

GENERAL AWARENESS

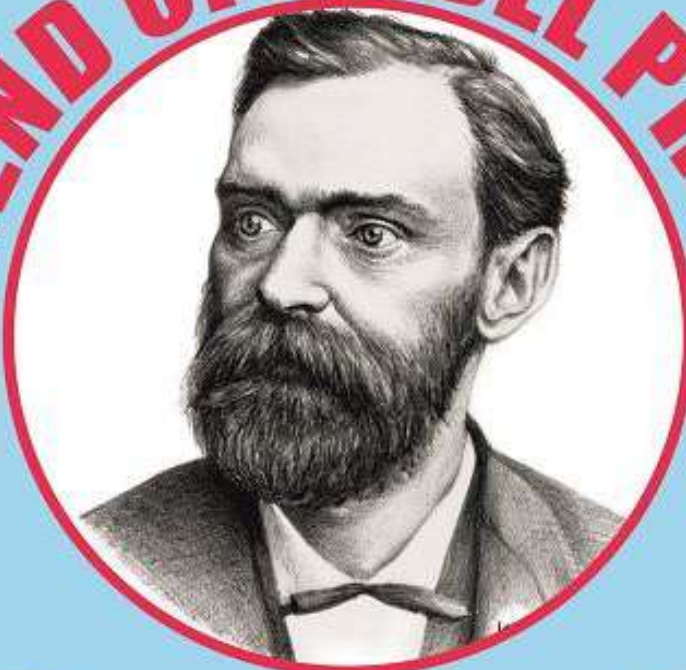
DECEMBER 2021

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LEGEND OF NOBEL PRIZES



**Upcoming Govt Exams (2021-22)
Details Inside**

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Central Govt Jobs

ESIC Clerk	6500+
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Asst. District Attorney	119
PSSSB Clerk	2789
Transport Inspector	76
PUDA Clerk	648
PUDA JE	230
Food Supply Inspector	149
Panchayat Secretary	893
PPSC Cooperative Inspector	340
Sr. Assistant (Written+Typing)	730
Punjab Local Body	668

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Legend of Nobel Prizes

Alfred Nobel, a famous scientist, inventor, businessman and founder of the Nobel Prizes was born on October 21, 1833 in Stockholm, Sweden. He died in San Remo, Italy on December 10, 1896.

In his last will and testament, he wrote that much of his fortune should be used to give prizes to those who have done their best for humanity in the field of physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace. Not everybody was pleased with this. His will was opposed by his relatives and questioned by authorities in various countries. It took four years for his executors to convince all parties to follow Alfred's wishes.

The first Nobel Prizes were awarded in 1901 in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature and Peace. In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) established the Prize in Economic Sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel.

The prizes are decided by the various Swedish Academies and announced every year in October and presented at Stockholm, Sweden on the Nobel's death anniversary – December 10. However, the Peace Prize is presented at Oslo, Norway as the same is decided by an expert committee of Parliament of Norway.

The amount for one full Nobel Prize for 2021 is set at Swedish Kronor 10 million (Rs. 8.24 cr).

FIELD	PRIZE DECIDED BY	WINNER OF 2021	SELECTED WORK
Physiology or Medicine	The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institute, Stockholm	David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian, both from USA	For discovering how our bodies feel the warmth of the sun or the hug of a loved one, for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.
Physics	The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences	Syukuro Manabe, USA & Klaus Hasselmann, Germany (50%) Giorgio Parisi, Italy (50%)	For the physical modelling of Earth's climate, and reliably predicting global warming. For discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.
Chemistry	The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences	Benjamin List, Germany and David W.C. Macmillan, USA	For their work on the development of asymmetric organo-catalysis, a "new and ingenious tool for molecule building".
Literature	The Swedish Academy	Abdulrazak Gurnah (from Tanzania) Currently in UK	For his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugees.
Peace	The Norwegian Nobel Committee	Filipino-American journalist Maria Ressa and Russian journalist Dmitry Muratov	For their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace.
Economics (Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences)	The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences	David Card (50%) Joshua D. Angrist & Guido W Imbens (50%) All three are from USA	For his empirical contributions to labour economics. For their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships.

INDIAN NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS

Rabindranath Tagore	Literature in 1913	For his collection of poems "Geetanjali".
Sir C.V. Raman	Physics in 1930	For his "Raman Effect" related to light.
Mother Teresa	Peace in 1979	For her service to people suffering from Leprosy and to those dying in destitute, through her Charitable Mission "Nirmal Hriday" at Calcutta
Dr. Subramanian Chandrashekar	Physics in 1983	For his theory on white dwarf stars' limitation known as 'Chandrasekhar Limit'.
Dr. Amartya Sen	Economics in 1998	For his work in Economic Theory related to Poverty, Democracy, Development and Social Welfare.
Kailash Satyarthi (Jointly with Malala Yousafzai)	Peace Prize in 2014	For his work for the freedom of children working as labourer in various factories / units.

GENERAL AWARENESS

December 2021

Vol. 10, Issue 4

A PUBLICATION OF GYANM EDUCATION & TRAINING INSTITUTE PVT. LTD.
SCO 13-14-15, 2ND FLOOR, SEC 34-A, CHANDIGARH

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FIGURES TO REMEMBER

REPO RATE	4.00%
REVERSE REPO RATE	3.35%
MARGINAL STANDING FACILITY RATE	4.25%
BANK RATE	4.25%
STATUTORY LIQUIDITY RATIO	18.00%
CASH RESERVE RATIO	3.00%
BASE RATE(s) (of various banks)	8.15 to 9.40%

India's RANK IN

Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index	3 rd
Digital Quality of Life Index	59 th
Rule of Law Index 2021	79 th
The Henley Passport Index	90 th
Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021	71 st
Global Hunger Index	94 th
Global Peace Index (GPI)	135 th
Global Innovation Index 2021	46 th
Intellectual Property (IP) Index 2021	40 th
Economic Freedom Index	121 st
Scientific Articles Published	3 rd
The Global Climate Risk Index 2021	7 th
Democracy Index 2020	53 rd
The Corruption Perception Index (CPI) 2020	86 th
Ease of Doing Business	63 rd
Human Freedom Index	111 st
Human Development Index	131 st
Receiving Spam Calls	9 th
Global Hunger Index 2020	94 th
Teacher Status Index (GTSI)	6 th
Asia Power Index 2020	4 th



NATIONAL NEWS

OCTOBER

PM ATTENDS G-20 SUMMIT IN ROME AND COP-26 IN GLASGOW



Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a five-day visit to Italy and the United Kingdom to attend the 16th G-20 Summit in Rome and the World Leaders' Summit of COP-26 in Glasgow.

He attended the G-20 Summit in Rome on 30-31 October at the invitation of Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi. The summit focused on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: People, Planet and Prosperity.

It focused on the areas of recovery from the pandemic and strengthening of global health governance, economic recovery and resilience, climate change and energy transition and sustainable development and food Security.

From Rome, he went to Glasgow to attend the World Leader's Summit (Nov 1-2) of the 26th Conference of Parties (COP-26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held under the Presidency of the UK partnering with Italy, from Oct 31 to Nov 12. It was attended by Heads of State of more than 120 countries.

The G-20 is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies, comprising 19 countries and the European Union. Its leadership rotates on an annual basis among its members. Italy assumed the 2021 Presidency on the 1st December 2020. It has no permanent secretariat.

DANISH PM ARRIVES IN INDIA ON A 3 DAY VISIT

Prime Minister of Denmark Mette Frederiksen arrived in New Delhi on Oct 9 on a three-day visit to India. During the visit she discussed the entire gamut of bilateral relations and reviewed the progress in implementation of the Green Strategic Partnership. Both sides also discussed regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest.

India and Denmark have strong trade and investment ties. More than 200 Danish companies are present in India and over 60 Indian companies have a presence in Denmark.

WORLD'S LARGEST KHADI NATIONAL FLAG



The world's largest Khadi national flag was installed in Leh, Ladakh, on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary. The tricolor, which is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide, weighs around 1,000 kg, has been made by Khadi and Village Industry Commission (KVIC).

At least 150 soldiers of the Indian Army's 57 Engineer regiment carried the flag to the top of a hill at over 2,000 feet above the ground level in Leh which has an altitude of 11,500 feet.

INDIA HOSTS 4th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ISA

The 4th General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) was held virtually from October 18 to 21 to deliberate on key initiatives in the solar energy sector including the operationalization of India's One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative.

Union Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy R K Singh and the President of ISA presided over the Assembly.

ISA was co-founded by India with France during the 2015 Climate Change Conference in Paris. It is headquartered in Gurugram, India.

OSOWOG is simply a single global grid for solar energy. It aims to build and scale-up inter-regional energy grids to share solar energy across borders, leverage the differences between time zones, seasons, pricing, and resources of different countries.

DR. BIBEK DEBROY TO HEAD EAC-PM



The Office of the Prime Minister approved the reconstitution of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). Noted economist Dr Bibek Debroy has been selected as the Chairman of the seven-member Council. It has been constituted for a period of two years.

The Council analyzes any issue, economic or otherwise, referred to it by the Prime Minister and advises him. It also addresses issues of macroeconomic importance and presents views thereon to the Prime Minister.

INDIA RE-ELECTED TO THE UNHRC

India was re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council for a record 6th term with an overwhelming majority.

The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system. It is made up of 47 States members, elected by the General Assembly. It is responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe.

Ms. Nazhat Shameem, Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations, is the current President of the UNHRC. Its headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland.

INDIA JOINS HIGH AMBITION COALITION

India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People on Oct 7. It is a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect 30x30.

This coalition aims to promote an international agreement to protect at least 30 percent of the world's land and ocean by 2030. It was initiated at the One Planet Summit in Paris in January this year. The Coalition members currently include a mix of countries in the global north and south, Europ, Latin America, Africa and Asia.

INDIA HOLDS CAF RANGE COUNTRIES MEET

India hosted the two-day Online Meeting of 30 CAF Range countries on Oct 6-7 with a resolve to strengthen the conservation actions for migratory birds and their habitats in the Central Asian Flyway (CAF).

India shared its best practices on conservation of migratory birds and the National Action Plan, with the CAF range countries.

CAF covers a large area of Eurasia between the Arctic and Indian Oceans. This flyway comprises several important migration routes of birds. Including India, there are 30 countries under the Central Asian Flyway.

JURISDICTION OF BSF EXTENDED

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs issued a notification increasing the jurisdiction of the Border Security Force (BSF) to give its officers the powers of arrest, search and seizure in areas upto 50 km from the borders, inside the bordering states of Punjab, West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura.

Earlier, this range was 15 km. The decision has been taken to "improve operational efficiency" and "crack down on smuggling rackets".

An officer of the rank corresponding to that of the lowest rank of member of the BSF is now empowered under the CrPC to exercise and discharge the powers and duties without an order from a Magistrate and without a warrant.

The BSF is responsible for guarding India's border with Pakistan and Bangladesh. It was raised on December 1, 1965, after the 1965 Indo-Pakistan War to ensure the security of the borders of India. The BSF is termed as the first line of defence of Indian territories and is currently the world's largest border guarding force.

'SUDARSHAN BHARAT PARIKRAMA' BY NSG



The National Security Guard (NSG) launched an All India Car Rally 'Sudarshan Bharat Parikrama' on October 02, from the historic Red Fort in Delhi, as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', to celebrate 75th years of India's Independence.

The month-long campaign will cover a 7,500 kms long journey through 18 cities in 12 states, passing through important and historical places associated with the Freedom Movement and Freedom Fighters of the country, ending on October 30 at the Police Memorial in New Delhi.

NSG is a highly trained Federal Contingency deployment Force, established in 1986 under Ministry of Home Affairs to conduct anti hijack operations, rescue operations and to provide tough support to the Central ParaMilitary Forces in exceptionally dangerous cases of terrorism.

OFB SPLIT INTO 7 CORPORATE ENTITIES

The 240-year-old Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) that supplies arms, ammunition, clothing and other equipment to the Indian armed forces, has been dissolved with effect from October 1, 2021. OFB functions as a subordinate office under the Ministry of Defence. OFB's 41 factories have been split into seven new Defence Public Sector Undertakings.

The split is expected to deepen product specialisation, improve quality and boost performance, accountability and cost-efficiency. Currently, the OFB has an annual turnover of approximately Rs 22,390 crores. The 7 new groups are:

- 1) Ammunition and Explosives group (Munition India Ltd.)
- 2) Vehicles Group (Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd.)
- 3) Weapons and Equipment group (Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd.)
- 4) Troop Comfort Items group (Troop Comforts Ltd.)
- 5) Ancillary group (Yantra India Ltd.)
- 6) Opto-Electronics group (India Optel Ltd.)
- 7) Parachute group (Gliders India Ltd.)

The Union Cabinet had cleared the splitting of the OFB into 7 new corporate entities on June 16, 2021. The first origin of OFB can be traced to 1775 when the British

established it Fort William, Kolkata. The first 18 ordnance factories were set up by the British and the rest have come up after India became independent in 1947.

The first ordnance factory was a gunpowder factory set up by the British in 1787 at Ishapore, near Kolkata. Later, in 1904, it started producing rifles and the name was changed to Rifle Factory, Ishapore, which is operational till date.

SC INTRODUCES 'FASTER' SYSTEM

The Supreme Court has introduced the "Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records" (FASTER) system.

By this new system, SC's crucial decisions, including orders on bail and stay of arrest, can be communicated electronically to prison authorities and investigating agencies through a secure channel.

The system is meant to ensure that under trials are not made to wait for days on end behind bars to be released because the certified hard copies of their bail orders were late to reach the prison. The system would also prevent unnecessary arrests and custody of people even after the court has already granted them its protection.

'KOOZHANGAL' - INDIAN ENTRY IN OSCARS

Tamil film 'Koozhangal', has been announced as India's official entry to the Oscars 2022. Selection was made by the Selection Committee, set up by the Film Federation of India.

Directed by debutant Director P.S. Vinothraj, 'Koozhangal' tells the story of an alcoholic father and his son and their journey to bring back the mother, who has left the home.

The film will compete for the "Best International Feature Film" at the 94th Academy Awards, to be held on 27th of March, 2022 in Los Angeles, USA.

J.NAGAR-KURTHA RAIL LINK GIVEN TO NEPAL

The Indian government handed over the 34.9 km long cross-border rail link connecting Jayanagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal to the Nepal government on Oct 22.

The Jaynagar - Kurtha section is part of the 68.7 km Jayanagar - Bijalpura- Bardibas rail link built under the Government of India's grant assistance programme for conversion of 34.9 km narrow gauge into broad gauge.



INDIA FARES WELL IN RENEWABLE ENERGY



The 58th edition of EY's Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index' (RECAI) has placed India at the third spot. The Index ranks the world's top 40 markets on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities. As per the Index, India's flourishing renewable energy market conditions along with comprehensive policy decisions and investment and technology advancements have driven the clean energy transition to new levels. The United States has been ranked first, followed by China at second spot.

Ernst & Young Global Limited, doing business as EY, is the largest multinational professional services network with headquarters in London.

INDIA AVERAGE IN DIGITAL QUALITY OF LIFE

The third annual edition of the Digital Quality of Life Index (DQL) ranked India 59th among 110 countries. Denmark ranks 1st in DQL for the second year in a row and is closely followed by South Korea.

Covering 90% of the global population, the DQL study is conducted by the global cybersecurity company Surfshark and evaluates countries based on a set of five fundamental digital wellbeing pillars.

INDIA SCORES LOW ON 'RULE OF LAW INDEX'

The Rule of Law Index 2021, released by the Washington DC, USA based social research group--World Justice Project ranked India at 79th place, with a score of 0.50, out of 139 countries covered by it. Denmark and Norway were joint first, with a score of 0.90, followed by Finland (0.88). Venezuela was placed at the bottom, with a score of 0.27.

The Index ranks the countries based on scores ranging from 0 to 1, with 1 indicating the strongest adherence to the rule of law. The Index relies on national surveys of more than 138,000 households and 4,200 legal practitioners and experts to measure how the rule of law is experienced and perceived worldwide.

INDIA SLIPS TO 90th RANK IN PASSPORT INDEX

The Henley Passport Index for 4th quarter of 2021 was released on Oct 07. It ranked India at 90th place, six spots down than its 84th spot last year.

Japan and Singapore shared the top position, with their passport holders allowed to travel visa-free to 192 countries. In comparison, Indian passport holders are allowed to travel visa-free to 58 countries.

The Index ranks the passports of 116 countries according to the number of destinations their holders can visit without a prior visa. The rankings are based on the analysis of data provided by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

INDIA LAGS BEHIND IN FOOD SECURITY

India was ranked pretty low in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 of 113 countries. It was placed at 71st spot with a score of 57.2. Ireland topped the Index with a score of 84.0, followed by Austria (81.3) and UK (81.0).

The GFS Index was designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience. The Index measures the underlying drivers of food security in 113 countries, based on the factors of affordability, availability, quality and safety, and natural resources and resilience. It calls for accelerating the progress toward the UN's Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger by 2030.

INDIA FARES POORLY ON HUNGER INDEX

In a shocking development, India slipped by seven spots in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) of 116 countries, released on Oct 14. It has been ranked at 101st position, down from 94th in 2020. Worse still is the fact that it is behind its neighbours Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.

The report, prepared jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organisation Welt Hunger Hilfe, termed the level of hunger in India as "alarming". Eighteen countries, including China, Brazil and Kuwait, shared the top rank with a GHI score of less than five.

GHI assesses each country's status in terms of its performance on four parameters - Undernourishment, Child wasting, Child Stunting and Child Mortality. Taken together, the term 'hunger' reflects deficiencies in calories as well as in micronutrients.

SEPTEMBER

PM ADDRESSED 76th SESSION OF UN GEN. ASSM.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a landmark visit to the US from Sep 23 to 25. He addressed the 76th session of the UN General Assembly on Sep 25th in New York. He asserted, "When India grows, the world grows. When India reforms, the world transforms." Referring to the strength of democracy, he remarked, ".... Democracy can deliver, democracy has delivered". He said that it must be ensured that Afghan soil is not used for terror activities.

He attended the first in-person Quad summit on Sep 24 in Washington DC. He said "....QUAD is a force for global good." He held bilateral and multilateral engagements with noted statesmen of the world. He held talks with US President Joe Biden, US Vice President Kamala Harris and his counterparts from Australia, Scott Morrison and from Japan, Yoshihide Suga. He also met top American CEOs of five companies and invited them to step up their investments in the country.

INDIA HOSTS 13th BRICS SUMMIT



As part of India's ongoing chairship of BRICS in 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 13th BRICS Summit on Sep 09 in virtual mode. The theme that India has chosen for its leadership is – 'BRICS at 15 – Intra-BRICS Cooperation for continuity, consolidation and consensus'. Sanjay Bhattacharya, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, was India's Sherpa for the Summit.

BRICS is the grouping of five of the largest developing countries of the world – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, formed in June 2006. Together they represent 41 percent of the global population, 24 percent of the global GDP and 16 percent of the global trade.

INDIA FIRST TO LAUNCH A 'PLASTIC PACT'

India became the first Asian country to launch on Sep 03 a "Plastics Pact". The India Plastics Pact, a joint initiative between the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and World-Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India), aims to bring together leading businesses at a national level to make commitments for building a circular system for plastics. The Pact visualises a world where plastic is valued and does not pollute the environment. The Pact targets the businesses to move towards a circular economy for plastics by 2030.

At the core of all Plastics Pacts lie four ambitious, time-bound targets for reducing, and re-imagining plastic packaging. The India Plastics Pact's targets to be achieved by 2030 are:

1. Define a list of unnecessary or problematic plastic packaging and items and take measures to address them through redesign and innovation
2. 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable or recyclable
3. 50% of plastic packaging to be effectively recycled
4. 25% of all plastic packaging to be from recycled product
5. India generates 9.46 MT of plastic waste annually, of which 40% is not collected. About half of all plastics produced in the country are used in packaging, most of it is single-use in nature.

IIT MADRAS TOPS THE NIRF RANKINGS

IIT Madras topped the NIRF rankings for the third time in a row, in the overall category. IISc Bengaluru came second, followed by IIT Bombay at the third place. The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), functions under the ministry of education. Toppers in various other categories are as under:

CATEGORY	TOP INSTITUTE
Engineering	IIT-Madras
Research	IIS-Bengaluru
Management	IIM-Ahmedabad
Medical	AIIMS-Delhi
Pharmacy	Jamia Hamdard, Delhi
Architecture	IIT-Roorkee
Law	National Law School, B'luru
Dental	Manipal Dental College
Colleges	Miranda College, New Delhi

The rankings for all colleges and universities across the country were based on teaching, learning, and resources; research and professional practice, graduation outcome; outreach and inclusivity; and peer perception.

IMF ALLOCATES 12.57 BILLION SDR TO INDIA

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has made an allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) 12.57 billion to India. (8pprox. USD 17.86 billion). With this, the total SDR holding of India has gone upto SDR 13.66 billion (equivalent to around USD 19.41 billion). SDR in the RBI's forex reserves was \$1.54 billion as on August 20, 2021. With the latest SDR allocation, India's forex reserves are expected to cross \$630 billion.

The SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves. To date, a total of SDR 660.7 billion (equivalent to about US\$943 billion) have been allocated. The value of the SDR is based on a basket of five currencies—the U.S. dollar, the euro, the Chinese renminbi, the Japanese yen, and the British pound sterling.

COIN IN HONOUR OF ISKCON FOUNDER

A special commemorative coin of Rs 125 was released by the Prime Minister Modi on September 01 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, founder ISKCON – International Society for Krishna Consciousness. He founded ISKCON in New York in July 1966, popularly known as the 'Hare Krishna Movement'. Its headquarters are in Village Mayapur in District Nadia, West Bengal, with 850 temples all over the world



INDIA IMPROVES INNOVATION RANKING



India improved its ranking by two spots to 46th in the Global Innovation Index 2021 released by the World Intellectual Property Organization – WIPO. India has been improving consistently its ranking in GII from 81st in 2015 to 46 in 2021. According to WIPO, the consistent improvement in the GII ranking is owing to the immense knowledge capital, the vibrant startup ecosystem and the amazing work done by the public and the private research organisations.

Switzerland was ranked as the most innovative country, followed by Sweden and USA at second and third spot, respectively, among the 131 countries covered by the Index.

GII is the indicator for governments all over the world to assess the social and economic changes in their respective countries. The 80 indicators of GII explore a broad vision of innovation, including education, political environment, business sophistication, and infrastructure.

9 JUDGES JOIN SUPREME COURT



For the first time in the history of Indian judiciary, nine new judges, including three women judges, took oath in one go as Supreme Court judges on August 31. The oath of office and secrecy was

administered by Chief Justice of India, N V Ramana. The nine new judges are: Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka, Justice Vikram Nath, Justice Jitendra Kumar Maheshwari, Justice Hima Kohli, Justice B V Nagarathna, Justice C T Ravikumar, Justice M M Sundresh, Justice Bela M Trivedi, Justice P S Narasimha.

With the swearing-in of the nine new judges, the current strength of the Supreme Court has increased to 33, including the CJI, against the sanctioned strength of 34. A Collegium headed by the CJI and comprising four other senior SC judges recommends the names of senior judges or advocates to the President of India for appointment of Supreme Court judges and he accords the final approval. A Supreme Court Judge can serve till he/she attains age of 65 years.

NEWS FROM STATES

OCTOBER

HP 1st TO DO ORGANISED CINNAMON FARMING

CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) introduced the organised cultivation of Cinnamon on a pilot basis in Himachal Pradesh. The project was launched on 29 September by planting first sapling in the Una district.

India imports 45,318 tonnes of Cinnamon for Rs. 909 crore, annually from Sri Lanka, China, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Nepal.

Though Cinnamon is cultivated on over 2,000 hectares in Kerala, it is in the unorganised sector. Cinnamon, most commonly known as Dalchini, is an evergreen bushy tree whose bark is primarily used as a spice.

ALIBAG'S WHITE ONION GETS GI TAG

The famed white onion of Alibag in Maharashtra's Raigad district has earned itself a 'Geographical Indication', giving the crop a unique identity and wider markets. Alibag's white onion has medicinal qualities and is used for the treatment of heart ailments, controlling cholesterol and creation of insulin.

JUDIMA AND SOJAT MEHNDI GET GI TAG

Judima, a home-made rice wine from Assam and Sojat Mehndi (Henna) from Rajasthan, have been awarded the geographical indication (GI) tag.

Judima is a local fermented drink made with rice, brewed by the Dimasa community in south eastern Assam. It derives its name from the words Ju which means wine and Dima means 'belonging to the Dimasa'. Sojat mehndi is grown in Sojat tehsil of the Pali district in Rajasthan. The local soil, drainage system and climate is very suitable for natural cultivation of the mehndi crop. It is famous for leaving a deep dark red colour when applied on skin, besides many medicinal qualities. *Once a product gets a GI tag, no person or company can sell a similar item under that name. This tag is valid for 10 years following which it can be renewed. GI is covered under a law of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).*

CHHATTISGARH GETS 4th TIGER RESERVE

The National Tiger Conservation Authority approved the Chhattisgarh Government's proposal of declaring the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as 4th Tiger Reserve in the state. It is located in the northern part of the state, bordering Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh.





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AIIB LOAN FOR CHENNAI METRO



The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a \$ 356.67 million loan to the Government of India to support the expansion of the Chennai metro rail system. The project involves the construction of a new corridor in Chennai's metro network as part of Chennai Metro Rail Phase 2.

\$150 MILLION WB LOAN FOR CHENNAI

The World Bank approved a \$150 million (around Rs 1,112 crore) loan for funding 'Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Program' of Tamil Nadu, with the vision of making Chennai into a world-class city that is more green, livable, and resilient to climate change.

THREE LOANS APPROVED BY ADB

The Asian Development Bank signed a \$251-million loan for climate-resilient, integrated urban flood protection and management in the Chennai-Kosasthalaiyar basin to strengthen the resilience of Chennai city to floods.

ADB also sanctioned a \$ 100 million loan to promote an agribusiness network to boost farm incomes and reduce food losses in the State of Maharashtra.

A third loan of \$ 4.5 million was approved by ADB to support project preparation and design activities to improve urban mobility in Aizawl, the capital city of Mizoram.

SEPTEMBER

NEW DELHI TOPS IN CCTV COVERAGE

In a report by Forbes India, New Delhi and Chennai have ranked first and third respectively from India on the world's most surveilled cities. New Delhi has 1,826 cameras per square mile while Chennai has 609 cameras per square mile. London ranked second most surveilled city in the world with 1,138 cameras per square mile. Shenzhen, China ranked fourth with 520 cameras per square mile.

HARYANA TOPS IN INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PUMPS

Haryana secured first position in installation of off-grid solar pumps under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM), as per the data released by the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. Haryana installed 14,418 pumps against 15,000 sanctioned pumps for the year 2020-21.

The centrally-sponsored PM-KUSUM scheme was launched in 2019 with a target to install 20 lakh standalone solar pumps. Scheme is aimed at ensuring energy security for farmers in India, along with honouring India's commitment to increase the share of installed capacity of electric power from non-fossil-fuel sources to 40% by 2030.

HP FIRST TO ACHIEVE COVID TARGET

Himachal Pradesh has become the first state to achieve a unique distinction of achieving cent percent target of providing first dose of Covid-19 vaccination to all eligible persons of 18 years and above.

Among districts with a population of more than 10 lakh, Indore district in Madhya Pradesh became first to inoculate 100% eligible population with the first dose of Covid19 vaccine.

GOA FIRST STATE TO OFFER 'FREE WATER'

From September 1, 2021, Goa became the first state in India to supply water free of cost to its citizens for consumption up to 16,000 litres per month under the 'Save Water to Get Free Water' scheme. It is expected that 60 percent of households in Goa will get zero bills from September 1 onwards. Even the small businesses and restaurants will be transferred from the industrial to commercial segment for water billing, due to which, they also will be able to avail the benefit of this scheme.

STATE FOOD SAFETY INDEX, 2020-21

The food safety regulatory national body, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), released on Sep 20, the third State Food Safety Index (SFSI) for evaluating food safety across all States/UTs in 2020-21. The states and UTs were classified into three categories to rank under the index: large states, small states and union territories. The top three performers in the respective category were - Gujarat, Goa and J&K.

The SFSI index measures states' performance to provide safe food to the general public as per FSSAI Act. States and UTs are ranked on five parameters of food safety:

*Human resources and institutional data,
Level of regulatory compliance,
Food testing facility,
Training and capacity building
Consumer empowerment*



LADAKH GETS WORLD'S HIGHEST THEATRE



The world's highest movie theatre was inaugurated in the Paldan area of Leh, at an altitude of 11,562 feet. It's a mobile digital movie theatre with an inflatable structure and can operate in -28 degree Celsius. The initiative was taken to bring the movie experience to the remotest areas of India. Bollywood superstar Akshay Kumar's recently released 'Bell Bottom' was the first mainstream film screened here.

WORLD'S HIGHEST RADIO STATION

Two high power transmitters were inaugurated at the world's highest radio station at Humbatingla in Kargil, at an altitude of 13,300 feet from mean sea level. Transmitters of All India Radio FM radio station and Doordarshan will improve the transmission and the reach in the region especially in Kargil and Batalik sectors. Now the people in the mountainous region would get better quality services of AIR and DD.

NAGA CUCUMBERS GET GI TAG

The juicy, soft and sweet cucumbers from Nagaland were granted coveted GI Tag. They are grown completely organically, throughout the state. They are low in calories but high in potassium and contain a high level of water & can serve as an alternative to consuming sports drinks.

2 MORE BEACHES GET 'BLUE FLAG'

The Environment Ministry informed on Sep 21 that two more beaches in India have been awarded "Blue Flag" certification, an international eco-level tag, taking the total number of such beaches in the country to 10. The two beaches to receive the certification this year are Kovalam in Chennai, Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry. The certification is given by the Foundation for Environment Education (FEE), Denmark. It also re-certified the 8 beaches that were certified on October 6, 2020.

Blue Flag certification is a globally recognised eco-label accorded on the basis of 33 stringent criteria in four major heads which are environmental education and information, bathing water quality, environmental management, and conservation and safety and services on the beaches. The Blue Flag beach is an eco-tourism model endeavouring to provide the visitors clean and hygienic bathing water, facilities, a safe and healthy environment and sustainable development of the area.

INDIA'S FIRST DUGONG RESERVE

The Tamil Nadu government declared on Sep 3 that 500 sq.km of the biodiversity-rich waters in the Palk Bay, on the southeast coast of Tamil Nadu, will be formed as India's first Dugong conservation reserve.

Dugong is a sea cow, which is an endangered marine mammal that is facing extinction due to water pollution, habitat loss and loss of seagrass. Presently, around 200 Dugongs are believed to inhabit the marine regions of Tamil Nadu

Studies have revealed that the proposed conservation reserve supports several other globally important species such as the highly-threatened whale sharks, sea horses, green and hawksbill sea turtles, and dolphins.

GI TAG FOR CHILLI & ORANGE FROM MANIPUR

The famous Sirarakhong Chilli (also called Hatheli chilli) and Tamenglong Orange from Manipur received the Geographical Index (GI) tag. Hathei chilli is native to Ukhrul's Sirarakhong village and is popular for its distinctive long shape and vibrant red colour and unique flavour. Tamenglong orange is grown widely in all villages in Tamenglong district. It is famous especially for its well-blended sweetness and acidic taste.

The GI status is an indication that identifies goods as produced from a particular area which has special quality attributable to its geographical origin.

INDIA'S LARGEST OPEN-AIR FERNERY

India's largest open-air fernery was inaugurated on September 12 in Uttarakhand's Ranikhet. The fernery is special area designated for large number of fern species, some of which are endemic to the state. Some hold medicinal value while some are threatened species that demand care and conservation. It is the country's first open-air fernery in natural surroundings which is not under any poly-house/ shade house. Otherwise, Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram is the largest.

Ferns are non-flowering pteridophytes. They generally reproduce by producing spores. However, similar to flowering plants, ferns have roots, stems, and leaves. Ferns are the first plant with a fully developed vascular system. Ferns are important for the environment for their ornamental values. They have medicinal and edible purposes.



INDIA'S TALLEST AIR PURIFICATION TOWER



India's tallest air purification tower was inaugurated in Chandigarh on Sep 7. Standing 24 meter high, this is the highest air purifier of India. It will cover around a 500-metre radius around Transport Chowk, sector 26, a very busy traffic crossing. It will clean 3.88 crore cubic ft of air from the surrounding environment. The tower has been installed on the initiative of Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee.

Earlier, Delhi got its first-ever much-needed smog tower last month. It is 20-meter-tall and was set up at Baba Kharak Singh Marg in Connaught Place to combat rising air pollution in Delhi.

THREE STATES GET NEW GOVERNORS

President Ram Nath Kovind appointed former Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh as the new Uttarakhand Governor on September 9. Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit was appointed as the new Governor of Punjab. Retired IPS Officer RN Ravi, Governor of Nagaland, has been made the new Tamil Nadu Governor. Governor of Assam, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi will be discharging the functions of the Governor of Nagaland in addition to his own duties until regular arrangements are made.

TRIPARTITE PEACE ACCORD WITH KARBIS

The Government of India has signed a tripartite peace accord on Sep 04 with the State government of Assam and five insurgent groups from the Karbi Anglong region in Assam, to end decades of violence in the region. The agreement aims to encourage the insurgent groups to shun violence, lay down their arms and join the mainstream society and the government will help in their rehabilitation and integration.

It promises an investment of ₹1,000 crore by the Assam government for development of the Karbi Anglong area in the next five years. It will grant greater autonomy to the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council and provide protection to the language, culture and identity of the region and reservation to the Karbi people. It will provide reservation for the people of Karbi for the first time, and rehabilitation for the surrendered militants.

Karbi Anglong is a hilly district in the middle of Assam, inhabited by Karbi tribe people along with a number of other tribes. Anglong in Karbi language means 'hills'. It is governed by the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council. Karbis form roughly 46% of the population.

The region is infested with a number of violent inter tribal rivalries, fighting for gaining supremacy. Since the early 1990's, Karbis have been raising their voice for an independent hill state.

DEEPPOR BEEL ECO-SENSITIVE ZONE NOTIFIED

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the area around Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary near Guwahati, Assam as an eco-sensitive zone. This means that only such restricted activities will now be allowed in the notified area which may not have any adverse effect on the ecology of the area.

Beel is the Assamese word for a large pond or lake with static water. Deepor Beel is a permanent freshwater lake, in a former channel of the Brahmaputra River. It is a wetland listed under the Ramsar Convention, since November 2002.

- ❖ The world's highest electric vehicle charging station was inaugurated at 12,500 ft in Kaza village of Lahaul & Spiti district in Himachal on Sep. 23.
- ❖ Asian Development Bank approved a \$150 million loan for a sustainable housing project for the urban poor in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The ADB granted a \$ 300 million loan as additional financing to scale up improvement of rural connectivity in Maharashtra.

GOVT. INITIATIVES

OCTOBER

APPSCALE ACADEMY TO PUSH IT STARTUPS

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) tied up with tech giant Google to launch Appscale Academy, a new growth and development programme for startups, aimed at building apps for a global audience.

The programme will span across six months and cover topics such as app quality, global reach, user acquisition and monetisation, app design, Google Play policy, and data safety best practices.

GREEN-DAY-AHEAD MARKET LAUNCHED

Union Power Minister RK Singh launched the Green-Day-Ahead Market (GDAM) in a bid to further strengthen the electricity trade in India. The launch of GDAM is a step towards opening doors for renewable energy wherein any renewable energy generating company can set up and sell renewable energy on the exchange. GDAM aims to make energy business simpler and enable big industries to go green.



KOLKATA PORT FIRST TO GET RoIP FACILITY



In a first of its kind, a long-range marine communication system, which will remain effective during storms and inclement weather conditions, was launched at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, the erstwhile Kolkata Port. It is a Radio over Internet Protocol (RoIP) system that will cover the entire Hooghly River estuary from Kolkata, having base stations at four locations - Kolkata, Hugli point, Haldia and Sagar Pilot Station. With this facility, vessels at Sandheads can be directly communicated via Radio, from Kolkata, especially during storms and inclement weather.

KNOWLEDGE APP 'CUNSLT' LAUNCHED

Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari launched a knowledge app and platform CUNSLT on Oct 25. It is the first such global facility by which people who need information, advice, counsel, guidance can contact and call up experts in multiple sectors on-the-go. 380 experts from over 60 fields, from 65 regions of the country are connected on this app.

Through this app, information about health, security, agriculture, environment, foreign affairs, Kashmir affairs, railways, economic, women empowerment, religion and spirituality etc. can be taken directly from the experts.

Apart from experts, there is also a presence of former IAS officers on this app. The app will be a forum for mentors to share their life experiences. It will facilitate people to learn from the wisdom of the experts which has been acquired over their lifetime.

GARUDA APP BY EC TO CUT PAPERWORK

The Election Commission of India (ECI) launched the Garuda app to ensure faster, transparent and timely completion of election work. Through the Garuda app, Booth Level Officers (BLO) will be able to upload photos and location information of the polling stations, along with data like latitude and longitude of the centre, from their registered mobile numbers.

They can also add voter names, deletion of names or modification of addresses in the electoral roll through this app. Even the details of various amenities like availability of toilets, wheelchair, drinking water, electricity, sheds, chairs, ramps for differently-abled in polling booths can be added there and can be checked online. The app will also help in reducing the paperwork to a great extent.

GEOSPATIAL ENERGY MAP OF INDIA

A Geographic Information System (GIS)-based Geospatial Energy Map of India was launched by NITI Aayog on October 18. The Map has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and with the support of central government's energy ministries.

It will provide a holistic spatial picture of all energy resources of the country, including conventional power plants, petroleum refineries, oil and gas wells, coal fields and coal blocks and district-wise data on renewable energy power plants, all at one place.

It will include 27 layers of data from multiple sources. Benefits of the GIS-based energy map include better policy development and planning, investment guidance for financial institutions, improved disaster management and emergency response.

PM GATI SHAKTI-NATIONAL MASTER PLAN

The Prime Minister launched the PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan on Oct 13 for promoting multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country. The Gati Shakti (power of speed) Plan with a layout of Rs. 100 lakh crore, aims to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost the economy. It targets to increase cargo handling capacity and reduce the turnaround time.

The Plan will also provide an analytical and decision-making tool for investors, and all stakeholders involved in policy making of the country.

ISpA TO PROMOTE SAT. COMMUNICATIONS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA) on Oct 11. It is a grouping of various stakeholders in the Indian space domain with members comprising the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Bharti Airtel, OneWeb, Tata Group's Nelco, L&T, MapMyIndia among others. Several Indian and international companies are developing satellite communications as the next frontier to provide internet connectivity at the retail level.

As of now, satellite communications remain limited to use by corporates and institutions that use it for emergency use, critical trans-continental communications and for connecting to remote areas with no connectivity. As of August, this year, India had only 3 lakh satellite communications customers, compared with 45 lakh in the US and 21 lakh in the European Union.



"MYPORTAPP" TO SMOOTHEN PORT Ops.



Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbanand Sonowal launched a port mobile application called "MyPortApp" in Kolkata on Oct 8. The App includes all relevant details of the ports and can monitor their operations virtually. It aims to provide Port Users information about various Port services at one click. The app also has various information like Vessel Berthing, Rake & Indent, Rake Receipt, Container Status, Tariff, Bills, Port Holidays, etc. and can be accessed anywhere 24x7 and reach out directly to port.

PM CARES FOR CHILDREN SCHEME

The government issued guidelines for the PM Cares For Children Scheme on Oct 7. The objective of the scheme is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of children who have lost their parents due to COVID pandemic. The scheme provides for support to these children through a convergent approach, gap funding for ensuring education, health, monthly stipend from the age of 18 and lump sum amount of ten lakh rupees on attaining 23 years of age. The eligible children will be enrolled from 29th of May 2021 to 31st of December this year to avail benefits.

MUDRA TO HELP DEMENTIA DIAGNOSIS

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) released the Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment (MUDRA) Toolbox in five Indian languages - Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam.

The toolbox includes various cognitive tests to assess different domains of cognition such as attention and executive function, memory, language, and visuo-spatial functions. *It is a comprehensive tool aimed at specifically diagnosing dementia in the Indian population.*

MITRA PARKS TO BOOST TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of 7 PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel) parks with a total outlay of Rs 4,445 crore for five years to position India strongly on the global textiles map.

Government has invited proposals of state governments having ready availability of contiguous and encumbrance-free land parcels of 1,000 plus acres along with other textiles related facilities. The parks are expected to create direct employment for 7 lakh people and indirect employment for about 14 lakh.

The parks will offer an opportunity to create an integrated textiles value chain right from spinning, weaving, processing/dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing at one location. An integrated textile value chain at one location will lead to reduction in the logistics cost of the industry.

AWARD FOR SAVING ROAD ACCIDENT VICTIMS

The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched a Scheme for grant of Award to the Good Samaritan who has saved the life of a victim of a fatal accident involving a motor vehicle by administering immediate assistance. Amount of award will be Rs. 5,000 per incident, maximum five times in a year.

The Scheme mainly aims to motivate the general public to help road accident victims in emergency situations, inspire and motivate others to save innocent lives on road. The Scheme would be effective from 15th October. *Further, the ministry will select the best ten Good Samaritans of the year and they will be awarded with one lakh rupees each along with a Certificate and trophy during National Road Safety Month (NRSM) in Delhi.*

'WASTE TO WEALTH' PORTAL LAUNCHED

The government launched a web portal 'Waste to Wealth' on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti (Oct 02) to bring together technology providers, government stakeholders and urban local bodies to find solutions to India's waste problems, especially the plastic waste.

The portal aims to enable collaborations for sustainable development through a circular economy and community participation. The portal has been launched by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser.

The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India was established in Nov 1999 by the Cabinet Secretariat to provide pragmatic and objective advice to the Prime Minister and cabinet on matters related to science, technology and innovation. It aims to focus on application of science and technology in critical infrastructure, economic and social sectors in partnership with Government departments, institutions and industry.



JAL JEEVAN MISSION APP LAUNCHED



The Prime Minister launched the Jal Jeevan Mission App on October 2 for improving awareness, transparency and accountability of the tap water schemes under the Mission.

The Jal Jeevan Mission was launched on 15 August, 2019 to provide clean tap water to every household in rural areas. At the time of launch, only 3.23 Crore (17%) rural households had tap water supply. As on date, about 8.26 Crore (43%) rural households have tap water supply in their homes.

To further strengthen the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, a "Rashtriya Jal Jeevan Kosh" (National Water Life Fund) was also launched where any individual, institution, corporate, be it in India or abroad, can contribute to help provide tap water connection in every rural household, school, anganwadi centre, shelter homes, and other public institutions.

CITIES TO BE GARBAGE-FREE/WATER-SECURE

Government launched Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0 on October 1.

The SBM-U 2.0 aims to make the cities garbage-free, focusing on removal of garbage mounds from the cities by processing the garbage. Under the mission, more toilets will be constructed, especially aspirational toilets will be built in high footfall areas. The outlay of SBM-U 2.0 is around Rs 1.41 lakh crore.

AMRUT 2.0 aims to promote sewage and safety management, making cities water-secure and ensuring that dirty nullahs don't merge into rivers. Under this mission, a drinking water survey will be conducted across the country to provide better water services to the people. The outlay of AMRUT 2.0 is around Rs 2.87 lakh crore.

SBM-U was launched in 2014 to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management.

AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) was launched in June 2015 to ensure adequate robust sewage networks and improve water supply in urban areas.

CHACHA CHAUDHARY TO SAVE GANGES

The iconic Indian superhero - Chacha Chaudhary has been declared as the mascot of the Namami Gange Programme. National Mission for Clean Ganga-NMCG has tied-up with

Diamond Toons to develop and distribute comics, e-comics and animated videos for this purpose. The content will be designed with the objective of bringing about behavioral change amongst children towards Ganga and other rivers. The decision was taken during the 37th Executive Committee meeting of the NMCG.

CLEAN INDIA PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

A month-long Clean India Programme was launched by Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur from Prayagraj on Oct 1 as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. This programme is being organised in six lakh villages of 744 districts across the country through the networks of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan-NYKS affiliated Youth Clubs and National Service Scheme-affiliated institutions.

The aim of the cleanliness drive is to create awareness, mobilize people and ensure their involvement in cleaning waste, mainly Single Use Plastic waste throughout the country. It will be the largest cleanliness drive of the world in which more than 75 lakh tonnes of waste, primarily plastic waste, from different parts of the country will be collected and further processed in a Waste to Wealth model.

'DIGISAKSHAM' TO IMPART DIGITAL SKILLS

Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav launched DigiSaksham - a digital skills programme in tie-up with Microsoft India to enhance the employability of youth by imparting them digital skills. It will provide free of cost training in digital skills including basic skills as well as advanced computing, to more than three lakh youths in the first year.

The programme will give priority to the job-seekers of the semi-urban areas belonging to the disadvantaged communities, including those who have lost their jobs because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NIDHI 2.0 LAUNCHED TO PROMOTE TOURISM

The Ministry of Tourism launched NIDHI 2.0 (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry) scheme on the occasion of World Tourism Day on Sep 27. The scheme aims to facilitate digitalization of the tourism sector and promote ease of doing business for the hospitality & tourism sector, by encouraging all accommodation units to register themselves on the platform to become part of the hospitality industry. It will also serve as a platform for the hospitality organisations to ideate, share best practices and connect with the Government for ease of doing business.



PM-POSHAN SHAKTI NIRMAN SCHEME



The Central Government has renamed the National Mid-Day Meal Scheme for students of class 1 to 8 in the government and aided schools as the PM-POSHAN Shakti Nirman Scheme to provide them one hot cooked meal every day. It will also cover the students of balvatikas or pre-primary classes. The Scheme will benefit around 11.80 crore children who have been studying in 11.20 lakh schools.

Under the scheme, 'Tithi Bhojan' will be introduced to allow people from the community to provide special food to the children on special occasions and festivals. Scheme will encourage cooking competitions to promote ethnic cuisine and innovative menus.

The scheme has been approved for the period of five years 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a financial outlay of Rs. 54,061 crores from the Central Government and Rs. 31,733.17 crores from the State and UT governments. In addition, the central government will also bear foodgrains cost of Rs. 45,000 crore.

The Midday Meal Scheme was launched in 1995 to improve the nutritional standing of school-age children all over the country.

AMRIT GRAND CHALLENGE PROGRAM" TITLED

"जनCARE": Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched the "Amrit Grand Challenge Program" titled "जनCARE" on Sep 28 to identify 75 Start-Up Innovations in Telemedicine, Digital Health, mHealth with Big Data, AI, Blockchain and other technologies. He said, the 75 Best Chosen Startups will be an asset for India to lead the country in the next 25 years, during the celebrations of Centenary of India's Independence.

The program was launched on the occasion of 10th Biotech Innovators Meet in New Delhi organised by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council. Dr Singh said, India's Bio-Economy is on the way to achieve the 150-billion-dollar target by 2025 to contribute effectively to Prime Minister's vision of a 5 trillion-dollar economy by 2024-25.

A DEVOTED HELPLINE FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

Government has taken a monumental step towards addressing the challenges and problems the elderly population face, by launching the country's first Pan-India toll-free helpline - 14567 -- called 'Elder Line'. The helpline provides free information and guidance on pension issues, legal issues, extends emotional support, and even intervenes on field in cases of abuse, and rescues homeless elderly.

India is expected to have nearly 30 crore senior citizens by 2050. The 'Elder Line' aims to provide all senior citizens with one platform across the country to connect and share their concerns, get information and guidance on problems that they face on a day-to-day basis.

SEPTEMBER

NATIONAL SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM

The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal launched the National Single Window System (NSWS) on September 22 for investors and businesses. The portal will usher in freedom from the legacy of running to the government offices for registrations and approvals and will provide a single point service instead. It will prove to be a giant leap towards the goal of 'Atmanibhar Bharat'.

The portal will bring Accountability, Transparency, and Responsiveness to the ecosystem and all the information will be available on a single dashboard. At present the NSWS hosts approvals across 18 Central Departments and 9 states. Another 14 central Departments and 5 states will later be added by December 2021. It will also provide strength to other schemes such as Startup India, Make in India, PLI Scheme, etc.

RS. 50K EX-GRATIA FOR COVID DEATHS

The Central Government submitted an affidavit in the Supreme Court on Sep 22 stating that the National Disaster Management Authority has recommended ex gratia Rs 50,000 to be given to kin of those who died due to Covid-19. The Centre further said that ex gratia will be provided from State Disaster Response Fund(SDRF) and subject to the cause of death being certified as Covid-19. Compensation will be given to families of even those deceased who were involved in Covid relief operations or associated in preparedness activities.

