank of India

e) Federal Bank

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- 39) Who was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ferrari?
a) John Elkann
b) Tsitsi Dangarembga
c) Benedetto Vigna
d) Debbie Hewitt
e) Greg Clarke
- 40) Which bank has launched a comprehensive digital lending platform named 'IndusEasyCredit' ?
a) Indian Bank
b) HDFC Bank
c) Indian Overseas Bank
d) Axis Bank
e) IndusInd Bank
- 41) What is India's projected GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2021–22 according to the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) report?
a) 8.1%
b) 10.6%
c) 9.2%
d) 11.4%
e) 9.5%
- 42) Who was re-appointed as the MD and CEO of the IDFC First Bank?
a) V Vaidyanathan
b) Jagjit Pavadia
c) Preti Sinha
d) SN Subrahmanyam
e) Manisha Kapoor
- 43) Which small finance bank has collaborated with MoEngage to drive its digital banking experiences?
a) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
b) Equitas Small Finance Bank
c) Janalakshmi Small Finance Bank
d) Capital Small Finance Bank
e) AU Small Finance Bank
- 44) Which of the following bank has launched a digital banking solution for corporate companies named 'STACK for Corporates'? (June 2021)
a) HDFC Bank
b) Indian Bank
c) ICICI Bank
d) Federal Bank
e) Axis Bank
- 45) Which organisation has extended a \$108.28 million loan to the Kingdom of Eswatini?
a) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
b) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
c) Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM)
d) World Bank
e) European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- 46) Which bank has partnered with LIC Cards Services (LIC CSL) to launch a prepaid gift card named 'Shagun'?
a) HDFC Bank
b) Axis Bank
c) Federal Bank
d) IDBI Bank
e) RBL Bank
- 47) Which finance company has launched 'design your EMI' home loan product for its customers?
a) LIC Housing Finance
b) Godrej Housing Finance
c) PNB Housing Finance
d) Indiabulls Housing Finance
e) GIC Housing Finance
- 48) Which fintech company has partnered with Retailio to offer working capital loans?
a) Instamojo
b) Razorpay
c) Paytm
d) FlexiLoans.com
e) Policybazaar
- 49) Which bank has introduced the instant 'Cardless EMI' facility to online purchases made on e-commerce platforms?
a) Axis Bank
b) ICICI Bank
c) HDFC Bank
d) YES Bank
e) Federal Bank
- 50) Which bank has signed an MoU with National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC) to support MSMEs with credit requirements?
a) Indian Bank
b) Bank of Baroda
c) Union Bank of India
d) Canara Bank
e) UCO Bank

SIMPLIFICATION

D. 1–25) Find the value of the question mark (?) in the following questions.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1) $32.5 + 42.5 + 1.25 + 7.25 = (?) + (3 \times 4.5)$
 a) 82
 b) 80
 c) 79
 d) 60
 e) 70</p> <p>2) $12.12 \times 4 + 6.565 \times 8 = (?)^2 + 1$
 a) 100
 b) 101
 c) 102
 d) 10
 e) 110</p> <p>3) $17^2 + 3 \times (?) = 26^2 - 18$
 a) 133
 b) 124
 c) 123
 d) 113
 e) 112</p> <p>4) $((0.32 \times 25) + (0.08 \times 150)) = \frac{(?)}{2}$
 a) 800
 b) 802
 c) 700
 d) 600
 e) 850</p> <p>5) $\frac{5609}{71} \times \frac{8439}{87} = (?)^2 \times (19.4 \times 15.8)$
 a) 25
 b) 5
 c) 50
 d) 100
 e) 10</p> <p>6) $13.5\% \text{ of } 1200 + (0.28 \times 25) = \sqrt{(?)}$
 a) 13
 b) 196
 c) 169
 d) 64
 e) 15</p> <p>7) $(16 \times 19 + 16^2 + 13^3) = (?) \times 229.75$
 a) 10
 b) 12</p> | <p>c) 15
 d) 17
 e) 18</p> <p>8) $\sqrt{8649} \times 3.5 + \frac{9506}{98} \times 2.5 = 2 \times (?)$
 a) 278
 b) 264
 c) 290
 d) 284
 e) 300</p> <p>9) $365 \times 2.6 - 365 \times 2.4 = 9.125 \times (?)$
 a) 7
 b) 3
 c) 5
 d) 9
 e) 8</p> <p>10) $\sqrt{7569} \times (25 + 68) = (8 \times 5 \times 2.275) + (?)$
 a) 8400
 b) 8000
 c) 8200
 d) 8700
 e) 8900</p> <p>11) $2\% \text{ of } 1350 + 3 \times \frac{1}{17} \times 221 = (?)$
 a) 56
 b) 66
 c) 60
 d) 58
 e) 72</p> <p>12) $\frac{\sqrt{4624}}{17} + \frac{4125}{\sqrt{1089}} + \frac{9.9}{0.9} = (?)$
 a) 219
 b) 120
 c) 140
 d) 130
 e) 160</p> <p>13) $141 + 198 + 200 + 310 + 311 = (?) \times 5$
 a) 231
 b) 232
 c) 298
 d) 257
 e) 299</p> <p>14) $23^2 + 43^2 - 51^2 + 21^2 \times 2 = (?)$
 a) 660</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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- b) 670
- c) 659
- d) 657
- e) 669