NATIONAL STEERING C'TEE FOR EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education has formed a 12-member National Steering Committee for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks. The committee will be chaired by former ISRO Chairman Dr K Kasturirangan. The Committee will develop four National Curriculum Frameworks, covering four distinct educational segments - School Education, Early Childhood Care and Education, Teacher's Education and Adult Education. Tenure of the National Steering Committee will be three years from the date of its notification. Director NCERT will assist the Steering Committee to complete its schedule.



GoM FOR SC/ST/OBCs WELFARE SCHEMES



The Central government has constituted a group of ministers (GoM) headed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to look into better implementation of various welfare schemes meant for the SC/ST and OBCs, minorities and women, and to improve their implementation and effectiveness. The basic objective of the GoM is to work for empowerment and prosperity of backward classes and minorities.

NITI & BYJU's TO GIVE FREE EDUCATION

The central government's NITI Aayog has teamed up with education technology company BYJU's to offer free study material virtually to government school students from classes VI to XII across 112 aspirational districts in the country.

The social impact initiative named "Education for All" will allow students of classes VI to XII access to top-notch educational content on the BYJU'S learning app for 3 consecutive years.

The initiative will also include BYJU's premium learning resources for competitive exams like Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) and the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET).

C'TEE TO REVIEW DRUGS AND COSMETICS ACT

The Ministry of health and family welfare has constituted an eight-member expert committee for framing new laws for drugs, cosmetics and medical devices and replacing the existing Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. The committee will be chaired by Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) Dr VG Somani.

"RAIL KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJANA" LAUNCHED

The Union Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw announced the "Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana" on Sep 17 to train 50,000 youths in the age group of 18 to 35 years, over the next three years. Under the scheme, youths will be provided training in industry relevant skills in Railway Training Institutes. Training programmes will be conducted in four trades - electrician, welder, machinist and fitter. Each programme will provide 100 hours of training, in 75 Railway Training Institutes across the country, focusing on remote areas.

'SHOONYA' TO MINIMISE VEHICLE POLLUTION

Government think tank NITI Aayog in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) of USA, launched campaign 'Shoonya' on Sep 15 to promote use of zero-pollution delivery vehicles by working with consumers and industry. The campaign aims to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the urban deliveries segment and create consumer awareness about the health, environmental and economic benefits of zero-pollution delivery.

Urban freight vehicles account for 10 percent of freight transportation-related CO2 emissions in India, and these emissions are expected to grow by 114 per cent by 2030.

PRANA TO REGULATE AIR POLLUTION

Union Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav launched PRANA portal on Sep 7. PRANA, meaning 'Life' in Sanskrit, is a portal for regulation of air pollution in 132 cities across the country under the National Clean Air Programme.

The Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment (PRANA) would support tracking of the physical and financial status of city air action plan implementation. It would also disseminate information on air quality to the public while also providing comprehensive information related to NCAP programme details, progress, city action plans, implementation updates by city/state/ national level agencies, air quality data, and trends, etc.

NCAP, launched in 2019, aims to achieve a tentative national level target of a 20%-30% reduction of particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) concentration by 2024 across the country.

'MAIN BHI DIGITAL 3.0' LAUNCHED

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information

Technology launched the pilot drive 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' - a special campaign for digital onboarding and training for street vendors under PM SVANidhi scheme across 223 cities in the country.

BharatPe, Mswipe, PhonePe, Paytm, Aceware are participating in this drive to issue UPI IDs, QR code and provide digital training. Further, lending institutions have been asked to train the beneficiaries for conducting digital receipt and payment transactions within a week of disbursement.

PM SVANidhi (PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi) is a scheme launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to empower Street Vendors for their holistic development and economic upliftment by extending working capital loans to them up to Rs. 10,000 for one year.



TRIFED TO SET UP ATMANIRBHAR CORNERS



Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has joined hands with the Ministry of External Affairs, to set up an Atmanirbhar Bharat corner in 100 Indian Missions/ Embassies across the world in the next 3 months. The first such corner was successfully inaugurated at the Indian Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. These corners will act as an exclusive outlet to promote Indian GI-tagged tribal art and craft products besides natural and organic products.

VIDYANJALI PORTAL LAUNCHED

The Education Ministry launched the Vidyanjali portal on Sep 07 to enable community/volunteers to contribute by connecting directly with the government and government-aided schools of their choice. It is designed to help funders, education volunteers and CSR contributors with school development. Any Indian citizen, NRI, or PIO, as well as any Indian-registered organisation, institution, corporation, or group, can volunteer and donate in two ways:

- i) Contributing assets / material / equipment such as basic civil infrastructure, basic electrical infrastructure, classroom support materials and equipment, etc.
- ii) Serving and retired teachers, scientist/government/semi government officials, retired armed forces personnel, self-employed and salaried professionals, alumni of educational institutions, homemakers and any other literate person can volunteer with their services at a school that requests for assistance.

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED FOR MEDICINAL PLANTS

Ayush Ministry launched the campaign "AYUSH Aapke Dwar" on Sep 04 for distributing medicinal plants from more than 45 locations across the country. Total 21 states are participating in the campaign in which more than 2 lakh saplings will be distributed. The campaign aims to distribute medicinal plant saplings to 75 lakh households across the country in one year. The medicinal plants include Tejpatta, Stevia, Ashoka, Jatamansi, Giloy/Guduchi, Ashwagandha, Kumari, Shatavari, Lemongrass, Guggulu, Tulsi, Sarpagandha, Kalmegh, Brahmi and Amla.

'Y BREAK' APP FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS

The union AYUSH minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched 'Y Break' (Yoga Break) mobile application in New Delhi on September 01. It is a unique five-minute Yoga protocol app, designed especially for working professionals to de-stress, refresh and refocus at their workplace to increase their productivity. It covers relevant Asanas, Pranayama and Dhyana mudras. The app has been developed by Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi.

MANTHAN TO ADDRESS SECURITY CHALLENGES

The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) joined hands with the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to launch a unique national Hackathon named 'MANTHAN 2021' on August 26. It will be coordinated by the Innovation Cell in the Ministry of Education. It aims to develop innovative concepts and technology solutions for addressing the security challenges of the 21st century faced by the intelligence agencies of the country.

It will be held online and the final event will take place on November 28-30, 2021. It is open to youths selected from education institutions across the country and registered start-ups. The winner will receive a cash award of Rs. 40 lakh.

A hackathon is an event designed to use technology, primarily coding, to accomplish an objective or to find solutions to given challenges. Word Hackathon is formed from two words -- Hack from hacker, a clever or smart programmer; and 'thon' from marathon, referring to endurance for long duration.

'INDIASIZE' TO DEVELOP INDIAN SIZE CHARTS



The Ministry of Textile in partnership with the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), New Delhi, launched the project 'INDIAsize' to develop Indian size charts based on body measurements of the Indian population for better fitting of ready to wear garments. Under the project, body measurements of 25000 people in the age group of 18 to 65 years will be taken using 3D body scanners in six different regions of India. It aims to develop a comprehensive standardised garments size chart for the Indian population.

The textile sector is the second largest employer in the country and generates about Rs 140 billion, of which Rs 100 billion is from Indian consumers alone. Rest about Rs 40 billion is exported.

"WEP NXT" LAUNCHED FOR WOMEN



The NITI Aayog in collaboration with the US based global IT giant Cisco, launched the next phase of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform "WEP Nxt" to promote empowerment of women entrepreneurs across India. It will use Cisco's technology and experience of working with India's startup ecosystem to foster more women-owned businesses in the country.

The WEP is NITI Aayog's flagship initiative, which was initially launched in 2017. It aims to bring together women entrepreneurs from different backgrounds to give them access to a wide range of support, resources and learning. It is the one-stop solution for all the information and services that are required by women entrepreneurs. It currently has over 16,000 registered users and 30 partners.

BHARAT SERIES (BH) LAUNCHED

The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) released the notification on August 27 for introducing Bharat Series (BH) for vehicles. A vehicle with BH mark will not require a new registration mark when the owner shifts from one State to another. It will be valid across the country. This facility will be available on a voluntary basis to Defence personnel as well as Central and State Government employees. Employees of private companies having offices in four or more states can also take advantage of this facility.

The new series will be very beneficial for people with transferable jobs, who keep moving from one state to another. This will help them to avoid the process of transferring registration certificates of their vehicles every time they move to a new state.



ECONOMY & INDUSTRY

OCTOBER

IMF PUTS INDIA'S GROWTH AT 9.5% IN 2021

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its latest World Economic Outlook, has projected that India will continue to be the world's fastest growing major economy, clocking a growth rate of 9.5 per cent in 2021. As per latest IMF projections, the Indian economy will grow at 8.5 percent in 2022. According to the IMF report, the world economy is expected to grow at 5.9 per cent in 2021 and 4.9 per cent in 2022.

INDIAN GDP TO GROW BY 8.3% : WB

The World Bank in its latest South Asia economic focus report released on Oct 6, stated that India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the current fiscal year (2021-22) is estimated to grow by 8.3%.

This growth estimate is supported by an increase in public investment to bolster domestic demand and schemes, like the production-linked incentive to boost manufacturing.

"Despite being ravaged by a second COVID-19 wave earlier this year, the economic impact of the pandemic this year has been 'relatively small' compared to the impact in 2020", said the report.

PFC GETS 'MAHARATNA' STATUS

The Government of India accorded 'Maharatna' Status to state-owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC). This will pave the way for the company's greater financial and operational efficiency. An order to this effect was issued on October 12 by the Department of Public Enterprises, under the Ministry of Finance.

Power Finance Corporation was incorporated in 1986. It is the largest infrastructure finance company which is dedicated to the power sector under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power.

"Maharatna" status is granted to a Central Public Sector Enterprises company which has recorded more than ₹ 5,000 crore of net profit for three consecutive years, an average annual turnover of ₹ 25,000 crore for three years or should have an average annual net worth of ₹ 15,000 crore for three years. There are a total of 11 'Maharatna' companies in India.

2 GoM FORMED FOR BETTER GST REGIME

The Finance Ministry announced the formation of two Group of Ministers on Sep. 24 for improvement in the GST regime.

First GoM led by Karnataka chief minister Basavaraj S. Bommai has been tasked to propose rationalisation of tax rates and considering the merger of different tax slabs within two months.

In its present form, the GST regime has five tax rate slabs of 0, 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent. A cess is levied over and above the 28 per cent slab on some goods and special rates for items like precious stones and diamonds

The other GoM constituted for GST System Reforms will be headed by Ajit Pawar, Deputy Chief Minister, Maharashtra. Its mandate is to review the IT interface and tools at the disposal of tax officers and come up with suggestions to make the system more effective and efficient.

It will identify potential sources of evasion, identify possible use of data analysis towards better compliance and revenue augmentation. It will also identify mechanisms for better coordination between Central and State tax administration.

TATA SONS GET BACK AIR INDIA

In an historical development, Tata Sons group won the bid for acquiring national carrier Air India. Tata Sons made a winning bid of 18,000 crore rupees for Air India against the reserve price of 12,906 crore rupees. An Inter- Ministerial Group comprising Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia cleared the winning bid for Air India on 4th of October.

The Tata Group had earlier run Air India before it was nationalised. The Tata Group-Air India relationship went back to 1932 when legendary industrialist Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy had launched the national carrier. Later, the government took over the company from Tata Sons and nationalised it in 1953.

SEPTEMBER

GDP JUMPS 20.1% IN APR-JUN QUARTER

The gross domestic product, GDP, of the country surged a strong 20.1 percent in the April-June quarter of the current fiscal, according to the data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on August 31. The economic growth witnessed a significant improvement from a deep slump last year helped by accelerated manufacturing in spite of a devastating second wave of coronavirus infections. The Chief Economic Advisor Krishnamurthy Subramanian said, "... India is poised for stronger growth from structural reforms, Government CAPEX push and rapid inoculation".



ADB SLASHES GDP GROWTH RATE TO 10%



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has revised downwards India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal, 2021-22 to 10 percent. Earlier this was projected at 11 percent, taking into account the adverse impact on services, domestic consumption, and the urban informal sector due to the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic.

MOODY'S RETAIN INDIA'S GROWTH AT 9.6%

Moody's Investors Service, New York, has retained India's progress forecast for the calendar year 2021 at 9.6 per cent, in its August update to 'Global Macro Outlook 2021-22' report, saying that the economic activity in India is picking up with the gradual easing of COVID restrictions and there could be further upside to growth as economies around the world gradually reopen. The GDP progress forecast for calendar year 2022 has been retained at 7 per cent.

MSP HIKED FOR RABI CROPS

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved on Sep 08 hike in the minimum support price (MSP) of major Rabi crops for the crop year 2022-23. MSP of wheat has been hiked by Rs 40 per quintal. MSP for mustard (oil seed) and masur (lentil) was increased by Rs 400 per quintal "to boost crop area, income of farmers as well as encourage diversification".

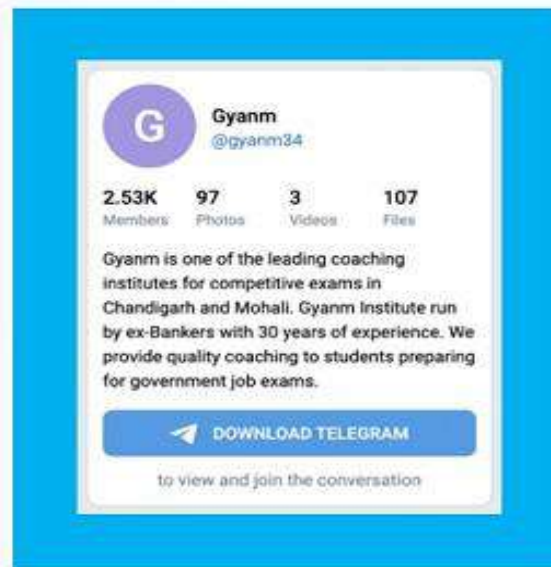
Crops	MSP in Rs. / Qtl.	Increase in MSP
Wheat	2015	40
Barley	1635	35
Gram	5230	130
Lentil (Masur)	5500	400
Rapeseed & Mustard	5050	400
Safflower	5441	114

MSP is the rate at which the government buys the grain from farmers. Currently, the government fixes MSPs for 23 crops grown in both Kharif and Rabi seasons. The sowing of Rabi (winter crops) begins from October after the harvest of Kharif (summer crops). Rabi crops are harvested in March-April.



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AMAZON'S "KISAN STORE" FOR FARMERS



Global online retailer Amazon has launched a new store meant exclusively for farmers called the Kisan Store. It is a combined initiative of Amazon and the Government of India. Farmers can buy seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, equipment, and other farming-related products by placing their order in five Indian languages including Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, and Kannada.

All products would be delivered directly to the farmers at their doorstep. Farmers can opt for cash on delivery or can use any of the popular digital modes of payment.

Farmers who prefer not to shop online can shop at Amazon's offline store. There are more than 50,000 Amazon Easy stores in India.

FORD MOTOR TO QUIT INDIA

Global car company Ford Motor Co of the USA has decided to stop its manufacturing facilities in India, taking a hit of about \$2 billion. As part of the plan, Ford India will shut down operations at its plant in Sanand (Gujarat) by the fourth quarter of 2021 and vehicle and engine manufacturing at its Chennai plant by 2022.

The decision by Ford comes after it struggled for years to win over Indian consumers and turn into profit. The carmaker entered India 25 years ago but could secure a less than 2% share of the passenger vehicles market. India is dominated mainly by low-cost cars made by Suzuki Motor Corp and Hyundai Motor.

BANKING & FINANCE

OCTOBER

AIFIs TO FOLLOW BASEL III NORMS

The RBI released a draft framework on Oct 22 on master directions to implement the Basel III Capital Framework for All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) including EXIM Bank, NABARD, NHB, and SIDBI.

The draft directions propose a minimum capital ratio of 11.5% of total risk weighted assets (RWA). They also propose AIFIs to maintain a capital conservation buffer in the form of common equity at 2.5% of RWA, in addition to the minimum capital adequacy ratio of 9%. These Basel III norms are in line with the minimum capital ratio of 11.5% and minimum capital adequacy ratio of 9% followed by Indian banks.

RWA refers to a risk-based classification of bank loans on the principle that higher the risk factor in a loan, higher will be its risk weight and vice versa. Loans backed with collateral are considered to be less risky than others because the collateral is considered in addition to the source of repayment when calculating an asset's risk.

Basel norms are international banking norms prescribed by the Bank for International Settlements, based at Basel, Switzerland.

RBI KEEPS POLICY RATES UNCHANGED

The RBI in its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting on Oct 8 decided to keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 4.0 percent. The reverse repo rate also remains unchanged at 3.35 per cent and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 4.25 per cent.

With a view to enlarge the scope of digital transactions, the Central Bank proposed to increase the per transaction limit through Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) to Rs 5 lakh, from Rs 2 lakh at present.

IMPS managed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), is an important payment system providing 24x7 instant domestic funds transfer facility. It is accessible through various channels like net banking, mobile apps, bank branches, ATMs, SMS and IVRS.

RBI'S 4th COHORT TO FOCUS ON BANK FRAUDS

The Reserve Bank of India announced the theme for Fourth Cohort under Regulatory Sandbox on 8th October. The theme is "Prevention and Mitigation of Financial Frauds".

It will focus on using technology to reduce the lag between the occurrence and detection of frauds, strengthening the fraud governance structure, and minimising response time to frauds.

This initiative is expected to ensure continuous innovation and engagement with industry to enable a proactive response to the rapidly evolving Fintech scenario.

RBI ALLOWS BANKS TO SELL FRAUD LOANS

With a view to help banks get rid of their fraudulent NPAs (bad loans), RBI has allowed loan exposures classified as fraud to be transferred to Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs). As per existing instructions, when a loan account is declared fraud, banks are required to set aside 100 per cent of the outstanding loan as provision. Under the new rules, banks can hope to recover a part of the loan by transferring it to an ARCs, for a price.

Stressed loans, which are in default for more than 60 days or classified as NPA, can be transferred to ARCs. This shall include loan exposures classified as fraud as on the date of transfer. However, transfer of such loans to an ARC, does not absolve the transferor from fixing the staff accountability as required under the extant instructions on frauds. It may be noted that banks reported frauds aggregating ₹3.95 lakh crore between FY19 and FY21.

NPCI LAUNCHES TOKENIZATION SYSTEM



National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) launched the NPCI Tokenization System (NTS) on Oct 20. It will support tokenization of cards as an alternative to storing card details with merchants. The NTS will support the tokenization of RuPay cards to further enhance the safety of customers and provide a seamless shopping experience.

Tokenization refers to replacement of actual card details with a unique alternate code called the "token". This token is unique for each combination of card, token requestor and device. These tokens then allow payments to be processed without disclosing the customer details or allowing the payment intermediaries to store customer data that could breach security and privacy.

HDFC BANK VOTED AS 'BEST INDIAN COMPANY'

As per the latest Asiamoney's "Asia's Outstanding Companies Poll, 2021 Poll", HDFC Bank was voted as the best among the listed companies in India, leading to the bank being awarded the 'Overall Most Outstanding Company in India'.

Besides, the bank was also voted 'Most Outstanding Company in India - Banking Sector,' for the 4th consecutive year, since the inception of the poll in 2018. The Poll is designed to acknowledge listed companies that have excelled in areas such as financial performance, management team excellence, investor relations, and CSR initiatives.

SEPTEMBER

INDIA DEBT RESOLUTION COMPANY SET UP

After setting up the National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL), the nine public sector banks (PSBs) have created a step-down asset management company named India Debt Resolution Company (IDRCL) with a paid-up capital of Rs. 80.5 lakh and an authorized capital of Rs 50 crore. PSBs will own 49 percent of IDRCL.

The company will be responsible for the resolution and restructuring of bad loans bought by the NARCL. It will have panels of experts, because the assets belong to various categories. These panels will deal with assets in domains in which they have expertise.

RBI OPENS 3RD COHORT FOR MSME LENDING

RBI announced the opening of the third cohort of regulatory sandbox on Sep 13 with its theme as MSME lending. The application for the Third Cohort may be submitted from Oct 01 to Nov 14, 2021. MSME refers to Micro, small and Medium Enterprises as defined under the MSMED Act, 2006. Lending to MSMEs is treated as part of Priority Sector Lendings, as defined by the RBI.

MSMEs: For both, manufacturing and services sectors, micro industries are one where investment in plant and machinery does not exceed Rs. 1 crore and annual turnover is not more than Rs. 5 crore. Units with investment of not more than Rs. 10 crore and turnover not more than Rs. 50 crore are Small industries. For medium industries, the respective limits are Rs. 50 crore and Rs. 250 crore.

A cohort is a group of people who share some common goal, or a group of people who share a common background or business. The RBI had announced the opening of the first cohort under RS in Nov 2019 with the theme of 'Retail Payments'. Second cohort was opened in Dec 2020 with the theme of 'Cross Border Payments'

Regulatory Sandbox (RS) refers to live testing of new products or services in a controlled/test regulatory environment for which regulators may permit certain relaxations for the limited purpose of the testing. The RS allows the regulator, innovators, financial service providers and customers to conduct field tests to collect evidence on the benefits and risks of new products and systems. It aims to foster responsible innovation in financial services, promote efficiency and bring benefit to consumers.

Sandbox: Upon approval the applicant becomes the sandbox entity responsible for operating in the RS. RBI will provide the appropriate regulatory support by relaxing specific regulatory requirements (which the sandbox entity will otherwise be subject to), where necessary, for the duration of the RS. At the end of the sandbox period, the sandbox entity must exit the RS.

UPI TO BE LINKED WITH PAYNOW

The RBI and the Monetary Authority of Singapore have announced a project to link their respective fast payment systems, Unified Payments



Interface (UPI) of India and PayNow of Singapore. The linkage is expected to be operational by July 2022.

The UPI-PayNow linkage will enable users in both the countries to make instant, low-cost fund transfers on a reciprocal basis without a need to get onboard onto any other payment system. The linkage will facilitate faster, cheaper and more transparent cross-border payments which will further promote trade, travel and remittance flows between the two countries.

VASUDEVAN C'TEE TO REVIEW NUE LICENSES



The Reserve Bank of India has set up a five-member committee headed by RBI chief general manager P Vasudevan to review applications and give recommendations on new umbrella entity (NUE) licences. The NUE will set up their own payment infrastructure to compete with the National Payments Corp. of India (NPCI).

These private entities can offer a range of retail payment services, including setting up of ATMs, point of sale terminals, Aadhaar-based payments, remittance services and develop newer payment methods.

ENTRY BAR RAISED TO 70 YEARS IN NPS

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has increased the entry age for the National Pension System (NPS) from 65 years to 70 years. Earlier the eligible age to invest in NPS was 18-65 years which has now been revised to 18-70 years. People joining at the age of 70 years, can continue up to the age of 75 years.

FUND TRANSFER LIMIT HIKED FOR NEPAL

The Reserve Bank of India increased the limit of fund transfer under the Indo-Nepal Remittance Facility Scheme to Rs 2 lakh per transaction, from Rs 50,000 at present. Earlier there was a ceiling limit of 12 transactions in a year. Now, this limit has also been removed. However, old restrictions will continue for cash transactions.

TOKENISATION TO COVER MORE DEVICES

The Reserve Bank of India has extended the scope of permitted devices for undertaking tokenised card transactions to include consumer devices such as laptops, desktops, wearables (wrist watches, bands, etc.), and Internet of Things (IoT) devices. This is in view of an increase in the volume of such transactions during the recent months. The initiative aims to make card transactions more safe, secure, and convenient for the users.

Hitherto, the tokenised card transaction facility was available only for mobile phones and tablets of interested cardholders.

***Tokenisation** means the replacement of actual card details with a unique alternate code called the "token", which will be unique for a combination of card, token requestor and device.*

EASE 4.0 LAUNCHED TO IMPROVE BANKS

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman unveiled on Aug 25 the fourth edition of EASE (Enhanced Access & Service Excellence), for the public sector bank reforms with a focus on deepening the customer-centric digital transformation of the lenders. With mobile and internet banking gaining currency amidst the pandemic, EASE 4.0 exhorts PSBs to adopt tech-enabled, simplified and collaborative 24x7 banking. The major theme for EASE 4.0 is "Technology-enabled, simplified, and collaborative banking." There are six key initiatives under EASE 4.0:

- *Smart Lending for Aspiring India*
- *New Age 24x7 banking with resilient technology*
- *Collaborative banking for synergistic outcomes*
- *Tech-enabled Ease of Banking*
- *Institutionalizing Prudent Banking*
- *Governance and Outcome Centric HR*

DBS BANK DECLARED WORLD'S BEST BANK

Leading UK-based financial publication Euromoney has recognised Singapore based DBS Bank as the World's Best Bank in its Awards for Excellence 2021. It also named DBS "World's Best Digital Bank", making it the first time any bank in the world has held both titles concurrently.

DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

OCTOBER

AGNI -5 TESTED SUCCESSFULLY

Surface to surface ballistic missile, Agni-5 was successfully launched from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha on October 27. Agni-5 is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000 kilometers with a very high degree of accuracy.

HEAT 'Abhyas' tested by DRDO

The DRDO successfully flight tested the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT), named 'Abhyas' from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur. Abhyas has been designed and developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment, Bengaluru. It can effectively be used as an aerial target for evaluation of various missile systems.



Akash Prime missile tested successfully



A new version of the Akash Missile, Akash Prime was successfully flight tested on Sep 27 by DRDO from Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha. The missile intercepted and destroyed an unmanned aerial target mimicking enemy aircraft, in its maiden flight test after improvements.

Akash Prime is equipped with an indigenous active Radio Frequency seeker for improved accuracy and has more reliable performance.

'PRABAL' launched to push defence payments

The Defence Accounts Department under the aegis of the Ministry of Defence has developed an IT-enabled payment and accounting system called PRABAL to ensure that the domestic defence suppliers get payments without any delay.

The PRABAL Project will make the Indian defence sector more competitive as their cash flow will increase and their financing will strengthen.

Konkan Shakti-2021: The sea phase of maiden bilateral tri-service exercise between the UK and Indian Armed Forces was held off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea, from Oct 24 to 27.

Ex-Yudh Abhyas 2021: The Indian Army Contingent participated in the 17th edition of Indo-US Joint Military Exercise held at Elmendorf – Richardson base in Alaska, USA, from 15-29 October.

The joint exercise focused on Combined Arms Manoeuvres in cold climatic conditions and learning best practices from each other. The Exercise is the largest running joint military training and defence cooperation endeavour between India and the USA.

Malabar Exercise: The Indian Navy participated in the second phase of Multilateral Maritime Exercise 'Malabar' along with the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force, Royal Australian Navy and the United States Navy. The exercise was conducted in the Bay of Bengal from 12 to 15 October.

Exercise Ajeya Warrior: The 6th Edition of India-UK Joint Company Level Military Training was held from Oct 7 to 20 at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand. The exercise was part of an initiative to develop interoperability and sharing expertise with friendly foreign nations.

JIMEX: The fifth edition of India - Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise was held in Arabian Sea from Oct 6 to 8. Multi-faceted tactical exercises involving weapon firings, cross-deck helicopter operations and complex surface, anti-submarine and air warfare drills were conducted during the exercise.

Mitra Shakti: The 8th Edition of India – Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise was conducted at Combat Training School, Ampara in Sri Lanka from 4th to 15th of October. The exercise aimed to enhance inter-operability and sharing best practices in counter insurgency and counter terrorism operations between Armies of both countries.

Bangladesh Naval Ship BNS Somudra Avijan visited Visakhapatnam on Oct 03 on a five-day visit to the Eastern Naval Command. The visit commemorates Swarnim Vijay Varsh marking the 50th anniversary of 1971 Indo-Pak war, which led to liberation of Bangladesh.

AUSINDEX: Indian and Australian navies participated in the 4th edition of the biennial maritime series AUSINDEX held on Sep 30 in the North Australian Exercise Area.

CHINA'S 1st SOLAR OBSERVATION SATELLITE

China launched its first solar observation satellite 'Xihe' on Oct 14 into a 571-km altitude orbit. The 550-kg satellite will monitor the Sun for three years. It is equipped with an imaging spectrometer known as the Chinese H-alpha Solar Explorer (CHASE) that will enable observation of the deep-red H-Alpha line of the solar spectrum. It will provide data for scientists to study solar flares or eruptions on the surface of the Sun.

NASA'S LUCY TO STUDY TROJANS ASTEROIDS

American space agency NASA launched Lucy spacecraft on Oct 16, the first space mission to study the Trojan Asteroids. Lucy will journey for 12 years, observing one main belt asteroid and seven Trojan asteroids.

The Jupiter Trojan asteroids are leftover raw materials from the formation of our Solar System's giant planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune) over 4.5 billion years ago. These primitive bodies hold vital clues to deciphering the history of the solar system.



IAF TO GET 6 AEW&C AIRCRAFTS



The Government gave its final approval to the mega IAF project worth Rs 10,990 crores to build 6 AEW&C (Airborne Early Warning and Control) aircraft to bolster the surveillance capability of the Indian Air Force (IAF) along the borders with China and Pakistan. The AEW&C aircraft are regarded as powerful 'eyes in the sky' in modern warfare.

They are capable of detecting any flying object in the sky including incoming fighters, drones, and cruise missiles quicker than ground-based radars, direct friendly fighters during air combat, and also keep an eye on the warships of enemy troops.

ARMY TO GET 118 ARJUN MK-1A TANKS

The Ministry of Defence placed an order worth Rs 7,523 crore for supply of 118 Arjun Mk-1A tanks for the Indian Army. The tanks will be made by the Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Avadi, Chennai.

The state-of-the-art 'Arjun Mk-1A' is the latest variant of the original Arjun Tank inducted a decade ago. The new one is designed to enhance fire power, mobility and survivability. It has 72 additional features and will have greater indigenous content.

IAF TO GET C-295MW TRANSPORT AIRCRAFTS

The Union Cabinet approved the procurement of 56 C-295MW transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force from Airbus Defence and Space S.A., Spain. C-295 MW is a transport aircraft of 5 to 10 Tonne capacity with contemporary technology that will replace the ageing Avro aircraft of IAF.

16 aircrafts will be delivered in flyaway condition from Spain within 48 months of signing of the contract and remaining 40 will be manufactured in India by TATA Consortium within next ten years. This is for the first time that a military aircraft will be manufactured in India by a private company.

'SKYSTRIKERS' TO BOOST ARMY'S FIREPOWER

The Indian Army signed a contract worth Rs 100 crore with a Bengaluru-based company on September 1 to procure 100 drones called 'SkyStrikers' to give a major boost to India's arsenal. The SkyStrikers are capable of carrying ammunition and conduct strikes at far-off targets. It can travel a distance of 20 km within 10 minutes. It's small size makes it almost invisible. It's a silent and a surprise attacker, which can strike targets with utmost precision and reliability.

HANSA NG - TRAINER AIRCRAFT LAUNCHED

The National Aerospace Laboratories, Bengaluru successfully designed and built its two-seater trainer aircraft, Hansa NG (New Generation).

The aircraft made its maiden flight on Sep 03 from HAL airport in the city and flew at an altitude of 4000 feet and gained a speed of 80 knots before making a successful landing after about 20 minutes.

Hansa-NG aircraft has glass cockpit with cabin comfort, highly efficient digitally controlled engine, electrically operated flaps, long endurance, low price and low operating cost.

An Off-shore Patrol Vessel 'Vigraha', built indigenously by L&T Ship Building Ltd, Chennai, was inducted in Indian Coast Guard on August 28 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

Air Marshal V R Chaudhari: The current Vice Chief of Air Staff selected as the next Chief of the Indian Air Force. He will assume charge after the retirement of Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria on 30th September.

Surya Kiran: The 15th edition of Indo-Nepal Joint Military Training Exercise was held from September 20 to Oct 03 at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand.

'Samudra Shakti': The 3rd edition of Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and Indonesia took place from September 20 to 22 near Sunda Strait between islands of Java and Sumatra, Indonesia.

Exercise Peaceful Mission-2021: An Indian military contingent participated in the a Joint Counter Terrorism Exercise between Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states, hosted by Russia in the Orenburg Region of South West Russia from September 13 to 25.

AUSINDEX: The bilateral exercise between the Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy was held in the Indian Ocean near Australia from Sep 6 to 10. This edition of exercise included complex surface, sub-surface and air operations between ships, submarines, helicopters and Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

SIMBEX-2021: The 28th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise SIMBEX was held from Sep 2 to 4 in the southern fringes of the South China Sea. Warships of the Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy participated in the exercise.

Exercise ZAPAD 2021: Indian Army participated in the multinational exercise held at Nizhny in Russia from 3-16 September. It was a theatre level exercise by the Russian Armed Forces that focussed primarily on operations against terrorists. China and Pakistan took part as observers.

INS Savitri, the offshore patrol vessel of the Indian Navy participated in the Passage Exercise with the naval ship BNS Shadhinota of Bangladesh in the Bay of Bengal on September 3.

The Indian Navy and the German Navy carried out a joint exercise in the Gulf of Aden on August 26 as part of the Indian Ocean leg of Indo-Pacific Deployment 2021.

IAF's CARGO PLANE LANDS ON A HIGHWAY

In a landmark event on Sep 09, a Hercules C-130 J cargo plane of Indian Air Force, carrying Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Roadways Minister Nitin Gadkari and Chief of Defence Staff Bipin Rawat, conducted a mock emergency landing on the Satta-Gandharv stretch of National Highway 925 in Barmer, Rajasthan. The stretch will serve as an emergency landing strip for Indian Air Force planes. Later, a Sukhoi Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft and a Jaguar fighter jet landed at the national highway, showcasing the stretch of road that will be used for more such emergency landings of the armed forces.

PRESIDENT'S COLOUR FOR NAVAL AVIATION

President Ram Nath Kovind awarded the President's Colour to Indian Naval Aviation at the ceremonial parade held on 6th September at INS Hansa in Goa. The President's Colour is the highest honour bestowed on a military unit in recognition of its exceptional service to the nation.

Indian Naval Aviation came into being with acquisition of the first Seal and aircraft on 13th January 1951.

PLANETARIUM INNOVATION CHALLENGE

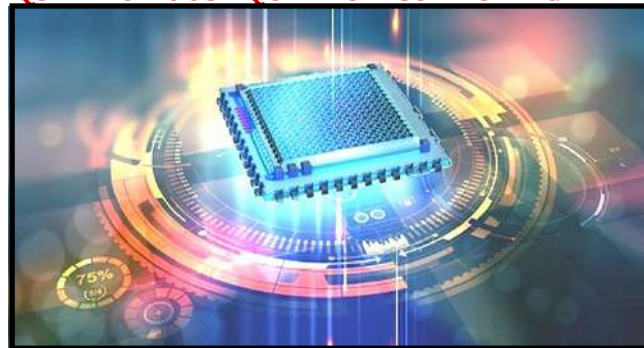
MyGov India portal, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), launched the Planetarium Innovation Challenge on Sep 11 for Indian start-ups and tech entrepreneurs.

The challenge has invited applications from start-ups and tech entrepreneurs to develop state-of-the-art technology for our Planetariums. The first, second and third winner under the contest will get the cash prizes of Rs.5 lakh, Rs.3 lakh and Rs.2 lakh respectively.

It aims to bring together the tech firms and Start-ups (based out of India) with the potential to build an indigenous planetarium system software using latest technologies including Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality and Merged Reality.



'QSIM' TO BOOST QUANTUM COMPUTING



Government launched a first-of-its-kind indigenously developed Quantum Computing Simulation toolkit named QSim on August 26. It has been developed jointly by scientists of IIT Roorkee, C-DAC and IISc Bangalore, with the support and funding from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). QSim is a vital tool of learning for understanding the practical aspects of programming with the help of Quantum Computers. It will thus bring about a new era of Quantum Computing research in India.

Quantum Computing performs a variety of tasks in a much faster manner and efficiently than present-day computers by utilizing the power of Quantum Mechanics. Generally speaking, a task that may take weeks on a conventional computer, may be solved in seconds through Quantum Computers.

'i-RASTE' TO MINIMISE ROAD ACCIDENTS

In a unique collaborative initiative between the government, industry, and academia towards advancing road safety, Intel, INAI, IIIT-H (International Institute of Information Technology-Hyderabad), CSIR-CRRI (Central Road Research Institute), Mahindra & Mahindra, and NMC (Nagpur Municipal Corporation) together launched Project iRASTE (intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering) in Nagpur on Sep 13.

Leveraging the power of AI (Artificial Intelligence), iRASTE aims to achieve up to 50% decline in road accidents in Nagpur city and create a blueprint to Vision Zero for the country. Redefining road safety with an innovative and holistic framework, it focuses on the three key aspects of safety-- vehicle safety, mobility analysis and road infrastructure safety.

'UDAAN' TO EASE TECHNICAL TRANSLATION

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay launched on Sep 14 'Project Udaan', an artificial intelligence (AI)-based software ecosystem that translates scientific and technical content from English to Hindi and several other Indian languages. It will help translate scientific and technical terms into several languages other than English and could help students pursuing courses in engineering and technology. The software can translate a technical book in 1/6th of the time it would take for a team consisting of domain and linguistic experts working manually.

WORLD'S FIRST PLANT BASED AIR-PURIFIER



In a breakthrough invention, scientists at Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), Ropar and Kanpur and Faculty of Management Studies of Delhi University have jointly launched world's first, state-of-the art 'Smart Bio-Filter' that can make breathing fresh. It is a living-plant based air purifier named "Ubreathe Life", that will boost the air purification process in the indoor spaces, such as hospitals, schools, offices and homes.

WORLD'S FIRST PRIVATE SPACE CREW

In a historical first, the world's first all-civilian space crew was launched into Earth's orbit onboard a Falcon 9 rocket under the mission 'Inspiration-4'. It was launched from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, USA on September 16 by Elon Musk's private space company SpaceX.

Four civilians were part of the historic mission, with no trained astronauts. The crew spent time in orbit in the SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft, named Resilience, orbiting the earth at an altitude of around 600 km. The three-day flight safely re-entered Earth's atmosphere in the Atlantic off Florida's coast on September 19.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

OCTOBER

BRUNEI HOSTED ASEAN & EAS SUMMITS

The 38th and 39th summit of ASEAN nations was hosted by Brunei in the virtual mode on Oct 26 to 28. The 16th East Asia Summit was also held alongside. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the EAS on Oct 27 in virtual format. He also attended the 18th ASEAN-India Summit virtually on Oct 28 at the invitation of the Sultan of Brunei.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration). Its 10 members include Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia.

Apart from the 10 ASEAN Member states, the East Asia Summit includes India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, United States and Russia.

MILITARY COUP IN SUDAN

Sudan's leading military general Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan dissolved the ruling Sovereign Council and declared a state of emergency in the nation in a televised address on October 25. He announced that now the military will run the country. Before this, his forces arrested the acting Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and other top officials of the government.

The military coup came right before the military was supposed to hand over the country's joint military-civilian administration to civilians next month. It threatens to derail Sudan's two-year-long and arduous attempt to transition to democracy after the protesters had ousted the longtime dictator Omar al-Bashir in April, 2019.

WORLD'S 1st AUTOMATED, DRIVERLESS TRAIN

German rail operator Deutsche Bahn and German engineering company Siemens jointly launched on Oct 11 the world's first automated, driverless train in Hamburg city, Germany.

Though the train will be fully automated and controlled with digital technology, it will still have a driver to supervise whenever there will be passengers aboard. The automated train will be more punctual and energy-efficient than the traditional trains.

WHO ENDORSES ANTIMALARIAL VACCINE

In a historic move, the World Health Organization (WHO) has endorsed the first antimalarial vaccine, named RTS,S or Mosquirix. The vaccine was developed by British drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in 1987. It has been in the making for over 30 years and is the only known jab that has shown the capability to reduce the chances of contracting malaria.

WHO said it is recommending the widespread use of malaria vaccine among children in sub-Saharan Africa and in other regions with moderate to high malaria transmission. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, "...the long-awaited malaria vaccine for children is a breakthrough for science, child health and malaria control and it could save tens of thousands of young lives each year".

VENEZUELA CHANGES ITS CURRENCY

Venezuela introduced a new currency on October 1 with six fewer zeros. The highest denomination of the new currency will be 100 Bolivars, as compared to the earlier higher denomination of 1 million Bolivar. The officials of Venezuela's Central Bank confirmed that Bolivar will not be worth more or less due to the elimination of six zeros. The move has been undertaken only to facilitate its use on a simpler monetary scale.

Venezuela's old payment system was near collapse due to inflation and the large number of digits, which made daily routine transactions almost unmanageable. Under the old payment system, a two-litre soda bottle could cost about 8 million bolivars. The bolivar is currently the weakest currency in circulation with 1 US dollar converting to approximately 4.08 million Bolivars as of September 25, 2021.

WHO REVISES AIR QUALITY GUIDELINES



In a bid to push countries towards clean energy, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has revised and tightened the air quality guidelines for the first time since 2005. The organisation has revised air quality levels for six pollutants that include particulate matter (PM), ozone (O), nitrogen dioxide (NO), sulfur dioxide (SO) and carbon monoxide (CO). It hopes to push countries toward clean energy and prevent deaths and illness caused by air pollution.

According to the new limits, average annual PM_{2.5} concentrations should be no higher than five micrograms per cubic meter. The old recommendations set the average annual limit at 10. PM 2.5 stands for particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micrometres or less than one-thirtieth the width of a human hair. PM is primarily generated by fuel combustion in different sectors, including transport, energy, households, industry, and even agriculture.

As per WHO estimates, seven million people die every year from air pollution related issues. The WHO said that "almost 80% of deaths related to PM_{2.5} could be avoided in the world if the current air pollution levels were reduced". The new guidelines put almost all of India in the polluted category.

IRAN ENTERS SCO AS 9th MEMBER



Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in its 21st summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan held on Sep 17 decided to admit Iran as a full member. Till now, Iran had an observer country status.

SCO was founded on 15 June 2001 as a multilateral organisation for mutual cooperation with six nations, China, Russia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan as members. Later in June, 2017, India and Pakistan were admitted as full-fledged members.

SCO is based in Beijing, China and is currently headed by its Secretary General, Vladimir Norov, a senior diplomat from Uzbekistan.

CUBA FIRST TO VACCINATE CHILDREN

Cuba has become the first country in the world to begin the mass vaccination of children as young as 2 years old against COVID-19 with its homegrown vaccines. Though the vaccination is not mandatory, parents have been lining up at clinics and hospitals and makeshift vaccination centres to get a shot for their children. At many centers, the doctors and nurses reportedly wore cartoon character costumes to make the children feel comfortable.

DUSHANBE HOSTS 21st SCO SUMMIT

The 21st meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State was held on September 17 in Dushanbe, capital city of Tajikistan, in a hybrid format, under the Chairmanship of President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon. PM Modi addressed the SCO Summit virtually.

At Dushanbe, India was represented by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar. This is the first SCO Summit being held in a hybrid format and the fourth Summit that India will participate as a full-fledged member.

AUKUS FOR A SECURE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

The US, UK and Australia announced on Sep 16 the formation of AUKUS - a new trilateral security partnership for the Indo-Pacific region. It was announced in a joint address by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison and US President Joe Biden with a vision for a safer and more secure Indo-Pacific region. The grouping is being seen as counterweight to China's growing muscle-flexing in the Indo-Pacific region. The first project of AUKUS will be to help Australia acquire a nuclear-powered conventionally-armed submarine fleet.

France has serious reservations to this acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines as it has led to cancellation of a similar contract entered by Australia with France. It has recalled her ambassadors from Australia and USA in protest.

WORLD'S LARGEST PLANT FOR SUCKING CO₂

The world's largest plant designed to suck carbon dioxide out of the air and turn it into solid rock, began operations on Sep 8 in Iceland. The plant, named Orca, after the Icelandic word orka, meaning "energy," consists of four units — each made up of two metal boxes — similar in appearance to the containers used for maritime transport.

Built by Switzerland's Climeworks and Iceland's Carbfix, the plant would draw 4,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year out of the air when operating at full capacity.

WORLD ENDS USAGE OF LEADED PETROL

The UN Environment Programme-UNEP formally announced on Sep 1 that now there is no country in the world that uses leaded petrol for cars and lorries. The toxic fuel has contaminated air, soil and water for almost a century. It can cause heart disease, cancer and stroke, and has been linked to problems with brain development in children.



The UN Secretary General António Guterres stated that "Ending the use of leaded petrol will prevent more than one million premature deaths each year from heart disease, strokes and cancer, and it will protect children whose IQs are damaged by exposure to lead". India stopped using leaded petrol by 2,000.

The alarm against leaded petrol was raised as early as 1924, when five workers were declared dead and dozens more hospitalised after suffering convulsions at a refinery run by the US oil giant Standard Oil. But despite this, lead continued to be added to all petrol globally until the 1970s. The UN's environmental body Unep has worked with governments, private companies and civic groups to end the use of leaded petrol since 2002. Most high-income countries had banned the fuel by the 1980s, but it was only in July this year that Algeria - the last country still to use leaded petrol - ran out.

'UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD' - BEST IN WORLD

The University of Oxford, UK topped the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2022 for the sixth year in a row, followed by the California Institute of Technology and Harvard University at the second and third positions, respectively. The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, is placed between the 301-350 position. Incidentally, it is also the only university in the top 350 rankings.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022 includes a record 1,662 universities from 99 countries and territories. The ranking is based on 13 balanced performance indicators.

BANGLADESH ADMITTED TO NDB

The New Development Bank (NDB) established by the BRICS ((Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries in 2015 has approved Bangladesh as its new member. The NDB Board of Governors initiated the negotiation to expand its membership in 2020. It has now approved the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Bangladesh as its first new member countries.

Marcos Troyjo (from Brazil) is the current President of NDB and its headquarters are in Shanghai, China.

PERSONS IN NEWS

OCTOBER

Elon Musk: Tesla co-founder and CEO, emerged as the richest person in the world, adding \$36 billion to his fortune on October 25, reaching a net worth of \$287 billion. Musk is now almost \$100 billion richer than Jeff Bezos who as of now is \$196 billion worth.

Global electric car leader Tesla Inc. surpassed \$1 trillion in market value on Oct 25 after landing its biggest-ever order from car rental company Hertz, for one lakh cars. Its shares surged by around 15% making it the world's most-valuable automaker. Tesla is the first carmaker to join the elite club of trillion-dollar companies that includes Apple Inc, Amazon.com Inc, Microsoft Corp and Alphabet Inc (Google).



SEPTEMBER

Kailash Satyarthi: The United Nations Chief Antonio Guterres appointed the Nobel Laureate from India as the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocate on Sep 17. The SDG Advocates are the strong public figures who can use their platform and voices to bring to life the vision of a better world and also call for action to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

Satyarthi is an Indian social reformer who campaigned against child labour and also advocated for the universal right to education. His NGO 'Bachpan Bachao Andolan' has liberated more than 90,000 children from India from slavery, child labour and trafficking.

Dorje Angchuk: An engineer at the Indian Astronomical Observatory of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) at Hanle in Ladakh region, has been admitted as an Honorary Member of the International Astronomical Union, Paris. Angchuk is the first and the only Indian to be honoured with this position in the prestigious body.

TIME's 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Chief Executive Officer of the Serum Institute of India (SII), Adar Poonawalla, are among the few Indians who have been featured in Time Magazine's list of '100 most influential people of 2021' released on Sep 15. The list includes US President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Duke and Duchess of Sussex Prince Harry and Meghan, and former US President Donald Trump.

It may be noted that the names are not in any specific order, but have been selected randomly in six categories that include Icons, Pioneers, Titans, Artists, Leaders, and Innovators.



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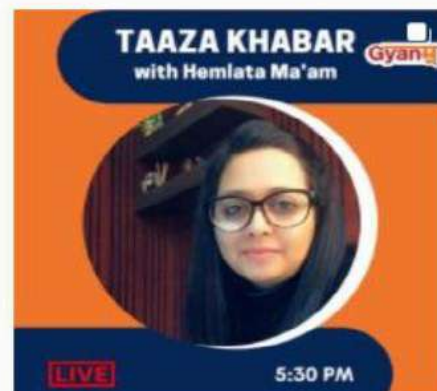
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APPOINTMENTS

OCTOBER

KV Kamath: Veteran banker appointed as the chairperson of the newly set up Rs 20,000 crore National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).

Mr. Kamath has been chairman of Infosys Limited and was also the former Chairman and MD of the ICICI Bank. NaBFID has been set up under an act of the parliament to boost infrastructure financing in the country.

Pradeep Kumar Panja: RBI approved his appointment as part-time Chairman of Karnataka Bank, wef November 14, 2021, for a period of three years.

Amitabh Chaudhry: The RBI approved the re-appointment of Amitabh Chaudhry as MD & CEO of Axis Bank for a period of three years, wef January 1, 2022.