15) $(56 \times 4) \div (901 - 899) + 12 \times 3 = (?)$

- a) 158
- b) 141
- c) 143
- d) 148
- e) 159

16) $(72\% \text{ of } 350 + 18\% \text{ of } 50) \times (20\% \text{ of } 200 - 30\% \text{ of } 90) = (?)$

- a) 3389
- b) 2321
- c) 3245
- d) 1145
- e) 3393

17) $25^2 \times 5^3 \times 625^2 \div 3125^3 = 5^?$

- a) 0
- b) 1
- c) 3
- d) 5
- e) 7

18) $\frac{87}{196} \times \frac{49}{29} \times \frac{98}{245} \times \frac{40}{12} \times 3 = (?)$

- a) 1
- b) 3
- c) 5
- d) 2
- e) 0.5

19) $89 + 548 + 56 \times 2 - 756 \div 2 = (?)$

- a) 521
- b) 415
- c) 371
- d) 398
- e) 401

20) $12 \times 4 \times 11 + 231 + \sqrt{676} - \sqrt{841} = (?)$

- a) 736
- b) 744
- c) 741
- d) 756
- e) 751

21) $0.5 \times 16 + 1.5 \times 1.5 + 2.5 \times 20 = (?) + 0.25$

- a) 52
- b) 55
- c) 62
- d) 61
- e) 60

22) $1322 + 2312 - 4121 + 2311 + 645 - 500 = (?)$

- a) 1696
- b) 1699
- c) 1969
- d) 1996
- e) 1966

23) $\frac{1860}{15} + \frac{123}{15.375} + (?) = (2.6 \times 5)^2$

- a) 36
- b) 37
- c) 47
- d) 17
- e) 15

24) $131 \times 4 + 143 \times 3 + (?) = (8 \times 1.375)^3$

- a) 478
- b) 248
- c) 568
- d) 378
- e) 380

25) $1310 + 123 + 510 \times 2 + 1 + 320 = (?) \times 2 + 424 + 31 \times 3 + 3.5 \times 2$

- a) 2250
- b) 1365
- c) 1525
- d) 1125
- e) 1105

Answer Key

1. e, 2. d, 3. c, 4. a, 5. b, 6. a, 7. b, 8. d, 9. e, 10. b, 11. b, 12. c, 13. b, 14. c, 15. d, 16. e, 17. a, 18. b, 19. c, 20. d, 21. e, 22. c, 23. b, 24. d, 25. d

ENGLISH

(1–30) Vocabulary

1. Carnage

Meaning: the killing of a large number of people

Synonyms: massacre, death

Usage: Shaken by the **carnage** wrought by the second wave of the pandemic, the government had little choice but to act against possible fresh clusters of infection.