A K Goel: Selected as the chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) for 2021-22. He is the MD & CEO of UCO Bank.

B C Patnaik: Took charge as the managing director of the LIC of India. Currently, LIC has a chairman and four managing directors.

E.R. Sheikh: Appointed as the first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate (Coordination and Services). It is the successor organization of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).

An Indian Ordnance Factory Service (IOFS) officer of the 1984 batch, he has been a spearhead of OFB modernization. He is also the recipient of the Ayudh Ratna Award, 2020, conferred on him in recognition of his exemplary services to the organisation.

Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh: Appointed as the 34th Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC).

Shavkat Mirziyoyev: The President of Uzbekistan has been re-elected for a second five-year term by winning 80.1% of the vote in a poll held on October 24.

The Parliament of Uzbekistan is called Oliy Majlis, located in the capital city of Tashkent.

Jonas Gahr Store: Appointed as the new Prime Minister of Norway by King Harald V.

The Parliament of Norway is called the 'Stortinget'. Oslo is the capital of Norway.

Alexander Schallenberg: Appointed as the new Chancellor (prime minister) of Austria.

Austria has a Presidential form of government and its Parliament is in the capital city Vienna.

Fumio Kishida: Japan's Parliament elected a former Foreign Minister as the 100th Prime Minister of the country.

The Parliament of Japan is called 'The National Diet of Japan', located in the capital city of Tokyo.

Raoudha Boudent Ramadhane: Named as the new Prime Minister of Tunisia by the President of the country. She is the first woman PM of Tunisia.

The single house parliament of Tunisia is called the Assembly of the People's Representatives, located in the capital city of Tunis.

Dame Sandra Mason: Elected as the first ever president of Barbados, a micro island country in the Caribbean Sea. The country is set to become a republic, replacing Queen Elizabeth as head of state.

SEPTEMBER

Three Governors appointed

Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh	Uttarakhand
Banwarilal Purohit	Punjab
R N Ravi	Tamil Nadu

Charanjit Singh Channi: Elected as the new Chief Minister of Punjab by the Congress party, after Captain Amarinder Singh resigned as chief minister on September 18.

Bhupendra Patel: BJP MLA from Ghatlodia was sworn-in as new Chief Minister of Gujarat on Sep 13.

C Murmu: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, was elected as the chairman of the assembly of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), Beijing for a period of three years from 2024 to 2027.

Iqbal Singh Lalpura: Retired IPS officer of Punjab cadre, appointed as the Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities

Ms. Harsha Bhupendra Bangari: Appointed as the new Managing Director of Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank), Mumbai.

JB Mohapatra: A senior Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax) officer has been appointed the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), New Delhi

Najib Mikati: Lebanon's richest man – became Prime Minister of the country for the third time.

Aziz Akhannouch: Appointed as the Prime Minister of Morocco by King Mohammed VI.

Alar Karis: Elected as the new President of Estonia by its parliament. It is a tiny country in northern Europe, bordering Baltic Sea.

AWARDS & HONOURS

OCTOBER

Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award

Two renowned film directors, Martin Scorsese of USA and Istvan Szabo of Hungary, will be honoured with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) to be held in Goa from November 20 to 28.

Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought: European Union's highest award for human rights has been awarded to imprisoned Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny for his determined and persistent fight against the corruption of Russian President's (Vladimir Putin) regime, at the cost of his liberty and nearly his life. The Prize comprises a cash reward of Euro 50,000.

Alexei Navalny is a Russian opposition leader and anti-corruption activist. He had organised several anti-government demonstrations against Russian President Vladimir Putin and his government. He alleged that the Russian government poisoned him with the deadly nerve agent Novichok in August, 2020. He was imprisoned in Russia in January 2021.

The Sakharov Prize has been named in the honour of Soviet physicist and political dissident Andrei Sakharov, who was an advocate of civil liberties in the former Soviet Union.

Earthshot Prize: 'Takachar', an agriculture waste recycling project of a Delhi-based entrepreneur Vidyut Mohan, has been named among the five winners of Prince William's (the Duke of Cambridge) inaugural Earthshot Prize, also dubbed the 'Eco Oscars'.

Takachar has been selected in the 'clean our air' category for its cheap technology innovation to convert the crop residues into sellable bio-products such as fuel and fertilisers. It also reduces smoke emission by up to 98%. With large-scale use, it can reduce emission of around one billion tonnes of carbon dioxide every year.

Each year for the next decade, the Earthshot Prize will award 1 million pounds each to five projects that have been working to find solutions to the Earth's environmental problems.

Yidan Prize for Education Development-2021:

Awarded to Dr Rukmini Banerji, CEO of Pratham Education Foundation, for her work in understanding why some children are leaving school without picking essential reading and writing skills

Yidan Prize for Education Research-2021: Awarded to Professor Eric A. Hanushek, Stanford University, USA, for his research showing that above all it is the quality of education that underpins the economic health of their nations.

The Yidan Prize founded by Chinese business tycoon Dr Chen Yidan (of Tencent fame) in 2016, is the world's highest honour in education. It is an inclusive education award that recognizes individuals, or up to three-member teams, who have contributed significantly to education research and development.

Each prize comprises a gold medal and a total sum of HK\$30 million (around Rs. 28.83 crore). Half of award money is given in cash while the other half is a project fund to help them expand their initiatives.



NOBEL PRIZES FOR 2021



Nobel Prize for Medicine: Scientists who discovered how our bodies feel the warmth of the sun or the hug of a loved one, have won the Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology. David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian, from the United States, will share the prize equally for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch. They discovered how our bodies convert physical sensations into electrical messages in the nervous system. Their findings could lead to new ways of treating pain.

The announcement was made by a panel at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. The Nobel Prize amount for 2021 is set at Swedish kronor (SEK) 10.0 million (Rs. 8.52 crore approx.) per full Nobel Prize.

Nobel Prize in Chemistry: Awarded jointly to Benjamin List of Germany and David W.C. Macmillan of USA for their work on the development of asymmetric organocatalysis, a "new and ingenious tool for molecule building". The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in a statement that "Using these reactions, researchers can now more efficiently construct anything from new pharmaceuticals to molecules that can capture light in solar cells". The prize money will be shared equally among the two winners.

Nobel Prize in Physics: Awarded jointly to three scientists. Syukuro Manabe of Princeton University, USA and Klaus Hasselmann from Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany will share equally one half of the award "for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming".

The other half was awarded to Giorgio Parisi from Sapienza University of Rome, Italy "for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales".

Nobel Prize for Economics

David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens have been jointly awarded the 2021 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. The prize was announced by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

The Nobel Committee awarded one half of the prize to David Card for his empirical contributions to labour economics and the other half jointly to Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships. All three winners are based in the United States. Mr. Card works at the University of California. Mr. Angrist is from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Mr. Imbens is at Stanford University.

Nobel Prize in literature: Awarded to Tanzanian novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugees in the gulf between cultures and continents. Gurnah currently lives in the UK and taught English literature at the University of Kent, UK. His famous novels include *Paradise* (1994), *By the Sea* (2001) and *Desertion* (2005).

The Nobel Prize in literature is declared by the Swedish Academy of Stockholm, Sweden.

Nobel Peace Prize: Conferred jointly upon Filipino-American journalist Maria Ressa and Russian journalist Dmitry Muratov "for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace". Ressa is the co-founder and CEO of Rappler, a Philippine online news website. Muratov is editor-in-chief of the Russian newspaper Novaya Gazeta.

SEPTEMBER

Dr Basant Kumar Misra: Odisha-born neurosurgeon has been conferred the prestigious American Association of Neurological Surgeons' 'International Lifetime Achievement Award in Neurosurgery'. Misra is the first Indian physician to receive the AANS honor

The Florence Nightingale Award: Ms. Bhanumati Gheewala, a nurse from Sir Sayajirao General Hospital, Vadodara, Gujarat selected for this award for her outstanding services to COVID 19 patients. The award is given by the Indian Nursing Council, a statutory agency under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to recognise the contributions of healthcare workers.

The Ramon Magsaysay Award-2021: Also known as Asia's Nobel Prize, conferred upon five persons/organisations from Asia who have made selfless and extraordinary contributions to the eradication of poverty and the development of the society in Asia. The five winners are:

Dr. Ms. Firdausi Qadri – Affordable vaccine scientist from Bangladesh
Muhammad Amjad Saqib – Microfinance pioneer for poverty alleviation from Pakistan
Roberto Ballon – Filipino fisher and community environmentalist

Steven Muncy – Humanitarian worker from the United States

Watchdoc- Indonesian torch bearer for investigative journalism

Ramon Magsaysay Awards were established in 1957 as annual awards in memory of the third president of the Philippines, Ramon Magsaysay. The awards are presented every year on August 31st, on the birth anniversary of Magsaysay.

Bird Photographer of the Year, 2021: Mexican photographer Alejandro Prieto emerged as the winner from among 22,000 entries from 73 countries.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

OCTOBER

Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman by Chidanand Rajghatta, a senior US based journalist

Writing for My Life - An anthology of works of noted author Ruskin Bond

Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir by Gulzar, famous lyricist

My Life in Full: Work, Family and our Future: Autobiography of Indra Nooyi, former CEO of Pepsico.

Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth by Wole Soyinka, Africa's first Nobel laureate in Literature.

Economist Gandhi by Jerry Rao

The Custodian of Trust: A Banker's Memoir by Rajnish Kumar, former chairman of SBI

Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

State of Terror by Louise Penny; Hillary Rodham Clinton

Billy Summers by Stephen King

SEPTEMBER

The Fractured Himalaya by Nirupama Rao, former Foreign Secretary of India

The Long Game by Vijay Gokhale, former Foreign Secretary of India,

Jungle Nama by Amitav Ghosh

400 Days by Chetan Bhagat

A Rude Life: The Memoir by Vir Sanghvi, noted senior journalist

Human Rights and Terrorism in India by Subramanian Swamy, BJP MP

Translating Myself and Others by Jhumpa Lahiri, Pulitzer prize winner author

Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead

The Hawthorne Legacy by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Under the Whispering Door by T J Klune

Beautiful World, Where Are You by Sally Rooney

Bewilderment by Richard Powers

Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

Know Your Rights and Claim Them: A Guide for Youth

by Angelina Jolie, Geraldine Van Bueren and Amnesty International

OBITUARY

OCTOBER

Arvind Trivedi: Veteran actor best known for playing Raavan in the popular 1986 mythological TV serial "Ramayan", left for heavenly abode on Oct 05, following a heart attack at his residence in Mumbai. He was 82.



He acted in nearly 300 Hindi and Gujarati movies. He also served as a Member of Parliament from Sabarkantha, Gujarat constituency in 1991-96.

SEPTEMBER

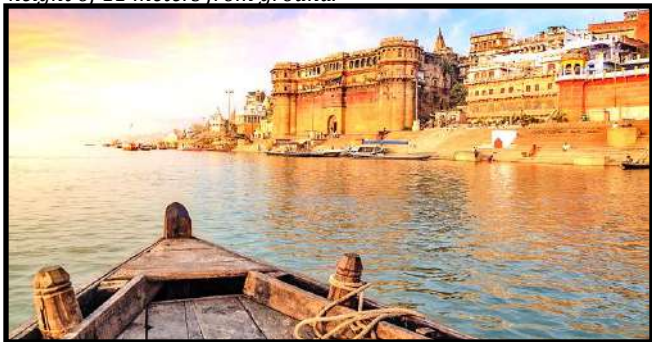
Mahant Narendra Giri: President of Akhil Bhartiya Akhada Parishad (largest grouping of Indian Sadhus) and Mahant of Bade Hanuman temple, Prayagraj, UP, was found dead in at Baghambhari math in Prayagraj on Sep 20, apparently by attempting suicide. A seven-page suicide note was also recovered from the spot.

PLACES IN NEWS

OCTOBER

Varanasi: Ancient city in Uttar Pradesh is set to become the first city in India to use ropeway services for public transportation. Only two other cities in the world, El Alto-LaPaz in Bolivia and Mexico City, use the ropeway in public transportation.

The service will cover a 5 km distance between Cantt railway station and Godowlia in 15 minutes. 220 cable cars, each with a capacity of 10 persons will run at an interval of 90 seconds at a height of 11 meters from ground.



Mount Aso: A volcano erupted in Japan on Oct 20, blasting ash several kms into the sky and prompting officials to warn against the threat of lava flows and falling rocks, but there were no reports of injuries or casualties. Mount Aso is a popular tourist destination on the main southern island of Kyushu.

La Palma Island: The most north-westerly island of the Canary Islands, Spain witnessed huge volcanic eruptions since Sep 19, spewing shoots of lava into the air and few streams of red hot molten rock streaming down the hill, tearing into the woods and farmland, engulfing everything on the way.

The lava finally met the Atlantic Ocean on September 29 at a point known as Los Guirres. The lava upon contact with seawater set off huge plumes of steam and toxic gases. Timely evacuation plans ensured no casualty on the island.

SEPTEMBER

Cyclone 'Gulab': The cyclonic storm formed in the Bay of Bengal made a landfall on Sep 26 between North Andhra Pradesh and South Odisha, causing heavy rains with high-speed winds. Special rescue teams of the Indian Navy assisted the civil authorities in rescue operations.

Hurricane Ida: The powerful cyclonic storm destroyed buildings and left more than a million homes without power in the southern state of Louisiana, USA on September 1-2. The devastating storm triggered torrential rain and flash floods that swept away cars, submerged subway lines, and grounded airline flights from Virginia to New England. New York Mayor declared a state of emergency and hundreds of flights were cancelled at LaGuardia, JFK airports and Newark airports.

SPORTS WORLD

OCTOBER

Anshu Malik, 20 year old wrestler from Jind, Haryana scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships. Anshu lost to Olympic gold medallist Helen Maroulis of the USA in the women's 57 kg category at Oslo in Norway on Oct 07. **Sarita Mor** won a bronze medal in the women's 59 kilogram category in the same event.

Divya Deshmukh, 15-year-old chess prodigy from Nagpur, Maharashtra became India's 21st Woman GrandMaster on October 13 after achieving her 2nd International Master at Grand Master in Budapest, Hungary.

South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship: India clinched the title for the eighth time defeating Nepal 3-0 in the finals played in Male, capital of Maldives. The Indian team was captained by Sunil Chhetri. Total seven teams participated in the tournament.

Durand Cup (130th edition): FC Goa claimed their maiden football title after a 1-0 win over Mohammedan Sporting in the final played on Oct 03 at the Vivekananda Yubabharati Krirangan in Kolkata.

First held in 1888 in Annandale, Shimla, it is the oldest football championship in Asia and the third oldest in the world.

Chennai Super Kings beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 27 runs to win its fourth IPL (Indian Premier League) title in Dubai on October 15. Ruturaj Gaikwad of CSK won the Orange Cap for scoring the highest run with 635 runs from 16 matches. Harshal Patel of RCB won the Purple Cap by securing 32 wickets in 15 games. He was also declared "Player of the Tournament".

Indians sweep FIH awards

The International Hockey Federation's (FIH) announced the annual awards on Oct 6 at Lausanne, Switzerland. All the top honours were based on an international voting system. Apart from 79 hockey associations, a record number of almost three lakh fans casted their votes.

Player of the Year - men: Harmanpreet Singh

Player of the Year - women: Gurjit Kaur

Best goalkeeper - men: PR Sreejesh

Best goalkeeper - women: Savita Punia

The Indian men's table tennis team claimed the bronze medal in the ITTF-ATTU Asian Table Tennis Championships in Doha, Qatar on October 01, after losing to South Korea in the semi-finals.

This is the first medal for India at the Asian Championships after 1976. Later, two Indian pairs of Sharath Kamal and G Sathiyam, and that of Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar, earned bronze medals in the men's doubles also.

ISSF junior world championships held in Lima, capital city of Peru

Manu Bhaker, 19 year old champion shooter won the gold medal in the women's 10m air pistol event. She also won her second gold in partnership with Sarabjot Singh in the 10m air pistol mixed team event. Esha Singh, 16, grabbed the silver medal.

Naamya Kapoor, 14-year-old shooter from Delhi clinched the gold medal in the women's 25-metre air pistol event. She became India's youngest shooter to win an international medal. She secured another gold later in the team event.

Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar (from Madhya Pradesh) also won gold in 50m Rifle 3 positions men's event with a new junior world record.

India ended the tournament with 43 medals, including 17 gold, 16 silver and 10 bronze.

Virat Kohli became the first Indian to cross the 10,000 runs mark in the T20 format. Kohli achieved this feat while batting for Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the IPL 2021 against Mumbai Indians (MI) at the Dubai International Stadium.

Two more teams join IPL bandwagon

The most popular Indian cricket tournament, Indian Premier League (IPL) got two new teams from the 2022 season, taking the total number of teams in the competition to ten. RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group (RPSG) secured the bid for the Lucknow team for Rs. 7090 crore while CVC Capital Partners paid Rs. 5625 crore to win the ownership of the Ahmedabad team.

INTERNATIONAL

Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) won the United States Grand Prix held at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas, United States, on October 24.

Valtteri Bottas of Finland won the Turkish Grand Prix for team Mercedes in Istanbul Park in Turkey.

Lewis Hamilton (Team Mercedes-Great Britain), won the F1 Russian Grand Prix 2021 held at Sochi Autodrom, in Sochi, Russia on Sep 26. This is his 100th Grand Prix win. He is the first F1 driver to achieve 100 victories.

The Victor Denmark Open 2021 badminton tournament was held in Odense, Denmark, from 19 to 24 October.

Men's single – Viktor Axelsen (Denmark);

Women's single – Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)

Cameron Norrie became the first British to win the Indian Wells final on Oct 17 at Indian Wells Lawn Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, California, United States. Paula Badosa of Spain won the women's singles title.

Thomas Cup (Men's badminton): Indonesia defeated reigning champions China 3-0 to win the title for the first time since 2002.

Uber Cup (Women's badminton) China beat defending champions Japan 3-1 in the final.

Both the finals were played in Aarhus, Denmark. These are international level championships organised biennially by the Badminton World Federation. All the member countries participate in team format.

Mascot for FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup

FIFA, the governing body for international football, unveiled the official mascot of the 7th U-17 Women's World Cup to be hosted by India in October 2022. The mascot named "IBHA" is an Asiatic lioness representing women power. It aims to inspire women and girls across the world to take the right decisions and reach their full potential.



SEPTEMBER

D Gukesh, Indian GrandMaster won the Norway Chess Open 2021 Masters section, held in Stavanger, Norway. The overall winner of Norway Chess was Magnus Carlsen, the ruling world champion from Norway itself.

Pankaj Advani won the Asian Snooker Championship 2021 by defeating Amir Sarkhosh held on Sep 16 in Doha, Qatar.

Harmilan Bains created a new national record in the 1500 m run at the National Open athletics championships in Warangal, Telangana. She clocked a timing of 4:05.39 minutes, breaking Sunita Rani's record of 4.06.03 set at the 2002 Asian Games in Busan. She also won gold in the 800 m event.

SP Sethuraman, Indian Grandmaster from Chennai won the Barcelona Open Chess Tournament title on Aug 26 in Spain.

P Iniyan, Indian Grandmaster won the Noisiel International Open Chess Tournament in France.

R Raja Rithvik, a 17-year-old prodigy from Warangal, Telangana, became India's 70th Grand Master on Sep 20 when he achieved the Elo rating of more than 2500 in Vezzerkepzo Grandmaster Chess Tournament at Budapest, Hungary.

G Sathiyar, India's top paddler from Chennai won the ITTF Czech International table tennis tournament at Olomouc in Czech Republic on Aug 25.

INDIANS SHINE IN TOKYO PARALYMPICS

Sr. No.	Name	From	Sports	Medal
1.	Avani Lekhara#	Rajasthan	Women's 10 metre Air Rifle - SH1	Gold
2.	Avani Lekhara	Rajasthan	50m Rifle 3 Position SH1	Bronze
3.	Bhavinaben Patel	Gujarat	Table Tennis Class 4	Silver
4.	Nishad Kumar	Himachal	Men's High Jump T47	Silver
5.	Yogesh Kathuniya	Haryana	Discus Throw, F56	Silver
6.	Devendra Jhajharia	Rajasthan	Javelin throw - F46	Silver
7.	Sundar Singh Gurjar	Rajasthan	Javelin throw- F46	Bronze
8.	Sumit Antil##	Haryana	Javelin throw, F64	Gold
9.	Singhraj Adhana	Haryana	P4 Mixed 50 metre Pistol-SH1	Silver
10.	Singhraj Adhana	Haryana	P1 Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1	Bronze
11.	Praveen Kumar**	Uttar Pradesh	Men's High Jump T64	Silver
12.	Mariyappan Thangavelu	Tamil Nadu	high jump in T63	Silver

13.	Sharad Kumar	Bihar	high jump in T63	Bronze
14.	Harvinder Singh^^	Haryana	Archery, recurve open	Bronze
15.	Manish Narwal @	Haryana	P4-Mixed 50 metre Pistol- SH1	Gold
16.	Pramod Bhagat	Odisha	Badminton, Men's Singles -SL3	Gold
17.	Manoj Sarkar	Uttarakhand	Badminton, Men's Singles- SL3	Bronze
18.	Krishna Nagar	Rajasthan	Badminton, Men's Singles- SH6	Gold
19.	Suhas L Yathiraj \$	Karnataka	badminton in- SL4	Silver

#-- First Indian woman to win a gold in Paralympics and to win two individual medals (gold and bronze)

##-- Created a new World Record

**-- Youngest Indian (18 years) to win a Paralympic medal

^^--First ever Paralympic medal in archery

@-- Created new Paralympic record

\$-- First IAS officer to win a Paralympic medal. He is serving as District Magistrate in Noida, UP.

The Indian contingent finished their campaign at the Paralympic Games at an all-time high by securing a total of 19 medals which includes 5 gold, 8 silver, and 6 bronze medals, finishing 24th in the medals tally.

Ms. Avani Lekhara led India's contingent at the Closing Ceremony of Tokyo Paralympics as the flag-bearer on Sep 05.

Team China topped the final medal tally winning a total of 207 medals (96 gold, 60 silver and 51 bronze).

Indian pugilists won eight Gold medals at the Asian Junior Boxing Championships held in Dubai from August 20 to 30. Rohit Chamoli and Bharat Joon won gold among boys while among girls, Vishu Rathee, Tanu, Nikita Chand, Mahi Raghav, Pranjal Yadav and Kirti won the Gold.

MS Dhoni: BCCI has announced that the former India captain will mentor the Indian team for the forthcoming T20 World Cup tournament, to be played in UAE and Oman in October and November this year.

UP to sponsor wrestling till 2032 Olympics

In a massive boost for Indian wrestling, the Uttar Pradesh government has adopted the sport and is expected to pump in an investment of Rs 170 crore in infrastructure and support to the wrestlers till the 2032 Olympics.

WFI President Brijbhushan Sharan Singh, President of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) said that now sponsorships will not be restricted to just the country's elite wrestlers. Even the Cadet level wrestlers will get sponsorship and we will be able to give prize money to even national champions.

INTERNATIONAL

Ukraine's Oleksandr Usyk dethroned world heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua (Britain) in a thrilling bout held at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, London on Sep 25.

Daniel Ricciardo of Australia won the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Italy for the team McLaren.

Max Verstappen, Netherlands, of Team Red Bull, won the Formula 1 Dutch Grand Prix 2021, held on September 05 at North Holland, Netherlands.

US Open Finals conclude in New York

Last Grand Slam of tennis concluded on Sep 12 in Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York.

Men's Singles: Daniil Medvedev of Russia lifted his first Grand Slam trophy after beating Novak Djokovic of Serbia

Women's Singles: 18 year old British sensation Emma Raducanu won the title by beating Leylah Fernandez (19) of Canada

Cristiano Ronaldo, legendary footballer from Portugal became the record highest goalscorer in international football scoring 111th international goal on Sep 01, playing against Republic of Ireland in Algarve, Portugal. The Manchester United forward player broke the record of 109 goals previously held by Iran's Ali Daei.

Mascot for Beijing's Winter Olympics - 2022

Beijing's Winter Olympics - 2022 unveiled their mascot, Bing Dwen Dwen, a panda that wears a shell made out of ice. The word Bing meaning ice, also signifies purity and strength, and "Dwen Dwen" means robust and lively and represents children.

The shell of ice is meant to resemble an astronaut suit as a tribute to embracing new technology with a future for infinite possibilities. The games will run from February 4 to 20, 2022. The official motto for the games is "Together for a Shared Future".

DAYS & DATES

OCTOBER

October 01: National Pension System Diwas (NPS Diwas)

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) decided to observe 1st October 2021 as NPS Diwas to promote pension and retirement planning for a carefree 'azad' retirement. PFRDA is promoting this campaign on its social media platforms with #npsdiwas. The day aims to encourage every citizen to plan towards creating a financial cushion to ensure for oneself a financially sound future after retirement.

October 1: National Voluntary Blood Donation Day

This day aims at spreading awareness about the importance of donating blood and the benefits associated with this noble cause. It is organised by the National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC) and National AIDS Control Organisation, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Transferring or donating blood or parts of it to the needy has become an integral part of humanity in the modern health care system, particularly in these days of Covid pandemic

October 01: International Coffee Day

This day is celebrated to educate people about the plight of the farmers who grow coffee beans. This day is an opportunity to appreciate millions of coffee growers in the world. This year's theme is 'promote fair trade practices' in the coffee industry. It aims to support and recognise the hard work of millions of farmers who provide us with magical beverages.

October 01: International Day of Older Persons

The day aims to create awareness about challenges faced by the elderly and the abuses they face. The day additionally celebrates and honours the contributions that older individuals make to society.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the day on December 14, 1990. The theme selected for this year is "Digital Equity for All Ages". It focuses on the need for access and meaningful participation in the digital world by older persons.

October 01: The World Vegetarian Day

This day is celebrated to promote vegetarian diet to emphasize environmental considerations, animal welfare and rights issues and personal health benefits to encourage people into avoiding animal products. The Day was first started back in 1977 by the North American Vegetarian Society and it was endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978.

A vegetarian diet focuses on vegetables, fruits, legumes, fruits, nuts and grains and also includes animal products such as eggs, dairy and honey, that are obtained without involving the death of an animal or the consumption of its meat.

A vegetarian diet is low in fat, rich in fibres, vitamins and minerals. This helps in reducing the risk of obesity, cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and heart attacks. It is low on cholesterol and also helps in improving the immune system. It makes one feel light as well as energetic.

October 02: International Day of Non-violence

Observed to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence or Ahimsa. He had said "Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man".

The UN General Assembly in a resolution on 15 June 2007, commemorated the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as the International Day of Non-violence.



October 4: World Animal Day

Celebrated every year for the welfare of animals and aims at raising awareness about their significant role in nature and for maintaining the ecological balance. The day highlights the importance of caring, protecting, and spreading awareness about animals. It is a reminder that the plight of animals- both in the domestic and wild world- must be addressed and required work must be done for their protection.

It is the feast day of the patron saint of animals, St Francis of Assisi. It was first celebrated in 1925 in Berlin, Germany. Since 2003, it is the UK-based Animal welfare charity, Naturewatch Foundation that supervises the international celebration. The theme for the year 2021 is "Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Plant".

October (4): World Habitat Day

This day is an UN initiative observed on the first Monday of every October for promoting the basic right to adequate shelter and housing for everyone. According to the United Nations, around 1.8 billion people were already living in slums and informal settlements, inadequate housing or in homelessness in cities across the world before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The theme for 2021 is 'Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world', as the cities are responsible for some 70 per cent of global carbon dioxide emissions. The main sources of the bulk of urban greenhouse gas emissions are -- transport, factories, construction, energy, and waste management.

October 5: World Teachers' Day

The day is observed to acknowledge the services of the teachers and their contributions to education. The Day aims to focus on appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world and to provide an opportunity to consider issues related to teachers and teaching.

As per the joint statement from ILO, UNESCO, UNICEF, "On World Teachers' Day, we are not only celebrating every teacher, we are calling on countries to invest in them and prioritize them in global education recovery efforts so that every learner has access to a qualified and supported teacher". The theme for this year is "Teachers at the heart of education recovery."

Remember! India celebrates the Teachers' Day on Sep 05 to mark the birthday of former President, Dr. S Radhakrishnan.

October 05: Ganga River Dolphin Day



Observed every year to raise awareness and encourage conservation of Ganga River Dolphins. It was on this day in 2009, that Ganga Dolphin was declared National Aquatic Animal. River

Dolphins survive only in fresh water of rivers.

A good number of them are found in the Bihar portion of River Ganges. They are on the verge of extinction and are categorised in the 'endangered' category.

October 07: World Cotton Day

The day was launched by the World Trade Organisation and the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) in 2019. It highlights the advantages of cotton, ranging from its qualities as a natural fiber to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption.

It aims to increase preference and demand for cotton and educate key audiences on the benefits and value of cotton.

Every year, India produces an average of 61.88 lakh tonnes of cotton, making it the world's largest producer of cotton. The theme chosen for this year is "Cotton for good".

October 8: Air Force Day

The day is celebrated to commemorate the raising of the Indian Air Force on this day in 1932 as the supporting force of the Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom. Air Marshal Subroto Mukherjee was the first Indian chief of the Indian Air Force. At present it is headed by Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari.

October (8) World Egg Day

The day is celebrated on the second Friday in October every year to raise awareness about the benefits of eggs and their importance in human nutrition. The day was established at the International Egg Commission's 1996 conference in Vienna.

Eggs are a great source of choline, a nutrient which can help in memory and brain development. This year's celebrations are focussed on the theme "Eggs for all: Nature's perfect package". It highlights the brilliant versatility of the egg and its vast variety of benefits to people at every age and stage of life.

October 9: World Post Day

Celebrated each year on the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union on this day in 1874 in the Swiss capital, Bern. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969. The day aims to create awareness of the role of the postal sector in people's and businesses' everyday lives and its contribution to social and economic development. The theme for 2021 is "Innovate to recover."

India has the largest postal network of the world having more than 1,56,000 offices. History of formal postal services in India can be traced back to 1727 when Calcutta G.P.O. started under a Postmaster General. The first postal stamp in India was introduced on 1 July 1852.

October (09): World Migratory Bird Day

The day is celebrated twice a year, on the second Saturday in May and in October. The day is an occasion to highlight the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. It aims to raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.

Migratory birds are beneficial to us and the planet's ecosystems because they provide critical services such as seed dispersal, pollination, pest control and more. This year's theme is "Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a bird!" The phenomena of bird song and bird flight will be the focus for this year.

October 10: World Mental Health Day

The day is observed with the support of WHO to raise awareness about the common psychological conditions and remove stigma attached to them. The pandemic this year has made mental health more critical.

Mental health is one of the most neglected areas of public health. About 1 billion people are living with mental disorders. This year the theme selected for the day's campaign is "Mental health care for all: let's make it a reality"

October 11: International Day of the Girl Child



Observed every year to focus on issues like female infanticide to gender inequality to sexual abuse that the girls across the globe are exposed to. The Day focuses attention on the need to address the challenges girls face and to promote girls' empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights. The theme for this year is "Digital generation. Our generation".

According to the United Nations, girls are more likely to be cut off, pointing to a gender divide within the digital divide. It was also stated that girls are less likely than boys to be given devices, which affects their numbers in tech-related skills and jobs.

Remember! In India, National Girl Child Day is celebrated on January 24 every year.

October 12: World Arthritis Day

The day is celebrated to raise awareness about arthritis, an inflammatory condition which causes pain and stiffness in joints which can worsen with age. The theme for this year is ""Don't delay, connect today: Time2work". Arthritis is a disease that affects the joints. Its common symptoms are joint pains, stiffness and swelling. It can affect one or multiple joints.

October 13: The National Philately Day

The day marks the collection, appreciation and research activities on stamps and other philatelic products. India Post celebrates National Postal Week from 9th to 16th October every year.

The celebration is aimed at generating a broad awareness about India Post's role and activities among the public and media at national level.

The Philately is the study of postage stamps and postal history.

Oct 13: International Day for Disaster Reduction

Observed across the world every year with support from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction. Good disaster risk governance can be measured in the lives saved, reduction in the number of disaster-affected people, and reduced economic losses. The theme chosen for this year's celebrations is "International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses".

October 14: World Standards Day

Also called International Standards Day, it is celebrated globally to raise awareness among regulators, industry and consumers as to the importance of standardization in the global economy. These standards helped to drive the industrial revolution and nowadays it drives the advancement of all technologies from automotive to telecommunications.

Adopting common standards facilitates global cooperation in numerous fields. The theme for 2021 is "Standards for sustainable development goals- a shared vision for a better future."

In India, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is the National Standards Body of India under Department of Consumer affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution. It was established April 1,1987 under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

This act was repealed in 2016 and replaced with a new Bureau of Indian standards (BIS) Act 2016. It aims at harmonious development of the activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods and for matters connected therewith.

October 14: International E-Waste Day

The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of repairing or correctly disposing of used appliances with the aim to increase re-use, repair, recovery and recycling. It has been developed by the WEEE Forum, an international association of electronic waste collection schemes. WEEE denotes Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment. The theme chosen for this year is "Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!" It focuses on promoting recycling of products.

According to the UN, in 2021 each person on the planet will produce on average 7.6 kg of e-waste, meaning that a massive 57.4 million tonnes will be generated worldwide. E-waste is the fastest growing stream of waste — but it is also the most valuable stream of waste. A tonne of E-wastemay have more silver than a tonne of silver ore.

October (14): World Sight Day

The day is observed on the second Thursday of October, to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment. Reduced or absence of eyesight can have major and long-lasting effects on all aspects of life. Around 1 billion people in the world have a preventable vision impairment or one that has yet to be addressed. This year, the theme for the Day is "Love Your Eyes".

October 15: Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas

Supported by the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry, this day is observed to recognise the contribution of women farmers in various aspects of agriculture including sowing, planting, fertilizing, plant protection, harvesting, weeding, and storage.

The day aims to increase the active participation of women in agriculture. In rural India, over 80% of women depend on agriculture for their livelihood. In the farmer community, around 30% women are farmers themselves and over 45% work as agricultural labour.

October 15: International Day of Rural Women

The day recognizes the crucial role of women and girls in ensuring the sustainability of rural households and communities, improving rural livelihoods and overall wellbeing. The theme this year "Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All", highlights the essential role that rural women and girls play in the food systems of the world. Rural women ensure food security for their communities, build climate resilience and strengthen economies.

October 15: World Students' Day

Celebrated every year to commemorate the birthday of 11th president APJ Abdul Kalam (2002-07). He is best known for promoting education and his love for students. The United Nations declared October 15 as World Students' Day in 2010.

He was dedicated to teaching and identified himself first as a teacher and then as anything else. The theme of World Students' Day 2021 is "Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace", which aims to reaffirm the role of education as a fundamental right of every person across the world.

October 15: Global Handwashing Day

Celebrated every year to raise awareness on handwashing with soap, motivate people worldwide to develop hand washing habits, and highlight the state of handwashing in countries worldwide.

The day is of special importance this year in view of protection offered against Coronavirus by washing hands with soap. This year's theme, "Our Future is at Hand – Let's Move Forward Together," calls for coordinated action as we actively work toward universal hand hygiene.

October 16: World Food Day

Celebrated every year around the world to commemorate the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations on this day in 1945 in Quebec City, Canada. This day generates awareness globally for those who suffer from hunger and to ensure the need for food security and nutritious diets for all.

The theme for this year's WFD is "Our actions are our future- Better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life".

Qu Dongyu is the current Director General of the FAO with headquarters in Rome, Italy.

October 17: International Poverty Eradication Day

The day is observed across the world to raise awareness about the efforts being made to eradicate poverty in the world community. It's an opportunity to spread the message of peace and love and honour the victims of poverty, hunger, violence and fear. The theme for this year's celebration is "Building Forward Together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet".

The COVID-19 pandemic reversed decades of progress in the fight against poverty and extreme poverty. According to the World Bank report on 'Projected poverty impacts of COVID-19', "..... between 71 to 100 million people are being pushed into poverty as a result of the crisis, with the majority of the new extreme poor being found in South Asian and Sub-Saharan countries where poverty rates are already high. In 2021, this number is expected to rise to between 143 and 163 million".

October 20: National Solidarity Day

This day is observed to honour the Armed Forces, who protect our extensive borders and also to remember the national integrity shown by Indian forces in the Sino-Indo war against China, that started on this day in 1962.

October 20: The International Chefs Day

The day aims to celebrate and honour the noble profession of cooking and educate people around the world about eating healthy. It is an opportunity for experienced chefs to pass on their knowledge and culinary skills to the next generation with a sense of pride and commitment. The theme selected for the year 2021 is Healthy Food for the Future.

October 20: World Osteoporosis Day

The day aims to raise global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease. The day is organized by the International Osteoporosis Foundation of Switzerland. The theme selected for the 2021 campaign is "Serve Up Bone Strength".

Osteoporosis literally means 'porous bone'. It is a condition where bones become thin and lose their strength, as they become less dense and their quality is reduced. This can lead to broken bones, which cause pain, disability, and make everyday activities extremely difficult.

October 21: Police Commemoration Day

The day is observed every year to honour the loyalty and supreme sacrifice of police personnel for the nation. It was on this day in 1959 when CRPF led a saga of valour and sacrifice in the inaccessible, inhospitable terrain of Hot Springs in Ladakh confronting the Chinese Army. In this battle, ten CRPF men were martyred in defence of the country.

The CRPF came into existence as Crown Representative's Police on 27th July 1939. It became the Central Reserve Police Force on enactment of the CRPF Act on 28th December 1949. The Force has grown into a big organization of over three lakh personnel in 246 Battalions, including 6 all women battalions. It functions under the union home ministry with headquarters in New Delhi. It is headed by a Director General, Kuldeep Singh, IPS at present.

October 22: International Stuttering Awareness Day

This Day is observed to raise awareness about stutterers and educate the public about the causes. Stuttering, also known as stammering, is a condition where fluency of speech is affected. It is a communication disorder in which repetitions — or abnormal stoppages of sounds and syllables — break the flow of speech.

There may also be unusual facial and body movements associated with speaking. The theme chosen for 2021 is "Speak the change you wish to see".

October 23: International Snow Leopard Day

Observed every year to protect and conserve snow leopards and other wildlife of the Himalayas. Ladakh is called the Snow Leopard capital of the world. It is the state animal of Himachal Pradesh. On this day in 2013, leaders from 12 countries where Snow Leopard is found, endorsed the 'Bishkek Declaration' on the conservation of snow leopards. Bishkek is the largest city and capital of Kyrgyzstan.

October 23: Mole Day

The day, popular amongst chemistry enthusiasts, marks the discovery of Mole or Avogadro's number. This day is marked to commemorate and honour Avogadro's number. It represents (6.022×10^{23}) , which defines the number of particles present in a single mole of a substance. A mole is an SI unit for measuring atoms and molecules and is named after its discoverer, Amedeo Avogadro. The theme for the occasion, inspired by the mascot – A Mole, is Dispicamole Me.

October 24: The United Nations Day

Observed to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations on this day in 1945. The UN Charter signed on June 26, 1945, is the founding document of this great non-partisan institution that has been working towards global peace and equality.

The day aims to bring attention to the work, role and achievements of the UNO and its family of specialized agencies. Antonio Guterres is the current Secretary-General of the United Nations, having 193 members, with headquarters in New York, USA.

October 24: The World Polio Day

It is celebrated annually to raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of polio. The Day was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. The theme for this year is "Delivering on a Promise".

As of August 2021, Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only two nations which remain with the continued transmission of wild polio virus. India was declared polio-free in January 2014, after three years of zero cases.

Polio, or poliomyelitis, is a crippling and potentially deadly infectious disease caused by the poliovirus that invades the brain and spinal cord, causing paralysis. The virus spreads from person-to-person and only affects humans; children are especially susceptible. Because polio has no cure, vaccination is the only way to protect children and stop the disease from spreading.

October 27: Infantry Day

Army establishments across the country celebrate this day to pay homage to the thousands of infantry soldiers who laid down their lives in the line of duty. It was on this day in 1947 that first Indian infantry soldiers took part in an action to defend Indian territory from external aggression and repelled the attack by the Pakistani invaders in Kashmir. The victory was accomplished by the jawans of the First Battalion of the Sikh Regiment.

October 27: The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

Observed with support from UNESCO to raise general awareness of the need to take urgent measures and to acknowledge the importance of audiovisual documents such as films, radio, and television programmes, etc. Audiovisual content plays an increasingly vital role in our lives as we seek to understand the world and engage with society. The theme for the year 2021 is "Your window to the World".

October 27: World Occupational Therapy Day

The day promotes and celebrates the occupational therapy profession and heightens its visibility. On this day, occupational therapists take part in activities to promote the profession or an aspect of it. The theme for this year's celebrations is "Belong. Be You".

In occupational therapy, occupations refer to the everyday activities that people do as individuals, in families and with communities to occupy time and bring meaning and purpose to life. Occupational therapists work in diverse settings such as schools, rehabilitation centers, hospitals, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, mental health clinics, and even in homes.

October 29: International Internet Day

The day is observed to commemorate the anniversary of the first internet transmission that took place on this day in 1969. Charley Kline, a student programmer at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), transmitted the first-ever electronic message on October 29, 1969.

While the internet may not have been possible without a million other monumental inventions that came before it, it's hard to find any other invention that has had such a monumental impact on mankind. With over 800 million users, India is the second largest online market.

Gyanm

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October 30/31: World Savings Day

Previously known as World Thrift Day, this day is celebrated across the world on either 30th or 31st October, depending upon the working day in banks. In India it is observed on October 30. This day is dedicated to promote the importance of savings and learn more about the same.

It is an important day to promote the idea of saving among all social classes. As financial resources are never available in abundance, it is always imperative to safeguard money and to learn ways to save it.

October 31: Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

Observed to celebrate the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Deputy Prime Minister and the home minister of independent India. Patel played a crucial role in India's freedom movement and in the integration of 560 princely states with India. It is also the martyrdom day of Indira Gandhi.

October 31: World Cities Day

Observed across the world to work together for planned and sustainable urban life in the wake of rapid growth of population and problems. The main Global Observance will be co-hosted by UN-Habitat and Egypt and will take place in Luxor, the ancient city of Thebes in Egypt.

The theme for this year is "Adapting Cities for Climate Resilience", reflecting the fact that climate change will have a huge impact on city residents with hundreds of millions of them experiencing floods, rising sea levels, storms and increasing periods of extreme temperatures.

SEPTEMBER

September 2: World Coconut Day

The day aims to create awareness about the importance of the coconut and its benefits. The day is especially marked in countries under Asian and Pacific regions by the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) as they house most of the world's coconut growing production centres. One of nature's most versatile products, the coconut and its various parts can be used for food and drink, bakery, sweets, oil, cosmetic preparations, decorating and a variety of coir products.

The theme for this year's celebrations is "Building a Safe Inclusive Resilient and Sustainable Coconut Community Amid COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond". India produces over one third of global coconut production. Harvesting 9,687 nuts per hectare, our productivity is highest in the world.

September 5: Teachers' Day

The day marks the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. He was the first Vice President of India (1952-1962) and second President of India (1962-1967). He was a staunch believer of the value of education. The day honours the contribution of teachers and educators for their significant role in students' lives. The Ministry of Education presents the National Teachers Awards on this occasion every year.

September 5: International Day of Charity

The United Nations observes this day annually with the objective of sensitizing and mobilizing people, NGOs all around the world to help others through voluntary philanthropic activities. The date commemorates the death anniversary of Saint Mother Teresa, the Nobel Peace Prize awardee of 1979.

Sep 7: International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies

The UN General Assembly had adopted a resolution in Dec 2019 to observe this day. In India various activities are conducted under the National Clean Air Programme to improve the quality of air, particularly in urban areas.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has selected "Healthy Air, Healthy Planet" as the theme for this year's celebrations. It aims to raise awareness about the health aspects of air pollution, especially considering the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sep. 08: International Literacy Day

Countries across the world celebrate this day to highlight the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies. The 8th of September was proclaimed International Literacy Day by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1966.

The theme of International Literacy Day this year is 'Literacy for a Human-centered Recovery: Narrowing the Digital Divide.' As per UNESCO, the day this year will explore how literacy can contribute to building a solid foundation for a human-centred recovery, with a special focus on the interplay of literacy and digital skills required by non-literate youth and adults.

September 9: Himalaya Day

Observed every year to sensitize the people on the importance of this fragile ecosystem as also to highlight the various issues concerning it. The Day was first observed in Uttarakhand in 2010 as an initiative of a group of noted environmentalists.

Himalaya plays an important role to save and sustain nature and protect the country from adverse weather conditions. The Himalayan range is also responsible for rain besides being a rich repository of floral and faunal biodiversity. As many as 130 crore people directly or indirectly depend on the mountain range for survival.

September 10: World Suicide Prevention Day

Supported by the WHO and International Association for Suicide Prevention, it is a day dedicated to raising awareness of the risks of suicide and the challenges faced in trying to prevent suicide.

It is among the top 20 leading causes of death globally. It is responsible for over 800,000 deaths every year. The theme for this year is "Creating hope through action." The theme focuses on a collective initiative towards suicide prevention.

September 11: The National Forest Martyrs Day

Observed every year to remember the martyrs who laid their lives to protect nature in the remote corners of the country. On September 11, 1730, over 360 people of the Bishnoi community were massacred in Khejarli (Rajasthan) because they objected to felling of Khejri trees by the king of Jodhpur.

The day is devoted to paying respects to hundreds of forest officials who sacrificed their lives while protecting the country's forest wealth and wildlife, fighting against poachers, smugglers, diseases and loneliness. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change made a declaration in 2013 to celebrate this day annually.

September (11): World First Aid Day

Observed on the second Saturday of September every year to create awareness about the importance of first aid in attending injuries and saving lives. The day was started by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Geneva in 2000 to promote awareness in the world about the benefits of first aid, need of first aid and the right way to do first aid.

With knowledge of first aid, one can easily prevent major happenings by providing immediate care while waiting for experts to attend. The theme for this year is 'First aid and road safety'.

September 14: Hindi Divas / Raj Bhasha Divas

Hindi Diwas commemorates the adoption of Hindi as the official language of India. On this day in 1949, Hindi written in Devanagari script was adopted as the official language of India by the Constituent Assembly of India. Hindi is one of the two official languages of the Union government — the other being English. The language was adopted under Article 343 of the Indian Constitution.

It may be noted that the World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Diwas) is observed on January 10 to mark the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference that took place in 1975 in Nagpur, Maharashtra

September 15: Engineer's Day



This day is observed to mark the birth anniversary of acclaimed civil engineer Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya. Decorated with Bharat Ratna in 1955, he had extraordinary skills for designing dams and several other hydro projects.

He patented and installed an irrigation system with water floodgates at the Khadakvasla reservoir near Pune to raise the food supply level and storage to the highest levels. He was also conferred the British Knighthood by the then King George V, which put "Sir" before his name. He was fondly called Sir MV.

September 15: International Day of Democracy



The United Nations (UN) General Assembly passed a resolution in 2007 that September 15 of each year would be observed as the International Day of Democracy. The day aims to promote the government's role in maintaining open democracy among all the countries. The day provides an opportunity to recall that democracy is about people as it gives voice to the common man and ensures that all are equal before the rule of law. This year, the UN will focus on "strengthening democratic resilience in the face of future crises."

September 16: World Ozone Day

Also known as the International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer, it is observed annually to spread awareness among people about the depletion of the Ozone Layer and search for possible solutions to preserve it. The day commemorates the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, in 1987. Under the Montreal Protocol, nations worked together to cut out 99 percent of ozone-depleting substances.

The Protocol was followed by the Kigali Amendment wef Jan, 2019 to reduce the projected production and consumption of hydro fluoro carbons (HFCs) by more than 80 per cent over the next 30 years.

Kigali is the capital of Rwanda, a tiny landlocked country in Central Africa.

The theme for this year is "Montreal Protocol- Keeping us, our food, and vaccines cool".

Ozone is a pale blue gas with a distinctively pungent smell, formed in the atmosphere when the sun's rays split oxygen molecules into single atoms. These atoms combine with nearby oxygen to form a three-oxygen molecule, called Ozone.

Ozone is formed by the action of ultraviolet (UV) light when heat and sunlight cause chemical reactions between oxides of nitrogen (NOX) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), also known as Hydrocarbons.

The Ozone Layer is a fragile shield of gas that protects the Earth and its ecosystem from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun, thus helping preserve life on the planet. It is formed mainly in the lower portion of the Stratosphere, at approximately 15 to 35 kilometers above Earth.

September 17: The World Patient Safety Day

Supported by the WHO, the Day is observed to create a global awareness for patient safety. It calls for global solidarity and concerted action by all countries to improve patient safety during healthcare.