2. Wrought

Meaning: Wrought (past participle and past tense of 'work') – to be the cause of (a situation, action, or state of mind)

Synonyms: caused, effected

Antonyms: impeded, limited

Usage: Shaken by the carnage **wrought** by the second wave of the pandemic, the government had little choice but to act against possible fresh clusters of infection.

3. Cluster

Meaning: a number of things considered as a unit

Synonyms: array, assemblage

Antonyms: single, entity

Usage: Shaken by the carnage wrought by the second wave of the pandemic, the government had little choice but to act against possible fresh **clusters** of infection.

4. Traumatic

Meaning: causing great and lasting pain or distress

Synonyms: alarming, dreadful

Antonyms: comforting, calming

Usage: I suffered a nervous breakdown. It was a **traumatic** experience.

5. Dashed

Meaning: to hit with great force, especially causing damage

Synonyms: collision, hit

Usage: The tidal wave **dashed** the ship against the rocks.

6. Obviously

Meaning: in a way that is easily noticed by an outside observer

Synonyms: clearly, evidently

Antonyms: privately, secretly

Usage: **Obviously**, the school cannot function without teachers.

7. Decisively

Meaning: in a way that strongly affects how a situation will progress or end

Synonyms: assuredly, certainly

Antonyms: improbably, implausibly

Usage: The electorate voted **decisively** to change the country's electoral system.

8. Dithering

Meaning: to show uncertainty about the right course of action

Synonyms: faltering, halting

Antonyms: advancing, continuing

Usage: If you have been **dithering** about buying shares, now could be the time to do it.

9. Proxy

Meaning: something that acts or does for another

Synonyms: agent, assignee

Usage: For students who could not take the examination during the lockdown period, the internal, practical and project assessments were proposed as a **proxy** to arrive at their results.

10. Subsequent

Meaning: being, occurring, or carried out at a time after something else

Synonyms: after, ensuing

Antonyms: advance, early

Usage: In **subsequent** years, the amount of weeding necessary should become less and less.

11. Dawdle

Meaning: to spend time doing nothing

Synonyms: loiter, lag

Usage: Given the urgency of rescuing the children who lost their parents in the pandemic, the government cannot **dawdle** over figuring out implementation strategies.

12. Swift

Meaning: moving, proceeding, or acting with great speed

Synonyms: fast, blistering

Antonyms: dawdling, crawling

Usage: Our task is to challenge the U.N. to make a **swift** decision.

13. Get by

Meaning: to meet one's day-to-day needs

Synonyms: manage, cope

Antonyms: decline, fail

Usage: Reeva managed to **get by** on a small amount of money.

14. Disruption

Meaning: an act or instance of the order of things being disturbed

Synonyms: interruption, distraction

Antonyms: calm, orderliness

Usage: The **disruption** that COVID-19 has wrought on our lives is devastating.

15. Sprang

Meaning: (past tense of spring) – they suddenly start being active or suddenly come into existence

Synonyms: actualised, appeared

Antonyms: disappeared, dissolved

Usage: In 2004, states **sprang** to the assistance of children orphaned by the Indian Ocean tsunami.

16. Embraced

Meaning: to comprise or include as an integral part

Synonyms: comprehend, contained

Antonyms: prohibited, excepted

Usage: Linguistics **embraces** a diverse range of subjects such as phonetics and stylistics.

17. Expansive

Meaning: having considerable extent

Synonyms: extensive, wide

Antonyms: limited, restricted

Usage: They have played an **expansive** style of rugby.

18. Exploited

Meaning: to take unfair advantage of

Synonyms: manipulated, mistreated

Usage: Laws exist to stop companies from **exploiting** their employees.

19. Cornerstone

Meaning: the basic part of it on which its existence, success, or truth depends.

Synonyms: foundation, base

Usage: In most countries, the family unit is still the **cornerstone** of society.

20. Onslaught

Meaning: an especially fierce attack

Synonyms: assault, attack

Antonyms: protect, shield

Usage: The rebels responded to a military onslaught against them by launching a major assault.

21. Underscore

Meaning: to make evident

Synonyms: Stress something, bring out something

Antonyms: weaken, subdue

Usage: The RBI's latest policy statement **underscores** the diminishing options available to it to address the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic.

22. Fallout

Meaning: the unpleasant results or effects of an action or event

Synonyms: outcome, result

Usage: The RBI's latest policy statement **underscores** the diminishing options available to it to address the economic **fallout** from the COVID-19 pandemic.

23. Reiterated

Meaning: to say something again, once or several times

Synonyms: repeat, replicate

Antonyms: withdraw, cancel

Usage: The government has **reiterated** its refusal to compromise with terrorists.

24. Stance

Meaning: a way of thinking about something, especially expressed in a publicly stated opinion

Synonyms: opinion, standpoint

Usage: The governor's **stance** on the issue of tax cuts is well known.

25. Accommodative

Meaning: to be fit or suitable

Synonyms: suitable, appropriate

Antonyms: improper, inapplicable

Usage: The improving health situation, combined with extremely **accommodative** monetary and fiscal policy, puts the economy on its fastest growth.

D. 26–30) In the following questions, a statement with a phrase in bold is given along with four alternatives (a, b, c and d). Choose the phrase which would fit appropriately in the given sentence. If the given phrase in bold is correct as it is, then choose 'e' as your answer.

26. The opposition parties **walked out**, saying it would favour the industrialists.

- a) see about
- b) run against
- c) show off
- d) set up
- e) No correction is required

27. India Agri Business Fund II, a private equity fund sponsored by Rabobank, has **spelled out** a 40% stake in Olive Bar & Kitchen Private Ltd. from other PE investors for about 100 crores.

- a) ruled out

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- b) picked up
- c) pulled out
- d) stand by
- e) No correction is required

28. The victim was also beaten up by the accused and **hold out** of the car near Sector 40, said the police.

- a) thrown out
- b) hang up
- c) figure on
- d) shut off
- e) No correction is required

29. The cab **pulled up** and the driver jumped out.

- a) weared out
- b) hit on
- c) pulled up
- d) stayed over
- e) No correction is required

30. The CBI has **out to** the probe into the case of a businessman who has been missing from a village here since late August.

- a) taken over
- b) passed on
- c) stood out
- d) teared down
- e) No correction is required

32. Flight 175 departed Los Angeles at 11.36 a.m. but **go back on** over the Pacific Ocean and reached Los Angeles at 7.33 p.m.

- a) turned around
- b) went off
- c) go through
- d) hold on
- e) No correction is required

32. China, India and Japan together **come out** about 45% of global LPG purchases.

- a) make up
- b) open up
- c) pan out
- d) burn down
- e) No correction is required

33. The funds allotted by the ISCA to **check out** the campus and prepare for the event were mostly unspent.

- a) look forward
- b) occur to
- c) look up to
- d) spruce up
- e) No correction is required

34. When you're buying a flat, you should always **make out** for the best deal.

- a) chop down
- b) shop around
- c) close up
- d) lay into
- e) No correction is required

35. Telecom operator Vodafone India said it will **fill out** Voice-over LTE (VoLTE) 4G services from January.

- a) rollout
- b) get ahead
- c) drop in
- d) die down
- e) No correction is required.

D. 36–40) A sentence is divided into four parts. One of the parts may have an error. Identify the part that has the error and choose from the given options. If there is no error in the given sentence, then choose option '(e)' as your answer.