Furthermore, the Day brings together patients, families, caregivers, communities, health workers, health care leaders and policy-makers to show their commitment to patient safety. The theme for this year is "Safe maternal and newborn care".

September 18: International Equal Pay Day

Under an initiative of the United Nations, this day was observed for the first time in 2020, to highlight the importance of ending sexual discrimination in relation to gender pay gap which refers to the difference in earnings between men and women in paid employment.

The observance represents the longstanding struggle of women for equal pay for the work of equal value. Currently, on a global average, women earn 23% less than men for work of the same value.

September 18: World Bamboo Day

It is observed every year by the World Bamboo Organization to generate awareness about conserving and promoting the bamboo industry. Also known as poor man's timber, bamboo is omnipresent in tribal cultures and community living. The theme for this year is '#PlantBamboo: It Is Time to Plant Bamboo'.

Bamboo is a tall, tree-like grass of the family Poaceae. It comprises more than 115 genera and 1,400 species. After China, India is the world's second-largest cultivator of bamboo. To boost bamboo production and exploitation in the country, the Government amended the century old Indian Forest Act to delist bamboo as a tree and classify it as grass.

Sep. (18): The International Coastal Clean-up Day

This day is traditionally held on the third Saturday of September. It encourages people to remove the garbage plaguing beaches. It is an occasion to spread awareness about preserving and protecting the world's oceans and waterways. This year's theme is "Keep trash in the bin and not in the ocean"

September 21: International Day of Peace

Also called World Peace Day, it is observed around the world with UN support to strengthen the ideals of peace and harmony by observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

The theme for this year is "Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world". It focuses on how to help everyone recover better, how to build resilience, and how to transform our world into a place that is more equal, more just, equitable, inclusive, sustainable, and healthier.

September 21: The World Alzheimer's Day

Observed globally to raise awareness about the stigma that runs around Alzheimer disease and related dementia. The disease is named after a German psychiatrist, Alois Alzheimer, who first diagnosed the disease in 1901 in a 50-year-old woman.

The theme for this year is "Know Dementia, Know Alzheimer's". Alzheimer's is a progressive disease, where dementia (loss of memory) symptoms gradually worsen over a number of years.

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurologic disorder that causes the brain to shrink (atrophy) and brain cells to die. It is the most common cause of dementia — a continuous decline in thinking, behavioral and social skills that affects a person's ability to function independently.

September 22: World Rose Day

This day is celebrated to spread awareness about cancer which starts when cells grow out of control and crowd out normal cells. On this day, hand-made roses, cards, and gifts are offered to cancer patients.

The day is observed in the memory of a 12-year old girl, Melinda Rose, a cancer patient from Canada. After the diagnosis, the doctors had given her just weeks but due to her willpower and never giving hope of defeating cancer, she went on to live for six months.

September 22: World Rhino Day

This day provides an opportunity to work towards saving the Rhinos, as they have been the target of poachers for decades. Rhino horns are in great demand in many southeast Asian countries for their aphrodisiac and medicinal value. The theme for this year's day is 'Keep The Five Alive'. The five species are -- Greater one-horned, Sumatran, Black, White, and Javan Rhinos. India is home to the largest number of Greater one-horned Rhinos in the world with its population in the range of 3000 animals in the States of Assam, West Bengal and UP.

September 23: International Day of Sign Languages

The day is observed to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf or dumb. This day presents the opportunity to 'support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users'. In India, the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre, New Delhi, an autonomous body within the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, celebrates it every year.

The theme for this day for the year 2021 is "'We Sign For Human Rights" highlighting how each of us – deaf and hearing people around the world – can work together hand in hand to promote the recognition of our right to use sign languages in all areas of life.

September 25: World Pharmacist Day

This day is celebrated to create awareness about the role of a pharmacist in improving health. It is an initiative of the International Pharmaceutical Federation, The Hague (Netherlands). This year's theme, developed by the FIP, is "Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health". The theme highlights the importance of trust in healthcare and the practice of pharmacy across diverse clinical settings.



September 25: Antyodaya Diwas

Observed across the country to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, a noted philosopher, political activist and strong advocate of the concept of Antyodaya. He was a veteran leader of Jan Sangh, from which the present BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party) emerged. He was the source of ideological guidance and moral inspiration for the BJP since its inception.

Antyodaya means uplifting the poorest of the poor and, hence, the day is observed with the aim to reach out to the last person of the society.

Sep. 26: World Environmental Health Day

Observed annually with the support of International Federation of Environmental Health, London, to spread awareness about the pressing need for a healthier environment. It aims to highlight the fact that the health of the human race is irrevocably intertwined with the health of the environment.

Therefore, in order to protect and improve human health, preserving and enhancing the planet's health is not a matter of choice, but a matter of concern. The theme for this year is 'Prioritising Environmental Health for healthier communities in the global recovery'.

September (26): Happy Daughters' Day

It is celebrated globally on the fourth Sunday of September every year. On this day, parents celebrate and appreciate their daughters by making special gestures to cherish their children. The day was conceptualised to fight against the stigma around having a girl child and honouring daughters. The best possible gift that can be given to them, is their empowerment.

September (26) World Rivers Day

It is celebrated on the last Sunday of September to highlight the importance of waterways in our life. This day encourages people to conserve and save water and rivers around the world. Rivers in virtually every country face an array of threats, and only through our active involvement can we ensure their contribution to a sustainable ecosystem and green environment.

September 27 - World Tourism Day

Observed with the support of a UN special World Tourism Organisation to highlight the importance of tourism which helps in generating employment and building the future for millions of people around the world.

In the aftermath of COVID pandemic, restart of tourism can help kickstart recovery and growth that will benefit all. UNWTO promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability. This year the theme is "Tourism for inclusive Growth".



September 28: World Rabies Day

The day is celebrated annually to raise awareness about rabies prevention and to highlight progress in defeating this horrifying disease. The day marks the anniversary of Louis Pasteur's death, the French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first Rabies vaccine.

Rabies is a deadly virus spread to people from the saliva of infected animals. Rabies is usually transmitted through an animal bite, for example, from stray dogs or monkeys.

September 29 - World Heart Day



Observed to spread awareness about heart disease and stroke which is the world's leading cause of death. The day promotes preventative measures to reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs).

The theme chosen for this year is "Use Heart to Connect". It is about using your knowledge, compassion and influence to make sure you, your loved ones and the communities you're part of, have the best chance to live heart-healthy lives.

September 30: International Translation Day

The day is supported by the UNO to pay tribute to the work of language professionals, which plays an important role in bringing nations together, facilitating dialogue for development and strengthening world peace.

The day marks the feast day of St. Jerome, who translated the Bible, and is regarded as the patron saint of translators. The theme chosen for this year's celebrations is "United in Translation".

September (30): World Maritime Day

It is observed on the last Thursday of September to celebrate the maritime industry's contribution in supporting and promoting the global economy. It emphasizes the importance of maritime security, marine environment and shipping safety. The day also marks the day of adaptation of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) convention in 1958. It is a special UN agency, based in London. The theme chosen by the IMO for this year is "Seafarers: At the Core of Shipping's Future".

ALL THE NEWS ITEMS IN THIS MAGAZINE HAVE BEEN SOURCED FROM VARIOUS NEWS PAPERS AND GOVT. PRESS RELEASES.

Bullet News

(May 2021 – August 2021)

For details visit – www.gyanm.in

NATIONAL NEWS

AUGUST

- According to Cushman and Wakefield's 2021 Global Manufacturing Risk Index, India surpassed the US as the world's second most desired manufacturing hub.
- The rising focus on India can be attributed to India's operating conditions and cost competitiveness.
- Four Indian wetland sites have been recognised as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. The four selected sanctuaries are as under:
 - Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary, Near Jhajjar, Haryana
 - Sultanpur National Park, near Gurgram, Haryana
 - Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
 - Wadhvana Wetland, near Vadodara, Gujarat
- The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty for the conservation and prudent use of wetlands.
- India's first green hydrogen electrolyzer manufacturing unit was started at Bengaluru, Karnataka on August 24.
- The factory set up by the US-based renewable energy startup Ohmium International will manufacture Proton Exchange Membrane hydrogen electrolyzers.
- Green hydrogen is made from non-fossil sources as against blue hydrogen that is made from fossil sources.
- The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation has approved the DNA COVID-19 vaccine ZyCoV-D developed by Ahmedabad-based Zydus Cadila for children in the age group of 12 to 18 years.
- It is India's first indigenously developed and world's first plasmid-DNA three-dose COVID-19 vaccine.
- The Border Roads Organisation completed the construction of the world's highest motorable tarmac road at the height of 19,300 feet at Umling La Pass in eastern Ladakh.

- India's renewable energy (RE) capacity crossed the milestone of 100 gigawatts (GW), the government said in a statement on August 12
- Now India stands at 4th position in the world in terms of installed RE capacity, 5th in solar, and 4th in wind in terms of installed capacity.
- India's mission to evacuate its citizens and Afghan partners from Kabul after its takeover by the Taliban on August 15 has been named as "Operation Devi Shakti".
- The Supreme Court on Aug 18 allowed women candidates to appear for National Defence Academy entrance exam scheduled on Sep. 5, saying debarring them amounted to gender discrimination.
- The first goods train to Bangladesh through the revived Haldibari – Chilahati rail link left from Damdim station of Alipurduar Division in Northeast Frontier Railway in West Bengal for Chilahati in Bangladesh, on July 31.
- On August 01, India took over from France the presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the month of August.

JULY

- Dholavira, a 5,000-year-old Harappan-era metropolis, in north Gujarat has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the 40th such site from India.
- The 13th-century Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple in village Palampet in district Mulugu, Telangana has been inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- India has scored 90.32 per cent in the latest Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation conducted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (UNESCAP).
- India and world's largest solar power park of 4.75-Gigawatt (4750 MW) capacity is being set up in Rann of Kutch in Khavada, Gujarat by NTPC.

- India and Asia's first National Dolphin Research Centre is to be set up on the banks of the River Ganges in the Patna University campus in Bihar.
 - ✓ A 7 km long stretch between Sultanganj to Kahalgao in Bhagalpur, Bihar has been declared as Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary.
- Nepal signed a \$1.3 billion deal with India's hydropower major Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) to develop the 679-megawatt Lower Arun Hydropower Project on the Arun River.
- A High-Speed Track (HST) – NATRAX was inaugurated for automobiles testing in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The 11.3 km track is the longest such track in Asia and world's fifth-longest.
 - ✓ The HST will be used for measuring the maximum speed capability of high-end cars like BMW, Mercedes, Audi, Ferrari, Lamborghini and Tesla.
- The Global Cybersecurity Index 2020 released by the International Telecommunication Union. India was ranked at 10th place.
 - ✓ The US was ranked first with a score of 100 and the UK and Saudi Arabia were joint second with a score of 99.54 each.
- For the first time, the high-altitude Himalayan yaks will now be insured. The National Research Center on Yak in Arunachal Pradesh has tied up with the National Insurance Co. for insuring their livestock.
- The 34.50 km-long rail link between Jaynagar in Madhubani district of Bihar to Kurtha in Mahottari district of Nepal became the first section of the rail line between the two countries.

JUNE

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed a UN 'High-Level Dialogue on Desertification, Land Degradation & Drought' on June 14.
- Sh. Modi is the President of the 14th Session of the Conference of Parties of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
- The World Giving Index 2021 released by the UK based Charities Aid Foundation ranked India as the 14th most generous country in the world. Indonesia topped the index.
- India and the USA launched a hydrogen task force under the aegis of Strategic Clean Energy Partnership to provide a push to India's energy security efforts.
- Green hydrogen gas is produced by splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen using an electrolyzer that may be powered by electricity generated from renewable energy sources.
- India hosted a virtual meeting of foreign ministers of BRICS states on June 1. It was chaired by external affairs minister S Jaishankar

- Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) released the 18th edition of the World's International University rankings on June 9.
- Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru has been ranked as number one University in the world in the research category.
- The US-based Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) was ranked number one.
- The World Bank approved a \$ 500 million program to help boost India's 5.50 lakh MSMEs.
- India has been elected to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, ECOSOC for the three-year term Jan. 2022- Dec. 2024.
- The World Competitiveness Index by Switzerland based Institute for Management Development (IMD) ranked India at 43rd spot in a list of 64 nations.
- The Index is topped by Switzerland, followed by Sweden at second place.
- The Global Peace Index by the Institute for Economics and Peace, ranked India pretty low at 135th rank.
- Iceland remains the most peaceful country in the world, since 2008. Afghanistan continues to be at the bottom at 163rd rank, behind Yemen and Syria.
- The State of India's Environment Report 2021 revealed that India slipped by two places from last year to 117 on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

MAY

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the India-EU Leaders' Meeting on May 9 (in virtual mode) as a special invitee of European Council President, Charles Michel.
- The meeting was hosted by Portugal's Prime Minister Antonio Costa, as Portugal currently holds the Presidency of the E U Council.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his British counterpart Boris Johnson participated in the India UK Virtual Summit on May 04.
- They adopted an ambitious 'Roadmap 2030' to elevate bilateral ties to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership'.
- The Drugs Controller General of India has given its approval for the emergency use of the anti-COVID drug- 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG) developed by DRDO.
- The Indian Navy launched "Operation Samudra Setu-II" to help in faster transportation of medical oxygen and other requirements from other countries to India, amid its worsening COVID-19 pandemic.
- India received over \$ 83 billion in remittances in 2020, highest in the world, according to the World Bank's latest Migration and Development Brief.

- Remittance outflow was the maximum from the United States (\$ 68 billion), followed by UAE (\$ 43 billion) and Saudi Arabia (\$ 34.5 billion).
- India has been placed at 49th position among 104 nations in the Chandler Good Government Index. Finland secured the top position in the Index.
- Jupitice Justice Technologies, a Chandigarh-based legal tech startup, has launched the world's first private digital platform to conduct virtual arbitration, conciliation, mediation and other Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms.

NEWS FROM STATES

AUGUST

- India's first ever smog tower was inaugurated on August 23 in the national capital in Connaught Place area to improve air quality.
- India's highest herbal park was inaugurated on August 21 at Mana village at 11,000 feet in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district.
- The Haryana Police secured first position in the country for the best implementation of the Crime & Criminal Tracking Network & System with 100% marks.
- Cleanest city of the country Indore has now been declared as the first Water Plus city of the country, by the Central Government.
- Nagaland won seven national awards in the first Van Dhan Annual Awards 2020-21 announced on the 34th foundation day of Tribal Coop. Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED).
- Chhattisgarh became the first State to recognize the Community Forest Resource Rights in urban areas.
- The first set of CFRR certificates were issued to the residents of Dhamtari district, within the core area of the tiger reserve.
- Kaziranga National Park in Assam has become the first National Park in India to be equipped with satellite phones.
- An all-weather 8.5 km tunnel between Jammu and Kashmir's Qazigund and Banihal was opened for traffic on a trial basis on August 4.
- It has been built at a height of 5800 feet above the sea level, across the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas.

JULY

- Six Assam Police personnel were killed and around 50 were injured during an armed clash with Mizoram Police on July 26 at the Assam-Mizoram Border.

8 STATES GET NEW GOVERNOR

- ✓ **Bandaru Dattatreya:** Haryana, shifted from Himachal Pradesh

- ✓ **PS Sreedharan Pillai:** Goa – shifted from Mizoram
- ✓ **Satyadev Narayan Arya:** Tripura, shifted from Haryana
- ✓ **Ramesh Bais:** Jharkhand, shifted from Tripura
- ✓ **Thawarchand Gehlot:** Karnataka, shifted from the union cabinet
- ✓ **Hari Babu Kambhampati:** Mizoram, new appointment, senior BJP leader from Andhra Pradesh
- ✓ **Mangubhai Chaganbhai Patel:** Madhya Pradesh, new appointment, senior BJP leader from Gujarat
- ✓ **Rajendran Vishwanath Arlekar:** Himachal Pradesh, new appointment, BJP leader from Goa

- Puri in Odisha became the first city in India to have a "Drink From Tap Project" that will dispense safe hygienic drinking water 24X7, directly from a tap, eliminating the need for widely used plastic bottles.
 - ✓ Under the project, water fountains have been set up across 400 sites in Puri, avoiding approximately 400 metric tons of plastic waste annually.
- The Central government declared the Smart City awards 2020 in which Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Surat (Gujarat) were declared the joint winner for their overall development.
 - ✓ Among states, Uttar Pradesh emerged on the top, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- India's first Grain ATM has been installed by the Haryana government as a pilot project in Farrukhnagar, Gurugram under the 'World Food Programme' of the United Nations.
- India's first cryptogamic garden, with around 50 different species, was inaugurated on July 11 in Deoban area of Dehradun in Uttarakhand.
 - ✓ Cryptogams are non-seed-bearing plants which do not reproduce through seeds, e.g. algae, bryophytes (moss, liverworts), lichens, ferns and fungi.
- Manipur made its debut on Indian Railway map on July 2 when a passenger train-Rajdhani Express from Assam's Silchar station-reached the Vaingaichunpao railway station in Manipur.
- After not reporting a single rabies case in the last three years, Goa has now become the first rabies-free state in the country.
- The Gujarat High Court became the first high court to begin live-streaming of court proceedings on YouTube, from July 17.
- For the first time, cultivation of monk fruit (*Siraitia grosvenorii*) from China has been taken up in India in Kullu, HP by the Palampur-based CSIR-IHBT.
- **CSIR-IHBT:** Council of Scientific and Industrial Research -Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology

- ✓ The monk fruit is known for its properties as a non-caloric natural sweetener. It is about 300 times sweeter than sucrose or cane sugar.
- Amazon launched its first Digital Kendra in India in Surat, Gujarat to provide MSMEs the opportunity to learn about the benefits of e-commerce.
- A Central University will be set up in Khamti in Leh, Ladakh and a multi-purpose infrastructure development corporation will be set up for Ladakh, to boost all round development in Ladakh.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change has sanctioned Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary as the 4th tiger sanctuary in Rajasthan.
- In a historic decision, LG of J & K, Manoj Sinha decided to say goodbye to the 149-year-old biannual tradition of shifting capitals between Srinagar and Jammu.
 - ✓ It involved movement of hundreds of official files physically in hundreds of trucks on the treacherous Jammu-Srinagar highway.
- In Uttar Pradesh, the government announced a new 'Population Policy 2021-2030' on the occasion of World Population Day on July 11.
 - ✓ The policy contains incentives and disincentives for the promotion of the two-child norm in the state.
- A first case of Zika virus infection was confirmed on July 8 in a 24-year-old pregnant woman in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

JUNE

- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) India Index by NITI Aayog placed Kerala at the top with 75 points on a score of 100.
- In the Anemia Mukta Bharat Index 2020-21, Madhya Pradesh secured first position with a score of 64.1 followed by Odisha with a score of 59.3.
- Punjab Government initiated for the first time in India, the usage of eIDs equipped with Near Field Communication (NFC) technology.
- It was introduced in Punjab Mandi Board. These cards will be used primarily as an authentication tool.
- Odisha became the only Indian state to have all 3 major kinds of crocodile species in River Mahanadi: Saltwater crocodiles, Mugghers, and freshwater Gharials.
- The Ease of Living Index 2020, released by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) on June 16 named Bengaluru as the most livable city of India.

MAY

- Jharkhand topped the recent ranking released by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, based on the progress of the implementation of the Smart City Mission's schemes.

- The Shergaon Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) in West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh has been given the 'Best BMC in India' award.
- The India Biodiversity Awards were given by the National Biodiversity Authority of the union ministry of environment, forests & climate change.
- Karnataka topped in establishing Health & Wellness Centres under the Ayushman Bharat Program to provide comprehensive primary health care in rural areas in 2020-21.
- Assam became the first Indian state to have a real-time digital flood reporting system Flood Reporting and Information Management System (FRIMS).
- FRIMS has been developed jointly by Assam State Disaster Management Agency and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).
- The top Oil and Gas PSUs of India, including IOC, BPCL, HPCL, ONGC and GAIL, inked a MoU with the Shri Badrinath Utthaan Charitable Trust.
- The MoU is for construction and redevelopment of Shri Badrinath Dham in Uttarakhand as a Spiritual Smart hill Town.

GOVT INITIATIVES

AUGUST

- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) launched the "Start-up Accelerators of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development and growth (SAMRIDH)" programme on August 25.
- It will create a conducive platform for Indian Software start-ups to improve their products and securing investments for scaling their business.
- Govt launched the e-Shram portal - National Database on Unorganized Workers to maintain a database of workers in the country's unorganised sector.
- New geospatial planning portal, 'Yuktadhara' launched to help in facilitating new MGNREGA assets using remote sensing and geographic information system-based data.
- It is a joint effort of ISRO and the Ministry of Rural Development, developed on ISRO's Geoportal Bhuvan.
- The Finance Ministry launched a National Monetisation Pipeline for monetizing Central Government's brownfield infrastructure assets.
- The government has planned a Rs 6-trillion pipeline of assets that can be monetized.
- The Delhi-Chandigarh Highway has become the country's first EV-friendly highway, set up by BHEL under the FAME-1 scheme of the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

- Govt announced guidelines and rates of the long pending Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme for 8555 export items for a cost of ₹12500 crore to the exchequer.
- The world's second-largest refurbished National Gene Bank was inaugurated on Aug 16 at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, Pusa in New Delhi.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched on August 14 the 2nd phase of SAMVAD (Support, Advocacy & Mental health interventions for children in Vulnerable circumstances And Distress).
- It is a national initiative for child protection, mental health and psychosocial care of children.
- The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment launched online portal TAPAS (Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services) to provide filmed lectures/courses and e-study material in the field of social defence.
- PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan launched to help the local manufacturers turn globally competitive in the near future.
- With a support of Rs 100 lakh crore, it will bring employment opportunities to the youth.
- The National Automobile Scrappage Policy announced on Aug 13 has made it mandatory for all private and commercial vehicles to undergo 'fitness tests' as soon as they age 20 years and 15 years, respectively.
- Vehicles will be scientifically tested through authorized, automated testing centers. Unfit vehicles will be scrapped scientifically.
- The policy will promote modernization of the vehicular population by removing unfit vehicles from the roads and boosting demand for new vehicles.
- The Govt notified the Plastic Waste Management (amendment) Rules 2021 prohibiting identified single-use plastic items from July 01, 2022, covering manufacturing, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of several single-use plastics.
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the PM-DAKSH (Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi) Portal and Mobile Application on August 07.
- This portal and app will make the skill development schemes accessible to the target groups of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, and Safai Karamcharis.
- The Lok Sabha passed the Essential Defence Services Bill, 2021 to prohibit lockouts, strikes and layoffs in the units engaged in the essential defence services, such as various ordnance factories.
- UGC notified the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), for storing and transferring academic credits of a student.

- The ABC will allow students to tailor their degrees or make specific modifications or specialisations rather than undergoing the rigid, prescribed courses of a single university or autonomous college.
- It will also permit students multiple entry-exit as well as any-time, any-where, and any-level learning.

JULY

- The All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has permitted engineering colleges to offer B.Tech programmes in 11 regional languages.
 - ✓ These are-Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Gujarati, Malayalam and Bengali, Assamese, Punjabi and Oriya
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme "SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise" for comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of begging.
- The government's umbrella app UMANG will now start showing blood banks, petrol pumps, mandis and other service areas as a result of its integration with spatial app MapmyIndia Maps.
- The Indian Institute of Heritage will be set up at Noida, UP, for imparting higher education and research in the field of rich Indian heritage and its conservation.
 - ✓ It will be a world-class university that will focus on research in India's rich tangible heritage.
 - ✓ It will be an umbrella body under which all the heritage institutes in the country will operate.
- The government launched the 'Kisan Sarathi' platform on July 16 to provide farmers required information at their fingertips in the language of their choice.
 - ✓ The information related to the crops will be provided directly by scientists of local Krishi Vigyan Kendras.
- Union Govt. created a new Ministry of Cooperation (Sahkarita Mantralaya) on July 6. The ministry has been carved out of the Ministry of Agriculture.
 - ✓ It will provide administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in the country. Home Minister Amit Shah has been given first charge of this ministry.
- The government has decided to bring the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) under the finance ministry. Till now the DPE was under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
- Ministry for Fisheries, Animal husbandry and Dairying launched the Mobile App Matsya Setu to provide latest freshwater aquaculture technologies to the aqua farmers of the country.

- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade has initiated a project on Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
 - ✓ It will promote open networks developed on open-sourced methodology, using open specifications and open network protocols.
- The National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy - NIPUN Bharat Mission launched on July 5.
 - ✓ It aims to create an enabling environment to ensure universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy among school children.
- The Union Government launched the 'Atmanirbhar Krishi App' to provide farmers with actionable agricultural insights and weather alerts.
 - ✓ The app will enable farmers to make decisions on the cropping patterns, stubble burning, or mechanization of small farmers' holdings, in a viable manner.
- Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a fresh economic package on June 28, to provide relief to people and businesses affected by the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Rs. 6,28,993 crore package included 17 measures in 3 broad categories, viz. Economic Relief from Pandemic (8), Strengthening Public Health (1) and Impetus for Growth & Employment (8).

JUNE

- The Department of Biotechnology launched "Biotech-Krishi Innovation Science Application Network (Biotech-KISAN)" in northeast region.
- It will focus on the problems of the local farmers and provide scientific solutions to those problems.
- The Central Government approved the Deep Ocean Mission to tap vast marine living and non-living resources, conduct research on deep-sea technologies for sustainable use of ocean resources.
- The Home Ministry operationalised the national Helpline 155260 and a Reporting Platform for preventing financial loss due to cyber frauds.
- The Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System provides a mechanism for persons cheated in cyber frauds to report such cases to prevent loss of their hard-earned money
- The Labour and Employment Ministry constituted an expert group chaired by Ajit Mishra, to provide technical inputs and recommendations on fixation of minimum wages and national floor level for minimum wages.
- The SAGE (Senior care Ageing Growth Engine) portal launched on June 4 to help elderly persons. SAGE will select, support and create a 'one-stop access' of elderly care products and services by credible start-ups.

- Ministry of Education launched 'YUVA- Prime Minister's Scheme For Mentoring Young Authors'. YUVA stands for Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors.
- It is an Author Mentorship programme to train young and budding authors, below 30 years of age. It will be implemented by the National Book Trust.
- The Union Cabinet approved the draft of Model Tenancy Act (MTA) for adoption and enactment by States and UTs to promote rental housing in the country. The MTA seeks to cover urban as well as rural areas.
- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) launched on May 29 an online tracking portal "Bal Swaraj (COVID-Care)" for children affected by COVID-19, needing care and protection, all over India.
- Government announced on May 29, a number of welfare measures under the PM CARES for Children Scheme for children who lost their parents due to COVID-19 pandemic, starting from March 11, 2020.
- **PM CARES:** Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations

MAY

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs plans to set up 10 'One-Stop Centres' (OSCs).
- The OSCs will be set up across nine countries to provide comprehensive support to Indian women affected by violence in public or private places.
- The Union Power Ministry plans to set up a National Mission on the use of biomass in coal-based thermal power plants.
- It will reduce air pollution caused by farm-stubble burning and reduce the carbon footprints of thermal power generation by using farm stubble and other such organic bio-waste as fuel for generating power.
- The National Bamboo Mission launched an MIS (Management Information Systems) based reporting platform for agarbatti stick production.
- It will collate the locations of stick making units, availability of raw material, functioning of the units, production capacity, and marketing.

ECONOMY

AUGUST

- The Union Cabinet approved the highest ever Fair and Remunerative Price of 290 rupees per quintal for sugarcane for the benefit of over five crore sugarcane farmers.
- The Finance Ministry launched "Ubharte Sitaare", a Rs 250 crore alternate investment fund (AIF) for

small and mid-sized export-oriented companies. It will be jointly sponsored by the Exim Bank and SIDBI.

- National Edible Oil Mission-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) announced on August 9 to make India self-sufficient in cooking oils, including palm oil.
- Bhoot Jolokia, also known as "Raja Mircha, one of the hottest chillies in the world, was exported from Nagaland to London for the first time on July 29.

JULY

- The Agriculture Ministry released on July 15 the second advance estimates of area and production of various horticultural crops for the year 2020-21.
 - ✓ The record horticulture production was estimated at 329.86 million tonnes in the year 2020-21, including 196.27 million tonnes of vegetables and 102.76 million tonnes of fruits.
- Govt increased the limit of FDI in National Pension System pension funds from 49% to 74% and has named it as PFRDA Regulation 2021.
- China replaced the UAE as the second largest export destination for India in 2020-21 with shipments from India to China rising 27.5% to \$21.18 billion.
 - ✓ The US was India's top export partner, attracting exports worth \$ 51.6 billion in 2020-21, though falling by 2.78% from the previous year.
- EdTech major Byju's acquired US-based digital reading platform 'Epic' for \$500 million (around Rs 3,730 crore).
 - ✓ Now Byju's will get access to the over two million teachers and 50 million kids in Epic's existing global user base.
 - ✓ Later on, July 26, Byju's acquired Singapore based Great Learning, a leading global player in the professional and higher education, for \$ 600 million.

JUNE

- As per latest CSO data, the Indian economy contracted by 7.3% in 2020-21, its worst recession since independence.
- GDP at current prices for the FY 2020-21 was estimated at Rs. 197.46 lakh crore (203.51 lakh crore in 2019-20). Per capita income for 2020-21 was estimated at Rs. 1.29 lakh.
- The ministry of consumer affairs, food and public distribution made the BIS hallmarking of gold mandatory from June 16 to ensure quality of gold.
- In the seven months ending May 31, 2021, Malaysia surpassed Indonesia to become India's biggest Crude Palm Oil exporter in 2020-21.
- In a breakthrough, the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) launched on May 31 the "World's 1st Nano Urea Liquid".

- Nano Urea will replace conventional urea and may curtail the requirement of the same by at least 50%.
- In a landmark deal the Bharti Airtel and Tata Group joined hands for a strategic partnership for implementing 5G networks solutions for India.

MAY

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare released the Third Advance Estimates of Principal Crops for 2020-21.
- India is expected to register record foodgrain production of 305.44 million tonnes in the year 2020-21, 7.94 million tonnes higher than the previous high of 297.50 million tonnes in 2019-20.
- India attracted the highest ever total FDI inflow of \$ 81.72 billion during the financial year 2020-21.
- Gujarat received the highest share, 37% of total FDI. In terms of investor countries, Singapore is at the top with 29% share, followed by the USA (23%).
- The Finance Ministry notified final rules for raising foreign investment limit to 74 per cent (from 49% earlier) in the insurance sector, which came into effect on May 19, 2021.
- Tata Communications announced the launch of the 'School of Hope and Empowerment' (S.H.E.) at the 2021 UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development.
- S.H.E. is a multi-media, multi-stakeholder communications initiative that aims to inspire at least a million women to realise their dreams of becoming entrepreneurs.

BANKING & FINANCE

AUGUST

- RBI issued revised guidelines for locker and safe custody facility in the banks, to be effective from 1st January, 2022.
 - ✓ Now banks will have to maintain a branch-wise list of vacant lockers and a wait-list to ensure transparency.
 - ✓ Now the customers will not be allowed to keep illegal or hazardous items in bank lockers.
 - ✓ To ensure prompt payment of locker rent, banks will be allowed to obtain a Term Deposit to cover 3 years' rent and the charges for breaking open the locker in case of such eventuality.
 - ✓ Bank's liability in case of incidents like fire, robbery or fraud committed by an employee will be 100 times the prevailing annual rent of the locker.

- RBI released the first edition of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) on August 17 to capture the extent of financial inclusion across the country. It will be published annually in July every year.
- RBI notified a Scheme of Penalty for non-replenishment of ATMs. From 1st Oct 2021, cash-out at any ATM for more than ten hours in a month will attract a penalty of ₹ 10,000/- per ATM.
- RBI is putting in place a Platform for Regulated Entities for Integrated Supervision and Monitoring (PRISM), a web-based end-to-end workflow automation system, to strengthen compliance by supervised entities (SEs).
- RBI notified the enhancement of collateral (additional security) free loans to self-help groups (SHGs) from Rs 10 lakh at present to Rs 20 lakh. Further, no margin (borrower's contribution) will be taken in these loans.
- SEBI has introduced the concept of 'accredited investors' in the Indian securities market. Individuals and others can get accreditation based on financial parameters like annual income, networth, specified by the SEBI.
- The government launched e-RUPI, a cashless and contactless prepaid e-voucher for digital payment.
- ✓ It is a person and purpose specific e-voucher which is delivered to the mobile phone of the beneficiary and can be used for specified purpose only.
 - ✓ eRUPI has been developed by NPCI on its UPI platform, in collaboration with govt authorities.
- RBI allowed non-bank payment system providers (PSPs) to participate in its centralized payment systems (CPS) such as RTGS & NEFT.
 - ✓ Initially, firms such as Paytm and Phonepe, PPI issuers, card networks and white label ATM operators shall be eligible to participate in CPS.

JULY

- RBI revised the rules for extending loans to directors of other banks and relatives of directors, by the banks.
 - ✓ Now banks can extend personal loans up to ₹5 crores to directors of other banks and directors' relatives other than spouses without board approval.
- Ending a long wait for the so-called "Bad Bank", the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd. Was registered as a govt owned entity in Mumbai on July 7.
 - ✓ The company with a paid-up capital of ₹74.6 crore will be headed by the former State Bank NPA expert Padmakumar Madhavan Nair as its MD.
 - ✓ It will take over bad loan accounts of Rs. 500 crore and above.

- The Indian digital payment app BHIM-UPI was launched in Bhutan on July 13, seamlessly connecting the payment infrastructures of the two countries.
- The Reserve Bank of India introduced the RBI Retail Direct facility on July 12 as a one-stop solution to facilitate investment in Government Securities, www.gyanm.com | 99146 33222-Sec by individual investors.
- RBI has asked banks to stop using the London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor) as the reference rate for entering into new financial contracts, as soon as possible and mandatorily by December 31, 2021.
- RBI modified on July 2 the instructions governing the interest rate to be paid by banks on Term Deposits that have matured and their proceeds are lying unclaimed.
 - ✓ Earlier, these deposits earned interest as applicable on SB accounts. But now they will earn interest lower of the Term Deposit or the SB account.
- The govt has decided to include retail and wholesale trade under MSMEs so that they may get the benefit of priority sector lending under RBI guidelines.
 - ✓ Businesses up to Rs 250 crore of annual turnover will be able to avail term finance as part of various schemes announced under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

JUNE

- The Ministry of Finance has allowed housing finance companies with asset size of over Rs. 100 crores to recover their dues under the SARFAESI Act, 2002.
- Earlier, only HFCs with assets over Rs. 500 crore were allowed to use SARFAESI law to recover their dues.
- State-owned Bank of Maharashtra has emerged as the top performer among public sector lenders in terms of loan and deposit growth during FY 2020-21.
- DBS Bank has been named by Forbes in their Indian list of World's Best Banks 2021. DBS was ranked #1 out of 30 domestic and international banks in India for the second consecutive year.

MAY

- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 10 crore on HDFC Bank on May 28 for violation of provisions under various sections of the Banking Regulation Act.
- RBI decided to transfer Rs 99,122 crore as surplus to Centre for nine months ended March 31, 2021.
- The RBI also approved a Rs 1,76,000 crore (\$24.8 billion) dividend payment made to the government, including Rs 1,48,000 crore for FY20.



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- Now money kept in various online wallets like Amazon pay, Ola money, Mobikwik, Phone pe, etc. can be withdrawn using an ATM or PoS.
- RBI permitted all non-bank payment prepaid instruments (PPIs) cash withdrawal of up to Rs. 2,000 per transaction, maximum Rs. 10,000 per month.
- The Reserve Bank of India joined the Central Banks and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS), Paris as a Member.
- IDBI Bank launched its fully digitised, end-to-end, Loan Processing System (LPS) for its MSME and Agri borrowers.

DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

AUGUST

- The Indian Army received the first batch of indigenous Multi Mode Hand Grenades (MMHG) in a ceremony held at Nagpur, Maharashtra on August 24.
- Multiple cities in UP, MP, Gujarat and the National Capital Region hosted synchronized commando drills named 'Gandiv' by the counter-terrorist force NSG - National Security Guard, from August 22 to 28.
- India and Russia signed a deal on August 19 for the immediate procurement of 70,000 AK-200 series AK-203 assault rifles.
- DRDO has developed an Advanced Chaff Technology to safeguard fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) against hostile radar threats.
- The DRDO successfully tested Nirbhay missile with an indigenous cruise engine MANIK off the coast of Odisha's Balasore district on August 11.
- Indian Air Force has built one of the world's highest mobile air traffic control (ATC) towers in Ladakh's Nyoma area at an elevation of 13,700 feet.
- August 4 was a proud and historic day for India as the reincarnated aircraft carrier Vikrant began her maiden sea trials, off the coast of Kochi, Kerala.
- ✓ This is the maiden attempt of the Indian Navy and Cochin Shipyard to indigenously design and build an Aircraft Carrier.
- USA approved the sale of Harpoon Joint Common Test Set missile system to India to further boost the Indian Navy's firepower.
- The Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli launched a new weapon called TriCa (Trichy Carbine), a mini version of the Trichy Assault Rifle on July 29.
- Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli handed over fifteen 12.7 mm M2 NATO Stabilized Remote Control Guns to the Indian Navy and 10 such guns to the Indian Coast Guard on July 17.
- ✓ These guns have been manufactured with transfer of technology from Elbit Systems, Israel.

BILATERAL DEFENCE EXERCISES

- **KAZIND-21:** India-Kazakhstan Joint Army Training Exercise held at Training Node, Aisha Bibi, Kazakhstan from Aug 30 to Sep 11.
- **A 101-member** contingent of the Indian Army participated in the International Army Games – 2021 held in Russia from 22 August to 4th September, 2021.
- **Malabar naval exercise:** Joint exercise of Quad country navies including India, US, Japan and Australia held from Aug 21 to 25, off the coast of Guam Island, in the Western Pacific Ocean.
- **The Indian Navy** and Vietnam People's Navy undertook bilateral maritime exercise on August 18 in the South China Sea.
- **INS Kochi** participated in the four-day Maritime Partnership Exercise with ships of Royal Bahrain Naval Force in the Persian Gulf from August 18 to 21.
- **INS Tabar** participated in the 'Exercise Konkan 2021', between the Indian Navy and Britain's Royal Navy, held in the English Channel in England on August 12.
- **Al-Mohed Al-Hindi 2021:** INS Kochi participated in the naval exercise off the Port Al-Jubail of Saudi Arabia in the Persian Gulf from 12 to 14.
- **The Indian Navy** participated in the U.S. Navy-led Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) military exercise in Singapore on August 10.
- **Zair-Al-Bahr:** 2nd edition of India-Qatar Bilateral Maritime Exercise "Zair-Al-Bahr" was held from 09-14 August in the Persian Gulf.
- **Zayed Talwar 2021:** Joint exercise of Indian Navy and UAE Navy was held on August 7, off the coast of Abu Dhabi in the Persian Gulf.
- **Exercise INDRA 2021:** The Indo - Russian joint training military exercise commenced at Prudboy Ranges, Volgograd in Russia on August 4.
- **12th Indra Navy exercise:** Indian and Russian Navies conducted the 12th edition of Indra Navy exercise in the Baltic Sea from July 28 to July 29.
- **The first National Heart Failure Biobank** in the country was inaugurated at the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram.
- ✓ It would collect blood, biopsies, and clinical data as a guide to future therapies.

- **Swedish green steel venture** HYBRIT made the 'world's first' steel produced without using coal.
 - ✓ The steel was made using Hydrogen Breakthrough Ironmaking Technology, which uses 100% fossil-free hydrogen instead of coal and coke.
- **Eutelsat Quantum**, the world's first commercial fully re-programmable satellite lifted off from French Guiana on July 30 on board an Ariane 5 rocket.

JULY

- DRDO successfully flight-tested the New Generation Akash Missile, a surface-to-air Missile from Integrated Test Range off the coast of Odisha.
- Indian Navy received the first two Sikorsky MH-60R multi-role helicopters from the United States Navy at Naval Air Station in North Island, San Diego, USA.
- India successfully carried out the test-firing of a new missile in the Agni series known as Agni P on June 28, from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, off the coast of Odisha.
- DRDO successfully test fired extended range version of indigenously developed Pinaka rocket from a Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher at Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha.
- Indian Naval Ship Talwar participated in Exercise Cutlass Express 2021, held along the East Coast of Africa near Kenya, from 26 July to 06 August.
- Indian Navy participated in a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with British Royal Navy Carrier Strike Group in the Bay of Bengal from 21 to 22 July.
- INS Tabar of Indian Navy undertook a Maritime Partnership Exercise with the Italian Navy, on 04 and 05 July in the Tyrrhenian Sea, west of Italy.
- The Defence Ministry has implemented SPARSH (System for Pension Administration Raksha), an integrated system for automation of sanction and disbursement of defence pension.
- Russia tested successfully its new Zircon (Tsirkon) hypersonic cruise missile on July 19. It can achieve speeds of up to mach 9, highest among missiles, and has a range of 1,000 kms.

JUNE

- The Union Cabinet approved a plan on June 16 to scrap the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), under the Ministry of Defence.
- The 41 ordnance factories will be converted into seven function oriented corporate entities on the lines of Defence Public Sector Undertakings, fully owned by the government.
- Three indigenously-built Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) MK III were inducted into Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on June 12.

- Three ALH MK-III Helicopters were inducted in the Indian Navy at the Indian Naval Station Dega, in Visakhapatnam on June 7.
- INS Sandhayak, the first indigenously designed and built hydrographic survey ship of Indian Navy was decommissioned on June 4 after serving the nation for 40 years.
- Indian Naval Ships and aircrafts participated in a Passage Exercise with US Navy Carrier Strike Group Ronald Reagan during its transit through Indian Ocean Region on June 23-24.
- Indian Navy's warship INS Trikanth participated in the maiden IN – EUNAVFOR (European Union Naval Force) Joint Naval Exercise in the Gulf of Aden on June 18-19.
- Ships of the Indian Navy and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) participated in a joint naval exercise on June 13 in the Indian Ocean.
- India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy was held in the Andaman Sea from June 9 to 11.
- China successfully sent its three astronauts to the country's Tiangong (Heavenly Palace) space station onboard spaceship Shenzhou-12 (Divine Vessel).
- The scientists in China have designed an 'Artificial Sun' on Earth that has sustained a temperature of 120 million degrees Celsius.
- The Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak fusion reactor designed by China burns at 8 times the Sun's core temperature of 15 million C.

MAY

- India's indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Tejas added 5th generation Python-5 Air-to-Air Missile (AAM) in its air-to-air weapons capability on April 27.
- INS Rajput, the first destroyer of the Indian Navy, was finally decommissioned on May 21 at Visakhapatnam Dockyard, putting an end to a glorious era of 41 years of outstanding services.
- The U.S. government approved the proposed sale of six P-8I patrol aircraft and related equipment on April 30. The deal is estimated to cost \$2.42 billion.
- Indian and Indonesian navies carried out a military drill 'Passage' exercise (PASSEX) in the Southern Arabian Sea on May 8.
- The first batch of women military police comprising 83 soldiers was inducted into the Army at the Corps of Military Police Centre and School in Bengaluru.
- China successfully sent a new ocean-monitoring satellite Haiyang-2D (HY-2D) into orbit on May 19.
- China succeeded for the first time in landing a spacecraft on Mars on May 15. The six-wheeled rover Zhurong robot landed in Utopia Planitia region of Mars.

- China launched a robot prototype named 'NEO-01', in the Earth's low orbit, that will use a large net to capture debris left behind by other spacecrafts and then burn it using its electric propulsion system.
- China successfully sent a new remote sensing satellite, Yaogan-34 to be used for the survey of land resources, urban planning, crop yield estimation, and disaster prevention and reduction.
- A team of researchers from the marine research organization ProMare in collaboration with IBM built the world's first AI ship, the 'Mayflower 400'.
- The unmanned 15-mt -long trimaran that weighs nine tons is a completely autonomous ship powered by Artificial Intelligence and solar power.
- NASA's Perseverance rover has successfully created, for the first time, oxygen from the thin atmospheric carbon dioxide present on Mars.
- The Mars Oxygen In-Situ Resource Utilization Experiment aboard the rover on Mars carried out the experiment on 20 April.

INTERNATIONAL

AUGUST

- The World Bank launched on August 16 a new 'Cybersecurity Multi-Donor Trust Fund' to roll-out a cybersecurity development agenda in a systematic manner.
- The WHO announced the formation of the International Scientific Advisory Group for Origins of Novel Pathogens, or SAGO.
 - ✓ It is a new advisory group that will develop a global framework to study pathogens with pandemic potential and advise WHO accordingly.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of USA declared on August 13 month of July 2021 as the world's hottest month ever recorded.

JULY

- The state of Oregon in the Pacific Northwest region of the USA suffered the nation's largest and worst wildfires in history, starting July 6 onwards.
 - ✓ It spread over more than 3 lakh acres, forcing thousands of evacuations. Over 2,000 fire-fighters struggled to tackle the vast fire named Bootleg Fire.
- July 2 proved a big turning point in the chequered war-torn history of Afghanistan as the American troops pulled out of their main military base in Afghanistan.
 - ✓ The quiet departure from Bagram Air Base near Kabul, brought an effective end to the longest, deadliest and most expensive war in US history.

- The Philippines has become the first country in the world to get approval for the commercial production of the first genetically modified "Golden Rice", named so due to its bright yellow color.
- China has unveiled a maglev train which is capable of a top speed of 600 kmph. The maximum speed will make the train the fastest ground vehicle globally.
 - ✓ The train uses electro-magnetic force that levitates it above the track with no contact between the bogie and the rail, thereby minimising the friction.
- Africa has become the first continent in the world to complete the collection of accurate, comprehensive digital land use and land use change data under the Africa Open DEAL initiative.
 - ✓ DEAL stands for Data for the Environment, Agriculture and Land Initiative.
- Sudden heavy rainfall in western Germany and adjoining areas of Eastern Belgium on July 15 caused widespread devastation, claiming over 200 lives.
- WHO declared China a malaria-free country, after no malaria case was reported in last 4 years. Globally, 40 countries and territories have been granted a malaria-free certification from WHO.
- Startupblink released Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021, which ranks 100 countries and 1,000 cities based on the startup environment.
 - ✓ In country wise ranking, India was ranked 20th with a score of 8.8. The USA topped with a score of 124.4, followed by the U K (28.7) and Israel (27.7).
- A heatwave that smashed all-time high temperature records in western Canada and the Northwest USA left hundreds of people dead in its wake.
 - ✓ British Columbia, the western most province of Canada, reported over 500 hyperthermia related deaths in the last week of June.

JUNE

- The leaders of the 17 countries met at the seaside resort of Carbis Bay, Cornwall in the UK on June 11-13, under the Presidency Britain.
- UK prime Minister invited India, along with Australia, South Korea and South Africa, as Guest Countries for the 47th I7 Summit. The theme for the Summit was 'Build Back Better'.
- The I7 leaders launched a new global infrastructure initiative "Build Back Better World" (B3W) to help developing nations, aimed at countering China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- The I-7 finance ministers in their meeting in London agreed in principle to a global minimum tax rate of 15 per cent for multinational companies in each country they operate in.

- Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana, and the United Arab Emirates were elected unopposed on June 11 to the powerful UN Security Council as non-permanent members for the 2022-23 term.
- The International Criminal Police Organisation, known as Interpol, launched a global database named 'I-Familia'
- It aims to identify the missing individuals through family DNA and to help police solve the old cases in the member countries.
- El Salvador has become the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as a legal tender. However, its use will be optional and would not bring risks to users.
- Seven south Asian countries observed the 24th foundation Day of BIMSTEC on June 6.
- **BIMSTEC:** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation with HQ at Dhaka.
- The United Nations launched the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration-2021 to 2030. The event will be co-led by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization.
- Several warships and dozens of aircrafts took part in NATO military exercises stretching across the Atlantic, through Europe and into the Black Sea region.
- The war games, named Steadfast Defender 21, were aimed at simulating the NATO's response to an attack on any one of its members.
- NATO is an alliance of countries from Europe and North America.
- In a major policy shift from the existing limit of two children per couple, China announced on May 31 that married couples may have up to three children.

MAY

- The WHO and Switzerland signed a memorandum of understanding to launch the First WHO Biohub Facility.
- It will allow convenient sharing of viruses and other pathogens between laboratories and global partners.
- The meeting of the foreign ministers of the Group of Seven countries -7 was held in London on May 4-5.

PERSONS IN NEWS

AUGUST

Bernard Arnault: French business tycoon, chairman and CEO of the French luxury group LVMH, became the world's richest person with a net worth of \$199.1 billion on August 5, 2021.

JULY

Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata: Founder of the Tata Group, topped the inaugural EdelGive Hurun Philanthropists of the Century list, which ranked the world's 50 most generous individuals in the last century.

The total donations made by Jamsetji were estimated at \$102.4 billion. Bill Gates & Melinda Gates ranked second with donations worth \$74.6 billion.

Kanchan Ugursandi: A young lady mountain biker from Delhi finished in New Delhi the world's first solo motorcycle expedition covering 18 treacherous passes of northern Himalayan Mountain ranges.

Jeff Bezos: Former CEO of Amazon, went up in space in his reusable rocket ship, New Shepard, built by his space company Blue Origin, on July 20.

Within 11 minutes of the blast, the window-filled capsule soft landed back on earth, supported by three big parachutes.

Richard Branson: British billionaire, founder of Virgin Group of companies, hurtled into space aboard his own winged rocket ship on July 11, in his commercial space mission "Unity 22", becoming the first person to blast off in his own spaceship.

Jeff Bezos: Counted as the richest person on Earth, Amazon's CEO announced to quit his post on July 5, exactly 27 years since he founded the e-commerce company in a garage in West Bellevue, Washington, USA. Amazon Web Services CEO Andy Jassy succeeded him as the new Amazon CEO.

JUNE

Nagaraj Naidu: The Indian Deputy Ambassador to the UN, has become the first Indian diplomat to be appointed as Chef de Cabinet to the President of the UN General Assembly.

Satya Nadella: Microsoft's India-born CEO was named the company's Chairman on June 16, in place of John Thompson who will now be Lead Independent Director.

Antonio Guterres: UN Secretary General was granted a second five-year term in the office, w.e.f. January 1, 2022.

Tsang Yin-hung: The 45-year-old school teacher from Hong Kong created a new world record by climbing the Mount Everest in just 25:50 hours (from the base camp), becoming the fastest woman to scale the peak.

She beat the earlier record of 39 hours and 6 minutes, which was set by a Nepali woman climber, Phunjo Jhangmu Lama in 2018.

MAY

Ms. Jacinda Ardern: Prime Minister of New Zealand secured the top spot on Fortune magazine's list of the world's 50 greatest leaders.

Sir David Attenborough: Renowned English broadcaster and natural historian was named as the "People's Advocate" of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), to be held in Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021, under the Chairmanship of UK.

Kami Rita: 51-year-old Sherpa guide scaled Mount Everest for the 25th time on May 7, breaking his own record for the most ascents of the world's highest peak.

APPOINTMENTS

AUGUST

ELa Ganesan: Veteran BJP leader and former MP from Tamil Nadu, appointed as the new Governor of Manipur.

Pankaj Kumar Singh: Appointed as Director General of the country's largest border guarding force BSF.

Rekha Sharma: Nominated as Chairperson of the National Commission for Women, for another term of three years wef August 07.

Mini Ipe: Appointed as the Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India.

Shanti Lal Jain: Appointed as the MD & CEO of Indian Bank, for a period of three years.

Sandeep Bakhshi: RBI approved the re-appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as the MD & CEO of ICICI Bank for next two years.

Ismail Sabri Yaakob: Former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of the country by King Al-Sultan Abdullah.

Hakainde Hichilema: Elected as the new President of Zambia, a land-locked country in southern Africa.

Ebrahim Raisi: Sworn in as the new president of Iran on August 05, 2021.

Nikol Pashinyan: Re-appointed as the prime minister of Armenia by the President Armen Sarkissian.

Guido Bellido: Appointed as the new prime minister of Peru by the President of Peru, Pedro Castillo.

Min Aung Hlaing: The military Chief of Myanmar, Senior General Hlaing declared himself as the Prime Minister of Myanmar on August 1.

JULY

NEW GOVERNORS IN 8 STATES

- **Bandaru Dattatreya:** Haryana, shifted from Himachal Pradesh
- **PS Sreedharan Pillai:** Goa - shifted from Mizoram
- **Satyadev Narayan Arya:** Tripura, shifted from Haryana
- **Ramesh Bais:** Jharkhand, shifted from Tripura
- **Thawarchand Gehlot:** Karnataka, shifted from the union cabinet
- **Hari Babu Kambhampati:** Mizoram, new appointment, senior BJP leader from Andhra Pradesh
- **Mangubhai Chaganbhai Patel:** Madhya Pradesh, new appointment, senior BJP leader from Gujarat
- **Rajendran Vishwanath Arlekar:** Himachal Pradesh, new appointment, BJP leader from Goa

Basavraj Somappa Bommai: Senior BJP leader, son of former Karnataka chief Minister S R Bommai, elected as the new chief minister of Karnataka.

Pushkar Singh Dhami: Took oath on July 4 as the 11th Chief Minister of Uttarakhand. He succeeds Tirath Singh Rawat who resigned from the post on July 2.

SD Shibu Lal, Former Infosys CEO, appointed chairperson of a three-member task force formed to help the government in bringing major bureaucratic reforms through its ambitious "Mission Karmayogi" -- a National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building, under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Najib Mikati: Noted Lebanese businessman and two-time former prime minister was once again elected by the Parliament of Lebanon as the new prime minister of the country.

Pedro Castillo: A 51-year-old former school teacher and union leader, secured just over 50% of the votes to be declared as the President of Peru.

Ariel Henry: Elected as the new prime minister of Haiti, a tiny nation in Caribbean Sea, north of Colombia. Before this, earlier prime minister Jovenel Moise was assassinated at his residence on July 7.

Abiy Ahmed: Re-elected as the Prime Minister of Ethiopia after his ruling party Prosperity Party secured a landslide victory in the general elections.

Eric Garcetti: Nominated as Ambassador of USA to India by US President Joe Biden.

Atul Keshap: American diplomat of Indian origin took charge as United States' new Charge d'Affaires to India.

Sher Bahadur Deuba: Appointed as next Prime Minister of Nepal on July 13 by President Bidhya Devi Bhandari, following the order of the Supreme Court.

He is the President of the Nepali Congress Party, the largest opposition party in the house. This is his fifth term as the prime minister.

JUNE

Arun Kumar Mishra: A retired Supreme Court Judge, was appointed as the Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC in New Delhi, by the President of India.

Lt. Gen. Pradeep Chandran Nair: Appointed as the 21st Director General of the Assam Rifles, a paramilitary force based in Shillong, Meghalaya.

T.V. Narendran: CEO & Managing Director, Tata Steel, elected as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2021-22.

Abdulla Shahid: Foreign Minister of Maldives elected as the President of 76th United Nations General Assembly.

Nikol Pashinyan: Elected as the Prime Minister of Armenia, a tiny country east of Turkey.

Ebrahim Raisi: Former judiciary chief elected as the new President of Iran.

Henri Marie Dondra: Appointed as the Prime Minister of the Central African Republic, a land-locked country in central Africa.

Naftali Bennett: Former defence minister and a high-tech millionaire, was sworn-in as the 13th Prime Minister of Israel.

Isaac Herzog: Elected as Israel's 11th President by the parliament of Israel - Knesset.

Ukhnaa Khurelsukh: Former Mongolian Prime Minister became the country's sixth democratically elected President.

MAY

Subodh Kumar Jaiswal: The 1985-batch IPS officer of Maharashtra cadre, appointed as the next regular Director of the CBI.

Himanta Biswa Sarma: Elected as the new chief minister of Assam.

MK Stalin: President of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) party was sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

N Rengasamy: The NR Congress Chief was sworn in as the Chief Minister of UT of Puducherry.

T Rabi Sankar: Appointed as the Deputy Governor of the RBI for a period of three years, by the Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet.

Jose J Kattoor: Appointed as the Executive Director (ED) of the Reserve Bank of India by the RBI.

T V Somanathan: Appointed as the new Union Finance Secretary by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Amitabh Chaudhry: Re-appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Axis Bank.

Bashar Al-Assad: Re-elected as the President of Syria after winning the election for the fourth time. Assad, 55, has been President of the war-torn country since 2000.

Guillermo Lasso: Sworn in as the President of Ecuador, becoming the country's first right-wing leader in the last 14 years.

Anatole Collinet Makosso: Appointed by the President as the new prime minister of Republic of Congo, a small country in western central Africa.

Penpa Tsering: Elected as the President of the Central Tibetan Administration, elected Parliamentary government of Tibet, based in Dharamshala, HP.

Moctar Ouane: Re-appointed as the Prime Minister of Mali, a landlocked country in West Africa

Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli: Re-appointed as Nepal's care taker Prime Minister on May 14.

AWARDS & HONOURS

AUGUST

The government decided to rename the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, the highest national award for sports, as Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.

✓ Launched in 1991-92, the award carries a medallion, a certificate and a cash prize of Rs. 25 lakh.

JULY

UN AWARD FOR 3 INDIAN ENTREPRENEURS

Three India-based enterprises are among the 50 winners of a \$100,000 global competition of 'Best Small Businesses of the "Good Food for All" competition, announced by the United Nations.

The three Indian winners include: Edible Routes, New Delhi; Oorja Development Solutions Ltd., New Delhi; and TARU Naturals & Organics, Mumbai.

Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar, 2020: Renowned Odia poet Dr Rajendra Kishore Panda selected for the national award instituted in memory of the late poet laureate Kuvempu. The award includes a cash award of Rs 5 lakh, a silver medal, and a citation.

Delhi Metro's Phase I, II and III projects have been awarded the prestigious Japan Society of Civil Engineers 'Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award' for the year 2020.

Palme d'Or: (Golden Palm) The prize for the 'Best Film' at the Cannes Film Festival 2021 was won by the film *Titane* directed by Ms. Julia Ducournau of France. The festival concluded on July 17.

JUNE

International Booker Prize: David Diop became the first French writer to win the prestigious prize for his novel, *At Night All Blood is Black* (originally titled "Frère d'ame" in French).

The £50,000 prize will be split between Diop and the book's translator (from French to English)- US author and poet Anna Moschovakis.

MAY

Lifetime Award in honour of Satyajit Ray

The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has decided to institute the "Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Cinema" to pay tributes to the legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray, Bharat Ratna.

The Award will carry a cash prize of 10 lakh, a certificate, Shawl, along with a Silver Peacock medal and a Scroll.

International Eni Award 2020: Bharat Ratna Professor C.N.R. Rao has been honoured with this prestigious global award for his research in renewable energy sources and energy storage.

WILD Innovator Award 2021: Dr. Krithi K Karanth, Chief Conservation Scientist at Bengaluru-based Centre for Wildlife Studies (CWS), has been chosen as the first Indian and Asian woman for this award.

Rudolf V Schindler Award: Noted gastroenterologist Dr D Nageshwar Reddy, who is also the chairman of AIG Hospitals, was selected for this esteemed award by the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

International Invincible Gold Medal: Conferred on Union Education Minister Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank for his extraordinary commitment and outstanding service to humanity through his writings, social and illustrious public life.

Whitley Awards 2021: Y Nuklu Phom, noted conservationist from Nagaland is one of the seven winners of the prestigious award for conservation. Each awardee will receive a cash prize of 40,000 Pounds. Whitley awards are also known as 'Green Oscar'.

"Order of Rising Sun": Third highest civilian award of Japan was awarded to Shyamala Ganesh, a teacher of Japanese at the Septuagenarian Institution and at the Ohara School of Ikebana in Bengaluru.

World Food Prize 2021: Dr Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted, a global nutrition expert of Indian descent, won the prestigious prize for her ground breaking research in developing holistic, nutrition-sensitive approaches to aquaculture and food systems.

Templeton Prize 2021: World's foremost authority on Chimpanzees, world-famous conservationist and environmentalist Jane Goodall of UK won the prestigious \$1.5 million award.

Millennium Technology Prize: One million Euro (\$1.22 million) prize awarded to Cambridge University professors Shankar Balasubramanian and David Klenerman for creating ever faster and cheaper ways to sequence the human genome.

Billboard 2021 Music Awards: The popular music award show of the USA was held on May 23 in Los Angeles.

Canadian singer-songwriter Abel Makkonen Tesfaye who is professionally known as 'Weeknd' dominated the ceremony with 10 awards, including the iconic Top Artist Trophy.

Miss Universe 2020: Andrea Meza of Mexico won the contest held in Hollywood, Los Angeles, USA.

OBITUARY

AUGUST

Kalyan Singh: who was the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh twice, passed away in Lucknow on August 21. He was 89. He also served as Governor of Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

Padma Sachdev: Noted author and Padma Shri awardee, the first modern woman poet of Dogri language, passed away at a Mumbai hospital on 4th August, at age of 81.

Man Kaur: Multiple World Masters Championship gold medalist and multiple Asian Masters Championship medalist, 105-year-old athlete from Patiala, Punjab, passed away on July 31, losing her battle with liver cancer.

JULY

Dilip Kumar: Legendary actor left for heavenly abodes on July 7 after prolonged illness. He was 98. Dilip Kumar aka Mohammed Yousuf Khan, was honoured with the Padma Bhushan in 1991, Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1994, and Padma Vibhushan in 2015.

✓ He was the only Indian to receive "Nishan-e-Imtiaz" in 1998, the highest civilian honour of Pakistan where he was revered like a God.

Surekha Sikri: Three-time national award-winning actress passed away on July 16 following a cardiac arrest in Mumbai. She was 75. She gained immense popularity in the twilight of her career playing 'Dadi Sa' in Colors TV Serial Balika Vadhu.

Danish Siddiqui: Noted Indian photojournalist was killed in crossfire on July 16 when he was covering a clash between Afghan security forces and Taliban fighters in Spin Boldak, near the Pakistan border.

Dr. P K Warriar: An internationally renowned Ayurvedic physician and managing trustee of the famous Kottakkal Arya Vaidya Sala, passed away on July 10, at his residence in Malappuram, Kerala. He was 100.

Virbhadra Singh: Veteran Congress leader and six-time chief minister of Himachal Pradesh, passed away on July 8 in Shimla, losing his three-month long battle against Covid-19. He was 87. Popular as "Raja Sahib", he had won nine assembly and five Lok Sabha elections.

Jovenel Moïse: President of Haiti, a tiny Caribbean country north of Colombia, was assassinated in an attack on his home in the nation's capital, Port-au-Prince.

JUNE

Milkha Singh: The track legend "Flying Sikh" passed away on June 18 due to post-COVID complications. He was 91. He was the only athlete to win gold in 400m, both at the Asian Games and in the Commonwealth Games.

Sir Anerood Jugnauth: Two times former President and four-time Prime Minister of Mauritius passed away on June 3 due to age related ailments. He was 91. He was considered the father of the Mauritian economic miracle of the 1980s.

MAY

Dr. Srikumar Banerjee: Former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and a veteran Nuclear Scientist passed away at the age of 75 on May 23 in Navi Mumbai.

Sunderlal Bahuguna: Noted Environmentalist and pioneer of world famous "Chipko Movement" in 1974 to save trees, passed away in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand on May 21 due to COVID-19 related complications. He was 94. He was honoured with Padma Shri in 1981 and with Padma Vibhushan in 2009 for his outstanding contributions for environment conservation.

Jagannath Pahadia: The first Dalit Chief Minister of Rajasthan (1980-81) succumbed to death due to COVID-19 at the age of 89 on May 19. A four-time member of parliament, he was a union minister for several years. He also served as a former governor of Bihar (1989-1990) and Haryana (2009-2014).

Prof. M S Narasimhan: Distinguished Padma Bhushan awardee mathematician passed away on May 16. He was 88. Famous for the Narasimhan-Seshadri theorem, he made pioneering contributions to differential & algebraic geometry.

Raghunandan Lal Bhatia: Congress stalwart, popularly known as RL Bhatia, died of Covid in Amritsar on May 15. He would have turned 101 on July 3. Bhatia represented the Amritsar Lok Sabha constituency six times and also remained a Minister of State for External Affairs. He also served as Governor of Kerala and Bihar.

Raghunath Mohapatra: Eminent sculptor, architect, and Rajya Sabha member passed away while undergoing treatment for COVID-19. He was 78. Hailing from Odisha, Mohapatra was awarded Padma Shri in 1975, Padma Bhushan in 2001 and Padma Vibhushan in 2013 for his pioneering contributions to the world of art, architecture and culture.

Ajit Singh: Former Union Minister, founder and current chief of Rashtriya Lok Dal passed away on May 6 losing battle with coronavirus. 82-year-old Singh was a prominent farmer leader and son of former prime minister Chaudhary Charan Singh (1979-80). He was 7-time MP from Baghpat in western UP and served as a union minister on multiple occasions.

Jagmohan (Malhotra): Former Union Minister and former Governor of J & K passed away in New Delhi on May 3 at a ripe age of 93. A civil servant, Jagmohan also served as LG of Delhi and Goa. He represented New Delhi in Lok Sabha thrice and served as the union minister several times. He was honoured with Padma Shri in 1971, Padma Bhushan in 1977 and Padma Vibhushan in 2016 for his outstanding services.

Pandit Debu Chaudhuri: Renowned Sitar maestro passed away following COVID-19 related complications. He was 85. He was honoured with the Padma Bhushan and the Padma Shri.

Rohit Sardana: Renowned TV journalist and news anchor passed away, due to heart attack, following the deadly COVID-19 infection. The young journalist was just 41-year-old. Sardana was associated with Zee News since 2004, before moving to Aaj Tak in 2017.

Soli Sorabjee: Former Attorney General, veteran lawyer and Padma Vibhushan awardee passed away on April 30 after getting infected with COVID-19. The 91-year-old legal luminary served as the Attorney General of India twice.

Manoj Das: A prolific Indian author who wrote in Odia and English languages, passed away on April 27, at the age of 87 due to age-related ailments. He was conferred with Padma Shri in 2001 and Padma Bhushan in 2020.

PLACES IN NEWS

AUGUST

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's capital became the first city in India to achieve hundred percent vaccination of its people against covid-19 by July 31.

Copenhagen: The capital city of Denmark, was named as the world's safest city from among 60 global cities, in Safe Cities Index 2021, released by the London based global economic research group Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

Haiti: The tiny country near Cuba in the Caribbean Sea was hit by a 7.2-magnitude quake on August 14, claiming over 2, 000 lives and leaving several hundred others injured.

JULY

Western Maharashtra: The death toll in rain-related incidents in Maharashtra in the third week of July rose to 164 with Raigad district recording over 70 deaths in the flash floods.

Gwalior and Orchha: The two cities in Madhya Pradesh were selected by UNESCO on July 19 under its 'Historic Urban Landscape Project' that began in 2011.

Liverpool: UNESCO has removed this city in England from its list of World Heritage Sites. Liverpool has been removed because of the concerns over new buildings that are being planned in the city.

Typhoon In-fa: Severe cyclone hit China's east coast south of Shanghai on July 25. The typhoon with strong winds of over 155 kmph made landfall in Zhoushan in Zhejiang province.

Zhengzhou: Unprecedented rainstorm hit Central China's Henan province on July 18 to 20, battering the capital metropolis Zhengzhou (having a population of over 10 million) on the banks of Yellow River and causing flash floods that killed more than 63 people and affected over three million people.

Highest sand castle in Blokhust: A 21.16 metres high sandcastle built by Wilfred Stijger in the town of Blokhust in Denmark has entered into a new Guinness World Record for being the tallest sandcastle in the world.

Jacobabad: City in Sindh province in southeastern Pakistan recorded the world's highest temperature, up to almost 52°C (126 Fahrenheit) at the end June.

JUNE

Dehing Patkai: The Assam Government declared the Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary as the 7th National Park of the state on June 9.

Raimona Sanctuary: A forest reserve in western Assam's Kokrajhar district was notified as Assam's sixth national park on the occasion of the World Environment Day on June 5.

Auckland: The most populous city in New Zealand topped the EIU Global Liveability Ranking and scored highly on metrics including environment, culture, and education.

Manama: Capital of Bahrain topped the globally-recognised AIRINC Global 150 Cities Index for financial attractiveness for the third straight year.

MAY

Cyclone Yaas: A 'very severe' cyclone devastated the beach towns in north Odisha and neighbouring West Bengal as it hit the coast in the morning of May 26 with wind speed of 130-140 kmph.

Goma, Congo: The eruption of Mount Nyiragongo on the night of May 22 sent about 5,000 people fleeing from the city of Goma in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, across the nearby border into Rwanda, while another 25,000 others sought refuge to safer areas. Torrents of lava poured into nearby villages with hardly any warning, destroying more than 500 homes and leaving at least 15 people dead.

Cyclone Tauktae: An extremely severe cyclonic storm Tauktae passed by the coast of Kerala on May 16 with wind speeds of up to 185 kmph. The cyclone caused widespread damage in coastal districts of Konkan belt of Maharashtra. Over 150 persons were drowned as a barge sank near the 'Bombay High' in the Arabian Sea. On May 17 evening the cyclone devastated the coastal districts of southern Gujarat, causing widespread power outages. The cyclone weakened slightly after its landfall in Gujarat on the morning of 18th May.

Jagargunda: As many as 23 CRPF jawans were killed and around 50 were injured in an encounter with Naxalites on April 3 in Jagargunda area along the border between Bijapur and Sukma districts in Chhattisgarh.

Cyclone Seroja: Floods and landslides triggered by tropical super cyclone Seroja in a cluster of islands in southeast Indonesia and East Timor killed at least 100 people and displaced thousands of others.

SPORTS WORLD

AUGUST

Harshit Raja, 20-year-old chess player from Pune became the 69th Grand Master from India.

Komalika Bari, 19-year-old Indian girl became the new under-21 recurve world champion at the Youth World Archery Championships held in Wroclaw, Poland.

Vantika Agarwal from Delhi won the inaugural National women's online chess championship title.

INDIA'S STAR OLYMPIANS AT TOKYO

Neeraj Chopra: 23-year-old athlete from Panipat, Haryana created history on August 7 at Tokyo Olympics by throwing his javelin 87.58 meters to secure maiden gold for India in athletics, since the inception of the games in 1896.

Mirabai Chanu secured the first medal for the country at the Tokyo Olympics, winning the silver medal in the women's 49-kilogram category in weightlifting.

Ravi Kumar Dahiya won silver in the Men's 57kg freestyle wrestling on August 5.

Boxer Lovlina Borgohain bagged a Bronze Medal for the country in the welterweight 69-kilogram category.

P V Sindhu secured a bronze medal in badminton.

Bajrang Punia earned a Bronze Medal in the men's freestyle 65-kilogram category.

Indian men's Hockey team led by captain Manpreet Singh scripted history on August 5 as they defeated Germany 5-4 to win a bronze in Tokyo Olympics.

Women's Hockey team settles for 4th place

In Women's Hockey, India lost 3-4 to Great Britain in the bronze medal match on August 6 to settle down at fourth place. This was the first time that the Indian women's team reached the semi-finals in the Olympics.

INTERNATIONAL

Javelin thrower Tek Chand led the Indian contingent at the opening ceremony of 16th Paralympic games on August 24 in the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo.

USA MAINTAINS SUPREMACY IN OLYMPICS

The 32nd Summer Olympic Games closing ceremony was held at the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo on August 8. Wrestler Bajrang Punia led the Indian contingent at the closing ceremony.

- ✓ The USA topped the Olympic medal tally with a total of 113 medals -39 gold, 41 silver and 33 bronze.
- ✓ Caeleb Dressel of USA became the most successful participant, winning five golds in men's swimming.
- ✓ Among women, Emma McKeon from Australia won seven medals, 4 gold and 3 bronze in swimming.
- ✓ India won a first-ever gold medal in track and field as well as highest ever seven medals, — one gold, two silver and four bronze.
- ✓ Overall, India stood 48th in the medal tally.
- ✓ Next Olympics will now be held in Paris in July, 2024.

Concacaf Gold Cup 2021: The U.S. National Team defeated Mexico to be crowned as the winner in finals played on August 01 at Las Vegas, USA.

The 2021 edition of the World Athletics U20 Championships was held in Nairobi, Kenya from August 17 to 22.

JULY

Rubina Francis, para shooter from Madhya Pradesh won the gold in the 10-metre air pistol para women's event at World shooting Para Sport Cup in Peru.

Abhishek Verma and Deepika Kumari bagged a gold each at the Archery World Cup Stage 3 held in Paris. Deepika also won Gold medals in the mixed recurve event and women's recurve team.

Nihal Sarin, 16-year-old young Indian Grandmaster from Kerala emerged champion in the Masters' section of the Serbia Open Chess Championship held in Belgrade, capital of Serbia.

Rahi Sarnobat won gold in women's 25 meters pistol event in ISSF World Cup held in Osijek, Croatia from June 22 to July 3.

Viswanathan Anand, Chess maestro from Chennai, defeated former world champion from Russia, Vladimir Kramnik to win the Sparkassen Trophy on July 18 at Dortmund, Germany. It was a No-Castling Chess event, a brand-new format of chess.

Abhimanyu becomes youngest Grandmaster

In Chess, Abhimanyu Mishra from New Jersey, USA made history by becoming the youngest chess Grandmaster in the world, breaking the 19-year-old record of 12 years and seven months set by Russian Sergey Karjakin in 2002. Abhimanyu reached the milestone in 12 years, four months, and 25 days.

India wins 13 medals at Budapest

Five young junior wrestlers Aman Gulia, Sagar Jaglan, Priya Malik, Tannu and Komal won gold in their respective categories and eight other wrestlers won a silver and seven bronze at the Cadet World Wrestling Championship 2021 at Budapest, Hungary, from July 19 to 25.

Bala Devi (from Manipur), forward player of Indian women's football team and Sandesh Jhingan (from Chandigarh), defender in Men's football team, won the women's and men's AIFF Player of the Year awards.

Mithali Raj, Indian women's cricket team skipper became the top run-getter in the world scoring 10,277 in international cricket across all formats, surpassing former England batter Charlotte Edwards (10,273).

Shafali Verma from Haryana, became the youngest (17 years and 150 days) Indian cricketer on June 27, to make debut across all the three formats after playing her first One Day International against England at Bristol, England.

Karnam Malleswari: Former Olympic medalist weightlifter was appointed as the first Vice-Chancellor of Delhi Sports University by the Delhi government.

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) released the official Olympic theme song for the Indian contingent on June 23. The song titled "Lakshya Tera Samne Hai" (The target is before you) has been composed and sung by popular singer Mohit Chohan.

2nd Khelo India University Games will be hosted by Karnataka in Bengaluru from March 5, 2022.

4th Khelo India Youth Games 2021 will now be hosted by Haryana in February 2022.

INTERNATIONAL

Karsten Warholm, a 25-year-old athlete from Norway, broke the long-standing world record in the 400m hurdles during the Bislett Games held in Oslo, Norway by clocking a timing of 46.70 seconds. The earlier record was held by American hurdler Kevin Young for 46.78 seconds in 1992.

Chris Gayle on July 13, became the first batsman in history to score 14,000 runs in T20 format.

Wimbledon concludes on July 11 in London

World Number One Novak Djokovic clinched his sixth Wimbledon title after beating seventh-seed Matteo Berrettini of Italy.

Women's singles title was won by Australian top seed Ashleigh Barty by defeating eighth seed Karolina Pliskova of Czech Republic

Italy lifts Euro Cup 2020

Italy was crowned Euro Cup 2020 champion after a shootout win over England on July 10 in the finals played at Wembley Stadium in London.

Argentina wins Copa America after 28 years

In a historic breakthrough, Argentina led by Lionel Messi defeated Brazil 1-0 to win the Copa America tournament on July 10, ending its 28-year drought for a major international trophy.

IOC allots 2032 Olympics to Brisbane

The International Olympic Committee in its meeting in Tokyo announced that Australian city of Brisbane will host the 2032 Summer Olympic Games. Brisbane will also host the Paralympic Games.

Mongolia, Tajikistan, Switzerland join ICC

The International Cricket Council (ICC) inducted Mongolia, Switzerland, and Tajikistan as its new member countries at its 78th Annual General Meeting on July 18.

JUNE

Vinesh Phogat, the 26-year-old Indian wrestler won the gold in 53kg at the Poland Open in Warsaw, Poland.

Sanjeet Kumar won gold in the 91 Kg category at the ASBC Asian Amateur Boxing Championships in Dubai, while **Pooja Rani** became the lone Indian woman boxer to strike gold.

Sunil Chhetri, Indian Football skipper overtook Lionel Messi to become the second-highest active international goal scorer with 74 goals. The top position is held by Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, with 103 goals.

Shafali Verma, 17-year-old batswoman, retained her top position in the ICC women's T20 batting rankings.

Hockey India named midfielder Manpreet Singh as captain of the 16-member Olympic-bound men's hockey team.

Dr. Tadang Minu: Arunachal Pradesh based boxing expert has become the first Indian woman to be appointed as a member of the Coaches Committee of the International Boxing Association (AIBA).

India lost the first-ever World Test Cricket Championship to New Zealand in the finals played at Southampton, UK on June 23.

INTERNATIONAL

French Open Grand Slam ends at Roland-Garros, Paris
World No.1 Novak Djokovic (Serbia) clinched his second French open Men's Singles title after beating world No. 5 Stefanos Tsitsipas on June 13.

Barbora Krejickova of Czech Republic won the Women's Singles title by defeating Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia.

MAY

Achinta Sheuli, national weightlifting champion secured the silver medal in the men's 73-kilogram category at the Junior World Weightlifting Championships 2021 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

V Karthikeyan Pandian, an IAS officer, and private secretary to Odisha Chief Minister, was conferred with President's Award by International Hockey Federation for his contribution in promotion of hockey.

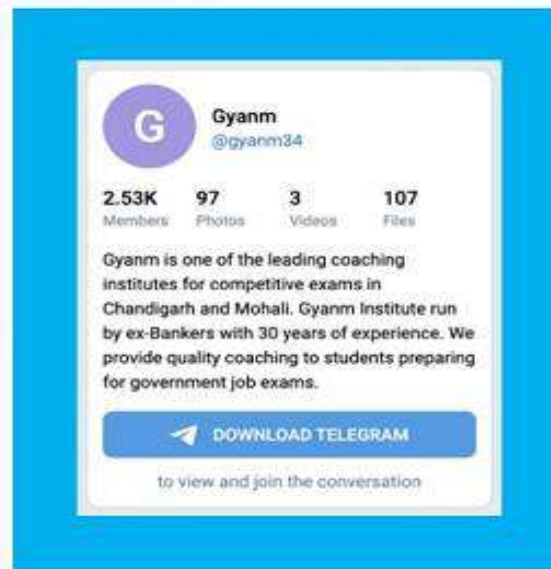
Etienne Glichitch Award: Hockey India won this prestigious award given by the International Hockey Federation in recognition of its contribution to the growth and development of the sport in the country.

Narinder Batra: Re-elected as the President of International Hockey Federation (FIH), Lausanne (Switzerland) for the second consecutive term, till 2024. Batra is also the President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).



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Model Test For General / Economy / Banking Awareness



OCTOBER GK TEST - 01

1. **RBI approved the appointment of Pradeep Kumar Panja as part-time Chairman of which bank?**
 - a. Union Bank
 - b. Karnataka Bank
 - c. Axis Bank
 - d. Indian Bank
 - e. Canara Bank
2. **What is the title of the memoirs of Vir Sanghvi, noted senior journalist?**
 - a. My Life, My Days
 - b. Lost in the Past
 - c. A Rude Life: The Memoir
 - d. Journey through the past
 - e. A Gourmet's journey
3. **RBI has proposed to increase the per transaction limit through Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) to Rs ____ lakh:**
 - a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. Three
 - d. Four
 - e. Five
4. **Which country has been admitted as the ninth member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)?**
 - a. Turkmenistan
 - b. Mongolia
 - c. Ukraine
 - d. Iran
 - e. Iraq
5. **The 41 factories of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) have been split into seven Defence PSUs. Which one of the following is NOT one of the 7 PSUs?**
 - a. Ammunition and Explosives group (Munition India Ltd.)
 - b. Vehicles Group (Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd.)
 - c. Troop Comfort Items group (Troop Comforts Ltd.)
 - d. War Robots Group (Armed Robotics Ltd.)
 - e. Ancillary group (Yantra India Ltd.)
6. **The US, UK and Australia announced the formation of a new trilateral security partnership for the Indo-Pacific region. What is its name?**
 - a. UKAUS
 - b. AUKUS
 - c. USAUK
 - d. AUSUK
 - e. UKAUS
7. **Which of the following institutions is not a subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India?**
 - a. National Housing Bank (NHB)
 - b. Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGC)
 - c. Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)
 - d. Reserve Bank Information Technology Private Limited (ReBIT)
 - e. None of the given options is true
8. **Who presented the first union budget in independent India?**
 - a. RK Sanmukham Chetty
 - b. C Rajgopalachari
 - c. John Mathai
 - d. C D Deshmukh
 - e. Tej Bahadur Sapru
9. **Justice J C Shah Commission was formed to look into which issue?**
 - a. Anti-Sikh riots in Delhi
 - b. Assassination of Indira Gandhi
 - c. Assassination of Rajiv Gandhi
 - d. Excesses committed during Emergency
 - e. Babri Masjid demolition incident
10. **Chief minister of which Indian state has been named in 'leaders' category of the TIME's 100 most influential people of 2021?**
 - a. Uttar Pradesh
 - b. Kerala
 - c. West Bengal
 - d. Punjab
 - e. Assam
11. **Harmilan Bains created a new national record in which racing event at the National Open athletics championships in Warangal?**
 - a. 100 m sprint
 - b. 200 m
 - c. 400 m
 - d. 1500 m
 - e. 4,000 m
12. **What is the name of the online retail store launched by Amazon, meant exclusively for farmers?**
 - a. Meri Dukaan
 - b. Krishi Haat
 - c. Kisan Store
 - d. Farm Shop
 - e. Kisan Haat
13. **The United Nations Chief Antonio Guterres appointed which Indian social activist as the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocate?**
 - a. Sonu Sood
 - b. Kailash Satyarthi
 - c. Ratan Tata
 - d. Sudha Narayana Murthy
 - e. Medha Patkar
14. **The NITI Aayog has teamed up with which edtech company to offer free study material virtually to government school students from classes VI to XII across 112 aspirational districts in the country?**
 - a. Aakash Institute
 - b. ALLEN
 - c. Byju's
 - d. Vedantu
 - e. White Hat
15. **The Central government has constituted a group of ministers (GoM) to look into better implementation of various welfare schemes meant for the SC/ST and OBCs, minorities and women. Which cabinet minister will head this group?**
 - a. Nitin Gadkari
 - b. Smriti Irani
 - c. Rajnath Singh
 - d. Piyush Goyal
 - e. Ashwani Vashnaw
16. **The Board for Financial Supervision was constituted in _____ as a committee of the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India.**
 - a. November 1992
 - b. November 1999
 - c. November 1996
 - d. November 1993
 - e. November 1994

17. Which Indian city is also popularly known as "Scotland of India"?
a. Kodagu (Coorg) b. Kochi c. Trichi d. Ooty e. Munnar
18. _____ has become the first country in the world to begin the mass vaccination of children as young as 2 years old against COVID-19 with its homegrown vaccines:
a. France b. Sweden c. Canada d. Norway e. Cuba
19. Air Marshal V R Chaudhari has been assigned which important new position in the Indian Air Force?
a. Chief of Air Force Operations b. Chief Staff Officer c. Chief Operating Commander d. Commander-in Chief e. Chief of Air Staff
20. The Ministry of Education has formed a 12-member National Steering Committee headed by _____ for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks:
a. Raghuram Rajan b. Smriti Irani c. Dr K Sivan d. Dr K Kasturirangan e. Ramchandra Guha
21. Recently, two more beaches in India have been awarded "Blue Flag" certification. How many total "Blue Flag certified beaches are there now in India?"
a. Five b. Seven c. Ten d. Twelve e. Fourteen
22. Vladimir Norov, a senior diplomat from Uzbekistan, is the current head of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. What is his designation?
a. President b. Director General c. Secretary General d. Chairman e. CEO
23. The deliberate reduction in the value of a country's currency with respect to a foreign currency due to government action is known as
A. Currency Depreciation B. Currency Revaluation C. Currency Depression D. Currency Devaluation E. Currency Deflation
24. India was ranked pretty low at _____ rank in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021:
a. 37th b. 45th c. 59th d. 71st e. 87th
25. The Central Government submitted an affidavit in the Supreme Court on Sep 22 stating that the National Disaster Management Authority has recommended ex gratia Rs _____ to be given to kin of those who died due to Covid-19:
a. 50,000 b. 1,00,000 c. 1,50,000 d. 2,00,000 e. 5,00,000
26. Beijing's Winter Olympics - 2022 unveiled their mascot, Bing Dwen Dwen. It is modelled after which animal?
a. Penguin b. Panda c. Polar Bear d. Stag e. Puppy
27. Thomas Cup and Uber Cup are associated with which sports?
a. Badminton b. Tennis c. Boxing d. Chess e. Billiards and Snooker
28. The world's highest radio station has been set up at an altitude of 13,300 feet in which area?
a. Lhasa b. Twang c. Helsinki d. Kargil e. Basel
29. The Ministry of Defence placed an order worth Rs 7,523 crore for supply of 118 Arjun Mk-1A tanks to be made by the Heavy Vehicles Factory. It is located at which place?
a. Neyveli b. Avadi c. Jabalpur d. Ichapore e. Kochi
30. An asset management company named India Debt Resolution Company (IDRCL) was set up recently with a paid-up capital of Rs. 80.5 lakh and an authorized capital of Rs. _____ crore:
a. Five b. Ten c. Twenty d. Fifty e. Eighty
31. The MCLR regime of the Reserve Bank of India is related to
a. Interest rates on bank loans b. Liquidity norms followed by the banks c. Capital adequacy d. Cash reserve ratio maintenance e. Interest rates on bank deposits
32. The UN Sendai Framework concerns the
a. Elimination of poverty globally b. Protection of endangered species c. Disarmament of chemical weapons stockpiles d. Efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change e. Preparedness for mitigation of natural disaster effects
33. What is the title of the latest novel by noted author Chetan Bhagat?
a. A Girl on the run b. Golden Days c. Not to Forget d. 400 Days e. Lost Light
34. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the _____ session of the UN General Assembly on Sep 25th:
a. 54th b. 63rd c. 69th d. 76th e. 83rd
35. Which apex national organisation has introduced the "Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records" (FASTER) system?
a. UGC b. Ombudsman c. ICSE d. Supreme Court e. Law Commission
36. What is the name of the country's first Pan-India toll-free helpline - 14567, launched for the help of elderly people?
a. Sahayata b. Elder Line c. Seniorita d. Varishtha Sewa e. Elderlee
37. Who has been asked to head the Group of Ministers formed to propose rationalisation of tax slabs of GST?
a. B S Bommai b. Amit Mitra c. K N Balagopal d. Manish Sisodia e. Ajay Chautala
38. The Central Government has renamed the National Mid-Day Meal Scheme as _____ :
a. Bal Vikas Poshan Scheme b. PM-POSHAN Shakti Nirman Scheme c. PM School Poshan Scheme d. PM Vidyarthi Poshan Yojna e. POSHAN Bal Shakti Scheme
39. A Venture Capitalist provides
a. Soft loan for a new, unproven business idea b. Capital for a new, unproven business idea c. Technology for new companies d. Bank guarantee for a new business idea e. Both A and B
40. Examine the following statements labelled A and R.
Assertion (A): The maximum possible strength of the Council of Ministers cannot exceed 15% of the legislative strength of the house.

Reasoning (R): This limit has been imposed by a Constitutional Amendment Act in this regard.

Select the right option:

- a. Both A and R are correct and R correctly explains A.
 - b. Both A and R are correct but R does not correctly explain A.
 - c. A is correct but R is wrong.
 - d. R is correct but A is wrong.
 - e. Both A and R are wrong
41. The Ministry of Tourism launched NIDHI 2.0 scheme on the occasion of World Tourism Day on Sep 27. What does the last 'I' represent in the acronym NIDHI?
- a. India
 - b. Industry
 - c. Incorporated
 - d. Institution
 - e. Investment
42. A digital skills programme "DigiSaksham" was launched in tie-up with which IT company to enhance the employability of youth by imparting them digital skills?
- a. TCS
 - b. Infosys
 - c. Apple India
 - d. Microsoft India
 - e. Cisco
43. World over October 01 is celebrated as The World Vegetarian Day. Consider following statements in this context:
- i) Vegetarian diet includes eggs and honey
 - ii) There are no animal meat products in vegetarian diet
 - iii) It is low in cholesterol
 - iv) It helps in improving the immune system
- Select the correct statement:
- a. Only i, iii and iv are correct
 - b. Only ii and iv are correct
 - c. Only i, ii and iv are correct
 - d. Only iii and iv are correct
 - e. All four are correct
44. The world's largest Khadi national flag was installed in _____, on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary:
- a. Kargil
 - b. Lahaul
 - c. Keylong
 - d. Leh
 - e. Dharchula
45. Which popular Indian cartoon character has been declared as the mascot of the Namami Gange Programme?
- a. Chhota Bheem
 - b. Chacha Choudhary
 - c. Little Singham
 - d. Motu-Patlu
 - e. Little Krishna

46. If we subtract the amount of "interest payments" from the amount of fiscal deficit of the government, what would be the remaining?
- a. Physical Deficit
 - b. Primary Deficit
 - c. Net Deficit
 - d. Capital Deficit
 - e. None of these
47. Government launched Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0 on October 1. Both these programmes are under union ministry of housing and urban affairs, headed by _____:
- a. Hardeep Singh Puri
 - b. Ashwani Vaishnav
 - c. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
 - d. Kaushal Kishore
 - e. Dharmendra Pradhan
48. The Prime Minister launched the Jal Jeevan Mission App on October 2. It is associated with which of the following?
- a. Cleansing of rivers
 - b. Conservation of water resources
 - c. Providing tap water in rural areas
 - d. Conservation of village ponds
 - e. Providing 24x7 drink-from-tap facility in cities
49. Which team lifted the 130th edition of Durand Cup, the oldest football championship in Asia?
- a. FC Goa
 - b. FC Bengaluru
 - c. FC Hyderabad
 - d. Mohammedan Sporting
 - e. Kerala Blasters
50. David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian jointly won the Nobel Prize for Medicine for their discoveries of human receptors for temperature and touch. They hail from which country?
- a. France
 - b. Colombia
 - c. USA
 - d. Britain
 - e. Norway

OCTOBER GK TEST - 02

1. Who has been elected as the 100th Prime Minister of Japan?
 - a. Sanae Takaichi
 - b. Taro Kono
 - c. Shigeru Ishiba
 - d. Fumio Kishida
 - e. Seiko Noda
2. Who became India's youngest shooter to win an international medal in shooting?
 - a. Manu Bhaker
 - b. Naamya Kapoor

- c. Vaani Shri
- d. E. Valarivan
- e. Taanya Sethi

3. Ganga River Dolphin Day is observed on Oct 5 to raise awareness and encourage conservation of Ganga River Dolphins. Which Indian state has the largest population of these Dolphins?
 - a. Uttarakhand
 - b. Uttar Pradesh
 - c. Bihar
 - d. West Bengal
 - e. Jharkhand
4. The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched a Scheme for grant of Award to the Good Samaritan who has saved the life of a victim of a fatal accident involving a motor vehicle by administering immediate assistance. What is the amount of this award?
 - a. 2,000
 - b. 5,000
 - c. 7,000
 - d. 10,000
 - e. No cash award
5. Open Market Operations are conducted by the _____:
 - a. Reserve Bank of India
 - b. Primary market dealers
 - c. Merchant bankers
 - d. Securities Exchange Board of India
 - e. Commercial Banks
6. Popularly known as the "Oscars of science", the Breakthrough Prizes are given in three fields. Which of the following is not one of them?
 - a. Fundamental Physics
 - b. Life Science
 - c. Chemistry
 - d. Mathematics
 - e. None of these
7. CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) introduced the organised cultivation of Cinnamon on a pilot basis in which place in Himachal?
 - a. Lahaul
 - b. Kangra
 - c. Palampur
 - d. Una
 - e. Keylong
8. The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) decided to observe _____ October as NPS Diwas to promote pension and retirement planning for a carefree 'azad' retirement:
 - a. 1st
 - b. 11th
 - c. 17th
 - d. 23rd
 - e. 31st
9. The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of 7 PM MITRA parks with a total outlay of Rs 4,445 crore for promoting which of the following?

- a. Leather products
b. Textile industry
c. Silk processing
d. Educational startups
e. Handloom industry
10. **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) released the MUDRA Toolbox in five Indian languages for facilitating diagnosis of which ailment?**
a. Anxiety disorders
b. Depression
c. Bipolar disorder
d. Dementia
e. Schizophrenia
11. **India hosted the two-day Online Meeting of 30 CAF Range countries on Oct 6-7. It was associated with which of the following?**
a. Saving the natural habitat of lions
b. Conservation of natural wetlands
c. Conservation of migratory birds
d. Saving the river Dolphins
e. Protection of evergreen rain forests
12. **Which of the following is a market for short term securities transactions?**
a. Security Market
b. Debt Market
c. Money Market
d. Capital Market
e. Secondary Market
13. **As per Indian constitution, what is the maximum permissible interval between two sessions of parliament or state assembly?**
a. 2 months b. 3 months
c. 4 months d. 6 months
e. No such limit
14. **In a historic move, the WHO has endorsed the first antimalarial vaccine. What is its name?**
a. Malvax b. Mosquirix
c. M- solvec d. Matrix-M
e. Kloriquin-M
15. **Who was declared the FIH "Player of the Year - women" for 2021?**
a. Eva De Goede
b. Gurjit Kaur
c. Stacy Michelsen
d. Amanda Kessel
e. Rani Rampal
16. **Name the woman wrestler who scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships:**
a. Sarita Mor b. Anshu Malik
c. Sonam Malik d. Vinesh Phogat
e. Seema Bisla
17. **The Indian Air Force celebrates its Raising Day on October 8. Who was the first Indian chief of the Indian Air Force?**
a. Subroto Rai
b. Subroto Mukherjee
c. Nirmal Singh Sekhon
d. Arjan Singh
e. A M Engineer
18. **The Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways launched a port mobile application called "MyPortApp" in Kolkata on Oct 8. What is his name?**
a. Sarbanand Sonowal
b. Anurag Thakur
c. Ashwini Vaishnaw
d. Piyush Goyal
e. Mukhtar Abbas Naqwi
19. **The regulatory authority for Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks in India is/are**
a. RBI
b. Ministry of Rural Development
c. NABARD
d. Both A and C
e. IBA
20. **Kalbelia & Ghoomer are the popular folk-dance forms of which state?**
a. Rajasthan
b. Gujarat
c. Madhya Pradesh
d. Haryana
e. Chhattisgarh
21. **Prime Minister of _____ Mette Frederiksen arrived in New Delhi on Oct 9 on a three-day visit to India:**
a. Finland b. Sweden
c. Norway d. Denmark
e. Netherland
22. **In an historical development, Tata Sons group won the bid for acquiring national carrier Air India. The Airlines was originally started by which business tycoon way back in 1932?**
a. Jamsetji Tata
b. Dorabji Tata
c. Naval Tata
d. JRD Tata e. Ratan Tata
23. **Who has been appointed as the first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate?**
a. K Sivan
b. Sudarshan Kumar
c. E R Sheikh d. Ratan Kumar
e. J R Bose
24. **David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens, joint winners of the 2021 Nobel prize for Economics, are based in which country?**
a. Germany b. USA
c. Britain d. France
e. Argentina
25. **The RBI announced the theme for Fourth Cohort under Regulatory Sandbox on 8th October. What was it?**
a. Expansion of rural banking
b. Improvement in customer service
c. Prevention and mitigation of financial frauds
d. Improvement in financial inclusion
e. Promoting digital payment platforms
26. **FIFA, the governing body for international football, unveiled the official mascot of the 7th U-17 Women's World Cup. What is its name?**
a. Misha b. Tony
c. Ibha d. Sheru
e. Geeroo
27. **Which Central Public Sector Enterprises was granted 'Maharatna' status on Oct 12?**
a. Bharat Dynamics Ltd.
b. Oil India Ltd.
c. Power Finance Corporation
d. Bharat Electronics Ltd.
e. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.
28. **The famous Manas Biosphere Reserve is located in which state?**
a. Manipur b. Nagaland
c. Assam d. Sikkim
e. Mizoram
29. **Which country launched on Oct 11 the world's first automated, driverless train?**
a. France b. Germany
c. Japan d. China
e. Britain
30. **October 14 is observed as World Standards Day. Which of the following is the National Standards Body in India?**
a. Indian Standards Bureau
b. Bureau of Indian Standards
c. Indian Standards Commission
d. Standards Board of India
e. Indian Standards Institute
31. **The Prime Minister launched the PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan on Oct 13 for promoting multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country. The Plan has a layout of Rs. ____ lakh crore:**
a. 10 b. 50
c. 100 d. 200
e. 500
32. **The Union Ministry of Home Affairs issued a notification increasing the jurisdiction of the Border Security Force (BSF) to**

areas up to ____ km from the international borders:

- a. 20 b. 30
- c. 40 d. 50
- e. 100

33. India slipped by seven spots in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) of 116 countries, released on Oct 14. What is India's rank now?