36. The majority of islanders are ethnically Chamorro-the (A) / indigenous group that has lived on (B) / the island for thousands of years and (C) / its culture is a touchstone for the islander's way of life. (D) / No error (E)

- a) A b) B c) C d) D e) No error

37. Alleged, perceived, and sometimes (A) / even some genuine cases of misuse (B) / of this law should not endanger the huge (C) / number of woman who are in genuine distress. (D) / No error (E)

- a) A b) B c) C d) D e) No error

38. The states were asked to (A) / dedicate at least 30% local (B) / police personnel to participate in (C) / operations with the Central forces. (D) / No error (E)

- a) A b) B c) C d) D e) No error

39. Atomic clocks aboard NavIC, more formally (A) / called the IRNSS, are foreign-made (B) / and ISRO's forthcoming satellite, IRNSS-1H, (C) / will continue using the same clocks. (D) / No error (E)

- a) A b) B c) C d) D e) No error

40. They would have most complete freedom (A) / to decide the curricula, hire domestic (B) / and foreign faculty at variable pay, and fix (C) / a fee structure of their choice. (D) / No error (E)

- a) A b) B c) C d) D e) No error

D. 41–45) : In the following passage, one or two words have been left out in some of the sentences shown by blank spaces, each of which is indicated by a series of numbers. Find the suitable word from the given options marked as (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) against each number and fill up the numbered

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blanks with the appropriate option to make the paragraph meaningfully complete.

A new set of future satellites called hyperspectral imaging satellites is set to add teeth to the way India is _____ (41) _____ from about 600 km in space. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) says it plans to launch a full-fledged niche Earth observation (EO) satellite — called the Hyperspectral Imaging Satellite or HySIS — using a critical chip it has developed. There is no specific time-frame yet for its launch, an ISRO spokesman said, adding that meanwhile, the new chip, technically called an 'optical imaging detector array,' that they have created and it would be tested and _____ (42) _____. "ISRO is _____ (43) ____ to enter the domain of operational hyperspectral imaging from earth orbit" with a satellite that can see in 55 spectral or colour bands from 630 km above ground," the space organisation has said. It said it decided to develop the chip that _____ (44) _____ Indian requirements. Hyperspectral or hyspex imaging is said to be an EO trend that is being _____ (45) _____ globally.

41. _____

- a) prepared
- b) gleaned
- c) harvested
- d) framed
- e) dispersed

42. _____

- a) cleared
- b) maintained
- c) perfected
- d) manufactured
- e) fired

43. _____

- a) endeavoring
- b) gathering
- c) holding
- d) performed
- e) processed

44. _____

- a) reflected
- b) affected
- c) asserted
- d) unfitted
- e) suited

45. _____

- a) researched
- b) analysed
- c) experimented
- d) searched
- e) checked

D. 46–50) Each sentence is divided into four parts. Rearrange them into a meaningful sentence. If no rearrangement is required, then choose option (e) as the answer.

46. Of an ultimate reality behind (A) / the physical world or the world of appearances (B) / metaphysics is a philosophy that (C) / discusses the nature and description (D)

- a) CDAB
- b) DACB
- c) BDCA
- d) DBCA
- e) No rearrangement required

47. That give the unbanked millions (A) / a chance to move into the formal economy (B) / in developing mobile money payment systems (C) / parts of Africa have already come a long way (D)

- a) ADBC
- b) DCAB
- c) CBDA
- d) BCAD
- e) No rearrangement required

48. Harvesting and conserving rainwater (A) / agriculture across the world (B) / is key to boosting crop yields (C) / depends on rainfall, so (D)

- a) ADCB
- b) BDAC
- c) CBAD
- d) DBAC
- e) No rearrangement required

49. Than green water (A) / and farmers, blue water is (B) / for most of the global population, (C) / more important (D)

- a) BDCA
- b) BACD
- c) CBDA
- d) BDAC
- e) No rearrangement required

50. To citizens not (A) / repeatedly and also not to hoard cash (B) / the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appealed (C) / to go to branches (D)

- a) DBCA
- b) BDAC
- c) CBAD
- d) CADB
- e) No rearrangement required

Answer Key

26. e, 27. b, 28. a, 29. e, 30. a, 31. a, 32. a, 33. d, 34. b, 35. a, 36. d, 37. d, 38. e, 39. e, 40. a, 41. b, 42. c, 43. a, 44. e, 45. c, 46. a, 47. b, 48. b, 49. c, 50. d