- a. 69th b. 78th
- c. 87th d. 96th
- e. 101st

34. The term secondary market is associated with _____:

- a. Initial Public Offer
- b. Stock exchange activities
- c. Buyback of shares
- d. Retail investors
- e. B and D

35. Which of the following is not a Rabi Crop?

- a. Wheat b. Barley
- c. Oilseeds d. Maize
- e. Gram

36. What was the name of the 8th Edition of India - Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise hosted by Sri Lanka from 4th to 15th of October?

- a. Vajra b. Prahaar
- c. Yudh Shakti d. Mitra Shakti
- e. Armex-21

37. Which city is set to become the first city in India to use ropeway services for public transportation?

- a. Bengaluru b. Gwalior
- c. Varanasi d. Ayodhya
- e. Jaipur

38. A K Goel has been selected as the chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) for 2021-22. He is the MD & CEO of which bank?

- a. Canara Bank
- b. Punjab National Bank
- c. UCO Bank
- d. Indian Bank
- e. Bank of India

39. American space agency NASA launched a spacecraft on Oct 16, the first space mission to study the Trojan Asteroids. What is its name?

- a. Ruby b. Marry
- c. Lucy d. Tibi
- e. Curie

40. The South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship was hosted by which country?

- a. Mauritius b. Maldives
- c. Nepal d. Bangladesh
- e. Sri Lanka

41. To obtain their Net Demand and Time Liabilities, banks subtract

_____ from their Gross Demand and Time Liabilities.

- a. The money lying as Cash Reserve Ratio
- b. The money lying in inter-bank deposits
- c. The money lying in Recurring Deposits
- d. The amount of staff loans
- e. The money lying in Current Accounts

42. Where are the headquarters of National Green Tribunal located?

- a. New Delhi b. Gwalior
- c. Nagpur d. Bengaluru
- e. Hyderabad

43. China launched its first _____ observation satellite 'Xih'e' on Oct 14 into a 571-km altitude orbit:

- a. Ocean b. Rivers
- c. Crops & forests
- d. Solar
- e. Roads and bridges

44. The RBI approved the re-appointment of Amitabh Chaudhry as MD & CEO of which bank for a period of three years, w.e.f. January 1, 2022?

- a. HDFC Bank
- b. Federal Bank
- c. Axis Bank
- d. Yes Bank
- e. Bandhan Bank

45. 'Takachar', an agriculture waste recycling project of a Delhi-based entrepreneur Vidyut Mohan, won the Earthshot Prize. What is the cash reward in this prize?

- a. \$ one lakh b. \$ ten lakh
- c. Pound one lakh
- d. Pound ten lakh
- e. No cash prize

46. A Geographic Information System (GIS)-based Geospatial Energy Map of India was launched on October 18 by which apex organisation?

- a. ANTRIX b. ISRO
- c. NITI Aayog
- d. Dept. of Science and Technology
- e. Survey of India

47. India celebrates National Solidarity Day on October 20 to commemorate which event?

- a. Liberation of Goa from Portuguese
- b. Merger of Hyderabad province in India
- c. Beginning of 1962 Indo-China war
- d. End of Kabbili attack on Kashmir
- e. Merger of Kashmir in India

48. What is the name of the govt. scheme for establishment of residential schools for girls belonging predominantly to the

SC, ST, OBC, BPL and minorities in difficult areas?

- a. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya
- b. Beti Bachao Balika Vidyalaya
- c. Indira Gandhi Awaas Vidyalaya
- d. Kasturba Gandhi Aawasiya Vidyalaya
- e. Indira Awaasiya Shikshan Kendra

49. Tracking and maneuvering of the satellites launched by ISRO is done by ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network - ISTRAC. Where are the headquarters of ISTRAC?

- a. New Delhi b. Bengaluru
- c. Mumbai d. Chennai
- e. Hyderabad

50. In which country a volcano named Mount Aso erupted on Oct 20, blasting ash several kms into the sky?

- a. Philippines b. Indonesia
- c. Japan d. Laos
- e. Vietnam

ANSWER KEY | OCTOBER GK TEST | I

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	B	2	C	3	E	4	D	5	D
6	B	7	A	8	A	9	D	10	C
11	D	12	C	13	B	14	C	15	C
16	E	17	A	18	E	19	E	20	D
21	C	22	C	23	D	24	D	25	A
26	B	27	A	28	D	29	B	30	D
31	A	32	E	33	D	34	D	35	D
36	B	37	A	38	B	39	B	40	A
41	B	42	D	43	E	44	D	45	B
46	B	47	A	48	C	49	A	50	C

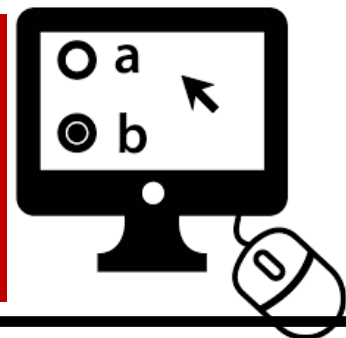
ANSWER KEY | OCTOBER GK TEST | 2

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	D	2	B	3	C	4	B	5	A
6	C	7	D	8	A	9	B	10	D
11	C	12	C	13	D	14	B	15	B
16	B	17	B	18	A	19	D	20	A
21	D	22	D	23	C	24	B	25	C
26	C	27	C	28	C	29	B	30	B
31	C	32	D	33	E	34	B	35	D
36	D	37	C	38	C	39	C	40	B
41	B	42	A	43	D	44	C	45	D
46	C	47	C	48	A	49	B	50	C

**SUCCESS IS NOT FINAL;
FAILURE IS NOT FATAL:
IT IS THE COURAGE TO CONTINUE
THAT COUNTS.**

IBPS PO - PRE

(MODEL TEST PAPER)



REASONING ABILITY

Directions (Qs. 1 to 5): Study the following information to answer the given questions.

Twelve cars viz Mercedes, Swift, Santro, Accord, Innova, Polo, Punto, Figo, Civic, City, Ferrari and Landrover are parked in two parallel rows containing six cars each, in such a way that there is an equal distance between adjacent cars. The cars parked in row – 1 are parked in such a manner that the driver seated in the cars would face the South. In row – 2, cars are parked in such a manner that the drivers seated in these cars would face the North. Therefore, in the given parking arrangement each car parked in a row faces another car of the other row.

(i) Mercedes being a big car must be parked at one of the extreme ends. Mercedes is parked second to the left of Santro. Santro faces Figo.

(ii) Punto and Innova are parked immediately next to each other. Neither is parked next to Figo or Santro.

(iii) Civic is parked in such a manner that its driver when seated in the parked car would face South. Civic is parked third to the left of Polo.

(iv) City is parked in such a manner that it faces Ferrari. Ferrari is parked second to the left of Landrover. Landrover faces North and is not parked next to Figo.

(v) Swift is parked third to the right of Ferrari and faces Innova.

(Note) Left and right parking directions are with reference to the driver as if the driver is seated in the car.)

1) How many cars are parked between Santro and Civic?

- a) One
- b) Two
- c) Three
- d) Four
- e) Both cars are parked in different rows

2) Polo is related to Ferrari in the same way as Innova is related to Accord. To which of the following is City related to, following the same pattern?

- a) Mercedes
- b) Innova
- c) Santro
- d) Punto
- e) Landrover

3) Which of the following cars are parked at extreme ends of the rows?

- a) Landrover, Punto
- b) Innova, Polo
- c) Polo, Accord
- d) Landrover, Innova
- e) Ferrari, Swift

4) Which of the following cars faces Polo?

- a) Mercedes
- b) Civic
- c) Landrover
- d) Punto
- e) Accord

5) Which of the following is true regarding Figo?

- a) A driver seated in the parked Figo would face North
- b) Swift is parked second to the right of the car facing Figo.
- c) Punto and Ferrari are parked immediately next to Figo
- d) Mercedes and Accord are parked at the extreme ends of the row in which Figo is parked
- e) None is true

Directions (Qs. 6 to 10): Study the following information carefully to answer the given questions.

Eight players of different games are sponsored by different companies. Sachin who plays cricket is not sponsored by Pepsi or Britannia. The player who is sponsored by Adidas plays badminton. The player of billiards is sponsored by Reebok. Mahesh is sponsored by MRF. He does not play Table Tennis or Chess. Singers sponsored players plays football. Dinko does not play hockey. The volleyball player is sponsored by Pepsi. Laxman and Ramesh play Volleyball and Badminton, though not necessarily respectively. Rahul plays Billiards. Dhanraj who is sponsored by Ispat International does not play chess. Mukesh is not sponsored by Britannia. Manikchand sponsored player does not play table tennis or hockey.

6) Who is sponsored by Singers?

- a) Dinko
- b) Mukesh
- c) Sachin
- d) Can't be determined
- e) None of these

- 7) **Dinko plays which game?**
 a) Football b) Table Tennis
 c) Chess d) Hockey
 e) Can't be determined
- 8) **Who plays Table tennis?**
 a) Dhanraj b) Dinko
 c) Mukesh d) Sachin
 e) Can't be determined
- 9) **The player sponsored by MRF plays which game?**
 a) Cricket b) Hockey
 c) Chess
 d) Can't be determined
 e) None of these
- 10) **Which of the following combination is definitely false?**
 a) Laxman - Volleyball - Pepsi
 b) Ramesh - Badminton - Adidas
 c) Rahul- Billiards - Reebok
 d) Mahesh - Football - MRF
 e) None of these

Directions (Qs. 11-15): In each of the questions below are given four statements, followed by four conclusions: I, II, III, IV. You have to take the given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts. Read the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the given statements disregarding commonly known facts.

- 11) **Statements:**
 Some carpets are books.
 All books are pens
 Some pens are cartons.
 All cartons are notebooks.
Conclusions:
 I. Some cartons are carpets
 II. Some cartons are books
 III. Some pens are carpets.
 IV. Some notebooks are pens.
 a) Only I and II follow
 b) Only II and III follow
 c) Only III and IV follow
 d) Only I and III follow
 e) None of these
- 12) **Statements:**
 Some paints are bottles
 Some bottles are brands
 Some brands are colours
 All colours are erasers.
Conclusions:
 I. Some paints are brands
 II. Some erasers are bottles
 III. Some erasers are brands
 IV. Some bottles are colours
 a) None follows b) Only III follows
 c) Only II and IV follow d) Only IV follows
 e) Only I, II and III follow

- 13) **Statements:**
 Some boxes are triangles
 All spheres are triangles
 All Circles are boxes.
 All triangles are quadrilaterals.
Conclusions:
 I. Some quadrilaterals are boxes.
 II. Some quadrilaterals are triangles
 III. Some triangles are spheres.
 IV. No Circle is quadrilateral.
 a) Only I follows b) Only II follows
 c) Only I, II and III follow d) Only III follows
 e) All follow

- 14) **Statements:**
 All plastics are trees.
 Some trees are buildings
 Some buildings are windows
 Some windows are papers.
Conclusions:
 I. Some papers are plastics
 II. Some buildings are papers
 III. No paper is tree
 IV. Some trees are windows.
 a) Only I follows b) Only II follows
 c) Only I and IV follow d) Only III follows
 e) None follows

- 15) **Statements:**
 All rings are phones.
 All phones are spoons.
 Some phones are files
 All files are covers
Conclusions:
 I. Some files are rings
 II. Some covers are spoons.
 III. Some spoons are phones
 IV. Some rings are covers
 a) Only II and IV follow
 b) Only I, II and III follow
 c) Only I and II follow
 d) Only II and III follow
 e) None follows

Directions (16-20): Study the information and answer the given question.

In a certain code language 'prepare for your exams' is written as 'xn nt oz wl'
 'hard work for prepare' is written as 'nt ml oz tk'
 'prepare your studies well' is written as 'sd jk nt xn'
 'work well best results' is written as 'ds lu jk ml'

- 16) **What is the code for 'best' in the given code language?**
 a) lu b) ml
 c) sd d) ds
 e) Either ds or lu
- 17) **In the given code language 'nt' is the code of which word?**
 a) prepare b) your
 c) hard d) work e) exam

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- 18) What may be the code for 'exams are hard' in the given code language?
 a) wl ml tk b) zr tk ko
 c) wl xn tk d) tk zr wl
 e) ke wl xn
- 19) What is the code for 'studies for' in the given code language?
 a) ds sd b) jk sd
 c) jk xn d) oz jc
 e) oz sd
- 20) What is the code for 'well' in the given code language?
 a) xn b) nt
 c) wl d) jk
 e) ml

Directions (21-25): Study the following information carefully and answer the question given below-

A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H are eight persons sitting around a rectangular table. Four of them sit middle side of table and facing away from the center and other four of them sit at the corner of table and they are facing towards the center of the table. They all have different age. The age of all the four persons who sit at the corner of table is multiple of 3 and the age of all four persons who sit at the middle of table is multiple of 2.

E sits third to left of A. A faces outside. Two persons sit between E and the one whose age is 54. H sits second to right of one whose age is 54 year. Three persons sit between H and B, whose age is 76 year. One of immediate neighbor of H is 69 year old person. C sits second to right of one whose age is 69 year. Only one person sits between C and F. The age of one who sits second to left of F is one year less than B. The age of one who is immediate neighbor of one whose age is 75 year is equal to difference between the age of B and A. D is not immediate neighbor of E. The age of one of them is 27 year but he is not immediate neighbor of B. The age of H is perfect square and his age lies between the age of B and A. The age of D is 1 year less than age of H.

- 21) What is the age of D?
 a) 64 year b) 81 year
 c) 36 year d) 16 year
 e) None of these.
- 22) Which one of the following sits immediate left of G?
 a) F b) G
 c) E d) D
 e) None of these
- 23) How many persons are there between A and D, when counted from left of A?
 a) Four b) Two
 c) Three d) No one.
 e) One

- 24) Who sits opposite to A?
 a) F b) G
 c) E d) D
 e) None of these
- 25) The difference of age between F and C is?
 a) 69 year b) 51 year
 c) 27 year d) 42 year
 e) None of these

Directions (26-30): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below:

Six persons D, E, F, G, H and I belong to different cities, viz Patna, Pune, Ranchi, Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida but not necessarily in the same order. Each of them likes a different colours, viz Black, White, Pink, Purple, Grey and Brown. They use different types of laptops, viz HP, Dell and Sony but not necessarily in the same order. At least two persons use the same type of laptop.

The one who belongs to Gurgaon uses Sony. I uses Sony and likes White, but belongs neither to Patna nor to Ranchi. The one who belongs to Delhi uses HP. E uses the same type of laptop as the one who likes Black, but he does not belong to Pune. The one who belongs to Patna uses HP. G belongs to Gurgaon and likes neither Pink nor Brown.

The one who belongs to Pune uses Dell. H belongs to Delhi and likes Purple, but he does not use the same laptop as F. D does not like Grey or Brown. The one who uses Sony belongs neither to Delhi nor to Ranchi. Those who like Purple and Pink use the same type of laptop.

- 26) Which of the following combinations is true?
 a) H – Delhi – Purple – Sony
 b) D – Patna – Pink – HP
 c) E – Pune – Black – Dell
 d) H – Patna – Grey – HP
 e) G – Noida – White – Sony
- 27) Who among the following use the same type of laptop?
 a) G, H b) E, I
 c) D, H d) F, G
 e) I, D
- 28) Who among the following likes Purple?
 a) The one who belongs to Delhi and uses Dell
 b) The one who belongs to Pune and uses Sony
 c) The one who uses Dell
 d) The one who belongs to Noida
 e) None of these
- 29) Which of the following statements is not true?
 a) D belongs to Patna and uses HP.
 b) G likes Grey colour and uses Sony.
 c) I belongs to Noida and likes White
 d) Those who like Pink and Brown use the same type of laptop.
 e) All are true.

30) Who among the following belongs to Noida?

- a) The one who likes Pink
- b) The one who uses HP
- c) I, who likes White
- d) F, who uses Dell
- e) None of these

31) In which of the following expressions will the expressions $R < P$ as well as $S > Q$ be definitely true?

- a) $P > Q = R \leq T < S$
- b) $S > T \geq R > Q < P$
- c) $Q > R \leq T > P \geq S$
- d) $S > T \geq R > Q > P$
- e) None of these

Directions (Q. 32-33): Study the following questions carefully and answer the questions given below. (Each question has one statement followed by three conclusions).

You have to assume that the given conclusions are true and according fill the blanks in the statements.

32) **Statements:** $C \geq D = F ? J ? R = H ? T$

Conclusions:

I. $H = J$ II. $D \geq H$ III. $D > T$

If all the given conclusion are definitely true, then fill in the blanks.

- a) $=, \geq, \geq$ b) $=, =, >$
- c) $\geq, =, >$ d) \geq, \geq, \geq
- e) None of these

33) **Statements:** $A \geq B ? C > D = F ? G \geq L$

Conclusions:

I. $D < G$ II. $A > C$ III. $D < A$

If all the given conclusion are definitely true, then fill in the blanks.

- a) $>, =$ b) $>, >$
- c) $>, <$ d) $=, <$
- e) \geq, \leq

Directions (34-35): Study the following information to answer the given questions.

Point P is 9m towards the East of Point Q. Point R is 5m towards the South of Point P. Point S is 3m towards the West of Point R. Point T is 5m towards the North of Point S. Point V is 7m towards the South of Point S.

34) If a person walks in a straight line for 8 m towards West from Point R, which of the following points would he cross the first?

- a) V b) Q
- c) T d) S
- e) Cannot be determined

35) Which of the following points are in a straight line?

- a) P, R, V b) S, T, Q
- c) P, T, V d) V, T, R
- e) S, V, T

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Directions (1-5): In the following question, two equations numbered I and II are given. You have to solve both the equations and answer the question.

- 1) I. $9p^2 - 21p + 12 = 0$
II. $18q^2 - 50q + 32 = 0$
 - a) $p > q$ b) $p < q$
 - c) $p \geq q$ d) $p \leq q$
 - e) $p = q$ or no relation can be established between 'p' and 'q'.
- 2) I. $3p^2 - 8p - 60 = 0$
II. $20q^2 - 288q + 1036 = 0$
 - a) $p > q$ b) $p < q$
 - c) $p \geq q$ d) $p \leq q$
 - e) $p = q$ or no relation can be established between 'p' and 'q'.
- 3) I. $5p^2 - 65p + 180 = 0$
II. $3q^2 - 90q + 483 = 0$
 - a) $p > q$ b) $p < q$
 - c) $p \geq q$ d) $p \leq q$
 - e) $p = q$ or no relation can be established between 'p' and 'q'.
- 4) I) $12m^2 - 126m + 294 = 0$
II) $7n^2 + 123n - 504 = 0$
 - a) If $m \geq n$ b) If $m < n$
 - c) If $m > n$ d) If $m = n$
 - e) If $m \leq n$
- 5) I. $x^2 - 30x + 216 = 0$
II. $y^2 - 39y + 360 = 0$
 - a) $x > y$ b) $x \geq y$
 - c) $x < y$ d) $x \leq y$
 - e) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

Directions (6- 10): Which of the following does not fit in the series?

- 6) 824, 408, 396, 96, 44, 18, 5
 - a) 824 b) 408 c) 396
 - d) 18 e) 44
- 7) 5, 7, 13, 25, 45, 87, 117
 - a) 7 b) 87 c) 45
 - d) 117 e) None
- 8) 2185, 727, 241, 79, 30, 7, 1
 - a) 2185 b) 727 c) 79
 - d) 30 e) 214
- 9) 2, 3, 10, 15, 25, 35, 50, 63
 - a) 25 b) 10 c) 35
 - d) 63 e) 50
- 10) 2, 7, 10, 15, 25, 35, 50, 63
 - a) 2 b) 10 c) 25
 - d) 60 e) 15

Directions (11-15): What will come in place of question mark (?) in the following questions?

- 11) $92 \times 576 \div (2\sqrt{1296}) = (?)^3 + \sqrt{49}$
 a) 3 b) $(9)^2$
 c) 9 d) 27
 e) None of these
- 12) $1/6$ of 92% of $1\frac{1}{23}$ of (650) = 85 + ?
 a) 18 b) 21
 c) 19 d) 28
 e) None of these
- 13) $(15 \times 0.40)^4 \div (1080 \div 30)^4 \times (27 \times 8)^4 = (3 \times 2)^{?+5}$
 a) 8 b) 3
 c) 12 d) 16
 e) None of these
- 14) $3\frac{1}{4} + 2\frac{1}{2} - 1\frac{5}{6} = \frac{(?)^2}{10} + 1\frac{5}{12}$
 a) 25 b) $\sqrt{5}$
 c) 625 d) 15
 e) 5
- 15) $(\sqrt{8} \times \sqrt{8})^{1/2} + (9)^{1/2} = (?)^3 + \sqrt{8} - 340$
 a) 7 b) 19
 c) 18 d) 9
 e) None of these

Directions (16-20): Study the following table carefully to answer the questions that follow.

AMOUNT EARNED (IN LACS) BY FIVE PERSONS IN SIX DIFFERENT YEARS

Year	Person				
	A	B	C	D	E
2005	2.24	4.33	5.64	3.73	1.69
2006	1.44	3.34	6.93	5.52	5.52
2007	4.63	2.79	7.52	5.68	4.28
2008	6.65	6.63	5.83	6.74	6.83
2009	5.34	4.50	5.94	8.42	5.53
2010	7.38	5.36	7.84	9.45	9.94

- 16) Total amount earned by Person -A in the year 2006 and person C in the year 2010 together was approximately what percent of the amount earned by Person - E in the year 2009?
 a) 151 b) 155
 c) 168 d) 174
 e) 162
- 17) What is the approximate percent increase in the amount earned by Person-D in the year 2010 as compared to the previous year?
 a) 7 b) 21
 c) 18 d) 15
 e) 12

- 18) Whose earning increased consistently from the year 2005 to the year 2010?
 a) A b) B
 c) C d) D
 e) E
- 19) What was the respective ratio between the amount earned by person - B in the year 2007 and person - D in the year 2010?
 a) 32 : 107 b) 31 : 105
 c) 29 : 107 d) 32 : 105
 e) None of these
- 20) What was the average of the earning of person-B in the year 2006, C in the year 2008 and E in the year 2005 together?
 a) Rs. 3.62 lacs b) Rs. 2.64 lacs
 c) Rs. 3.64 lacs d) Rs. 10.86 lacs
 e) None of these
- 21) Three taps A, B and C can fill a tank in 12, 15 and 20 hours respectively. If A is open all the time and B and C are open for one hour each alternately, in what time will the tank be full?
 a) 9 hours b) 7 hours
 c) 8 hours d) 10 hours
 e) 11 hours
- 22) A and B started a business in partnership investing Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 15,000 respectively. After six months, C joined them with Rs. 20,000. What will be B's share in total profit of Rs. 25,000 earned at the end of 2 years from the starting of the business?
 a) Rs. 8,000 b) Rs. 8,500
 c) Rs. 9,000 d) Rs. 7,500
 e) Rs. 9,500
- 23) A boatman goes 2 km against the current of the stream in 1 hour and goes 1 km along the current in 10 minutes. How long will it take to go 5 km in stationary water?
 a) 80 minutes b) 75 minutes
 c) 70 minutes d) 72 minutes
 e) 84 minutes
- 24) In a lottery, there are 15 boys and 10 girls. Three students are selected at random. What is the probability that 1 girl and 2 boys are selected?
 a) $\frac{31}{47}$ b) $\frac{21}{46}$
 c) $\frac{22}{47}$ d) $\frac{31}{46}$ e) $\frac{21}{47}$
- 25) Two stations A and B are 110 km apart on a straight line. One train starts from A at 7 am and travels towards B at 20 kmph. Another train starts from B at 8 am and travels towards A at a speed of 25 kmph. At what time will they meet?
 a) 9 am b) 11 am

- c) 11:30 am d) 10 am
e) 12:30 pm

- 26) The difference between a two-digit number and the number obtained by interchanging the digits is 36. What is the difference between the sum and the difference of the digits of the number if the ratio between the digits of the number is 1 : 2?
a) 10 b) 9
c) 11 d) 8
e) 7
- 27) Mr. Sinha invests 12% of his monthly salary, i.e. Rs. 3,660 in insurance Policies. Later he invests 16% of his monthly salary on Family Medclaim Policies; also he invests another 3% of his salary on NSCs. What is the total annual amount invested by Mr. Sinha?
a) Rs. 1,13,460 b) Rs. 1,22,440
c) Rs. 1,06,540
d) Cannot be determined
e) Rs. 2,01,342
- 28) In how many different ways can the letters of the word "GAMBLE" arranged?
a) 720 b) 840
c) 360 d) 420
e) None of these

Directions (Q. 29 - 33): Study the following information carefully to answer the questions that follow:

There are two trains, Train A and Train B. Both trains have four different types of coaches, viz General, Sleeper, First class and AC. In Train A, there are total 700 passengers. Train B has thirty percent more passengers than Train A. Twenty per cent of the passengers of Trains A are in General Coach. One fourth of the total number of passengers of Train A are in AC coach. Twenty three percent of the passengers of Train A are in sleeper Coach. Remaining passengers of Train A are in First Class Coach. The total number of passengers in AC Coach in both the trains together is 480. Thirty percent of the number of passengers of Train B are in Sleeper Coach. Ten percent of the total passengers of Train B are in First Class Coach. The remaining passengers of Train B are in General Coach.

- 29) What is the ratio of the number of passengers in First Class Coach of Train A to the number of passengers in Sleeper Coach of Train B?
a) 13 : 7 b) 7 : 13
c) 32 : 39 d) Data inadequate
e) None of these
- 30) What is the total number of passengers in the General Coach of Train A and AC coach of Train B together?
a) 449 b) 459
c) 435 d) 445
e) None of these

- 31) What is the difference between the number of passengers in the AC Coach of Train A and the total number of passengers in Sleeper and First Class Coach together of Train B?
a) 199 b) 178
c) 187 d) 179
e) None of these
- 32) The total number of passengers in General Coaches of both the trains together is approximately what percentage of the total number of passengers in Train B?
a) 35 b) 42
c) 46 d) 38
e) 31
- 33) If the cost per ticket of First Class Coach is Rs. 450, what will be the total amount generated from First Class Coach of train A?
a) Rs. 1,00,080 b) Rs. 1,08,000
c) Rs. 1,00,800 d) Rs. 10,800
e) None of these
- 34) Pratibha covers a distance of 24 km at the speed of 8km/hr and a distance of 18km at the speed of 9 km/hr. Further, she covers a distance of 12 km at the speed of 3 km/hr. What is her average speed in covering the whole distance?
a) 8km/hr b) 5.5 km/hr
c) 3 km/hr d) 6km/hr
e) None of these
- 35) The mean of the marks obtained by 100 students is 60. If the marks obtained by one, of the students was incorrectly calculated 75; wheare as the actual makes obtained by him was 65 what is the correct mean of the marks obtained by the students?
a) 59 b) 5850
c) 50
d) Cannot be determined
e) None of these

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Directions (1-10): Read the following paragraph. Some of the words have been highlighted in bold. Answer the questions based on this paragraph.

The internet has become the integral part of today's generation of people; from communicating through instant messages and emails to banking, travelling, studying and shopping, internet has touched every aspect of life. With the growing use of the internet by people, protecting important information has become a necessity. A computer that is not having appropriate security controls can be infected with malicious logic and thus any type of information can be accessed in moments. Number of infected Web Pages and malicious websites can be seen every day that infects the computer and allow hackers to gain illegal

access to other computer systems. Hacking of important data, network outages, computer viruses and other cyber related threats affect our lives that range from minor inconvenience to serious incidents. Cyber threats can be caused due to negligence and vulnerabilities, or unintentional accidents. The main objectives of such type of system attackers or hackers are to steal confidential information, to make illegal monetary transactions, to destroy or to change data and the like. System attackers can be terrorists, crackers or recreational hackers. They have a variety of tools that can harm or infect the computer; usually they use malicious logic or virus to gain unauthorized access to a computer. Opening email attachments that carry the virus, clicking malicious links or websites or unintentionally downloading a dangerous program are common ways through which a computer can be infected and data can be stolen. As the number of data networks, digital applications, as well as internet and mobile users are growing, so do the chances of cyber exploitation and cyber crimes. Even a small mistake in securing data or bad social networking can prove to be extremely dangerous. If accounts are not properly secured, it makes easier for hackers or unauthorized users to spread viruses or social engineered attacks that are designed to steal data and even money. Such types of issues highlight the need for cyber security as an essential approach in protecting and preventing data from being used in appropriately. In simple language, Cyber Security or Information technology security means protecting data, networks, programs and other information from unauthorized or unintended access, destruction or change. It encompasses all the mechanisms and processes that protect digital equipment, information and records from illegal or unintended access, manipulation or destruction. In today's dynamic environment, cyber security has become vital for individuals and families, as well as organizations (such as military, government, business houses, educational and financial institutions, corporations and others) that collect and store a wide range of confidential data on computers and transmit that to other computers across different networks. For families, protection of children and family members from cybercrime has become substantially important. For an individual, protecting information that could impact social life as well as personal finance is essential. The internet has provided a wide array of learning opportunities, but there are risks too. Photos, videos and other personal information shared by an individual on social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter can be inappropriately used by others may lead to serious and even life-threatening incidents. Social networking sites have become the most popular medium for sharing information and connecting with other people. But these sites have created varied opportunities for cybercrimes, compromised personal identities and information leakage. Therefore, it is

important for individuals to understand how to protect against cyber threats, and must also comprehend the difference between virtual and real world. One should learn how to protect computers and personal information from being hacked and should engage in appropriate online behaviour in order to eliminate changes of cyber threats and thereby creating a safer online environment.

1) According to the author what does the cyber security means?

- a) Cyber Security means the dispersion of important data and devise a structural engineering that allow easy flow of information
- b) Cyber Security means protecting data, networks, programs and other information from unauthorized or unintended access, destruction or change.
- c) Cyber Security means the blocking of all the websites that are available in free domain
- d) Cyber Security means the Hacking of important data, network outages, computer viruses and other cyber related threats affect our lives that range from minor inconvenience to serious incidents.
- e) None of the above

2) According to the author, what is the main reason behind cyber threats?

- a) the unknown person with malice
- b) due to intelligence, veneration and intentional threats.
- c) due to negligence and vulnerabilities, or unintentional accidents.
- d) by communicating through instant messages and emails to banking, travelling, studying and shopping on internet
- e) None of the above

3) What is the downside of Social media, according to the author?

- a) the long hours usage of social media could affect an individual mentally and become the victim of depression
- b) by sharing sensitive information, one can be vulnerable to sudden outburst of emotions
- c) information shared by an individual for socializing purposes can be distorted and can be used for malignant purpose.
- d) the social media owners can steal the information and sell this information for monetary purposes
- e) None of the above

4) According to this passage, how the virus gets into the computers?

- a) by saving data and clicking on the desktop
- b) by opening a document file in the search History
- c) by texting online and receiving files on social media platforms

d) Opening email attachments that carry the virus, clicking malicious links or websites or unintentionally downloading a dangerous program

e) None of the above

5) **What will be the apt title for this passage?**

a) life hacks

b) Cybercrime and hacking

c) technology and its advantages

d) technological advances

e) The impact of social media

6) **In the following question, find the word that is most similar in the meaning to the word 'malicious'?**

a) benefactor

b) benign

c) benevolent

d) vitriolic

e) vituperate

7) **In the following question, find the word that is most similar in the meaning to the word "illegal"?**

a) symposium

b) chagrin

c) chauvinistic

d) Felonious

e) charlatan

8) **In the following question, find the word that is opposite in the meaning to the word "unauthorized"?**

a) accredit

b) unaccredited

c) inadmissible

d) increment

e) liaison

9) **In the following question, find the word that is opposite in the meaning to the word "appropriate"?**

a) malapropos

b) opportunely

c) sequester

d) usurp

e) commandeer

10) **In the following question, find the word that is most similar in the meaning to the word "unintentional"?**

a) despotic

b) harbinger

c) fortuitously

d) immaculate

e) innocuous

Directions (Q. 11-15): Select the phrase/connector from the given three options which can be used in the beginning (to start the sentence) to form a single sentence from the two sentences given below, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences.

11) **What Doklam standoff aims to gain out of this crisis has been subject to much speculation. It hopes to peel Bhutan away from India's orbit.**

i. It is speculated that.....

ii. Being the subject of speculation

iii. In accordance to.....

a) All except ii

b) All except iii

c) Only I

d) Both i and iii

e) None of these

12) **Both the Central government and many state governments have appointed advisers and consultants on an ad-hoc basis. Some of them, recruited into the Finance Ministry, and more recently into public enterprises, have distinguished themselves.**

i. After the recruitment into.....

ii. Being appointed as

iii. In view of distinguishing.....

a) Only i

b) Only ii

c) Only iii

d) All of the above

e) None of these

13) **The quiet railway station in the heart of Karmatar draws its name from one of the country's greatest social reformers. Today hardly anyone seems to be aware of the connection of this place to Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar.**

i. Having drawn its name from one of the

ii. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar railway

iii. In view of its connection

a) Only i

b) Only ii

c) Both i and ii

d) Both i and iii

e) None of these

14) **The Niti Aayog released the draft National Energy Policy. It invited comments from the public to help strengthen its perspectives on some of the complex issues.**

i. The Niti Aayog invited comments from the.....

ii. The Niti Aayog released the draft

iii. Being invited

a) Only i

b) Both i and iii

c) Both ii and iii

d) Both i and ii

e) All of these

15) **A nation's energy policy can have a huge bearing on society and health. It is thus important to ensure that policies are compatible with public health goals.**

i. Although it has a bearing.....

ii. Because it has a huge bearing.....

iii. Having a bearing on society.....

a) All except i

b) Both i and ii

c) All of these

d) None of these

e) Only ii

Directions (Q. 16-20): Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The letter of that part is the answer. If there is no error; the answer is e). (Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.)

16) (a) It is time we design / (b) intelligent question papers / (c) that respect competence / (d) rather than just memory. / e) No error

17) (a) With India's urban population expected to grow / (b) exponentially over the next couple of decades / (c) urban housing will be a central issue / (d) to the government. / e) No error

- 18) (a) With the crisis of depleting clean water sources / (b) looming over us, / (c) considerable alternative sources/ (d) is imperative. /e) No error
- 19) (a) The Bengaluru Police are proposing to use electronic tags / (b) on habitual offenders to monitor their movements, / (c) after an analysis revealed that they were involved / (d) in more than forty percent crimes reported in the city. / e) No error
- 20) (a) Having a visionary and motivating leader, / (b) she thinks out of the box and / (c) has her own style of doing things, one of which / (d) is treating and respecting her employees as assets, /e) No error

Directions (21-30): In the following passage, there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

The frail nature of rural India's health systems and the.....(21).....patient load on a few.....(22).....hospitals have become even more evident from the crisis at the Baba Raghav Das Medical College in Gorakhpur. The institution has come under the spotlight after reports emerged of the death of several children over a short period, although epidemics and a high mortality level are chronic features here. Medical infrastructure in several surrounding districts and even neighbouring states is so weak that a large number of very sick patients are sent to such apex hospitals as the last resort. The.....(23).....aspects of the system are.....(24).....from the Comptroller and Auditor General's report on reproductive and child health under the National Rural Health Mission for the year ended March 2016. Even if the audit objections on financial administration were to be ignored, the picture that emerges in several States is one of inability to.....(25).....the funds allocated, shortage of staff at primary health centres (PHCs), community health centres (CHCs) and district hospitals, lack of essential medicines, broken down equipment and unfilled doctor vacancies. In the case of Uttar Pradesh, the CAG found that about 50% of the PHCs it.....(26).....did not have a doctor, while 13 States had significant levels of vacancies. Basic facilities in the form of health sub-centres, PHCs and CHCs met only half the need in Bihar, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and West Bengal, putting pressure on a(27).....of referral institutions such as the Gorakhpur hospital. Templates for an upgraded rural health system have long been finalised and the Indian Public Health Standards were issued in 2007 and 2012, covering facilities from health sub-centres upwards. The Centre has set.....(28).....health goals for 2020 and is in the process of deciding the

financial.....(29).....for various targets under the National Health Mission, including reduction of the infant mortality rate to 30 per 1,000 live births, from the recent.....(30).....of 40.

- 21) a) shatterable b) brittle
c) extraordinary d) crisp
e) shivery
- 22) a) referral b) elementary
c) facile d) lucid
e) walkover
- 23) a) dysfunctional b) intact
c) harmed d) instability
e) disequilibrium
- 24) a) unscathed b) disequilibration
c) evident d) assets
e) receipts
- 25) a) disputable b) vague
c) harvest d) absorb
e) drawings
- 26) a) audited b) obscure
c) proceeds d) payoff
e) revenue
- 27) a) astasia b) gravity
c) compensation d) handful
e) commission
- 28) a) honorarium b) ambitious
c) content d) avails
e) withdraw
- 29) a) deduct b) fulfilled
c) withhold d) detract
e) outlay
- 30) a) unassuming b) estimate
c) satisfied d) diminish
e) decrease

ANSWER KEY

Reasoning Ability

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	E	2	C	3	C	4	A	5	B
6	B	7	C	8	A	9	B	10	D
11	C	12	B	13	C	14	E	15	D
16	E	17	A	18	D	19	E	20	D
21	E	22	A	23	D	24	B	25	D
26	B	27	C	28	E	29	D	30	C
31	A	32	C	33	C	34	D	35	E

Quantitative Aptitude

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	B	2	B	3	E	4	C	5	E
6	C	7	B	8	D	9	A	10	D
11	C	12	C	13	B	14	E	15	A
16	C	17	E	18	D	19	B	20	A
21	B	22	D	23	B	24	B	25	D
26	D	27	A	28	A	29	C	30	D
31	E	32	B	33	C	34	D	35	E

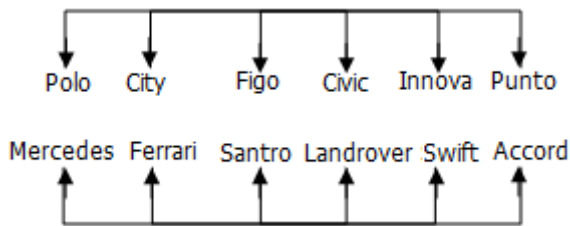
English Language

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	B	2	C	3	C	4	D	5	B
6	D	7	D	8	A	9	A	10	C
11	B	12	E	13	C	14	D	15	A
16	A	17	D	18	C	19	E	20	A
21	C	22	A	23	A	24	C	25	D
26	A	27	D	28	B	29	E	30	B

SOLUTIONS

Reasoning Ability

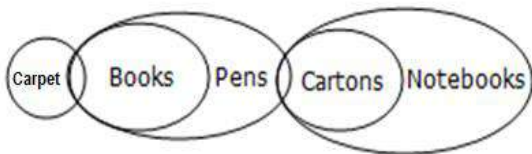
(01- 05):



(06- 10):

Players	Game	Sponsorship
Sachin	Cricket	Manik Chand
Rahul	Billiards	Reebok
Mukesh	Football	Singer
Ramesh / Laxman	Volleyball	Pepsi
Dhanraj	Table Tennis	Ispat
Dinko	Chess	Britannia
Laxman / Ramesh	Badminton	Adidas
Mahesh	Hockey	MRF

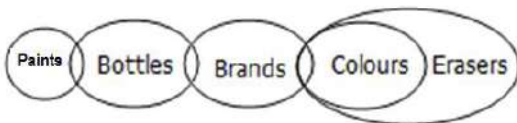
11) c):



1) x
3) ✓

2) x
4) ✓

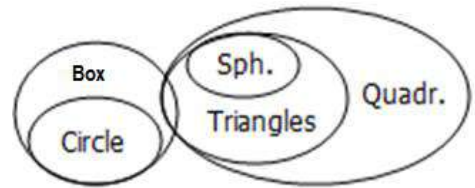
12) b):



1) x
3) ✓

2) x
4) x

13) c):



1) ✓
3) ✓

2) ✓
4) X

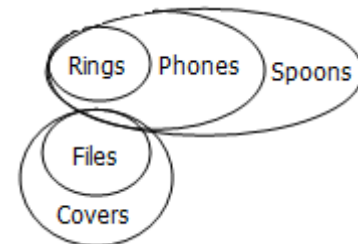
14) e):



1) x
3) x

2) x
4) x

15) d):



1) x
3) ✓

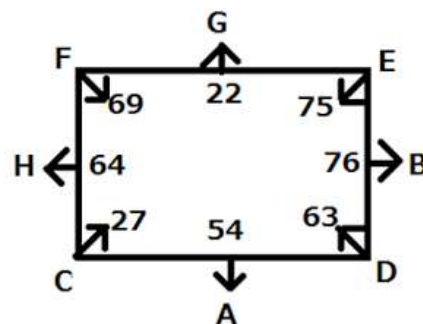
2) ✓
4) x

(16- 20):

Prpare for your exam
Hard work for prepare
Prepare your studies well
Work well best results
Well - jk
Work - ml
Best/results = Either ds or lu
Prepare = nt
For = oz
Your = xn
Exam = wl
Studies = sd
Hard = tk

xn nt oz wl
nt ml oz tk
sd jk nt xn
ds lu jk ml

Solution (21-25):





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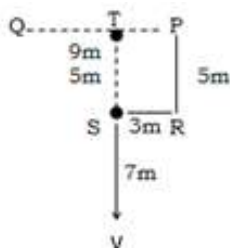
<https://www.instagram.com/gyanm.college/>

www.gyanm.in

(26-30):

Person	City	Colour	Laptop
D	Patna	Pink	HP
E	Ranchi	Brown	Dell
F	Pune	Black	Dell
G	Gurgaon	Grey	Sony
H	Delhi	Purple	HP
I	Noida	White	Sony

(34-35):



Quantitative Aptitude

1) (b)

$$I. 9p^2 - (9+12)p + 12 = 0$$

$$9p^2 - 9p - 12p + 12 = 0$$

$$9p(p-1) - 12(p-1) = 0$$

$$(9p-12)(p-1) = 0$$

$$\therefore p = \frac{4}{3}, 1$$

$$II. 18q^2 - 50q + 32 = 0$$

$$9q^2 - 25q + 16 = 0$$

$$9q^2 - 9q - 16q + 16 = 0$$

$$9q(q-1) - 16(q-1) = 0$$

$$(q-1)(9q-16) = 0$$

$$\therefore q = \frac{16}{9}, 1$$

We cannot determine the exact relation.

since in case : $p = \frac{4}{3}$ and $q = 1$ then $p > q$

but if : $p = 1$ and $q = \frac{16}{9}$., then $q > p$

2) (b)

$$I. 3p^2 - (18-10)p - 60 = 0$$

$$3p^2 - 18p + 10p - 60 = 0$$

$$3p(p-6) + 10(p-6) = 0$$

$$(p-6)(3p+10) = 0$$

$$\therefore p = 6, -\frac{10}{3}$$

$$II. 20q^2 - 288q + 1036 = 0$$

$$5q^2 - 72q + 259 = 0$$

$$5q^2 - 35q - 37q + 259 = 0$$

$$5q(q-7) - 37(q-7) = 0$$

$$(q-7)(5q-37) = 0$$

$$\therefore q = 7, \frac{37}{5}$$

Hence, $p < q$

3) (e)

$$I. p^2 - 13p + 36 = 0$$

$$p^2 - 9p - 4p + 36 = 0$$

$$p(p-9) - 4(p-9) = 0$$

$$(p-4)(p-9) = 0$$

$$\therefore p = 4, 9$$

$$II. 3q^2 - 90q + 483 = 0$$

$$q^2 - 30q + 161 = 0$$

$$q^2 - 23q - 7q + 161 = 0$$

$$q(q-23) - 7(q-23) = 0$$

$$(q-23)(q-7) = 0$$

$$q = 23, 7$$

Relationship can't be established

4) (c)

$$12m^2 - 126m + 294 = 0$$

$$12m^2 - (84+42)m + 294 = 0$$

$$12m^2 - 84m - 42m + 294 = 0$$

$$12m(m-7) - 42(m-7) = 0$$

$$(m-7)(12m-42) = 0$$

$$m_1 = 7$$

$$m_2 = \frac{7}{2}$$

$$7n^2 + 123n - 504 = 0$$

$$7n^2 + (147-24)n - 504 = 0$$

$$7n^2 + 147n - 24n - 504 = 0$$

$$7n(n+21) - 24(n+21) = 0$$

$$(n+21)(7n-24) = 0$$

$$n_1 = -21$$

$$n_2 = \frac{24}{7}$$

$m > n$

5) (e)

$$I. x^2 - 30x + 216$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ -18 & & -12 \end{array}$$

Now after changing the sign we get

$$x = 18, 12$$

$$II. y^2 - 39y + 360$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ -15 & & -24 \end{array}$$

Now after changing the sign we get

$$y = 15, 24$$

$$x > y, y < x$$

The relationship cannot be established

6) (c) $396; [(824-8) \div 2 = 408; (408-8) \div 2 = 200; (200-8) \div 2 = 96; \underline{\quad}]$

7) (b) 87; (Add 2, 6, 12, 20, 30 and 42 to the successive numbers)

8) (d) $30; [(2185 - 4) \div 3 = 727; (727-4) \div 3 = 241; (241-4) \div 3 = 79; \underline{\quad}]$

9) (a) $25; [1^2+1=2; 2^2-1=3; 3^2+1=10; 4^2-1=15; 5^2+1=26; \underline{\quad}]$

10) (d) $60; [13+1=2; 23-1=7; 33+1=28; 43-1=63; \underline{\quad}]$

11) (c) $92 \times 576 \div 2 \times 36 = x^3 + 7$
 $736 - 7 = x^3$
 $x^3 = 729$ So, $x = 9$

12) (c) $\frac{1}{6} \times \frac{92}{100} \times \frac{24}{23} \times 650 - 85$
 $= 104 - 85 = 19$

13) (b) $\left(\frac{15 \times 0.4 \times 30 \times 27 \times 8}{1080} \right)^4 = 6^{x+5}$
 $36^4 = 6^{x+5}$
 $x = 3$

14) (e) $3+2-1-1+\frac{1}{4}+\frac{1}{2}-\frac{5}{6}-\frac{5}{12}=\frac{x^2}{10}$
 $3+\frac{3+6-5-10}{12}=\frac{x^2}{10}$
 $3-\frac{1}{2}=\frac{x^2}{10}$
 $\frac{5}{2}=\frac{x^2}{10}$
 $x^2=25$
 So $x=5$

15) (a) $\sqrt{8}+3=x^3+\sqrt{8}-340$
 $x^3=343$
 So $x=7$

16) (c) $\frac{A(2006)+C(2010)}{E(2009)} \times 100$
 $= \frac{1.44+7.84}{5.53} \times 100$
 $= 165\% \text{ approx.}$

17) (e) $D(2010) \rightarrow 9.45$
 $D(2009) \rightarrow 8.42$
 So, percentage increase =
 $\frac{1.03}{8.42} \times 100 = 12\% \text{ approx}$

18) Observation from Graph

19) (b) $\frac{B(2007)}{D(2010)} = \frac{2.79}{9.45}$

20) (a) $\frac{B(2006)+C(2008)+E(2005)}{3}$
 $= \frac{3.34+5.83+1.69}{3} = 3.62$

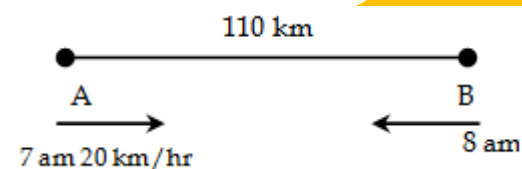
21) (b) A - 12 hrs 51
 B - 15 hrs 41
 60 l
 C - 20 hrs 31
 A + B, A + C
 1st hour 2nd hour
 $5+4=9l$ $4+3=8l$
 In 2 hours tanker filled = 17l
 $51l + 9l = 60l$
 6hrs next hour 7 hrs

22) (d) A B C
 $20,000 \times 24$ $15,000 \times 24$ $20,000 \times 18$
 $4 : 3 : 3$
 B's share = 2500×3
 $10 = 25,000$
 $= 7500/-$ $1 = 2500$

23) (b) Upstream (U_s) = 2 km/hr
 Downstream = (D_s) = 1 km per 10 mins or 6 km/hr
 $S \text{ of man} = \frac{D_s+U_s}{2} + \frac{2+6}{2} = 4 \text{ km/hr}$
 Time taken by him for 5 km in stationary water = $\frac{D}{S}$
 $= \frac{5}{4} \text{ hr} = \frac{5}{4} \times 60 = 75 \text{ minutes}$

24) (b) $\frac{{}^{10}C_1 \times {}^{15}C_2}{{}^{25}C_3} \times \frac{10 \times \frac{15 \times 14}{2 \times 1}}{25 \times 24 \times 23} = \frac{10 \times 15 \times 7}{25 \times 24 \times 23} = \frac{21}{46}$

25) (d)



After one hour one train covered distance = 20 km
 Remaining Distance = $110 - 20 = 90 \text{ km}$
 Relative speed = $20 + 25 = 45 \text{ km/hr}$

They will meet After = $\frac{90}{45} = 2$ hrs

26) (d) Always divided by 9, $\frac{36}{9} = 4$

∴ Difference between two digits = 4

Difference between their ratio = 1

∴ 1 = 4

∴ No is 48

$(4 + 8) - (8 - 4) = 8$

27) (a) 12% of monthly salary – Rs. 3660

∴ $(12\% + 16\% + 3\%)$ of monthly salary

$\frac{31\% \text{ of } \times 3660}{12} = \text{Rs. } 9455$

Annual = $12 \times 9455 = \text{Rs. } 1,13,460$

28) (a) $6! = 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 720$

29-33): Train A (700) Train B (910)

Gen coaches	140	241
Sleeper coaches	161	273
First class	224	91
AC coaches	175	305

29) c 30) d 31) e 32) b 33) c

34) (d) $\frac{24+18+12}{3+2+4} = 6 \text{ km/hr}$

35) (e) $75 \rightarrow 65$ $100 \rightarrow 10$

Incorrect correct actual $1 \rightarrow \frac{10}{100} = 0.1$

= 59.9

English Language

- 1) b):** It is mentioned in the passage that Cyber Security means protecting data, networks, programs and other information from unauthorized or unintended access, destruction or change.
- 2) c):** The reason mentioned in the paragraph for cyber threats is "due to negligence and vulnerabilities, or unintentional accidents."
- 3) c):** information shared by an individual for socializing purposes can be distorted and can be used for malignant purpose.
- 4) d):** Opening email attachments that carry the virus, clicking malicious links or websites or unintentionally downloading a dangerous program
- 5) b):** The appropriate title for the given passage would be 'Cybercrime and hacking'.
- 6) d):** malicious- characterized by malice; intending or intended to do harm. vitriolic-filled with bitter criticism or malice. Hence, these two words are synonyms to each other.
- 7) d):** Felonious-relating to or involved in crime. hence illegal and Felonious are synonyms to each other.

8) a): accredit-(of an official body) give authority or sanction to (someone or something) when recognized standards have been met. hence, accredit and unauthorized are antonyms to each other.

9) a): malapropos-in an inopportune or inappropriate way. hence, malapropos and appropriate are antonyms.

10) c): fortuitously- Happening by accident or chance. Hence, fortuitously and unintentional are synonyms to each other.

11) b): It is speculated that Doklam standoff aim is to peel Bhutan away from India's Orbit. Being the subject of speculation, Doklam standoff aims to peel Bhutan away from India's orbit.

12) e):

13) c): Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar railway station, being quiet railway station in the heart of Karmatar, hardly have connection with anyone.

Having drawn its name from one of the country's greatest social reformers, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar railway station hardly have connection with anyone.

14) d): The Niti Aayog released the draft National Energy Policy and it invited comments from the public to help strengthen its perspectives on some of the complex issues.

The Niti Aayog invited comments from the public to help strengthen its perspectives on some of the complex issues after it released the draft National Energy Policy.

15) a): Because it has a huge bearing on society and health, a nation's energy policy ensures to be compatible with public health goals.

Having a bearing on society and health, a nation's energy policy ensures to be compatible with public health goals.

16) a): Replace "design" with "designed"

17) d): Replace "to" with "for"

18) c): Replace "considerable" with "considering"

19) e): No error

20) a): Replace "Having" with "Being"

21) c): very unusual or remarkable.

22) a): an act of referring someone or something for consultation, review, or further action.

23) a): dysfunctional – not operating normally or properly.

24) c): evident – clearly seen or understood; obvious.

25) d): absorb – take in or soak up (energy or a liquid or other substance) by chemical or physical action.

26) a): audited – conduct an official financial inspection of (a company or its accounts).

27) d): handful – a quantity that fills the hand.

28) b): ambitious – having or showing a strong desire and determination to succeed.

29) e): outlay – an amount of money spent on something.

30) b): estimate – roughly calculate or judge the value, number, quantity, or extent of.

Latest G.K. Bytes

OCTOBER 2021

1.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended World Leader's Summit (Nov 1-2) of the 26 th Conference of Parties (COP-26) in which city? Glasgow, UK
2.	Which country co-hosted the World Leader's Summit (Nov 1-2) of the 26th Conference of Parties (COP-26)? Italy
3.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the G-20 summit of heads of nations on Oct 30-31 in which city? Rome
4.	What were the three pillars of action in the G-20 summit? People, Planet and Prosperity
5.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of the World Cities Day on October 31? UN habitat
6.	Which country co-hosted the celebration of World Cities Day this year? Egypt
7.	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas on October 31 marks the birth anniversary of which great leader? Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
8.	India celebrates World Savings Day on which date? October 30
9.	The Asian Development Bank sanctioned a \$ 100 million loan to promote an agribusiness network to boost farm incomes in which state? Maharashtra
10.	The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) tied up with which global tech giant to launch Appscale Academy, a new growth and development programme for startups? Google
11.	Which business tycoon emerged as the richest person in the world, adding \$36 billion to his fortune on October 25, reaching a networth of \$287 billion? Elon Musk
12.	Elon Musk is the CEO and co-founder of which company? Tesla Inc.
13.	The 38th and 39th summit of ASEAN nations was hosted by which country on Oct 26 to 28? Brunei
14.	How many countries are the member of the ASEAN group? Ten
15.	Asian Development Bank approved a 4.5 million dollar loan to improve urban mobility in which city in Mizoram? Aizawl
16.	Which is the first Indian major port to get the Radio over Internet Protocol communication facility? Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata
17.	Name the veteran banker appointed as the chairperson of the newly set up Rs 20,000 crore National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development: K V Kamat
18.	Who has been appointed as Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister? Dr Bibek Debroy

19.	DRDO tested which inter-continental ballistic missile successfully on Oct 27? Agni-5
20.	What is the effective strike range of the ICBM Agni-5? 5,000 km
21.	What is the theme for this year's World Occupational Therapy Day? Belong. Be You
22.	Who is the author of the recent book titled "Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman"? Chidanand Rajghatta
23.	International Internet Day on October 29 marks the anniversary of which important event? first internet transmission
24.	The most popular Indian cricket tournament, Indian Premier League (IPL) got which two new teams from the 2022 season? Lucknow and Ahmedabad
25.	What is the total number of the teams in IPL, after induction of two new teams? Ten
26.	Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been re-elected as the President of which country? Uzbekistan
27.	Government launched the Green-Day-Ahead Market to further strengthen the _____ trade in India: Electricity
28.	In which African country, the apex military junta executed a coup on October 25? Sudan
29.	Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari launched a knowledge app and platform named _____ on Oct 25: CONSULT
30.	What was the name of the maiden bilateral tri-service exercise held between UK and Indian Forces in the Arabian Sea, from Oct 24 to 27? Konkan Shakti-2021
31.	The RBI released a draft framework on Oct 22 on master directions to implement the Basel III Capital Framework for which organizations? All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs)
32.	The Victor Denmark Open 2021 badminton tournament was held in _____, Denmark, from 19 to 24 October: Odense
33.	The Election Commission of India launched the _____ app to ensure faster, transparent and timely completion of election work: Garuda
34.	Tamil film _____, has been announced as India's official entry to the Oscars 2022: 'Koozhangal'
35.	What is the theme of this year's World Day for Audiovisual Heritage observed on October 27? Your window to the World
36.	Infantry Day on October 27 marks the victory of Indian forces in which battle? 1947 attack by Pakistan in Kashmir
37.	As of August 2021, Afghanistan and _____ are the only two nations which remain with the continued transmission of wild polio virus: Pakistan

38.	October 24 is observed as the United Nations Day. How many countries are member of UNO? 193
39.	Two renowned film directors, Martin Scorsese of USA and Istvan Szabo of Hungary, will be honoured with the _____ Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India: Satyajit Ray
40.	India was placed at which rank in the Rule of Law Index? 79th
41.	Which country topped the Rule of Law Index? Denmark and Norway
42.	Dame Sandra Mason was elected as the first ever president of Barbados, a micro island country in the _____ Sea: Caribbean
43.	Which India place is called the Snow Leopard capital of the world? Ladakh
44.	The Mole Day, popular amongst chemistry enthusiasts, marks the discovery of which number? Avogadro's number
45.	The Indian government handed over the 34.9 km long cross-border rail link connecting Jayanagar in Bihar to _____ in Nepal: Kurtha
46.	The DRDO successfully flight tested the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT), named ____: 'Abhyas'
47.	International Stuttering Awareness Day is observed on which date? October 22
48.	Which organization launched the tokenization system for all RuPay cards? NPCI
49.	Who has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Norway by King Harald V? Jonas Gahr Store
50.	Which organization awards Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought? European Union
51.	Who has been honoured with this year's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought? Alexei Navalny
52.	Alexei Navalny is an anti-corruption activist from which country? Russia
53.	Which country hosted the 4 th General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) virtually from October 18 to 21? India
54.	Who presided over the 4 th General Assembly of the ISA? R K Singh, Union Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy
55.	Which volcano erupted in Japan on Oct 20, blasting ash several kms into the sky? Mount Aso
56.	India celebrates Police Commemoration Day on Oct 21. It is associated with which battle? 1959 battle with Chinese army
57.	Police Commemoration Day is associated with the sacrifices of which para military personnel? CRPF
58.	India participated in Exercise Ajeya Warrior with which other country? UK
59.	Exercise Ajeya Warrior was held at which place? Chaubatia, Uttarakhand
60.	India was ranked pretty low in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 at _____ rank: 71st
61.	Which country topped the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021? Ireland
62.	World Osteoporosis Day is observed on Oct 20. What is the literal meaning of osteoporosis? Porous bones
63.	The International Chefs Day is observed on which date? October 20

64.	National Solidarity Day on Oct 20 marks the beginning of which important battle? 1962 Indo China war
65.	Pradeep Kumar Panja has been appointed as part-time Chairman of which bank? Karnataka Bank
66.	Which apex organization launched a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based Geospatial Energy Map of India? NITI Aayog
67.	Which Indian agriculture waste recycling project won the Earthshot Prize? Takachar
68.	What is the cash award in the Earthshot Prize? Pounds one million
69.	Divya Deshmukh, 15-year-old chess prodigy from _____, Maharashtra became India's 21st Woman GrandMaster on October 13: Nagpur
70.	Cameron Norrie, winner of the Indian Wells tennis tournament final, hails from which country? Britain
71.	Indian Wells tennis tournament is held in which state of USA? California
72.	Amitabh Chaudhry has been re-appointed as MD & CEO of _____ Bank for a period of three years: Axis Bank
73.	Which country launched its first solar observation satellite 'Xihe' on Oct 14 into a 571-km altitude orbit? China
74.	Thomas Cup (men) is associated with which sports? Badminton
75.	What is the name of the women's equivalent of Thomas Cup badminton tournament? Uber Cup
76.	Finals of the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship was held at which place? Male, Maldives
77.	Which team won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship? India
78.	Who led the Indian team in SAFF tournament? Sunil Chhetri
79.	NASA launched which spacecraft on Oct 16, the first space mission to study the Trojan Asteroids? Lucy
80.	Trojan asteroids are associated with which planet? Jupiter
81.	Who is the author of the recently published popular novel titled "Billy Summers"? Stephen King
82.	"Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir" is the collection of experiences of which famous Bollywood personality? Gulzar, famous lyricist
83.	What is the title of the recent anthology of works of noted author Ruskin Bond? Writing for My Life
84.	A new version of the Akash Missile was successfully flight tested on Sep 27 by DRDO. What is its name? Akash Prime
85.	Which apex national institution has introduced the "Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records" (FASTER) system? Supreme Court of India
86.	As per latest RBI guidelines, banks can now sell their fraudulent NPAs to _____ companies: Asset Reconstruction Companies
87.	As per the latest Asiamoney's "Asia's Outstanding Companies Poll, 2021 Poll", which bank was voted as the best among the listed companies in India? HDFC Bank
88.	Lewis Hamilton (Team Mercedes-Great Britain), won the F1 Russian Grand Prix 2021 held at _____: Sochi

89.	World Environmental Health Day is observed on which date? Sep 26
90.	Who became the first Indian to cross the 10,000 runs mark in the T20 format? Virat Kohli
91.	Who has been appointed as the 34th Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC)? Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh
92.	What is the name of the country's first Pan-India toll-free helpline – 14567 launched for the senior citizens? Elder Line
93.	The "Amrit Grand Challenge Program" titled "जनCARE" was launched on Sep 28 to identify 75 Start-Up Innovations in which field? Healthcare
94.	Sojat Mehndi which got the GI tag recently, is from which state? Rajasthan
95.	What is the name of the local home-made rice wine from Assam that secured a GI tag recently? Judima
96.	The Group of Ministers tasked to propose rationalisation of tax rates and considering the merger of different tax slabs, is headed by whom? Basavaraj S. Bommai, CM of Karnataka
97.	Who will head the GoM constituted for GST System Reforms? Ajit Pawar, Deputy Chief Minister, Maharashtra
98.	La Palma Island, the most north-westerly island of the Canary Islands, witnessed huge volcanic eruptions since Sep 19. It is in which country? Spain
99.	The Central Government has renamed the National Mid-Day Meal Scheme as what? PM-POSHAN Shakti Nirman Scheme
100.	National Mid-Day Meal Scheme was launched in which year? 1995
101.	The Ministry of Tourism launched NIDHI 2.0 scheme on the occasion of World Tourism Day on Sep 27. What is its full form? National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry
102.	Ordinance Factory Board has been split into seven groups. It was established in 1775 in which place? Kolkata
103.	A month-long Clean India Programme was launched from which place on Oct 1 as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav? Pryagraj
104.	Government launched DigiSaksham - a digital skills programme in tie-up with which IT company? Microsoft India
105.	What is the main aim of the recently launched DigiSaksham programme? Enhancing employability of youth by imparting them digital skills
106.	The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a \$ 356.67 million loan for funding the expansion of which metro rail system of India? Chennai Metro
107.	Raoudha Boudent Ramadhane has become the first woman prime minister of which African country? Tunisia
108.	The 4th edition of the biennial maritime series AUSINDEX was held on Sep 30 in which area? North Australian Exercise Area
109.	International Coffee Day is celebrated on which day? October 1st
110.	India celebrates the National Voluntary Blood Donation Day on which date? Oct 01

111.	The World Vegetarian Day is observed on ____ day of October: First
112.	Which country introduced a new currency on October 1 with six fewer zeros? Venezuela
113.	The world's largest Khadi national flag was installed at which place in Ladakh? Leh
114.	Which iconic Indian cartoon superhero has been declared as the mascot of the Namami Gange Programme? Chacha Chaudhary
115.	The famed white onion of Alibag earned itself a 'Geographical Indication' recently. It is from which state? Maharashtra
116.	What is the focus area of the recently launched Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0? Removal of garbage mounds from the cities
117.	Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban was launched in which year? 2014
118.	Which international day is observed on Oct 2 to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence or Ahimsa? International Day of Non-violence
119.	AMRUT programme was launched in June 2015 to ensure adequate robust sewage networks and improve water supply in urban areas. What is its full form? Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation
120.	The Prime Minister launched the Jal Jeevan Mission App on October 2. What is the main aim of the mission? Providing clean tap water to every household in rural areas
121.	Which para military force launched an All-India Car Rally 'Sudarshan Bharat Parikrama' on October 02, from the historic Red Fort in Delhi? National Security Guard (NSG)
122.	The National Security Guard functions under which union ministry? Ministry of Home affairs
123.	Bangladesh Naval Ship BNS Somudra Avijan visited Eastern Naval Command base at _____ on Oct 03 on a five-day visit: Visakhapatnam
124.	Which Football Club lifted the prestigious Durand Cup? FC Goa
125.	Finals of the Durand Cup were played in which place? Kolkata
126.	B C Patnaik took charge as the managing director of which apex national financial organization? LIC of India
127.	There are how many managing directors in the LIC of India? Four
128.	The World Animal Day on Oct 4 commemorates the feast day of the patron saint of animals. What is his name? St Francis of Assisi
129.	Which government department launched a web portal 'Waste to Wealth' to find solutions to India's waste handling problems? Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
130.	The Indian men's table tennis team claimed the bronze medal in the ITTF-ATTU Asian Table Tennis Championships held in _____ : Doha, Qatar
131.	World Habitat Day is observed on the ____ Monday of every October: First

132.	Scientists who discovered how our bodies feel the warmth of the sun or the hug of a loved one, have won the Nobel Prize in which field? Medicine
133.	David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian, from the United States, jointly won the Nobel Prize in which field? Medicine
134.	The Nobel Prize amount for 2021 is set at Swedish kronor (SEK) ____ million: 10
135.	Who has been elected as the 100th prime minister of Japan? Fumio Kishida
136.	Who became India's youngest shooter to win an international medal in shooting? Naamya Kapoor -14 years
137.	World Teachers' Day is observed on which day of October? 5th
138.	Which is the National Aquatic Animal of India? Ganga Dolphin
139.	Ganga River Dolphin Day is observed on which date? Oct 05
140.	Which state has largest population of Gangetic Dolphins? Bihar
141.	The third annual edition of the Digital Quality of Life Index (DQL) ranked India ____ among 110 countries: 59th
142.	Which country topped the Digital Quality of Life Index? Denmark
143.	Government has decided to grant a award of Rs. ____ to the Good Samaritan who saves the life of a road accident victim: 5,000
144.	The fifth edition of India - Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise ____ was held from Oct 6 to 8: JIMEX
145.	Bilateral exercise JIMEX 2021 was held in which area? Arabian Sea
146.	The Nobel Prize for Physics has been awarded jointly to how many scientists? Three
147.	Out of three winners of Nobel for Physics--Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann and Giorgio Parisi, who will get the one half of the prize money? Giorgio Parisi
148.	Name the veteran actor best known for playing Raavan in the popular 1986 TV serial "Ramayan", who left for heavenly abode on Oct 05: Arvind Trivedi
149.	Which state has initiated for the first time, organized planting of Cinnamon? Himachal Pradesh
150.	Which organization decided to observe 1st October 2021 as NPS Diwas? Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)
151.	Where are the headquarters of the PFRDA? New Delhi
152.	The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of 7 PM MITRA parks for the focused development of which sector? Textiles
153.	What is the full form of the acronym MITRA? Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel
154.	Indian Council of Medical Research released the MUDRA Toolbox in how many Indian languages? Five
155.	What is the expansion of the term MUDRA? Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment
156.	Dementia is associated with which ailment? Loss of memory
157.	Indian Council of Medical Research is based in which city? New Delhi

158.	India hosted the two day Online Meeting of 30 CAF Range countries on Oct 6-7. It is associated with which issue? Conservation of Migratory birds
159.	What is the full form of CAF? Central Asian Flyway
160.	What is the name of the first anti Malaria vaccine approved by WHO? Mosquirix
161.	Who is the Director General of WHO? Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
162.	Who was declared as the "Player of the year-Men" by the International Hockey Federation? Harmanpreet Singh
163.	Amongst the international women hockey players, who was voted as the "Player of the year-Women"? Gurjit Kaur
164.	Headquarters of the International Hockey Federation are located in ____, Switzerland? Lausanne
165.	Name the Indian woman educationist who won the Yidan Prize for Education Development-2021: Dr. Rukmini Banerji
166.	Who won the Yidan Prize for Education Research-2021? Prof. Eric A. Hanushek
167.	Yidan Prize carries a gold medal and a cash award of HK \$ ____ million: Thirty
168.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of the World Cotton Day on Oct 07? World Trade Organisation
169.	What is the theme of this year's World Cotton Day? Cotton for Good
170.	The combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary has been approved as 4th Tiger Reserve in which state? Chhattisgarh
171.	The Defence Accounts Department has developed an IT-enabled payment and accounting system named ____: PRABAL
172.	India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People on Oct 7. What is its purpose? Conservation of nature
173.	Who are the proposed beneficiaries of the PM Cares For Children Scheme: Children who lost their parents due to Corona
174.	Who won this year's Nobel Prize for literature? Abdulrazak Gurnah
175.	Abdulrazak Gurnah hails from which country? Tanzania
176.	Abdulrazak Gurnah writes in which language? English
177.	Who is the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships? Anshu Malik
178.	Which of the policy rates was increased by the RBI in its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting held on Oct 8? No rate was changed
179.	RBI proposed to increase the per transaction limit through Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) to Rs ____ lakh, from Rs 2 lakh at present: Five
180.	IMPS transactions are conducted by which apex organization? NPCI - National Payments Corporation of India
181.	As per World Bank's latest South Asia economic focus report released on Oct 6, India's real GDP in the 2021-22 is estimated to grow by at which rate? 8.3%
182.	October 8 is observed as the Air Force Day to commemorate its raising on this day in the year ____: 1932

183.	What is the rank of the current chief of the Indian Air Force? Air Chief Marshal
184.	Who has been appointed the new Air Chief Marshal? Vivek Ram Chaudhari
185.	The World Egg Day is celebrated on the second ____ of October: Friday
186.	Eggs are a great source of _____, a nutrient which can help in memory and brain development: Choline
187.	What is the name of the mobile app that provides all relevant details of the ports and can monitor their operations virtually? MyPortApp
188.	What do we call the receipt issued by a shipping company for having received the goods for shipping? Bill of Lading
189.	Nobel Peace Prize was conferred jointly upon Maria Ressa of Philippines and Dmitry Muratov of Russia. They are associated with which field? Journalism
190.	The Henley Passport Index for 4th quarter of 2021 ranked India at which spot? 90th
191.	Which country topped the recent Henley Passport Index? Japan and Singapore shared the top position
192.	Which international day is celebrated on Oct 9 to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union on this day in 1874? World Post Day
193.	What is the theme chosen for this year's World Post Day? Innovate to recover
194.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of the World Mental Health Day on Oct 10? WHO – World Health Organisation, Geneva
195.	Prime Minister of _____ Mette Frederiksen arrived in New Delhi on Oct 9 on a three-day visit to India: Denmark
196.	Which business group won the bid for acquiring national carrier Air India? Tata Sons
197.	Who has been appointed as the first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate? E R Sheikh
198.	What is the theme for this year's International Day of the Girl Child? Digital generation. Our generation
199.	The Prime Minister formally launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA) on Oct 11. What is its focus area? Satellite communication
200.	Valtteri Bottas won the Turkish Grand Prix for team Mercedes. He hails from which country? Finland
201.	David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens jointly won the Nobel Prize for Economics. Who out of the three will get one half of the prize money? David Card
202.	What is the theme of the Fourth Cohort launched under Regulatory Sandbox by RBI? Prevention and Mitigation of Financial Frauds
203.	Alexander Schallenberg has been appointed as the new _____ of Austria: Chancellor
204.	What is the name of the mascot of the 7th U-17 Women's FIFA World Cup? Ibha
205.	Mascot Ibha has been designed after which animal? A lioness
206.	Which country will host the 7th U-17 Women's FIFA World Cup in 2022? India
207.	India celebrates the National Philately Day on which day of October? 13th

208.	Which global organisation releases the World Economic Outlook report? IMF – International Monetary Fund
209.	Which Central Public Sector Enterprise was granted 'Maharatna' status on Oct 12? Power Finance Corporation
210.	How many Central Public Sector Enterprises enjoy the 'Maharatna' status in India? Eleven
211.	Which union ministry decides the granting of 'Maharatna' status to a Central Public Sector Enterprise? Ministry of Finance
212.	Which country launched on Oct 11 the world's first automated, driverless train? Germany
213.	October 14 is observed as World Standards Day. Which is the National Standards Body in India? Bureau of Indian Standards
214.	Celebration of International E-Waste Day on Oct 14 is supported by which international organization? WEEE: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
215.	What is the theme of this year's World Sight Day? Love Your Eyes
216.	What is the name of the Rs 100 lakh crore plan launched by the prime minister to promote the multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country? PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan
217.	Government has extended the jurisdiction of the Border Security Force (BSF) up to ____ km from the international border: 50
218.	The BSF is responsible for guarding which part of India's international border? Portion shared with Pakistan and Bangladesh
219.	The 58th edition of EY's Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index' (RECAI) has placed India at which spot? Third
220.	Which country topped the 58th edition of EY's RECAI? USA
221.	Celebration of Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas on Oct 15 is supported by which union ministry? Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry
222.	World Students' Day on Oct 15 commemorates the birthday of which great statesman of India? Dr APJ Abdul Kalam
223.	Global Handwashing Day is observed on which day of October? 15th
224.	India was re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council for a record 6th term. UNHRC is based in which country? Switzerland
225.	India slipped by seven spots to which rank in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) of 116 countries? 101st
226.	With which country the Indian Navy participated in the second phase of Multilateral Maritime Exercise 'Malabar'? Japan
227.	Malabar exercise was held in which area? Bay of Bengal
228.	What was the name of the 8th Edition of India – Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise held from Oct 4 to 15? Mitra Shakti
229.	Military Exercise Mitra Shakti was held at which place? Ampara, Sri Lanka
230.	What was the name of the 17th Edition of Indo-US Joint Military Exercise held from Oct 15 to 29? Exercise - Yudh Abhyas 2021

231.	Which US state hosted the Exercise-Yudh Abhyas 2021? Alaska
232.	_____ is set to become the first city in India to use ropeway services for public transportation: Varanasi
233.	Which team won the finals of the IPL 2021 in Dubai on Oct 15? Chennai Super Kings
234.	The IPL champion team Chennai Super Kings was led by which player? M S Dhoni
235.	World Food Day on Oct 16 commemorates the founding of Food and Agriculture Organization on this day in _____, Canada in 1945: Quebec City
236.	Headquarters of the FAO are located in which city? Rome
237.	Which number UN Sustainable Development Goal is associated with eradication of poverty? First
238.	Who has been selected as the Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) for 2021-22? A K Goel
239.	A K Goel is the MD and CEO of which public sector bank? UCO Bank
SEPTEMBER 2021	
240.	World Maritime Day is observed on the last _____ of September: Thursday (Sep 30)
241.	What was the theme of this year's World Heart Day observed on Sep 29? Use Heart to Connect
242.	Happy Daughters' Day is celebrated globally on the _____ Sunday of September every year: Fourth (Sep 26)
243.	The world's highest electric vehicle charging station was inaugurated at an altitude of 12,500 ft in Kaza village in which state? Himachal Pradesh
244.	The juicy, soft and sweet cucumbers from which state were granted coveted GI Tag? Nagaland
245.	Who dethroned world heavyweight boxing champion Anthony Joshua (Britain)? Oleksandr Usyk, Ukraine
246.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of World Tourism Day on Sep 27? World Tourism Organisation
247.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the _____ session of the UN General Assembly on Sep 25th in New York: 76th
248.	Which cyclonic storm formed in the Bay of Bengal made a landfall on Sep 26 between North Andhra Pradesh and South Odisha? Gulab
249.	What is the name of the new asset management company set up by the nine public sector banks (PSBs) for NPA management? India Debt Resolution Company
250.	The Ministry of Defence placed an order worth Rs 7,523 crore for supply of 118 _____ tanks for the Indian Army: Arjun Mk-1A
251.	Which Ordnance factory will make these Arjun Mk-1A tanks? Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Avadi, Chennai
252.	Which UN agency has revised and tightened the air quality guidelines for the first time since 2005? WHO
253.	According to the new limits, average annual PM2.5 concentrations should be no higher than _____ micrograms per cubic meter: Five
254.	The world's highest radio station is at Humbatingla, at an altitude of 13,300 feet, in which area? Kargil, Ladakh

255.	Antyodaya Diwas observed on Sep 25 marks the birth anniversary of which great leader? Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya
256.	Which global body supports the celebration of World Pharmacist Day on Sep 25? International Pharmaceutical Federation, The Hague (Netherlands)
257.	What is the name of the mascot for the Beijing's Winter Olympics - 2022? Bing Dwen Dwen
258.	Bing Dwen Dwen has been modelled after which animal? Panda
259.	What is the official motto for the Beijing's Winter Olympics - 2022 games? Together for a Shared Future
260.	Which union ministry launched the National Single Window System (NSWS) on September 22 for investors and businesses? Ministry of Commerce and Industry
261.	Which Indian Grand Master won the Norway Chess Open 2021 Masters section, held in Stavanger, Norway? D Gukesh
262.	The National Disaster Management Authority has recommended ex gratia Rs _____ to be given to kin of those who died due to Covid-19: 50,000/-
263.	International Day of Sign Languages is observed on which day of September? 23rd
264.	What was the name of the 3rd edition of Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and Indonesia that took place from Sep 20 to 22? Samudra Shakti
265.	Bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti was held in which area? Near Sunda Strait, Indonesia
266.	Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in its 21st summit decided to admit which country as a full member? Iran
267.	R Raja Rithvik, a 17-year-old prodigy became India's 70 th Grand Master on Sep 20. He hails from which state? Telangana
268.	What is the theme for this year's World Rhino Day? Keep The Five Alive
269.	India is home to which type of Rhino species? Greater one-horned Rhinos
270.	Which India state has largest number of Greater one-horned Rhinos? Assam
271.	World Rose Day observed on Sep 22 is associated with which serious ailment? Cancer
272.	Alzheimer disease is associated with which part of human body? Brain cells
273.	Name the President of Akhil Bhartiya Akhada Parishad (largest grouping of Indian Sadhus) who was found dead in his math on Sep 20: Mahant Narendra Giri
274.	FSSAI released which Index on Sep 20 for evaluating food safety across all States/UTs in 2020-21? State Food Safety Index - SFSI
275.	SFSI ranked which state at number one in the large state category? Gujarat
276.	India improved its ranking by two spots to _____ in the Global Innovation Index 2021: 46th
277.	The Global Innovation Index is released by which global organisation? World Intellectual Property Organization
278.	Headquarters of World Intellectual Property Organization are in which place? Geneva, Switzerland

279.	Which two beaches from India got the coveted Blue Flag certification? Kovalam in Chennai, Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry
280.	What is the total number of Blue Flag certified beaches in India? Ten
281.	The Ministry of Education has formed a 12 member National Steering Committee headed by _____ for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks: Dr K Kasturirangan
282.	Who has been made the new Chief of the Indian Air Force? Air Marshal V R Chaudhari
283.	The Reserve Bank of India has extended the scope of permitted devices for undertaking tokenised _____ transactions to include consumer devices such as laptops, desktops, wearables (wrist watches, bands, etc.): Card, both debit and credit
284.	Which state has adopted sport of wrestling till the 2032 Olympics? Uttar Pradesh
285.	In a report by Forbes India, which Indian city is the world's most surveilled city, having highest number of CCTV cameras per sq km? New Delhi
286.	Finance Minister unveiled on Aug 25 the fourth edition of EASE (Enhanced Access & Service Excellence), for _____: Public sector bank reforms
287.	_____ won the ITTF Czech International table tennis tournament at Olomouc in Czech Republic on Aug 25: G. Sathiyan
288.	Government has introduced Bharat Series (BH) for vehicles for what purpose? To facilitate inter state transfer of vehicles without change of registration number
289.	Which Bank was declared as the 'Overall Winner' of the EASE 3.0 Awards for best performance? State Bank of India
290.	The NITI Aayog tied up with which global IT giant to launch the next phase of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform "WEP Nx"? CISCO, USA
291.	Government launched the project 'INDIAsize' to develop Indian size charts for which product? Readymade Garments
292.	The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) joined hands with the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to launch a unique national Hackathon named _____ on August 26: 'MANTHAN 2021'
293.	SP Sethuraman, Indian Grandmaster from _____ won the Barcelona Open Chess Tournament title on Aug 26 in Spain: Chennai
294.	Who won the first gold for India in the Tokyo Paralympics? Avani Lekhara
295.	Avani Lekhara won Gold in which event? Women's 10 meter Air Rifle Shooting
296.	P Iniyan, Indian Grandmaster won the Noisiel International Open Chess Tournament in which country? France
297.	Indian pugilists won eight Gold medals at the Asian Junior Boxing Championships held in _____ from August 20 to 30: Dubai
298.	The Indian Navy and the German Navy carried out a joint exercise on August 26 in which area? Gulf of Aden
299.	What was the name of OPV inducted in Indian Coast Guard on August 28 at Chennai? Vigraha

300.	RBI increased the limit of fund transfer under the Indo-Nepal Remittance Facility Scheme to Rs _____ per transaction, from Rs 50,000 at present: 2 lakh
301.	The world's highest movie theatre was inaugurated in the _____ area of Leh, at an altitude of 11,562 feet: Paldan
302.	Government launched a first-of-its-kind indigenously developed Quantum Computing Simulation toolkit named _____ on August 26: QSim
303.	The Ministry of Environment notified the area around Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary as an eco-sensitive zone. It is in which state? Assam
304.	Sumit Antil (from Haryana) set a new world record to win the gold medal in which event in Tokyo Paralympic? Javelin Throw
305.	PFRDA has increased the entry age for the National Pension System (NPS) from 65 years to _____ years: 70
306.	September 2 is observed as the World Coconut Day. Which country is the largest producer of coconuts? Indonesia
307.	Which is the first state to provide 100% first dose of Covid-19 vaccination to all eligible persons of 18 years and above? Himachal Pradesh
308.	The New Development Bank has admitted which three countries as members other than 5 BRICS nations? UAE, Uruguay and Bangladesh
309.	For the first time in the history of Indian judiciary, _____ new judges, including three women judges, took oath in one go as Supreme Court judges on August 31: Nine
310.	What is the sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court, excluding CJI? 33
311.	Who is the appointing authority for the Supreme Court Judge? President of India
312.	A Collegium headed by the CJI and comprising _____ other senior SC judges recommends the names of senior judges or advocates to the President of India for appointment of Supreme Court judges: Four
313.	The union AYUSH minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched which yoga based mobile app on September 01? 'Y Break' (Yoga Break)
314.	What is the name of the plant based bio-filter developed by IIT Ropar and Kanpur in collaboration with Delhi University? Ubreathe Life
315.	A special commemorative coin of Rs 125 was released on September 01 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of which great saint? Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
316.	Swami Prabhupada founded which popular spiritual organization? ISKCON - International Society for Krishna Consciousness
317.	Who has been appointed the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), New Delhi? J B Mohapatra
318.	Alejandro Prieto, winner of the Bird Photographer of the Year, 2021, hails from which country? Mexico
319.	Which is the first Indian state to launch 'Save Water to Get Free Water' scheme? Goa
320.	The Ramon Magsaysay Awards, also known as Asia's Nobel Prize, are given in which country? Philippines

321.	RBI has set up a committee headed by P Vasudevan to review applications and give recommendations on NUE licences. What is NUE? New Umbrella Entity
322.	What will be the main function of proposed NUEs? To set up digital payment infrastructure to boost retail payment system in the country
323.	Who became the highest goalscorer in international football scoring his 111th international goal on Sep 01? Cristiano Ronaldo
324.	Cristiano Ronaldo plays for which football club? Manchester United
325.	Hurricane Ida, the powerful cyclonic storm destroyed hundreds of buildings and left more than a million homes without power in which country on Sep 1-2? USA, Eastern
326.	IMF allocated 12.57 billion Special Drawing Rights (SDR) to India. What is SDR? Special Drawing Rights
327.	Which university topped the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2022 for the sixth year in a row? The University of Oxford, UK
328.	Who became the first Indian to win a Paralympic medal in archery? Harvinder Singh
329.	Teachers' Day on Sep 5 marks the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. He was the first _____ of India: Vice President
330.	Which international day is observed on Sep 5 to commemorate the death anniversary of Saint Mother Teresa? International Day of Charity
331.	The National Aerospace Laboratories, Bengaluru successfully designed and built its two-seater _____ aircraft, Hansa NG: Trainer
332.	Ayush Ministry launched the campaign "AYUSH Aapke Dwar" on Sep 04 for what purpose? For distributing medicinal plants from more than 45 locations across the country
333.	The Indian Army signed a contract worth Rs 100 crore with a Bengaluru-based company on September 1 to procure 100 'SkyStrikers'. What is it? Armed drone
334.	Which is the last country to stop usage of leaded petrol? Algeria
335.	Who became the first IAS officer to win a silver medal in Paralympics? Suhas L Yathiraj
336.	Which is the only sports event in which India won two gold medals in Tokyo Paralympics? Badminton
337.	In total, India won how many medals in Tokyo Paralympics? 19
338.	What was the name of the 28th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise held from Sep 2 to 4 in South China Sea? SIMBEX-2021
339.	President Ram Nath Kovind awarded the President's Colour to outfit of Indian Navy: Indian Naval Aviation
340.	_____ became the first Asian country to launch on Sep 03 a "Plastics Pact": India
341.	The Plastics Pact targets the businesses to move towards a circular economy for plastics by which year? 2030
342.	Center signed a tripartite peace accord on Sep 04 with the State government of Assam and five insurgent groups from _____ region: Karbi Anglong
343.	What was the name of the bilateral exercise held between the Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy, near Australia from Sep 6 to 10? AUSINDEX

344.	For which state Asian Development Bank approved a \$150 million loan for a sustainable housing project for the urban poor? Tamil Nadu
345.	What is the theme for this year's International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies observed on Sep 7? Healthy Air, Healthy Planet
346.	India's first Dugong conservation reserve is proposed to be built in which area? Palk Bay, near Tamil Nadu
347.	What type of animal is Dugong? A marine mammal, popularly known as 'sea cow'
348.	What is the name of the portal launched to enable volunteers to contribute to govt schools of their choice? Vidyanjali
349.	International Literacy Day is observed on which date? Sep 08
350.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of International Literacy Day? UNESCO
351.	Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director of Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank), Mumbai? Ms. Harsha Bhupendra Bangari
352.	TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has joined hands with the Ministry of External Affairs, to set up an Atmanirbhar Bharat corner in which 75 locations? Indian missions/ embassies abroad
353.	Himalaya Day observed on Sep 9, was first celebrated in 2010 by which state? Uttarakhand
354.	Which institute topped the NIRF rankings for the third time in a row, in the overall category? IIT Madras
355.	Among Management institutes, IIM _____ topped the NIRF rankings: Ahmedabad
356.	Which medical institute secured first rank in the recent NIRF rankings? AIIMS, Delhi
357.	Miranda College, topper of Colleges category in NIRF rankings, is located in which place? New Delhi
358.	ADB granted a \$ 300 million loan as additional financing to scale up improvement of rural connectivity in which state? Maharashtra
359.	The Union Cabinet approved the procurement of 56 C-295MW _____ aircraft for the Indian Air Force: Transport
360.	Which global company will supply these C-295 MW aircrafts? Airbus Defence and Space S.A., Spain
361.	Why the Satta-Gandharv stretch of National Highway 925 in Barmer, Rajasthan was in news recently? A Hercules C-130 J cargo plane of Indian Air Force made a mock landing there
362.	Government launched 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' campaign for digital onboarding and training of which segment of people? Street vendors
363.	Which country hosted the 13th BRICS Summit on Sep 09 in virtual mode? India
364.	The world's largest plant designed to suck carbon dioxide out of the air and turn it into solid rock, began operations on Sep 8 in which country? Iceland
365.	The CCEA approved on Sep 08 hike in the MSP of major _____ crops for the crop year 2022-23? Rabi
366.	Which rabi crop enjoys the highest MSP of Rs. 5,500 per quintal? Masur Dal
367.	Which global car company has decided to stop its manufacturing facilities in India? Ford Motor Co
368.	India's tallest air purification tower was inaugurated in _____ on Sep 7: Chandigarh

369.	President Ram Nath Kovind appointed former Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh as the new Governor of which state? Uttarakhand
370.	Banwarilal Purohit, new Governor of Punjab, has been shifted from which state? Tamil Nadu
371.	Who has been appointed as the new Governor of Tamil Nadu? R N Ravi
372.	The Government approved purchase of 6 AEW&C aircrafts for the India Air Force. What is full form of AEW&C? Airborne Early Warning and Control
373.	AEW&C aircrafts are used for what purpose? Surveillance
374.	Which ministry has constituted a committee for framing new laws for drugs, cosmetics and medical devices and replacing the existing Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940? Ministry of health and family welfare
375.	Who has been appointed as the head of this committee? Dr VG Somani
376.	Iqbal Singh Lalpura, retired IPS officer of Punjab cadre, has been appointed as the Chairperson of which apex national body? National Commission for Minorities
377.	Name the CAG of India who has been elected as the chairman of the assembly of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), Beijing? G C Murmu
378.	Govt launches PRANA portal for regulation of air pollution in 132 cities across the country. What is full form of PRANA? Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment
379.	World First Aid Day is observed on which Saturday of September every year? Second
380.	Najib Mikati has been elected as the Prime Minister of which country? Lebanon
381.	Who has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Morocco? Aziz Akhannouch
382.	Who has been appointed as the new Chief Minister of Gujarat? Bhupendra Patel
383.	Who won Men's singles title at the US Open in New York? Daniil Medvedev
384.	Daniil Medvedev hails from which country? Russia
385.	Name the 18 year old British sensation who won the US Open women's singles title? Emma Raducanu
386.	Daniel Ricciardo of Australia won the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Italy for which team? McLaren
387.	India's largest open-air fernery was inaugurated on Sep 12 at which place in Uttarakhand? Ranikhet
388.	India's largest fernery, Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute, is located at which place? Thiruvananthapuram
389.	India has adopted Hindi as the Official language of the country, as per _____ of the Indian Constitution: Article 343
390.	Which state secured first position in installation of off-grid solar pumps under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM)? Haryana
391.	Engineer's Day on Sep 15 marks the birth day of which great engineer? M Visvesvaraya
392.	What was the field of specialization of the Bharat Ratna M Visvesvaraya? Designing dams and hydro projects
393.	International Day of Democracy is observed on which day of September? 15th

394.	TBI has announced a project to link UPI with the payment platform PayNow of which country? Singapore
395.	BCCI has announced name of which former cricketer to mentor the Indian team for the forthcoming T20 World Cup tournament? M S Dhoni
396.	RBI announced the opening of the third cohort of regulatory sandbox on Sep 13 with what theme? MSME Lending
397.	What is the name of the new grouping formed by the US, UK and Australia on Sep 16 for the Indo-Pacific region? AUKUS
398.	Who is the Prime Minister of Australia? Scott Morrison
399.	Name of which Indian Chief Minister was included in the TIME's list of '100 most influential people of 2021', released on Sep 15? Mamata Banerjee, West Bengal
400.	Which is the highest national award given to recognise the contributions of healthcare workers? The Florence Nightingale Award
401.	Which union ministry confers the Florence Nightingale Award? Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
402.	Who is the current Minister of Health and Family Welfare? Mansukh Mandaviya
403.	Indian Army participated in the multinational exercise ZAPAD 2021 from 3-16 September. It was hosted by which country? Russia
404.	How many atoms of Oxygen form a molecule of Ozone gas? Three
405.	The Ozone Layer is a fragile shield of gas that protects the Earth and its ecosystem from the harmful _____ rays of the sun: Ultraviolet
406.	The Ozone Layer is found in lower portion of which layer of atmosphere? Stratosphere
407.	The World Ozone Day on Sep 16 commemorates the signing of which protocol on this day in 1987? Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer
408.	Which multi-nation body organized the military exercise "Exercise Peaceful Mission-2021" from Sep 13 to 25? SCO - Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
409.	Head quarter of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is based in which place? Beijing
410.	Which country hosted the "Exercise Peaceful Mission-2021" from Sep 13 to 25? Russia
411.	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay launched on Sep 14 'Project Udaan', an artificial intelligence (AI)-based software ecosystem for what purpose? To translates scientific and technical content from English to Hindi and several other Indian languages
412.	What is the aim of the multi-agency Project iRASTE recently launched in Nagpur on Sep 13? To achieve up to 50% decline in road accidents in Nagpur city
413.	What is the full form of the acronym iRASTE? Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering
414.	NITI Aayog in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) of USA, launched campaign 'Shoonya' on Sep 15 for what purpose? To promote use of zero-pollution delivery vehicles
415.	Which country hosted the 21 st meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State on September 17? Tajikistan

416.	The SCO Council of Heads of State summit was held at which place? Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan
417.	Harmilan Bains created a new national record in the _____ run at the National Open athletics championships in Warangal, Telangana? 500 meters
418.	What is the name of the new online store meant exclusively for farmers launched by the global online retailer Amazon? Kisan Store
419.	Leading UK-based financial publication Euromoney has recognised which Bank as the World's Best Bank in its Awards for Excellence 2021? DBS Bank, Singapore
420.	From which state the famous Sirarakhong Chilli (also called Hatheli chilli) and Tamenglong Orange received the coveted Geographical Index (GI) tag? Manipur
421.	International Equal Pay Day is observed on which day of September? 18th
422.	India is the _____ largest producer of Bamboos in the world? Second
423.	Which country is the largest producer of Bamboos in the world? China
424.	Bamboo tree belongs to which category of plants? Grass
425.	Indian Railways launched which programme to train 50,000 youths in the age group of 18 to 35 years, over the next three years? Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana
426.	The United Nations Chief Antonio Guterres appointed which person from India as the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocate on Sep 17? Kailash Satyarthi (winner of Nobel Peace Prize along with Malala Yusufzai in 2014)
427.	What is the name of the main NGO being run by Kailash Satyarthi? Bachpan Bachao Andolan
428.	The NITI Aayog has teamed up with which ed-tech company to offer free study material virtually to government school students from classes VI to XII across 112 aspirational districts? BYJU'S
429.	What was the name of the 15th edition of Indo-Nepal Joint Military Training Exercise held from September 20 at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand? Surya Kiran
430.	The Central government has constituted a group of ministers (GoM) headed by _____ to look into better implementation of various welfare schemes meant for the SC/ST and OBCs, minorities and women: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
431.	MyGov India portal, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), launched the _____ Innovation Challenge on Sep 11 for Indian start-ups and tech entrepreneurs: Planetarium
432.	Who won the Asian Snooker Championship 2021 by defeating Amir Sarkhosh on Sep 16 in Doha, Qatar? Pankaj Advani
433.	Elected as the new Chief Minister of Punjab by the Congress party, after Captain Amarinder Singh resigned as chief minister on September 18? Charanjit Singh Channi
434.	Which company launched the world's first all-civilian space crew into Earth's orbit on Sep 16? SpaceX
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435.	What was the name of the 5th edition of India-Kazakhstan Joint Army Training Exercise held in Kazakhstan from August 30 to September 11? KAZIND-21

436.	The National Sports Day observed on August 29 is the birthday of which great sportsperson? Major Dhyan Chand
437.	Government launched on August 25 the e-Shram portal – National Database on _____ Workers: Unorganized
438.	Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology launched the SAMRIDH programme on August 25 for what purpose? To promote Indian Software start-ups
439.	SAMRIDH will provide investment support of up to ₹ _____ lakh to the start-ups, based on their current valuation and growth stage: 40
440.	Pankaj Kumar Singh, a 1988-batch IPS officer has been appointed as Director General of which para-military force? BSF - Border Security Force
441.	The Union Cabinet on August 25 approved the highest ever Fair and Remunerative Price of _____ rupees per quintal for Sugarcane. 290
442.	The Indian Army received the first batch of indigenous Multi Mode _____ in a ceremony held at Nagpur, Maharashtra on August 24: Hand Grenades
443.	The Finance Ministry launched a National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) in New Delhi on August 23. It will monetise which assets? Brownfield infrastructure assets
444.	Which type of assets are referred to as brownfield infrastructure assets? Existing infrastructure like buildings, factory premises, projects, etc
445.	Which para-military force conducted a national mock exercise 'Gandiv' from August 22 to 28? National Security Guard
446.	Sandeep Bakhshi has been re-appointed as the MD & CEO of which bank? ICICI Bank
447.	India's first green hydrogen electrolyzer manufacturing unit was started at which place on August 24? Bengaluru
448.	Who led the Indian contingent at the opening ceremony of 16 th Paralympic games on August 24 in the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo? Javelin thrower Tek Chand
449.	India's first ever smog tower was inaugurated on August 23 in which city? New Delhi
450.	Two ships of the Indian Navy carried out a Maritime Partnership Exercise with the Philippine Navy on August 23 in which area? West Philippine Sea
451.	According to Cushman and Wakefield's 2021 Global Manufacturing Risk Index, India is _____ most preferred manufacturing destination: Second
452.	India pushed which country to third place to secure second rank as most preferred manufacturing destination? USA
453.	In business, a privately held startup company valued at over \$1 billion is called _____ : Unicorn
454.	India's highest herbal park was inaugurated on August 21 at Mana village in which state? Uttarakhand
455.	Copenhagen has been named as the world's safest city in the Safe Cities Index 2021. It is capital of which country? Denmark
456.	India signed a deal on August 19 with which country for the immediate procurement of 70,000 AK-200 series AK-203 assault rifles? Russia
457.	What is the name of the India's complex mission to evacuate its citizens and Afghan partners from Kabul

after its swift takeover by the Taliban on August 15? "Operation Devi Shakti"
458. Which global organization launched a new 'Cybersecurity Multi-Donor Trust Fund' to roll-out a cybersecurity development agenda in a systematic manner? World Bank
459. In which country, green steel venture HYBRIT made the 'world's first' steel produced without using coal? Sweden
460. What is the name of the recently launched new geospatial planning portal by Ministry of Rural Development and ISRO? 'Yuktdhara'
461. How the Earth Got Its Beauty, a recent book for children, has been authored by whom? Sudha Murty
462. What is the title of the recent novel by Stephen King? Billy Summers
463. 2nd edition of India-Qatar Bilateral Maritime Exercise "Zair-Al-Bahr" was held from 09-14 August in which area? The Persian Gulf
464. A 101-member contingent of the Indian Army participated in the International Army Games – 2021 held in which country? Russia
465. The 2021 edition of the World Athletics U20 Championships was held in _____, Kenya from August 17 to 22: Nairobi
466. Kalyan Singh, former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh passed away in Lucknow on August 21. He also served as Governor of _____: Rajasthan and Himachal
467. 'All In' is the Autobiography of which veteran Tennis star? Billie Jean King
468. Who is the author of the recent novel "A Slow Fire Burning"? Paula Hawkins
469. ELa Ganesan, veteran BJP leader and former MP from Tamil Nadu, has been appointed as the new Governor of which state? Manipur
470. The Asian Development Bank approved a \$500 million loan to expand the metro rail network in which city? Bengaluru
471. Shanti Lal Jain has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of which public sector bank? Indian Bank
472. The Quad country navies conducted the annual Malabar naval exercises, from August 21 to 25 in which area? Western Pacific Ocean
473. Ismail Sabri Yaakob has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which country? Malaysia
474. The Finance Ministry launched a Rs 250 crore worth alternate investment fund (AIF) on August 21 for what purpose? To support small export-oriented companies
475. Which apex financial institutions have set up this alternate investment fund? Exim Bank and SIDBI.
476. What is the name of this alternate investment fund? "Ubharte Sitaare"
477. On August 19, which highway became the country's first EV-friendly highway? Delhi-Chandigarh Highway
478. Which company set up a network of solar-based electric vehicle charging stations Delhi-Chandigarh Highway? Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)

479. What is the name of the COVID-19 vaccine recently approved by the government for children in the age group of 12 to 18 years? ZyCoV-D
480. Which company has developed the ZyCoV-D vaccine? Zydus Cadila, Ahmedabad
481. World Sanskrit Day is celebrated on the occasion of the Poornima (full moon day) of which month in the Hindu calendar? Shravan
482. Which International Day is observed on August 21 to raise awareness about the condition of elderly people? World Senior Citizens Day
483. World Mosquito Day on August 20 aims to raise awareness about the causes of _____ and how it can be prevented: Malaria
484. Which union ministry supports the celebration of Akshay Urja Diwas? Ministry for New & Renewable Energy
485. Who is the current union minister for the New & Renewable Energy? Raj Kumar Singh
486. Observance of Sadbhavna Divas on August 20 marks the birth anniversary of which prominent Indian leader? Rajiv Gandhi
487. Which apex financial body is putting in place a Platform for Regulated Entities for Integrated Supervision and Monitoring (PRISM)? RBI - Reserve Bank of India
488. DRDO has developed an Advanced _____ Technology to safeguard fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force against hostile radar threats: Chaff
489. Which union ministry launched the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme? Ministry of Commerce and Industry
490. The Indian Navy and _____ People's Navy undertook bilateral maritime exercise on August 18 in the South China Sea: Vietnam
491. The Supreme Court recently allowed women candidates to appear for which defence entrance exam: National Defence Academy (NDA)
492. As per revised bank locker guidelines by RBI, banks can take a Term Deposit for locker accounts, which may cover _____ years' rent: Three
493. As per revised bank locker guidelines by RBI, bank's liability in case of incidents like fire, robbery or frauds, will be _____ times the prevailing annual rent of the locker: 100
494. Which Indian company handed over fifteen 12.7 mm M2 NATO Stabilized Remote Control Guns to the Indian Navy? Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli
495. US Agency for International Development (USAID) selected which Indian city for the International Clean Air Catalyst Programme? Indore
496. SWIFT, Belgium based financial services company, launched which service that enables small businesses and consumers to send low-value cross-border payments anywhere in the world? SWIFT Go
497. The Ministry of Health announced a 27% reservation for OBCs and 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) in the AIQ Scheme. What is AIQ? All India Quota
498. This reservation in AIQ Scheme has been announced for which courses? For undergraduate and postgraduate medical/dental courses (MBBS / MD / MS / Diploma / BDS / MDS)

499.	Vantika Agarwal recently became the national champion of which sports? Women's chess
500.	Bhoot Jolokia was exported from Nagaland to London for the first time on July 29. What is it? One of the hottest chillies in the world
501.	12 th Indra Navy exercise was held on July 28-29 between Indian Navy and navy of which other country? Russia
502.	502. Indra Navy exercise between Indian and Russian Navies was held in which place? Baltic Sea
503.	The World Ranger Day is observed on which date? July 31
504.	Guido Bellido has been appointed as the new prime minister of Peru. It is in which continent? South America
505.	What is the name of the recently launched cashless and contactless prepaid e-voucher for digital payment? e-RUPI
506.	The e-RUPI platform has been developed by which apex organization? NPCI - National Payments Corporation of India
507.	Which national day is observed to mark the enactment of the law against Triple Talaq on Aug 01 in 2019? Muslim Women's Rights Day
508.	India got the presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for which month? August, 2021
509.	India took over the presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) from which country? France
510.	The first goods train carrying stone chips to Bangladesh through the revived Haldibari – Chilahati rail link, originated from which state? West Bengal
511.	P V Sindhu secured a bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympic, defeating He Bing Jiao of which country? China
512.	UGC notified which platform on July 28 for storing and transferring of academic credits of a student? Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)
513.	Which international day is observed on August 01 to raise awareness about the causes and treatment of a disease of lungs? World Lung Cancer Day
514.	What is the name of the world's first commercial fully re-programmable satellite launched recently by the European Space Agency? Eutelsat Quantum
515.	The Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli launched a new weapon called TriCa. What is it? Carbine gun
516.	Name the 105-year-old athlete from Patiala, Punjab, winner of several international awards, who passed away on July 31: Man Kaur
517.	Which state Police secured first position in the country for the best implementation of the Crime & Criminal Tracking Network & System (CCTNS)? Haryana
518.	_____ became the first city in India to achieve hundred percent vaccination of its people against covid-19 by July 31: Bhubaneswar
519.	Name the Indian woman boxer who bagged a Bronze Medal at Tokyo Olympics: Lovlina Borgohain
520.	Lovlina Borgohain hails from which state? Assam
521.	Lok Sabha passed which bill to prohibit lockouts, strikes and layoffs in the units engaged in the essential defence services, such as various ordnance factories? Essential Defence Services Bill, 2021

522.	CONCACAF Gold Cup is associated with which sports? Men's Football
523.	In which country its military chief declared himself as the Prime Minister of the country on August 1? Myanmar
524.	Which country approved the sale of Harpoon Joint Common Test Set and related equipment to India? USA
525.	India and which other country conducted the joint military exercise INDRA-2021? Russia
526.	The Indo-Russia joint military exercise INDRA-2021 was held at which place? Volgograd, Russia
527.	Name the Indian hockey goalkeeper who saved the last second penalty corner to ensure Indian victory? P R Sreejesh
528.	Our hockey team won an Olympic medal after how many years? 41
529.	Who was the coach of bronze winning Indian hockey team? Graham Reid
530.	India's first indigenously built aircraft carrier made her maiden sea trials, off the coast of Kochi, Kerala. What is its name? INS Vikrant
531.	What is the name of the only aircraft carrier of the Indian Navy? INS Vikramaditya
532.	An all-weather 8.5 km tunnel between Jammu and Kashmir's Qazigund and Banihal was opened for traffic on a trial basis on August 4. It has been made across which range of Himalayas? Pir Panjal
533.	The BRO made world's highest motorable tarmac road at the height of 19,300 feet at which pass? Umling La
534.	Ms. Mini Ipe has been appointed as the Managing Director of which apex financial institution? Life Insurance Corporation of India
535.	Padma Sachdev, noted author and Padma Shri awardee, who passed away recently, was a prominent author of which language? Dogri
536.	Name the Indian wrestler who won silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics? Ravi Kumar Dahiya
537.	RBI changed which policy rate in its bi-monthly policy review meeting on August 6? No change
538.	Recently Supreme Court clarified that the Governor of state can pardon prisoners, including in the death sentence cases, under provisions of Article ____ of the Constitution: 161
539.	August 6 is observed as the Hiroshima Day to mark the day on which USA dropped Atom Bomb on Hiroshima in the year ____ : 1945
540.	According to Forbes Real-Time Billionaires List, who has been declared as the richest person of the world? Bernard Arnault
541.	Bernard Arnault is a super-rich business tycoon from which country? France
542.	The National Handloom Day on August 7 commemorates launching of which national movement on this day in 1905? Swadeshi movement
543.	The Swadeshi movement was launched from which place? (Then) Calcutta
544.	Which national movement was launched on August 8 in 1942? Quit India Movement
545.	Quit India Movement was launched from which place? Bombay
546.	August 8 is observed as which national day? August Kranti Diwas

547.	The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the PM-DAKSH Portal and Mobile Application on August 07 for what purpose? To boost skill development among BCs and SCs
548.	What is the full form of DAKSH? Dakshita Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi
549.	Who is the current Social Justice and Empowerment union minister? Dr. Virendra Kumar
550.	What is the new name of the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award? Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award
551.	What is the cash prize given in the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award? Rs. 25 lakh
552.	Birth day of Major Dhyan Chand, August 29 is celebrated as which national day? National Sports Day
553.	Indian women's hockey team lost the bronze medal in Tokyo Olympics to which team? Britain
554.	Ebrahim Raisi was sworn in as the new president of which country on August 5? Iran
555.	Sole gold winner of Tokyo Olympics, Neeraj Chopra is from which regiment of Indian Army? Rajputana Rifles
556.	What was the name of the joint exercise of Indian Navy and UAE Navy held on August 7? Zayed Talwar 2021
557.	Joint naval exercise Zayed Talwar 2021 was held in which area? Off the coast of Abu Dhabi in the Persian Gulf
558.	Which country topped the medal tally in Tokyo Olympics? USA
559.	USA won how many medals in total to top the medal tally in Tokyo Olympics? 113
560.	What was India's rank in the medal tally in Tokyo Olympics? 48th
561.	Who became the most successful participant among men, winning five golds in Tokyo Olympics? Caeleb Dressel of USA, swimming
562.	Emma McKeon from _____ won seven medals, four gold and three bronze in swimming, to emerge as most successful woman participant in Tokyo Olympics: Australia
563.	Who won the only bronze medal in wrestling for India in Tokyo Olympics? Bajrang Punia
564.	The first National Heart Failure Biobank (NHFB) in the country has been set up in which state? Kerala
565.	The World Tribal Day is observed on which day of August? 9th
566.	SEBI has introduced the concept of '_____ investors' in the Indian securities market: Accredited
567.	Who is the current chairman of SEBI? Ajay Tyagi
568.	The Central Government extended the tenure of Chairperson of the National Commission for Women, for another term of three years wef August 07. Who is she? Rekha Sharma
569.	August 10 is observed as World Biofuel Day. Which are the three main biofuels? Ethanol, Biodiesel and Biogas.
570.	The children are orally administered which anti-worm tablets on the National Deworming Day? Albendazole
571.	World Lion Day is observed on August 10. Which Indian state has the largest population of lions? Gujarat

572.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a National Edible Oil Mission on August 9 to focus on boosting production of which edible oil? Palm oil
573.	Evia Island witnessed one of the worst wildfires in recent times, destroying thousands of hectares of land. It is in which country? Greece
574.	RBI notified on August 9 the enhancement of collateral (additional security) free loans to self-help groups (SHGs) to Rs. ____ lakh, from Rs 10 lakh at present: 20
575.	Which apex financial institution issues the operational guidelines for functioning of SHGs? NABARD
576.	With which country's navy INS Kochi participated in the naval exercise Al-Mohed Al-Hindi 2021? Saudi Arabia
577.	Which state topped the first Van Dhan Annual Awards 2020-21, winning seven national awards? Nagaland
578.	World Elephant Day is observed on August 12. Which country is credited with largest population of elephants? Botswana
579.	International Youth Day on August 12 marks the birthday of which great statesman? None
580.	The Central Government has declared which city as the first Water Plus city of the country? Indore, MP
581.	Which city is the capital of Madhya Pradesh? Bhopal
582.	From 1st October 2021, cash-out at any ATM for more than ____ hours in a month will attract a penalty: Ten
583.	RBI has proposed a penalty of Rs. _____ for incidence of cash-out at any ATM: 10,000/=
584.	As per the recently released "Quality of Life for Elderly Index", which state fared best among the old state category? Rajasthan
585.	Which apex institution released the "Quality of Life for Elderly Index"? EAC-PM
586.	What is the full form of EAC-PM? Economic Advisory council to the Prime Minister
587.	Who is the current chairman of the Economic Advisory council to the Prime Minister? Dr. Bibek Debroy
588.	Which international body released the Global Youth Development Index 2020 for measuring the condition of young people across 181 countries? The Commonwealth Secretariat, London
589.	What was India's rank in the Global Youth Development Index 2020? 122nd
590.	Which country topped the Global Youth Development Index 2020? Singapore
591.	The Indian Air Force built one of the world's highest mobile air traffic control (ATC) towers at which place in Ladakh? Nyoma
592.	World Organ Donation Day is observed on which day of August? 13th
593.	The DRDO successfully tested Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile Nirbhay with which new engine? Manik
594.	The Government has prohibited manufacturing, usage, trading and storage of identified single-use plastic items from which date? July 01, 2022
595.	Which National Park in Assam has become the first National Park in India to be equipped with satellite phones? Kaziranga
596.	The Indian Navy participated in the U.S. Navy-led Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) military exercise held at which place? Near Singapore

597.	India 's renewable energy (RE) capacity crossed the milestone of ____ gigawatts (GW) on August 12: 100
598.	The Prime Minister announced PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan to support which segment of economy? Manufacturing
599.	In which Caribbean country an earthquake claimed over 2,000 lives? Haiti
600.	Komalika Bari, 19 year old Indian girl became the new under-21 world champion in which sports? Archery, Recurve
601.	The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of which country declared month of July 2021 as the world's hottest month ever recorded? USA
602.	The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment launched an online portal named TAPAS for providing online study material in which field? Social defence
603.	Recently how many Indian wetland sites have been recognised as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention? Four
604.	These four wetlands are located in which states? Haryana -2 and Gujarat-2
605.	The city of Ramsar is located in which country? Iran
606.	Which union ministry launched the 2nd phase of SAMVAD (Support, Advocacy & Mental health interventions for children in Vulnerable circumstances And Distress)? Ministry of Women and Child Development
607.	Harshit Raja, 20 year old Indian chess player became the 69th Grand Master from India. He hails from which city? Pune
608.	The Government of India recently declared August 14 to be observed as which National Day? Partition Horrors Remembrance Day
609.	The WHO has announced the formation of the International Scientific Advisory Group for Origins of Novel Pathogens. What is its short name? SAGO
610.	_____ became the first State to recognize the Community Forest Resource Rights (CFRR) in urban areas: Chhattisgarh
611.	INS Kochi participated in the four-day Maritime Partnership Exercise with ships of Royal Bahrain Naval Force in which area? Persian Gulf
612.	The RBI released the first edition of which Index to capture the extent of financial inclusion across the country? Financial Inclusion Index
613.	The Financial Inclusion Index is to be released annually in which month? July
614.	What are the three broad parameters of the Financial Inclusion Index? Access, Usage and Quality
615.	The world's second-largest refurbished state-of-the-art National Gene Bank was inaugurated on August 16 in which city? New Delhi
616.	What is the theme of this year's World Humanitarian Day observed on August 19? '#theHumanRace'
617.	Which day is observed as the World Photography Day? August 19
JULY 2021	
618.	The World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is observed on July 30 with the support of which UN agency? UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
619.	Global Tiger Day is observed on July 29. Which Indian state has largest number of tigers? Madhya Pradesh

620.	Which country is home to the largest number of tigers? India
621.	Who has been sworn in as the new chief minister of Karnataka on July 28? Basavraj Somappa Bommai
622.	Najib Mikati has been elected as the Prime Minister of which country on July 28? Lebanon
623.	World Hepatitis Day is observed on July 28. Hepatitis affects which part of the body most? Liver
624.	Indian Naval Ship Talwar participated in Exercise Cutlass Express 2021. It was held at which place? East Coast of Africa near Kenya
625.	How many Indian enterprises are among the 50 winners of a \$100,000 global competition of 'Best Small Businesses of the "Good Food for All" competition, announced by the United Nations? Three
626.	The International Monetary Fund has slashed India's growth rate to ____ per cent for the current fiscal year - 2021-22: 9.5
627.	_____ has become the first country in the world to get approval for the commercial production of the first genetically modified "Golden Rice": Philippines
628.	Which part of the USA has been in the grip of most devastating wildfires in the month of July? Western USA
629.	What is the name of the autobiography of filmmaker Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra? The Stranger in The Mirror
630.	The India Story is a recent book written by which former Governor of RBI? Bimal Jalan
631.	Who is the author of the book titled "It's a Wonderful Life"? Ruskin Bond
632.	What is the title of the recent novel of Shelley Parker Chan? She Who Became the Sun
633.	_____ has become the first city in India to have a Drink from Tap project that will dispense safe hygienic drinking water 24X7, directly from a tap, eliminating the need for widely used plastic bottles: Puri, Odisha
634.	Dholavira, a Harappan-era metropolis, has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. It is in which state? Gujarat
635.	After inclusion of Dholavira, India has how many World Heritage Sites? 40
636.	Vacation of which airbase by the US forces marked their exit from Afghanistan? Bagram Airbase
637.	Which Indian state has largest area under Mangroves? West Bengal
638.	What is the literal meaning of the word Taliban? Student
639.	The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme "SMILE" for the comprehensive welfare of which segment of society? Beggars
640.	In the acronym SMILE, what is denoted by letter S? Support
641.	On July 26, Byju's acquired "Great Learning", a leading global player in the professional and higher education segment, in which country? Singapore
642.	Typhoon In-fa inundated which large metropolitan of China? Shanghai
643.	Sudden flash floods caused by heavy rains in third week of July, claimed over 164 lives in which state? Maharashtra

644.	In which international wrestling competition, junior Indian wrestler won total 13 medals, including 5 gold? Cadet World Wrestling Championship, Budapest
645.	The main function to pay tributes to the martyrs of Kargil War is held at the Kargil War Memorial. Where is it located? In Drass area of Ladakh
646.	Which famous temple from Telangana has been inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site? Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple
647.	DRDO successfully test fired extended range version of _____ rocket from a Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher, off the coast of Odisha: Pinaka
648.	What is the maximum range of the Pinaka rocket? 45 kms
649.	Which three top UN agencies have formed a joint platform to help countries plug the gaps in accessing Covid-19 vaccines, treatments and technologies? WHO, WIPO and WTO
650.	Who is the Director General of WIPO? Daren Tang
651.	Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is the Director General of which major UN agency? WTO
652.	Continued conflict of local rebels with the government forces in Tigray region has led to thousands of deaths, displaced 1.7 million people. It is in which country? Ethiopia
653.	Which global rating agency cut India's growth forecast on June 24 for the 2021-22 to 9.5 per cent, from 11 per cent earlier? S&P Global Ratings
654.	Which global Bank approved a \$32 million loan for Mizoram Health Systems Strengthening Project? World Bank
655.	Which former Olympian has been appointed as the first Vice-Chancellor of Delhi Sports University? Karnam Malleswari, weightlifter
656.	Which Indian pioneer industrialist topped the inaugural EdelGive Hurun Philanthropists of the Century list? Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata
657.	What is the 'mukhra' (opening lyrics) of the official Olympic theme song for the Indian contingent? "Lakshya Tera Samne Hai"
658.	_____ has become first Indian state to become free from rabies? Goa
659.	The World Bank approved a \$125 million program to support which state's preparedness against natural disasters, disease outbreaks and pandemics? Kerala
660.	Abhishek Verma and Deepika Kumari bagged a gold each in which international event? Archery World Cup Stage 3 held in Paris
661.	Which two cities jointly won the top spot in the Smart City awards 2020 declared by the Central Government? Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Surat (Gujarat)
662.	According to government data, which country replaced the UAE as the second largest export destination for India in fiscal 2021? China
663.	Which country was India's top export partner in 2020-21? USA
664.	Rubina Francis, para shooter won the gold in the 10-metre air pistol event at World shooting Para Sport Cup in Peru. She hails from which state? Madhya Pradesh
665.	What is the name of the new Agni series missile tested by DRDO? Agni Prime

666.	Which Indian medical school was placed one rank ahead of UK-based Oxford University Medical School? AIIMS, New Delhi
667.	Which institute was ranked first in the rankings for the 100 best medical schools in the world? Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA
668.	Who became the youngest (17 years and 150 days) Indian cricketer on June 27, to make debut across all the three formats? Shafali Verma
669.	The World Bank approved a loan of \$ 250 million for a foundational learning programme in government schools of which state? Andhra Pradesh
670.	Which Indian metro has been awarded the Japan Society of Civil Engineers 'Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award' for the year 2020? Delhi Metro
671.	Who has been appointed chairperson of the task force formed to help the government in implementation of its "Mission Karmayogi"? S D Shibu Lal
672.	In the Global Cybersecurity Index 2020, released by the International Telecommunication Union, India was ranked at which place? 10th
673.	_____ secured first rank in the Global Cybersecurity Index 2020? USA
674.	In which city a High-Speed Track - NATRAX was inaugurated for high end automobiles testing? Indore, Madhya Pradesh
675.	Which union minister announced a fresh economic package on June 28, to provide relief to people and businesses affected by the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic? Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister
676.	Which Bank launched its flagship Business Mentoring Program 'MSME Prerana' from Nagpur, Maharashtra? Indian Bank
677.	National Doctor's Day on July 01 in India also marks the birth and death anniversary of which legendary doctor? Dr. B C Roy
678.	The Chartered Accountants Day is celebrated on which date? July 1
679.	In which country an extreme heatwave smashed all-time high temperature records, claiming over 500 lives in last week of June? Canada, western part
680.	Abhimanyu Mishra who became the youngest chess Grandmaster of the world at 12 years and seven months. He is citizen of which country? USA
681.	The Union Government launched which app to provide farmers with actionable agricultural insights and weather alerts? 'Atmanirbhar Krishi App'
682.	Which Pakistani city recorded the world's highest temperature, up to almost 52°C (126 Fahrenheit) at the end June? Jacobabad
683.	Which country was placed at number one in the Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021? USA
684.	India secured which rank in the Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021? 20th
685.	World Sports Journalists Day is observed on which day of July? 2nd
686.	Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar is given for outstanding excellence in which field? Literature
687.	Kuvempu was a noted poet, playwright, novelist and critic in which language? Kannada

688.	The government has decided to include which category of business under MSMEs to give it the benefit of priority sector lending? Retail and wholesale trade
689.	Retail and wholesale trade businesses having annual turnover up to Rs ____ crore have been included under the definition of MSMEs: 250
690.	Name the American diplomat who took charge as United States' new envoy to India: Eric Garcetti
691.	The International Day of Cooperatives is observed on which Saturday of July? First
692.	Who has been sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Uttarakhand? Pushkar Singh Dhami
693.	Name the Indian woman cricketer who became the top run-getter in the world, scoring 10,277 in international cricket across all formats: Mithali Raj
694.	WHO has declared which Asian country as 'Free from Malaria' after its 70 years efforts to wipe out Malaria? China
695.	As per new RBI guidelines, unclaimed term deposits will now earn interest at which rate? Contracted rate of term deposit or Savings Bank interest rate, whichever is lower
696.	Government launched the National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy on July 5. What is its short name? NIPUN Bharat
697.	Who have been appointed as the flag bearers for the opening ceremony of Tokyo Olympics? M C Mary Kom and Manpreet Singh
698.	Karsten Warholm, a 25-year-old athlete from Norway, broke the 29-year-old world record in which event? 400m hurdles
699.	In a historic decision, LG of J & K, Manoj Sinha decided to say goodbye to which 149-year-old biannual tradition of the state? Darbar move - shifting of capital from Jammu to Srinagar and vice versa
700.	Hari Babu Kambhampati has been appointed Governor of which state? Mizoram
701.	Who has been appointed new Governor of Himachal Pradesh? Rajendran Vishwanath Arlekar
702.	Government has sanctioned Ramgarh Vishdhar Sanctuary as the fourth tiger sanctuary in which state? Rajasthan
703.	Observed on July 6, the World Zoonoses Day is associated with which issue? Awareness for the risk of zoonotic diseases
704.	What are zoonotic diseases? Infectious diseases (virus, bacteria and parasites) that can spread from animals to humans, and vice versa
705.	Who invented the first vaccine against Rabies? Louis Pasteur
706.	Who was the only sportsperson to win a gold in the ISSF World Cup held in Osijek, Croatia from 22 to July 3? Rahi Sarnobat
707.	Which app has been launched to disseminate the latest freshwater aquaculture technologies to the aqua farmers of the country? Matsya Setu
708.	Dilip Kumar, legendary actor, was the only Indian to be honoured with Pakistan's highest civilian award ____: Nishan-e-Imtiaz

709.	Name the veteran Congress leader and six-time chief minister of Himachal Pradesh who passed away on July 8 in Shimla? Virbhadra Singh
710.	The Union Government created a new Ministry of Cooperation (Sahkarita Mantralaya) on July 6. Who is the first minister to head this ministry? Amit Shah
711.	The government has decided to bring the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) under which ministry? Finance Ministry
712.	After the merger of Department of Public Enterprises in Finance Ministry, total how many departments are there now in the ministry of finance? Six
713.	After recent Cabinet expansion- reshuffle on July 7, how many total ministers are there now in union cabinet, including the prime minister? 78
714.	Name the young lady mountain biker who finished the world's first solo motorcycle expedition covering 18 treacherous passes of northern Himalayan Mountain ranges? Kanchan Ugursandi
715.	Nihal Sarin, the 16-year-old young Indian Grandmaster, winner of Masters' section of the Serbia Open Chess Championship, hails from which state? Kerala
716.	INS Tabar, a war frigate of Indian Navy undertook a Maritime Partnership Exercise with warship of which other country? Italy
717.	President of which tiny Caribbean country north of Colombia, was assassinated in an attack at his residence? Haiti
718.	E-Commerce company, Amazon has launched its first Digital Kendra in India in which city? Surat, Gujarat
719.	Stefan Lofven has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of which Scandinavian country? Sweden
720.	National Fish Farmers' Day is observed on which day of July? 10th
721.	Which UN Day is observed on July 11 to bring attention to the urgency and importance of population related issues around the world? World Population Day
722.	A first case of Zika virus infection was confirmed on July 8 in a 24-year-old pregnant woman in which state? Kerala
723.	Zika is spread mostly by the bite of an infected ____ species mosquito: Aedes
724.	RBI has asked banks and other financial institutions to stop using which benchmark Interbank Offered Rate? LIBOR - London Interbank Offered Rate
725.	Consequent upon discontinuation of LIBOR, which Indian benchmark rate is likely to be discontinued? MIFOR- Mumbai Interbank Forward Outright Rate
726.	The Defence Ministry has implemented which system for automation of sanction and disbursement of defence pensions? SPARSH
727.	What is the full form of the acronym SPARSH? System for Pension Administration Raksha
728.	Argentina defeated which country to lift the Copa America trophy? Brazil
729.	Which northeaster state made its debut on map of Indian Railway on July 2? Manipur
730.	Which state government announced a new Population Policy 2021-2030' on the occasion of World Population Day on July 11? Uttar Pradesh
731.	Which country defeated England to win the Euro Cup 2020? Italy

732.	Who won the prestigious 'Golden Boot' for scoring highest number of goals in Euro Cup? Cristiano Ronaldo
733.	Novak Djokovic clinched his sixth Wimbledon title after beating which player? Matteo Berrettini
734.	Who won the women's singles title at the Wimbledon? Ashleigh Barty
735.	Richard Branson, became the first person to blast off in his own spaceship. He hails from which country? Britain
736.	Richard Branson, a multi-faceted entrepreneur and billionaire, is the founder of which corporate group? Virgin group of companies
737.	Which UN day commemorates the birthday of the youngest Nobel Prize laureate, Malala Yousafzai? July 12: World Malala Day
738.	India's first cryptogamic garden was inaugurated on July 11 in which city? Dehradun
739.	Dr. PK Warriar, an internationally renowned Ayurvedic physician passed away on July 10. He hailed from which state? Kerala
740.	The Reserve Bank of India introduced the RBI Retail Direct facility on July 12 for what purpose? To facilitate investment in Government Securities, G-Sec by individual investors
741.	Which Indian entity has been granted the contract for construction of Lower Arun Hydropower Project in Nepal? SJVN - Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam
742.	Abiy Ahmed has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of which African country? Ethiopia
743.	Who became the first batsman in history to score 14,000 runs in T20 format? Chris Gayle
744.	Who was sworn as the prime minister of Nepal on orders of Supreme Court of Nepal? Sher Bahadur Deuba
745.	Who is the President of Nepal? Bidhya Devi Bhandari
746.	In which country Indian digital payment app BHIM-UPI was launched on July 13? Bhutan
747.	What is the full form of BHIM? Bharat Interface for Money
748.	Which state will host the Khelo India Youth Games 2021 in February 2022? Haryana
749.	For the first time, which high-altitude Himalayan animal will now be insured? Yak
750.	Yaks are heavily built sturdy short legged animals belonging to ____ family: Bovine (cows and buffalo)
751.	_____ has become the first Union Territory of India to vaccinate all the residents as well as the 'guest population', consisting of hotel workers, migrant labourers, and Nepalese citizens: Ladakh
752.	What is the formal name of the so called "Bad Bank" registered in Mumbai on July 7? National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd.
753.	An estimated 100 million sharks are killed each year, mostly to meet demand for an expensive Chinese dish called ____: Shark fin soup
754.	ISRO successfully tested which engine to be used for launch of its Gaganyaan Mission? Vikas
755.	The Reserve Bank imposed restrictions on which company for adding new domestic customers from 22nd July, 2021? Mastercard

756.	Deepak Kabra has become the first Indian to be selected for judging the _____ competition of the Tokyo Olympic Games: Gymnastics
757.	India and Asia's first National Dolphin Research Centre is to be set up on the banks of the River Ganges in which city? Patna
758.	Which is India's national aquatic animal? Gangetic Dolphin
759.	India and world's largest solar power park of 4.75-Gigawatt (4750 MW) capacity is being set up in which area of Gujarat? In Rann of Kutch
760.	Which Indian corporate is going to set up India and world's largest solar power park in Gujarat? NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd.
761.	Which two ministries jointly launched the School Innovation Ambassador Training Program? Education ministry and Tribal Affairs ministry
762.	What is India's rank in the world in terms of production of fruits and vegetables? Second, after China
763.	Indian Navy received the first two Sikorsky MH-60R multi-role helicopters from which country? USA
764.	Name the noted Indian photojournalist who was killed in crossfire between Afghan security forces and Taliban fighters: Danish Siddiqui
765.	Name the three-time national award-winning 75-year-old actress who passed away on July 16: Surekha Sikiri
766.	World Day for International Justice is observed on which date? July 17
767.	Which state government installed India's first Grain ATM as a pilot project? Haryana
768.	The government launched which app on July 16 to provide crucial information to farmers at their fingertips in the language of their choice? Kissan Sarthi
769.	The second edition of Khelo India University Games will be hosted by which state from March 5, 2022? Karnataka
770.	Which organization delivered 12.7 mm M2 NATO Stabilized Remote Control Guns to Indian Navy and to Indian Coast Guard? Ordnance Factory, Tiruchirappalli (Tamil Nadu)
771.	The All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has permitted engineering colleges to offer B.Tech programmes in how many regional languages? Eleven
772.	AICTE has put in massive efforts for translation of technical study material in regional languages on which digital platform? SWAYAM
773.	What is the expansion of the acronym SWAYAM? Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds
774.	July 18 is observed as International Nelson Mandela Day. In which year he became first non-white President of South Africa? 1994
775.	The government's UMANG app has tied up with which digital map company to add spatial aspect to its services? MapmyIndia
776.	_____ has become the first continent in the world to complete the collection of accurate, comprehensive and harmonised digital land use and land use change data? Africa

777.	The limit of FDI in National Pension System (NPS) pension funds has been hiked from 49 percent to ___ percent? 74
778.	For the first time, cultivation of monk fruit from China has been taken up in India in Himachal Pradesh in which place? Kullu
779.	Which award is given for the "Best Film" at the Cannes Film Festival? Palme d'Or
780.	Which film won the Palme d'Or for the best film at the Cannes Film Festival, 2021? Titane directed by Ms. Julia Ducournau of France.
781.	The International Cricket Council (ICC) inducted which three countries as its new member countries at its Annual General Meeting on July 18? Mongolia, Switzerland, and Tajikistan
782.	Which country has unveiled a maglev train which is capable of a top speed of 600 kmph? China
783.	What was the name of the rocket that took Jeff Bezos to the outer space? New Shepard
784.	International sports body FIDE is associated with which sports? Chess
785.	Chess originated in India. What was its original name? Chaturanga
786.	National Moon Day on July 20 commemorates which single greatest technological achievement of all time? Landing first human being on the surface of Moon, in 1969
787.	Which Grand Master from Chennai defeated former world champion from Russia, Vladimir Kramnik to win the Sparkassen Trophy on July 18? Viswanathan Anand
788.	The Russia successfully tested launch of its new hypersonic cruise missile on July 19. What is its name? Zircon (Tsirkon)
789.	Which station in Nepal recently received first train from India? Kurtha
790.	DRDO successfully flight-tested the New Generation Akash Missile, a surface-to-air Missile. What is its target hitting range? 60km
791.	Unprecedented rainstorm hit Central China's Henan province on July 18 to 20, battering the metropolis ____, its capital: Zhengzhou
792.	The International Olympic Committee has granted hosting rights for the 2032 Olympics to which city? Brisbane, Australia
793.	The central government has decided to set up the Indian Institute of Heritage at which place? NOIDA, UP
794.	Which High Court has become the first high court in India to begin live-streaming of court proceedings on YouTube? Gujarat High Court
795.	The union cabinet approved setting up a Central University at a cost of Rs. 750 crores in which place? Leh, Ladakh
796.	Indian Navy participated in a two-day bilateral Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with British Royal Navy Carrier Strike Group (CSG)-21 at which area? Bay of Bengal
797.	The National Mango Day is observed on which day of July? 22nd
798.	July 22 is dedicated to raising awareness and promoting advocacy related to health of which body part? Brain

799.	National Broadcasting Day observed on July 23 commemorates which event? First ever radio broadcast in India, in 1927
800.	UNESCO has removed this city in England from its list of World Heritage Sites? Liverpool
801.	Which two cities in Madhya Pradesh were selected by UNESCO on July 19 under its 'Historic Urban Landscape Project'? Gwalior and Orchha
802.	Who won the first medal (silver) for India at the Tokyo Olympics? Mirabai Chanu
803.	RBI allowed banks to extend personal loans up to Rs. ____ crores to directors of other banks and directors' relatives other than spouses without board approval? Five
804.	CBDT celebrates July 24 as Income Tax Day to commemorate which historical event? Introduction of Income Tax in India, in 1860
JUNE 2021	
805.	UN General Assembly passed a resolution in 2018 to observe the International Day of Parliamentarism on which date? June 30
806.	Which international day is observed on June 30 to mark the crashing of a huge asteroid in Tunguska in Siberia on this day in 1908? International Asteroid Day
807.	India celebrates National Statistics Day on June 29 to mark the birth anniversary of which great mathematician? Prof. P C Mahalanobis
808.	UN supports the celebration of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on which date? June 26
809.	Indian Naval Ships and aircrafts participated in a Passage Exercise with US Navy on June 23-24 in which region? Indian Ocean
810.	What is the name of the nationwide awareness campaign launched to create awareness on Corona vaccination in rural and remote areas of the country? Jaan Hai To Jahan Hai
811.	India launched a trilateral partnership on June 17 with which two countries for cooperation in Indo-Pacific region? Italy and Japan
812.	The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) functions under which union ministry? Ministry of Science and Technology
813.	The DBT recently launched its Mission Programme "Biotech- KISAN in which region of India? North Eastern India
814.	What is the full form of acronym KISAN in Mission Programme "Biotech- KISAN"? Krishi Innovation Science Application Network
815.	India lost the first-ever World Test Cricket Championship to New Zealand. It was played in which place? Southampton, UK
816.	Nikol Pashinyan has been elected as the ____ of Armenia, a tiny country east of Turkey: Prime Minister
817.	Dr. Tadang Minu, boxing expert from ____ became the first Indian woman to be appointed as a member of the Coaches Committee of the International Boxing Association (AIBA): Arunachal Pradesh
818.	Ministry of Finance has allowed housing finance companies (HFCs) with asset size of over Rs. ____ crore

to recover their dues by exercising their powers under the SARFAESI Act, 2002: 100
819. Which country surpassed Indonesia to become India's biggest Crude Palm Oil exporter in 2020-21? Malaysia
820. _____ has become the only Indian state to have all the three major kinds of crocodile species: Odisha
821. Bharti Airtel joined hands with which IT company for implementing 5G networks solutions in India? TCS - Tata Consultancy Services
822. Laurel Hubbard, the weightlifter from _____ created history after being confirmed as the first transgender athlete to compete at an Olympic Games: New Zealand
823. June ____ is observed as International Widows Day: 23
824. World Olympic Day on June 23 commemorates which historical event? Foundation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on this day in 1894 in Paris
825. Who is the author of the novel titled "The Secret Keeper of Jaipur"? Alka Joshi
826. What is the title of the recent novel by Amitav Ghosh? The Nutmeg's Curse
827. "Languages of Truth" is a recent novel written by _____? Salman Rushdie
828. Name the Nobel laureate who authored the book "Home in the World": Dr. Amartya Sen
829. As per the World Investment Report 2021 by the UNCTAD released on June 21, which country received the highest amount of FDI in 2020? USA
830. India received \$64 billion in FDI in 2020, making it _____ largest recipient of FDI in the world: Fifth
831. The Ease of Living Index 2020, released by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) on June 16 named _____ as the most liveable city of India: Bengaluru
832. Foreign exchange reserves of the country crossed record high \$ _____ billion mark on June 4? 600
833. Ships of the Indian Navy and which other country participated in a joint naval exercise on June 13 in the Indian Ocean? Japan
834. India launched a hydrogen task force jointly with which country? USA
835. Ebrahim Raisi, a former judiciary chief was elected as the new President of which country? Iran
836. Government announced on May 29 a number of welfare measures under which scheme for children who lost their parents to COVID-19? PM-CARES for Children
837. A corpus of Rs ____ lakh will be provided under PM-CARES for Children Scheme for each child orphaned due to COVID-19: Ten
838. Who became the lone Indian woman boxer to strike gold at the 2021 Asian Amateur Boxing Championships held in Dubai? Pooja Rani
839. Which Ministry launched a new initiative called 'YUVA-Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors'? Ministry of Education
840. What is the full form of the acronym YUVA? Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors
841. Which organization will be the implementing agency for YUVA scheme? National Book Trust
842. What was the name of multi nation military exercise hosted by NATO? Steadfast Defender 21

843. Headquarters of NATO are located in which place? Brussels, Belgium
844. NATO is a multi-nation military alliance of how many countries? 30
845. Which country announced on May 31 that married couples may have up to three children? China
846. Tsang Yin-hung, a 45-year-old school teacher from _____, became the fastest woman to conquer Mount Everest: Hong Kong
847. The record of the fastest male climber to conquer Mount Everest in 10 hours and 56 minutes, is held by which person? Lakpa Gelu
848. Which UN agency supports the celebration of the World Milk Day on June 01? FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization
849. Food and Agriculture Organization is an UN agency based in _____: Rome
850. Which international day is celebrated on June 1 to commemorate the institution of family? The Global Day of Parents
851. Which company launched on May 31 the "World's 1st Nano Urea Liquid"? IFFCO
852. What is the full form of IFFCO? Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited
853. Urea fertiliser provides which nutrient to plants? Nitrogen
854. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) launched which online tracking portal for children in need of care and protection? Bal Swaraj (COVID-Care)
855. The NCPCR functions under which union ministry? Ministry of Women and Child Development
856. Which union ministry releases the official data for the GDP statistics? Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
857. In its worst recession since independence, the Indian economy contracted by ____ percent in FY 2020-21: 7.3%
858. T V Narendran, CEO & Managing Director, Tata Steel, has been elected as the President of which apex business body? CII - Confederation of Indian Industry
859. Sanjeet Kumar won gold in the 91 Kg category at the ASBC Asian Amateur _____ Championships: Boxing
860. World Bicycle Day is observed on which day of June? 3rd
861. Model Tenancy Act shall be applicable all over India in which areas? Both urban and rural
862. Arun Kumar Mishra, a retired Supreme Court Judge, has been appointed as the Chairman of which apex national body? National Human Rights Commission
863. Isaac Herzog has been elected as the 11th President of which country? Israel
864. What is the name of the parliament of Israel? Knesset
865. Name the 17-year-old batswoman who retained her top position in the ICC women's T20 batting rankings: Shafali Verma
866. Which apex national body released the third edition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) India Index 2021? NITI Aayog
867. The SDG India Index 2021 has placed which state at the top? Kerala

868.	The UNO has adopted how many Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? 17
869.	All the member countries of UNO are expected to achieve the 17 SDGs by which time? By 2030
870.	Which country hosted a virtual meeting of foreign ministers of BRICS states on June 1? India
871.	The meeting of health ministers from the Group of Seven nations – G7, was held in which British city on June 3-4? Oxford
872.	The RBI in its bimonthly monetary policy review meeting on June 4 kept the benchmark interest rates unchanged. What is the current CRR? 4%
873.	Lt. Gen. Pradeep Chandran Nair has been appointed the Director General of which paramilitary force? Assam Rifles
874.	Manama topped the AIRINC Global 150 Cities Index for financial attractiveness for the third straight year. It is capital of which country? Bahrain
875.	Government launched the SAGE portal on June 4 with a view to help _____ persons: Elderly
876.	What is the full form of SAGE? Senior care Ageing Growth Engine
877.	Name the two times former President and four-time Prime Minister of Mauritius who passed away recently? Sir Anerood Jugnauth
878.	The United Nations celebrates which day on June 5 to raise awareness to protect nature? World Environment Day
879.	What is the theme selected for this year's World Environment Day? Reimagine. Recreate. Restore
880.	Which country is the official host for this year's World Environment Day? Pakistan
881.	Who is the winner of this year's International Booker Prize? David Diop
882.	David Diop writes in which language? French
883.	What is the English title of the award-winning novel of Diop? At Night All Blood is Black
884.	The International Booker Prize is given by which organization? Booker Prize Foundation, UK
885.	What is the cash prize given with the International Booker Prize? £50,000
886.	Who translated Diop's novel from French in to English? Anna Moschovakis
887.	Who is to head the expert group set up to provide technical inputs and recommendations on fixation of minimum wages and national floor level for minimum wages? Ajit Mishra, Director, Institute of Economic Growth
888.	What is the current minimum floor wage, which was fixed in 2017? Rs. 176 a day
889.	The G-7 finance ministers in their meeting in London agreed in principle to impose a global minimum tax rate of ____ per cent for multinational companies in each country they operate in: 15
890.	The State of India's Environment Report 2021 placed India at which rank in performance in 17 SDGs? 117th
891.	The third Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2019-20 ranked the States and Union Territories on which issue? School education
892.	In which state the Raimona Sanctuary, a forest reserve has been declared as a National Park? Assam

893.	What was the name of the Indian Navy's first hydrographic survey ship that was decommissioned on June 4? INS Sandhyak
894.	India has been elected as one of the 54 members of which UN organ? UN Economic and Social Council
895.	Who has been elected as the President of 76th United Nations General Assembly? Abdulla Shahid
896.	Abdulla Shahid is the Foreign Minister of which country? Maldives
897.	_____ approved a \$ 500 million program to help boost India's MSME sector: World Bank
898.	UNO has selected which day to observe the World Food Safety Day? June 7
899.	Which international day is observed on June 8 to raise awareness about the importance of the oceans in our lives? World Oceans Day
900.	Red Bull's Sergio Perez won the Azerbaijan Grand Prix F1 championship held in Baku. He hails from which country? Mexico
901.	Seven south Asian countries observed the 24th foundation Day of BIMSTEC on June 6. Where is the secretariate of Bimstec? Dhaka, Bangladesh
902.	Out of India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Myanmar, which one is NOT a member of BIMSTEC? Afghanistan
903.	The United Nations launched the UN Decade on _____ -2021 to 2030: Ecosystem Restoration
904.	Which two UN agencies will lead the celebration of UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration? UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO
905.	Sunil Chhetri, Indian Football skipper became the _____ highest active international goal scorer with 74 goals: Second
906.	Who holds the record for scoring the highest number of international goals in Football? Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, with 103 goals
907.	Scientists in which country have designed an 'Artificial Sun' on Earth that has sustained a temperature of 120 million degrees Celsius? China
908.	The core of the Sun burns at 15 million degrees Celsius by nuclear fusion of _____ nuclei into Helium: Hydrogen
909.	Which Indian university secured first position in world in research category in QS World's International University rankings? IISc, Bengaluru
910.	Which Indian institute/university secured highest rank in India in QS World's International University rankings? IIT Bombay, 177th
911.	Which university topped the in QS World's International University rankings? Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
912.	The 31st edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) was held in which area? Andaman Sea
913.	_____ has become the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as legal tender: El Salvador
914.	What is the official currency of El Salvador? US Dollar
915.	Which international organization released the Global Economic Prospects report on June 8? World Bank
916.	Who is the chief of the World Bank? David Malpass

917.	As per the Global Economic Prospects report, world economy is expected to grow by ____ % in 2021? 5.6%
918.	Auckland, the most populous city in _____ topped the EIU Global Liveability Ranking: New Zealand
919.	The International Criminal Police Organisation has launched a new groundbreaking global database named 'I-Familia' for what purpose? To identify the missing individuals through family DNA
920.	Where is the headquarter of Interpol? Lyon, France
921.	Which is the first Indian state to introduce e-IDs equipped with Near Field Communication (NFC) technology for their officers/employees? Punjab
922.	Which state has declared the Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary as a National Park? Assam
923.	Antonio Guterres has been given second term as the UN Secretary General wef which date? Jan 1, 2022
924.	Antonio Guterres is a former prime minister of which country? Portugal
925.	Which bank has been ranked first by Forbes in their Indian list of World's Best Banks 2021? DBS Bank
926.	Which is the parent country of the DBS Bank? Singapore
927.	Ukhnaa Khurelsukh has been democratically elected as President of which country? Mongolia
928.	Recently how many new members were elected unopposed to the powerful UN Security Council as non-permanent members? Five
929.	What is the duration of membership of new non-permanent members of the security Council? Two years (from 1-1-22 to 31-12-23)
930.	Name the 26-year-old Indian wrestler who won the gold in 53kg at the Poland Open in Warsaw, Poland: Vinesh Phogat
931.	Nagaraj Naidu, the Indian Deputy Ambassador to the UN, has become the first Indian diplomat to be appointed as _____ to the President of the UN General Assembly: Chef de Cabinet
932.	What is the theme of this year's World Day Against Child Labour observed on June 12? Act Now: End Child Labour
933.	The leaders of the G7 countries held their 47th summit at which place? Carbis Bay, Cornwall in the UK
934.	Which country holds the Presidency of the G7 group for 2021? United Kingdom
935.	What was the theme for this year's G7 summit? Build Back Better
936.	The G7 leaders launched a new global _____ initiative "Build Back Better World" (B3W) to help developing nations: Infrastructure
937.	As per new RBI guidelines, Bank customers can now do only ____ free transactions, including both, financial and non-financial, every month from their own bank ATMs: Five
938.	For transactions from other bank ATMs, the new limit is ____ in metro centres and ____ in non-metro centres: Three; Five
939.	What is the popular name for the French Open Grand Slam recently held in Paris? Roland-Garros

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